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Green innovations and organizational change: Making better use of environmental technology

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Use of Environmental Technology**

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DAS WICHTIGSTE IN KÜRZE

Es ist seit langem unbestritten, dass der erfolgreiche Einsatz von Prozesstechnologien entscheidend von der organisatorischen Infrastruktur von Unternehmen abhängt. Ebenso ist bekannt, dass die Implementierung neuer Technologien im Produktionsprozess oft des organisatorischen Wandels bedarf, um diese Technologien optimal nutzen zu können. Der Forschungszweig, der sich mit Umwelttechnologien und deren Wirkung auf die Produktivität oder Wettbewerbsfähigkeit von Unternehmen befasst, hat diesen Aspekt allerdings bislang fast völlig außer Acht gelassen. Der folgende Beitrag nimmt sich dieser Forschungslücke an und nutzt hierzu Daten des Mannheimer Innovationspanels (CIS 2008). Die zentrale Forschungsfrage unseres Beitrages ist dabei, ob Unternehmen, die eine Technologie zur Vermeidung von Treibhausgasemissionen (CO₂) in ihren Produktionsprozess eingeführt haben, diese Technologie erfolgreicher, d.h. produktiver einsetzen können, wenn sie gleichzeitig organisatorische Innovationen eingeführt haben. Letzteres umfasst Änderungen in der Ablauforganisation von Prozessen im Unternehmen, Änderungen in der Aufbauorganisation, aber auch neue Formen der Organisation von Beziehungen zu externen Partnern.

In unserer Analyse modellieren wir die Produktionsfunktion der Unternehmen indem wir eine Cobb-Douglas Produktionsfunktion um endogene Entscheidungsvariablen, nämlich über den Einsatz von CO₂ Vermeidungstechnologien und/oder organisatorischen Innovationen, erweitern. Vereinfacht ausgedrückt untersuchen wir, ob Unternehmen, die CO₂ Vermeidungstechnologien zusammen mit organisatorischen Innovationen im Produktionsprozess implementiert haben, produktiver sind, d.h. mehr Umsatz mit Hilfe des gleichen Einsatzes von Produktionsfaktoren generieren können, als andere Unternehmen. Wir tragen der potentiellen Endogenität der Entscheidungsvariablen Rechnung, indem wir Instrumentenvariablen für die endogenen Entscheidungsvariablen konstruieren. Hierfür nutzen wir ein diskretes Entscheidungsmodell, das verschiedene Determinanten der Entscheidung Vermeidungstechnologien oder organisatorische Innovationen einzuführen beinhaltet. Außerdem berücksichtigt dieses simultane Gleichungsmodell, dass die Einführung einer der beiden Technologien nicht unabhängig von der Einführung der anderen ist.

Als zentrales Ergebnis der ökonometrischen Analyse zeigt sich einerseits, dass Unternehmen, die Treibhausgasvermeidungstechnologien eingeführt haben, ohne dabei ihre organisatorische Infrastruktur anzupassen, als Folge eine niedrigere Produktivität haben als Unternehmen der Kontrollgruppe, d.h. Unternehmen die weder Vermeidungstechnologien noch organisatorische Innovationen eingeführt haben. Auf der anderen Seite erreichen Unternehmen, die zusätzlich zum

Einsatz von Vermeidungstechnologien organisatorische Innovationen eingeführt haben, eine höhere Produktivität als die Kontrollgruppe. Mit anderen Worten, Vermeidungstechnologien und organisatorische Innovationen sind komplementär in Bezug auf die Produktivität von Unternehmen. Diese Ergebnisse haben Implikationen für die nachhaltige und wirtschaftliche Einführung von Umwelttechnologien in Unternehmen. Eine Anpassung der Unternehmens- oder Prozessorganisation ist demnach entscheidend für den effizienten Einsatz neuer CO₂ Vermeidungstechnologien und deren Vereinbarkeit mit der Wirtschaftlichkeit von Unternehmen.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

That the successful use of process technology crucially depends on the right organisational infrastructure is known for a long time as well as the fact that the adoption of new process technology may need organisational change to be used in an efficient way. The strand of the literature dealing with productivity or competitiveness effects of environmental technology adoption, however, has largely neglected these aspects. Using data from the German part of the Community Innovation Survey (CIS 2008), this study aims at closing this gap in the literature. The central research question is whether firms that introduced greenhouse gas abatement technologies (CO₂) into their production process can make more efficient use of such technology if it is introduced jointly with organisational change. The latter covers the introduction of new methods of process organisation, the introduction of new forms of work management, and new methods of dealing with external relations.

As to bring this question to an empirical test, we model firms' production function by relying on a standard Cobb-Douglas functional form augmented by firms' endogenous decision variables concerning the introduction of CO₂ abatement technologies (henceforth green innovations) and/or organizational change. In brief, we test whether firms that jointly adopted green and organisational innovations achieve higher productivity (i.e. produce more outputs with the same amounts of inputs) compared to other firms. As to take the endogeneity of the choice variables into account, we use the predicted probabilities from a discrete choice model as instruments for the endogenous innovation adoption variables in the production function approach. The discrete choice models include several determinants of the decision to introduce green or organisational innovations and furthermore accounts for the fact that both adoption decisions are not independently determined. Thus, both discrete choices are estimated jointly in a bivariate probit regression that provides predicted probabilities for any combination of green and organisational innovation adoption (i.e. neither of them, green only,

organisational only, or both).

The empirical analysis provides strong and robust evidence for complementarity of green and organisational innovations with respect to firms' productivity. On the one hand, we find that firms which introduced green technology without organisational change to have lower productivity compared to the control group, i.e. firms that introduced neither green nor organisational innovations. On the other hand, firms that introduced both types of innovations jointly enjoy a higher productivity compared to the control group. These results have important implications for the economically advantageous and sustainable introduction of environmental technology in the business sector. Changes in firms' organisational structure appear crucial for using new CO₂ abatement technologies in more efficient ways facilitating comparability of commercial and environmental goals.

GREEN INNOVATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE: MAKING BETTER USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY*

Hanna Hottenrott[†], Sascha Rexhäuser[‡] and Reinhilde Veugelers[§]

ABSTRACT — The literature on within-firm organizational change and productivity suggests that firms can make more efficient use of certain technologies if complementary forms of organization are adopted. This issue may be of even greater importance for the case of greenhouse gas (GHG) abatement technologies imposed by public authority as to reduce social costs of climate change while they are not necessarily expected to increase private returns. Previous research, however, has largely neglected this aspect. Using German firm-level data, we find that organizational change increases the returns to the use of CO₂ reducing technologies and that joint adoption leads to higher productivity. Without having introduced complementary organizational innovations, the adoption of CO₂ reducing technologies is associated with lower productivity.

KEYWORDS — Firm behavior, technical change, innovation, environmental innovation, organizational change, productivity

JEL CODES — D23, O33, O32, Q55, L23, D24

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I. INTRODUCTION

The literature on internal firm-organization has emphasized the importance of organizational structures for efficient technology use. Caroli and Van Reenen (2001, p. 1450) make this point more explicitly by saying that "Without the organizational and skill infrastructure, technology alone is not enough." This relationship has become known as the so called "productivity paradox". Studies dealing with environmental technology, however, have largely ignored this stream of literature. This research has mainly focused on the role governmental regulation plays for abatement technology adoption and its consequences for firms' productivity and competitiveness. What this literature has not touched is the question of how abatement technologies integrate into the firms production process and what factors determine its efficient adoption.

