

ESRI Japan Economic Model for the Long-Term Outlook Using System Dynamics and AI

August 1st, 2024

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○We simulated the future outlook of the Japan economy from now to 2100. The conclusion is summarized as bellow.

○The total population of Japan is estimated to be 130 million(upper) to 40 million(lower) in 2100, compared to the current 120 million.

○Japan's GDP could reach \$20.0 trillion(upper) to \$3.0 trillion(lower) by 2100, compared to \$4.4 trillion today.

○As a result of calculations, it is estimated that the well-being in Japan may be 4.0(upper) to 0.2(lower) in 2100 if the current situation is 1.0.

○With this model, we can envision a variety of future perspectives. The key of this project is to identify the key factors that would lead us to these different visions.

○The various future visions are a large amount of information, so to speak, that has been simulated by generating 20,000 scenarios for each issue. We let AI analyze this large amount of information. In this way, we will be able to confirm the characteristics of each of the future visions.

○As a result, the importance of income distribution to young people, the importance of accepting foreigners, the need to expand and domestically produce renewable energy as soon as possible, and the importance of expanding trade with the Global South are confirmed.

Overview of the Model

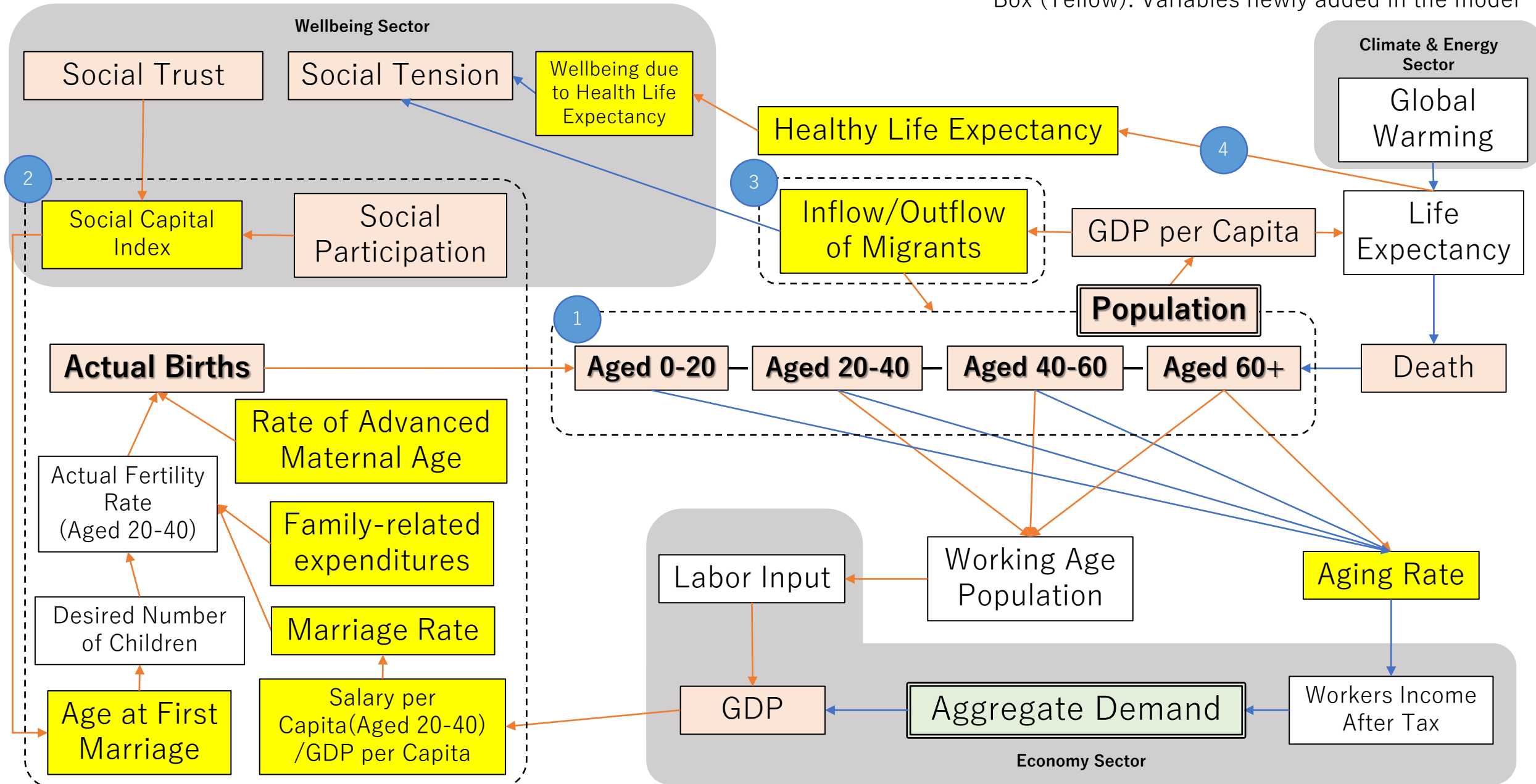
○The model is a system dynamic AI model, based on the “Earth4All model” (global model; by the Club of Rome), modified and replaced by Japanese data to analyze Japan’s characteristic issues – low birthrate, aging population, budget deficit, friction between the US and China, etc.

○The model consists of 11 blocks: population, production, demand, inventory, public, finance, international economy, energy and environment, labor, social issues, and wellbeing. There are 767 causal flows and 1,146 variables.

○The model is constructed using a system dynamics approach. The coefficients that define the relationships among variables are basically calculated by regression analysis of actual values from 2000 to 2022. The equations in the model are connected with a number of feedback loops, including equations that vary linearly, vary by a logarithmic function and use delays.

Population Sector: Causal Flow

Arrow (Blue): Negative impact
Arrow (Orange): Positive impact
Box (Yellow): Variables newly added in the model



1 Generational transitions due to births, deaths and aging

- Population by generation (0-20, 20-40, 40-60, and 60+) is determined by population changes associated with births, deaths and aging, as well as international population movements (immigration outflows and inflows), which is newly added in the model.

$$\text{Population of Age Group } X_t = \text{Population of Age Group } X_{t-1} + \text{Net Change by Aging}_t + \text{Inflow/Outflow of Migrants}_t$$

* Add Births_t for Age Group 20 – , subtract Deaths_t for Age Group 60 +.

2 Fertility Rate and Desired Number of Children

- The number of **births** is determined by (1) **desired number of children** and (2) **percentage of desired number of children realized**.
- “(1) **Desired number of children**” is calculated by the **age at first marriage**, which varies according to the social capital index.
“(2) **Percentage of desired number of children realized**” is calculated by “(3) **marriage rate**”, which varies with income distribution among young people, “(4) **percentage of married households achieving desired number of children**”, which varies with family-related expenditures share of GDP, and “(5) **percentage of children born out of wedlock**”.

$$\text{Fertility Rate}_t = \textcircled{1}\text{Desired Number of Children}_{t-1} \times \textcircled{2}\text{Percentage of Desired Number of Children Realized}_t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \text{Desired Number of Children}_t &= -0.09 \times \text{Age at First Marriage}_t \\ &= -0.09 \times (-3.2 \times \text{Social Capital Index}/10) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \text{Percentage of Desired Number of Children Realized}_t &= \\ &\textcircled{3}\text{Marriage Rate} \times \textcircled{4}\text{Percentage of married households achieving desired number of children}_t \times \textcircled{5}\text{Percentage of children born out of wedlock} \\ &= \textcircled{3} \{0.037 \times \text{Labor Share of Young People} + (-1.28) \times \text{Employment Rate of Age Group 20 – 40}\} \\ &\times \textcircled{4} \{20.5 \times \text{Family – related Expenditures Share of GDP}\} \times \textcircled{5}\text{Percentage of children born out of wedlock} \end{aligned}$$

3 Changes in the number of foreign residents in Japan

- **(Net) inflow of foreign residents** are calculated based on the past relationship between GDP per capita and the number of inflow and outflow. Age structure is assumed to be constant, and inflow of foreign residents is distributed to each age group based on the age structure of 2022.

- *Net Inflow of Foreign Residents_t * Stops increasing when GDP per capita reaches 7,000USD*

$$= \text{Net Inflow from Low/Middle Income Countries}_{2022} \\ + (GDP \text{ per Capita of Low/Middle Income Countries}_t - GDP \text{ per Capita of Low/Middle Income Countries}_{2022}) \\ \times 1.15$$

4 Impact of changes in healthy life expectancy on wellbeing

- Added a path where **global warming**, etc. drives down **life expectancy**, which drives down **healthy life expectancy**.
- For additional wellbeing indicator, ratio of healthy citizens to the entire population (calculated by **life expectancy**) is adopted.

$$Life \text{ Expectancy}_t = 76 \times 0.839 \times e^{(-0.025 \times (GDP \text{ per Capita}_t - GDP \text{ per Capita}_{1980}))}$$

$$\times Effect \text{ of Global Warming}_t \times Effect \text{ of Family} - related \text{ Expenditures}_t - 1.1$$

$$Healthy \text{ Life Expectancy}_t = Ratio \text{ of Healthy Life Expectancy per Life Expectancy}_t \times Life \text{ Expectancy}_t$$

$$Wellbeing \text{ due to Healthy Life Expectancy}_t$$

$$= 1 - \left(Population \text{ over } 60_t \times \frac{Life \text{ Expectancy}_t - Healthy \text{ Life Expectancy}_t}{Healthy \text{ Life Expectancy}_t - 60} \right) / Population_t$$

○Using Monte Carlo methods, all variables affecting the primary outcome are shaken (including zero shaking range. Most of them oscillate within upper and lower bounds. Some are completely random) and a wide range of scenarios is generated (20,000).

○For Population analysis, variables affecting population and GDP per capita are variable.

