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Technological Change and International Interaction in Environmental Policies*

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Abstract

This paper considers the impact of differences in endogenous technological change between two countries on global pollution emissions under international strategic interaction in environmental policies. A country that initially has a dirty technology (an environmentally lagging country) reduces more pollution emissions by imposing a higher rate of pollution reduction per unit of the emission, although it may generate larger total emissions. The more a country reduces pollutants, the more it learns how to produce in an environmentally friendly manner at low cost. The main finding is that an environmentally lagging country's technology may continue to advance through a learning-by-doing effect until it exceeds the environmental friendliness of a leading country that initially had the cleanest technology (i.e., environmental leapfrogging could occur). Whether a country eventually becomes an environmentally leading country depends on the country size and its awareness of environmental quality.

JEL Classification Numbers: F59, O30, O31, O33, O44, Q55

Keywords: Environmental policy, leapfrogging, learning-by-doing, strategic interaction, technological change, transboundary pollution

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1 Introduction

In order to control and limit climate change, long-term greenhouse gas emissions need to be reduced.¹ Given that alternative energy sources to fossil fuels, such as photovoltaic and wind power, are currently available at high cost, technological progress will be a key component of the long-term strategy to mitigate global greenhouse gas emissions without compromising economic growth.² Although developed countries have been responsible for most of the greenhouse gas emissions historically, in the coming decades, increasing emissions will be mainly caused by economic growth in developing countries (IPCC, 2007; OECD, 2012). It is argued that by leapfrogging straight to clean production paradigms, developing countries may be able to bypass the dirty stages of industrial growth experienced in the past by today's developed countries (IPCC, 2007; World Bank, 2003). Existing empirical evidence indicates that environmental leapfrogging in developing countries is possible provided a number of basic conditions are met (e.g., absorptive capacity, technology transfer, and environmental policy) and the key factors for success are different in each case.³

The purpose of this paper is to clarify the basic mechanism of the development and adoption of new clean technologies in the long-run in a two-country framework. In particular, we focus on how environmental leapfrogging occurs and affects global pollution emissions. Each country's environmental policy plays a critical role in technological change. Adoption of clean technologies induced by environmental policy in one country may reduce the other country's incentive for strict environmental policy that leads to development of new clean technologies. In other words, strategic interaction between countries might hamper long-term technological progress, which has a negative impact on the environment. Therefore, it is quite important to elucidate how endogenous technological change is affected by strategic environmental regulations and how differences in environmental technologies between countries affect global emissions. However, to our knowledge, there exist no theoretical models rigorously dealing with endogenous technological change under the presence of international strategic interaction.

We present a simple two-country model to consider the difference in countries' response in terms of adoption of new clean technologies to environmental policies. A unique final good generates transboundary pollution (greenhouse gas) as a by-product of production. In order to mitigate pollution damage, the national government requires each domestic firm to reduce its emissions. We identify and interpret the fundamental forces for technological progress in a Nash equilibrium of the policy game.

Our model highlights the impact of environmental regulations on endogenous technological change in the long run. In doing this, we follow the standard literature on

¹According to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2012), without new policies, by 2050, global greenhouse gas emissions will increase by more than 50% compared with the 2010 emissions, primarily due to a 70% growth in energy-related CO₂ emissions. As a result, the average global temperature is projected to be 3-C to 6-C higher than preindustrial levels by the end of the century, which exceeds the globally agreed goal of limiting it to 2-C to prevent disruptive climate change. See also Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (2014).

²See, e.g., IPCC (2011) on renewable energy sources.

³See, for instance, Dasgupta et al. (2002) and Walz (2010) on a downward shift of the environmental Kuznets curve (EKC), Gallagher (2006) on energy-technology leapfrogging in the Chinese automobile industry, Huber (2008) who reviews the global diffusion of environmental innovations, Perkins (2003) who reviews environmental leapfrogging in developing countries, Watson and Sauter (2011) who review case studies of leapfrogging (e.g., the Korean steel industry, the Indian and Chinese wind industries, and bioethanol production in Brazil).

international trade and leapfrogging (Brezis et al., 1993) by casting learning by doing as the engine of technological progress. As long as a country reduces pollutants, it learns how to produce in an environmentally friendly manner at low cost. Learning-by-doing determines whether a country has cleaner technologies than another country in the long run. This learning process is supported by existing empirical evidence that an increase in energy prices and environmental regulations not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions by shifting behavior away from polluting activities, but also encourages environmentally friendly innovation, which makes pollution control less costly in the long run (Newell et al., 1999; Popp, 2002).

The main result of this paper is to demonstrate that environmental leapfrogging may occur under plausible conditions. As each country is assumed to regulate its emissions to maximize individual welfare, a country that initially has a dirty technology (an environmentally lagging country) needs to reduce more pollution emissions. The environmentally lagging country tends to impose a higher rate of pollution reduction per unit of the emission and reduce more pollution emissions, although it may generate a large amount of pollution emissions (i.e., implementing a weak environmental regulation in terms of emissions per unit of the good). This is realized as a result of international strategic interaction emerging in Nash equilibrium of the policy game. Consequently, learning-by-doing effects are large in the lagging country and its technology becomes environmentally friendly more rapidly than the other country that initially had a clean technology (an environmentally leading country). Thus, the lagging country's environmental friendliness could continue to increase until it exceeds the leading country's environmental friendliness. Each country's friendliness converges to a certain level in the long run because the government ceases to implement environmental regulations when its technology is sufficiently clean. We can show that whether a country eventually becomes an environmentally leading country depends on country size and awareness of environmental quality.

This theoretical result seems consistent with empirical observations. According to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Indicators of the United Nations, many countries, including developed and emerging economies, have reduced the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) adjusted by purchasing power parity (PPP), for which what we call "environmental friendliness" in this paper can be a reasonable proxy variable as discussed later. We observe that in some cases, the pace of reduction is higher in a "dirtier" country (i.e., a country generating more CO₂ emissions per unit of GDP); see Section 4.2 for more details in the data. More importantly, we even see a reversal of the amount of per-GDP CO₂ emissions between two particular countries (e.g., Japan and Germany; China and Russia). This implies that leadership in environmental friendliness (measured by per-GDP CO₂ emissions) could fluctuate between countries. All these may indicate that our theoretical prediction is in line with the real-world observation.

Our finding contributes to the international economics literature on leapfrogging. After Brezis et al. (1993) found the fundamental mechanism through which leapfrogging occurs in a simple Ricardian trade model with learning, various papers followed and identified the driving forces of leapfrogging, which include comparative (dis)advantage, international capital flows, and knowledge spillovers (Ohyama and Jones, 1995; Motta et al., 1997; Brezis and Tsiddon, 1998; van de Klundert and Smulders, 2001; Desmet, 2002; Furukawa, 2013).⁴ The present paper contributes to this literature by developing a new

⁴See Giovannetti (2001) for perpetual leapfrogging in a context of price competition between firms. In addition, some literature in the field of economic geography addresses both the theory and the empirical

two-country model where leapfrogging in *environmental* leadership takes place endogenously, while those existing papers do not focus on environmental factors such as pollution emissions. Our paper is also new to the literature in finding a policy-based mechanism of leapfrogging. We demonstrate that environmental leapfrogging may result from a policy game between governments with strategic interactions in global emissions. In this sense, the leapfrogging in our model is not only a technology-driven phenomenon, but also a policy-driven phenomenon. In the existing literature, such policy-driven leapfrogging is not addressed.

In our model, technological change caused by international strategic interaction affects global pollution dynamics. We also demonstrate that global pollution emissions may either decrease or increase over time despite the fact that environmental technology monotonically advances in both countries. More specifically, the amount of global pollution emissions converges to a constant level in the long run, which may be lower (higher) than the initial level of global emissions (i.e., the level in an early stage of adjustment under dirty technologies) when environmental leapfrogging takes place (does not take place) in equilibrium. In our model, the technology in the lagging country advances more rapidly than that in the leading country. This feature implies that technologies in the two countries advance considerably if both countries experience a state of environmental lagging for many periods. That is, both countries possess similarly clean technologies when leapfrogging occurs more frequently. This is why the long-term level of global pollution can become low in the presence of leapfrogging.

Our results suggest the importance of balanced technological change. Most of the world's research and development (R&D) for environmental innovation occurs in high-income countries (e.g., Lanjouw and Mody, 1996). Dechezleprêtre et al. (2011) did find climate-friendly innovations in emerging Economies, but these innovations are limited. While international transfers of climate-mitigation technologies occur mostly between developed countries, technology transfers from developed countries to emerging countries are few in number, but have been rising rapidly in recent years.⁵ We need to accelerate international transfers to mitigate the imbalanced technological change between countries that could cause undesirable effects on the environment.

This paper is related to the literature on the interactions between environmental regulations and endogenous technological change through R&D and learning-by-doing. Bovenberg and Smulders (1996) examined the link between tighter environmental policy and economic growth when the environmental R&D sector endogenously develops abatement technologies. Goulder and Mathai (2000) explored policy-induced technological change for the design of carbon-abatement policies when the channels of technological progress are based on R&D and learning-by-doing. Acemoglu et al. (2012) considered whether research can be directed to improving the productivity of clean and dirty intermediate goods sectors and showed that sustainable long-run growth can be achieved with temporary taxation of dirty innovation and production when the inputs are sufficiently substitutable. Bosetti et al. (2008) and Fischer and Newell (2008) empirically assessed the effects of technological progress through learning, R&D, and knowledge spillovers. None of these studies developed a two-country model to study the strategic interaction of environmental policies between countries and the role of environmental leapfrogging. Our contribution is to clarify the interaction of endogenous technological change between

evidence of technological leapfrogging at regional level; see, for example, Quah (1996a, b).

⁵Popp (2012) provided a comprehensive review of the literature on environmentally friendly technological change and technology transfers.

countries.⁶

The rest of the article is organized as follows. Section 2 introduces our model of endogenous technological change. Section 3 considers a Nash equilibrium of the policy game. Section 4 explores a key mechanism underlying environmental leapfrogging. Section 5 investigates the impact of leapfrogging on global pollution emissions and Section 6 concludes the article.

2 Basic Model

Time is discrete extending from $t = 0$ to ∞ . There are two countries, labeled by $i = A, B$. In the basic model, we keep the two countries as symmetric as possible. They differ only in initial environmental technological levels.⁷ There is a single consumption good, which is taken as the numeraire. The consumption good is produced by perfectly competitive firms in both countries. There are constant returns to scale, and the technology converts one unit of (effective) labor into one unit of a good. The (gross) marginal cost in country i is thus equal to the wage rate, denoted as $w_i(t)$.