Only very recently, Bloom, Genakos, Martin and Sadun (2010) find that better managed firms have lower energy intensities and that advanced environmental management is significantly associated with higher productivity. A further study by Martin, Muûls, de Preux and Wagner (2012) also offers evidence in favor of this view. However, both studies do not allow to conclude that environmental management improves the marginal returns to environmental technology adoption meaning that both have complementary effects on productivity.

In this paper, we extent these approaches by adopting a more general view. In particular, we study whether organizational change can help firms to make more efficient use from greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation (henceforth "green") technologies. This question has received little attention so far although it deserves even more attention if abatement technology provides high environmental and social returns, but less obvious private benefits. If having to introduce CO₂ mitigation technologies would hurt firm's private returns, then any complementary effect from introducing organizational change that moves private returns into positive territory, would be good news for the diffusion of green technologies. To understand the underlying mechanisms through which green technology use—especially if introduced to cope with governmental regulation—interacts with the firms' organization of production processes will be important to understand the impact of green technologies on competitiveness. For this purpose, we draw from the literature dealing with organizational change and technology complementarity.

Milgrom and Roberts (1990) provide the theoretical foundation used in later empirical research. Subsequent research—especially dealing with the case of information technology (IT) adoption—provides a considerable body of empirical evidence showing that adequate organizational structures complement technology use and thus allow firms to achieve larger productivity returns from technology adoption. For instance, Bresnahan, Brynjolfsson and Hitt (2002) identify complementarity effects between organizational change and information technology use and product innovation. Most recently Bloom, Sadun and Van Reenen

(2012), provide empirical evidence that United States' (US) multinational enterprises located in the United Kingdom (UK) have higher returns from IT use compared to UK domestic firms. The explanation of this phenomenon is that US firms' internal organization allows to make better use of IT, or in other words, the organizational form US firms have adopted is complementary to IT use. Another piece of empirical evidence for complementarity between organizational change and technology use can be found in Ichniowski, Shaw and Prennushi (1997). They find that the use of individual human resource practices complements the use of human resource management system technologies in steel producing plants, i.e. joint adoption is identified to increase steel finishing lines' productivity. We adopt an empirical approach in line with this literature, however, focusing on productivity effects of green technology adoption. We develop an empirical framework exploring whether green technologies jointly adopted with changes in firms' organizational structure allow to make better use of these technologies. Complementarity between both strategies may more than offset productivity losses of adopting green technology alone.

The following section will illustrate how our contribution fits into the literature dealing with environmental technology adoption and firm performance. Section III. starts with a brief introduction to estimating complementarity followed by our estimation strategy. Section IV. describes the German Community Innovation Survey (CIS) data from the 2009 wave that will be used for the empirical analysis. Results will be discussed in section V. before section VI. concludes.

II. ABATEMENT TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION AND FIRM PERFORMANCE

Within the last few decades, the effects of environmental technology adoption on firms' competitiveness was a frequently—and at times hotly—debated topic in economic research that has created a considerable body of empirical evidence at the firm-level. However, previous studies focused rather on the role governmental regulation plays for firm performance and for productivity effects of abatement technologies it has stimulated. In this sense, regulation is central since it has been identified as a key driver for environmental technology invention and adoption¹.

¹For a recent survey of the impact of regulation on the adoption of environmental technologies, see Popp, Newell and Jaffe (2010). For the early literature, the reader is referred to the review of Jaffe, Newell and Stavins (2002). However, the literature deals rather with inventions than with innovation adoption. A very recent study by Johnstone, Hascic and Popp (2010) finds positive evidence for regulation-induced green innovations. They go as far as saying that "In general, policy, rather than prices, appears to be the main driver of innovation in these technologies" (Johnstone et al. 2010, p. 146). However, the study of Snyder, Miller and Stavins (2003) finds no significant evidence for regulation to be a driver of technology adoption in the chlorine manufacturing industry. Another study by Kerr and Newell (2003) provides empirical evidence that market-based regulation offers greater incentives to adopt environmental technology than standard command-and-control regulation. Horbach (2008) provides further evidence from German innovation panel data regarding the drivers of environmental innovations. Using firm-level data from Italy, Antonioli, Mancinelli and Mazzanti (2011) find that human resource management and

An important strand of literature estimates the impact of a specific measure of the regulatory stringency on firm- or sector productivity. This literature emerged in the beginning of the 1980s after the US and other highly industrialized countries introduced regulations of local water and air pollutants (like SO₂). This literature typically uses data from the US Pollution Abatement Costs Expenditure (PACE) survey to measure regulation. Abatement costs reject both regulatory stringency and the amount of otherwise productive factors allocated to pollution abatement (like capital or labor) to meet regulatory requirements. Inputs allocated to abatement, especially capital goods, embody, of course, an abatement technology or to use this papers wording, green innovations.

As one of the first using the PACE survey data, Gray (1987) reports a negative correlation of pollution abatement operating costs (PAOC) with total factor productivity (TFP) at the sectoral level indicating no productive use of abatement technology. The study of Gray and Shadbegian (2003) provides estimates for PAOC's impact on both TFP and output in a production function estimation (similar to our approach). Their results based on observations for pulp and paper mills do not suggest a productive use of abatement inputs. Conversely, Shadbegian and Gray (2005) find that abatement capital inputs of pulp and paper mills significantly contribute to the production of desired outputs. However, they do not observe such effects for steel mills and oil refineries. For the latter, the study of Berman and Bui (2001) provides evidence in support of regulation induced abatement investment's positive contribution to productivity growth. They find that there was a "substantial" investment into pollution abatement capital by refineries in a region that has been strongly regulated compared to the whole US. In this region, oil refineries' productivity growth is reported to be on average five percentage points higher than the national average of refineries's productivity growth (which was negative in this period) in a ten year period. In other words, Berman and Bui (2001) do not find support for productivity decreasing effects of pollution abatement investments. Boyd and McClelland (1999) construct measures of inefficiencies in paper mills' production process using standard inputs and investment in pollution abatement equipment (also reported in PACE) to reduce pollution. They find that there is a potential for both input and pollution reduction between two and eight percent to produce the same output, or put it another way, there is a potential to increase output and decrease pollution by investing in abatement technologies. However, the authors weaken this statement by saying that abatement capital investment comes at the expense of otherwise productive investments and therefore may lower overall productivity.

Productivity effects of greenhouse gas mitigation technology, however, remains largely untouched by empirical research. Recently, Commins, Lyons, Schiffbauer and Toll (2011) find that energy taxes as well as the European Emission Trading Scheme (EU-ETS) have negative impacts on total factor productivity. This study,

workplace practices determine firms' decisions to adopt CO₂ abatement technologies.

however, does not relate productivity consequences of climate policy directly to its fundamental sources in the organization of production processes, namely adoption of abatement technology adoption and its interrelations with other endogenous firm-strategies.

In line with the literature dealing with IT (Caroli and Van Reenen (2001) and Bresnahan et al. (2002)), we argue that firms can increase the productivity impacts of GHG abatement technology if complementary organizational structures are adopted. We therefore show that one has to consider firms' internal behavior as to reach conclusions on productivity effects of green technology. Our approach differs from Bloom et al. (2010) and Martin et al. (2012) also in the way we measure green technology. We understand green technology adoption as any technology that reduces CO₂ emissions. On the one hand, CO₂ reduction can be achieved by using fossil-fuel inputs more efficiently and is therefore also related to energy-efficiency that may positively affect total productivity. On the other hand, improving the efficiency of fossil fuel use requires to install new capital goods that use fossil fuels at a necessary minimum that is smaller than the levels of currently operated capital. Thus, if fossil fuel inputs and capital are used in rather fixed proportions, increasing efficiency implies to replace old capital² and thus to lower productivity due to higher capital compensation. In general, the total ex-ante expected effect of abatement technology adoption on productivity remains ambiguous.

