

*turning knowledge into practice*

# Assessing Comparative Advantage and Leakage in Emission Reductions from Deforestation.

*Brent Sohngen (AED Economics, Ohio State University)*

*Robert Beach (RTI, International)*

*Ken Andrasko (World Bank)*



3040 Cornwallis Road  
Phone 614-638-4640

■ P.O. Box 12194

■ Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

e-mail [Sohngen.1@osu.edu](mailto:Sohngen.1@osu.edu)

[www.rti.org](http://www.rti.org)

*RTI International is a trade name of  
Research Triangle Institute*

# Acknowledgments

- US Environmental Protection Agency (Climate Change Division, Climate Economics Branch and the STAR grants program)
  - US Department of Energy (Office of Biological and Environmental Research)
  - Climate Water and Carbon Initiative at Ohio State University
  - Massimo Tavoni & Valentina Bosetti (FEEM)
  - Michael Obersteiner (IIASA)
  - Jayant Sathaye (LBNL)
  - Brian Murray (Duke University)
  - Steven Rose (US EPA)
  - Sandra Brown (Winrock Int'l)
  - Roger Sedjo (RFF)
  - Bin Sun (Ohio State University)
- 
- For copies of papers, please email [Sohnngen.1@osu.edu](mailto:Sohnngen.1@osu.edu)