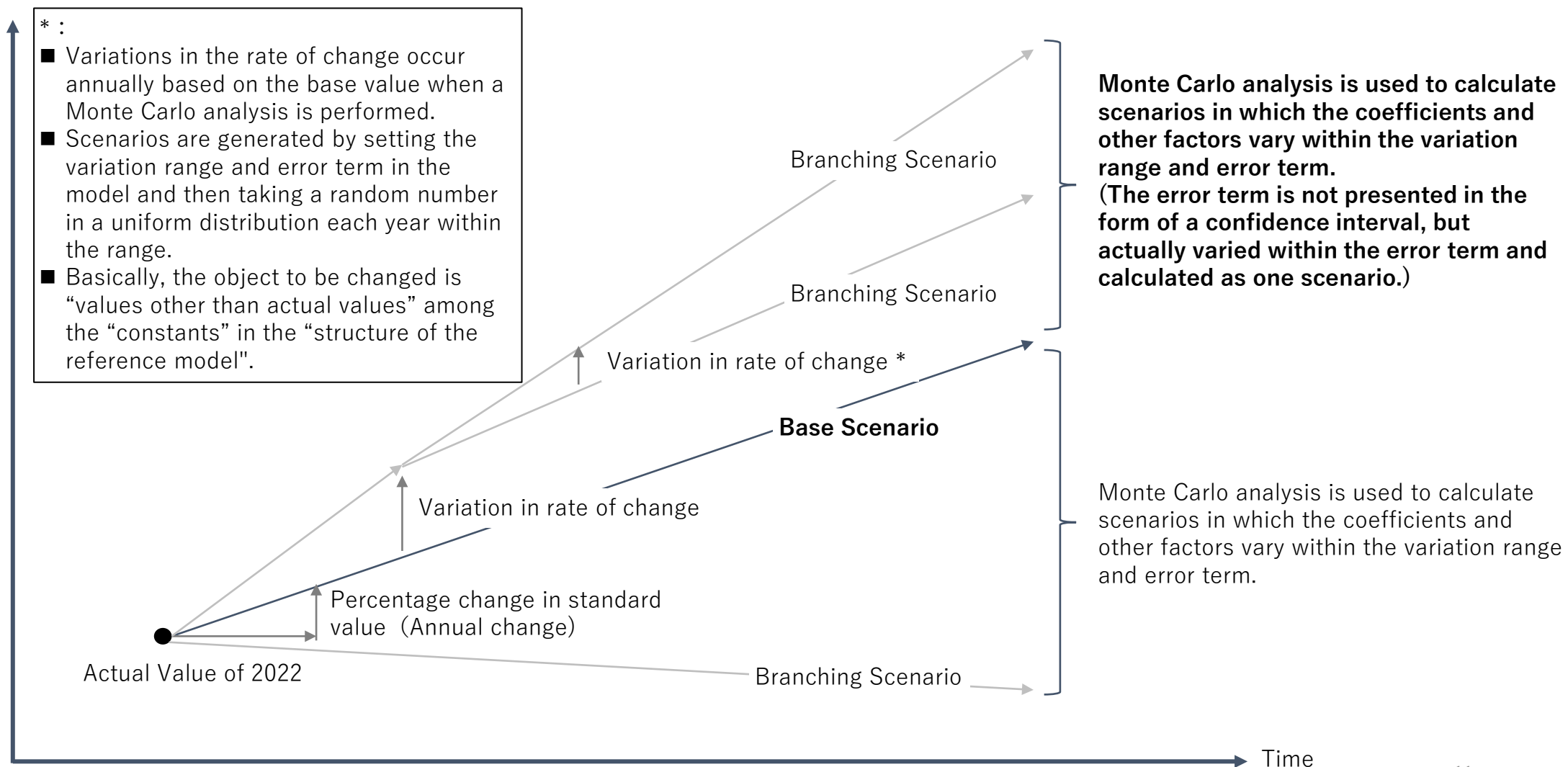
For environmental analysis, variables affecting the amount of CO₂ and carbon capture are variable.

For international economic analysis, variables affecting economic growth and export volumes are variable.

○Group 20,000 results into several groups by K-means method.

○The AI's work process then takes on the task of deciphering the key factors that characterize each group.

The variation range of coefficients and error terms are calculated as a wide range of scenarios by changing values within a set range in a Monte Carlo simulation, which starts from a reference value.

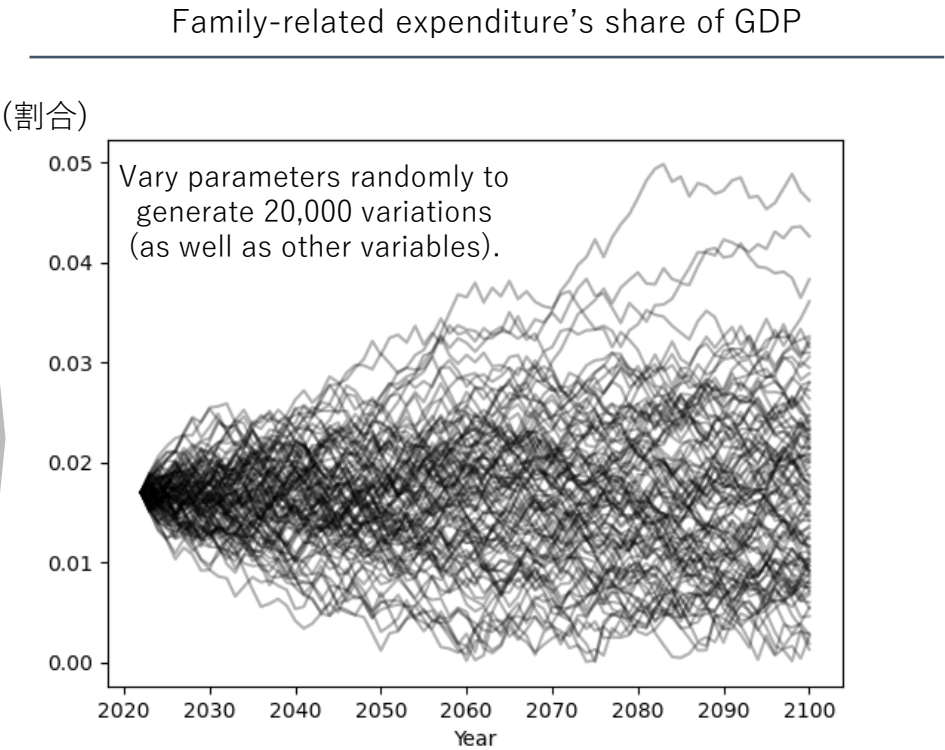
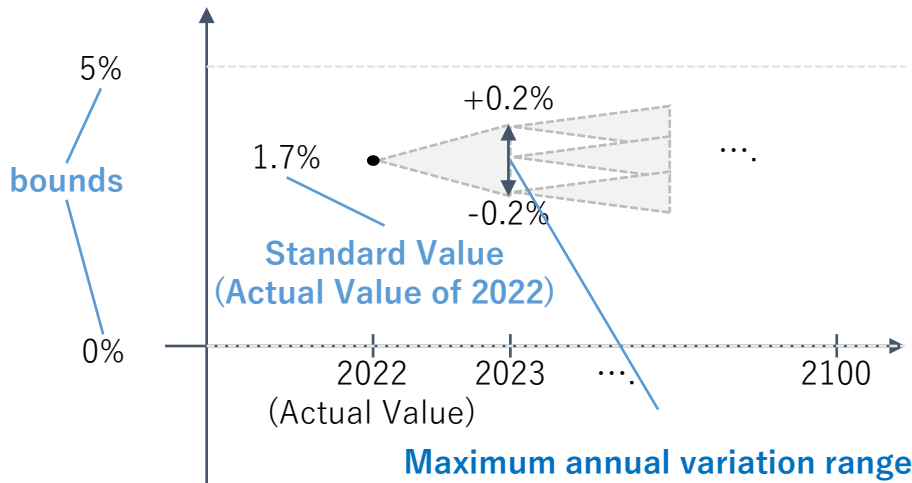


Using the Monte Carlo method, all parameters affecting the objective variable are varied within upper and lower bounds to obtain 20,000 possible combinations (simulation results).

Method

- Random annual variation of all parameters affecting the objective variable within a pre-determined **upper and lower limit** within a **maximum annual variation range**.

e.g. Method of variation
*In case of Family-related expenditure's share of GDP

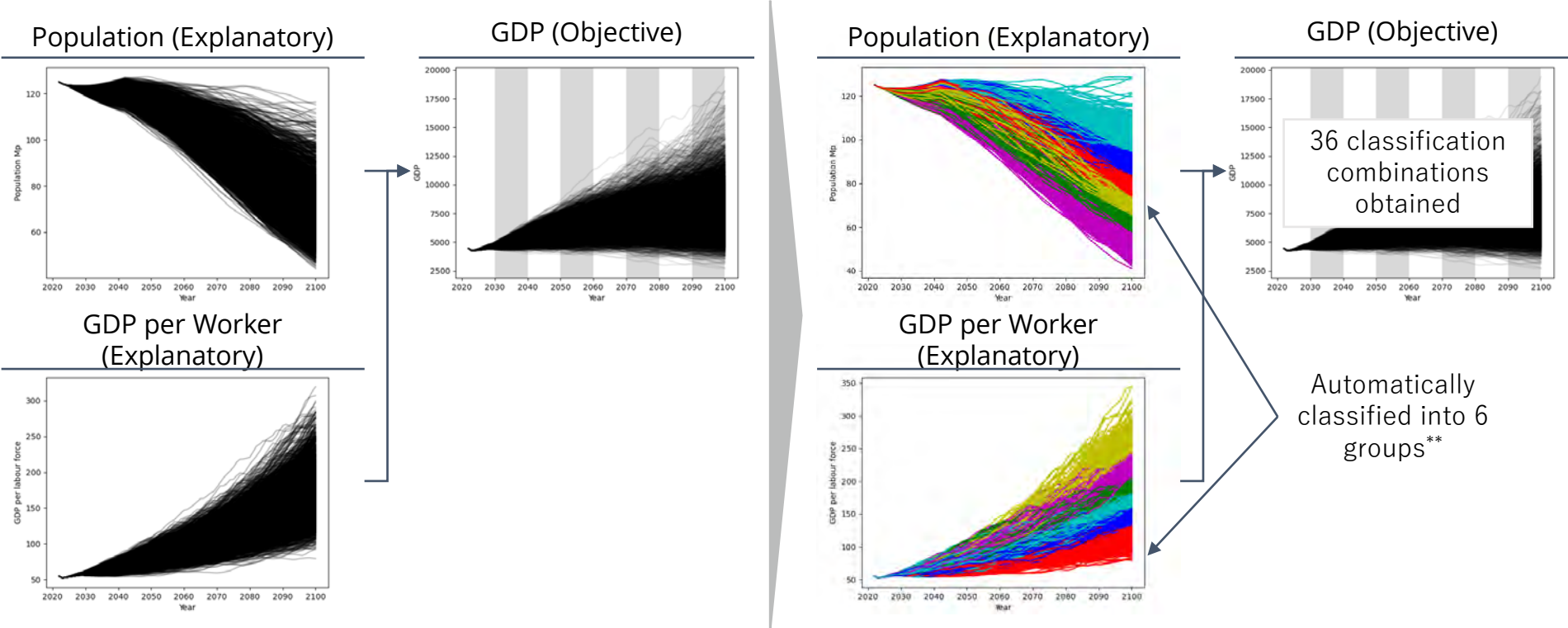


Eliminate human arbitrariness and mechanically classify explanatory variables.