Industrial production emits pollution, which is treated as a global pure public bad. Assume that producing one unit of a good in country i generates $\kappa_i(t) > 0$ units of pollution. The variable $\kappa_i(t)$ captures how harmful the production technology in country i is to the environment. We model a country's environmental technology by using $\kappa_i(t)$, which may correspond to the amount of CO2 emissions per unit of GDP adjusted by PPP in a commonly-used data set of the United Nations (the MDG Indicators), given that we think of a single-good model.

In this paper, we use two different words concerning the environment. The first word is "awareness," to which we relate parameter ε . This captures how uncomfortable people feel about global pollutants. The second word is "friendliness," inversely relating to $\kappa_i(t)$. This captures to what extent the production technology of a country generates pollution emissions.

In this study, we highlight the government's role in controlling emissions. In order to control the aggregate emission level, the national government of country i requires each domestic firm to reduce its pollution by 100 $\tau_i(t)$ %. In other words, firms in country i are allowed to generate $\kappa_i(t)(1 - \tau_i(t))$ of emissions for one unit of the good. We assume that every firm can reduce one unit of emission by hiring one unit of (effective) labor. The effective marginal cost for a firm to produce a unit of a good (with the inclusion of pollution reduction) is equal to $w_i(t)(1 + \kappa_i(t)\tau_i(t))$. We may refer to $\tau_i(t) \in [0, 1]$ as the rate of pollution reduction per unit of the emission in country i .

In each country, there is a representative consumer who inelastically supplies $L/2$ units of (effective) labor. The consumer in country i consumes $C_i(t)$ units of the single consumption good and is endowed with the following utility function:

$$u_i(t) = C_i(t) - \varepsilon (E_A(t) + E_B(t))^2, \quad (1)$$

where $E_i(t)$ is the flow of pollution emission generated by country i and $\varepsilon > 0$ denotes the degree of environmental awareness.

⁶In the literature on trade and the environment, the interaction of environmental policy interventions is investigated using a two-country model, but technologies are exogenously given to focus on the effects of trade liberalization. See, e.g., Copeland and Taylor (2004).

⁷In Section 4.3, we will investigate the roles of heterogeneity between the countries.

We treat pollution as a flow although most environmental problems are stock ones. The reason is as follows. First, if the depreciation rate of the pollution stock is high (e.g., the natural rate of removal of atmospheric pollution is high), the flow assumption may be a reasonable approximation (e.g., Schou, 2002; Grimaud and Tournemaine, 2007). Second, it simplifies the analysis without altering the main insight of our paper.

3 Short-run Equilibrium

In this section, we will characterize the short-run equilibrium of our model under given environmental technologies. Although our model is very simple, its equilibrium behavior appears to be complex. To explain this, first, we will see the consumers' and firms' optimal activities in market equilibrium. Then, we will characterize the governments' optimal environmental policy in a Nash equilibrium of the policy game played by the two countries.

3.1 Market Equilibrium

Assuming that firms of the two countries supply their products to the integrated world market, the effective marginal costs must be equated between the two countries. Thus we have $w_A(t)(1 + \kappa_A(t)\tau_A(t)) = w_B(t)(1 + \kappa_B(t)\tau_B(t)) = 1$. The equilibrium wages are obtained as

$$w_i(t) = \frac{1}{1 + \kappa_i(t)\tau_i(t)}. \quad (2)$$

The labor market equilibrium conditions determine the equilibrium levels of national output equal to

$$Y_i(t) = \frac{L/2}{1 + \kappa_i(t)\tau_i(t)}. \quad (3)$$

We thus obtain the indirect utility function as

$$u_i(t) = \frac{L/2}{1 + \kappa_i(t)\tau_i(t)} - \varepsilon \left(\sum_{i \in \{A, B\}} E_i(t) \right)^2, \quad (4)$$

where the pollution is given by

$$E_i(t) = (1 - \tau_i(t)) \frac{L\kappa_i(t)/2}{1 + \kappa_i(t)\tau_i(t)} \quad (5)$$

for $i = A$ and B .

3.2 Optimal Policy Equilibrium

The government in each country, say i , controls their pollution reduction rate $\tau_i(t)$ as an environmental policy tool so as to maximize utility, given their foreign policy $\tau_j(t)$. A reaction function is defined as $\tau_i^*(t; \tau_j^*(t)) = \arg \max_{\tau_i(t) \in [0, 1]} u_i(t)$. Solving this nonlinear

optimization problem with (4) derives the reaction function as

$$\tau_i^*(t; \tau_j^*(t)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \varepsilon L \leq \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} \left(\kappa_i(t) + \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \right)^{-1} \\ e_i(t) & \text{otherwise} \\ 1 & \text{if } \varepsilon L \geq \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \right)^{-1} \end{cases}, \quad (6)$$

where

$$e_i(t) = \frac{\varepsilon L - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \varepsilon L \right)}{\varepsilon L + \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \varepsilon L \right)}. \quad (7)$$

Equation (6) suggests a possibility of so-called carbon leakage. Since $\tau_i^*(t, \tau_j^*(t))$ is globally a decreasing function in $\tau_j^*(t)$, one country would prefer a lower rate of pollution reduction when the other country takes a higher pollution reduction rate. Thus, it is less likely for both countries to take a very high rate of reduction at the same time. At the aggregate level, this would imply the possibility of carbon leakage.

Next let us think of a Nash equilibrium in the policy game played between the two governments. Denote as $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t))$ a pair of strategies taken in the Nash equilibrium. This equilibrium pair of policies can be calculated as a solution to the system consisting of the two optimal policy equations: $\tau_A^*(t) = \tau_A^*(t, \tau_B^*(t))$ and $\tau_B^*(t) = \tau_B^*(t, \tau_A^*(t))$. To derive the equilibrium policies, first, it is useful to note two basic facts. First, $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (1, 1)$ and $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (e_A(t), e_B(t))$ cannot be Nash equilibria.⁸ Second, if the world pollution level $\kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t)$ is sufficiently low, both countries do not adopt any pollution reduction policy:

$$(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 0) \text{ if } \kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t) < \min_{i \in \{A, B\}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\varepsilon L (1 + \kappa_i(t))} \right\}. \quad (8)$$

By using (6) and (7), we can easily obtain the equilibrium pair of the policy in the following; see Appendix A for detailed derivations. Define $\hat{\kappa}$ such that $\hat{\kappa} = 1/(\varepsilon L (1 + \hat{\kappa}))$. With $i \neq j$, the policy pair is characterized by

$$(\tau_i^*(t), \tau_j^*(t)) = \begin{cases} (p_i(t), 0) & \text{if } \min \left\{ \kappa_i(t), \frac{1}{\varepsilon L (1 + \kappa_i(t))} \right\} > \kappa_j(t) \geq \frac{1}{\varepsilon L (1 + \kappa_i(t))} - \kappa_i(t) \\ (1, 0) & \text{if } \hat{\kappa} > \kappa_j(t) > \frac{1}{\varepsilon L (1 + \kappa_i(t))} \\ (1, q_j(t)) & \text{if } \kappa_i(t) > \kappa_j(t) \geq \hat{\kappa} \end{cases}, \quad (9)$$

where we define two functions in t , $p_i(t)$ and $q_j(t)$, that satisfy $0 < q_i(t) < p_j(t) < 1$. Formal definitions of these two functions are

$$p_i(t) \equiv \frac{\varepsilon L - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \varepsilon L \kappa_j(t) \right)}{\varepsilon L + \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \varepsilon L \kappa_j(t) \right)} \quad \text{and} \quad q_j(t) \equiv \frac{\varepsilon L - \frac{1}{\kappa_j(t)} \frac{1}{1+\kappa_j(t)}}{\varepsilon L + \frac{1}{1+\kappa_j(t)}}. \quad (10)$$

By using (8) and (9) with (10), Figure 1 relates the environmental technologies of both countries, $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$, to their equilibrium pollution reduction rates, $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t))$, in

⁸The proof is as follows. Substituting $e_j(t)$ into $e_i(t)$ results in $\left(\frac{\tau_i^*(t)}{\kappa_i(t)} + 1 \right) \left(\frac{\kappa_i(t)}{2\varepsilon(1+\kappa_i(t))} - \frac{\kappa_j(t)}{2\varepsilon(1+\kappa_j(t))} \right) = 0$. This does not hold in general because $\tau_i^*(t) > 0$.

(8) and (9). These complex equations and figures simply imply that the country that has a dirtier technology (larger $\kappa_i(t)$) is more willing to impose a higher rate of pollution reduction per unit of the emission (larger $\tau_i(t)$). We can formally prove our main result.

Theorem 1 *A country with a less environmentally friendly technology tends to implement a higher rate of pollution reduction per unit of the emission generated in the country in equilibrium; $\tau_i^*(t) \geq \tau_j^*(t)$ if $\kappa_i(t) > \kappa_j(t)$.*

Theorem 1 implies that the government of a country with dirtier technologies would prefer to reduce more pollutants in percentage terms. This results from international strategic interactions emerging in a Nash equilibrium of the policy game. This will deliver the results on environmental leapfrogging and global pollution dynamics as shown in the next two sections.

One may think that the implication of Theorem 1 seems inconsistent with recent empirical literature showing that new technologies lower the cost of regulation and increase the willingness to regulate (e.g., Carrion-Flores and Innes, 2010; Lovely and Popp, 2011). However, we believe that these two seemingly opposite views are not necessarily inconsistent but just seeing two different aspects of environmental technology. On the one hand, the empirical literature focuses on a cost reduction of environmental regulation driven by new technologies, which encourages the willingness to regulate as shown. On the other hand, we are currently seeing new technologies to reduce the potential amount of pollution emissions, which can be expressed by a decrease in $\kappa_i(t)$. The reduction of potential pollution directly decreases the need to regulate *itself*, which would subsequently weaken the willingness for a country to regulate pollution emissions. Our model captures this aspect of environmental technology, which is essentially consistent with the way the empirical literature considers.