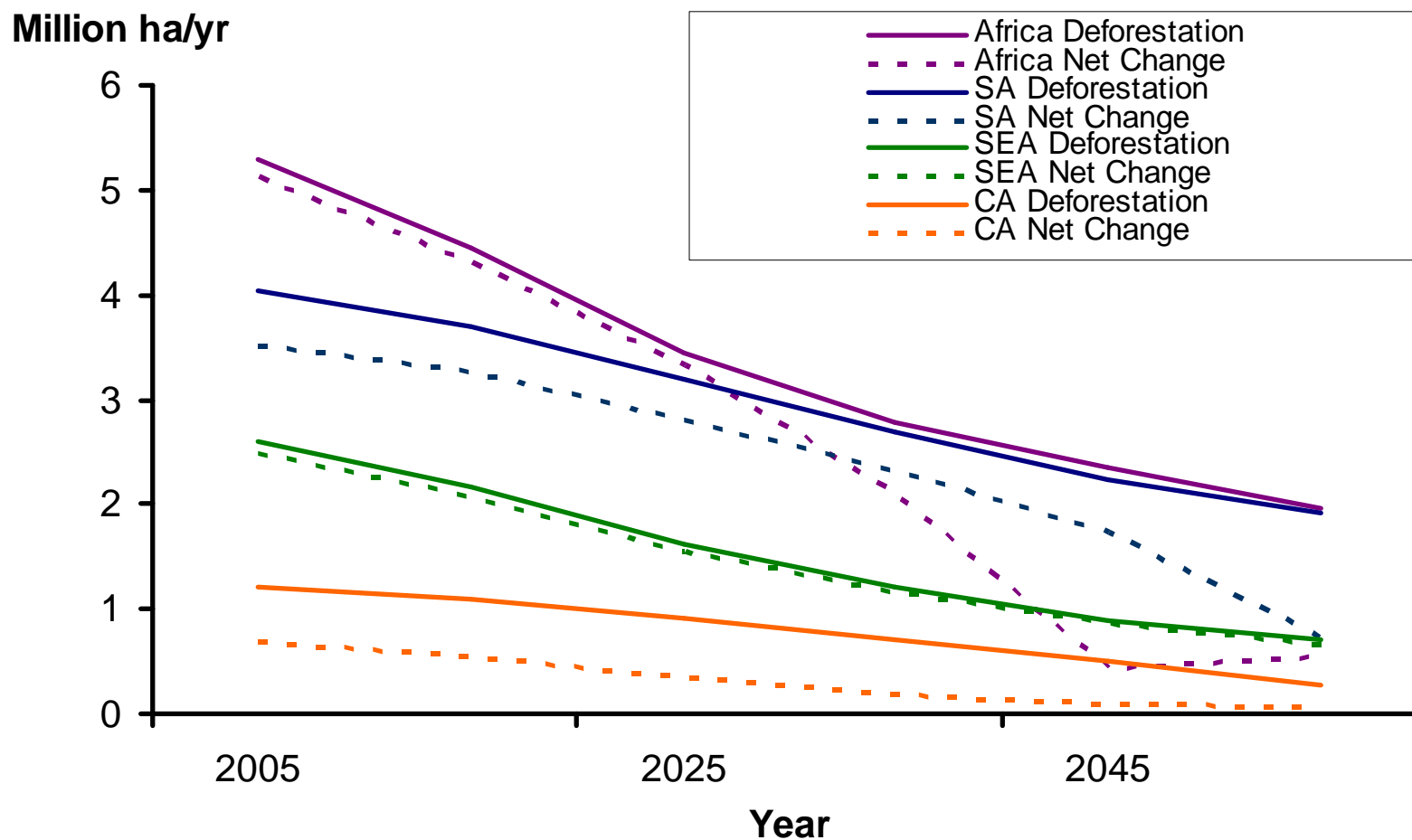
# Issues addressed

- Economic Potential by Region and Activity
  - Estimates with a global forest and land use model
  - Afforestation, Reduced Deforestation, Forest Management
  
- Could reduced deforestation affect C prices?
  
- How important is leakage? How does it affect costs?

# Global forestry and land use model

- Optimizes *harvests, management intensity, access, and forest area* from ~250 supply regions
  - ◆ Encompasses all forests in the world
  - ◆ Supply of forest land from agriculture via land rental (supply) functions.
- 200 year time horizon
  - ◆ 10 year increments.
- Results aggregated into 13 regions, although more detailed information available within each region.

# Base case annual deforestation (2005 – 2055)



# How much deforestation is this?

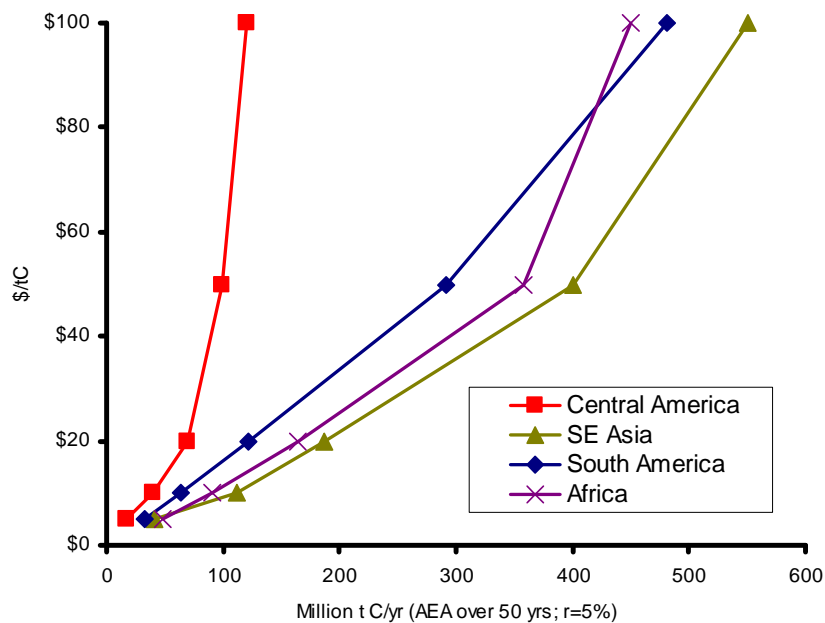
## *Baseline Case (2005-2055)*

	Area Change		Carbon Change	
	Deforest. Million ha	Net Chg. Million ha	Deforest. Cum. Pg	Net Chg. Cum. Pg
<b>2005 - 2055</b>				
South America	158.6	136.4	17.3	16.7
Central America	44.1	18.5	4.6	4.5
SE Asia	85.1	81.4	16.0	15.9
Africa	183.1	153.3	18.8	18.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>470.8</b>	<b>389.5</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>55.7</b>
<b>Avg. Annual</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>