Method

- Classify time series data of explanatory variables to calculate the objective variable for each sector into groups of similar scenarios using K-means (DTW*) with reference to the degree of similarity.

e.g.) Population Sector

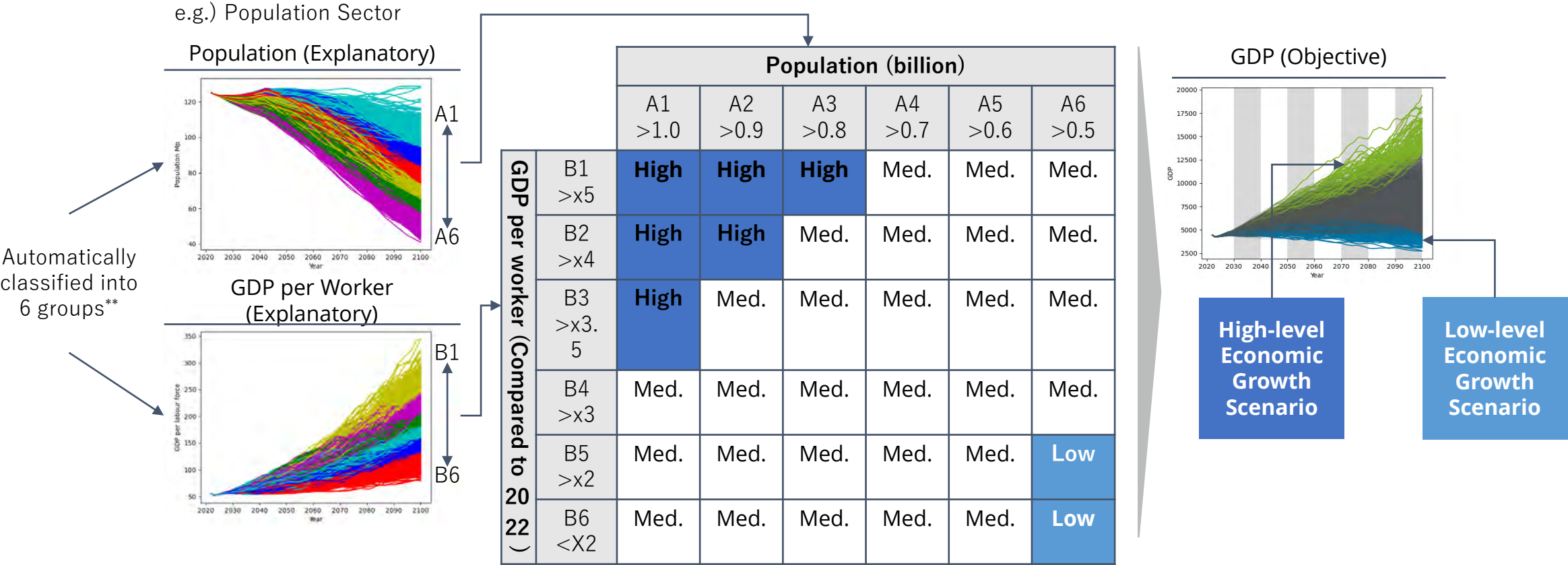


*: A method for measuring the similarity between two time series data. Allows for expansion and contraction along the time axis, allowing for robust comparisons against slight temporal deviations. **: For the number of classifications, the “elbow method” and actual classification results were checked, and the minimum value that was significantly classified was adopted.

Reclassification of classified results of the obtained explanatory variables by hand.

Method

- Reclassifying classified results of the obtained explanatory variables by hand, with reference to the values of 2100.

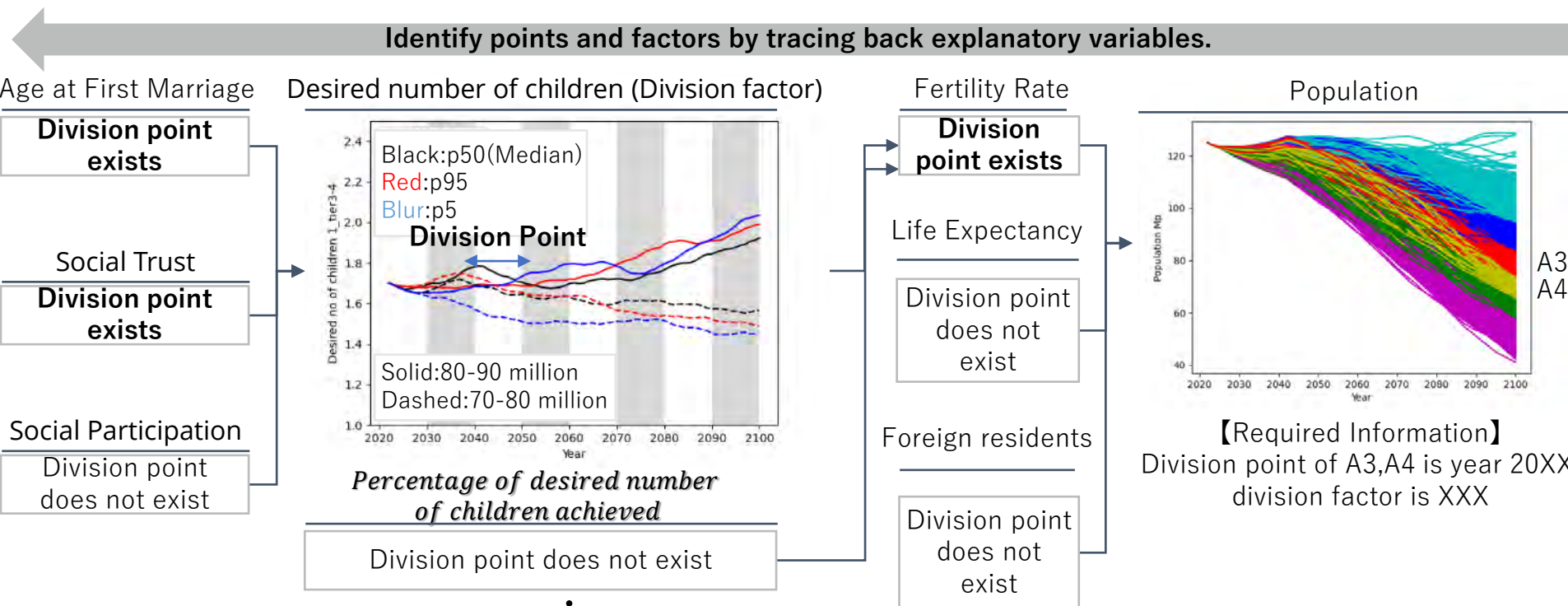


Check the transition of explanatory variables (percentiles*) in each scenario group to identify the points and factors that diverge to other scenario groups.

Method

- Check the transition (percentiles) of the explanatory variables for each scenario group.
 - Using 5%, 50%, and 95% percentile (p5, p50, p95).
- Identifies points (calculated within a certain range) and branching factors that lead to other scenario groups.

e.g.) Population Factor *Group A3 (0.80-0.90 billion in 2100) and A4 (70-80 million in 2100)



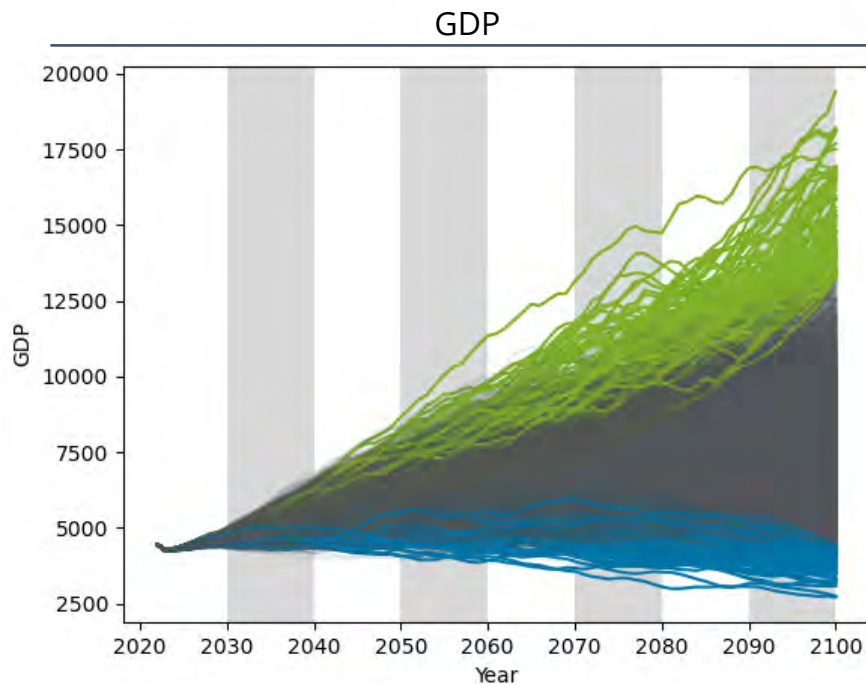
* : X percentile refers to the value that is in the Xth percentile of the total when the data are sorted in decreasing order, counting from the beginning.

