

Les Houches – 10 mars 2016

# GROWTH, PRODUCTIVITY AND OIL HISTORY

## The Gordon knot

Michel Lepetit

## Neo-physiocrats “smart grid”

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**The Shift Project** Vice-President, *low carbon leading think tank*

**Global Warning** CEO, *Energy climate and finance strategy*

**SFTE** Spokesman, *Juncker Plan N°1 Energy Efficiency Investment program*

**Riskergy** Spokesman, *Forward-looking credit rating for sovereign risks taking into account energy*

**LIED** Research fellow, *Laboratoire interdisciplinaire des énergies de demain*

**Beyond Ratings** Co-founder, *Energy & Climate Risks matters for sovereign debts*

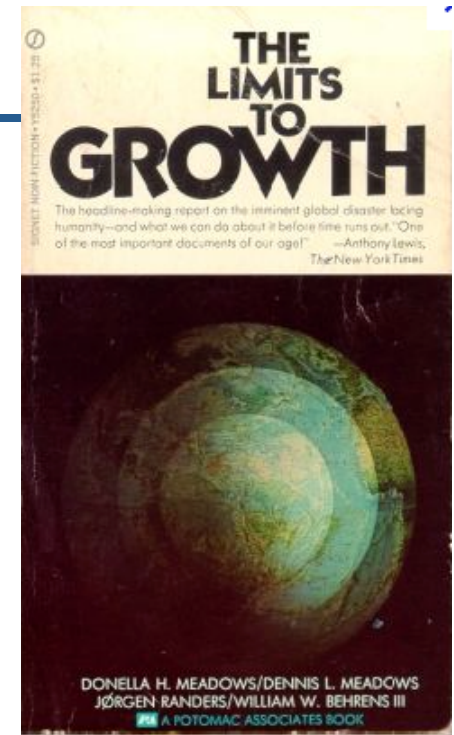
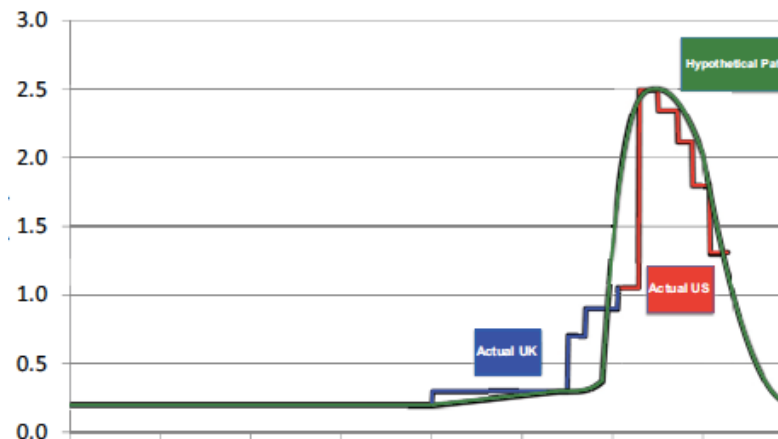
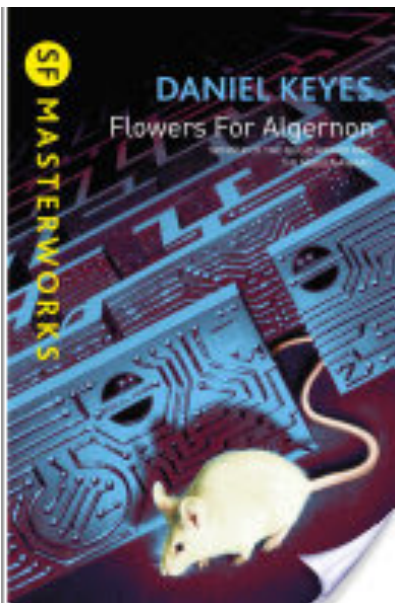
**CEC-R-CEC 173** Spokesman, *Bank club on regulation and climate risks*

**ASPO France** member

**Academic Chair in economics Energy & Prosperity**, 26/04 event : *Secular Stagnation and Energy*

## We are Charlie ?

- **Daniel Keyes in the Sixties**
- **Rise & fall :**  $60QI \times 3$  then  $\div 3$
- **S&F best seller :** Technology & science ...  
& society from inside



# Flowers for humanity ?

- **SECULAR STAGNATION**

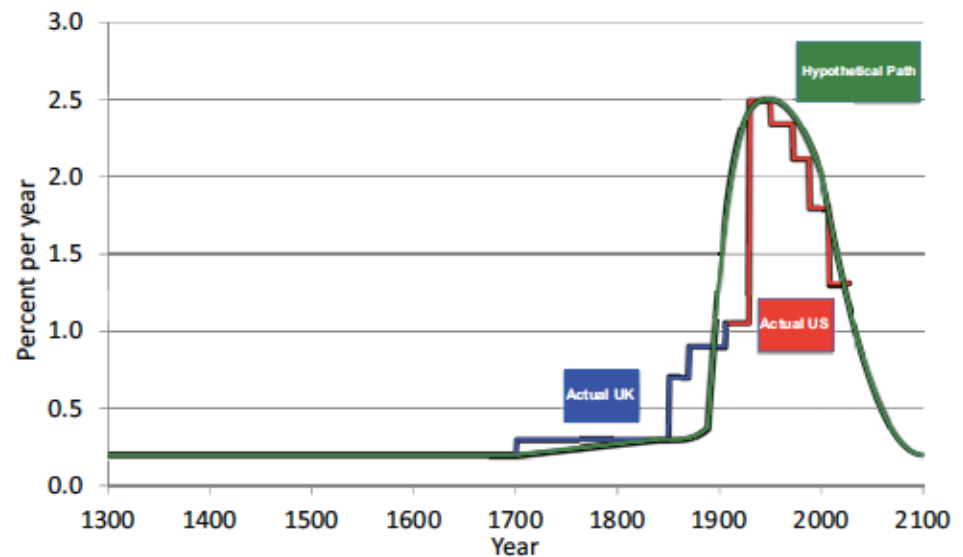
global debate among economists

- **Robert J. GORDON**

worldwide famous work on productivity

- *Energy & Crude oil*
- *World view*
- *1951-2015 time span*
- *Money*
- *History and data*

Figure 2 Growth in real GDP per capita, 1300-2100, with actual and hypothetical paths



Gordon 2012 CEPR

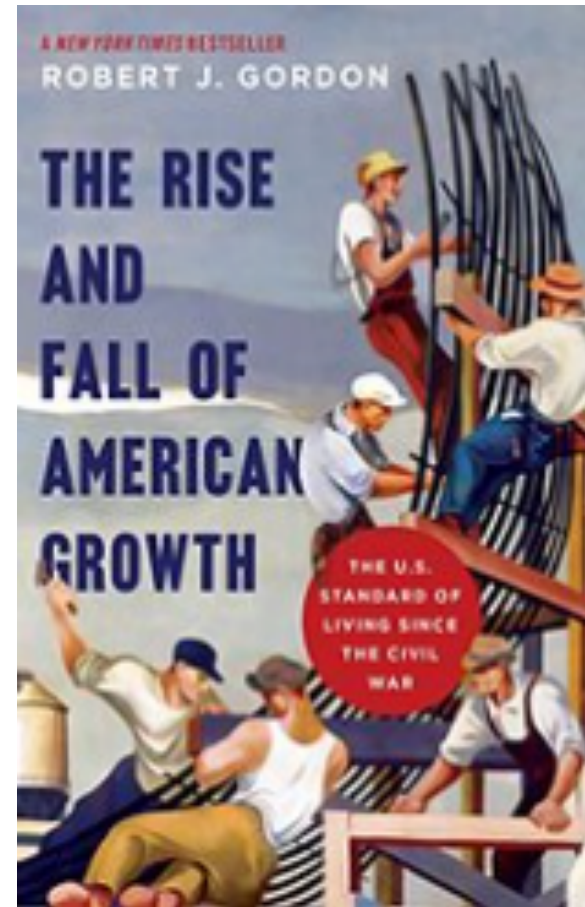
## Presentation road map

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- (I) Analysis of Gordon's *Rise and Fall of American growth*
  - Rise & fall pattern
  - Focus on the Great Transition : 1973-1982
  - Great inventions and the GPT concept (General Purpose Technology)
- (II) Explaining the key role of energy :
  - The 1970s crisis historical analysis (a priori and a posteriori)
  - Money does exist : Financial symptoms of the crisis

## R&FAG (784p) : A masterwork with three key assumptions

- Rise and Fall U.S. pattern
  - 1870-1970
  - Then secular stagnation
- The role of progress
  - The solowian view : K, L and TFP
  - Innovations and technology
- The 1970s as pivotal years
  - No new key innovations since



## The 1970s

**Table 1.**

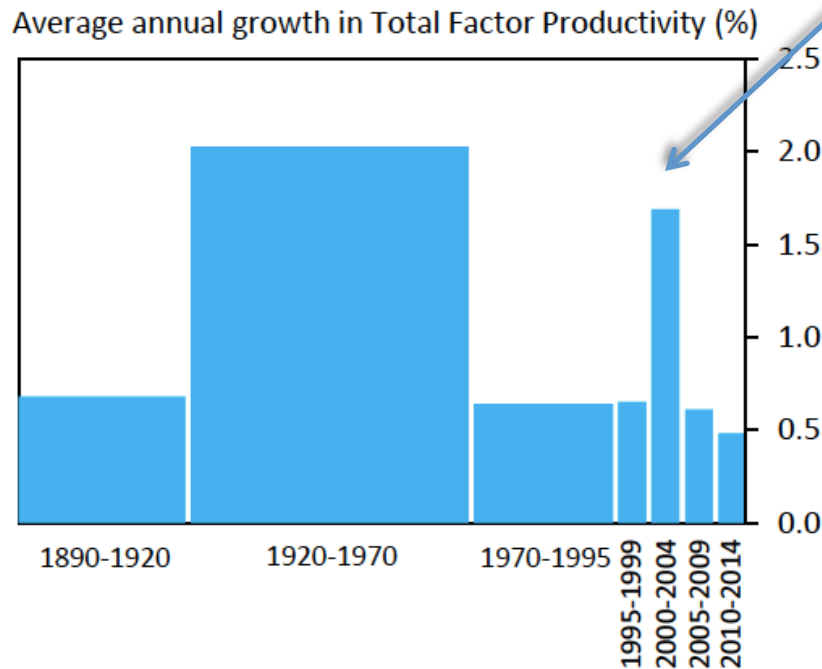
**Growth Rates of Variables in the Output Identity Across Specific Intervals**

Interval	Output	Labor Productivity	Hours Ratio ("Bridge Term")	Hours per Employee	Employment Rate	Labor Force Participation Rate	Working Age Population
1950:Q2 - 1972:Q1	3.89	2.62	0.06	-0.27	-0.01	0.08	1.40
1972:Q1 - 1996:Q1	3.03	1.42	-0.27	0.03	0.01	0.41	1.42
1996:Q1 - 2004:Q1	3.42	2.45	-0.12	-0.06	-0.02	-0.09	1.26
2004:Q1 - 2014:Q2	1.57	1.17	0.05	-0.14	-0.06	-0.49	1.04

