



# **A Decomposition of U.S. Business Sector TFP Growth into Technical Progress and Cost Efficiency Components**

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## **A Decomposition of U.S. Business Sector TFP Growth into Technical Progress and Cost Efficiency Components**

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### **Abstract**

One of the problems with index number methods for computing TFP growth is that during recessions, these methods show declines in TFP and this seems to imply that technical progress is negative during these periods. This is rather implausible since it implies technological regress; i.e., that the production frontier has contracted. The paper works out a nonparametric method where one can decompose TFP growth into two components: a technical progress component (i.e., a shift in the production frontier over time) and an inefficiency component that is due to the fixity of capital and labour in the short run. The new decomposition is illustrated using the new Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts which facilitated the construction of a set of productivity accounts for two key sectors of the US private business sector: the Corporate Nonfinancial Sector and the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector. The analysis sheds light on productivity growth slowdowns over the period 1960 to 2014.

### **Key Words**

Total Factor Productivity, user costs, measures of technical progress, measures of technical and allocative inefficiency, nonparametric cost functions, nonparametric production theory, Fisher ideal indexes

### **Journal of Economic Literature Classification Numbers**

C43, C61, C67, C82, D24, E22.

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## 1. Introduction

Total Factor Productivity (TFP) Growth is usually defined as aggregate output growth divided by aggregate input growth.<sup>2</sup> Output growth and input growth are usually measured using (bilateral) index numbers. During recessions when outputs fall more rapidly than inputs, these index number measures of TFP growth usually show that productivity has declined. Since index number measures of TFP growth are often interpreted as measures of technical progress, such declines in measured productivity are somewhat embarrassing since they seem to imply technological regress; i.e., the production frontier has somehow managed to shrink.

Aiyar, Dalgaard and Moav (2008; 127) note that there are instances of lost knowledge and technical regress in pre-industrial times as, before the printing press and widespread literacy, technological knowledge was typically embodied in humans. Negative population and land productivity shocks could “induce the neglect of techniques rendered temporarily unprofitable”.<sup>3</sup> The transmission of these techniques to the following generations would then be lost. However, they also note (p. 126) the following in relation to the relevance of such ancient history to our modern economies.

“The phenomenon of technological regress cannot be reconciled with standard macroeconomic models of innovation (Romer 1990; Grossman and Helpman 1991; Aghion and Howitt 1992; Kortum 1997; Weitzman 1998; Olsson 2000) or adoption (Nelson and Phelps 1966; Eaton and Kortum 1999). Knowledge in these theories is conceived as a stock which may stagnate but never shrinks. Nor is this surprising; the theories are built to explain the facts of the contemporary world, which is mostly characterized by purposive R&D in rich countries, and the adoption of foreign technology by low-income countries.”

Hence, in modern times, any interpretation of declines in productivity as representing technological regress is problematic for economic modelling and policy formulation. Of course, serious students of productivity measurement have long realized that factors other than technical change can explain changes in TFP; see e.g. Färe, Grosskopf, Norris and Zhang (1994), Syverson (2011) and references therein. Two of these explanatory factors are:

- Changes in technical and allocative inefficiency and
- Nonconstant returns to scale in production.

We will not be able to deal with the second explanatory factor in this paper (we will assume constant returns to scale technologies) but we will be able to decompose TFP growth into the product of an efficiency factor (a movement towards the production frontier) times a technical progress factor (an expansion of the production possibilities set for the sector of the economy under consideration). The novelty in our decomposition is that (i) it is a nonparametric method; (ii) it can be readily computed and (iii) our measure of TFP growth is quite closely related to the standard Fisher index of TFP growth. However, our method does have a drawback (in addition to assuming constant returns to scale): our methodology requires that

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<sup>2</sup> See Jorgenson and Griliches (1967) or Balk (1998).

<sup>3</sup> Examples of technical regress in history include the loss of hydraulic mining technics following the decline of the Roman Empire (Wilson 2002) and the loss of boat building technologies following societal collapse in Easter Island (Diamond 2005).

there be only one output. In many empirical contexts of interest this may not be a major issue, such as the standard macroeconomic context of considering the TFP growth of a country using national accounts data.

Given the recent heightened interest in U.S. productivity growth due to the measured productivity growth slowdown since 2004,<sup>4</sup> the new decomposition is applied to the new U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts. These new accounts enabled the construction of a set of productivity accounts for two key sectors of the US private business sector: the Corporate Nonfinancial Sector and the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector.

Our methodology is explained in the following section, and is fairly closely related to the nonparametric production methodology developed by Farrell (1957). Sections 3 and 4 apply the methodology to our two sectors of the U.S. economy: the Corporate Financial Sector and the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector. Section 4 concludes. Appendix A briefly describes and lists our data set, which covers the years 1960-2014. Appendix B looks at how our methodology could be extended to the many output case.

## 2. The Decomposition of TFP Growth into Technical Progress and Efficiency Components

Our analytic framework broadly follows the cost decomposition framework explained in Section 2 of Diewert (2014) except that in the present paper, we assume a constant returns to scale best practice technology with one output. A significant innovation is that we are explicit about the determination of the relevant best practice technology, by assuming that the best practice technology production possibilities set is the convex, conical hull of past observations on the production unit up to and including the current period.<sup>5</sup> Our approach can also be regarded as a modification of Farrell's (1957) one output, constant returns to scale nonparametric model of efficient production where we adapt his method of analysis to the time series context.

We assume that we have information on the period  $t$  output produced by a production unit,  $y^t > 0$ , on the period  $t$  inputs used,  $x^t \equiv [x_1^t, \dots, x_N^t] > 0_N$ , and on the input prices faced during period  $t$  by the production unit,  $w^t \equiv [w_1^t, \dots, w_N^t] > 0_N$  for periods  $t = 1, \dots, T$ . Define the period  $t$  observed *total input cost* as  $C^t \equiv w^t \cdot x^t \equiv \sum_{n=1}^N w_n^t x_n^t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ .<sup>6</sup> If we divide each component of  $x^t$  by the period  $t$  output level  $y^t$ , we obtain the vector of observed input-output coefficients for period  $t$ ,  $z^t \equiv x^t/y^t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ . If we weight the components of  $z^t$  by the components of  $w^t$  and sum the resulting terms, we obtain the period  $t$  *observed unit cost*  $c^t$  for the production unit; i.e., we have:

$$(1) \quad c^t \equiv w^t \cdot z^t = w^t \cdot x^t / y^t = C^t / y^t ; \quad t = 1, \dots, T.$$

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<sup>4</sup> See Gordon (2012), Mokyr, Vickers and Ziebarth (2015), Byrne, Fernald and Reinsdorf (2016), and Syverson (2016).

<sup>5</sup> The use of nonparametric methods for estimating technical progress can be traced back to Diewert (1980b; 264) (1981), Diewert and Parkan (1983; 153-157) and Tulkens (1993; 201-206).

<sup>6</sup> We assume  $C^t > 0$  for each  $t$ .

We assume that the production unit's period  $t$  production possibilities set can be adequately approximated by the convex<sup>7</sup> conical free disposal hull of the period  $t$  actual production vector and past production vectors that are in our sample of time series observations for the unit.<sup>8</sup> Using this assumption, we define the *period  $t$  best practice unit cost function* if the producer faces the nonnegative, nonzero vector of input prices  $w > 0_N$ ,  $c(w,t)$ , as follows:

$$(2) \begin{aligned} c(w,t) &\equiv \min_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_t} \{ w \cdot (\sum_{s=1}^t x^s \lambda_s) ; \sum_{s=1}^t y^s \lambda_s \geq 1 ; \lambda_1 \geq 0, \dots, \lambda_t \geq 0 \} \\ &= \min \{ w \cdot x^s / y^s : s = 1, 2, \dots, t \} \\ &= \min \{ w \cdot z^s : s = 1, 2, \dots, t \} \end{aligned}$$

where the second line in (2) follows from the first line since there is only one constraint in the linear programming problem defined by the first line and so the solution to the LP problem is a simple minimum of  $t$  numbers.

The best practice unit cost function,  $c(w,t)$ , can be used to define the period  $t$  cost efficiency for the production unit. It will not necessarily be the case that the production unit being studied achieves the best practice level of costs in period  $t$ ; i.e., the following inequalities will be satisfied:

$$(3) \quad c^t = w^t \cdot z^t \geq c(w^t, t) ; \quad t = 1, \dots, T.$$

Thus the observed period  $t$  unit cost,  $c^t$ , will be equal to or greater than the best practice minimum unit cost,  $c(w^t, t)$ . Define the *cost efficiency* of the production unit during period  $t$ ,  $e^t$ , as follows:<sup>9</sup>

$$(4) \quad e^t \equiv c(w^t, t) / w^t \cdot x^t \leq 1 ; \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

where the inequalities in (4) follow from the inequalities in (3). We note that this definition of cost efficiency is equivalent to Farrell's (1957; 255) measure of *overall efficiency*, which combined his measures of technical and allocative inefficiency.

Given the above definition of cost efficiency in period  $t$ , we can define an index of the *change in the production unit's cost efficiency* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  as follows:

$$(5) \quad \varepsilon^t \equiv e^t / e^{t-1} = [c(w^t, t) / c^t] / [c(w^{t-1}, t-1) / c^{t-1}].$$

Thus if  $\varepsilon^t > 1$ , then the cost efficiency of the production unit has *improved* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  whereas it has *fallen* if  $\varepsilon^t < 1$ .

<sup>7</sup> The convexity assumption is not required in the one output case. If we assume that the best practice technology can be represented by the conical Free Disposal Hull (FDH) of past observations, then the corresponding best practice unit cost function is still defined by (2). For references to the FDH approach to nonparametric production theory, see the pioneering contributions by Tulkens (1986) (1993) and his coauthors and the subsequent papers by Diewert and Fox (2014) (2016a). Our approach can be viewed as applying cost data to Tulkens (1993; 201-206) Sequential FDH measurement of efficiency and local technical progress approach.

<sup>8</sup> This approximation will become more adequate for the later observations in our sample.

<sup>9</sup> This definition follows Balk (1998; 28). Note that  $e^1$  is equal to unity.