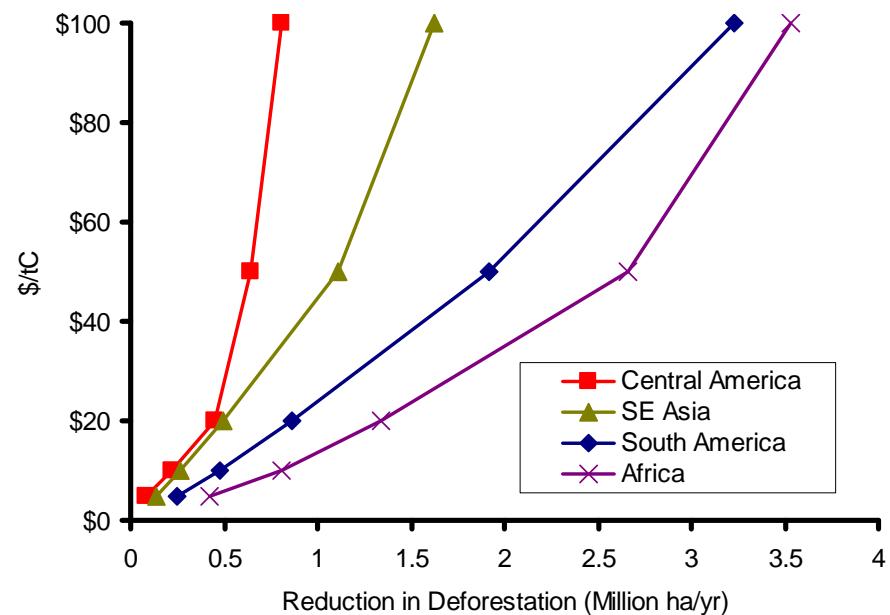
# Comparative advantage?

## Supply Curves for Reducing Deforestation (2005 – 2055)

*Carbon Supply  
(AEA - Million t C/yr)*



*Land Supply (Million ha/yr)*



# What do these C prices mean on the ground?

## Annual Rental Values (\$/ha/yr)

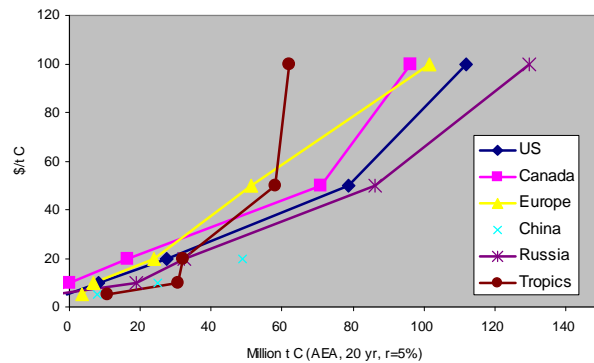
	$P^C = \$5 \text{ tC}^{-1}$	$P^C = \$50 \text{ tC}^{-1}$	$P^C = \$100 \text{ tC}^{-1}$	<u>tC/ha</u>
South Amer.	\$29.84	\$298.46	\$596.98	121
Cent. Amer.	\$23.22	\$232.66	\$465.83	94
SE Asia	\$32.93	\$329.55	\$659.37	136
Africa	\$24.97	\$249.83	\$499.79	101

**$Annual \text{ Rent/ha} = (R^c) * (tC/ha)$**

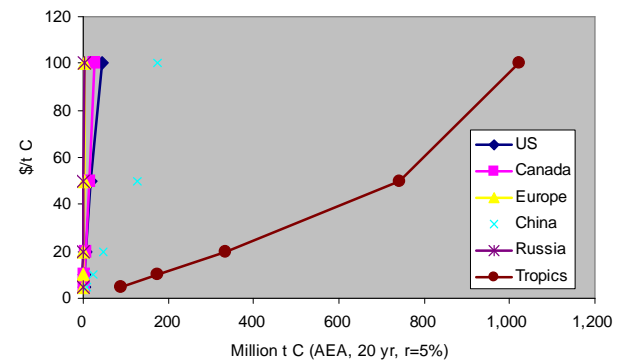
# Comparison over forest options

Constant Carbon Prices, AEA, 20 yrs,  $r=5\%$

## Aging, Mgmt, Set-Asides



## Afforestation/Red. Defor.



- For \$100/t C (\$27/t CO<sub>2</sub>), over next 20 years...