Furthermore, and more importantly, the amount of pollution emissions *per unit of the good* within a country, i , i.e., $\kappa_i(t)(1 - \tau_i^*(t))$, can be greater when the technology of country i is dirtier (less environmentally friendly), i.e., $\kappa_i(t)$ is higher, although it is accompanied by a higher reduction rate $\tau_i^*(t)$ per unit of the emission. This suggests that, in our model, a country with a less environmentally friendly technology tends to implement a weaker environmental regulation in terms of emissions per unit of the good, which is consistent with the empirical literature mentioned above.

4 Technological Leadership in the Environment

In this section, we will introduce an endogenous process through which the environmental technology in either country advances. We will demonstrate that the environmental technological progress in either country interacts with each other to result in international cycles in environmental technological leadership.

We provide a formal definition of environmental technological leadership and leapfrogging. To begin with, we define environmental technological leadership as the state whereby a given country has the most environmentally friendly technology among all countries. Thus, we refer to a country that has a lower $\kappa_i(t)$ as an environmentally leading country. A country with a higher $\kappa_i(t)$ is called an environmentally lagging country. We may say that “environmental leapfrogging” occurs if environmental leadership shifts between the

countries, i.e., if $\kappa_i(t) < \kappa_j(t)$ changes to $\kappa_i(t+1) > \kappa_j(t+1)$ with $i \neq j$. Without loss of generality, we assume $\kappa_A(0) < \kappa_B(0)$ holds in period 0 (initial period). Country A is initially an environmentally leading country.

4.1 Learning by Doing and Technological Progress

We follow the trade literature on leapfrogging (Brezis et al., 1993) by regarding learning by doing as a source of technological progress. Specifically, we incorporate endogenous environmental technological progress into the model by considering a learning-by-doing effect; see Newell et al. (1999) and Popp (2002) for empirical evidence. In doing this, we assume the simple setting *à la* Arrow (1962) and Romer (1986);⁹ however, if we thought of a more general and realistic setting as in Young's (1991) bounded learning by doing model, our main result would not change qualitatively. We believe that using such a simple setting is beneficial for us to elaborate our main story: an environmentally lagging country may be able to accumulate experience on environmentally friendly activities faster than a leading country. As we will demonstrate below, this is because the lagging country sets a higher rate of pollution reduction in equilibrium (Theorem 1). This implies that the lagging country reduces more pollution emissions in equilibrium, although it may generate more emissions (i.e., implementing a weaker environmental regulation in terms of emissions per unit of the good).

Our basic assumption is that a country that reduces more pollutants learns how to produce in a more environmentally friendly manner. Specifically, we suppose that the pollution level of a technology in country i in period $t+1$, $\kappa_i(t+1)$, is determined by the cumulative stock of past experiences on reducing pollutants:

$$\kappa_i(t+1) = \bar{\kappa}_i - \sum_{s=0}^t \eta(\tau_i^*(s)\kappa_i(s)Y_i(s)), \quad (11)$$

where $\tau_i^*(s)\kappa_i(s)Y_i(s)$ is the pollution reduction made by country i in period s and η is a learning-by-doing function that maps the pollution reduction country i does in a period, s , to how much country i will learn to produce environmentally friendly from its experience on reducing pollutants. $\bar{\kappa}_i$ denotes an initial (period 0) pollution level in country i , which is exogenously given. We put two natural assumptions on the learning-by-doing function η . (a) $\eta(0) = 0$; there is no advance in a country if there is no reduction. (b) $\eta(z') > \eta(z)$ for $z' > z$ for any $z, z' > 0$; a country that reduces more pollutants learns more on how to produce in an environmentally friendly manner. It can be easily verified that, in equilibrium, $\tau_i^*(s)\kappa_i(s)Y_i(s)$ monotonically increases with $\tau_i^*(s)$, which plays a key role in showing the following lemma.

Lemma 1 *The equilibrium dynamics of the international environmental friendliness $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ have seven different phases as shown in Figure 2.*¹⁰

⁹See also Furukawa (2007) for learning by doing in an innovation-based growth model, which is considered in much the same fashion as Arrow's original paper.

¹⁰In Figure 2, $\kappa_A(t)$ ($\kappa_B(t)$) is measured along the horizontal (vertical) axis, and the time index t is omitted for simplicity.

Proof. For the sake of explanation, by (11), we can derive the following expression in terms of a flow:

$$\kappa_i(t+1) - \kappa_i(t) = -\eta(\tau_i^*(t)\kappa_i(t)Y_i(t)). \quad (12)$$

Together with Figure 1, (12) implies that there are three typical patterns of the direction in which $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ moves over time, depending on the international pair of pollution reduction rates $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t))$.

First, in the region of $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 0)$, there are no technological advances by assumption (a). Namely, since both countries do not engage in the pollution-reducing activity, they do not learn anymore. Here $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ never moves and is stable. Second, in the regions of $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (p_A, 0)$ and $(1, 0)$ ($(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, p_B)$ and $(0, 1)$), only country A (B) engages in the abatement activity. Therefore, only $\kappa_A(t)$ ($\kappa_B(t)$) decreases over time by assumption (a). This fact is indicated by the left arrow (down arrow) within those regions. Third, in the region of $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (1, q_B)$ ($(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (q_A, 1)$), both countries make the environmental investment. As the pollution reduction rate in country A (B) is higher, i.e., $\tau_A^*(t) > \tau_B^*(t)$ ($\tau_A^*(t) < \tau_B^*(t)$), the pollution level in country A (B), i.e., $\kappa_A(t)$ ($\kappa_B(t)$), decreases more *sharply* than the pollution level in country B (A), i.e., $\kappa_B(t)$ ($\kappa_A(t)$) through learning by doing. This comes from the assumption (b) and the equilibrium property that $\tau_i^*(s)\kappa_i(s)Y_i(s)$ monotonically increases with $\tau_i^*(s)$. This is indicated by the long left arrow and the shorter down arrow for the region of $(1, q_B)$ and the long down arrow and the shorter left arrow for the region of $(q_A, 1)$. All seven phases are characterized, proving the lemma. ■

By means of the phase diagram in Figure 2, we can determine the direction in which international environmental friendliness, $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$, advances over time and roughly trace a dynamic path for any initial point. A typical trajectory, starting from point K_0 , is illustrated by dotted arrows in Figure 2.

4.2 Environmental Leapfrogging

Take an example path starting from K_0 in Figure 2, in which $\kappa_A(0) < \kappa_B(0)$. Along an equilibrium path from K_0 , as can be shown by using the phase diagram, environmental leadership may shift between the two countries. At first, country A is the leader with lower $\kappa_A(t)$ and it retains its environmental leadership in the subsequent periods 1 – 4. Along the equilibrium path, leapfrogging occurs in period 5; country B becomes a new environmental leader.

We can formally identify this possibility of environmental leapfrogging. Recall that by (9) and Figure 1, the equilibrium environmental policy pair is $(\tau_A^*(0), \tau_B^*(0)) = (0, 0)$, $(0, p_B(0))$, $(0, 1)$, or $(q_A(0), 1)$. Define a new threshold value $\tilde{\kappa}$ such that $2\tilde{\kappa} = 1/(\varepsilon L(1 + \tilde{\kappa}))$. See Figure 3. If an initial point exists in the blue region in Figure 3 (a), like point k_0 , the environmental friendliness pair $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ will eventually fall below the 45 degree line. The blue region is characterized by

$$\kappa_B(0) > \kappa_A(0) \in (\tilde{\kappa}, \hat{\kappa}). \quad (13)$$

See Figure 3 (b), in which the red region corresponds to

$$\kappa_B(0) > \kappa_A(0) \geq \hat{\kappa}. \quad (14)$$

If the pair $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ exists such as k'_0 in the red region in Figure 3 (b), it may eventually either fall below the 45 degree line or move to the blue region of (13). This is guaranteed by assuming that the extent of technological progress that takes place within a period is not too large, i.e., there exists some $\delta > 0$ such that $\eta(\cdot, t) < \delta$.¹¹ Given this assumption, if (14) holds, we can show that environmental leadership will eventually shift internationally.

Taking into account (13) and (14) with Theorem 1, we have the following.

Proposition 1 (Environmental Leapfrogging) *The environmental leadership of a country may be temporary. Suppose $\kappa_A(0) < \kappa_B(0)$. If the extent of technological progress taking place within a period is not too large, so long as*

$$\kappa_A(0) > \tilde{\kappa}, \quad (15)$$

the environmental leadership initially retained by country A will eventually shift to the initial lagging country B; environmental leapfrogging takes place.

To explain why leapfrogging can take place under (15), let us review our result on a step-by-step basis. Initially, country A is an environmentally leading country with $\kappa_A(0) < \kappa_B(0)$. As the environmentally lagging country B is more polluting, it requires domestic firms to reduce pollutants more by setting a higher rate of pollution reduction, i.e., $\tau_B^*(0) > \tau_A^*(0)$ (Theorem 1).¹² Through the learning-by-doing process, the lagging country B's technology thus becomes environmentally friendly more rapidly than the leading country A's technology does. If the technology of the leading country A were initially environmentally friendly enough to satisfy $\kappa_A(0) < \tilde{\kappa}$, the world economy would get to the equilibrium without any pollution reduction ($\tau_i^*(t) = 0$). However, as the leading country A's technology is initially not very environmentally friendly ($\kappa_A(0) > \tilde{\kappa}$), the lagging country's friendliness continues to increase until it exceeds the leading country's. Therefore, if (15) holds, the environmental leadership eventually shifts internationally.

In a nutshell, the environmentally lagging country may learn to produce in an environmentally friendly way faster than the leading country since the lagging country reduces more pollution emissions by setting a higher pollution reduction rate, which enhances learning by doing. This creates a possibility of environmental leapfrogging in our model.

What happens after the first environmental leapfrogging takes place? The answer to this question is that a second leapfrogging may follow the first. See Figure 2, in which K_5 moves horizontally in the subsequent period 6. Imagine that K_5 crosses the 45 degree line, so the technological leadership shifts internationally again in period 6. However, in the long run, leapfrogging necessarily ceases to exist because the world economy's friendliness pair $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ eventually converges to the grey region in Figure 2, in which $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 0)$ and $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ stays constant. Denote by (κ_A^*, κ_B^*) the point that $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ finally reaches in the grey region. Whether $\kappa_A^* > \kappa_B^*$ or $\kappa_A^* < \kappa_B^*$ is not determinate, depending in a complex fashion on the initial friendliness levels $(\kappa_A(0), \kappa_B(0))$. That is, which country ultimately becomes an environmentally leading country is indeterminate. This indeterminacy essentially comes from the symmetry

¹¹If a step of technological progress was very large, $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t))$ might immediately jump into the grey region of $(0, 0)$, in which case leapfrogging never takes place.