Population

Mechanically classified the results of 20,000 different simulations on GDP.

② Mechanically classify scenarios using K-means

- Explanatory variables of “GDP” such as “population” and “GDP per worker” are mechanically classified by K-means.
- Based on the results, classified GDP into high/low economic growth scenarios



A

High-level
Economic
Growth
Scenario

GDP: More than 3 times higher than 2022 at 2100

A growth scenario that is comparable to the future GDP growth multiples of OECD countries. Two patterns exist.

- **A-1. Slight decline in population but increase in GDP**
- **A-2. Population decline but increase in GDP**

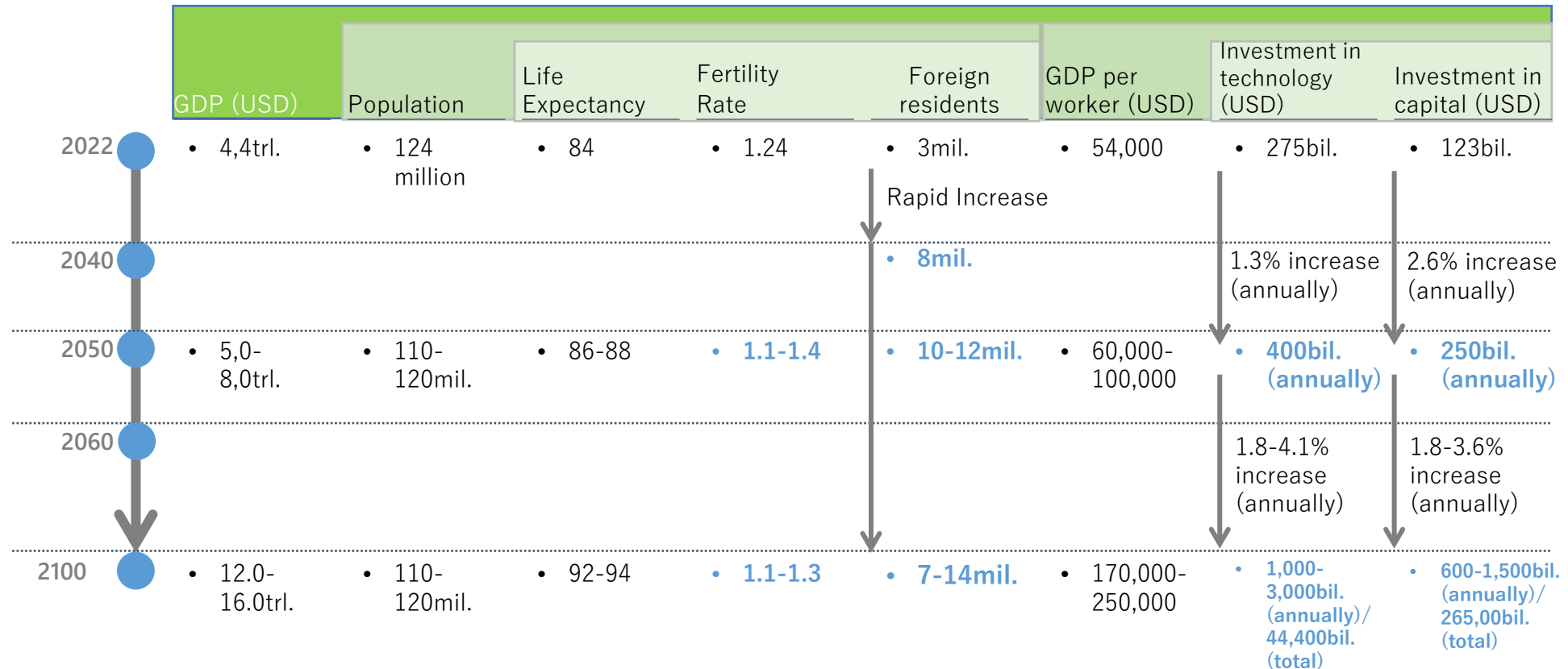
B

Low-level
Economic
Growth
Scenario

GDP: Less than 2022 at 2100

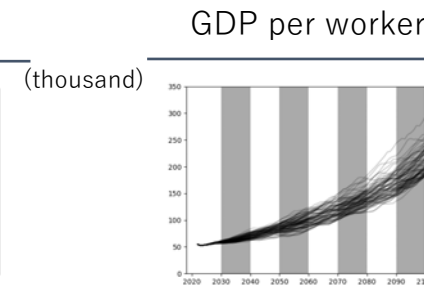
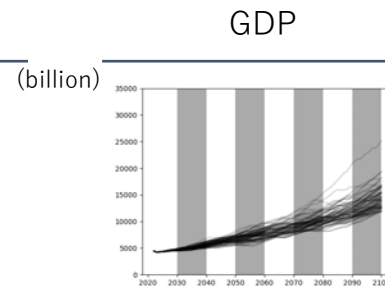
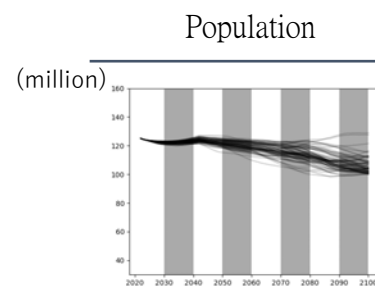
A scenario in which GDP stagnates or declines, which could occur if various indicators decline to a certain level due to irregular events such as contingencies or natural disasters.

GDP will increase by accepting a certain number of foreign residents, maintaining the birth rate, and promoting technological development and capital investment on a large scale.