III. ESTIMATING COMPLEMENTARITY IN FIRM STRATEGIES

In this section, we review the literature on how complementarity between different types of economic activities can be accounted for. Complementarity between any two economic activities x and x' means that doing more of one increases the marginal benefits of doing more of the other. Special attention to measuring complementarity is required when the economic activities are not of continuous nature like, for instance, internal and external R&D. Athey and Stern (1998) offer an overview on the methodologies used to test for complementarities and point out difficulties in estimation when the adoption variables are dichotomous. The following section will briefly describe the relevance of the measuring issues with respect to the discrete firm strategies, green innovation and organizational change, to be studied in our analysis.

²Atkeson and Kehoe (1999) for instance show that capital is rather putty-clay meaning in the case of energy use that capital is operated using a rather fixed necessary minimum of energy inputs so that an increase in energy efficiency is only possible in the long run via replacement of capital goods.

III.A How to Test for Complementarities?

There are, in principle, two ways to test for complementarity between firm strategies. The first one is the *adoption approach*. In this approach, a significant positive correlation between the adoption of two activities, conditioning on any other factors, is an indicator of complementarity (Arora and Gambardella 1990, Arora 1996). However, this approach is limited in its validity when x and x' are not continuously measurable. Thus, estimating a bivariate limited binary choice model and treating the correlation between the two equations as an indicator of complementarity can be criticized because of incoherence problems. More precisely, such an approach fails to separate complementarity from correlation due to unobserved common other determinants among x and x' (Miravete and Pernías 2010). The second avenue to test for complementarity is the productivity approach which can be modified for the case of binary activity variables.³

The productivity approach accounts for the effects of x and x' on an performance indicator, e.g. productivity. If, for instance, the performance indicator is smooth and a twice differentiable function (say f) of the arguments x and x' that are smooth as well, a positive mixed partial derivative of the objective function with respect to the two variables ($\partial^2 f / \partial x \partial x'$) indicates complementarity of the objective function's two arguments because increasing the value of one activity increases the returns of doing more of the other. The concept of supermodularity is directly related to complementarity (Milgrom and Roberts 1990). Endogenous firm technology adoption decisions, in case whether to adopt green innovation or organizational change are a discrete choice. But as long as the set of combinations of choice variables is defined over a sublattice (Milgrom and Roberts, 1990, 1995), the concept of supermodularity also works for binary arguments.

The condition saying that increasing the value of one activity increasing the marginal return of the other reads in the binary case as adopting one strategy increases the returns to the other strategy that is already adopted. Moreover, adopting both jointly leads to a higher performance than adopting both in isolation, simply because the one increases the marginal returns of the other. In this

³Another approach that is pursued at times is one that Athey and Stern (1998) label the “random practise mode”, which is roughly speaking a mix of adoption and productivity approach. It is used if the adoption variables are binary and potentially correlated and if no data on an outcome variable is available. Miravete and Pernías (2006) use binary dummy variables and estimate multi-equation discrete choice models with error components for each strategies' unobservable returns and control for unobserved correlation among the different adoption equations. Similar approaches are used in Kretschmer, Miravete and Pernías (2012), Arora, Forman and Yoon (2010), and Gentzkow (2007).

sense, the condition for supermodularity and complementarity reads as follows:⁴

$$f(x) + f(x') \leq f(x \vee x') + f(x \wedge x'), \text{ or:} \quad (1)$$

$$f(1, 0) + f(0, 1) \leq f(1, 1) + f(0, 0), \quad (2)$$

In the following, we are interested in how this condition—of course for the case of green technology adoption and organizational change—can be adequately tested for.

III.B Empirical Framework and Estimation Strategy

We now turn to the estimation of the impact of green innovation on firm performance and whether organizational change can help making better use of green technology. If both green innovation and organizational change contribute to better firm performance, we would expect the productivity increase to be even higher if both forms of innovations had been adopted compared to the case in which either green or organizational innovations would have been independently introduced. Although complementarity, as defined by inequality 1 is perfectly symmetric in the two strategies, we are particularly interested whether the adoption of organizational changes improves the marginal returns of introducing green technologies. Particularly, when green innovations alone would decrease firm's productivity, we are interested to see whether additionally introduced organizational change may at least (partially) offset green technology's negative productivity effects. This could hold because such a combined green change event would result in better performing business processes, worker relationships and/or customer or supplier relationships, mitigating any negative productivity effects from having to introduce green technology in isolation.

For the purpose of testing these relationships on our data, we employ the standard procedure to test for difference in firm-level productivity, as for instance used by Gray and Shadbegian (2003) and Shadbegian and Gray (2005) to estimate pollution abatement capital investment's impact on productivity. Let $Y = A \cdot f(K, L, E, M)$ be firms' output depending on capital (K), labor (L), energy (E), and material (M) inputs, where $Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$. Firms that only differ in (total factor) productivity A but use the same amounts of other inputs may differ in the amount of output produced. Green technology adoption, however, means that some of otherwise productive capital inputs are allocated to pollution abatement.

Since the technology choices are defined over the sublattice $\{(0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)\}$, with $f : \{0, 1\}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$, we can test whether organizational change complements the use green technology and—in the end—improves its effects on productivity by testing whether f is supermodular in its arguments. Supermodularity is

⁴See Milgrom and Roberts (1990) for a proof and further details as well as Holmstrom and Milgrom (1994).

present if the following condition applies:

$$\begin{aligned} & f(1, 0|K, L, E, M) + f(0, 1|K, L, E, M) \\ & \leq f(0, 0|K, L, E, M) + f(1, 1|K, L, E, M). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

This condition says that if green technology adoption and organizational change are complements, we would observe the productivity returns of joint adoption of both innovations to be larger than the sum of the adoption of either green technology or organizational change alone. Assuming a simple production function of the Cobb-Douglas type, productivity (A) is the sum of the residual ε_i for observation i and the constant term of a regression of logged output on logged inputs, known as the Solow residual (Solow 1957). Thus, productivity is like a "neutral shifter" that increases output holding total input requirements constant (see Syverson (2011) for an overview on the literature on estimating productivity). Of course, we are interested in the productivity consequences of green technology and organizational change and therefore separate these effects from the error term. The resulting estimation equation reads as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} y_i = & \beta_0 + \beta_k k_i + \beta_l l_i + \beta_{em} em_i \\ & + \beta_{10} GREEN_ONLY_i + \beta_{01} ORGA_ONLY_i + \beta_{11} BOTH_i \\ & + \beta'_c C + \varepsilon_i, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where lower case letters indicate logarithms. As later discussed in the data section, we have only information on the intermediate inputs as an aggregate, so that em_i measures logged material and energy inputs. The term $NEITHER_i$ is linearly dependent on the other three adoption combinations ($GREEN_ONLY$, $ORGA_ONLY$, $BOTH$) and thus offers no further information. In other words, $f(0, 0|K, L, EM, C) = 0$. Any further fixed control variables are included in the vector C .

In the productivity approach framework to test for complementarity, we are not in a situation as Mohnen and Röller (2005) where the assumed complementary variables are exogenous to the firms. Instead, firm's decision to adopt green and organizational innovations are endogenous strategy variables. As the error term (plus the constant)—the Solow residual—is likely to reflect productivity, and as the use of abatement technology is likely to affect productivity, as the literature survey in section II. has shown, $cov(GREEN_ONLY, \varepsilon) \neq 0$ and $cov(BOTH, \varepsilon) \neq 0$, or in other words, our measures of green technology adoption are endogenous. Organizational change is endogenous too⁵. Moreover, green technology adoption and organizational change are expected not to be independent of each other. If for instance organizational change really improves green technology's productivity and clever managers are aware of this fact, both types of technology adoption

⁵See test for endogeneity of these variables below.

would be highly correlated. Unfortunately, managers' abilities are unobservable in our data.