*Gordon*

## Good old days of TFP

Chart C19: History of US TFP Growth



Source: [Gordon \(2014\)](#)

*GORDON on ICT :*

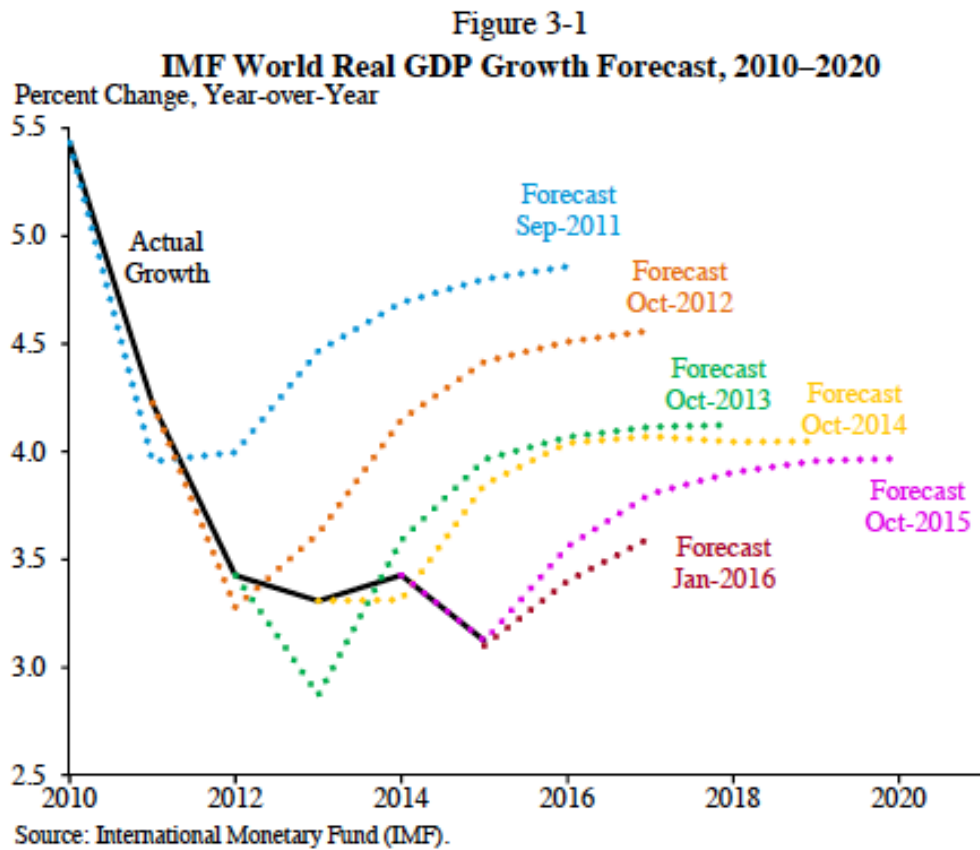
*Option B is that you get everything invented in the past decade right up to Facebook, Twitter, and the iPad, but you have to give up running water and indoor toilets. You have to haul the water into your dwelling and carry out the waste. Even at 3am on a rainy night, your only toilet option is a wet and perhaps muddy walk to the outhouse.*

*Which option do you choose?*

*Gordon 2012 CEPR*



# ALPLBT macroeconomic model



2017  
2027

FRANCE STRATÉGIE  
ÉVALUER. ANTICIPER. DÉBATTIR. PROPOSER.

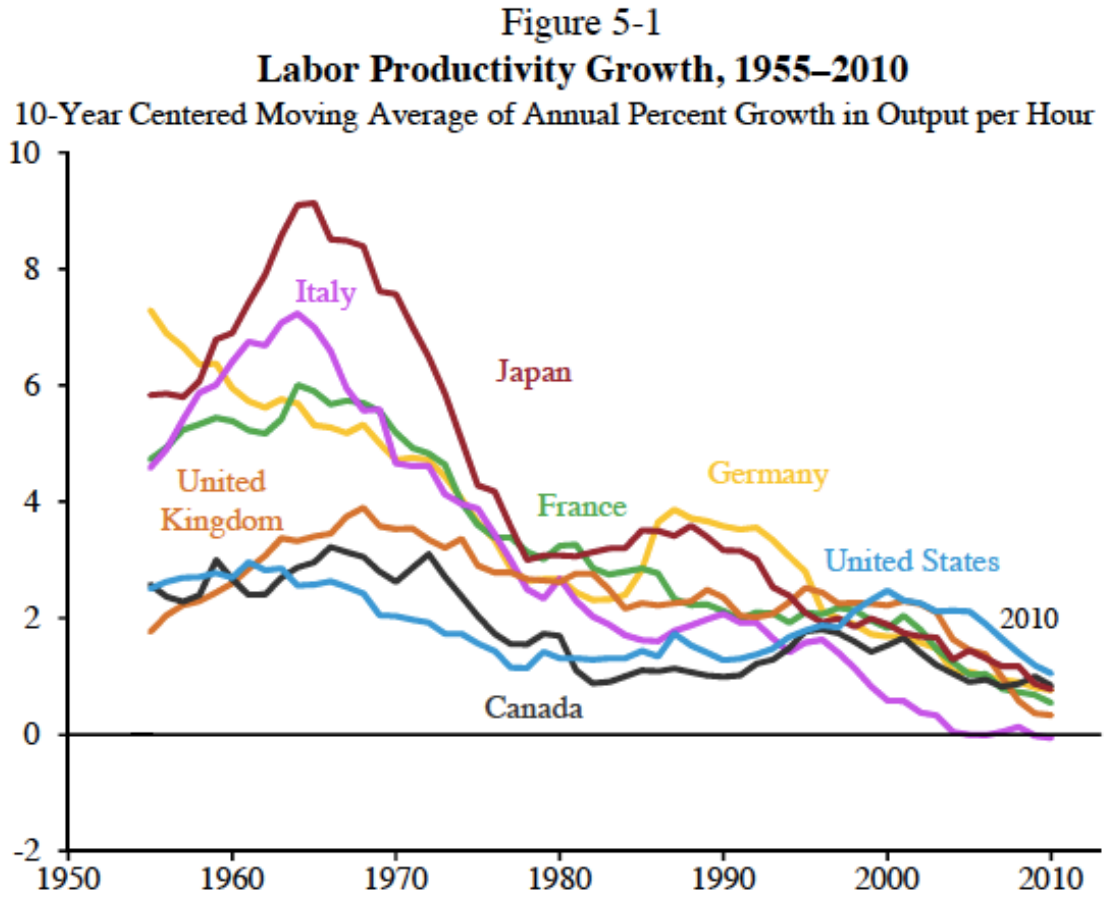
**LA CROISSANCE MONDIALE D'UNE DÉCENNIE À L'AUTRE**  
ENJEUX

La croissance mondiale aura connu un ralentissement important sur la décennie 2007-2016 et plusieurs facteurs devraient continuer à peser en ce sens à partir de 2017.

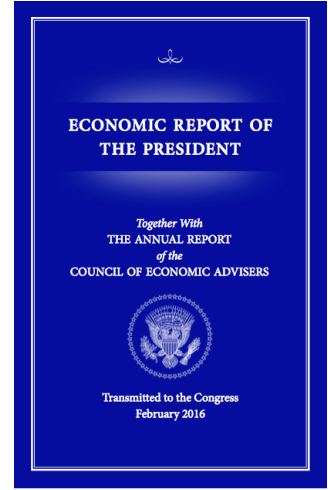
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ALPLBT : Asymptotic Long-term Productivity Limit Back to Trend

# Global warning ...



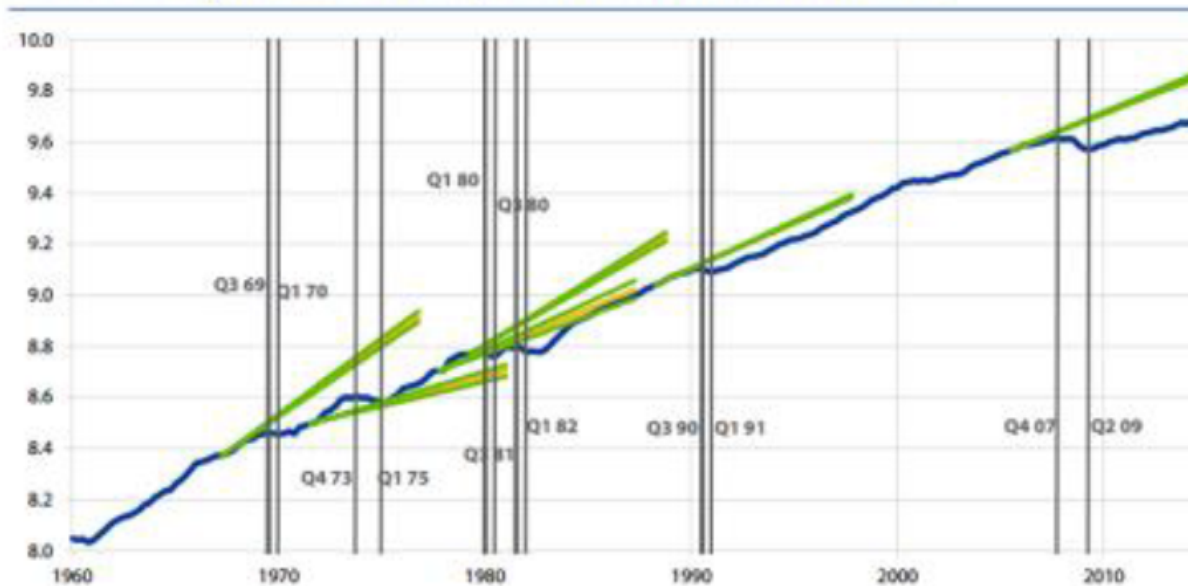
Source: Conference Board, Total Economy Database; CEA calculations.



## Deceleration ...

### Hysteresis A Frequent Event

Evolution of log real GDP and extrapolated trends for the United States



Sources: Blanchard, Cerutti and Summers

4

# China warning ...



Note: Industrial electricity consumption is "secondary industry" consumption. Real GDP is year-to-year percent change.

Source: China National Bureau of Statistics; State Administration of Foreign Exchange; China Electricity Council; Haver Analytics.