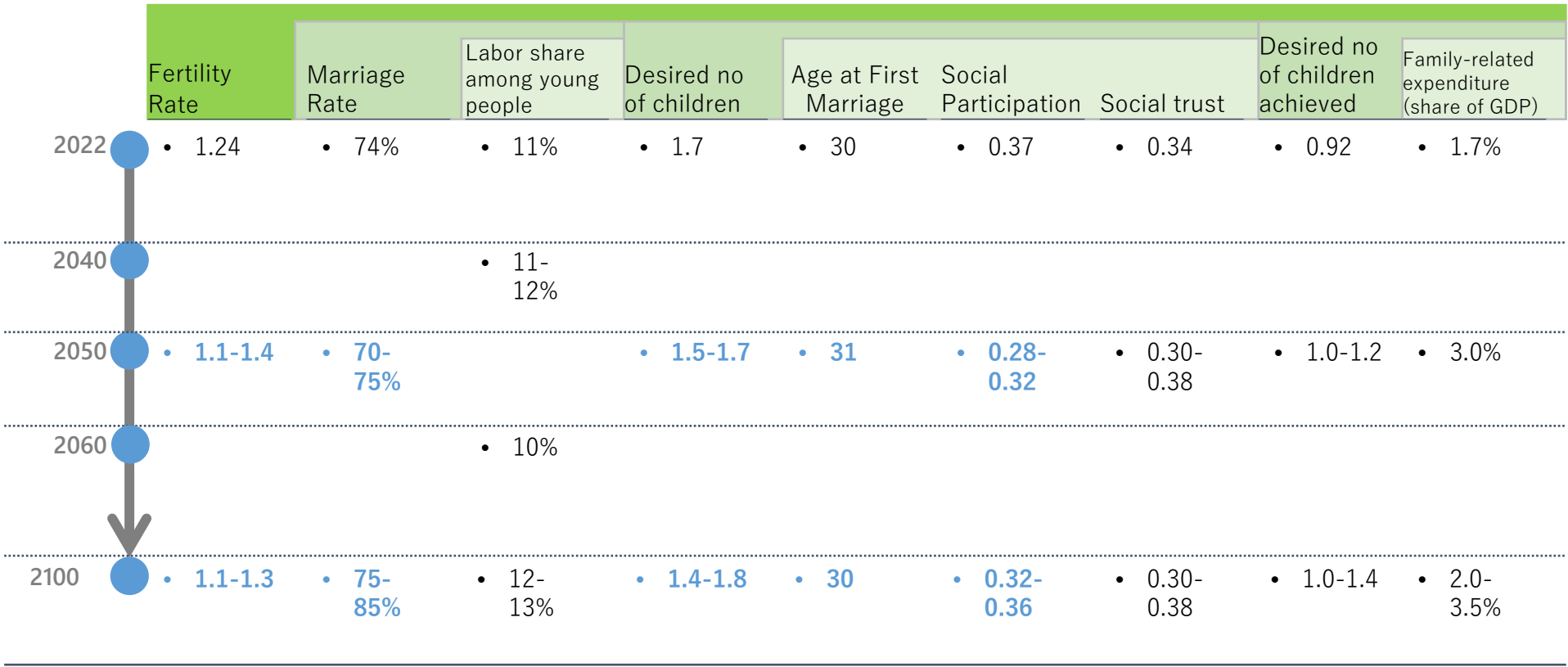


<Japan in 2100>

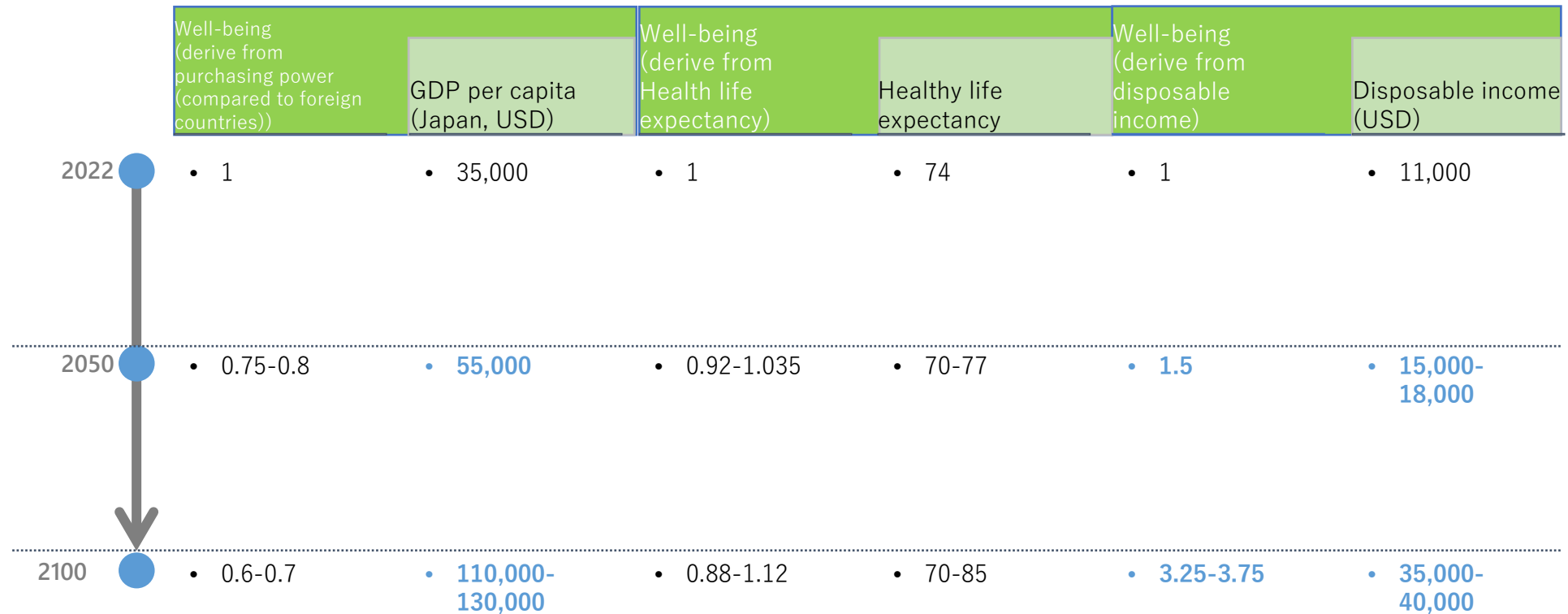
- GDP : **3 times higher** than 2022
- Population: more than **100 million**
- GDP per worker: **3.5 times higher** than 2022



Fertility rate can be maintained by increasing marriage rates and desired number of children.



GDP per capita growth is lower than G20 and purchasing power is lower, but disposable income is growing and wellbeing is increasing.



<Japan in 2100>

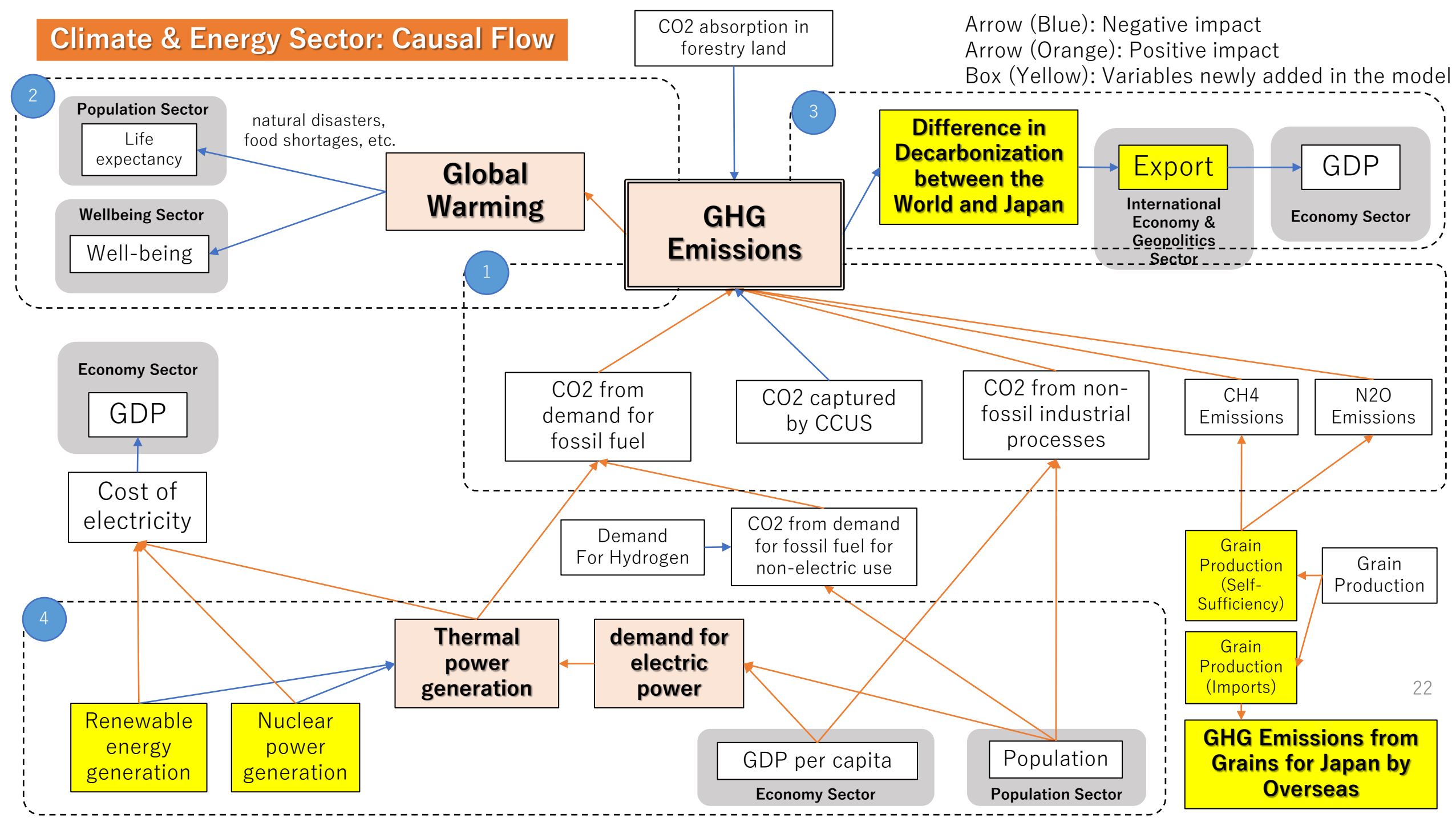
■ Well-being

- Deriving from purchasing power: decreasing
- Deriving from Health life expectancy: level off
- Deriving from disposable income: Significantly improved

Climate & Energy

Climate & Energy Sector: Causal Flow

Arrow (Blue): Negative impact
Arrow (Orange): Positive impact
Box (Yellow): Variables newly added in the model



1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are determined by CO2, N2O, and CH4 emissions

- GHG emissions are calculated as the sum of CO2 emissions (from fossil/non-fossil fuels), N2O emissions and CH4 emissions. CO2 emissions from fossil fuels are composed of those from thermal power generation and others.

$$\text{GHG emissions}_t = \text{CO2 emissions (from fossil fuels)}_t + \text{CO2 emissions (from non – fossil fuels)}_t + \text{N2O emission}_t + \text{CH4 emission}_t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CO2 emissions (from fossil fuels)}_t &= \text{CO2 emissions (from thrmal power generation)}_t \\ &+ \text{CO2 emissions from demand for fossil fuel for non – electric use}_t \\ &+ \text{CO2 captured by CCUS}_t \end{aligned}$$

2 Global Warming through GHG emissions lowers the Well-being and the Life Expectancy

$$\text{Well – being}_t = a. \cdot \cdot \cdot_t - \text{b. Global Warming}_t + c. \cdot \cdot \cdot_t + d. \cdot \cdot \cdot_t + \cdot \cdot \cdot$$

$$\text{Life Expectancy}_t = \cdot \cdot \cdot_t - \text{Impact of Global Warming on life expectancy}_t + \cdot \cdot \cdot$$

3 Delays in promoting decarbonization lower Exports and GDP

- If the gap in decarbonization efforts between Japan and the rest of the world widens, **Exports** could decrease by up to 3%, and **GDP** would also decline.

$$\text{Export}_t = \text{Export}_{t-1} - \text{Difference in decarbonization between the World and Japan}_t - \text{U.S./China Decoupling effect on Export}_t + \text{Fluctuations in exports for the Global South}_t$$

4 “Energy Mix” fluctuates the amount of thermal power generation and energy costs

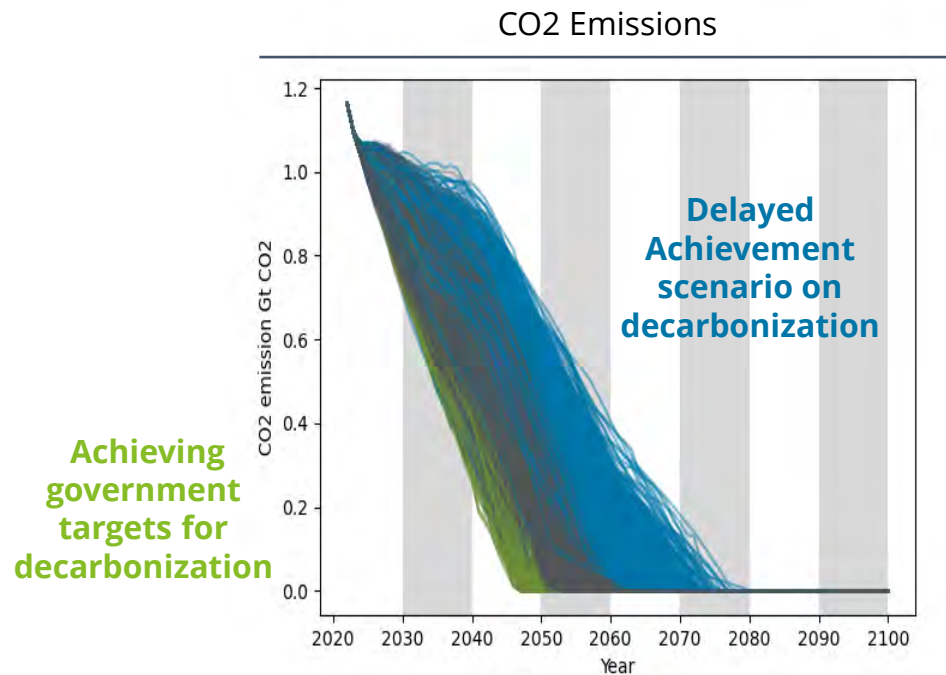
- The **CO2 emissions (from thermal power generation)** increase as the **thermal power generation** increase.
- The **Thermal power generation** is calculated from the **demand for electric power**, which varies with the population and the GDP per capita, minus the **renewable energy generation** and the **nuclear power generation**.

$$\text{Thermal power generation}_t = \text{Demand for electric power}_t - \text{Renewable energy generation}_t - \text{Nuclear power generation}_t$$

- The **Electricity costs** fluctuate through **thermal, renewable, and nuclear power generation**, and the **Electricity costs** affect **GDP**.