We now use the best practice unit cost function to define a *family of measures of technical progress*,  $\tau(w,t)$ ; i.e., measures of expansion in the production possibilities set going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ . For a reference vector of input prices  $w \gg 0_N$ , define  $\tau(w,t)$  as follows:<sup>10</sup>

$$(6) \tau(w,t) \equiv c(w,t-1)/c(w,t).$$

In the regulatory literature, it is quite common to specify technical progress in terms of downward shifts in the cost function over time. Thus in definition (6), we pick a reference vector  $w$  and use the best practice technology of period 0 to calculate the minimum cost of producing one unit of output at the input prices  $w$  using the period  $t-1$  and  $t$  best practice technologies at those times. This gives rise to the unit costs,  $c(w,t-1)$  and  $c(w,t)$ , respectively. If there is positive technical progress going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ , then  $c(w,t)$ , will generally be less than  $c(w,t-1)$  and hence  $\tau(w,t) = c(w,t-1)/c(w,t)$  will be greater than one and this measure of technical progress is the reciprocal of the degree of proportional cost reduction that results from the expansion of the underlying best practice technology sets due to the passage of time. For each choice of a reference vector of input prices  $w$ , we obtain a (possibly different) measure of exogenous cost reduction and hence of technical progress. For the period  $t$  measures, it is natural to choose  $w$  to be  $w^{t-1}$  or  $w^t$ , leading to the following *Laspeyres and Paasche type measures of period  $t$  technical progress*:

$$(7) \tau_L^t \equiv \tau(w^{t-1},t) = c(w^{t-1},t-1)/c(w^{t-1},t); \quad t = 2,3,\dots,T;$$

$$(8) \tau_P^t \equiv \tau(w^t,t) = c(w^t,t-1)/c(w^t,t); \quad t = 2,3,\dots,T.$$

Since both of the above measures of technical progress,  $\tau_L^t$  and  $\tau_P^t$ , are equally representative, a single estimate of technical progress should be set equal to a symmetric average of these two estimates. We choose the geometric mean as our preferred symmetric average<sup>11</sup> and thus our preferred summary measure of technical progress going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  is the following *Fisher type index of technical progress*,  $\tau^t$ ; for  $t = 2,\dots,T$ :<sup>12</sup>

$$(9) \tau^t \equiv [\tau_L^t \tau_P^t]^{1/2}.$$

We now turn our attention to measures of the effects on best practice unit cost of input price change. We use the period  $t$  best practice unit cost function  $c(w,t)$  in order to define a *family of input price indexes* going from period  $t-1$  to period  $t$ ,  $\beta(w^{t-1},w^t,s)$ , as follows:<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> This type of cost based measure of technical progress can be traced back to Salter (1960). Balk (1998; 58) defined a family of indexes similar to that defined by (6) by using the best practice total cost function in place of the best practice unit cost function. The definitions (6)-(13) are specializations (to the case of one output) of the cost function based definitions used by Diewert (2011; 181-182) (2012; 223-225) to decompose total cost growth into explanatory factors using a reference best practice cost function. What is missing in Diewert's decompositions is the change in cost efficiency term  $\varepsilon^t$  defined by (5).

<sup>11</sup> This will ensure that the resulting measure of technical progress satisfies the time reversal property; i.e., if we reverse the role of time and recalculate the measure of technical progress, we obtain the reciprocal of the original measure when we take the geometric average.

<sup>12</sup> Fisher (1922) defined his ideal index as the geometric mean of the corresponding Laspeyres and Paasche indexes and noted that the resulting index satisfied the time reversal test.

<sup>13</sup> If the number of outputs is equal to one, then the family of indexes defined by (10) reduces to a Konüs (1939) true cost of living index family in the case of homothetic preferences where  $c(w,t)$  is the consumer's unit utility expenditure function using period  $t$  preferences and output is interpreted as a utility level. Shephard (1953) developed this theory of input price indexes for the case of a constant returns to scale production function.

$$(10) \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, s) \equiv c(w^t, s)/c(w^{t-1}, s); \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

Thus the input price index  $\beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, s)$  defined by (10) is equal to the (hypothetical) unit cost  $c(w^t, s)$  of producing one unit of output when the production unit faces the period  $t$  observed vector of input prices  $w^t$ , divided by the unit cost  $c(w^{t-1}, s)$  of producing one unit of output when the production unit faces the period  $t-1$  observed vector of input prices  $w^{t-1}$ , where in both cases, the production unit has access to the best practice technology of period  $s$ . Hence for each choice of technology, we obtain a (possibly different) input price index.

It is natural to choose  $s$  to be equal to either  $t-1$  or  $t$ . Thus for these choices of  $s$ , we obtain the following *Laspeyres and Paasche type input price indexes*,  $\beta_L^t$  and  $\beta_P^t$ , that measure input price change going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ :

$$(11) \beta_L^t \equiv \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, t-1) = c(w^t, t-1)/c(w^{t-1}, t-1); \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T;$$

$$(12) \beta_P^t \equiv \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, t) = c(w^t, t)/c(w^{t-1}, t); \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

Since both input price indexes,  $\beta_L^t$  and  $\beta_P^t$ , are equally representative, a single estimate of input price change should be set equal to a symmetric average of these two estimates. We again choose the geometric mean as our preferred symmetric average and thus our preferred overall measure of input price growth going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  is the following *Fisher type theoretical input price index*,  $\beta^t$ :

$$(13) \beta^t \equiv [\beta_L^t \beta_P^t]^{1/2}; \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

The input price index  $\beta^t$  can be used to deflate the (total) cost ratio going from period  $t$  to  $t-1$ ,  $C^t/C^{t-1}$ , in order to obtain the following *implicit input quantity index* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ ,  $\gamma^t$ :

$$(14) \gamma^t \equiv [C^t/C^{t-1}]/\beta^t; \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

Following Jorgenson and Griliches (1967), *Total Factor Productivity Growth* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ ,  $TFPG^t$ , can be defined as (one plus) output growth,  $y^t/y^{t-1}$ , divided by (one plus) input growth,  $\gamma^t$ :

$$(15) TFPG^t \equiv [y^t/y^{t-1}]/\gamma^t; \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

We can use the above definitions to show that *TFP growth is equal to the product of cost efficiency growth times technical progress*; i.e., we can show that  $TFPG^t = \varepsilon^t \tau^t$  where  $\varepsilon^t$  is defined by (5) and  $\tau^t$  is defined by (9). To show this, start off with definition (15):

$$\begin{aligned} (16) \quad TFPG^t &\equiv [y^t/y^{t-1}]/\gamma^t; & t = 2, 3, \dots, T. \\ &= [y^t/y^{t-1}]\beta^t/[C^t/C^{t-1}] & \text{using (14)} \\ &= [C^{t-1}/C^t][c(w^t, t)/c(w^{t-1}, t-1)][c(w^{t-1}, t-1)/c(w^t, t)]\beta^t & \text{rearranging terms} \\ &= \varepsilon^t [c(w^{t-1}, t-1)/c(w^t, t)]\beta^t & \text{using (5)} \\ &= \varepsilon^t [c(w^{t-1}, t-1)/c(w^t, t)][\beta_L^t \beta_P^t]^{1/2} & \text{using (13)} \\ &= \varepsilon^t [c(w^{t-1}, t-1)/c(w^t, t)][c(w^t, t-1)/c(w^{t-1}, t-1)]^{1/2} [c(w^t, t)/c(w^{t-1}, t)]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \varepsilon^t [c(w^t, t-1)/c(w^t, t)]^{1/2} [c(w^{t-1}, t-1)/c(w^{t-1}, t)]^{1/2} && \text{using (11) and (12)} \\
&= \varepsilon^t [\tau_P^t]^{1/2} [\tau_L^t]^{1/2} && \text{rearranging terms} \\
&= \varepsilon^t \tau^t && \text{using (7) and (8)} \\
& && \text{using (9).}
\end{aligned}$$

As will be seen in subsequent sections of the paper, the decomposition of TFP growth defined by (16) seems to work well in practice; i.e., the time  $t$  technical progress measure  $\tau^t$  never falls below 1 (so there is never any technological regress using our methodology) and the time  $t$  measure of cost efficiency change  $\varepsilon^t$  falls below 1 during recession years as anticipated.<sup>14</sup>

Finally, it is convenient to convert the above growth decomposition into a *levels decomposition*. Thus we start off by setting the *period 1 input level*,  $X^1$ , and the *period 1 output level*,  $y^1$ ,<sup>15</sup> equal to period 1 total cost,  $C^1$ :

$$(17) X^1 = y^1 \equiv C^1.$$

The period 1 TFP level  $TFP^1$ , cost efficiency level  $E^1$  and technology level  $T^1$  are all set equal to 1:

$$(18) TFP^1 = E^1 = T^1 \equiv 1.$$

The period  $t$  input level  $X^t$ , TFP level  $TFP^t$ , cost efficiency level  $E^t$  and technology level  $T^t$  for  $t$  greater than one are defined recursively as follows:

$$(19) X^t \equiv \gamma^t X^{t-1}; TFP^t \equiv y^t/X^t; E^t \equiv \varepsilon^t E^{t-1}; T^t \equiv \tau^t T^{t-1}; \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

Using the above definitions, it can be shown that we have the following decomposition of the productivity level at time  $t$  into the product of the time  $t$  level of cost efficiency times the time  $t$  level of technology; i.e., we have:<sup>16</sup>

$$(20) TFP^t = y^t/X^t = E^t T^t; \quad t = 1, \dots, T.$$

We will illustrate the decompositions defined by (16) and (20) using U.S. data in the following sections.

### 3. TFP Decompositions for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector

The US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), in conjunction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, have developed a new set of production accounts (the Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts or IMA) for two major

<sup>14</sup> Our measure of technical progress is not perfect: in a given period, cost inefficiency could be large enough to negate the effects of actual technical progress so that our nonparametric indicator of technical progress will indicate that there is no technical progress when in fact there was technical progress.

<sup>15</sup> This implies that we are choosing a particular unit of measurement for aggregate output.

<sup>16</sup> Of course, equation (20) can be rearranged to give a decomposition of real output of the production unit in period  $t$ ,  $y^t$ , into the product of the period  $t$  input level  $X^t$  times the period  $t$  level of cost efficiency  $E^t$  times the period  $t$  level of technology  $T^t$ . This is similar to Kohli's (1990) decomposition of nominal GDP into the product of explanatory factors. See also Fox and Kohli (1998) for a similar decomposition.



private sectors of the US economy: the Corporate Nonfinancial Sector and the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector. The Balance Sheet Accounts in the IMA cover the years 1960-2014 but do not provide a decomposition of output, input and asset values into price and quantity components. Diewert and Fox (2016b) provided such a decomposition and we will use their data in this study. The data for the two subsectors are described and listed in Appendix A. In this section, we will use their output and input data for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector for the 55 years 1960-2014. The year  $t$  output  $y^t$  is real value added<sup>17</sup> and the corresponding year  $t$  value added deflator is denoted as  $p^t$ . The ten inputs used by this sector are labour and the services of nine types of asset, which are listed in Appendix A. The year  $t$  input vector is  $x^t \equiv [x_1^t, x_2^t, \dots, x_{10}^t]$  where  $x_1^t$  is year  $t$  labour input measured in billions of 1960 dollars and  $x_2^t, \dots, x_{10}^t$  are capital service inputs measured in billions of 1960 capital stock dollars. The corresponding year  $t$  input price vector is  $w^t \equiv [w_1^t, w_2^t, \dots, w_{10}^t]$  for  $t = 1960, \dots, 2014$ .

It is straightforward to do the computations using the above data to compute the year  $t$  cost efficiency factors  $e^t$  defined by (4), the year  $t$  change in cost efficiency factors  $\varepsilon^t$  defined by (5), the year  $t$  measures of technical progress  $\tau^t$  defined by (9), the nonparametric input price index  $\beta^t$  defined by (13), the nonparametric input quantity (or volume) index  $\gamma^t$  defined by (14) and the nonparametric Total Factor Productivity Growth factor for year  $t$ ,  $\text{TFPG}^t \equiv [y^t/y^{t-1}]/\gamma^t$  defined by (15). These growth factors are listed in Table 1 below along with the output growth factors,  $y^t/y^{t-1}$ . For comparison purposes, we also computed chained Fisher (1922) input indexes where  $\gamma^{t*}$  denotes the year  $t$  Fisher chain link.<sup>18</sup> These Fisher input indexes were then used to form a *conventional Fisher TFP growth index*,  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$ , which is defined as follows:

$$(21) \text{TFPG}^{t*} \equiv [y^t/y^{t-1}]/\gamma^{t*}; \quad t = 1961, \dots, 2014.$$

The growth factors  $y^t/y^{t-1}$ ,  $\gamma^{t*}$  and the Fisher Total Factor Productivity Growth index,  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$  are also listed in Table 1. It can be verified that the TFP growth decomposition defined by (16) in the previous section holds; i.e., for each year  $t$ , nonparametric TFP growth  $\text{TFPG}^t$  equals the product of cost efficiency growth  $\varepsilon^t$  times the year  $t$  cost based technical progress measure  $\tau^t$ . It can also be seen when cost efficiency in year  $t$ ,  $e^t$ , is less than one, then the year  $t$  technical progress measure  $\tau^t$  always equals one so that there is no technical progress in years where the cost efficiency is less than one. Our nonparametric measure of technical progress  $\tau^t$  is always equal to or greater than one; i.e., our measure never indicates technological regress. Another important empirical regularity emerges from Table 1: for most years, when the year  $t$  cost efficiency growth factor  $\varepsilon^t$  is equal to one, the Fisher index measure of TFP growth,  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$ , is equal to our nonparametric measure of TFP growth,  $\text{TFPG}^t$ . This follows from the fact, that for most years, the Fisher index of input growth,  $\gamma^{t*}$ , is equal to the corresponding nonparametric index of input growth,  $\gamma^t$ . Thus empirically, our nonparametric indexes of TFP growth are not all that different from ordinary Fisher indexes of TFP growth. Over the 55 years in our sample, the geometric average nonparametric rate of TFP growth  $\text{TFPG}^t$  was 1.688% per year while the corresponding Fisher index rate of TFP

<sup>17</sup> The published data for this sector did not allow Diewert and Fox to decompose real value added into gross output and intermediate input components.