## Preliminary analysis of *Rise & Fall*

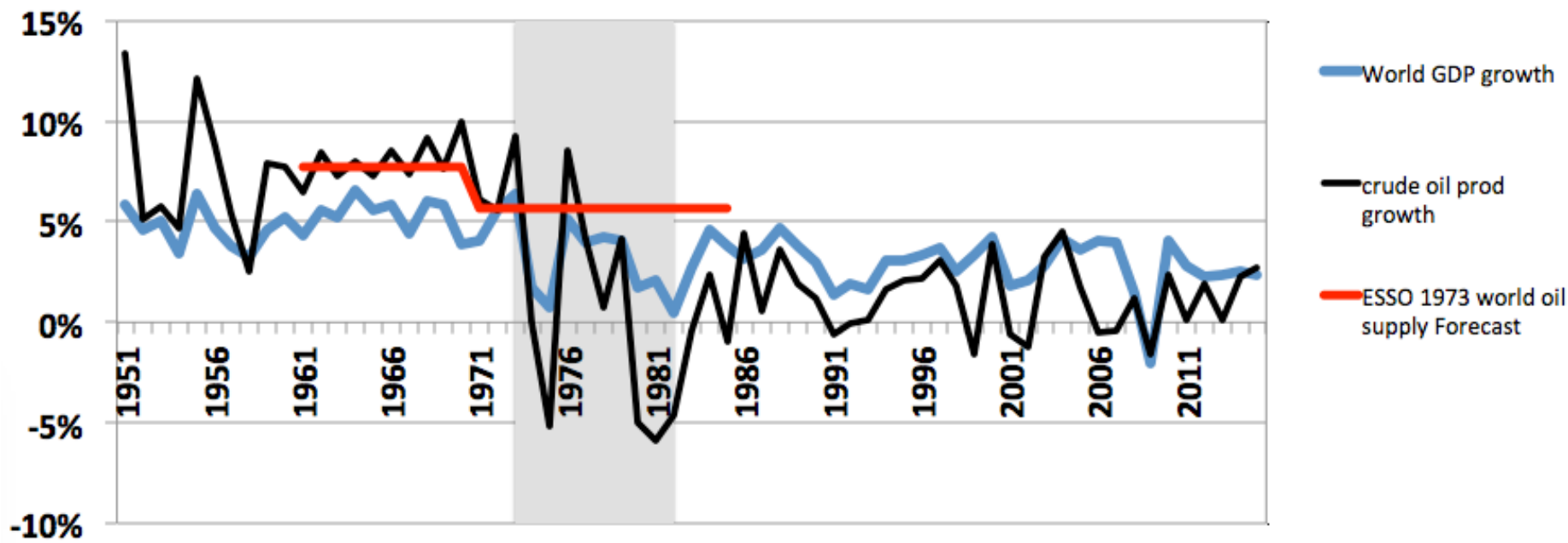
- A world without energy => crude oil
- A world without money => currency & credit
- A world without RoW => World
- A past without events => History of the 1970s

# Rise and fall

per year	1951-1973	1982-2015
World GDP Growth	4,9%	3,2%
World oil supply Growth	7,6%	1,2%

GlobalWarning 2016

World GDP growth - World Oil growth  
1951 - 2015 (est.)

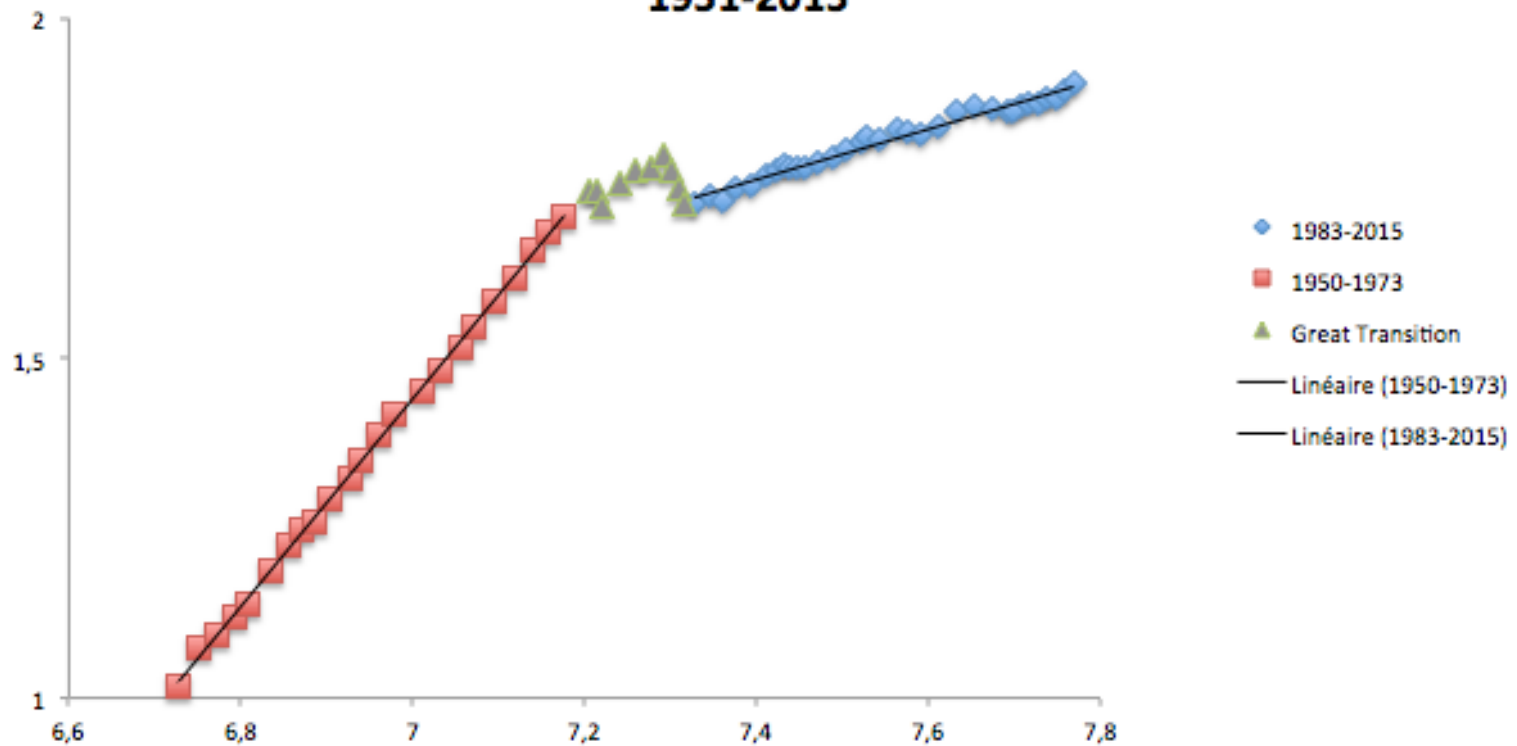


Sources : EIA, WBk, Etenad, Maddison project, GW

# 1973 and 1982 : THE GREAT TRANSITION

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### Log/log World crude oil supply / World GDP 1951-2015



Sources : EIA, WBk, Etenad, Maddison project, GW

## INVENTIONS AND GPT ... & JM Jancovici

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*The two most important inventions of the late nineteenth century were electric light and power and the internal combustion engine, and these are often described as 'general purpose technology' (GPT) that can lead to the creation of many subinventions.*

*Subinventions made possible by **electricity** as a GPT are such fundamental drivers of productivity as elevators; electric hand and machine tools; electric streetcars, elevated trains, and underground subways; the whole host of consumer appliances (...).*

*A similar list of subinventions made possible by the **internal combustion engine** as a GPT includes the car, truck, bus, and taxi; supermarkets; suburbs; and all the aspects of personal travel, including motels and roadside restaurants, as well as air travel.*



## LESLIE WHITE -

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*This leaves us, then, three factors to be considered in any cultural situation:*

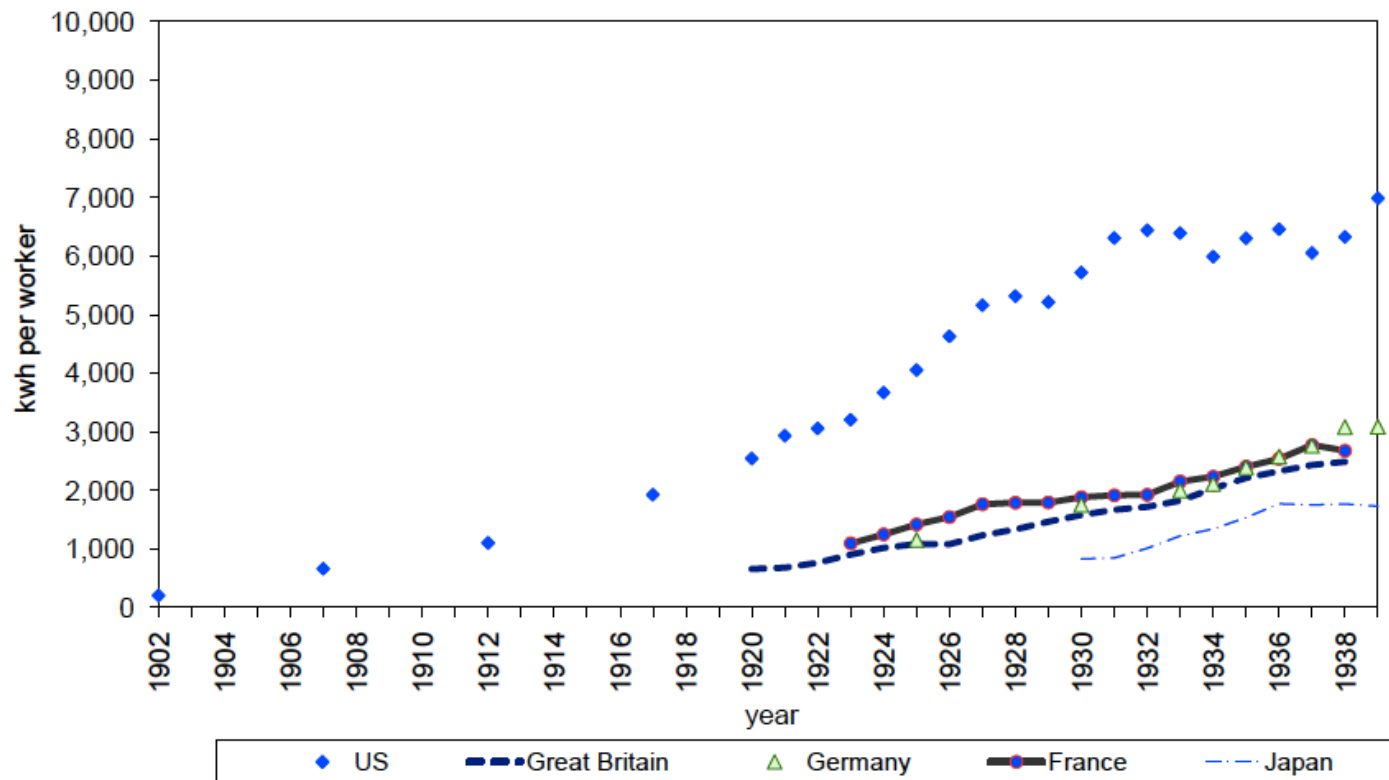
- (1) the amount of energy per capita per unit of time harnessed and put to work within the culture,*
- (2) the technological means with which this energy is expended, and*
- (3) the human need-serving product that accrues from the expenditure of energy.*

*We may express the relationship between these factors in the following simple formula:  $E \times T = P$ , in which  $E$  represents the amount of **energy** expended per capita per unit of time,  $T$  the **technological** means of its expenditure, and  $P$  the magnitude of the **product** per unit of time.*