Classified the results of 20,000 different simulations of CO2 emissions

- CO2 emissions are classified into the scenario of “**Achieving government targets for decarbonization**”/ “**Delayed Achievement scenario on decarbonization**”.



A

Achieving government targets for decarbonization

B

Delayed Achievement scenario on decarbonization

Decarbonization achieved by 2050

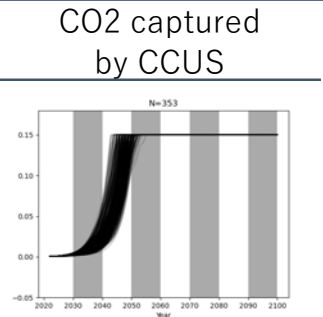
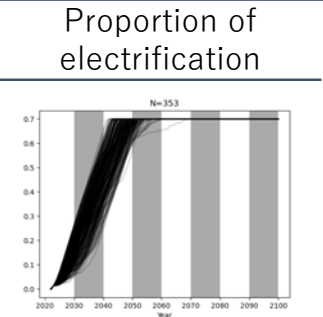
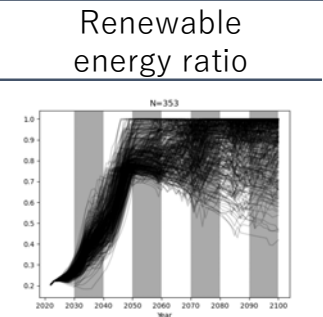
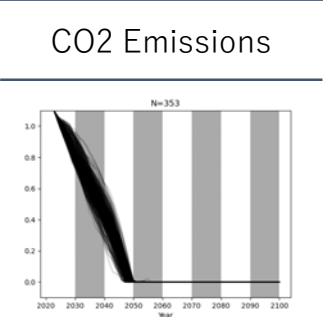
A scenario in which carbon neutrality is achieved and overall greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to zero by 2050, the target set by the government.

Decarbonization is achieved after 2061

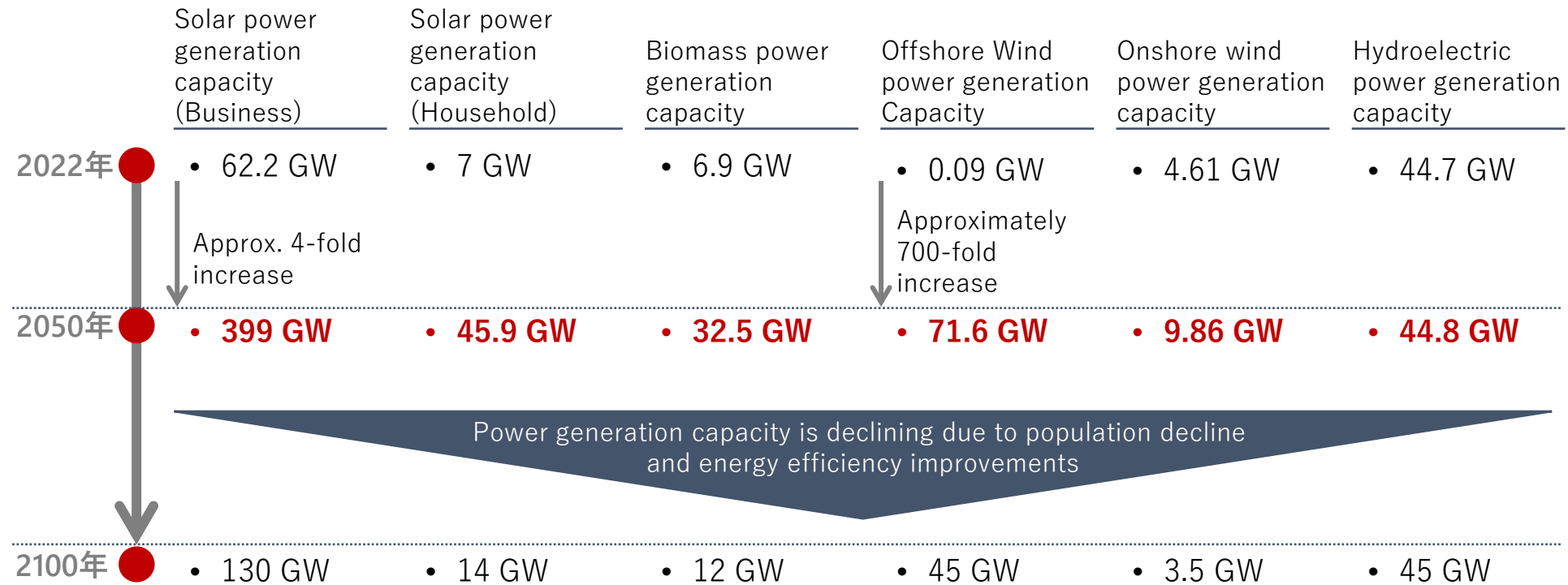
A scenario in which decarbonization occurs after 2061, well behind government targets.

Decarbonization can be achieved by 2050 by increasing the ratio of low-carbon energy and the proportion of electrification, and by absorbing a certain amount of CO2 through CCUS

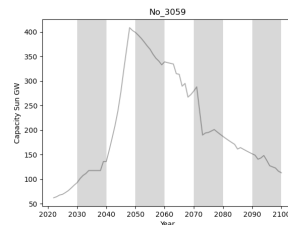
	CO2 Emissions	From the electricity demand	From the non-electricity demand	From non-fossil industrial processes	Captured by CCUS	Proportion of electrification (Starting from 2022)	Renewable energy ratio
2022年	• 1.16 Gt	• 0.36 Gt	• 0.78 Gt	• 0.06 Gt	• 0.0006 Gt	• 0%	• 20%
2050年	• 0 Gt	• Almost zero (less than 0.05 Gt)	• Less than 0.15 Gt	• 0.05 Gt approx.	• 0.1 Gt or more	• 60% or more	• 70% or more
2100年	• 0 Gt	• 0 Gt	• 0-0.1 Gt	• 0.03-0.05 Gt	• 0.15 Gt	• 70%	• 60-100%



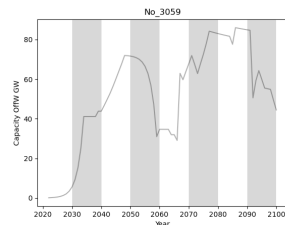
In most of the scenarios for achieving government targets for decarbonization, the share of renewable energy will increase, mainly solar (household) and offshore wind power.



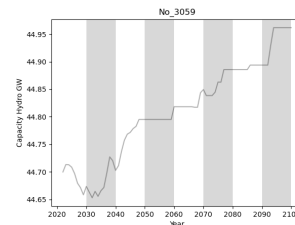
Solar power generation capacity (Business)



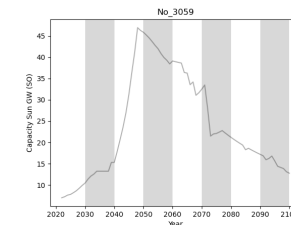
Offshore Wind power generation Capacity



Biomass power generation capacity

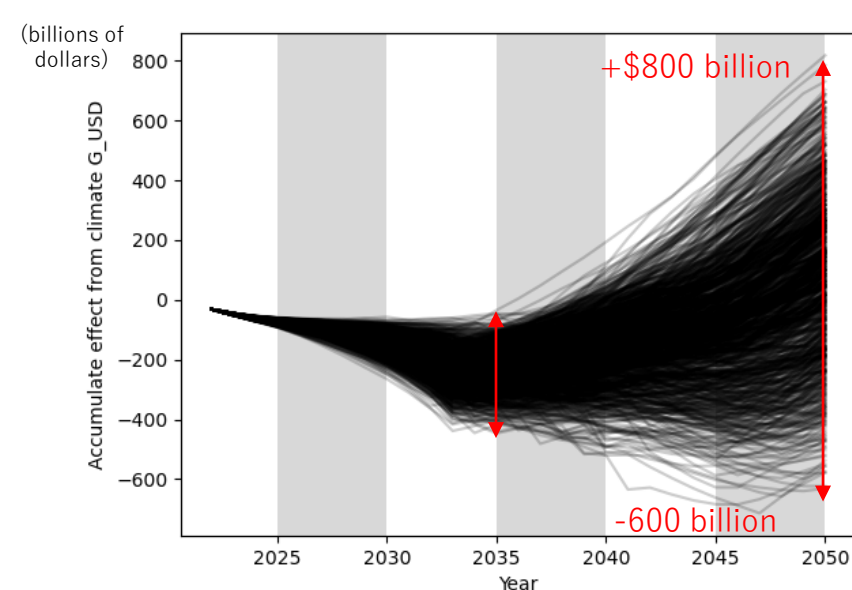


Solar power generation capacity (Business)



While achieving government targets on decarbonization requires allowing for negative short-term impacts on GDP, there are a number of scenarios with a cumulative positive impact on GDP as of 2050

Cumulative impact on GDP from renewable energy deployment and energy costs*.



■ What can be said from the simulation

- To achieve government targets on decarbonization, a certain amount of negative GDP impact (up to a cumulative maximum of about **-\$400 billion** in 2035) must be allowed for.
- The cumulative GDP impact from the environmental domain will be in the range of **-\$600~+\$800 billion** in 2050.