<sup>18</sup> The year  $t$  Fisher chain link input index is defined as  $\gamma^{t*} \equiv [(w^{t-1} \cdot x^t w^t \cdot x^t)/(w^{t-1} \cdot x^{t-1} w^t \cdot x^{t-1})]^{1/2}$ .

growth  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$  was 1.693% per year.<sup>19</sup> These average rates of TFP growth are very large indeed!

**Table 1: U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Fisher TFP Growth  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$ , Nonparametric TFP Growth  $\text{TFPG}^t$ , Cost Efficiency Growth Factors  $\varepsilon^t$ , Technical Progress Growth Factors  $\tau^t$ , Nonparametric Input Growth Factors  $\gamma^t$ , Fisher Input Growth Indexes  $\gamma^{t*}$ , Output Growth Factors  $y^t/y^{t-1}$  and Cost Efficiency Factors  $e^t$**

Year	$\text{TFPG}^{t*}$	$\text{TFPG}^t$	$\varepsilon^t$	$\tau^t$	$\beta^t$	$\gamma^t$	$\gamma^{t*}$	$y^t/y^{t-1}$	$e^t$
1961	1.0191	1.0191	1.0000	1.0191	1.0222	1.0047	1.0047	1.0238	1.0000
1962	1.0484	1.0484	1.0000	1.0484	1.0552	1.0346	1.0346	1.0847	1.0000
1963	1.0364	1.0364	1.0000	1.0364	1.0416	1.0244	1.0244	1.0617	1.0000
1964	1.0415	1.0415	1.0000	1.0415	1.0511	1.0275	1.0275	1.0702	1.0000
1965	1.0372	1.0372	1.0000	1.0372	1.0555	1.0452	1.0452	1.0841	1.0000
1966	1.0217	1.0217	1.0000	1.0217	1.0515	1.0511	1.0511	1.0739	1.0000
1967	1.0012	1.0012	1.0000	1.0012	1.0236	1.0274	1.0274	1.0287	1.0000
1968	1.0291	1.0291	1.0000	1.0291	1.0611	1.0347	1.0347	1.0649	1.0000
1969	0.9994	0.9995	0.9995	1.0000	1.0416	1.0405	1.0406	1.0400	0.9995
1970	0.9923	0.9934	0.9934	1.0000	1.0303	0.9979	0.9990	0.9913	0.9929
1971	1.0318	1.0317	1.0072	1.0244	1.0690	1.0074	1.0074	1.0394	1.0000
1972	1.0333	1.0333	1.0000	1.0333	1.0701	1.0411	1.0411	1.0758	1.0000
1973	1.0124	1.0124	1.0000	1.0124	1.0717	1.0478	1.0478	1.0607	1.0000
1974	0.9738	0.9742	0.9742	1.0000	1.0699	1.0110	1.0113	0.9848	0.9742
1975	1.0035	1.0031	1.0031	1.0000	1.1015	0.9828	0.9824	0.9858	0.9772
1976	1.0448	1.0441	1.0233	1.0203	1.0949	1.0361	1.0355	1.0819	1.0000
1977	1.0299	1.0299	1.0000	1.0299	1.0882	1.0425	1.0425	1.0737	1.0000
1978	1.0126	1.0126	1.0000	1.0126	1.0850	1.0517	1.0517	1.0650	1.0000
1979	0.9937	0.9937	0.9937	1.0000	1.0752	1.0386	1.0386	1.0321	0.9937
1980	0.9860	0.9864	0.9864	1.0000	1.0787	1.0038	1.0042	0.9902	0.9802
1981	1.0209	1.0207	1.0202	1.0005	1.1085	1.0195	1.0193	1.0406	1.0000
1982	0.9923	0.9929	0.9929	1.0000	1.0520	0.9852	0.9858	0.9782	0.9929
1983	1.0294	1.0292	1.0072	1.0219	1.0481	1.0192	1.0190	1.0490	1.0000
1984	1.0383	1.0383	1.0000	1.0383	1.0704	1.0489	1.0489	1.0891	1.0000
1985	1.0206	1.0206	1.0000	1.0206	1.0387	1.0252	1.0252	1.0463	1.0000
1986	1.0110	1.0110	1.0000	1.0110	1.0251	1.0149	1.0149	1.0261	1.0000
1987	1.0240	1.0240	1.0000	1.0240	1.0435	1.0283	1.0283	1.0530	1.0000
1988	1.0342	1.0342	1.0000	1.0342	1.0607	1.0263	1.0263	1.0614	1.0000
1989	0.9941	0.9941	0.9941	1.0000	1.0243	1.0251	1.0251	1.0190	0.9941
1990	1.0071	1.0070	1.0060	1.0011	1.0375	1.0074	1.0073	1.0145	1.0000
1991	1.0107	1.0107	1.0000	1.0107	1.0330	0.9843	0.9843	0.9948	1.0000
1992	1.0208	1.0208	1.0000	1.0208	1.0338	1.0095	1.0095	1.0305	1.0000
1993	1.0036	1.0036	1.0000	1.0036	1.0245	1.0210	1.0210	1.0246	1.0000
1994	1.0281	1.0281	1.0000	1.0281	1.0437	1.0326	1.0326	1.0615	1.0000
1995	1.0154	1.0154	1.0000	1.0154	1.0293	1.0324	1.0324	1.0483	1.0000
1996	1.0354	1.0354	1.0000	1.0354	1.0422	1.0224	1.0224	1.0586	1.0000
1997	1.0280	1.0280	1.0000	1.0280	1.0361	1.0377	1.0377	1.0667	1.0000
1998	1.0320	1.0320	1.0000	1.0320	1.0348	1.0240	1.0240	1.0568	1.0000
1999	1.0215	1.0215	1.0000	1.0215	1.0283	1.0322	1.0322	1.0544	1.0000
2000	1.0268	1.0268	1.0000	1.0268	1.0386	1.0273	1.0273	1.0548	1.0000
2001	0.9944	0.9953	0.9953	1.0000	1.0095	0.9834	0.9843	0.9788	0.9953
2002	1.0244	1.0244	1.0047	1.0196	1.0237	0.9846	0.9846	1.0086	1.0000
2003	1.0319	1.0319	1.0000	1.0319	1.0424	0.9902	0.9902	1.0217	1.0000
2004	1.0349	1.0349	1.0000	1.0349	1.0563	1.0098	1.0098	1.0450	1.0000
2005	1.0206	1.0206	1.0000	1.0206	1.0557	1.0122	1.0122	1.0330	1.0000
2006	1.0196	1.0196	1.0000	1.0196	1.0509	1.0185	1.0185	1.0385	1.0000
2007	0.9996	0.9997	0.9997	1.0000	1.0198	1.0103	1.0104	1.0100	0.9997
2008	0.9908	0.9911	0.9911	1.0000	1.0121	0.9959	0.9962	0.9871	0.9908
2009	0.9748	0.9762	0.9762	1.0000	0.9921	0.9517	0.9531	0.9290	0.9672

<sup>19</sup> These percentages are actually percentage points. The corresponding geometric average rate of growth for our nonparametric rate of input growth  $\gamma^t$  was 1.881% per year while the corresponding Fisher index rate of input growth  $\gamma^{t*}$  was 1.886% per year.

2010	1.0538	1.0527	1.0339	1.0182	1.0535	1.0026	1.0015	1.0554	1.0000
2011	1.0033	1.0033	1.0000	1.0033	1.0256	1.0217	1.0217	1.0251	1.0000
2012	1.0166	1.0166	1.0000	1.0166	1.0336	1.0234	1.0234	1.0403	1.0000
2013	1.0085	1.0085	1.0000	1.0085	1.0150	1.0216	1.0216	1.0303	1.0000
2014	1.0048	1.0048	1.0000	1.0048	1.0128	1.0269	1.0269	1.0317	1.0000

**Table 2: Corporate Nonfinancial Fisher TFP Levels  $TFP^{t*}$ , Nonparametric TFP Levels  $TFP^t$ , Cumulated Cost Efficiency Levels  $E^t$ , Technology Levels  $T^t$ , Real Value Added  $y^t$ , Nonparametric Aggregate Input  $X^t$  and Fisher Year  $t$  Input Levels  $X^{t*}$**

Year	$TFP^{t*}$	$TFP^t$	$E^t$	$T^t$	$y^t$	$X^t$	$X^{t*}$
1960	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	255.90	255.90	255.90
1961	1.01910	1.01910	1.00000	1.01910	262.00	257.10	257.10
1962	1.06840	1.06840	1.00000	1.06840	284.19	266.00	266.00
1963	1.10730	1.10730	1.00000	1.10730	301.71	272.47	272.47
1964	1.15330	1.15330	1.00000	1.15330	322.89	279.97	279.97
1965	1.19620	1.19620	1.00000	1.19620	350.04	292.62	292.62
1966	1.22220	1.22220	1.00000	1.22220	375.92	307.58	307.58
1967	1.22370	1.22370	1.00000	1.22370	386.69	316.00	316.00
1968	1.25940	1.25940	1.00000	1.25940	411.77	326.97	326.97
1969	1.25870	1.25870	0.99950	1.25940	428.24	340.21	340.23
1970	1.24900	1.25040	0.99290	1.25940	424.52	339.51	339.89
1971	1.28870	1.29000	1.00000	1.29000	441.24	342.03	342.40
1972	1.33160	1.33300	1.00000	1.33300	474.69	356.11	356.48
1973	1.34800	1.34950	1.00000	1.34950	503.52	373.12	373.52
1974	1.31280	1.31460	0.97420	1.34950	495.88	377.21	377.74
1975	1.31730	1.31870	0.97720	1.34950	488.85	370.70	371.09
1976	1.37630	1.37690	1.00000	1.37690	528.86	384.10	384.27
1977	1.41740	1.41800	1.00000	1.41800	567.81	400.43	400.61
1978	1.43530	1.43590	1.00000	1.43590	604.69	421.12	421.31
1979	1.42620	1.42680	0.99370	1.43590	624.08	437.40	437.59
1980	1.40630	1.40750	0.98020	1.43590	617.97	439.07	439.44
1981	1.43570	1.43660	1.00000	1.43660	643.05	447.62	447.91
1982	1.42450	1.42640	0.99290	1.43660	629.01	440.99	441.55
1983	1.46640	1.46800	1.00000	1.46800	659.80	449.46	449.95
1984	1.52250	1.52420	1.00000	1.52420	718.57	471.44	471.95
1985	1.55400	1.55570	1.00000	1.55570	751.87	483.31	483.84
1986	1.57100	1.57280	1.00000	1.57280	771.48	490.53	491.06
1987	1.60880	1.61060	1.00000	1.61060	812.39	504.41	504.96
1988	1.66390	1.66570	1.00000	1.66570	862.30	517.68	518.25
1989	1.65400	1.65580	0.99410	1.66570	878.69	530.67	531.24
1990	1.66580	1.66750	1.00000	1.66750	891.40	534.58	535.13
1991	1.68360	1.68540	1.00000	1.68540	886.79	526.17	526.71
1992	1.71860	1.72040	1.00000	1.72040	913.84	531.19	531.74
1993	1.72480	1.72660	1.00000	1.72660	936.36	542.33	542.89
1994	1.77320	1.77500	1.00000	1.77500	993.98	559.98	560.56
1995	1.80050	1.80240	1.00000	1.80240	1041.97	578.11	578.71
1996	1.86420	1.86620	1.00000	1.86620	1103.04	591.08	591.69
1997	1.91630	1.91830	1.00000	1.91830	1176.66	613.39	614.02
1998	1.97770	1.97980	1.00000	1.97980	1243.46	628.09	628.74
1999	2.02020	2.02230	1.00000	2.02230	1311.12	648.33	649.01
2000	2.07430	2.07640	1.00000	2.07640	1382.97	666.04	666.73
2001	2.06250	2.06660	0.99530	2.07640	1353.60	654.98	656.28
2002	2.11280	2.11700	1.00000	2.11700	1365.17	644.85	646.14
2003	2.18020	2.18450	1.00000	2.18450	1394.84	638.51	639.78
2004	2.25620	2.26070	1.00000	2.26070	1457.60	644.75	646.04
2005	2.30260	2.30720	1.00000	2.30720	1505.65	652.58	653.89
2006	2.34780	2.35250	1.00000	2.35250	1563.63	664.66	665.99
2007	2.34690	2.35180	0.99970	2.35250	1579.29	671.53	672.93
2008	2.32540	2.33090	0.99080	2.35250	1558.90	668.79	670.39
2009	2.26660	2.27540	0.96720	2.35250	1448.25	636.47	638.94
2010	2.38870	2.39530	1.00000	2.39530	1528.52	638.14	639.90
2011	2.39660	2.40320	1.00000	2.40320	1566.84	651.97	653.77