As to take this endogeneity⁶ into account, the output equation (equation 4) is estimated using the two-stage least squares instrumental variable estimator. What makes things complex is that the endogenous regressors are binary indicators for any of the innovation adoption combinations (*GREEN_ONLY*, *ORGA_ONLY*, and *BOTH*). To cope with this problem, Wooldridge (2002, p. 623) suggests to estimate binary response models for the endogenous dummies including a vector of instruments (\mathbf{Z}) and any other variable from equation 4 (denoted by the vector \mathbf{D}). The predicted probabilities from the binary response models can be used as instruments in the two-stage least squares estimation.

We therefore explicitly model a firm's discrete choice to adopt green technology labeled as X^{gr} and organizational change (hereinafter X^{or}). The dummy X^{gr} takes the value one if green technology is adopted, irrespectively whether organizational change is adopted or not, representing the aforementioned cases x and $x \wedge x'$. As said, we expect the decisions to adopt green technology and organizational change not to be independent. A bivariate response model allows both adoption decisions to depend on each other, where the decision to adopt organizational change (X^{or}) is measured in a same similar fashion as green technology. The bivariate discrete response model read as follows:

$$X_i^{gr} = \alpha_0^{gr} + \beta^{'gr} \mathbf{Z}_i^{gr} + \gamma^{'gr} \mathbf{D}_i^{gr} + \varepsilon_i^{gr} \quad (5)$$

$$X_i^{or} = \alpha_0^{or} + \beta^{'or} \mathbf{Z}_i^{or} + \gamma^{'or} \mathbf{D}_i^{or} + \varepsilon_i^{or}, \text{ where} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon^{gr} \\ \varepsilon^{or} \end{bmatrix} \sim N \left(0, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{gr}^2 & \sigma_{gr,or} \\ \sigma_{gr,or} & \sigma_{or}^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad (7)$$

Any other unobservable factors (ε^{gr} and ε^{or}) determining adoption choices are assumed to be distributed jointly normally and are allowed to be correlated among the equations. The instruments included in the vector (\mathbf{Z}) are discussed at length in the following section. The bivariate probit model has in addition the nice feature that it can report the conditional adoption probabilities for each of the four

⁶To see that the innovation decision variables (*GREEN_ONLY*, *ORGA_ONLY*, and *BOTH*) are really endogenous, a regression-based test is carried out. Wooldridge (2002) argues in favor of this test that was introduced by Hausman (1978) and Hausman (1983). The test requires to regress the endogenous variables on their instruments ($\text{Prob}(X^{gr} = 1, X^{or} = 0)$, $\text{Prob}(X^{gr} = 0, X^{or} = 1)$, and $\text{Prob}(X^{gr} = 1, X^{or} = 1)$, which are discussed in the following) and to use the residuals from this regressions as regressors in the structural equation. If the residuals are significantly different from zero, endogeneity of the innovation adoption variables is presented, which is the case in our model. The three residuals from the regressions of *GREEN_ONLY*, *ORGA_ONLY*, and *BOTH* on the instruments are all significantly different from zero at the 95 percent confidence level in the structural model (equation 4).

possible adoption decision combinations,

$$Prob(X^{gr} = 0, X^{or} = 0) = Prob(x \wedge x') \quad (8)$$

$$Prob(X^{gr} = 1, X^{or} = 0) = Prob(x) \quad (9)$$

$$Prob(X^{gr} = 0, X^{or} = 1) = Prob(x') \quad (10)$$

$$Prob(X^{gr} = 1, X^{or} = 1) = Prob(x \vee x') \quad (11)$$

that are needed to test for complementarity of the two innovation adoption choices. Of course, for every firm the predicted probabilities for all four cases necessarily sum up to unity. These predicted choice probabilities—that are conditioned on factors determining adoption and the covariance of the two equations’ errors—are used as the instruments to for endogenous adoption decision combinations (*GREEN_ONLY*, *ORGA_ONLY*, and *BOTH*) in the output (or productivity) equation (see equation 4).

IV. DATA AND CHOICE OF INSTRUMENTS

The German part of the European-wide Community Innovation Survey (CIS) provides the data for our analysis. We draw from the wave collected in 2009 which refers to the period 2006-2008.⁷ The 2009 cross-section offers information on firm-level green technology adoption and organizational innovation in addition to a number of other innovation-related and more general firm characteristics. The target population covers all firms with at least five employees in the German business sector. The German CIS data appears to be particularly suitable to our study since Germany is one of the world’s leading inventors, producers and exporters of green technology and has at the same time a long and persistent tradition of environmental regulations. In this sense, the 2009 cross-section provides a unique set of variables that account for the adoption of environmental technology and organization change also including factors that affect the respective technology adoption to construct control variables. We supplement the survey data with information on patent applications of firms in our sample filed at the European Patent Office (EPO) in the period 1978-2009 in order to construct a control measure for the firm technology stock. Moreover, sectoral market concentration measures are merged with the firm-level data at firms’ sector affiliation at the NACE (Nomenclature statistique des Activités économiques dans la Communauté Européenne) 3-digit level. This data comes from the German Monopoly Commission. The present study focuses on information of 3,896 firms’ observations after the deletion of observations from the original data-set due to item non-response

⁷The survey is conducted annually by the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), infas Institut fuer Sozialforschung and ISI Fraunhofer Institute on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. A detailed description of the survey data and the sampling method can be found in the background reports available at ZEW.

or outlier correction.⁸

IV.A Constructing Instruments: A Discrete Response Model of Innovation Choices

As described in the previous section, in the first stage of our econometric approach we estimate a bivariate probit model on the likelihood for introducing green and organizational innovations. Thus, the dependent variables at this stage are the adoption decisions obtained from the survey for green and organizational innovations.

Green innovation adoption is defined as the firms' carbon dioxide abatement technology adoption. The German CIS questionnaire measures this variable in an ordinal scale from innovation adoption with no, low, medium, and large effects on CO₂ mitigation. In the following, the green innovation dummy takes the value one if at least innovation with a small impact on CO₂ reduction had been achieved and takes the value zero otherwise⁹.

Organizational change comprises a variety of activities in our study. These can be categorized in three areas. First, the introduction of new *methods of process organization* such as quality management, supply chain management, lean production, and knowledge management. Second, the introduction of new *forms of work management* including decentralization, job rotation, teamwork, and the structure of teams and departments. Third, we consider activities like new methods of dealing with *external relations*, the engagement in alliances and cooperations with other firms, customers or suppliers as well as marketing innovations as forms of organizational change. If firms introduced at least one of these three forms of organizational change, we set our variable indicating organization change to one and to zero otherwise. This results in two binary response variables (X^{gr}, X^{or}) to be used as dependent variables in the bivariate probit estimation of green and organizational innovation adoption on several controls. This model then yields the predicted probabilities for every combination $\{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, 0), (1, 1)\}$ of these two variables. These predicted values are subsequently used as instruments in the productivity equation.

We assume the conditional predicted probabilities for green innovation and organizational change to depend on a number of factors that determine the decision to adopt one or the other.

For environmental technology adoption the literature has identified governmental regulation as a key driver. We therefore construct a dummy variable (*REG*) that takes the value one if the firm indicated in the survey that environ-

⁸The sample distribution across industries is presented in Table A.1 in the Appendix.