*“Energy and the evolution of culture”  
American Anthropologist, 1945*

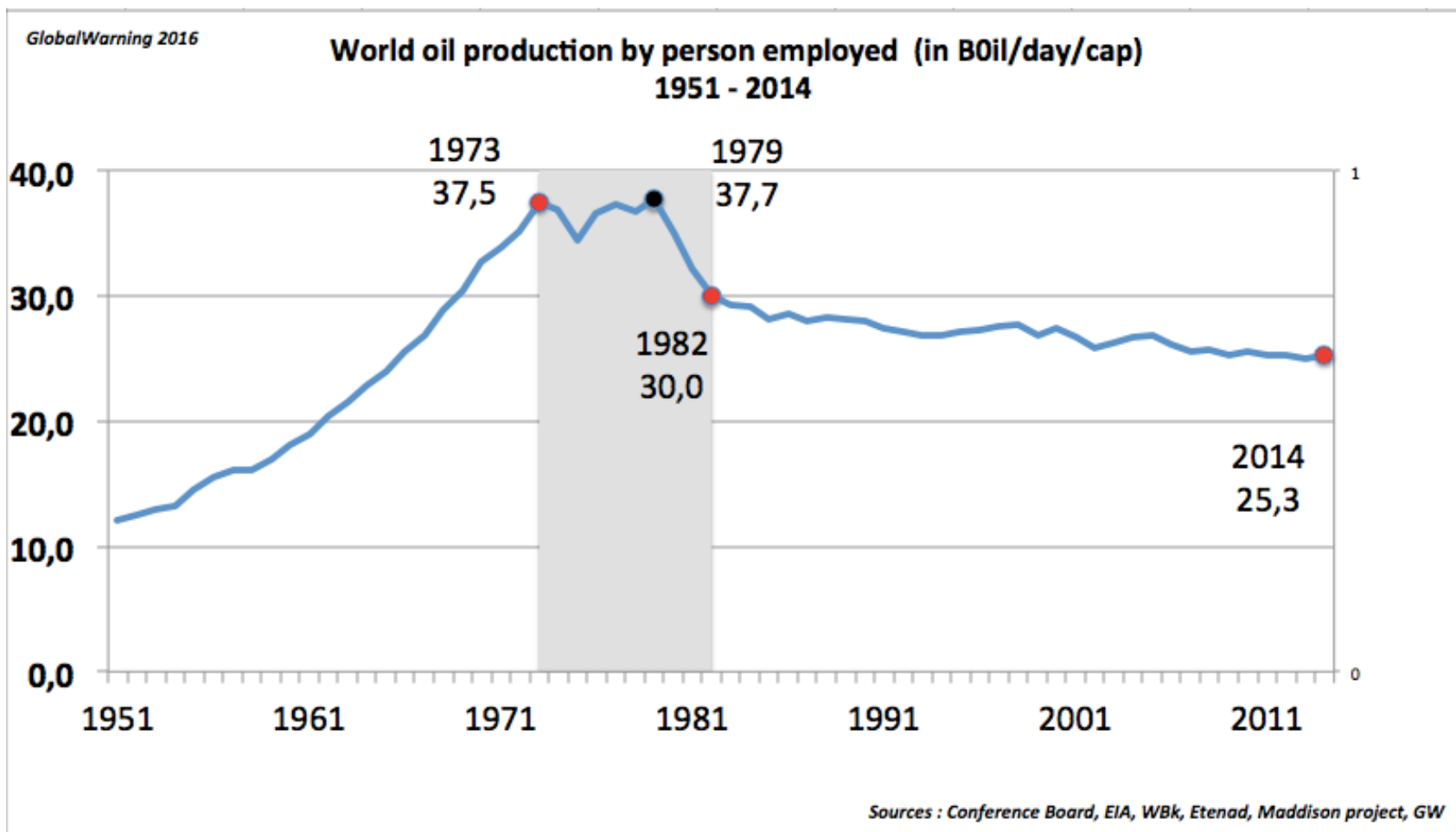
## Can GPT explain economic growth ?

Figure 2. Consumption of electricity per employee in the manufacturing sector

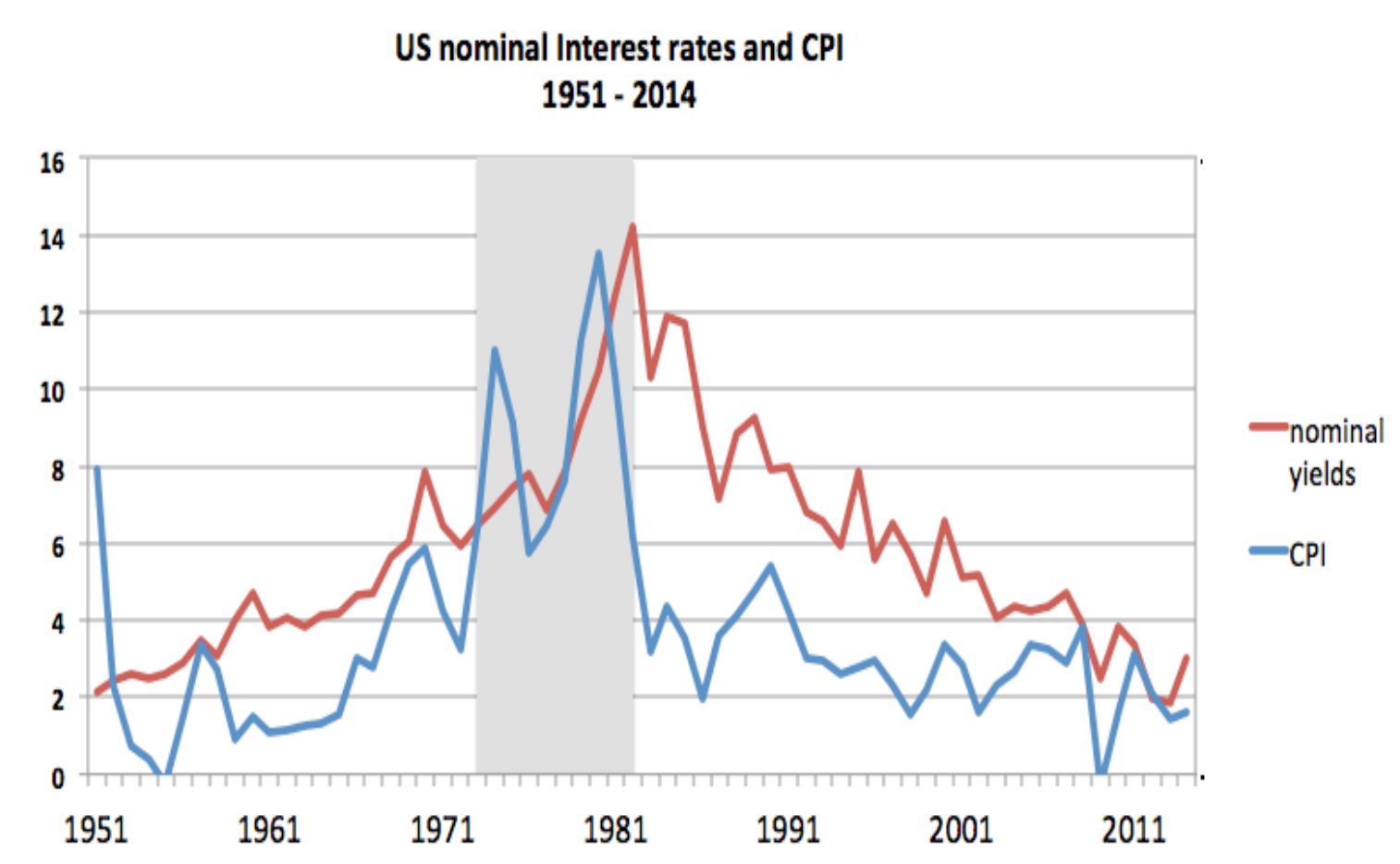


Ristuccia and Solomu 2014

## RISE AND FALL : Labour productivity ? ICE with less OIL ?



## Toward the ZLB, long time before 2008 ...



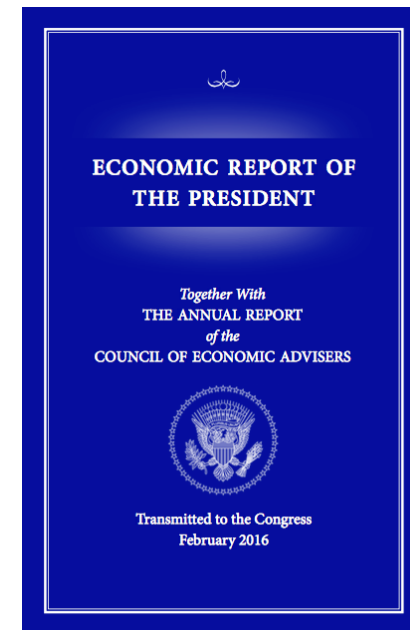
## Deflation of inflation

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***Global inflation in 2015 is on pace to be at its lowest rate since 2009, and barring 2009, its lowest rate since at least 1980.***

*Out of the 20 G-20 economies, 8 (including 6 of the 7 G-7 countries) had four-quarter inflation rates below 1 percent in the third quarter of 2015, and three of them with rates below zero.*

*All of the world's major advanced economies had rates below their target*



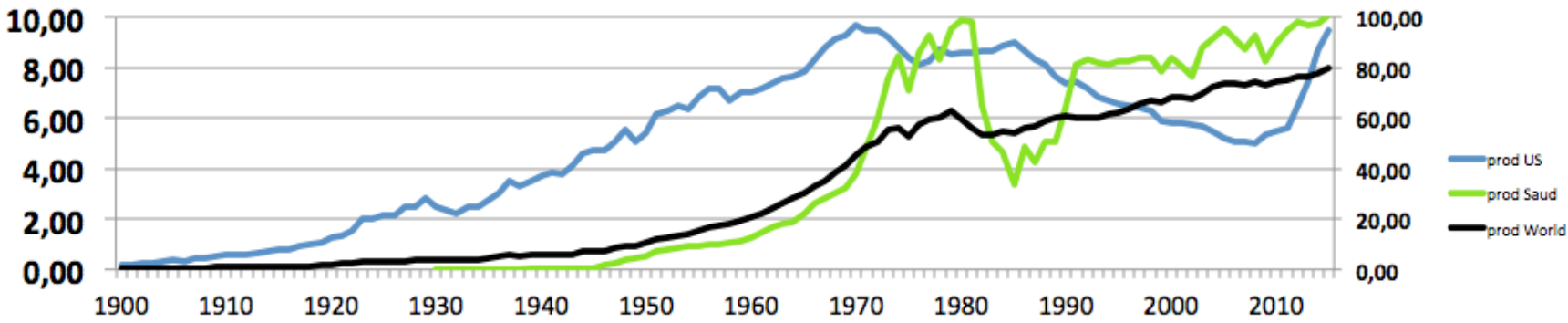
## HISTORY & energy-GDP causation : the POGW theory

- The 1970s crisis : the unsustainable (*Cure*) 1950s & 1960s
  - Unsustainable for Saudi
  - Unsustainable for the World : Esso forecast
  - Unsustainable for US : the end of Bretton Woods
- A posteriori constraint proof: the 2007-2009 GFC episode
- History of finance

# Unsustainable for Saudi : secular nation ?

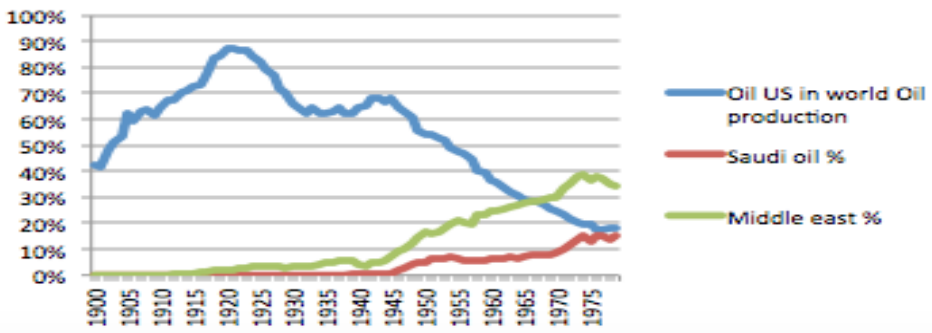
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World crude Oil production (MBO/d)  
1900 - 2015 (est.)