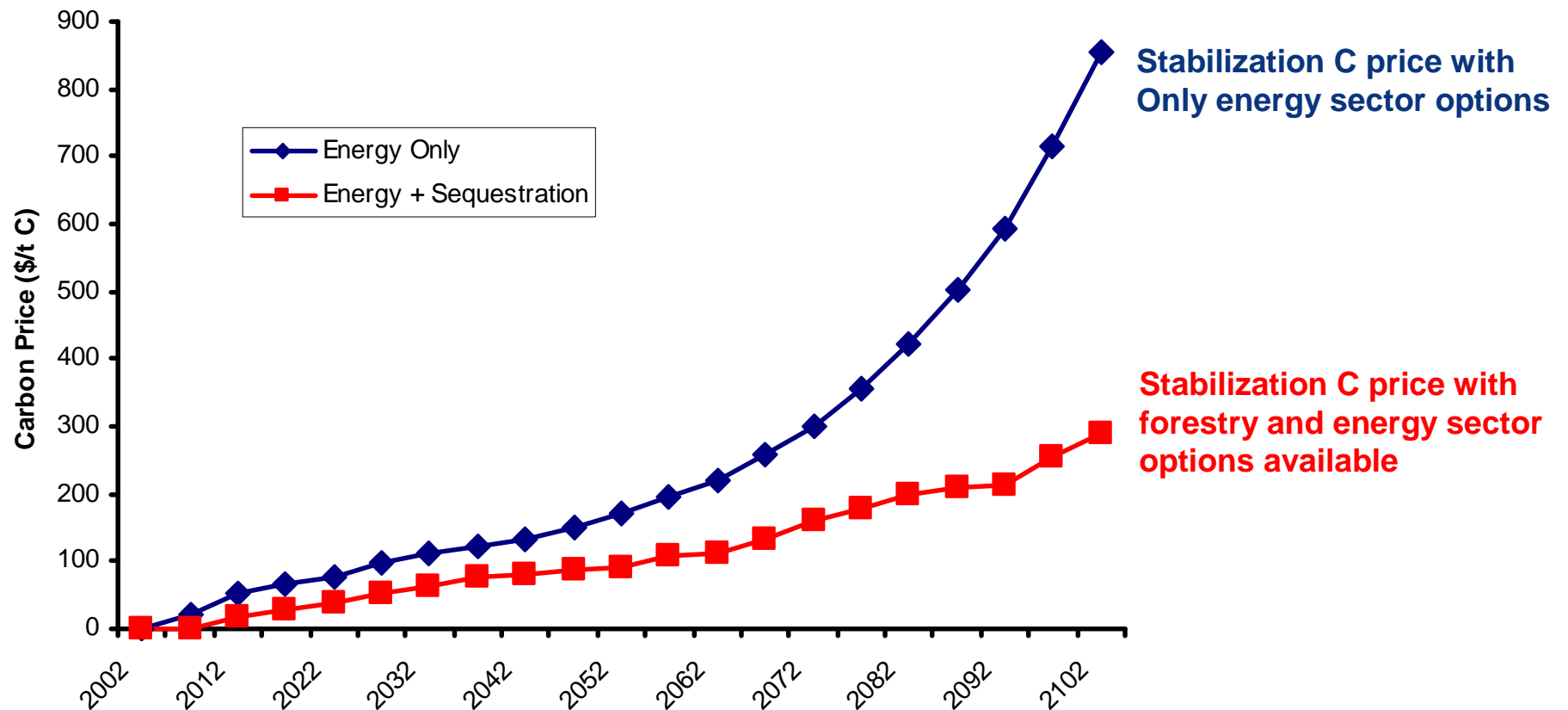
Action	Gt (Pg) C/yr	Gt (Pg) CO <sub>2</sub> /yr
Reduce Deforestation	1.0 – 1.2	3.7 – 4.4
Aging, Mgmt, Set-Asides	0.4 – 0.5	1.4 – 1.8
Afforestation	0.1 – 0.3	0.4 – 1.1

# Can land use reduce overall costs?

*Link For/Land Use model with WITCH model (Tavoni et al., 2007)*

*Examine 550 ppm stabilization policy*

- **Adding Forestry Reduces Carbon Prices by 40-50% over Century**
- Reduces Average Rate of Price Growth from >7% to 3.8% per year.