⁹Regarding the definition of the green innovation dummy, sensitivity analyses are performed. A more strict definition, meaning that the dummy takes the value of one if the environmental impact is at least medium, leaves estimation coefficients and statistical significance rather unchanged. If, however, the dummy takes the value of one only in cases when firms reported a high environmental impact, the results change in a way that complementarity becomes even stronger and green innovation introduced alone has an even more negative impact on productivity.

mental regulation (including taxes) had induced the introduction of some form of innovation with beneficial effects for environment. This variable is also included in the organizational innovation equation as environmental regulations may not only trigger green innovations, but also induce firms to adapt their organizational structures. If there are no direct effects from environmental regulation on organizational innovation adoption to be expected, i.e. it operates like an exclusion restriction, finding a significant positive effect could be interpreted as positive evidence for complementarity, see Athey and Stern (1998).

Besides regulation, firm-level characteristics may have a decisive impact on whether or not a certain type of innovation is being introduced. Capital-intensive production may use more energy inputs and thus emit more pollutants. In the presence of regulation or relatively expensive energy inputs, firms operating more capital could be more likely to adopt environmental technology. We therefore control for logged capital inputs (*log_CAP*). The same applies to firms with higher energy- and material inputs (*log_ENMAT*). Additionally, larger firms may be more likely to innovate. Hence, we also control for firm size by including the logged number of employees (*log_LAB*). Moreover, we want to account for the firm's age (*AGE*) as their age may affect the propensity to innovate. We further control for competitive forces using firms' binary response to the question whether they perceived competition to be hard or not (*HARDCOMP*) as well as the Herfindahl-Index of sales concentration (*HHI*) as a more objective measure of industry concentration. On the one hand, firms could be expected to refrain from introducing green technology in the presence of hard competition, in order not to risk productivity losses that reduce their competitiveness. On the other hand, competitive pressure may force firms to gain a competitive edge by being innovative. Thus, firms may see a need to implement organizational change to better exploit existing production technologies. In line with this paper's central hypothesis, the latter effect may also induce green technology, so that we expect competitive pressure to influence both technology choices in the same direction.

From the labor and firm organization literature we derive important determinants for the adoption of technological and organizational change alike. Caroli and Van Reenen (2001) point to the fact that organizational change needs particularly skilled labor as to cope with more complex structures in the work flow. We address this by including two different variables: The share of graduated employees in total workforce (*HIGHSKILL*) and the firms' expenditure on training per employee (*EDUC_PEMP*). The former controls for firms' general propensity to adopt organizational change while the latter explicitly addresses technology adopters' need for skilled workforce as the productivity paradox predicts. This means that firms that have adopted any kind of technical innovation need skilled personnel to operate capital that embodies the new technology. Caroli and Van Reenen (2001) show that organizational change and the skill level of employees are complementary. The obvious consequence of this finding, of course, is

that the level of human capital itself is an important determinant of whether organizational change within the firm can happen. In other words, they invest in new human capital that adds to their current stock of human capital¹⁰. Likewise, it is crucial to control for the firms' general innovative capabilities. As a first measure, firms research and development expenditures scaled by the number of employees (*R&D_INT*) is considered. However, this measure reflects rather the costs of R&D and not necessarily its innovation capacity. Hence, we include dummies for the case that the firm had successfully introduced product (*PD_INNO*) or process innovations (*PC_INNO*) before. For further robustness checks, the variable *INNOVATOR* takes the value of one if at least one type of innovation (product and process) was introduced and zero otherwise. As a further measure for technological advance, the effects from the firms' stock of technological knowledge is captured by including the patent stock (*PATSTOCK*). It was constructed using the perpetual inventory method, where a yearly depreciation rate of the knowledge stock of 15 per cent was assumed¹¹.

Finally, we control for whether the firm is located in Eastern Germany (*EAST_GER*) as structural differences between the West and East German federal states persist since the reunification.¹²

Descriptive statistics of the variables and their timing are summarized in Table A.2 in the Appendix. The results from this bivariate probit model are presented in Tables 2 and 3 and will be discussed in subsection 4.

IV.B Correlations Between Adoption Decisions

The descriptive analysis of adoption decision frequencies (Table 1) clearly show an important point in the analysis of complementarity between discrete firm strategies. It is clear to see that organizational change jointly adopted with green technology appears more frequently in our sample than the case that green technology is adopted only. In other words, the adoption decisions do not seem to be randomly allocated in the sample which indicates that there is an underlying correlation among the strategies. This correlation becomes more obvious if we

¹⁰This is in line with the literature that predicts technical change and organizational change complementarity to be skill-biased (Bresnahan et al. 2002). However, Goldin and Katz (1998) demonstrate that technical change is not necessarily biased towards more skilled labor. The transition from human-capital or skill-intensive handicraft manufacturing before the industrial revolution towards factor or assembly-line production was characterized by an increase in the relative need of skilled labor. In contrast, the transition from factory manufacturing towards more flexible modern forms of manufacturing appears to be skill-biased. This finding also seems to support the link between organizational and technical change that is, however, not explicitly touched by Goldin and Katz (1998).

¹¹Typically scholars have measured the technology knowledge stock of firms by the discounted sum of prior R&D investments and/or their patent stock (see e.g. Bloom and Van Reenen (2002)). We use a 15% depreciation rate as suggested by Griliches and Mairesse (1984).

¹²We distinguish 22 different sectors based on aggregated 2-digit NACE-levels which is the official classification of economic activities in the European Community. See Table A.1 in the appendix.

look at the expected frequency reported in parentheses that reflect the estimated frequency that would have been observed, had the two adoption decisions been independent. The expected frequency for adoption of green technology only is larger than the one for joint adoption. This correlation could be interpreted as good news for finding complementarity, but needs to be singled out from other non-random factors determining this correlation.

In order to address this problem of non-randomly assigned adoption decisions, we will use the two stage procedure as described before where we first estimate a bivariate discrete choice model that allows for correlation among the adoption equations. The predicted probabilities for each of the adoption combinations to appear in the sample are used as instruments in a second stage estimation.

Table 1: Adoption Decision Frequencies and Relative Frequencies

X^{gr}	X^{or}			X^{gr}	X^{or}		
	0	1	TOTAL		0	1	TOTAL
0	1,624 (1,443.4)	1,094 (1,274.6)	2,718	0	41.68 % (37.05 %)	28.09 % (32.72 %)	69.77 %
1	445 (625.6)	733 (552.4)	1,178	1	11.42 % (16.05 %)	18.81 % (14.18 %)	30.23 %
TOTAL	2,069	1,827	3,896	TOTAL	53.10 %	46.90 %	100.00 %

Expected frequencies appear in parentheses.
Pearson $\chi^2(1) = 159.3419$ Pr = 0.000
Kendall's tau-b = 0.2022, P > z = 0.0000

V. RESULTS

Before discussing the results for the test of complementarity, we first look at the bivariate discrete response model for firms' choice of adopting green and organizational innovations. The predicted probabilities from this model serve as instruments in the output equation (Wooldridge 2002, p. 623).

V.A Results from the Bivariate Probit Model

The results from the bivariate probit model appear in Table 2. The most relevant information from this table is the correlation among the two equations, which is significantly positive. Whether this correlation is due to complementarity or just because of unobserved correlation is unclear at this stage of the analysis as argued by Miravete and Pernías (2010). The coefficients of the included variables show, by and large, the expected signs.¹³ The regulation variable is significantly affecting

¹³The share of highly qualified personnel, however, has a negative effect on the green innovation, possibly reflecting the capital intensity of firms most introducing such innovations (see also the positive effect of logged capital on X^{gr}). Training expenses, on the other hand, have a positive

the adoption of green innovations, but also of organizational innovations. If regulations are seen from an exclusion restriction perspective, with no direct effect on organizational innovations, the positive significant coefficient can be interpreted as evidence of complementarity, i.e. driven by the higher returns on organizational innovations when combined with environmental innovations.