¹²Recall that this does not necessarily imply the lagging country B taking a stricter environmental regulation because it can generate a larger amount of pollution emissions.

between the countries (which differ only in $\kappa_i(t)$). In any case, our message here is that the environmental leadership retained by a country at some point of time might be intrinsically impermanent.

Our theoretical result is consistent with empirical observations. A transition of the key variable in our model, $\kappa_i(t)$, which indicates the amount of emissions from producing one unit of a good (environmental friendliness of technology) in country i , may correspond to that of CO2 emissions per 1 US dollar (USD) GDP adjusted by PPP, provided that composition of economic activity is constant in the country. According to the MDG Indicators of the United Nations, many countries including developed and emerging economies reduced their CO2 emissions per 1 USD GDP (PPP) since the 1990s.¹³ For instance, emissions per 1 USD GDP in 1991 were 0.430kg in Germany and 0.325kg in Japan but those in 2010 were 0.272kg in Germany and 0.297kg in Japan.¹⁴ Emissions per 1 USD GDP in Poland were 1.176kg in 1990 and 0.479kg in 2010, while those in Bulgaria were 1.155kg in 1990 and 0.515kg in 2010. Emissions per 1 USD GDP in 1992 were 1.730kg in China and 1.408kg in Russia, while those in 2000 were 1.011kg in China and 1.237kg in Russia. The values are reversed again between them because in 2010, they were 0.908kg in China and 0.863kg in Russia. Thus, our result could explain that a country with initially high emissions per 1 USD GDP (PPP) reduces the emissions significantly compared with other countries with initially low emissions per 1 USD GDP (PPP), thereby causing environmental leapfrogging regarding emissions per 1 USD GDP (PPP).

4.3 Which Country Prevails? The Role of Country Heterogeneity

So long as countries are essentially identical, in the analysis above, which country prevails is not determined. A fundamental question arises as to which country becomes the ultimate environmental leader in the long run. In this subsection, we will give an answer to this question by allowing for country heterogeneity.

Suppose that one country is relatively aware of environmental quality, say country A , and the other has a large amount of effective labor (i.e., population times their labor productivity), say country B . Denote as L_i and ε_i the effective labor and environmental awareness of country i , where $i = A, B$. Then, $\varepsilon_A \geq \varepsilon_B$ and $L_A \leq L_B$. Equilibrium optimal policies are shown in Figure 4. (See Appendix B for mathematical details.)

Figure 4 (a), by setting $\varepsilon_A = \varepsilon_B$ and $L_A < L_B$, shows how the difference in international effective labor sizes affects the equilibrium policies. Define $\hat{\kappa}_i$ such that $\hat{\kappa}_i = 1/(\varepsilon_i L_i (1 + \hat{\kappa}_i))$. Because $\hat{\kappa}_B$ is lower than $\hat{\kappa}_A$ in this case, the stable region $(0, 0)$ is twisted with a rightward bias. In fact, as L_B increases, $\hat{\kappa}_B$ decreases and $\hat{\kappa}_A$ increases. Therefore, when country B 's effective labor L_B is very large, $\kappa_A > \kappa_B$ (where country B is the leader) holds almost everywhere in the stable region $(0, 0)$. Given that the world economy eventually moves into the stable region $(0, 0)$, we can say that a county with large effective labor is more likely to eventually obtain the environmental leadership ($\kappa_A > \kappa_B$).

Remark 1 *A country that has a large amount of effective labor tends to eventually become an environmental leader in the long run.*

¹³See <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mdg/SeriesDetail.aspx?srid=788>.

¹⁴In the United Kingdom, emissions per 1 USD GDP were 0.443kg in 1991 and 0.242kg in 2010.

The implication of Remark 1 is as follows. A large amount of effective labor implies huge potential pollution emissions. Thus, the government of country B tends to implement a higher rate of pollution reduction for a longer time that promotes the technological progress as a by-product in the long-term. Therefore, given its large effective labor, country B may tend to obtain environmental leadership eventually, even if it is initially an environmentally lagging country.

Heterogeneity of environmental awareness, $\varepsilon_A > \varepsilon_B$, determines which country finally retains the environmental leadership. See Figure 4 (b), with the definition of $\bar{\kappa}$ where $2\bar{\kappa}(1+\bar{\kappa}) \equiv 1/\varepsilon_A$, which means $\bar{\kappa} = \bar{\kappa}(\varepsilon^A)$ with $\bar{\kappa}'(\varepsilon^A) < 0$. Starting from any point in the red-box region (where $\kappa_B(t) < \bar{\kappa}$ and $\kappa_B(t) < \kappa_A(t)$), $\kappa_B(t) < \kappa_A(t)$ holds in the long run. Outside the red-box region, any path eventually converges to a state with $\kappa_B(t) > \kappa_A(t)$, where country A is the leading country. As, by $\bar{\kappa}'(\varepsilon^A) < 0$, the red-box region becomes smaller as ε^A increases, we have the following statement.

Remark 2 *A country that has greater awareness of environmental quality tends to become an environmental leader in the long run.*

The implication of Remark 2 is straightforward. Given its greater environmental awareness ε_A , country A is more likely to adopt a higher pollution reduction rate, abating more emissions. It follows that the learning-by-doing effect works more actively in country A , which would advance environmental technology in country A faster (decreasing $\kappa_A(t)$ faster than $\kappa_B(t)$).

5 Global Pollution Dynamics

How does environmental leapfrogging affect global pollution dynamics? To answer this question, we assume that the two countries differ only in their technological friendliness; $\kappa_A(t) < \kappa_B(t)$. Using (5), (9), and (10), we will elaborate how global pollution, $E(t) = E_A(t) + E_B(t)$, changes over time in each stage of environmental development.

Stage I: Consider an earlier stage of environmental technology development, in which both countries set a positive rate of pollution reduction, $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (q_A(t), 1)$. As shown in the phase diagram in Figure 2, environmental technology advances in both countries; both $\kappa_A(t)$ and $\kappa_B(t)$ decreases over time. By (5), (9), and (10), we have

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon(1+\kappa_A(t))} \equiv e_A^1(t) \text{ as } \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1+\kappa_A(t))} < \kappa_A(t) . \quad (16)$$

We find that, during this early stage (stage I), global pollution increases as environmental technologies in the leading country advance. That is, $E(t)$ increases as $\kappa_A(t)$ decreases.

Stage II: The second stage is with $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 1)$, where technological progress takes place only for the lagging country. Only $\kappa_B(t)$ decreases over time. Global emissions in this case can be calculated as

$$E(t) = \frac{\kappa_A(t)L}{2} \equiv e_A^2(t) \text{ as } \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1+\kappa_B(t))} < \kappa_A(t) < \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1+\kappa_A(t))} . \quad (17)$$

While the leading country generates a constant amount of pollution, the lagging country reduces all of its pollution emissions. Therefore, it is clear that global pollution is kept constant. That is, $E(t)$ never changes while $\kappa_B(t)$ decreases over time.

A fundamental question is whether global pollution rises or declines in the period of regime switching from stages I to II. The answer is not clear and global pollution depends on the extent of technological progress that takes place within that period. Suppose that regime switching from stages I to II occurs from periods t to $t + 1$. If the extent of technological progress in the leading country, i.e., $\eta_A(t)$, is reasonably large, global pollution is reduced with this regime switching, $E(t + 1) < E(t)$.¹⁵

Stage III: In a more advanced stage of environmental technology development with $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, p_B(t))$, as in stage II, only $\kappa_B(t)$ decreases over time. We can obtain

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2\varepsilon(1 + \kappa_B(t))} \equiv e_A^3(t) \text{ as } \kappa_A(t) < \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1 + \kappa_B(t))} < \kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t) ; \quad (18)$$

global emissions start to increase again. In a regime switch from stages II to III, global pollution necessarily increases.¹⁶

Stage IV: Finally, if both countries have a sufficiently clean technology such that if $\kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t) < \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1 + \kappa_B(t))}$, they do not need pollution reduction; $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 0)$. In this case, global pollution is given by

$$E(t) = \frac{(\kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t))L}{2} \equiv e^4(t) \text{ as } \kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t) < \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1 + \kappa_B(t))} . \quad (19)$$

This implies that global pollution emissions become constant in the long-run steady state (i.e., in stage IV), given that $\kappa_A(t)$ and $\kappa_B(t)$ are constant due to $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (0, 0)$. In a regime switch from stages III to IV, using a simple numerical example, we can show that global emissions are reduced if technological progress for the lagging country, $\eta_B(t)$, is reasonably large.

We have shown the following proposition from the above analysis.

Proposition 2 (Global Pollution Dynamics) *The global pollution $E(t)$ may fluctuate over time in the process of environmental technological progress but finally converges to the constant level in the long-run steady state.*

Proposition 2 shows that the level of global pollution emissions becomes constant in the long-run. However, whether the long-run level of global pollution emissions is lower than the initial level is not clear in general; it can be either higher or lower potentially. We will think of two typical numerical examples;¹⁷ see Appendix C for details.

Figure 5 (a) illustrates the first example (a).¹⁸ In this case, leapfrogging does not take place, and global emissions fluctuates and eventually increases up to the level higher than the initial level. This implies that the level of global pollution $E(t)$ may increase over time, despite the fact that environmental technology monotonically advances in both countries. The intuition behind the result is as follows. Changes in pollution can be decomposed into two fundamental forces: scale and technique effects. As shown in

¹⁵To verify this, consider a numerical example with $L = 0.5$ and $\varepsilon = 0.5$. Assume $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t)) = (1.75, 4.5)$ and $(\kappa_A(t + 1), \kappa_B(t + 1)) = (1, 3.5)$. Then, regime switching occurs from t to $t + 1$, noting (16) and (17). Furthermore, $E(t) = 0.36364$ declines to $E(t + 1) = 0.25$.

¹⁶Suppose that the world goes from stages II to III in periods $t + 1$ to $t + 2$. By (17) and (18), noting $\kappa_A(t + 1) = \kappa_A(t + 2)$ in stage II, we can easily verify $E(t + 1) < E(t + 2)$.

¹⁷In both examples, we set $\varepsilon = L = 0.5$ and take $(\kappa_A(t - 1), \kappa_B(t - 1)) = (2.5, 7.5)$ as an initial state.

