

International Inequality in Energy Footprints



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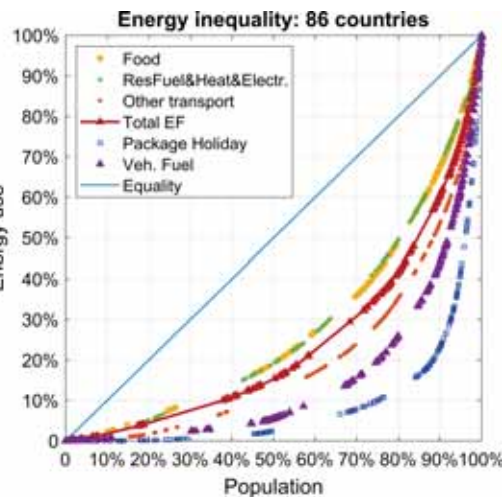
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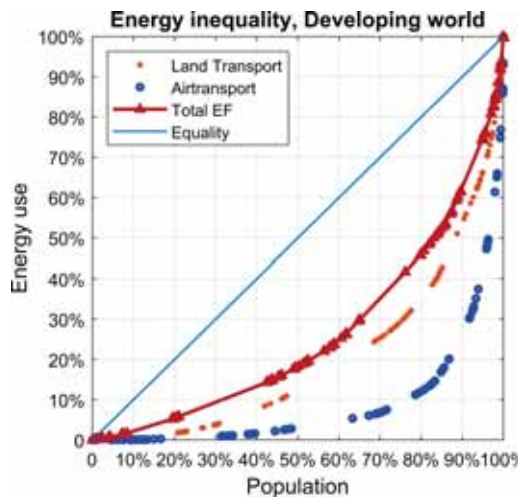
Abstract

Inequality in energy consumption, both direct and indirect, affects the distribution of benefits resulting from energy use: internationally, and within countries. Our study calculates final energy footprints: the energy embodied in goods and services across income classes in 86 both highly industrialised and developing countries. We find large disparities in the international distribution of energy footprints depending on which goods and services are considered. We analyse the energy intensity of these goods and services, as well as their income elasticity of demand. We observe a tendency for energy intensive goods to be elastic, a combination that concentrates energy footprints among high-income individuals. Our results consequently expose large inequality in international energy footprints. The bottom half of population is responsible for less than 20% of final energy footprints: less than the top 5% consume.

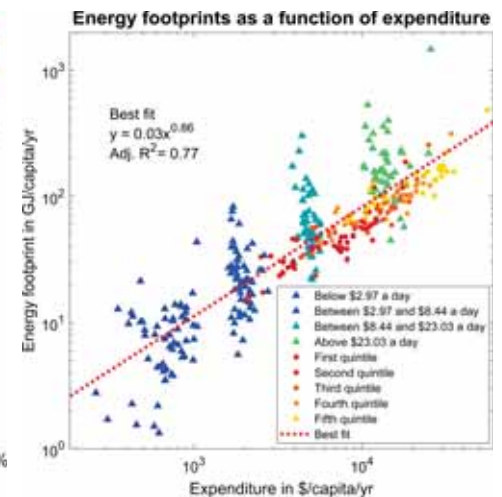
Top 5% consume more than bottom 50%



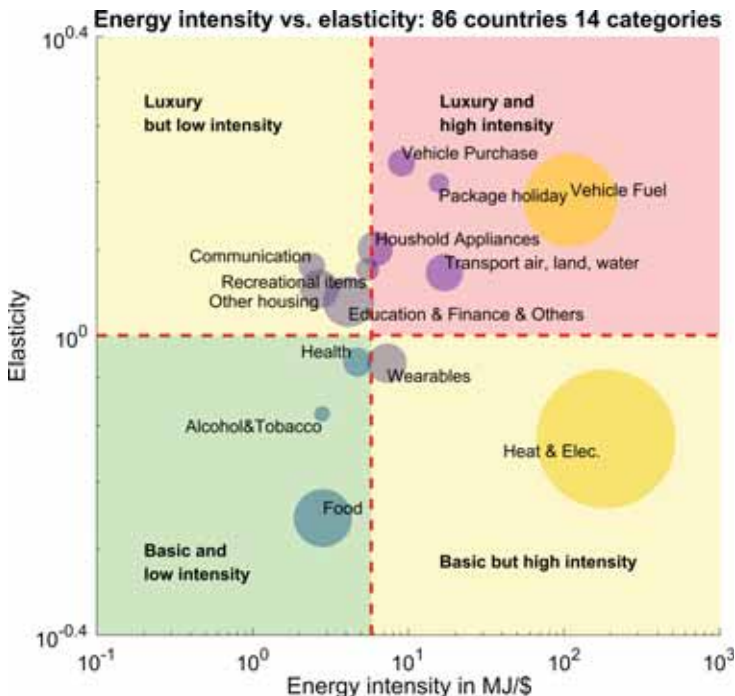
Air travel is the most unequal domain



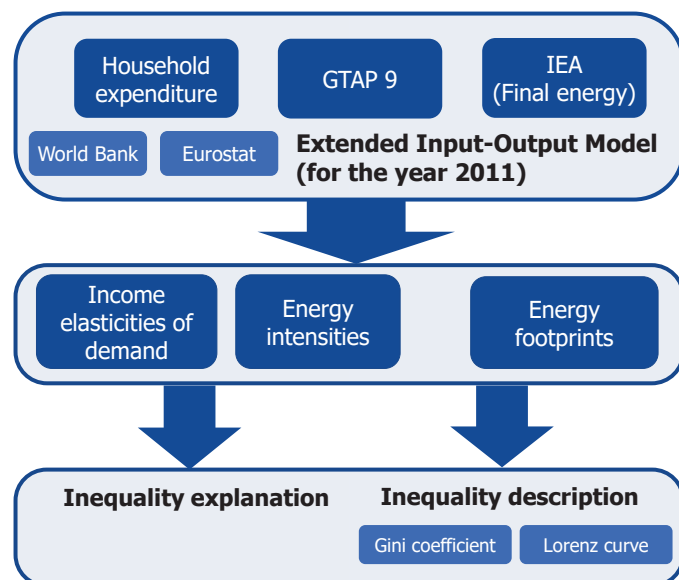
Richest use 1000x more energy per capita than poorest



The rich consume more energy intensive products



Methods & Data



On behalf of the LiLi project