# Comprehensive approach?

- Includes all options in land use
  - Afforestation
  - Reduced deforestation
  - Forest management
  - Forest products
  - Soil carbon, including agriculture
- Accounts for carbon at the country level and adjusts the value of credits relative to country results.
- Enhances overall efficiency of program.
- A step to control/manage leakage.

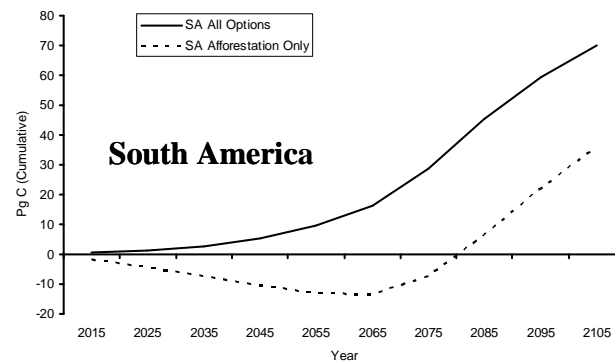
# Afforestation only vs. comprehensive approach

$PC_0 = \$18/t\ C$   
Rises to \$916 by 2100

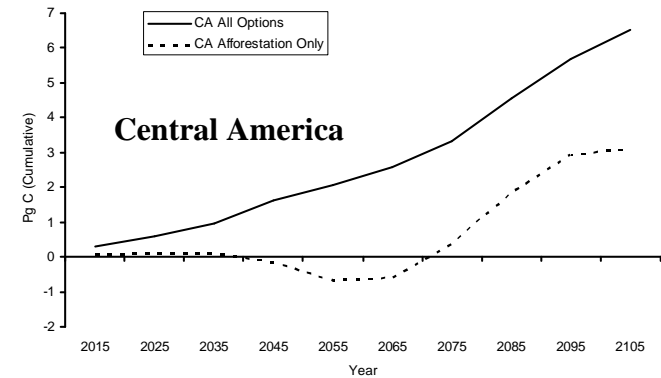
Afforestation scenario generates little net carbon in the tropics (and globally) in the near-term, suggesting large potential leakage.

Over longer-run gains are 30-50% lower than if all options included.

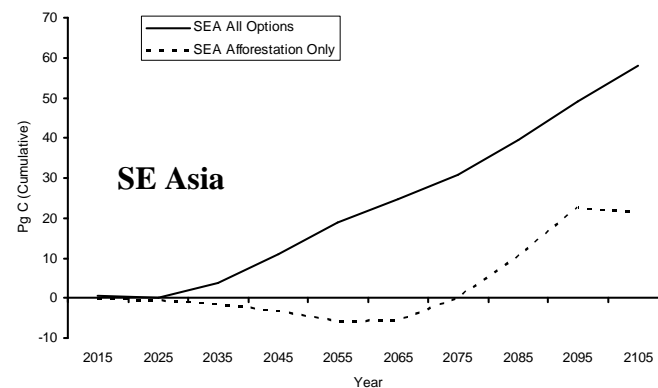
All Options vs Afforestation Only (P2)



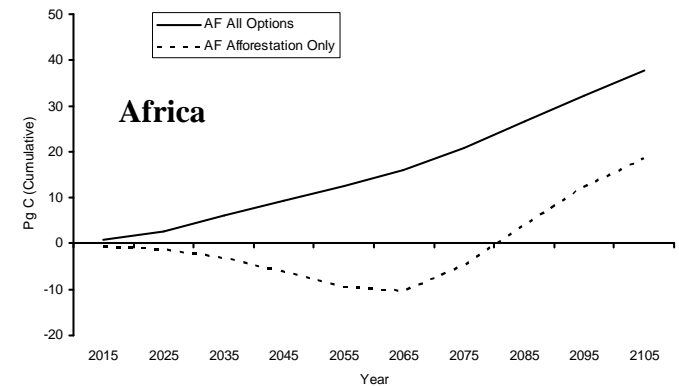
All Options vs Afforestation Only (P3)