■ Background of the simulation

- When introducing renewable energy, a high domestic procurement rate will have a positive impact on GDP, vice versa.
- A 10% increase in energy costs will decrease GDP by 0.15%**, whereas a decrease in energy costs will increase economic activity and positively affect GDP.

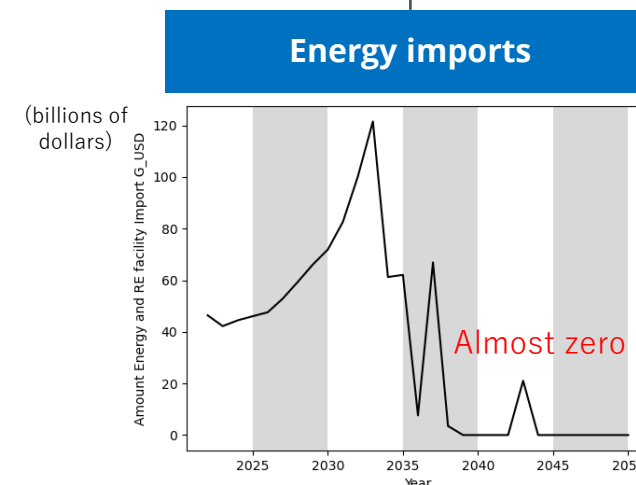
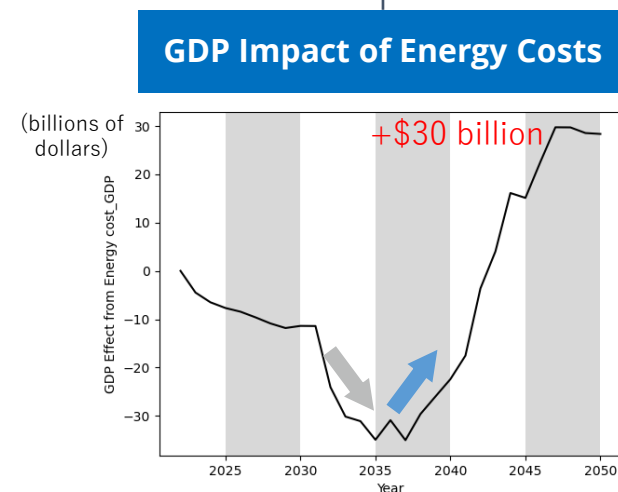
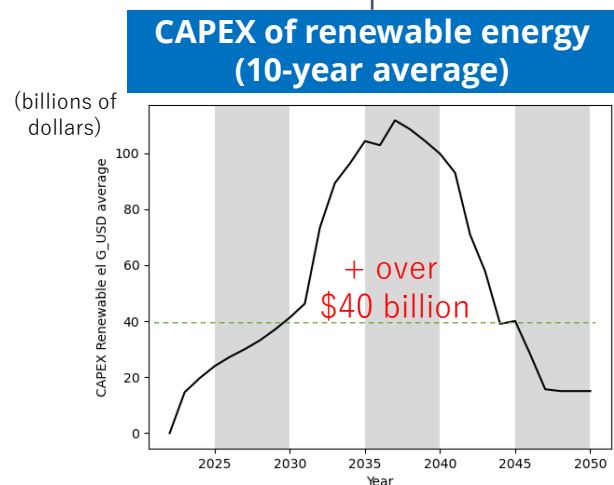
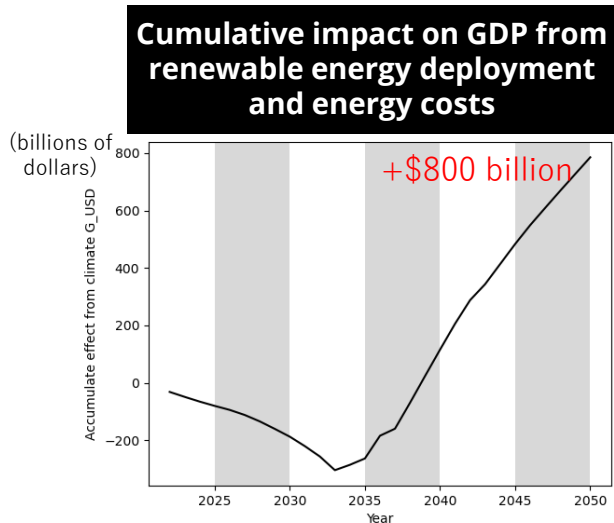
* : It shows the entire scenario, not just “scenarios for achieving government targets on decarbonization.”

** : [How energy prices shape OECD economic growth: Panel evidence from multiple decades - ScienceDirect](#)

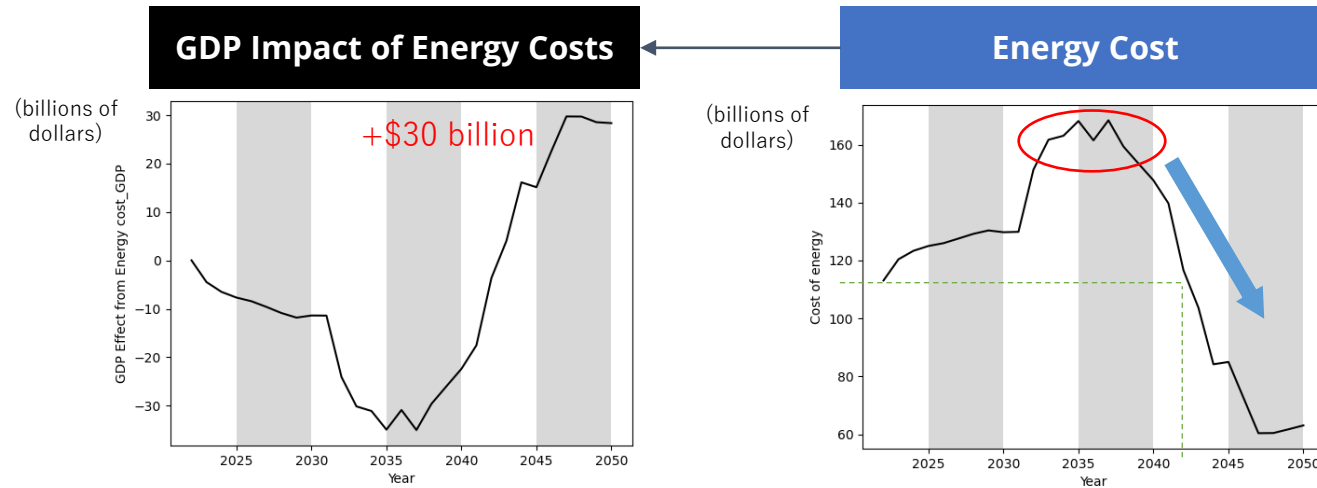
It is important to push down energy costs and reduce the amount of energy while continuously investing in renewable energy-related facilities.

【Results】

- Cumulative impact of renewable energy deployment and energy costs on GDP will start to rise after 2035, reaching **+\$800 billion** by 2050
 - CAPEX of renewable energy will increase to more than **\$40 billion per year** between 2030 and 2045.
 - GDP impact from energy costs turns upward after 2035-2040, reaching **\$30 billion** in 2050.
 - Energy imports are reduced to **almost zero after 2035-2040**.



How quickly energy costs rise due to the introduction of renewable energy will determine the impact on the economy (GDP).



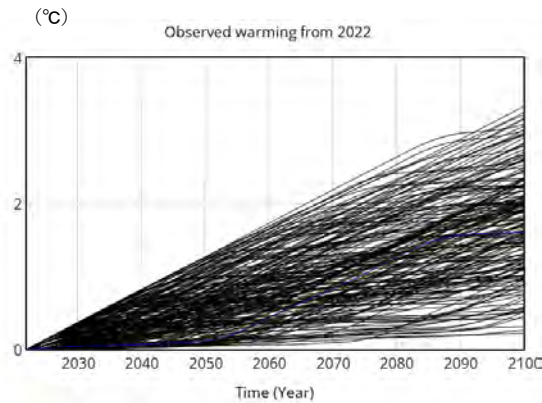
【Results】

- Energy costs peak at around **\$160 billion** in 2035, when renewable energy substitution becomes more active.
- **After 2035, the replacement with renewable energy is completed** and energy costs are pushed down, reaching the 2022 level (\$113 billion) in the decade 2035-2045.
- By 2050, the Energy Costs are reduced to about \$60 billion, about half of the 2022 level, with a **GDP impact of +\$30 billion**.

By updating function for selecting temperature scenarios, a wide range of temperature increases is calculated.

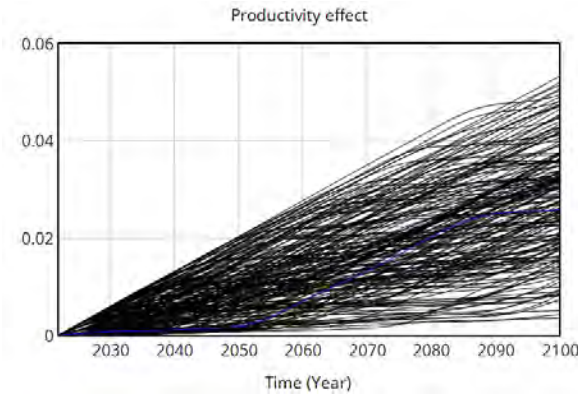
Temperature Rise from 2022

***Significant change observed**



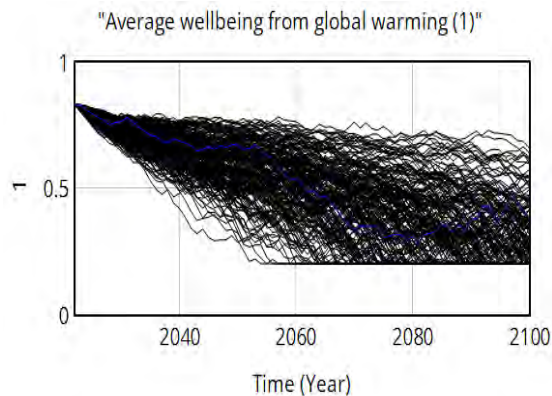
- Temperature increase calculated in the range of +0.2~3.3 °C.
- Covers most of the range shown in IPCC scenarios (+0.1~3.6 °C increase from 2022).