Sources : EIA, Etenad, GW

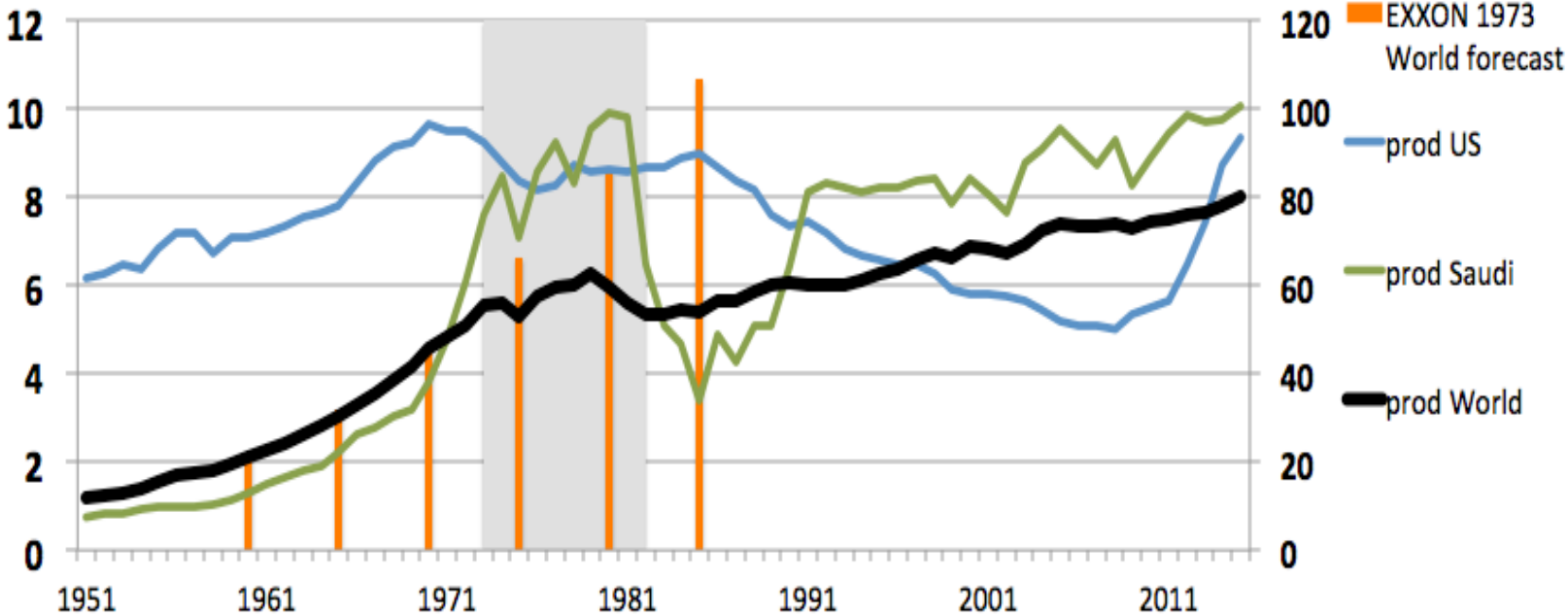
shares



# Unsustainable for the world : Kippur war as a pretext

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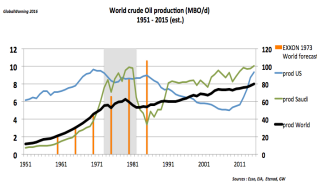
### World crude Oil production (MBO/d) 1951 - 2015 (est.)



Sources : Esso, EIA, Etenad, GW

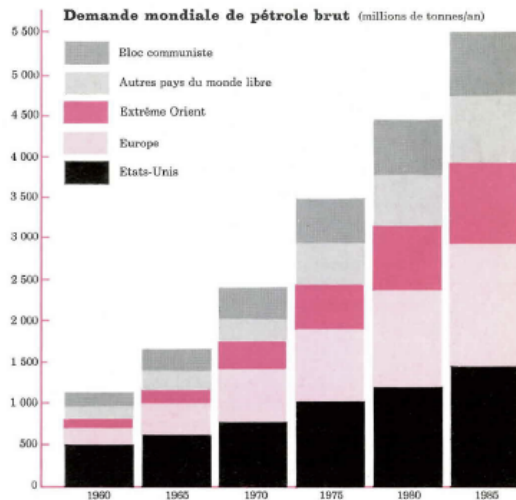


“If something cannot go on forever, it will stop.” Herb Stein



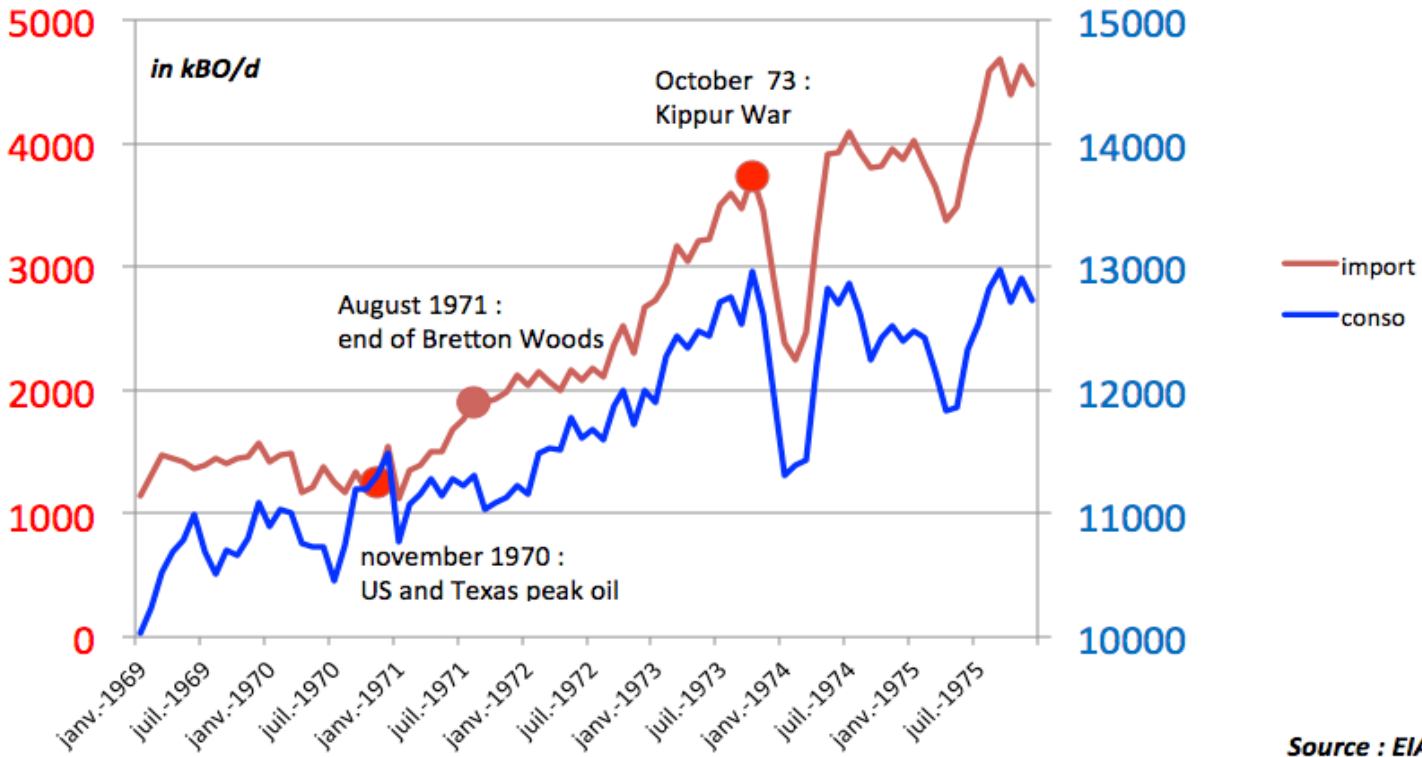
PERSPECTIVES  
MONDIALES  
DE L'ÉNERGIE

Si l'on essaie d'extrapoler ces perspectives pétrolières jusqu'en l'an 2000, les dimensions du problème deviennent alors véritablement vertigineuses. En supposant que la demande augmente annuellement entre 1985 et 2000 à la même cadence que durant les 15 années précédentes (1970-1985), la consommation en 2000 atteindra plus de 10 milliards de tonnes par an. Dans le cas où la production atteindrait un tel niveau, les quantités cumulées produites seraient voisines ou dépasseraient même l'ensemble des réserves récupérables telles qu'on les évalue aujourd'hui. On voit ainsi combien



# Unsustainable for United States

US crude oil import (LSH) and consumption (RHS) 1969 - 1975



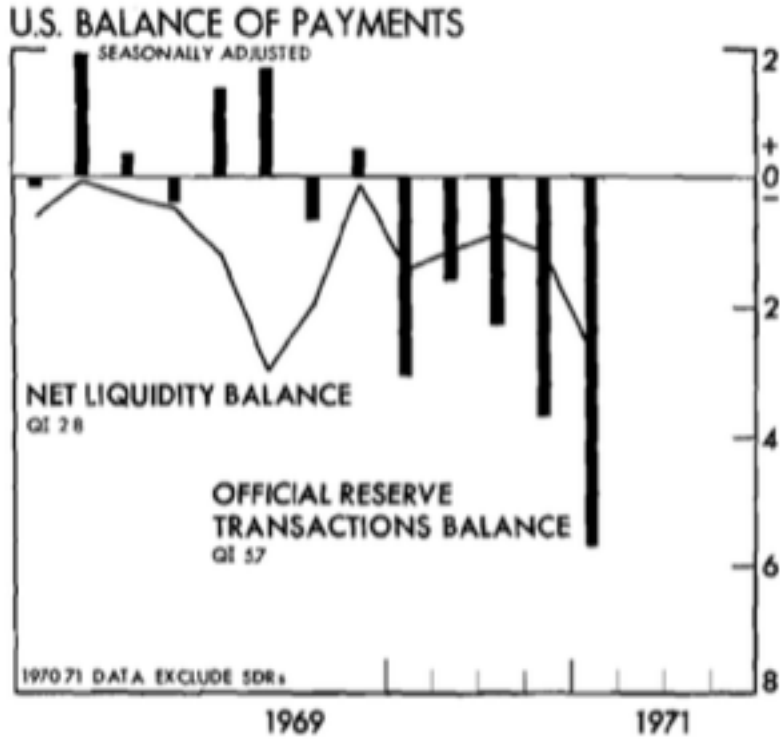
Oil price : from 1,21\$/B (1970) to 10,97\$/B(1974)

# Unsustainable for United States

IV-C-1

7/20/71

## U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



**RICHARD NIXON**  
*XXXVII President of the United States: 1969-1974*

**195 - Special Message to the Congress on Energy Resources.**  
*June 4, 1971*

To the Congress of the United States:

For most of our history, a plentiful supply of energy is something the American people have taken very much for granted. In the past twenty years alone, we have been able to double our consumption of energy without exhausting the supply. But the assumption that sufficient energy will always be readily available has been brought sharply into question within the last year. The brownouts that have affected some areas of our country, the possible shortages of fuel that were threatened last fall, the sharp increases in certain fuel prices and our growing awareness of the environmental consequences of energy production have all demonstrated that we cannot take our energy supply for granted any longer.