All Options vs Afforestation Only (P3)



All Options vs Afforestation Only (P3)

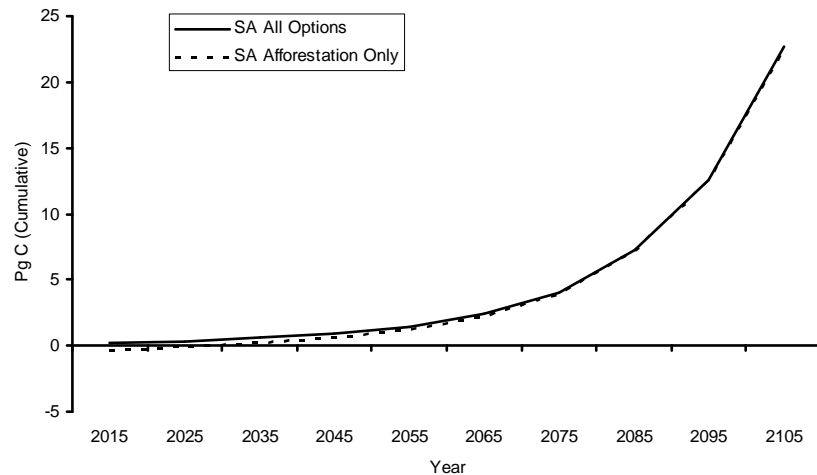


# Delaying decision on deforestation so far not too problematic...

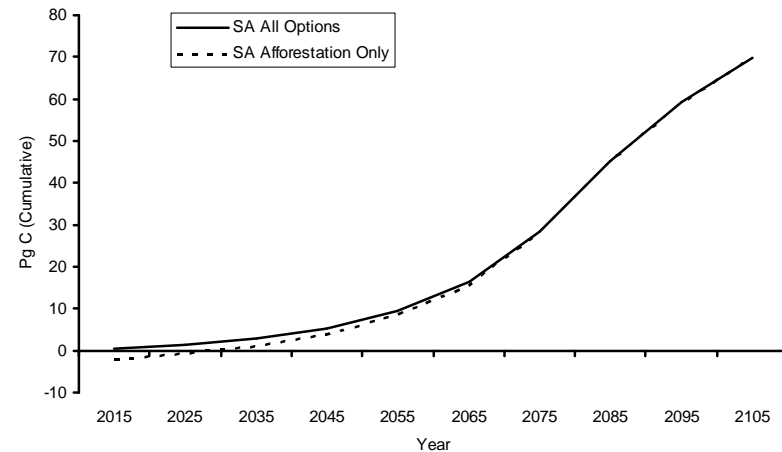
- Same price scenarios as before, but different policies
  - All options (aff./red defor/mgmt/rotations/products)
  - Afforestation only until 2025, then all options available.
- Can ultimately obtain close to the “optimal” levels of carbon in tropical forests by introducing comprehensive programs as soon as possible.

## Comparison for South America Only

All Options vs. Afforestation Only (P1)



All Options vs Afforestation Only (P2)



# Conclusions

- **Can potentially sequester 1.0 – 1.2 Pg C/yr over 20-50 years through reduced deforestation in tropics for less than \$100 per t C**
  - Cost is \$17-\$18 billion/yr.
  
- **Reducing deforestation and afforestation are a large proportion of global potential**
  - > 80% of carbon potential in tropics.
  - **Note:** Things that increase land opportunity costs, e.g. biofuels, would also increase costs of reducing deforestation.
  
- **Scale of carbon could be large enough to influence carbon prices if traded globally.**
  - Under stabilization policy analyzed, up to 50% reduction in C prices in global market.
  
- **Focusing only on afforestation reduces efficiency (e.g. leakage occurs)**