We turn to the marginal effects for each combination of the dependent variables as presented in Table 3. The marginal effects (at means, and for dummies as discrete changes from 0 to 1) are reported for model specification IV only. While these results, of course, also do not allow to conclude that complementarity is present, it offers interesting insights on why a respective choice of innovation adoption is done by firms. We see from the marginal effects on the likelihood to introduce *GREEN_ONLY* is indeed significantly driven by regulatory forces. However, the effect on introducing *BOTH*, i.e. also organizational change, is much larger. Regulation affects significantly negatively the likelihood of adopting only organizational innovations. The overall positive effect in the bivariate probit results for organizational innovations therefore come from the combined case. In line with predictions from the literature on skill-biased organizational change, we find the share of highly qualified employees to positively affect the realization of organizational change. Interestingly, training of employees is of even greater importance than their initial skill level. While we find a negative correlation between *HIGHSKILL* and the introduction of green innovations, probably due to the more capital intensive production of firms that have the potential to introduce CO₂ emitting technologies, we find a strong positive effect of the firms' expenditures on the training of their employees (*EDUC_PEMP*) on the joint introduction of both green innovations and organizational change (Bresnahan et al. 2002). In general, firms combining green and organizational innovations are typically more endowed with innovation capacities than firms exclusively introducing green innovations.

effect in both equations. Firm size is positive for both strategies. General innovative capabilities as measured by the past innovations dummies are positive and highly significant for both forms of innovations. As expected, older firms are less likely to change their organizational structures. Firms in Eastern Germany are less likely to introduce green innovations. The Herfindahl-Index is positive in the organizational change equation, but insignificant for green innovations. Firms reporting to face tough competitive pressure are more likely to introduce green innovations. However, no causal relationship can be claimed at this point. Industry dummies are jointly significant in both equations capturing effects from different technological environments and industry-level life cycle effects.

Table 2: Results for the Bivariate Probit Estimation, 3,896 Observations

DEPENDENT VARIABLE:	I		II		III		IV	
	X^{gr}	X^{or}	X^{gr}	X^{or}	X^{gr}	X^{or}	X^{gr}	X^{or}
<i>REG</i>	0.903*** (0.076)	0.548*** (0.050)	0.901*** (0.076)	0.548*** (0.050)	0.856*** (0.077)	0.457*** (0.049)	0.858*** (0.078)	0.475*** (0.054)
<i>HIGHSKILL</i>	-0.005*** (0.001)	0.002 (0.001)	-0.005*** (0.001)	0.002 (0.001)	-0.005*** (0.001)	0.001 (0.001)	-0.005*** (0.001)	0.002 (0.001)
<i>EDUC_PEMP</i>	0.109*** (0.032)	0.164*** (0.030)	0.109*** (0.031)	0.164*** (0.030)	0.089*** (0.030)	0.124*** (0.029)	0.085*** (0.030)	0.138*** (0.029)
<i>log_CAP</i>	0.037*** (0.010)	-0.003 (0.010)	0.037*** (0.010)	-0.003 (0.010)	0.033*** (0.010)	-0.014 (0.010)	0.032*** (0.010)	-0.013 (0.010)
<i>log_LAB</i>	0.082*** (0.024)	0.223*** (0.023)	0.078*** (0.024)	0.223*** (0.023)	0.055** (0.024)	0.190*** (0.023)	0.052** (0.024)	0.195*** (0.024)
<i>log_MAT</i>	0.000 (0.015)	0.004 (0.022)	0.000 (0.015)	0.004 (0.022)	-0.000 (0.016)	0.005 (0.021)	-0.003 (0.016)	-0.001 (0.022)
<i>R&D_INT</i>	2.745** (1.381)	0.709 (1.490)	2.416 (1.528)	0.695 (1.486)	0.882 (1.864)	-2.668** (1.112)	0.430 (2.021)	-1.770 (1.222)
<i>PATSTOCK</i>			0.003 (0.002)	0.000 (0.000)	0.003 (0.002)	0.000 (0.000)	0.002 (0.002)	-0.000 (0.000)
<i>INNOVATOR</i>					0.413*** (0.062)	0.762*** (0.060)		
<i>PC_INNO</i>							0.428*** (0.059)	0.767*** (0.062)
<i>PD_INNO</i>							0.302*** (0.061)	0.310*** (0.067)
<i>HARDCOMP</i>							0.095** (0.048)	0.036 (0.041)
<i>HHI</i>	-0.000 (0.000)	<0.001*** (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	<0.001*** (0.000)	0.087* (0.048)	0.021 (0.040)	-0.000 (0.000)	<0.001*** (0.000)
<i>AGE</i>	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.002*** (0.001)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.002*** (0.001)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.002*** (0.001)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.002*** (0.001)
<i>EAST_GER</i>	-0.127*** (0.038)	0.058 (0.048)	-0.125*** (0.038)	0.058 (0.048)	-0.118*** (0.039)	0.082* (0.046)	-0.127*** (0.038)	0.058 (0.044)
<i>CONSTANT</i>	-0.693*** (0.116)	-1.171*** (0.111)	-0.673*** (0.117)	-1.170*** (0.112)	-0.875*** (0.121)	-1.500*** (0.138)	-0.732*** (0.110)	-1.230*** (0.145)
Log pseudolike.	-4,441.399		-4,439.987		-4,295.648		-4,297.184	
Observations	3,896		3,896		3,896		3,896	
<i>at/rho</i>	0.244*** (0.030)		0.244*** (0.030)		0.198*** (0.030)		0.186*** (0.027)	
<i>rho</i>	0.239		0.239		0.196		0.184	
Wald-test against $H_0: \rho = 0$ was rejected with $p < 0.0000$ in every mode specification								

* $p < 0.10$, ** $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.01$, robust standard errors appear in parentheses. Standard errors are clustered by sector and *EAST* (44 clusters). The model includes a constant and 21 jointly significant sector dummies.

The measure of sales concentration (*HHI*) though shows that higher industry concentration, i.e. weaker competition, reduces the likelihood to innovate green, but had a positive effect on organizational innovations. The control variables for capital and labor show the expected signs. More capital intensive firms are more likely to innovate green and more likely to adopt organizational jointly with green innovation. Larger firms in terms of employees, on the other hand, are less likely to innovate green only, but have a larger likelihood of innovating their organizational structures and to do so jointly with reducing their CO₂ emissions. Older firms are less inclined to change their organizational characteristics and are also more likely to have introduced neither organizational nor environmental innovations. Eastern German firms are more likely to change their organization compared to firms in the Western states, but tend to pure organizational changes without simultaneously adopting green innovations.