# Unsustainable for United States



**RICHARD NIXON**

*XXXVII President of the United States: 1969-1974*

**264 - Address to the Nation Outlining a New Economic Policy: "The Challenge of Peace."**

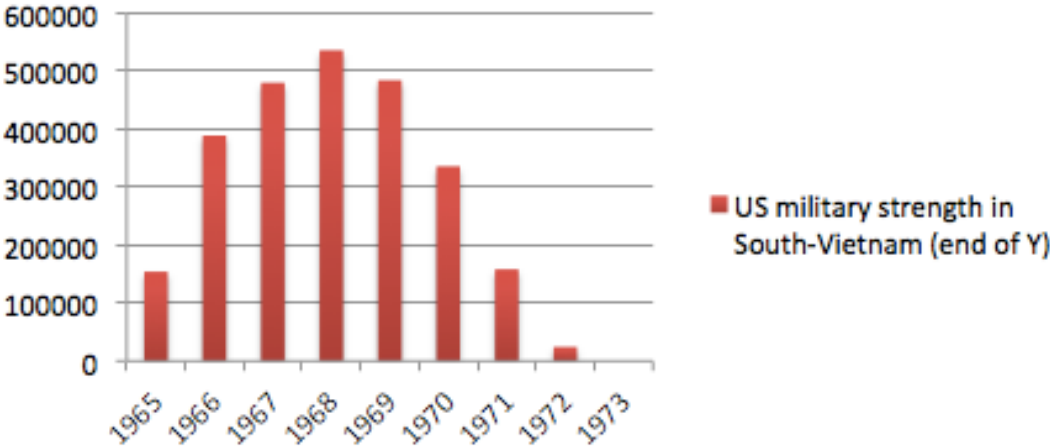
*August 15, 1971*

Good evening:

I have addressed the Nation a number of times over the past 2 years on the problems of ending a war. Because of the progress we have made toward achieving that goal, this Sunday evening is an appropriate time for us to turn our attention to the challenges of peace.

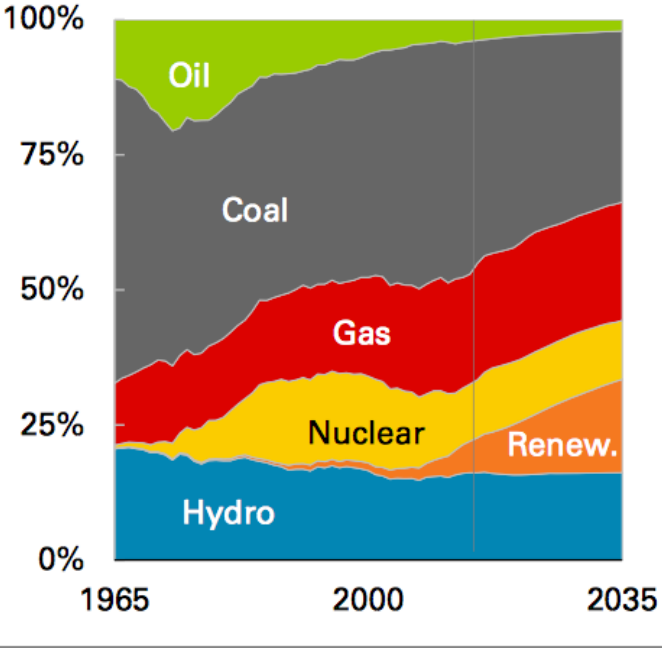
America today has the best opportunity in this century to achieve two of its greatest ideals: to bring about a full generation of peace, and to create a new prosperity without war.

### US military strength in South-Vietnam (end of Y)



# Price elasticity of oil is not what is used to be ...

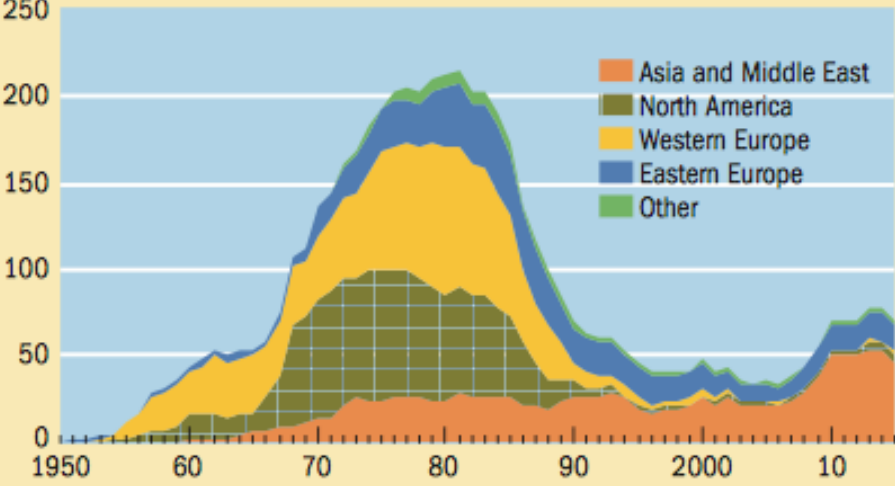
Primary inputs to power



© BP p.l.c. 2016

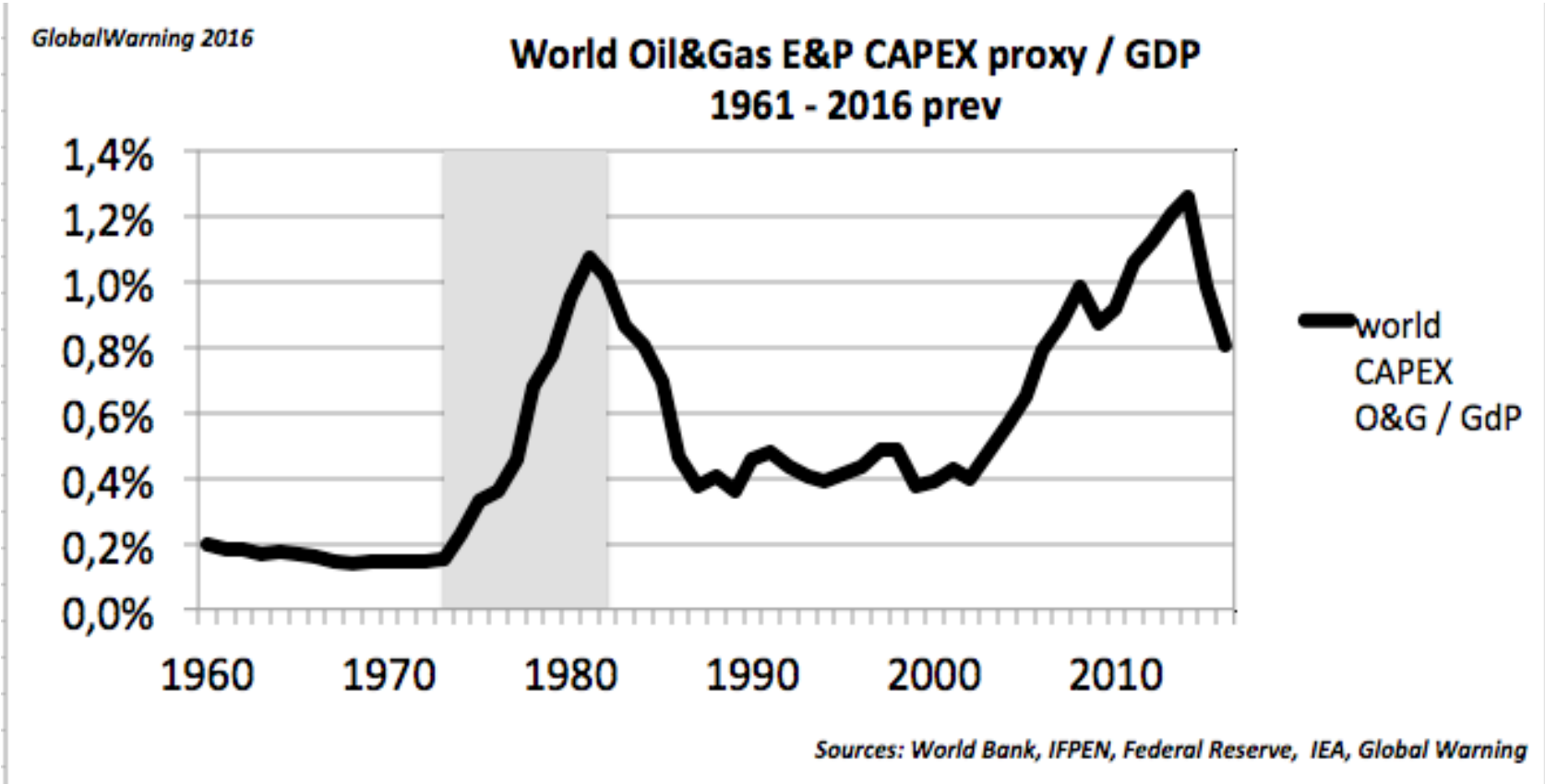
## Going nuclear

Construction of nuclear reactors peaked in the late 1970s.  
(number of nuclear reactors under construction worldwide)



Source: International Atomic Energy Agency, 2015, Nuclear Power Reactors in the World.