¹⁸We consider the following specific learning-by-doing function: $(\eta_i(t), \eta_k(t)) = (2, 0.75)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) > 0$ and $(2, 0)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) = 0$, which is consistent with assumptions (a) and (b).

Grossman and Krueger (1993), the scale effect measures the increase in pollution that would be generated if the economy was simply scaled up, holding all else constant; the technique effect captures reduction in pollution caused by a fall in emissions intensity, holding all else constant. In our model, a higher pollution reduction rate in the early stage of environmental technology development, accompanied by a larger amount of pollution reduction, induces rapid technological progress (through learning by doing), which reduces pollution (the technique effect). As technological progress enables a country to save labor input used for abatement activity, more labor can be employed in production of the good. This causes an increase in pollution (the scale effect). Example (a) suggests that the scale effect in some cases may play a dominant role, where environmental technology advances, but emissions also increase.¹⁹

Figure 5 (b) describes the second example (b).²⁰ In this example, leapfrogging takes place twice, where global pollution fluctuates at first, but finally declines to the lowest level. This implies that the long-run amount of global pollution can be lower than the initial amount in the case where leapfrogging takes place. This is essentially because, in our model, the technology in the lagging country advances more rapidly than that in the leading country as a result of the policy game with international strategic interactions. Technologies in the two countries advance considerably and similarly if both countries experience the state of a lagging country for more periods. This implies that technological progress may be more balanced between the two countries as leapfrogging occurs more frequently. In that sense, environmental leapfrogging may lead to more balanced technological progress in the world, thereby reducing global pollution in the long run.

Remark 3 *The long-run level of global pollution emissions can be either lower or higher than the initial level. In equilibrium where environmental leapfrogging occurs (does not occur), the long-run global pollution emissions may tend to be lower (higher) than their initial level.*

Finally, it is worth pointing out that our analysis could explain the underlying cause of the environmental Kuznets curve (EKC). The EKC is a hypothesized inverted U-shaped relation between environmental quality and economic development.²¹ In our model, production will increase over time because environmental technology advances through learning-by-doing effects. Our results shown in Figure 5 suggest that there is an inverted U-shaped relationship between pollution and time (or economic growth) if environmental leapfrogging occurs frequently. That is, balanced technological progress between countries could be a key factor for the EKC relationship in the world economy.

6 Concluding Remarks

In this paper, we constructed a simple two-country model with global pollution and endogenous technological progress induced by learning by doing. We characterized the

¹⁹ Given that the scale effect dominates, an increase in global pollution over time implies that production increases over time. We can easily verify that in terms of utility, the increase in the output dominates the increase in pollution. As environmental technology improves, utility increases over time. This would suggest an important role for a nice balance of production (economic growth) and the environment.

²⁰ We consider the following learning-by-doing function: $(\eta_i(t), \eta_k(t)) = (1, 0.3)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) > 0$ and $(1, 0)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) = 0$, which is consistent with assumptions (a) and (b).

²¹ See, for example, Dinda (2004) and Stern (2004) for a survey based on the EKC hypothesis.

structure of equilibria and the dynamic environmental policies that achieve technological progress or leapfrogging. Long-term global emissions and the dynamic path of environmental friendliness are related to the initial environmental friendliness, environmental awareness, and learning process between countries. Our findings underscore the importance of considering the implications of technological progress in a multicountry framework.

The important implications of our results are as follows. (i) Leapfrogging may occur under reasonable conditions. Countries are likely to possess similar clean technologies in the long run when leapfrogging occurs frequently. (ii) A country that has a large amount of effective labor and/or considerable environmental awareness tends to be an environmental leader in the long run. (iii) Imbalanced adoption of new clean technologies among countries is not always good for the environment. Global emissions can be mitigated by controlling technological change to be uniform between countries. This needs to have international coordination such as technology transfers and capacity building.

We have built a simple general equilibrium model to shed some light on the issue of development and adoption of new clean technologies to control global emissions. It is certainly worthwhile to build alternative models to more deeply understand the mechanism underlying international differences in technological progress. The following are in particular worth mentioning and have been left for future research. First, our analysis does not consider dynamic optimization because we treat pollution as a flow to derive clear-cut results. However, it is interesting to investigate the issue when pollution is a stock variable. Second, technological progress might be reinforced if the national government considers not only negative externalities caused by pollution, but also positive externalities of learning-by-doing. Third, the channel for knowledge growth could be by R&D investments as well as learning by doing. Last, there is no terms-of-trade effect because we have used a one-good model. Environmental regulations are affected by terms-of-trade effects, which could change the long-term pace of technological progress.

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Appendix A

We will show the derivations for (9). Assume $\kappa_i(t) > \kappa_j(t)$. By substituting $(\tau_i^*(t), \tau_i^*(t)) = (e_i(t), 0)$ and $(\tau_A^*(t), \tau_B^*(t)) = (1, e_j(t))$ into (6) and (7), we have

$$e_i(t) = \frac{\varepsilon L - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \varepsilon L \kappa_j(t) \right)}{\varepsilon L + \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \varepsilon L \kappa_j(t) \right)} \quad (\text{A1})$$

and

$$e_j(t) = \frac{\varepsilon L - \frac{1}{\kappa_j(t)} \frac{1}{1+\kappa_j(t)}}{\varepsilon L + \frac{1}{1+\kappa_j(t)}}, \quad (\text{A2})$$

respectively. With (A1) and (A2), noting $0 \leq e_i(t) \leq 1$ and $0 \leq e_j(t) \leq 1$ would imply (9), given the definitions of $p_i(t)$ and $q_i(t)$.

Appendix B

We will show the derivations for Figure 4 (the case with heterogeneous countries). The reaction function becomes

$$\tau_i^*(t; \tau_j^*(t)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \varepsilon_i \leq \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} \left(\kappa_i(t) L_i + \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} L_j \right)^{-1} \\ e_i(t) & \text{otherwise} \\ 1 & \text{if } \varepsilon_i \geq \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} L_j \right)^{-1} \end{cases}, \quad (\text{B1})$$

where

$$e_i(t) = \frac{\varepsilon_i L_i - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \varepsilon_i L_j \right)}{\varepsilon_i L_i + \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \frac{\kappa_j(t)(1-\tau_j^*(t))}{1+\kappa_j(t)\tau_j^*(t)} \varepsilon_i L_j \right)}. \quad (\text{B2})$$

Define $\hat{\kappa}_i$ such that $\hat{\kappa}_i \equiv \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i L_i (1+\hat{\kappa}_i)}$. Then, using (B1) and (B2), the equilibrium policy pair goes to

$$(\tau_i^*(t), \tau_j^*(t)) = \begin{cases} (0, 0) & \text{if } \kappa_A(t) L_A + \kappa_B(t) L_B \leq \min_{i \in \{A, B\}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i (1+\kappa_i(t))} \right\} \\ (p_i(t), 0) & \text{if } \min \left\{ \frac{\varepsilon_i}{\varepsilon_j} \left(\kappa_i(t) + \frac{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j}{\varepsilon_i} \right), \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i L_j (1+\kappa_i(t))} \right\} \\ & > \kappa_j(t) \geq \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i L_j (1+\kappa_i(t))} - \kappa_i(t) \frac{L_i}{L_j} \\ (1, 0) & \text{if } \hat{\kappa}_j > \kappa_j(t) > \frac{1}{\varepsilon_i L_j (1+\kappa_i(t))} \\ (1, q_j(t)) & \text{if } \frac{\varepsilon_i}{\varepsilon_j} \left(\kappa_i(t) + \frac{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j}{\varepsilon_i} \right) > \kappa_j(t) \geq \hat{\kappa}_j \end{cases}, \quad (\text{B3})$$

where

$$p_i(t) = \frac{\varepsilon_i L_i - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \kappa_j(t) \varepsilon_i L_j \right)}{\varepsilon_i L_i + \left(\frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)} - \kappa_j(t) \varepsilon_i L_j \right)} \quad \text{and} \quad q_i(t) = \frac{\varepsilon_i L_i - \frac{1}{\kappa_i(t)} \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)}}{\varepsilon_i L_i + \frac{1}{1+\kappa_i(t)}}. \quad (\text{B4})$$

It is straightforward to illustrate Figure 4 by using the above equilibrium conditions.

Appendix C

We will explain numerical calculations for Remark 3 in detail. In both examples, we think of $(\kappa_A(t-1), \kappa_B(t-1)) = (2.5, 7.5)$ as an initial point, which ensures stage I for country A as a leading country, noting (16). Set $\varepsilon = L = 0.5$. Then, we calculate $E(t-1) = \frac{1}{1+2.5} \simeq 0.28571$.

Example (a): Technological progress follows $(\eta_i(t), \eta_k(t)) = (2, 0.75)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) > 0$ with $(2, 0)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) = 0$, which is consistent with the learning rules that we assume.

As $(\kappa_A(t-1), \kappa_B(t-1)) = (2.5, 7.5)$, the world is in stage I by (16), and $E(t-1) = \frac{1}{1+2.5} \simeq 0.28571$. Given the values of $\eta_i(t)$ assumed, it goes to $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t)) = (1.75, 5.5)$. By (16), the world is also in stage I and we have $E(t) = \frac{1}{1+1.75} \simeq 0.36364$. In the subsequent period $t+1$, it becomes $(\kappa_A(t+1), \kappa_B(t+1)) = (1, 3.5)$. Noting (17), the world shifts to stage II in period $t+1$. We can calculate $E(t+1) = 0.25$. Next, $(\kappa_A(t+2), \kappa_B(t+2)) = (1, 1.5)$ satisfies the inequality condition in (18), so it is in stage III and $E(t+2) = \frac{1}{1+1.5} = 0.4$. Finally, it goes to $(\kappa_A(t+3), \kappa_B(t+3)) = (1, 0.5)$, which satisfies (19). In period $t+3$, the world moves to the terminal stage IV and we can calculate $E(t+3) = \frac{1.5}{4} = 0.375$, which is higher than the initial level $E(t-1) \simeq 0.28571$.

Example (b): Technological progress follows $(\eta_i(t), \eta_k(t)) = (1, 0.3)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) > 0$ and $(1, 0)$ if $\tau_i^*(t) > \tau_k^*(t) = 0$, which is consistent with the learning rules that we assume.