Table 3: Marginal Effects for any Adoption Decision Combination from the Bivariate Probit Estimation, Specification IV only

DEPENDENT VARIABLE:	NEITHER	GREEN ONLY	ORGA. ONLY	BOTH
<i>REG</i>	-0.261*** (0.020)	0.073*** (0.012)	-0.050*** (0.017)	0.238*** (0.022)
<i>HIGHSKILL</i>	0.000 (0.000)	-0.001*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)	-0.001** (0.000)
<i>EDUC_PEMP</i>	-0.053*** (0.009)	-0.001 (0.006)	0.025** (0.010)	0.030*** (0.006)
<i>log_CAP</i>	-0.002 (0.003)	0.007*** (0.002)	-0.009** (0.003)	0.004** (0.002)
<i>log_LAB</i>	-0.065*** (0.008)	-0.013*** (0.004)	0.047*** (0.007)	0.030*** (0.005)
<i>log_ENMAT</i>	0.001 (0.006)	-0.000 (0.004)	0.000 (0.007)	-0.000 (0.003)
<i>R&D_INT</i>	0.440 (0.383)	0.264 (0.395)	-0.584 (0.578)	-0.120 (0.325)
<i>PATSTOCK</i>	-0.000 (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)
<i>PC_INNO</i>	-0.265*** (0.016)	-0.030*** (0.010)	0.113*** (0.021)	0.182*** (0.016)
<i>PD_INNO</i>	-0.134*** (0.022)	0.010 (0.010)	0.028 (0.018)	0.096*** (0.0180)
<i>HARDCOMP</i>	-0.026* (0.016)	0.011 (0.008)	-0.006 (0.013)	0.020** (0.010)
<i>HHI</i>	-0.000 (0.000)	<-0.001** (0.000)	<0.001*** (0.000)	0.000 (0.000)
<i>AGE</i>	0.001*** (0.000)	<0.001* (0.000)	-0.001*** (0.000)	<-0.000*** (0.000)
<i>EAST_GER</i>	0.003 (0.015)	-0.026*** (0.007)	0.039*** (0.014)	-0.016* (0.008)
Case Probabilities	Pr($X^{gr} = 0,$ $X^{or} = 0$)	Pr($X^{gr} = 1,$ $X^{or} = 0$)	Pr($X^{gr} = 0,$ $X^{or} = 1$)	Pr($X^{gr} = 1,$ $X^{or} = 1$)
	0.4071	0.1207	0.3177	0.1545

* p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.01, robust standard errors appear in parentheses
Marginal effects of 21 jointly significant sector dummies are omitted from the table.

From the bivariate probit regression, we use the predicted values for the conditional probabilities for any combination of the two innovation variables (See

bottom of Table 3) as instruments in the output equation. A result worth being mentioned here is that the case probability for observing the outcome *BOTH*—conditioned on several factors and most importantly the covariances of the two equations’ error terms—is smaller than the one directly observed in the sample (18.81%). This finding can be interpreted in a way that unobserved correlation among the adoption decisions has been—at least partly—corrected for by estimating both equations jointly.

V.B Estimating Productivity Effects of Green Innovation and Organizational Change

For the following step in which we estimate conditional productivity effects of the adoption decisions, we chose the category “Neither” as the reference category, so that in the second stage regressions, $f(0, 0)$ is set to zero. After all other factors have been controlled for, the test for complementarity then reduces to:

$$f(1, 0) + f(0, 1) - f(1, 1) \leq 0, \text{ or} \quad (12)$$

$$f(GREEN_ONLY) + f(ORGA_ONLY) - f(BOTH) \leq 0, \quad (13)$$

which means that we are interested in the effect of the innovation adoption decisions on the respective measure for productivity after all other factors determining productivity have been taken into account. When using the term productivity we simply mean the difference in produced output given constant inputs of capital (log_CAP), labor (log_LAB), and energy and materials (log_MAT). Since the innovation adoption decisions are expected to be endogenous, their predicted values from the bivariate probit model serve as instruments in a two-stage least squares estimation procedure. The results from the second stage regression are presented in Table 4 below.

The results indicate that when controlling for factor inputs such as capital, labor, materials including energy and general innovation capabilities, we find considerable differences in the productivity effects of the adoption decision for green and organizational innovations. As expected and as suggested by many critiques of environmental regulations and policy-induced green innovations, we find a strong negative effect from carbon dioxide abatement technology adoption if it had been introduced solely (*GREEN_ONLY*). Holding all other inputs fixed, a firm that has adopted green technology alone faces significant losses in productivity (-1.484 percent in our preferred model specification IV). Organizational change (*ORGA_ONLY*), however, is associated with significant positive effects on output holding all inputs fixed. Importantly, however, those firms that adopted green technologies jointly with organizational change do experience a productivity increase since they can produce 0.664 percent more output with the same amounts of inputs compared to firms that do neither. The coefficient of *BOTH* is positive and statistically significant pointing to a complementary relationship between green innovations and organizational change.

Table 4: Estimation results of the output equation

DEPENDENT VARIABLE:	IV-REGRESSIONS [†]			
	LOG(OUTPUT) I	LOG(OUTPUT) II	LOG(OUTPUT) III	LOG(OUTPUT) IV
<i>log_CAP</i>	0.037*** (0.009)	0.037*** (0.009)	0.039*** (0.009)	0.037*** (0.008)
<i>log_LAB</i>	0.506*** (0.029)	0.508*** (0.029)	0.513*** (0.029)	0.527*** (0.026)
<i>log_MAT</i>	0.398*** (0.016)	0.399*** (0.016)	0.401*** (0.015)	0.401*** (0.015)
<i>GREEN_ONLY</i>	-1.766*** (0.539)	-1.740*** (0.532)	-1.309*** (0.392)	-1.482*** (0.431)
<i>ORGA_ONLY</i>	0.975*** (0.287)	0.954*** (0.285)	1.219*** (0.388)	0.759*** (0.263)
<i>BOTH</i>	0.670*** (0.211)	0.665*** (0.209)	0.741*** (0.243)	0.664*** (0.222)
<i>R&D_INT</i>	1.811 (2.108)	1.815 (2.084)	3.168* (1.786)	2.331 (1.784)
<i>PATSTOCK</i>		-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
<i>INNOVATOR</i>			-0.273*** (0.097)	
<i>PC_INNO</i>				-0.224*** (0.078)
<i>PD_INNO</i>				-0.031 (0.045)
<i>HARDCOMP</i>			-0.003 (0.031)	-0.010 (0.029)
<i>HHI</i>	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
<i>AGE</i>	0.002*** (0.001)	0.002*** (0.001)	0.002*** (0.000)	0.001*** (0.000)
<i>EAST_GER</i>	-0.274*** (0.038)	-0.273*** (0.037)	-0.273*** (0.037)	-0.259*** (0.034)
<i>CONSTANT</i>	-0.510*** (0.155)	-0.514*** (0.154)	-0.521*** (0.134)	-0.547*** (0.131)
R ²	0.763	0.768	0.784	0.813
Root MSE	0.960	0.949	0.918	0.852
Observations	3,896	3,896	3,896	3,896
One-sided test against H ₀ :	<i>GREEN_ONLY</i> + <i>ORGA_ONLY</i> - <i>BOTH</i> ≥ 0			
P-Value	0.020	0.010	0.025	0.002

* p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.01, robust standard errors appear in parentheses

[†] The variables *GREEN_ONLY*, *ORGA_ONLY*, and *BOTH* are instrumented using the predicted probabilities from the respective bivariate probit model specifications. The models include 21 jointly significant sector dummies based on aggregated NACE 2-digit levels.

However, as mentioned earlier to say that complementarity is present requires to test for validity of the condition of supermodularity stated in the inequality 12. Table 4 therefore provides results for a one-sided test against the null that $GREEN_ONLY + ORGA_ONLY - BOTH \geq 0$ which ought to be rejected if complementarity is present. As said, *NEITHER* is linearly dependent and serves as the reference category. The test statistics presented at the bottom of Table 4 provide significant evidence for complementarity of green and organizational innovations in all model specifications.

V.C Quality of the Constructed Instruments

In the output regression presented above, the key independent variables are endogenous and instrumented using their predicted values from a bivariate profit estimation. If, however, these instruments are weak in the sense that they are only weakly correlated with the endogenous variables, the estimates of the complementary variables may be seriously biased. For this reason, we test the validity of these instruments.