Effect of temperature rise on productivity



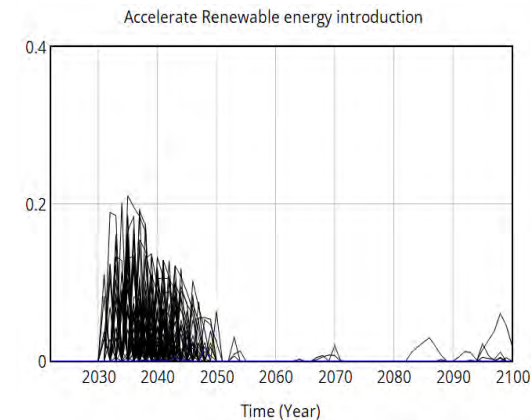
- 0.3%~5.3% decrease in labor productivity is projected.

Change in Wellbeing due to temperature rise



- Range from 0.2 (lower limit) to approximately 0.7.

Increase in the rate of change in renewable energy introduction due to temperature rise



- Due to rising temperatures, introduction of renewable energy facilities is accelerated by up to 20%.

International Economy

Decoupling was modeled to occur due to relative changes in national power between the U.S. and China

Modeling method	Model Image
U.S.-China Bilateral Decoupling ■ Calculating trade volume with the degree of proximity of U.S. and China's national power as explanatory variables ■ The GDP forecast in purchasing power parity terms is used to calculate the degree of proximity in terms of national power. ■ Cases in which trade decreases beyond a certain level are considered decoupling.	The flowchart shows the progression from 'Proximity of U.S. and China's national power' to 'US-China trade volume'. From 'US-China trade volume', two paths emerge: one leading to 'U.S.-China partial decoupling (-1.7% per gross trade volume) => Japan's exports up 1%' and another leading to 'U.S.-China full decoupling (-5.8% per gross trade volume) => Japan's exports up 2%'.
Between liberal/authoritarian camps decoupling ■ Assumes that if bilateral decoupling occurs, Japan will be required to promptly participate ■ Assumes that each decoupling occurs and then develop into inter-camp decoupling in 1 year	The flowchart shows two parallel paths. The top path starts with 'U.S.-China partial decoupling => Japan's exports up 1.05%', followed by 'After 1 year' leading to 'Partial decoupling between camps => Japan's export down 5%'. The bottom path starts with 'U.S.-China full decoupling => Japan's exports up 2.15%', followed by 'After 1 year' leading to 'Full decoupling between camps => Japan's export down 15%'. A note under the final box states: '※ Depending on the percentage of exports to the Global South.'

1 Newly establishment of an international economy and geopolitics part

- A new pathway for changes in the **balance of goods and services** to affect GDP is added, and the **current balance** can also be calculated.

2 Factors affecting goods exports

- **Goods exports** fluctuate due to the following factors
 - ✓ Economic development of the Global South (+)
 - ✓ World and Japan difference about promotion decarbonization (−)
 - ✓ U.S.-China Decoupling (−)

3 Factors affecting goods imports

- **Goods imports** vary depending on the following factors
 - ✓ Supply chain risk manifestation (−)
 - ✓ Increase in energy-related imports (+)

4

Decoupling impact varies depending on the U.S.-China power differential and the share of exports to the Global South

- The difference in GDP in purchasing power parity terms between the U.S. and China changes the volume of China's export to the U.S.

Decoupling is judged to have occurred when the rate of decrease exceeds a certain level due to the same factors.

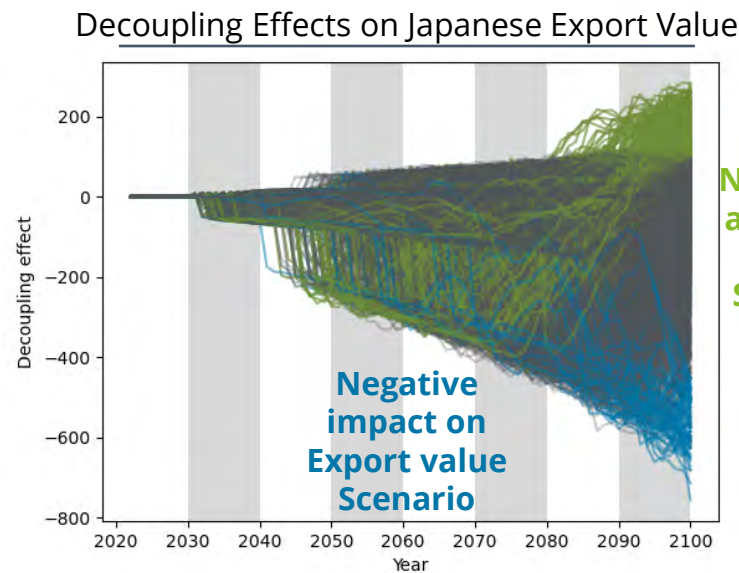
- Impact of decoupling depends on **the ratio of exports to the Global South**

$$\text{Percentage change in China's exports to the US due to GDP differences}_t = -0.59 \times \left(\frac{\text{China GDP}_t}{\text{U.S.GDP}_t} - \frac{\text{China GDP}_{2022}}{\text{U.S.GDP}_{2022}} \right)$$

Derive the status and bifurcation points of the no/negative impact scenario for export value due to DC* from the results of 20,000 simulation scenarios.

Derive status and bifurcation points for high/low scenarios

- Decoupling impact on Japan’s export value is classified into two scenarios: “no impact on export value” scenario and “negative impact on export value” scenario.



No Impact
on Export
value
Scenario

A

No impact
on Export
value
Scenario

Decoupling has no effect on Japan’s export value

A scenario in which decoupling occurs between the U.S. and China or between the liberal and authoritarian camps, but export value is unaffected.

B

Negative
impact on
Export
value
Scenario

Decoupling has negative effects on Japan’s export value

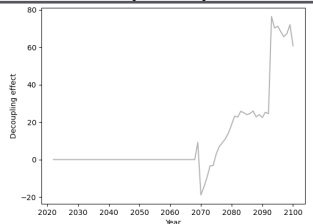
A scenario in which decoupling occurs between the U.S. and China or between the liberal and authoritarian camps, with a negative impact on the value of export.

* : DC=Abbreviation for decoupling

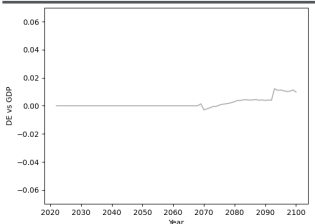
If decoupling between the camps is a late occurrence and there is a shift of exports to the Global South, the negative impact on export value will be minimal.

	Decoupling Impact (USD)	Decoupling Impact (GDP ratio)	Percentage of exports to the Global South	Nominal GDP(U.S.)(USD)	Nominal GDP(China)(USD)
2022			• 23%	• About 21tril.	• About 26tril.
2065~2070	• ± 20bil.	• Less than ± 1%	• Around 35%	• 60-70tril.	• 70-90tril.
	Small-scale decoupling between camps occurs				
2090~2100	• +70bil. *Slightly positive impact	• Less than ± 1%	• Around 50%	• 105-125tril.	• 170~250tril.
	Large-scale decoupling between camps occurs				
2100	• +700bil. *Slightly positive impact	• Less than ± 1%	• Around 50%	• About 125tril.	• About 250tril.

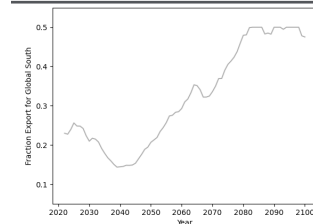
Decoupling Impact (USD)



Decoupling Impact (GDP ratio)



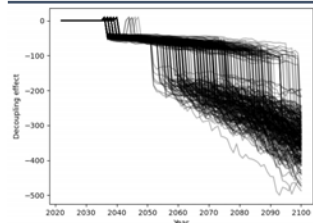
Percentage of exports to the Global South



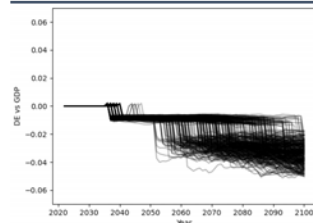
If decoupling between camps occurs early, the shift of exports to the Global South will not occur in time, which will have a negative impact on the value of exports.

	Decoupling Impact (USD)	Decoupling Impact (GDP ratio)	Percentage of exports to the Global South	Nominal GDP(U.S.)(USD)	Nominal GDP(China)(USD)
2022			• 23%	• About 21tril.	• About 26tril.
2035~2040	• About 50bil.	• About -1%	• 7-20%	• 25-30tril.	• About 30-40tril.
	Small-scale decoupling between camps occurs				
2050~2100	• -500bil. to -200bil.	• About -5%	• 7-20%		
	Large-scale decoupling between camps occurs				
2100	• -500bil. to -200bil.	• About -5%	• 7-20%	• 30-120tril.	• 50~430tril.

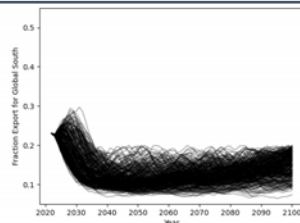
Decoupling Impact (USD)



Decoupling Impact (GDP ratio)



Percentage of exports to the Global South



Conclusion

○Japan society is facing a rapidly declining population. Under such circumstances, what are the necessary conditions for maintaining a sustainable economy and society? The answer to this model was a combination of a generous income distribution to young people, increased family spending, community stability, and aggressive investment in technology development.

○What are the conditions necessary to realize a decarbonized society? The answer to this model was to make a bold shift to renewable energy, invest in the development of CO₂ capture and storage technologies, increase domestic energy self-sufficiency, and control energy costs.

○What is Japan's desired response to the US-China decoupling? The answer this model leads to is that the most desirable thing is that decoupling does not occur. The second answer is that it should not lead to decoupling between factions. The third answer is to develop trade with the Global South.

Predicting the future using AI.

We would like to further pursue this possibility.

Thank you for your attention.