Through the assumed process of technological progress, stage I continues in periods t to $t+2$: $(\kappa_A(t), \kappa_B(t)) = (2.2, 6.5)$, $(\kappa_A(t+1), \kappa_B(t+1)) = (1.9, 5.5)$, and $(\kappa_A(t+2), \kappa_B(t+2)) = (1.6, 4.5)$ while $E(t) = \frac{1}{1+2.2} \simeq 0.3125$, $E(t+1) = \frac{1}{1+1.9} \simeq 0.34483$, and $E(t+2) = \frac{1}{1+1.6} \simeq 0.38462$. In periods $t+3$ and $t+4$, it goes to $(1.3, 3.5)$ and then $(1.3, 2.5)$, in which case the world is in stage II noting (17). Then, $E(t+3) = E(t+4) = \frac{1.3}{4} = 0.325$. Next, $(\kappa_A(t+5), \kappa_B(t+5)) = (1.3, 1.5)$, which satisfies (18). It is stage III and $E(t+5) = \frac{1}{1+1.5} = 0.4$. In period $t+6$, it goes to $(1.3, 0.5)$, in which leapfrogging occurs and country B is a new leading country. An analogous inequality to that in (18), $\kappa_B(t) < \frac{1}{\varepsilon L(1+\kappa_A(t))} < \kappa_A(t) + \kappa_B(t)$, is satisfied, so that the world is in stage III, $E(t+6) = \frac{1}{1+1.3} = 0.43478$. Finally, it goes to $(\kappa_A(t+7), \kappa_B(t+7)) = (0.3, 0.5)$, in which leapfrogging occurs again. Country A regains the leadership and it satisfies (19), stage IV. Then, we calculate $E(t+7) = \frac{0.8}{4} = 0.2$, which is lower than the initial level $E(t-1) \simeq 0.28571$.