2012	2.43640	2.44310	1.00000	2.44310	1630.05	667.20	669.04
2013	2.45710	2.46390	1.00000	2.46390	1679.43	681.62	683.51
2014	2.46880	2.47560	1.00000	2.47560	1732.74	699.93	701.86

From Table 1, it can be seen that there were cost efficiencies  $e^t$  below 1 for the following eleven years: 1969, 1970, 1974, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1989, 2001, 2007, 2008 and 2009. For the most part, these years were recession years for the U.S. economy. These efficiency declines were less than one percent in most years except there was a 3.28% efficiency decline for this sector in 2009.<sup>20</sup> Thus in general, cost inefficiencies are a transitory phenomenon which show up during recessions but which vanish when the economy recovers from the recession. Nevertheless, the cost inefficiency factors  $e^t$  provide a rough and ready numerical estimate of the costs of a recession. During the Great Recession, this cost was significant and it illustrates the importance of macroeconomic stability in preventing recessions.

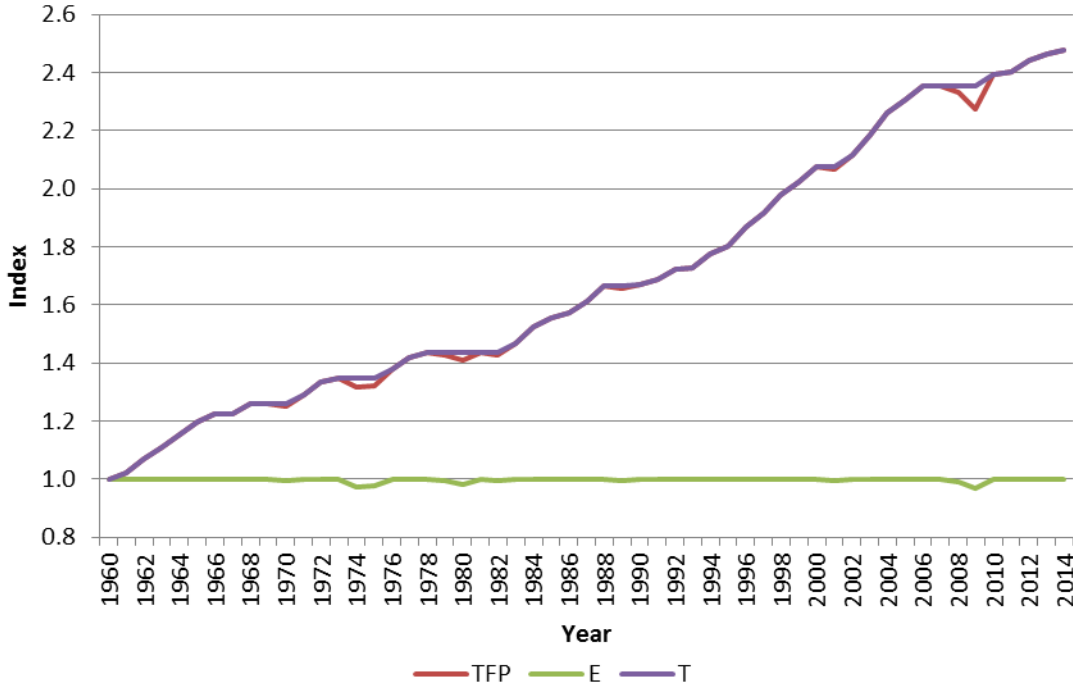
Recall that equations (17)-(19) in the previous section converted the growth decomposition defined by (16) into the levels decomposition  $TFP^t \equiv y^t/X^t = E^t T^t$  defined by (20) where  $TFP^t$  is the level of nonparametric TFP in year  $t$ ,  $y^t$  is output in year  $t$ ,  $X^t$  is the level of nonparametric input in year  $t$ ,  $E^t$  is the cumulated level of cost efficiency in year  $t$  (which is equal to  $e^t$ , the cost efficiency factor defined by (4) above) and  $T^t$  is the cumulated level of technical progress for year  $t$ . Define  $X^{t*}$  as the Fisher chained index level of input for year  $t$  and define the Fisher index level of TFP in year  $t$  as  $TFP^{t*} \equiv y^t/X^{t*}$ . The Fisher input and productivity level series,  $X^{t*}$  and  $TFP^{t*}$ , are also listed in Table 2 for comparison purposes. It can be seen that these indexes are very close to their nonparametric counterparts,  $X^t$  and  $TFP^t$ . It can also be seen that the technology level series,  $T^t$ , is also very close to  $TFP^t$  and  $TFP^{t*}$ .

The nonparametric TFP levels  $TFP^t$ , cumulated cost efficiency factors  $E^t$  (equal to the year  $t$  cost efficiency factor  $e^t$ ) and the year  $t$  level of technology  $T^t$  are plotted in Figure 1. It can be seen that except for recession years  $t$  when  $e^t$  is less than 1, the year  $t$  nonparametric TFP level  $TFP^t$  is equal to the corresponding level of technology index  $T^t$ . During the years  $t$  when  $e^t$  is less than 1,  $TFP^t$  falls below the technology index,  $T^t$ , since  $TFP^t/T^t$  is equal to  $e^t$ .

It can be seen that the rate of technical change in the Corporate Nonfinancial sector slowed down between the years 1973-1982, grew rapidly during 1983-1988, slowed down during 1989-1993, grew rapidly during 1994-2006 and then experienced a major slowdown 2006-2009 and then grew modestly during 2009-2014.

**Figure 1: Corporate Nonfinancial Sector TFP Levels  $TFP^t$ , Cumulated Cost Efficiency Factors  $E^t$  and Levels of Technology  $T^t$**

<sup>20</sup> Note that the output decline in 2009 was 7.10% while the nonparametric input decline was 4.83%. Thus during recessions when demand drops unexpectedly, many inputs are quasi-fixed and cannot drop at the same rate, leading to a TFP decline. Thus during recession years, the observed output and input combination generally ends up in the interior of the production possibilities set.



#### 4. TFP Decompositions for the U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector

In this section, we will use the Diewert and Fox (2016b) output and input data for the U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector for the 55 years 1960-2014. We use the same notation that was used in the previous section. Now the year  $t$  output  $y^t$  is Noncorporate Nonfinancial real value added and the corresponding year  $t$  value added deflator is denoted as  $p^t$ . The fifteen inputs used by this sector are labour and the services of fourteen types of asset, which are listed in Appendix A. The year  $t$  input vector is  $x^t \equiv [x_1^t, x_2^t, \dots, x_{15}^t]$  where  $x_1^t$  is year  $t$  labour input measured in billions of 1960 dollars and  $x_2^t, \dots, x_{15}^t$  are capital service inputs measured in billions of 1960 capital stock dollars. The corresponding year  $t$  input price vector is  $w^t \equiv [w_1^t, w_2^t, \dots, w_{15}^t]$  for  $t = 1960, \dots, 2014$ .

Again, it is straightforward using the above data to compute the year  $t$  cost efficiency factors  $e^t$  defined by (4), the year  $t$  change in cost efficiency factors  $\varepsilon^t$  defined by (5), the year  $t$  measures of technical progress  $\tau^t$  defined by (9), the nonparametric input price index  $\beta^t$  defined by (13), the nonparametric input quantity (or volume) index  $\gamma^t$  defined by (14) and the nonparametric Total Factor Productivity Growth factor for year  $t$ ,  $\text{TFPG}^t \equiv [y^t/y^{t-1}]/\gamma^t$  defined by (15). These growth factors are listed in Table 3 along with the output growth factors,  $y^t/y^{t-1}$ . For comparison purposes, we also computed chained Fisher input indexes where  $\gamma^{t*}$  denotes the year  $t$  Fisher chain link. These Fisher input indexes were then used to form the *Fisher TFP growth index*,  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$ , which was defined by (21) in the previous section. The output and input growth factors  $y^t/y^{t-1}$ ,  $\gamma^{t*}$  and the resulting Fisher Total Factor Productivity Growth index,  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$  are also listed in Table 3.