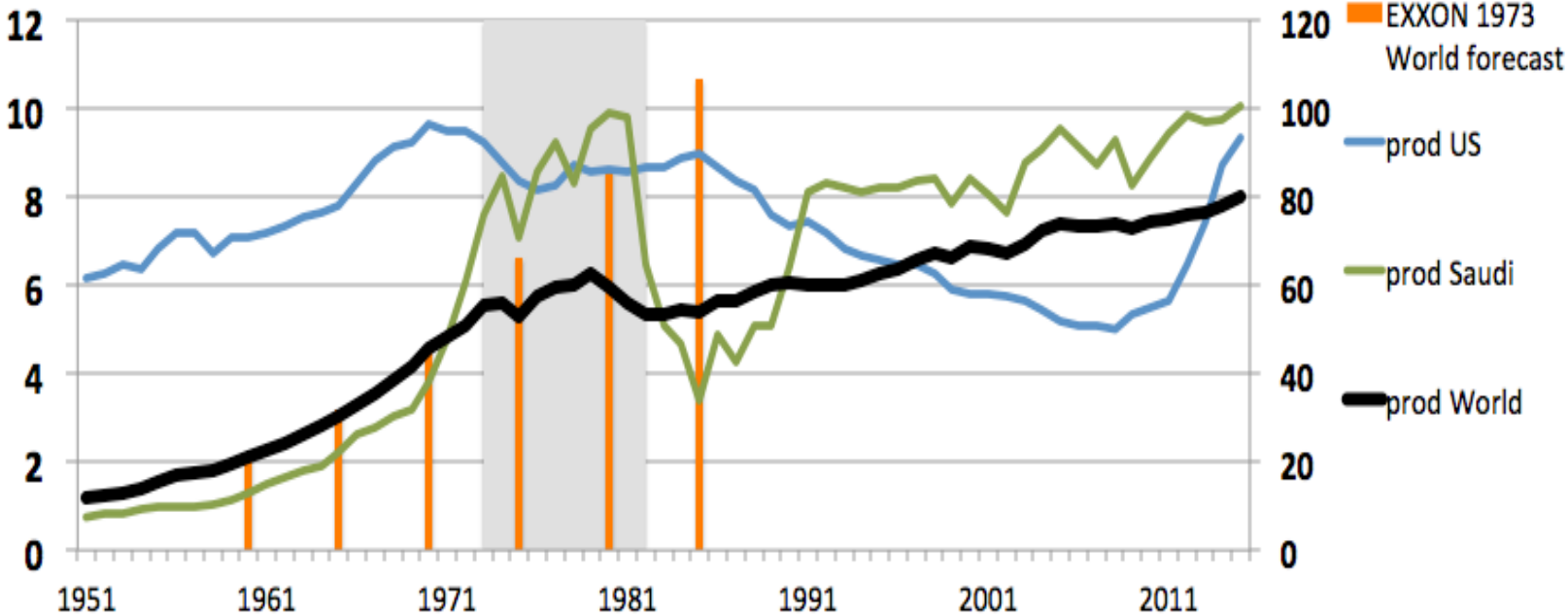
# CAPEX : 2003-2013 Oil price signal ... was not enough for 1973 ...



# A POSTERIORI ANALYSIS

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### World crude Oil production (MBO/d) 1951 - 2015 (est.)



Sources : Esso, EIA, Etenad, GW

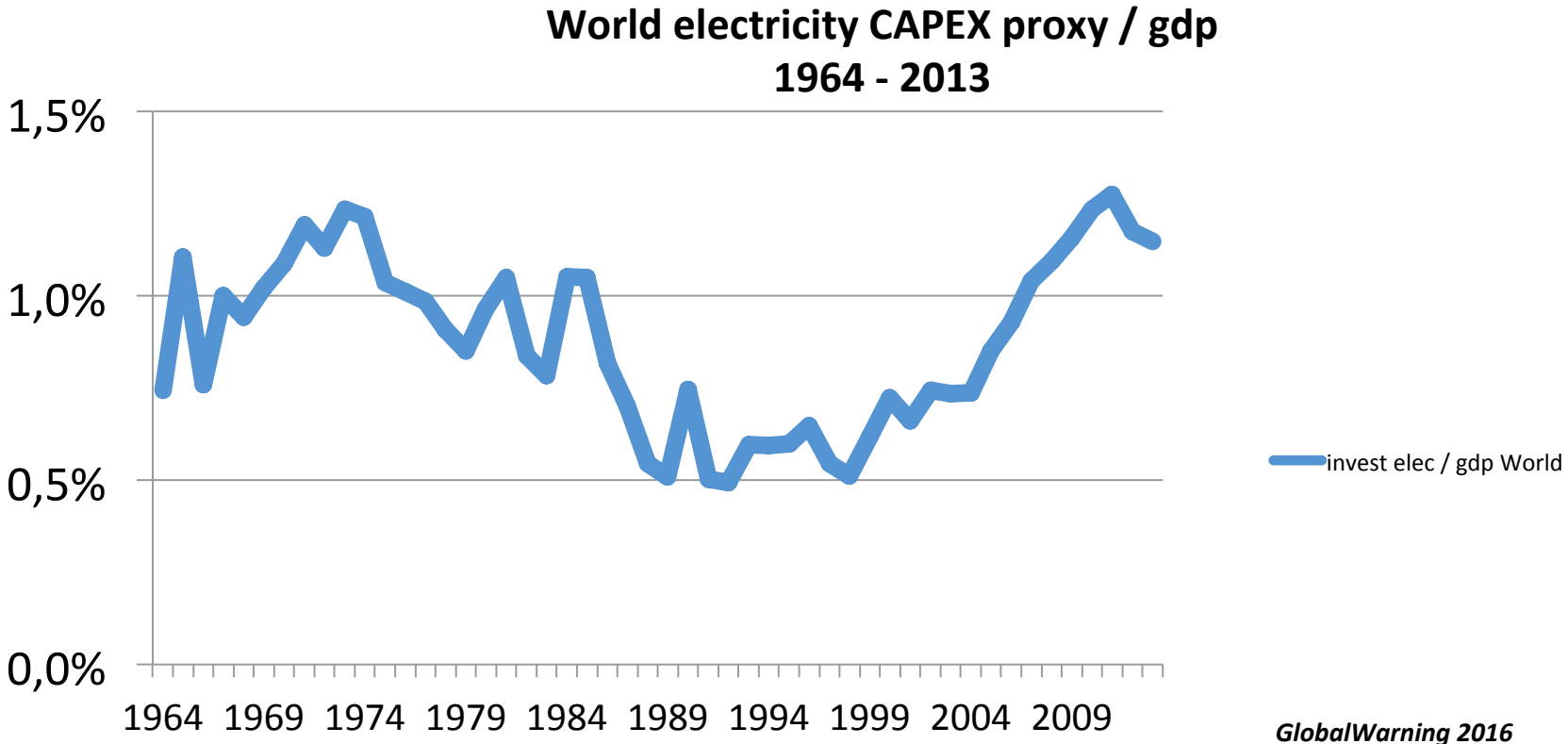
## And world energy CAPEX ?

	Average annual investment		
	Historical	New Policies	
	2000-13	2014-20	2021-25

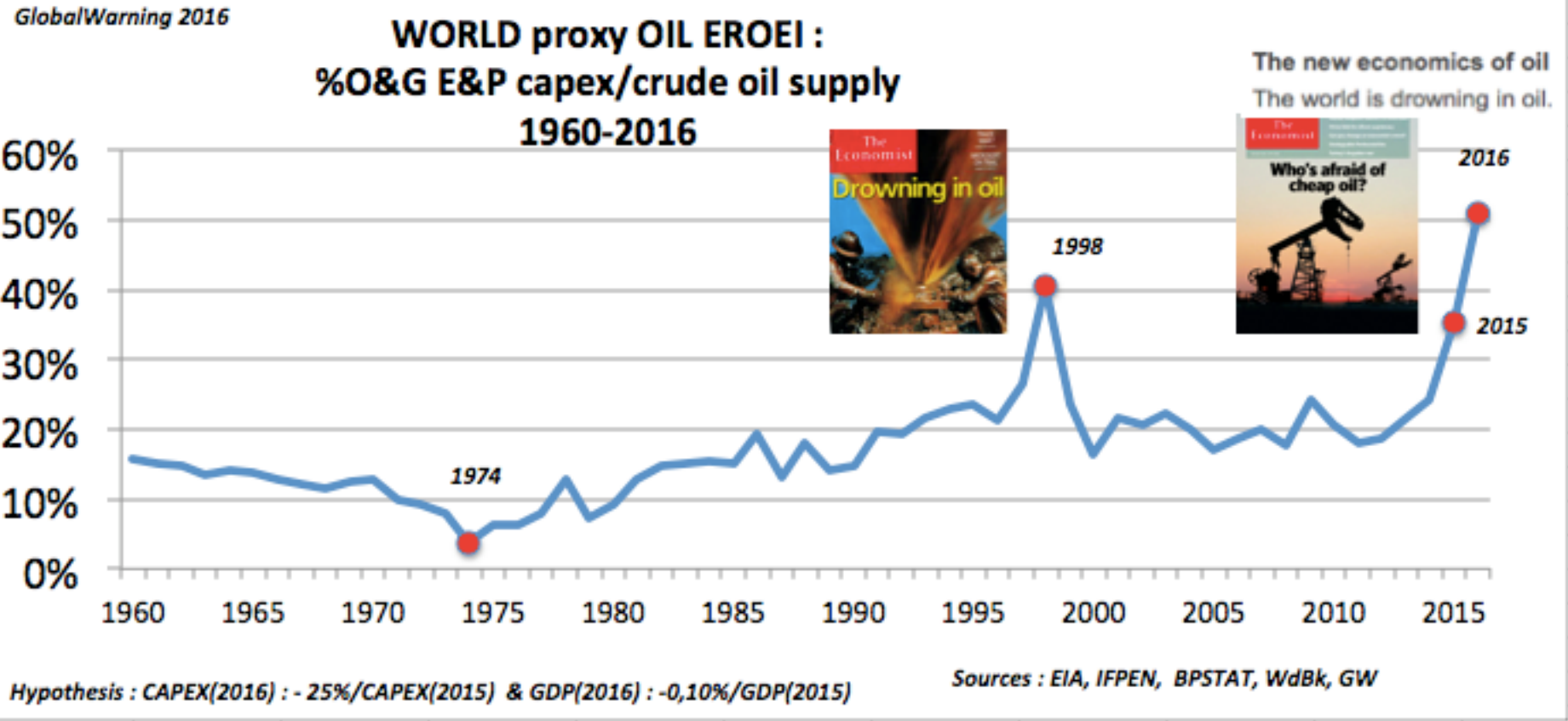
Energy Supply (billion, year-2012 US dollars)			
<b>Total</b>	1 230	1 772	1 759
<b>Oil</b>	427	637	608
Upstream	320	510	509
Transport	54	50	42
Refining	52	77	57
<b>Gas</b>	252	357	388
Upstream	152	230	272
Transport	100	127	116
<b>Coal</b>	61	54	40
Mining	31	32	29
Transport	30	21	10
<b>Power</b>	479	713	712
<b>Fossil fuels</b>	106	120	117
<i>Of which: Coal</i>	55	68	66
<i>Gas</i>	46	49	49
<b>Nuclear</b>	8	46	56
<b>Renewables</b>	153	241	234
<i>Of which: Bioenergy</i>	17	22	23
<i>Hydro</i>	52	71	65
<i>Wind</i>	43	76	81
<i>Solar PV</i>	37	60	49
<b>Transmission</b>	48	84	80
<b>Distribution</b>	164	222	227
<b>Biofuels</b>	10	11	11