Due to the use of three predicted values from the bivariate profit as instruments for the three innovation adoption decisions (the fourth one is linearly dependent), the model is by construction just identified. Moreover, with three endogenous variables and three instruments, it is not possible to obtain critical values for the two weak-identification tests suggested by Stock and Yogo (2005). We therefore stick to the rule of thumb offered by Staiger and Stock (1997). This rule is to look on the first stage F-statistics of joint significance of the instruments. A F-value of 10 or higher suggests the validity of the instruments. For all estimated model specifications, the first stage F-statistics are provided below in Table 5 and indicate non-weakness of the instruments.

Table 5: First Stage F-Statistics for the Excluded Instruments

FIRST STAGE F-STATISTICS	MODEL SPECIFICATIONS			
	1	2	3	4
<i>GREEN_ONLY</i>	15.4009 (0.0000)	15.4876 (0.0000)	20.4808 (0.0000)	19.0512 (0.0000)
<i>ORGA_ONLY</i>	26.8120 (0.0000)	26.5090 (0.0000)	27.4216 (0.0000)	31.6028 (0.0000)
<i>BOTH</i>	83.0185 (0.0000)	82.7292 (0.0000)	77.3350 (0.0000)	66.9240 (0.0000)

P-values for the F-test against the null that the instruments are not jointly statistically different from zero appear in parentheses.

VI. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The motivation for the presented analysis was drawn from two fields of research. First, the literature on within-firm organizational change and productivity suggests that firms can make more efficient use of certain technologies if complementary forms of organization are adopted. These cross-effects between technology and organizational structure may be crucial to explaining the “productivity paradox” related to the lacking productivity effects following the introduction of new technologies. Second, this aspect may be of even greater importance for the case of greenhouse gas (GHG) abatement technologies that are imposed by public authority and have the aim to reduce social costs of climate change. The private returns to the introduction of such technologies are apparently less obvious or can even be expected to be negative. Previous research, however, had largely neglected the relationship between green technologies and organizational change. Our analysis of German firm-level data shows that indeed organizational change increases the returns to the use of CO₂ reducing technologies which results in positive effects on productivity. Without having introduced adequate organizational infrastructure, such technology is associated with significantly lower productivity. The results from our two-stage estimation procedure thus suggest that the introduction of green technologies and organizational innovations are complementary. In other words, firms that adopted green technologies jointly with changes to their organizational structure can make better use of green technologies and hence more than offset productivity losses compared to firms having only adopted green technology.

A conclusion our results do not allow is that green technology adoption per se is beneficial to a firm if it also introduces the right organizational structure. Or in other words, our results do not allow to conclude that environmental policy should implement more stringent regulations as to promote technology adoption that, in the end, increases productivity if firms implement the right organizational structure. Such a naive view would neglect the possibility that a firm could have had adopted an even more productivity increasing technology, had there been no regulatory pressure to adopt green technology due to budget constraints. Such a crowding out effect is for instance documented in Gray and Shadbegian (1998). Future research may address these concerns in the debate of productivity or competitiveness effects of green technology.

Table A.1: Sectors and Innovation Choice

NACE CODES	SECTOR DESCRIPTION	INNOVATION BUNDEL CHOICE IN %						TOTAL
		NEITHER	GREEN ONLY	ORGA ONLY	BOTH			
10-12	Food, beverages, and tobacco products	37.41	19.73	19.05	23.81	100.00	100.00	
13-15	Textiles, wearing apparel, and leather	44.94	7.87	31.46	15.73	100.00	100.00	
16-17	Wood and paper products	41.73	14.17	25.20	18.90	100.00	100.00	
20-21	Chemical and pharmaceutical products	34.09	12.12	30.30	23.48	100.00	100.00	
22	Rubber and plastic products	43.75	11.72	23.44	21.09	100.00	100.00	
23	Other non-metallic mineral products	37.50	18.75	23.75	20.00	100.00	100.00	
24-25	Basic metals, fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	44.52	11.31	21.55	22.61	100.00	100.00	
26-27	Computer, electronic and optical products, electrical equipment	36.79	8.57	32.14	22.50	100.00	100.00	
28, 33	Machinery and equipment n.e.c., repair and installation of machinery and equipment	41.72	8.92	29.30	20.06	100.00	100.00	
29-30	Motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers, other transport equipment	27.52	10.09	23.85	38.53	100.00	100.00	
31-32	Furniture and other manufacturing	37.40	12.98	31.30	18.32	100.00	100.00	
35, 19	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, coke and refined petroleum products	35.92	16.50	24.27	23.30	100.00	100.00	
36-39	Water Supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	47.85	16.75	17.22	18.18	100.00	100.00	
41-43	Construction	56.16	17.81	12.33	13.70	100.00	100.00	
45-47	Wholesale and Retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	45.14	14.29	26.29	14.29	100.00	100.00	
49-53	Transportation and storage	31.92	21.92	19.23	26.92	100.00	100.00	
18, 58-60	Printing and reproduction of recorded media, publishing, motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording, broadcasting activities	47.34	10.06	24.85	17.75	100.00	100.00	
61-63	Telecommunications, computer programming, information service activities	32.97	4.95	54.95	7.14	100.00	100.00	
64-66, 68	Financial and insurance activities, real estate activities	39.47	5.26	40.13	15.13	100.00	100.00	
69-70, 74	Legal and accounting activities, head offices activities, management consultancy, other professional, scientific and technical activities	53.46	1.89	38.36	6.29	100.00	100.00	
71-73	Architectural and engineering, scientific research and development, advertising and market research	46.74	7.08	35.13	11.05	100.00	100.00	
55-56, >=77	Accommodation and food service activities, administrative and support service activities	48.13	9.96	21.99	19.92	100.00	100.00	
Total		41.68	11.42	28.08	18.81	100.00	100.00	

Table A.2: Summary statistics of key variables (3,896 obs.)

VARIABLES	DESCRIPTION	MEAN	STD. DEV.	MIN	MAX
\log_OUTPUT_t	Logged total turnover	1.655	1.973	-5.116	10.222
\log_CAP_t	Logged total capital inputs	0.257	2.556	-7.824	8.648
\log_LAB_t	Logged total labor inputs	3.659	1.604	-0.693	10.718
\log_ENMAT_t	Logged total intermediate energy and material inputs	0.368	2.464	-6.908	10.766
$GREEN_ONLY_t$	Predicted probability that only green innovation is introduced	0.115	0.066	0.003	0.489
$ORGA_ONLY_t$	Predicted probability that only organizational innovation is introduced	0.280	0.113	0.027	0.724
$BOTH_t$	Predicted probability for green and organizational innovations to be introduced	0.188	0.157	0.007	0.907
PD_INNO_t	Dummy for firms that have introduced product innovations	0.188	0.391	0	1
PC_INNO_t	Dummy for firms that have introduced non-green process innovations	0.193	0.395	0	1
$PATSTOCK_t$	Patent stock constructed with the perpetual inventory method (δ : 15 percent p.a.)	4.658	196.144	0	12,163.2
$R\&D_INT_t$	R&D intensity (total R&D spending per employee)	0.003	0.012	0	0.352
REG_t	Dummy for firms where green innovation is induced by regulation	0.239	0.427	0	1
$HIGHSKILL_t$	Human capital stock (share of graduated employees in total work force)	20.048	24.646	0	100
$EDUC_PEMP_t$	Education/training expenditures per employee	0.553	0.9714	0	13.333
$HARDCOMP_t$	Dummy whether firms perceives competition to be hard	0.529	0.499	0	1
HHI_t	Herfindahl-Index for NACE 3-digit levels	430.943	774.428	2.107	6,684.3
AGE_t	Firm age in years	33.427	38.799	1	509
$EAST_GER_t$	Firm location in the Eastern part of Germany	0.326	0.469	0	1

Notes: $t = 2008$, \hat{t} refers to the period covering the years 2006-2008.

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