**Table 3: U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Fisher TFP Growth  $\text{TFPG}^{t*}$ , Nonparametric TFP Growth  $\text{TFPG}^t$ , Cost Efficiency Growth Factors  $\varepsilon^t$ , Technical Progress Growth Factors  $\tau^t$ ,**

**Nonparametric Input Growth Factors  $\gamma^t$ , Fisher Input Growth Indexes  $\gamma^{t*}$ , Output Growth Factors  $y^t/y^{t-1}$  and Cost Efficiency Factors  $e^t$**

Year	TFPG <sup>t*</sup>	TFPG <sup>t</sup>	$\varepsilon^t$	$\tau^t$	$\beta^t$	$\gamma^t$	$\gamma^{t*}$	$y^t/y^{t-1}$	$e^t$
1961	1.0270	1.0270	1.0000	1.0270	1.0435	0.9834	0.9834	1.0099	1.0000
1962	1.0315	1.0315	1.0000	1.0315	1.0462	0.9905	0.9905	1.0217	1.0000
1963	1.0243	1.0243	1.0000	1.0243	1.0360	0.9898	0.9898	1.0138	1.0000
1964	1.0317	1.0317	1.0000	1.0317	1.0490	1.0013	1.0013	1.0330	1.0000
1965	1.0389	1.0389	1.0000	1.0389	1.0596	0.9975	0.9975	1.0363	1.0000
1966	1.0332	1.0332	1.0000	1.0332	1.0649	1.0005	1.0005	1.0337	1.0000
1967	0.9998	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0317	0.9945	0.9947	0.9945	1.0000
1968	1.0162	1.0162	1.0000	1.0162	1.0622	0.9924	0.9924	1.0085	1.0000
1969	1.0033	1.0033	1.0000	1.0033	1.0472	1.0059	1.0059	1.0092	1.0000
1970	0.9998	1.0002	1.0000	1.0002	1.0395	0.9962	0.9966	0.9964	1.0000
1971	1.0153	1.0153	1.0000	1.0153	1.0631	0.9965	0.9965	1.0117	1.0000
1972	1.0397	1.0397	1.0000	1.0397	1.0896	1.0137	1.0137	1.0539	1.0000
1973	1.0818	1.0818	1.0000	1.0818	1.1292	1.0353	1.0353	1.1199	1.0000
1974	0.9400	0.9404	0.9404	1.0000	1.0290	1.0227	1.0231	0.9617	0.9404
1975	0.9780	0.9782	0.9782	1.0000	1.0789	0.9930	0.9932	0.9713	0.9199
1976	0.9992	0.9990	0.9990	1.0000	1.0860	1.0071	1.0068	1.0061	0.9189
1977	0.9921	0.9919	0.9919	1.0000	1.0752	1.0148	1.0145	1.0065	0.9114
1978	1.0298	1.0291	1.0291	1.0000	1.1026	1.0276	1.0269	1.0575	0.9380
1979	0.9702	0.9703	0.9703	1.0000	1.0848	1.0290	1.0292	0.9985	0.9101
1980	0.9706	0.9714	0.9714	1.0000	1.0362	1.0145	1.0152	0.9854	0.8841
1981	0.9879	0.9883	0.9883	1.0000	1.0841	1.0048	1.0052	0.9930	0.8737
1982	0.9716	0.9735	0.9735	1.0000	1.0364	1.0071	1.0091	0.9804	0.8506
1983	0.9661	0.9678	0.9678	1.0000	1.0407	1.0162	1.0180	0.9835	0.8232
1984	1.1160	1.1144	1.1144	1.0000	1.1287	1.0254	1.0239	1.1427	0.9174
1985	1.0183	1.0181	1.0181	1.0000	1.0675	1.0110	1.0108	1.0293	0.9340
1986	1.0281	1.0308	1.0308	1.0000	1.0491	1.0103	1.0130	1.0414	0.9627
1987	0.9862	0.9858	0.9858	1.0000	1.0342	1.0144	1.0140	1.0000	0.9491
1988	1.0232	1.0232	1.0232	1.0000	1.0728	1.0153	1.0153	1.0389	0.9711
1989	0.9895	0.9914	0.9914	1.0000	1.0444	1.0193	1.0212	1.0105	0.9627
1990	0.9904	0.9929	0.9929	1.0000	1.0343	1.0086	1.0111	1.0014	0.9558
1991	0.9646	0.9685	0.9685	1.0000	1.0087	1.0005	1.0046	0.9690	0.9257
1992	1.0650	1.0657	1.0657	1.0000	1.0824	0.9860	0.9867	1.0508	0.9865
1993	0.9914	0.9919	0.9919	1.0000	1.0153	1.0231	1.0236	1.0148	0.9786
1994	1.0281	1.0287	1.0219	1.0067	1.0405	1.0118	1.0124	1.0408	1.0000
1995	0.9865	0.9865	0.9865	1.0000	1.0332	1.0094	1.0094	0.9958	0.9865
1996	1.0164	1.0165	1.0137	1.0027	1.0688	1.0088	1.0088	1.0254	1.0000
1997	1.0092	1.0092	1.0000	1.0092	1.0428	1.0193	1.0193	1.0287	1.0000
1998	1.0483	1.0483	1.0000	1.0483	1.0714	1.0093	1.0093	1.0581	1.0000
1999	1.0392	1.0392	1.0000	1.0392	1.0584	1.0086	1.0086	1.0481	1.0000
2000	1.0101	1.0101	1.0000	1.0101	1.0630	1.0185	1.0185	1.0288	1.0000
2001	1.0209	1.0209	1.0000	1.0209	1.0660	1.0809	1.0809	1.1035	1.0000
2002	1.0192	1.0192	1.0000	1.0192	1.0237	1.0185	1.0185	1.0381	1.0000
2003	1.0159	1.0159	1.0000	1.0159	1.0244	1.0296	1.0296	1.0460	1.0000
2004	1.0299	1.0299	1.0000	1.0299	1.0504	1.0330	1.0330	1.0639	1.0000
2005	1.0139	1.0139	1.0000	1.0139	1.0352	1.0327	1.0327	1.0470	1.0000
2006	1.0382	1.0382	1.0000	1.0382	1.0569	1.0388	1.0388	1.0784	1.0000
2007	0.9738	0.9737	0.9737	1.0000	0.9975	1.0301	1.0299	1.0030	0.9737
2008	1.0443	1.0444	1.0271	1.0169	1.0485	1.0016	1.0017	1.0460	1.0000
2009	0.9738	0.9748	0.9748	1.0000	0.9559	0.9812	0.9822	0.9565	0.9748
2010	1.0035	1.0032	1.0032	1.0000	1.0371	0.9952	0.9948	0.9983	0.9779
2011	1.0614	1.0606	1.0226	1.0371	1.0796	1.0027	1.0019	1.0634	1.0000
2012	1.0205	1.0205	1.0000	1.0205	1.0416	1.0154	1.0154	1.0362	1.0000
2013	1.0026	1.0026	1.0000	1.0026	1.0246	1.0107	1.0107	1.0134	1.0000
2014	1.0034	1.0034	1.0000	1.0034	1.0270	1.0170	1.0170	1.0205	1.0000

It can be verified that the TFP growth decomposition defined by (16) holds; i.e., for each year  $t$ , nonparametric TFP growth  $TFPG^t$  equals the product of cost efficiency growth  $\varepsilon^t$  times the

year  $t$  cost based technical progress measure  $\tau^t$ . As in the previous section, it can also be seen when cost efficiency in year  $t$ ,  $e^t$ , is less than one, then the year  $t$  technical progress measure  $\tau^t$  always equals one so that there is no technical progress in years where the cost efficiency is less than one.

Over the 55 years in our sample, the geometric average nonparametric rate of TFP growth  $TFPG^t$  was 1.210% per year while the corresponding Fisher index rate of TFP growth  $TFPG^{t*}$  was 1.240% per year.<sup>21</sup> These average rates of TFP growth are substantial but considerably smaller than the corresponding average rates of TFP growth for the Corporate Nonfinancial Sector (which were 1.688% and 1.693% per year). From Table 3, it can be seen that there were cost efficiencies  $e^t$  below 1 for the 20 consecutive years 1974-1993<sup>22</sup> and in addition, for the years 1995, 2007, 2009 and 2010. Some of the cost efficiency declines were substantial; e.g., for 1983,  $e^{1983}$  was equal to 0.8232, indicating that optimal input cost was only 82.32% of observed input cost for that year. Thus the behavior and technology of the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector is very different from the behavior and technology of the Corporate Financial Sector.<sup>23</sup>

Again recall that equations (17)-(19) in section 2 above converted the growth decomposition for TFP into the levels decomposition  $TFP^t \equiv y^t/X^t = E^t T^t$  defined by (20). Again define  $X^{t*}$  as the Fisher chained index level of input for year  $t$  and again define the Fisher index level of TFP in year  $t$  as  $TFP^{t*} \equiv y^t/X^{t*}$ . The Fisher input and productivity level series for the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector,  $X^{t*}$  and  $TFP^{t*}$ , are also listed in Table 4 for comparison purposes. It can be seen that these indexes are very close to their nonparametric counterparts,  $X^t$  and  $TFP^t$ . However, it is no longer the case that the technology level series,  $T^t$ , is always close to  $TFP^t$  and  $TFP^{t*}$ : when  $e^t$  is substantially less than 1,  $TFP^t$  and  $TFP^{t*}$  are substantially below  $T^t$ . However, we note that at the end of the sample period,  $TFP^{t*}$ ,  $TFP^t$  and  $T^t$  end up at 1.9150, 1.9456 and 1.9456 respectively. Note that  $y^t$ ,  $X^t$  and  $X^{t*}$  are measured in billions of constant 1960 dollars.

**Table 4: Noncorporate Nonfinancial Fisher TFP Levels  $TFP^{t*}$ , Nonparametric TFP Levels  $TFP^t$ , Cumulated Cost Efficiency Levels  $E^t$ , Technology Levels  $T^t$ , Real Value Added  $y^t$ , Nonparametric Aggregate Input  $X^t$  and Fisher Year  $t$  Input Levels  $X^{t*}$**

Year	$TFP^{t*}$	$TFP^t$	$E^t$	$T^t$	$y^t$	$X^t$	$X^{t*}$
1960	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	107.40	107.40	107.40
1961	1.0270	1.0270	1.0000	1.0270	108.46	105.61	105.61
1962	1.0593	1.0593	1.0000	1.0593	110.81	104.61	104.61
1963	1.0850	1.0850	1.0000	1.0850	112.34	103.54	103.54
1964	1.1194	1.1194	1.0000	1.1194	116.05	103.67	103.67
1965	1.1629	1.1629	1.0000	1.1629	120.26	103.41	103.41
1966	1.2015	1.2015	1.0000	1.2015	124.31	103.46	103.46
1967	1.2013	1.2016	1.0000	1.2016	123.63	102.89	102.92
1968	1.2207	1.2210	1.0000	1.2210	124.68	102.11	102.14

<sup>21</sup> The corresponding geometric average rates of growth for our nonparametric rate of input growth  $\gamma^t$  was 1.137% per year while the corresponding geometric average Fisher index rate of input growth  $\gamma^{t*}$  was 1.166% per year.

<sup>22</sup> Evidently it took the Noncorporate Sector some 20 years to fully recover from the effects of the first oil shock recession in 1973-74. Another possibility is that there is a considerable amount of measurement error in our data for this sector.

<sup>23</sup> The Noncorporate Sector uses land and structure services more intensively while the Corporate Sector uses machinery and equipment services more intensively. Thus during recessions, it is much more difficult for the Noncorporate Sector to reduce its input usage due to the fixity of its land and structure inputs.