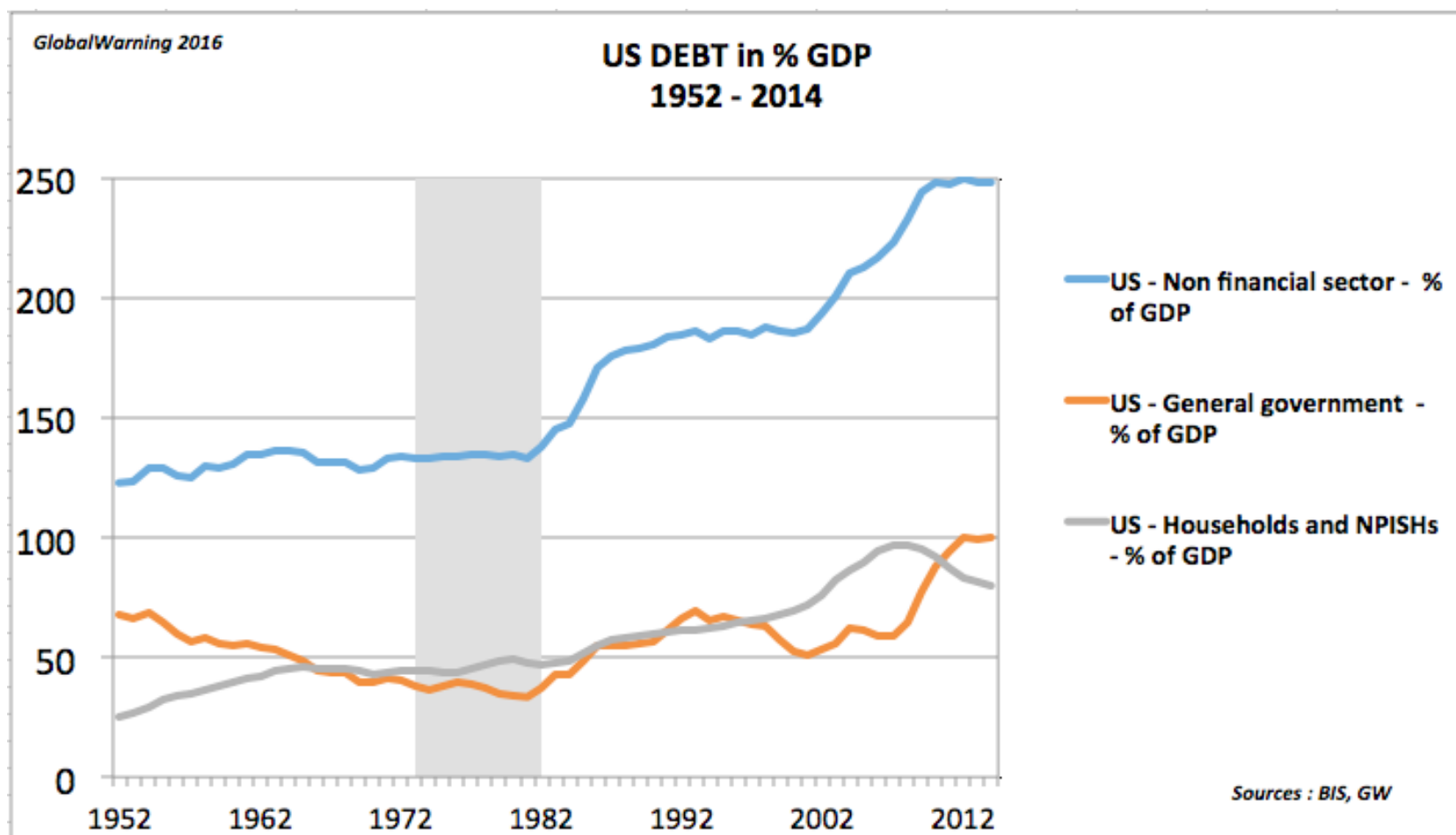
# Proxy of electricity CAPEX ?



# OIL EROI (proxy)



# Easy money and “Summers time” : public & private money creation



## THERE IS NO LIMIT => financial deregulation & the Great Transition

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- End of Bretton Woods : 1971
- US deregulation 1982
- UK deregulation 1983
- France deregulation 1984

**Anselme** : « *Dieu est tel qu'on ne peut pas penser plus grand* »  
Proslogion, Allocution sur l'existence de Dieu, 1077

**Draghi** : « *There are no limits to how far we are willing to deploy our instruments within our mandate to achieve our objective of a rate of inflation which is below but close to 2%.* »  
ECB, 2016

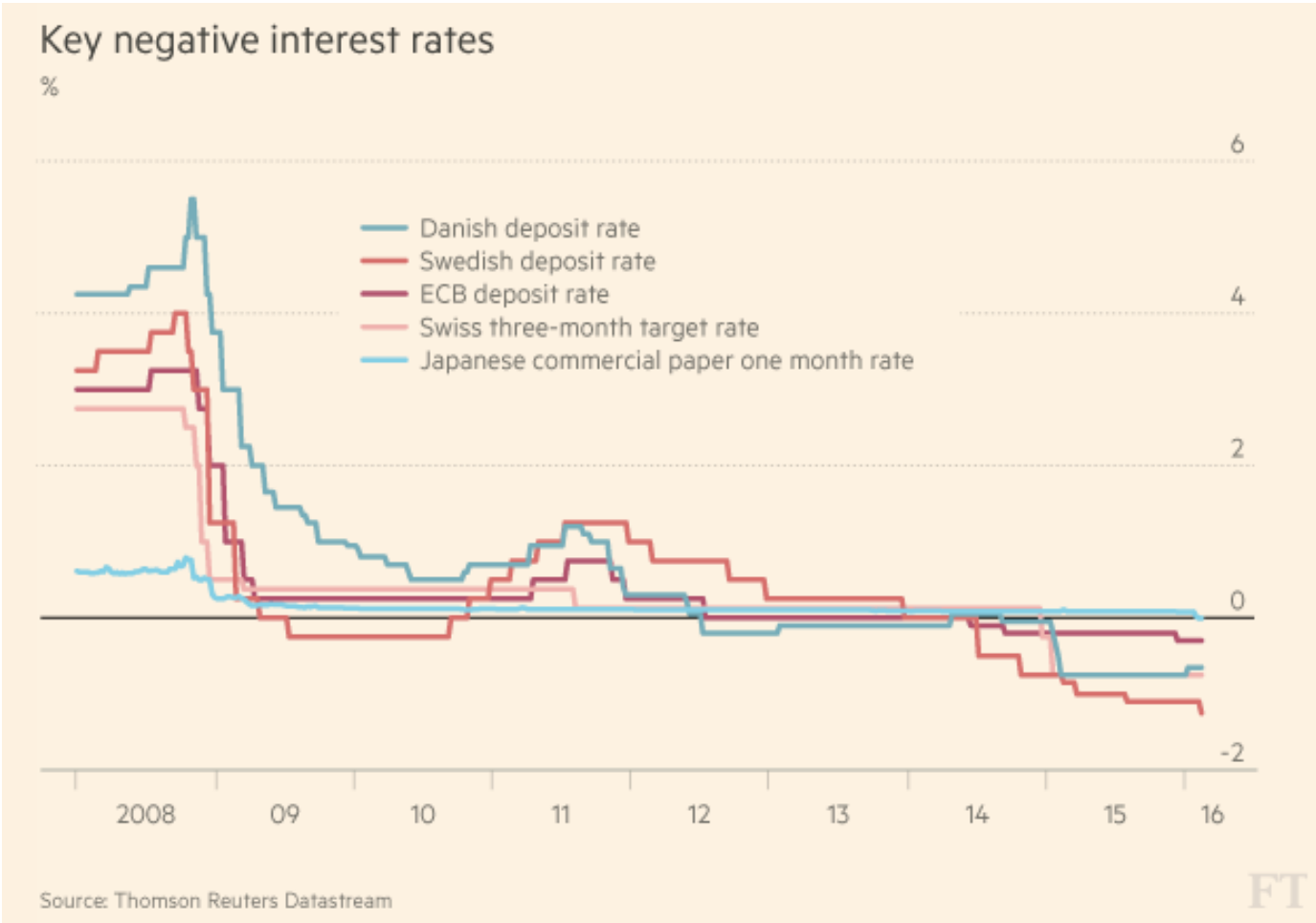
# THROUGH THE ZLB ?

**Figure 1: Spot Yields on 10 Year Bonds, G7 Excl. Italy, Quarterly: 1985 - 2013**



Source : Marvin King

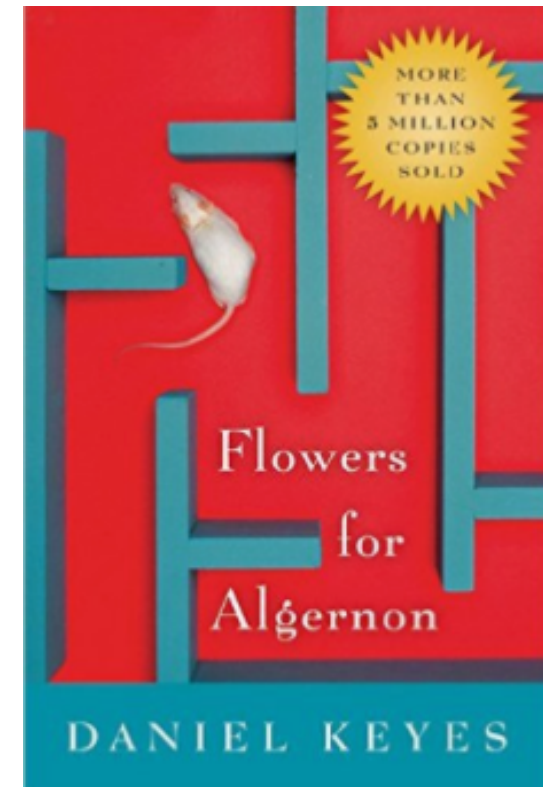
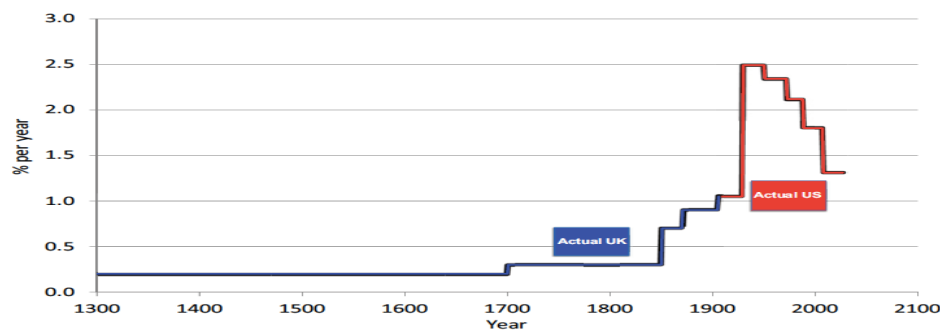
# Negative thinking (FT 17/02/16)



## We are Charlie ?

- Economic history & the GPTs : hydro, wind, wood, peat & gun powder
- Macroeconomics (and the IPCC)
- The ZLB symptom
- Finance and the transition

Figure 1 Growth in real GDP per capita, 1300-2100



*F. Braudel, R. Philippe, Soddy, Leslie White, Lynn White, Putnam, R. Ayres, Wrigley, Arnoux, Gordon, Jancovici, Clavier, D. Bourg, Giraud ...*

Thank you !

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