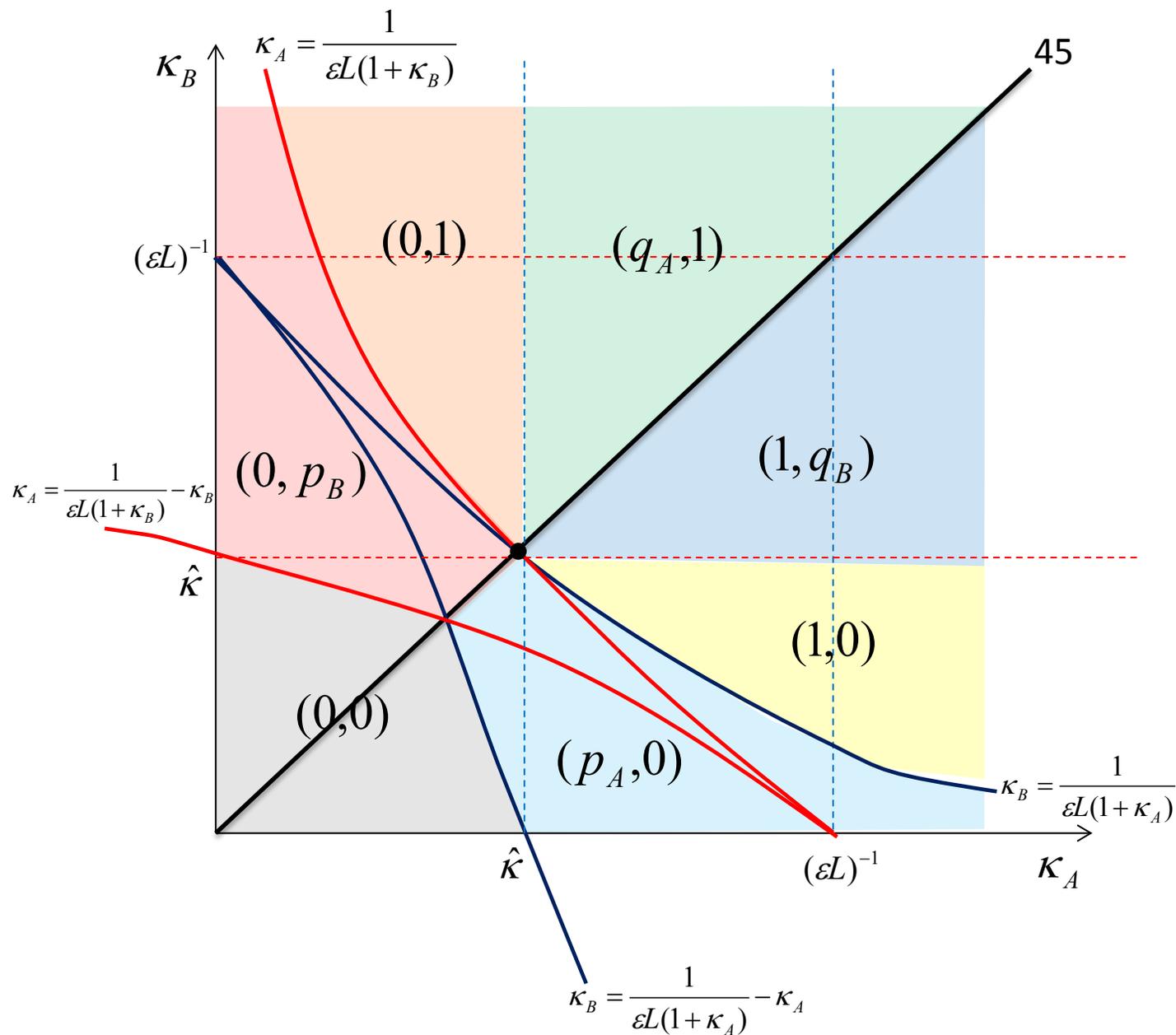


Figure 1: Seven regions of equilibrium policy on a $\kappa_A - \kappa_B$ plane

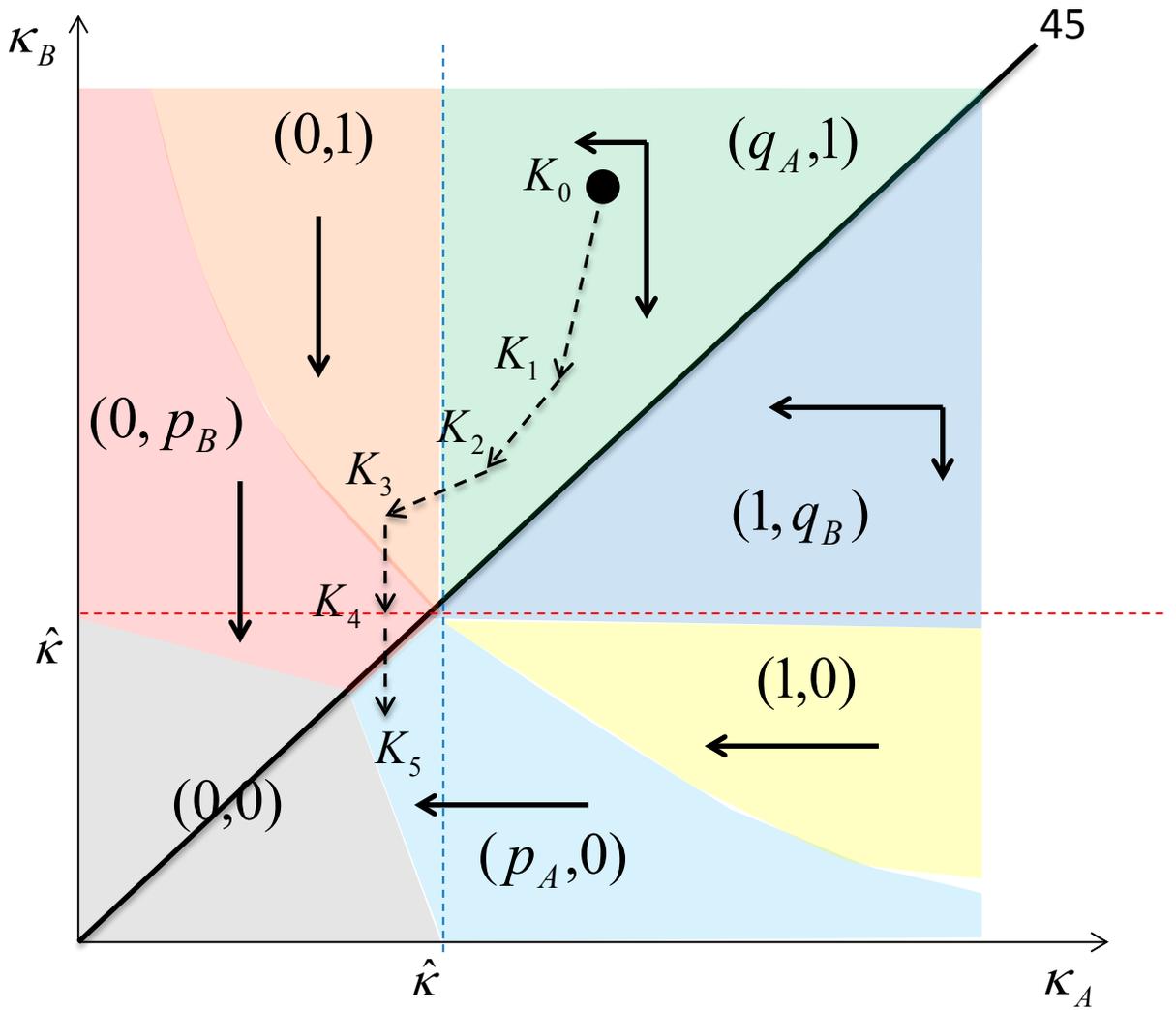


Figure 2: Phase diagram

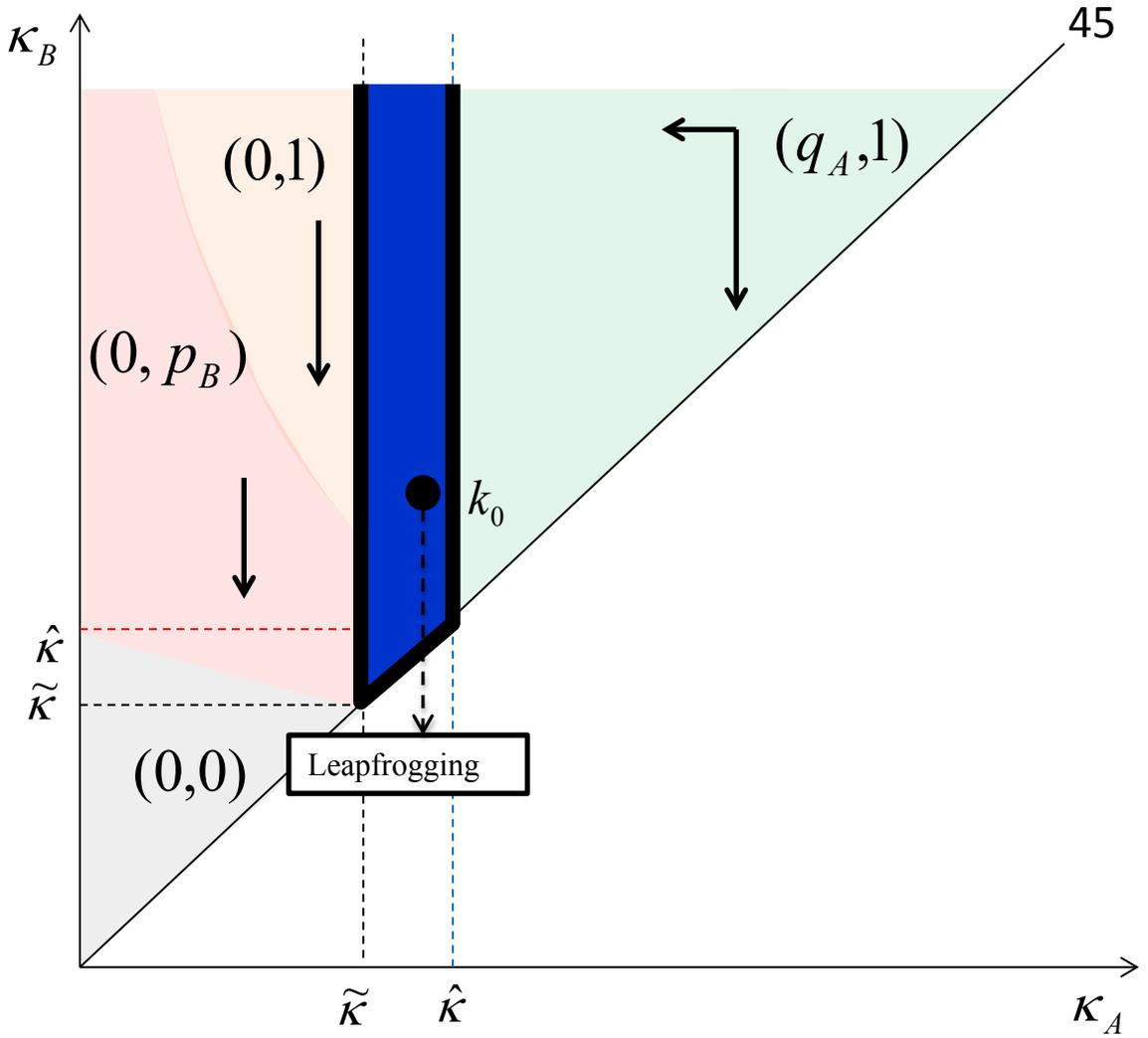


Figure 3 (a): Environmental leapfrogging

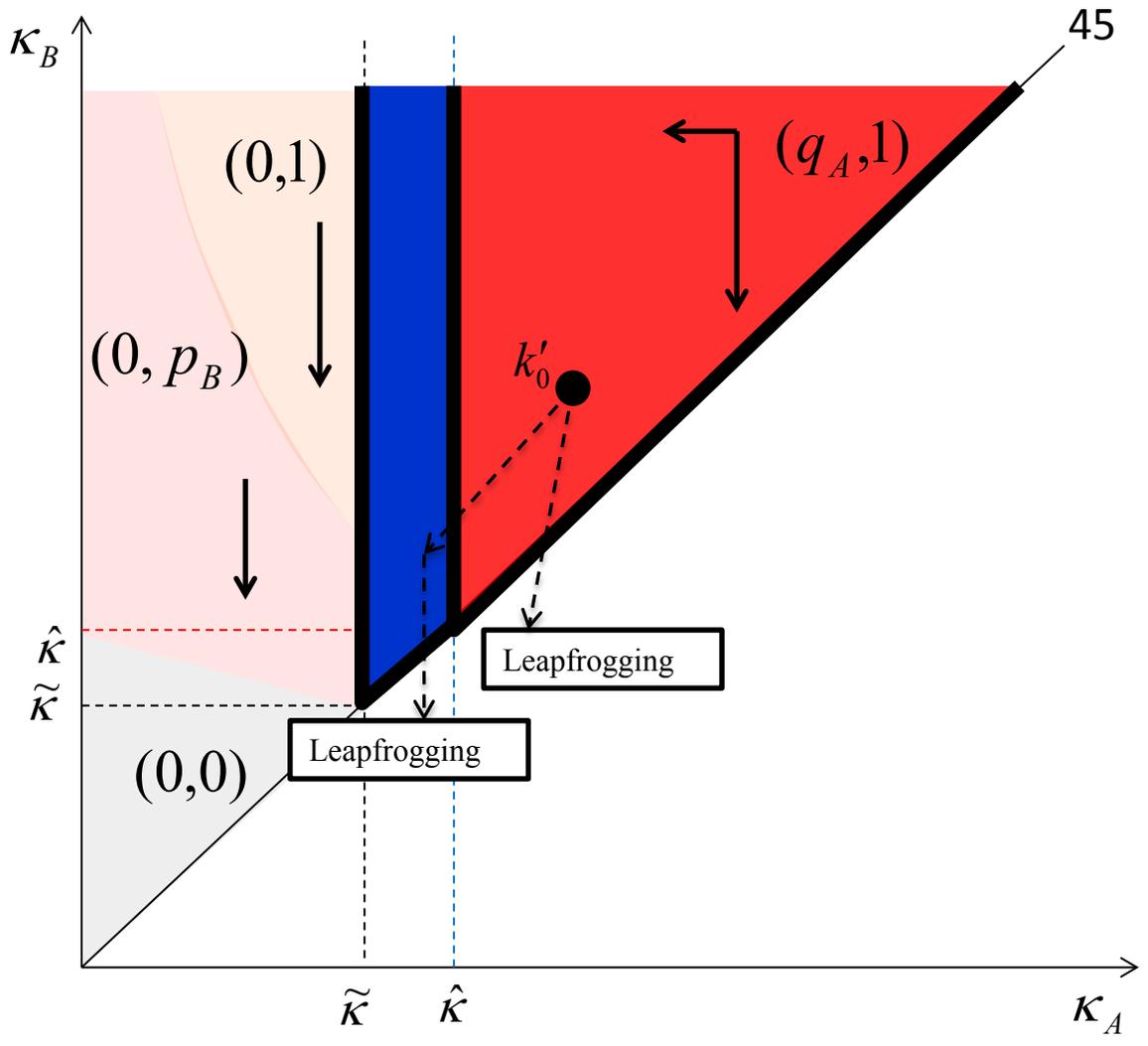


Figure 3(b): Environmental leapfrogging

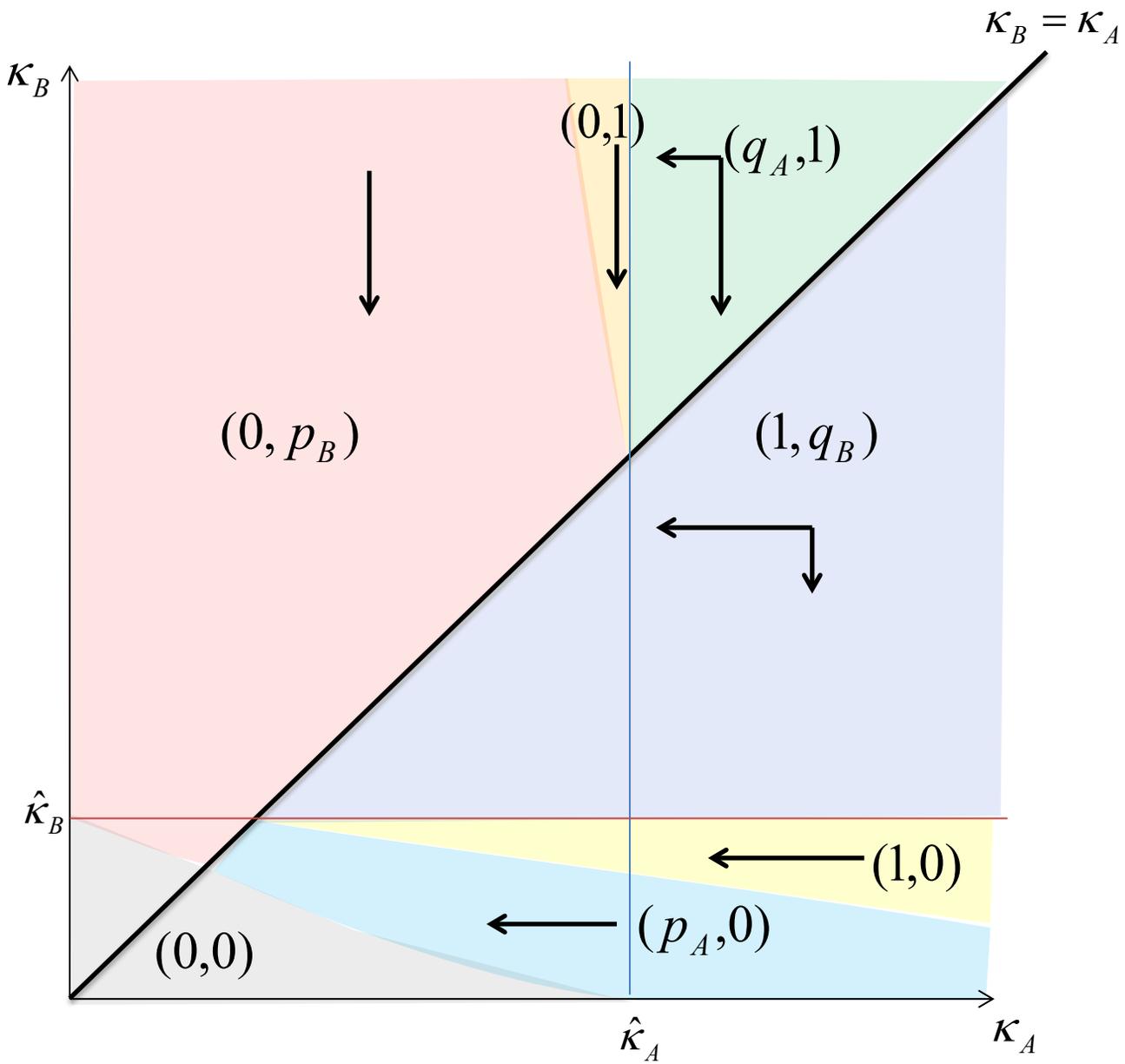