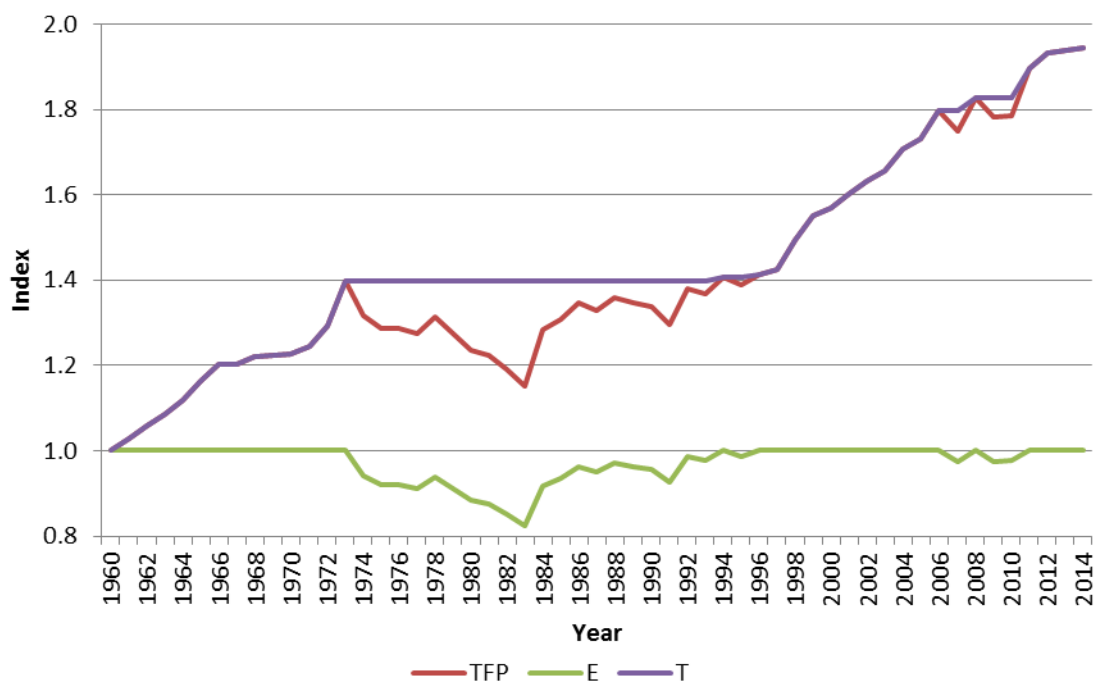
1969	1.2248	1.2251	1.0000	1.2250	125.83	102.71	102.74
1970	1.2245	1.2253	1.0000	1.2253	125.38	102.32	102.39
1971	1.2433	1.2441	1.0000	1.2441	126.85	101.96	102.03
1972	1.2926	1.2934	1.0000	1.2934	133.69	103.36	103.43
1973	1.3982	1.3991	1.0000	1.3991	149.72	107.01	107.08
1974	1.3143	1.3158	0.9404	1.3991	143.99	109.43	109.55
1975	1.2854	1.2870	0.9199	1.3991	139.86	108.67	108.81
1976	1.2844	1.2857	0.9189	1.3991	140.71	109.45	109.55
1977	1.2743	1.2752	0.9114	1.3991	141.63	111.06	111.14
1978	1.3122	1.3123	0.9380	1.3991	149.77	114.12	114.13
1979	1.2731	1.2734	0.9101	1.3991	149.54	117.44	117.46
1980	1.2357	1.2369	0.8841	1.3991	147.36	119.13	119.25
1981	1.2207	1.2224	0.8737	1.3991	146.33	119.70	119.87
1982	1.1860	1.1901	0.8506	1.3991	143.46	120.55	120.96
1983	1.1458	1.1518	0.8232	1.3991	141.09	122.50	123.13
1984	1.2788	1.2835	0.9174	1.3991	161.22	125.61	126.07
1985	1.3022	1.3067	0.9340	1.3991	165.94	126.99	127.44
1986	1.3387	1.3470	0.9627	1.3991	172.81	128.29	129.09
1987	1.3202	1.3279	0.9491	1.3991	172.81	130.14	130.90
1988	1.3509	1.3587	0.9711	1.3991	179.53	132.14	132.90
1989	1.3367	1.3469	0.9627	1.3991	181.42	134.69	135.72
1990	1.3239	1.3373	0.9558	1.3991	181.67	135.85	137.23
1991	1.2770	1.2952	0.9257	1.3991	176.04	135.92	137.86
1992	1.3599	1.3803	0.9865	1.3991	184.98	134.01	136.02
1993	1.3482	1.3691	0.9785	1.3991	187.72	137.11	139.24
1994	1.3861	1.4084	1.0000	1.4084	195.38	138.72	140.96
1995	1.3673	1.3894	0.9865	1.4084	194.55	140.02	142.28
1996	1.3898	1.4123	1.0000	1.4123	199.49	141.25	143.54
1997	1.4025	1.4252	1.0000	1.4252	205.21	143.99	146.31
1998	1.4704	1.4941	1.0000	1.4941	217.13	145.32	147.67
1999	1.5280	1.5527	1.0000	1.5527	227.58	146.57	148.94
2000	1.5435	1.5684	1.0000	1.5684	234.13	149.28	151.69
2001	1.5757	1.6012	1.0000	1.6012	258.36	161.36	163.97
2002	1.6059	1.6319	1.0000	1.6319	268.19	164.35	167.00
2003	1.6314	1.6578	1.0000	1.6578	280.52	169.22	171.95
2004	1.6801	1.7073	1.0000	1.7073	298.44	174.81	177.63
2005	1.7034	1.7309	1.0000	1.7309	312.47	180.52	183.44
2006	1.7684	1.7970	1.0000	1.7970	336.97	187.52	190.55
2007	1.7221	1.7496	0.9737	1.7970	337.97	193.16	196.26
2008	1.7984	1.8273	1.0000	1.8273	353.53	193.47	196.58
2009	1.7512	1.7812	0.9748	1.8273	338.15	189.84	193.09
2010	1.7574	1.7869	0.9779	1.8273	337.58	188.92	192.09
2011	1.8653	1.8952	1.0000	1.8952	358.99	189.42	192.46
2012	1.9035	1.9340	1.0000	1.9340	371.99	192.34	195.42
2013	1.9085	1.9391	1.0000	1.9390	376.96	194.40	197.52
2014	1.9150	1.9456	1.0000	1.9456	384.68	197.71	200.88

The nonparametric TFP levels  $TFP^t$ , cumulated cost efficiency factors  $E^t$  (equal to the year  $t$  cost efficiency factor  $e^t$ ) and the year  $t$  level of technology  $T^t$  for the Noncorporate Sector are graphed in Figure 2. It can be seen that except for recession years  $t$  when  $e^t$  is less than 1, the year  $t$  nonparametric TFP level  $TFP^t$  is equal to the corresponding level of technology index  $T^t$ . During the years  $t$  when  $e^t$  is less than 1,  $TFP^t$  falls below the technology index,  $T^t$ , since  $TFP^t/T^t$  is equal to  $e^t$ .

Note that the level of technology index  $T^t$  is constant for the years 1973-1993 and there is another flat spot on the plot for  $T^t$  for the years 2008-2010. Finally, we note that there were two periods of rapid technological progress for this sector: the years 1960-1973 and the years 1993-2008.



**Figure 2: Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector TFP Levels  $TFP^t$ , Cumulated Cost Efficiency Factors  $E^t$  and Levels of Technology  $T^t$**



## 5. Conclusion

We have provided a fairly simple decomposition of TFP growth into technical progress and technical efficiency components. These components are relatively simple to compute and could be used by statistical agencies to provide more insight into the sources of Total Factor Productivity Growth. In particular, the efficiency component, when less than one shows the cost to the economy of recessions and underlines the importance of achieving macroeconomic stability.

For the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector there were cost inefficiencies in the following eleven years: 1969, 1970, 1974, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1989, 2001, 2007, 2008 and 2009. For 2009 there was a 3.28% efficiency decline, providing a numerical estimate of the cost of the Great Recession.

The results for the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector were quite different, with cost inefficiencies for twenty consecutive years 1974-1993, and also for the years 1995, 2007, 2009 and 2010. For 1983, cost inefficiency was equal to 0.8232, meaning that optimal input cost was only 82.32% of observed input cost for that year. Hence the behavior and technology of the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector is very different from the behavior and technology of the Corporate Financial Sector.<sup>24</sup> Such differences between major sectors of the economy are informative as to the sources of productivity slowdowns and possible policy responses.

<sup>24</sup> The finding that cost inefficiency is so much bigger in the Noncorporate Sector can be at least partially explained by the fact that this sector uses land and structures much more intensively than the Corporate Sector, which uses machinery and equipment more intensively. Thus when there is a recession, due to the quasi-fixed nature of the land and structure inputs, the Noncorporate Sector cannot reduce their use of these inputs.

We have also shown that standard Fisher index measure of TFP growth will provide an adequate long run measure of growth in TFP. Thus our methodology should be viewed as a complement to standard statistical agency measures of TFP growth. Our decomposition is different from standard growth accounting decomposition approaches and gives policy makers information on two important components of TFP growth, while avoiding the interpretation of productivity declines implying disappearing technologies.

In Appendix B, we show how our one output methodology can be extended to the case of many outputs. However, it should be noted that the multiple output joint cost function  $C(y,w,t)$  defined by equation (B1) in Appendix B may not be well defined; i.e., the linear program defined in (B1) may not have a feasible solution if the output vector  $y$  has some negative components in it that represent amounts used of intermediate inputs. Even if all components of the  $y$  vector are positive, the optimal costs defined by  $C(y,w,t)$  can be quite volatile and this will tend to make the methodology based on this nonparametric cost function impractical for statistical agencies to use. Thus the one output methodology that we have illustrated above may be the most suitable application for statistical agencies that provide TFP measures.

### **Appendix A: U.S. Corporate and Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector Data**

The output and input price data that we use in this paper are drawn from Diewert and Fox (2016b). These data were constructed from Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) National Income and Product Accounts Tables, BEA Capital Stock Tables, the Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts Tables constructed by the BEA, Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve and published by the BEA. Diewert and Fox also used other information on the price and quantity of farm land and on commercial property in the U.S. Diewert and Fox used the data from these sources to construct productivity accounts for two subsectors of the U.S. private sector: the Corporate Nonfinancial Sector and the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector. For convenience, we list the data used for these two subsectors in the present study in this Appendix.<sup>25</sup> The user costs for the various capital stocks that we list here are the user costs that use *predicted end of period asset prices* rather than *actual end of period asset prices* in the user cost formula. Our use of predicted prices dramatically smoothed the resulting user costs and in particular, eliminated the negative user costs that occurred when actual end of period asset prices were used in the user cost formula. We used balancing rates of return in our user costs so that the value of inputs was equal to the corresponding value added for each year and for each of our two sectors.

The output and input price information for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector are listed in Table A1. The first input is labour input and the remaining input prices are user costs<sup>26</sup> for

<sup>25</sup> Diewert and Fox (2016b) did not construct data for the third subsector of the U.S. Private Sector economy which is the Financial Sector. There is no general consensus on how to measure outputs and inputs for the Financial Sector.

<sup>26</sup> Diewert and Fox used end of period user costs as the price for the services of a unit of capital. The period  $t$  user cost  $u^t$  for an asset with beginning of year  $t$  asset price  $P^t$  is defined as  $u^t \equiv [1+r^t - (1+i^t)(1-\delta)]P^t = [r^t - i^t + (1+i^t)\delta]P^t$  where  $\delta$  is the geometric depreciation rate,  $r^t$  is the year  $t$  cost of capital and  $i^t$  is either the ex post asset inflation rate for year  $t$  or an anticipated asset inflation rate. This formula for the user cost of capital was obtained by Christensen and Jorgenson (1969; 302) using ex post asset inflation rates. Diewert and Fox used anticipated asset inflation rates where the anticipated rate in year  $t$  was essentially the geometric average growth rate of the asset price over the 25 years prior to year  $t$ .

nine types of capital, where the stock price was set equal to unity in 1960 for each asset. The nine types of asset and their input number are as follows: 2 = Equipment; 3 = Intellectual property products; 4 = Nonresidential structures; 5 = Residential structures; 6 = Residential land; 7 = Farm land; 8 = Commercial land; 9 = Beginning of year inventory stocks and 10 = Beginning of the year real holdings of currency and deposits. The quantity (or volume) data that match up with the price data in Table A1 are listed in Table A2.

The output and input price information for the U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector are listed in Table A3. The first input is labour input and the remaining input prices are user costs for 14 types of capital, where the stock price was set equal to unity in 1960 for each asset. The 14 types of asset and their input number are as follows: 2 = Equipment held by sole proprietors; 3 = Equipment held by partners; 4 = Equipment held by cooperatives; 5 = Intellectual property products held by sole proprietors; 6 = Intellectual property products held by partners; 7 = Nonresidential structures held by sole proprietors; 8 = Nonresidential structures held by partners; 9 = Nonresidential structures held by cooperatives; ; 10 = Residential structures held by the noncorporate nonfinancial sector; 11 = Residential land held by the noncorporate nonfinancial sector; 12 = Farm land held by the noncorporate nonfinancial sector; 13 = Commercial land held by noncorporate nonfinancial sector; 14 = Beginning of the year inventories held by the noncorporate nonfinancial sector and 15 = Beginning of the year real holdings of currency and deposits by noncorporate nonfinancial sector.

The quantity (or volume) data that match up with the above price data for the Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector are listed in Table A4.

**Table A1: Value Added Output Price Indexes  $p^t$  and Input Price Indexes  $w_1^t$  for Labour and  $w_2^t$ - $w_{10}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014**

Year	$p^t$	$w_1^t$	$w_2^t$	$w_3^t$	$w_4^t$	$w_5^t$	$w_6^t$	$w_7^t$	$w_8^t$	$w_9^t$	$w_{10}^t$
1960	1.00000	1.00000	0.19256	0.26274	0.10410	0.09655	0.07678	0.02889	0.08036	0.08052	0.06627
1961	1.00305	1.02900	0.19421	0.26913	0.10473	0.09868	0.07987	0.03163	0.07546	0.08249	0.06922
1962	1.00954	1.07248	0.20442	0.28147	0.11475	0.11000	0.09169	0.04384	0.08626	0.09257	0.07969
1963	1.01454	1.10939	0.21268	0.29413	0.12139	0.11579	0.10456	0.05301	0.09376	0.10000	0.08741
1964	1.02388	1.16396	0.22183	0.30549	0.12856	0.12127	0.11296	0.06475	0.10190	0.10479	0.09581
1965	1.04188	1.20847	0.23669	0.32458	0.14241	0.13640	0.11341	0.08218	0.11494	0.11501	0.10830
1966	1.07230	1.27923	0.24516	0.33897	0.14790	0.14206	0.12100	0.08799	0.11795	0.11812	0.11505
1967	1.09623	1.35006	0.24005	0.33753	0.14029	0.13446	0.11277	0.07943	0.10874	0.11027	0.10712
1968	1.13024	1.45189	0.24711	0.35250	0.14420	0.13841	0.11292	0.08531	0.11185	0.11292	0.11043
1969	1.17785	1.55445	0.24606	0.35880	0.13958	0.13330	0.10370	0.07991	0.10519	0.10651	0.10403
1970	1.22161	1.66899	0.23706	0.35763	0.12647	0.11951	0.07744	0.06326	0.08785	0.09230	0.08892
1971	1.26574	1.77389	0.25229	0.38147	0.13929	0.13209	0.08240	0.08156	0.09820	0.10138	0.09973
1972	1.31076	1.88492	0.26919	0.40667	0.15425	0.14709	0.09972	0.09839	0.11083	0.11142	0.11193
1973	1.38762	2.01570	0.28470	0.43499	0.16994	0.15984	0.11322	0.10866	0.12116	0.11983	0.12109
1974	1.52395	2.21404	0.29218	0.46019	0.16903	0.15490	0.09067	0.07729	0.11121	0.11298	0.11295
1975	1.67352	2.42836	0.32942	0.50289	0.18806	0.17105	0.08722	0.09212	0.12316	0.12404	0.12395
1976	1.75491	2.62329	0.36716	0.54321	0.21566	0.19687	0.10911	0.12218	0.14793	0.14343	0.14440
1977	1.85432	2.83198	0.40413	0.58130	0.24237	0.21878	0.13752	0.14120	0.16947	0.15795	0.16026
1978	1.98679	3.07219	0.43817	0.61872	0.26551	0.24329	0.14831	0.16334	0.18682	0.16864	0.17269
1979	2.14974	3.36681	0.45807	0.65391	0.27237	0.24602	0.10610	0.13216	0.18151	0.16846	0.16952
1980	2.35075	3.73098	0.47806	0.68846	0.26906	0.24192	0.06658	0.07307	0.16596	0.16147	0.16096
1981	2.55297	4.07462	0.53476	0.76332	0.31875	0.28225	0.15807	0.12998	0.20306	0.19020	0.18884
1982	2.70487	4.39204	0.54217	0.78749	0.31484	0.27292	0.13375	0.10722	0.18308	0.17589	0.17749
1983	2.75464	4.56565	0.57007	0.83350	0.33486	0.30378	0.19036	0.18312	0.21494	0.19362	0.19835
1984	2.83966	4.78376	0.61470	0.90142	0.38208	0.35503	0.28351	0.28564	0.27945	0.23090	0.23849
1985	2.89001	5.04887	0.62004	0.91881	0.38162	0.35491	0.27704	0.28537	0.27793	0.22652	0.23644
1986	2.93035	5.32469	0.60603	0.91172	0.36337	0.34405	0.34997	0.32864	0.26629	0.19382	0.22287
1987	2.98587	5.53260	0.63339	0.94070	0.38454	0.38132	0.40407	0.34765	0.30274	0.20454	0.23946
1988	3.06238	5.82700	0.66869	0.99297	0.41869	0.42055	0.48591	0.40352	0.35243	0.23015	0.26237
1989	3.15539	6.01745	0.67102	1.01225	0.41931	0.41277	0.50524	0.42883	0.34280	0.23860	0.25451

1990	3.25074	6.33621	0.67795	1.02431	0.42395	0.40154	0.53776	0.41802	0.32516	0.22965	0.24551
1991	3.32219	6.65680	0.68223	1.04054	0.41384	0.38647	0.57116	0.42496	0.31992	0.21556	0.23699
1992	3.36449	6.99763	0.68436	1.03788	0.40575	0.38768	0.58334	0.44836	0.32374	0.20533	0.23064
1993	3.43456	7.10638	0.70682	1.06689	0.43069	0.42736	0.71268	0.48853	0.35962	0.21578	0.24861
1994	3.48679	7.25300	0.75313	1.11924	0.48826	0.47959	0.93686	0.59185	0.43389	0.25403	0.29332
1995	3.53437	7.39298	0.78121	1.17658	0.51979	0.50898	0.98009	0.64555	0.46164	0.27131	0.31057
1996	3.55779	7.68905	0.80383	1.21993	0.55075	0.53839	0.98237	0.70123	0.50483	0.29167	0.33388
1997	3.58599	7.96034	0.81598	1.27200	0.58614	0.57325	1.00470	0.72237	0.54560	0.29511	0.35232
1998	3.59545	8.48754	0.78691	1.27544	0.57043	0.55798	0.90282	0.67356	0.52753	0.26988	0.32898
1999	3.61926	8.85048	0.77469	1.31806	0.56243	0.56739	0.94087	0.66969	0.54253	0.26082	0.32448
2000	3.66103	9.45242	0.75184	1.35132	0.53713	0.55208	0.87348	0.57220	0.51378	0.24160	0.29908
2001	3.71320	9.82805	0.70784	1.31973	0.49969	0.51276	0.76280	0.43952	0.44344	0.20973	0.26160
2002	3.71089	10.03735	0.71070	1.31519	0.53843	0.56070	0.97163	0.43830	0.50197	0.21640	0.28450
2003	3.74861	10.40118	0.72529	1.34037	0.59229	0.62017	1.21573	0.51345	0.59073	0.24184	0.32026
2004	3.82615	10.82730	0.75909	1.38485	0.67653	0.70191	1.58749	0.61013	0.74340	0.27886	0.36908
2005	3.95768	11.21466	0.80199	1.44142	0.78937	0.78852	2.00121	0.73406	0.87517	0.31149	0.41586
2006	4.07891	11.61647	0.83696	1.49294	0.90066	0.87282	2.24793	0.86854	0.98306	0.34048	0.45815
2007	4.16098	12.07780	0.83088	1.49253	0.88964	0.84784	2.08966	0.82053	0.91385	0.32041	0.43718
2008	4.24922	12.42257	0.81797	1.48885	0.87535	0.81287	1.84853	0.75691	0.80840	0.32167	0.42098
2009	4.31825	12.65447	0.78688	1.43364	0.81163	0.74772	1.56751	0.67751	0.68550	0.28203	0.39094
2010	4.32164	12.88069	0.84979	1.51054	0.95496	0.87881	1.98741	0.95722	0.86913	0.34693	0.48488
2011	4.41763	13.16690	0.87482	1.53668	1.00154	0.90534	1.91087	1.04686	0.83566	0.37164	0.50267
2012	4.49159	13.48156	0.90515	1.57710	1.08104	0.95401	1.96570	1.19245	0.85964	0.40289	0.53983
2013	4.52053	13.62476	0.90913	1.59736	1.12044	0.99709	2.20110	1.30349	0.96258	0.40288	0.54803
2014	4.55684	13.95482	0.89901	1.60571	1.11386	1.00166	2.33484	1.27996	1.02107	0.37644	0.52966

**Table A2: Real Value Added Output Volumes  $y^t$  and Input Quantities  $x_1^t$  for Labour and  $x_2^t$ – $x_{10}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014 in Billions of 1960 U.S. Dollars**

Year	$y^t$	$x_1^t$	$x_2^t$	$x_3^t$	$x_4^t$	$x_5^t$	$x_6^t$	$x_7^t$	$x_8^t$	$x_9^t$	$x_{10}^t$
1960	255.90	180.40	136.30	23.30	256.90	4.70	1.17	13.43	79.21	87.40	31.00
1961	262.00	179.30	141.30	24.91	262.41	5.19	1.27	13.41	80.43	89.86	31.13
1962	284.19	185.83	145.36	26.69	267.71	5.71	1.38	13.40	81.58	91.29	35.43
1963	301.71	189.38	151.17	28.41	273.13	6.34	1.53	13.38	82.74	95.51	39.21
1964	322.89	193.91	157.80	30.43	278.37	6.92	1.63	13.33	83.82	102.30	38.24
1965	350.04	203.07	166.42	32.35	285.12	7.56	1.78	13.26	85.34	108.93	38.28
1966	375.92	213.33	179.03	34.84	294.21	8.02	1.89	13.14	87.53	114.65	39.93
1967	386.69	215.62	195.16	37.96	304.82	8.72	2.05	12.99	90.14	127.78	37.80
1968	411.77	221.02	208.63	41.17	315.05	9.23	2.17	12.82	92.60	138.18	40.09
1969	428.24	229.08	222.80	44.43	325.33	9.41	2.22	12.62	95.03	144.62	40.71
1970	424.52	224.39	238.11	47.56	336.33	9.72	2.34	12.41	97.64	151.24	38.71
1971	441.24	223.35	250.13	49.82	347.09	9.98	2.40	12.20	100.14	154.24	38.69
1972	474.69	233.38	260.20	51.50	356.88	10.35	2.45	12.02	102.32	157.40	39.66
1973	503.52	245.62	273.63	53.63	367.04	10.89	2.54	11.89	104.58	157.42	42.43
1974	495.88	245.21	292.51	55.75	378.21	11.31	2.61	11.82	107.08	158.63	44.46
1975	488.85	234.31	310.48	57.59	389.20	11.70	2.72	11.83	109.49	180.63	43.99
1976	528.86	243.97	320.07	58.89	397.51	11.79	2.74	11.89	111.11	177.49	47.78
1977	567.81	255.40	330.91	61.22	405.73	11.82	2.67	11.95	112.68	190.31	50.87
1978	604.69	270.00	347.72	64.19	414.14	11.92	2.62	11.97	114.27	201.26	54.06
1979	624.08	279.91	369.13	67.30	425.62	12.07	2.59	11.93	116.67	206.24	55.68
1980	617.97	276.25	392.10	71.35	439.13	12.31	2.57	11.83	119.58	214.11	54.97
1981	643.05	279.73	409.11	75.30	453.99	12.46	2.57	11.71	122.81	215.05	51.13
1982	629.01	269.42	425.13	80.35	469.41	12.56	2.59	11.60	126.14	230.39	44.56
1983	659.80	273.81	433.71	85.53	482.96	12.57	2.60	11.52	128.91	224.53	48.06
1984	718.57	290.19	441.74	91.16	492.95	12.68	2.59	11.46	130.69	223.74	56.80
1985	751.87	295.14	458.19	98.48	506.51	12.84	2.58	11.41	133.37	245.05	58.41
1986	771.48	296.39	473.93	106.18	521.46	13.03	2.57	11.36	136.37	253.96	64.35
1987	812.39	304.65	485.39	113.59	531.66	13.27	2.56	11.30	138.08	259.07	69.51
1988	862.30	313.25	493.06	119.86	541.10	13.45	2.53	11.23	139.56	266.81	69.04
1989	878.69	321.53	502.49	126.00	549.97	13.56	2.51	11.15	140.86	270.62	70.58
1990	891.40	321.56	513.17	133.47	558.87	13.68	2.49	11.07	142.13	279.81	68.10
1991	886.79	311.13	523.24	141.59	571.46	13.75	2.48	11.00	144.30	284.15	64.92
1992	913.84	312.78	529.82	149.42	580.43	13.86	2.48	10.98	145.52	285.39	66.24
1993	936.36	319.57	539.56	156.86	587.08	13.94	2.45	10.99	146.13	288.02	62.99
1994	993.98	330.72	555.99	164.36	594.31	14.02	2.42	11.03	146.86	294.53	68.76
1995	1041.97	341.49	578.75	171.62	600.71	14.18	2.41	11.08	147.36	312.83	71.42