Figure 4 (a): $\varepsilon_A = \varepsilon_B$ and $L_A < L_B$

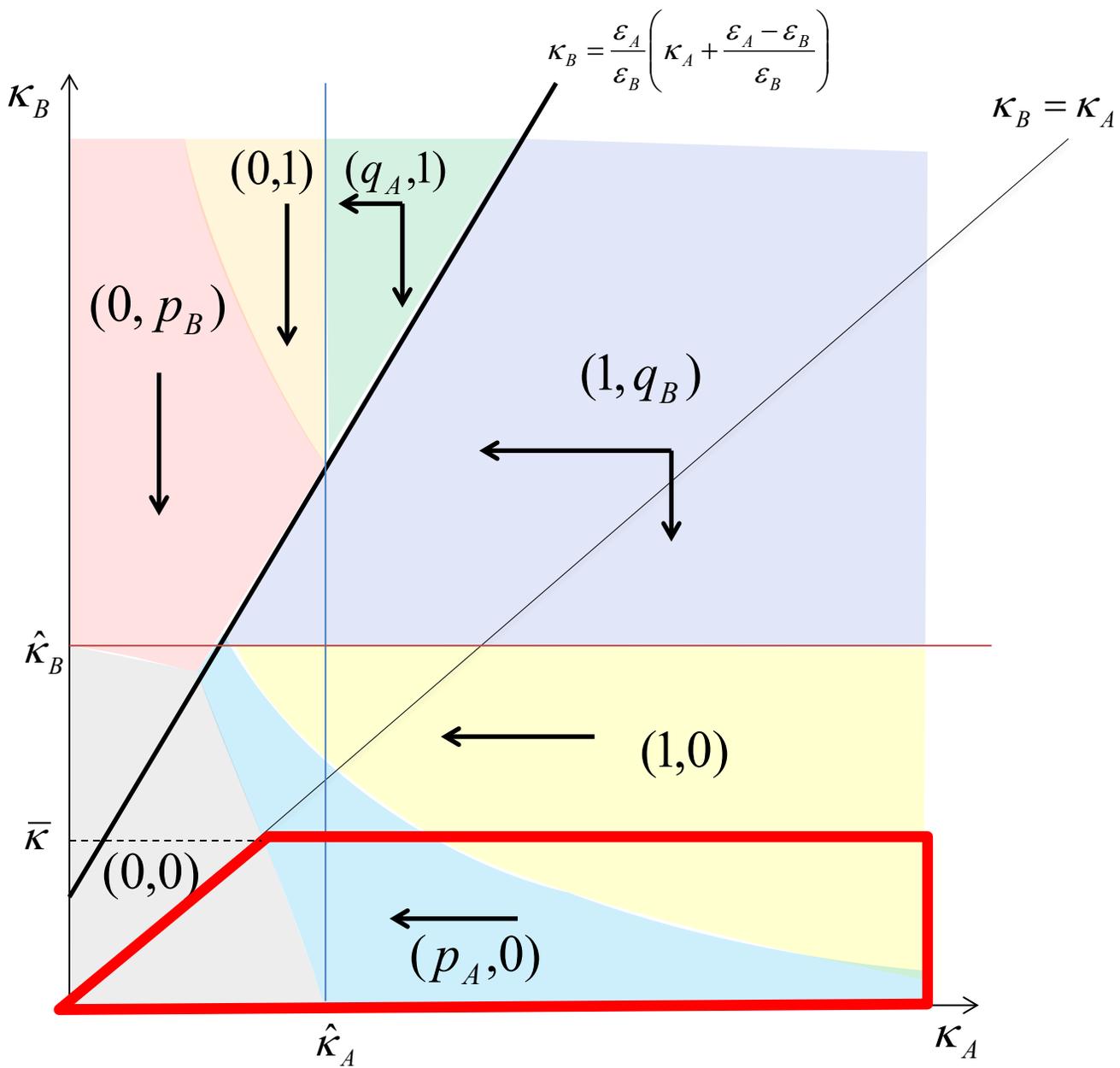


Figure 4 (b): $\epsilon_A > \epsilon_B$ and $L_A = L_B$

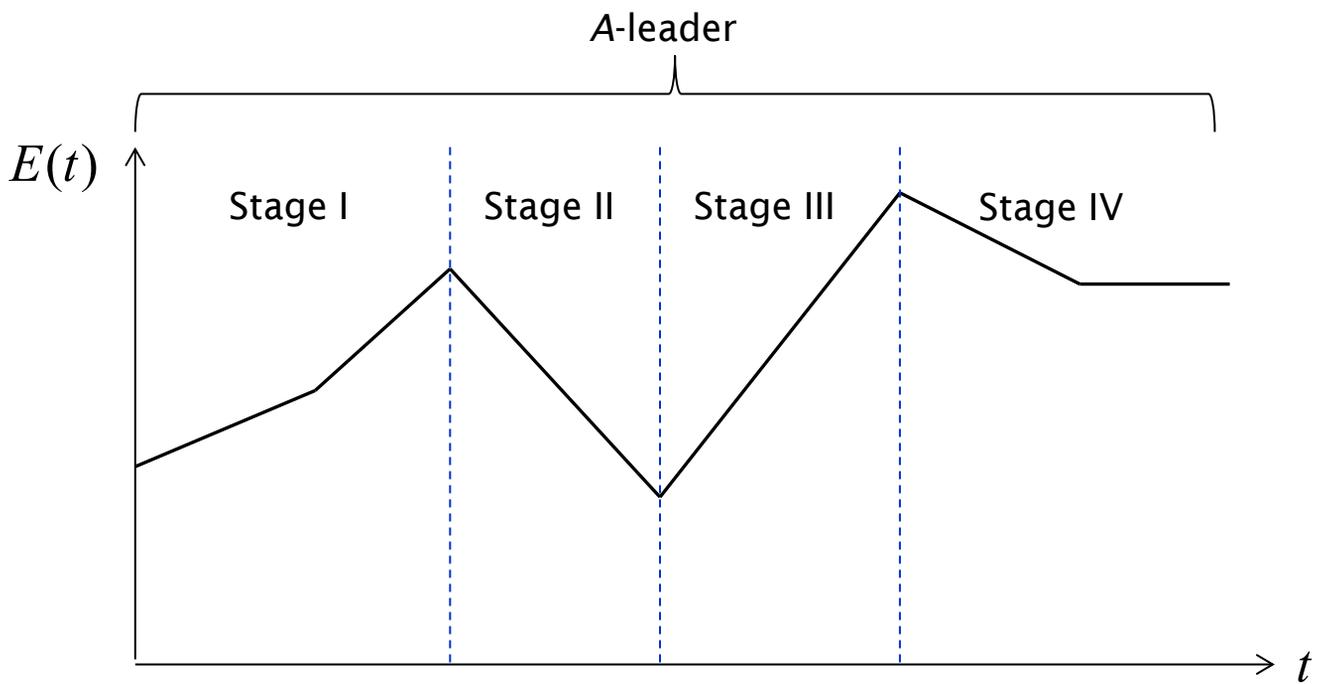


Figure 5 (a): Global pollution without environmental leapfrogging

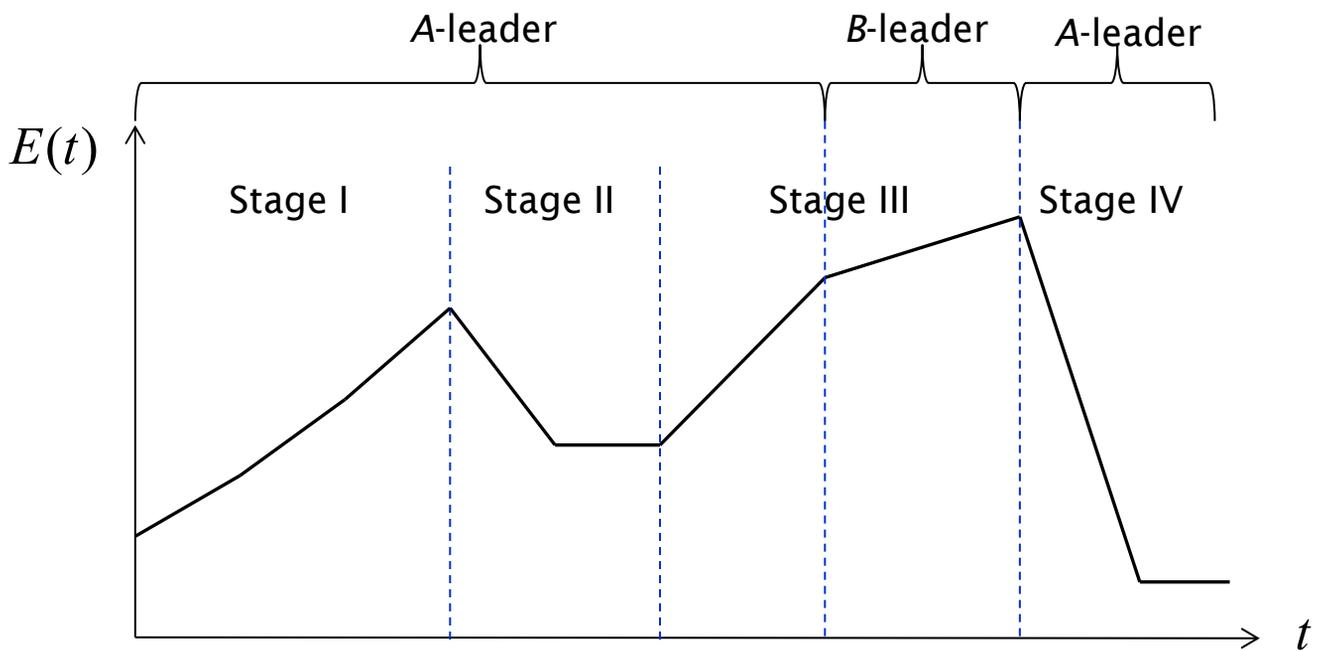


Figure 5 (b): Global pollution with environmental leapfrogging