1996	1103.04	346.95	608.03	180.65	610.50	14.43	2.42	11.12	148.67	323.14	72.11
1997	1176.66	359.61	640.06	192.35	621.99	14.65	2.42	11.14	150.34	331.08	76.01
1998	1243.46	364.51	676.37	206.79	633.94	15.00	2.43	11.13	152.09	351.46	79.77
1999	1311.12	373.99	714.79	220.93	647.08	15.32	2.42	11.09	154.08	373.25	83.47
2000	1382.97	380.57	758.83	236.72	659.77	15.71	2.43	11.02	155.91	391.40	97.80
2001	1353.60	364.73	807.14	253.06	675.31	16.17	2.46	10.94	158.37	406.54	108.50
2002	1365.17	352.88	836.85	264.77	688.89	16.59	2.48	10.86	160.31	396.48	96.15
2003	1394.84	345.70	849.80	270.94	695.87	17.04	2.47	10.78	160.69	400.70	94.92
2004	1457.60	347.53	864.24	277.85	701.20	17.55	2.48	10.72	160.65	404.04	119.48
2005	1505.65	350.46	883.71	285.80	704.80	18.07	2.51	10.65	160.21	422.06	126.94
2006	1563.63	355.47	911.51	297.23	708.42	18.60	2.52	10.58	159.76	437.87	145.58
2007	1579.29	356.46	948.76	309.84	716.01	19.03	2.54	10.50	160.18	456.20	127.52
2008	1558.90	350.81	982.79	322.87	727.05	19.36	2.58	10.43	161.34	431.97	112.36
2009	1448.25	323.08	1003.81	335.42	739.66	19.56	2.61	10.39	162.81	455.18	73.39
2010	1528.52	322.86	989.83	342.65	745.03	19.58	2.62	10.36	162.65	422.76	116.40
2011	1566.84	331.39	993.14	352.42	746.62	19.53	2.62	10.37	161.66	433.31	140.21
2012	1630.05	340.71	1012.94	362.86	749.80	19.51	2.64	10.41	160.99	438.69	142.93
2013	1679.43	348.44	1042.71	373.67	755.97	19.57	2.63	10.50	160.96	453.65	138.55
2014	1732.74	358.00	1072.23	386.19	762.97	19.69	2.66	10.50	161.08	469.18	161.67

Table A3: Value Added Output Price Indexes  $p^t$  and Input Price Indexes  $w_1^t$  for Labour and  $w_2^t$ – $w_{15}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014

Year	$p^t$	$w_1^t$	$w_2^t$	$w_3^t$	$w_4^t$	$w_5^t$	$w_6^t$	$w_7^t$
1960	1.00000	1.00000	0.22676	0.21874	0.18916	0.17713	0.20184	0.08767
1961	1.01608	1.02966	0.23454	0.22458	0.19258	0.22663	0.20632	0.09207
1962	1.03063	1.07195	0.24029	0.22913	0.19101	0.22519	0.20617	0.09648
1963	1.04236	1.10874	0.24521	0.23621	0.18973	0.22368	0.20630	0.10111
1964	1.05988	1.16352	0.24960	0.24363	0.18549	0.22585	0.24441	0.10461
1965	1.08098	1.20531	0.26270	0.25396	0.19664	0.24166	0.25750	0.11968
1966	1.11417	1.26753	0.27539	0.26764	0.20379	0.29442	0.26760	0.13079
1967	1.14936	1.32807	0.27994	0.26851	0.19731	0.29662	0.27147	0.12965
1968	1.20145	1.42321	0.28794	0.27683	0.24232	0.30460	0.31725	0.13666
1969	1.25404	1.52232	0.29489	0.28596	0.23656	0.34960	0.32114	0.13773
1970	1.30323	1.62464	0.29894	0.29090	0.23030	0.34961	0.35899	0.13984
1971	1.36458	1.72481	0.31398	0.29890	0.23087	0.40178	0.37216	0.14877
1972	1.43021	1.83055	0.33348	0.32034	0.24004	0.42320	0.39731	0.16980
1973	1.49277	1.94868	0.37074	0.34912	0.25950	0.46368	0.47990	0.20811
1974	1.63340	2.11934	0.37977	0.35718	0.27956	0.50142	0.47493	0.20257
1975	1.80178	2.30533	0.42150	0.39843	0.28159	0.51937	0.49256	0.21935
1976	1.95864	2.48111	0.45675	0.42886	0.32506	0.54528	0.55997	0.23953
1977	2.12311	2.66486	0.49526	0.45920	0.35840	0.60263	0.57132	0.25667
1978	2.27483	2.87716	0.54250	0.50145	0.39395	0.62500	0.63933	0.28977
1979	2.54321	3.13818	0.58550	0.54094	0.40062	0.71776	0.68300	0.31527
1980	2.71313	3.45952	0.60998	0.56482	0.40729	0.71712	0.72645	0.31170
1981	2.97606	3.77030	0.66071	0.60996	0.44521	0.81893	0.78749	0.33871
1982	3.16805	4.06183	0.68001	0.62701	0.45843	0.80736	0.77985	0.33908
1983	3.40696	4.23988	0.69854	0.63499	0.43904	0.85994	0.80598	0.33800
1984	3.45063	4.43816	0.76271	0.69565	0.49134	0.94571	0.90734	0.40341
1985	3.61816	4.66186	0.78890	0.72449	0.54363	0.98666	0.95503	0.43407
1986	3.68213	4.88514	0.78477	0.71484	0.52454	1.03770	1.00480	0.43796
1987	3.86270	5.08705	0.80508	0.73030	0.51595	1.06476	1.03385	0.44997
1988	4.04995	5.35411	0.84398	0.76513	0.53449	1.11427	1.10890	0.48796
1989	4.26681	5.52047	0.86711	0.78137	0.55783	1.16233	1.14933	0.50148
1990	4.44489	5.79607	0.87403	0.78002	0.56224	1.14817	1.14971	0.50378
1991	4.62950	6.04868	0.86541	0.76984	0.57392	1.15870	1.16579	0.47152
1992	4.70216	6.36837	0.91391	0.80400	0.60344	1.17622	1.20052	0.50681
1993	4.81293	6.47672	0.92188	0.80821	0.59337	1.18276	1.20670	0.50657
1994	4.86845	6.61553	0.94968	0.82856	0.61353	1.19451	1.21956	0.52853
1995	5.09895	6.77705	0.97920	0.85329	0.61471	1.22551	1.26365	0.55904
1996	5.36112	7.04982	1.03103	0.89725	0.64881	1.29395	1.33232	0.62418
1997	5.54023	7.35283	1.05463	0.91576	0.67488	1.34883	1.38031	0.66305
1998	5.66193	7.79292	1.07972	0.94669	0.68875	1.42473	1.49293	0.72412

1999	5.76635	8.13467	1.09374	0.96468	0.68734	1.51788	1.63972	0.76265
2000	6.06797	8.66015	1.10832	0.98063	0.69752	1.61067	1.75485	0.80385
2001	6.33652	8.92507	1.13113	0.99186	0.71256	1.64688	1.81206	0.87396
2002	6.36495	9.08339	1.12467	0.97354	0.67964	1.64454	1.79385	0.89347
2003	6.41842	9.38935	1.11305	0.94700	0.65871	1.66412	1.75757	0.89466
2004	6.54641	9.79422	1.13583	0.95235	0.65510	1.69526	1.75636	0.93406
2005	6.68416	10.11993	1.15245	0.95621	0.66628	1.73846	1.76108	0.98401
2006	6.80506	10.52445	1.18377	0.97374	0.68887	1.79572	1.79441	1.08627
2007	6.97187	10.96286	1.16831	0.95359	0.67229	1.79511	1.77865	1.05757
2008	6.99939	11.25854	1.20741	0.98433	0.71372	1.83066	1.84927	1.16154
2009	6.86380	11.40664	1.17399	0.94232	0.68120	1.76670	1.79331	1.08418
2010	7.09602	11.68109	1.21263	0.97029	0.70390	1.79124	1.82647	1.12898
2011	7.22277	11.97466	1.32378	1.05485	0.78845	1.88962	1.92922	1.32135
2012	7.37188	12.27440	1.38750	1.09613	0.82881	1.95397	1.98316	1.42448
2013	7.53339	12.39774	1.38072	1.08662	0.81217	1.96294	1.98734	1.44428
2014	7.71100	12.66660	1.37743	1.08131	0.79531	1.97326	2.00241	1.47364

**Table A3 Continued: Value Added Output Price Indexes  $p^t$  and Input Price Indexes  $w_1^t$  for Labour and  $w_2^t$ - $w_{15}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Noncorporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014**

Year	$w_8^t$	$w_9^t$	$w_{10}^t$	$w_{11}^t$	$w_{12}^t$	$w_{13}^t$	$w_{14}^t$	$w_{15}^t$
1960	0.09072	0.08984	0.09213	0.06938	0.02148	0.07296	0.07312	0.05886
1961	0.09506	0.09238	0.09872	0.07675	0.02848	0.07264	0.07942	0.06610
1962	0.09886	0.09617	0.10338	0.08287	0.03465	0.07829	0.08402	0.07099
1963	0.10042	0.10002	0.10491	0.08980	0.03791	0.08101	0.08642	0.07353
1964	0.10822	0.10590	0.10671	0.09425	0.04452	0.08560	0.08805	0.07812
1965	0.11990	0.11811	0.12094	0.09570	0.05982	0.09755	0.09763	0.08965
1966	0.13161	0.12746	0.13017	0.10773	0.06890	0.10378	0.10399	0.10018
1967	0.13386	0.12812	0.13047	0.10692	0.07038	0.10218	0.10394	0.10034
1968	0.13766	0.13266	0.13612	0.10840	0.07836	0.10709	0.10840	0.10545
1969	0.13969	0.13350	0.13734	0.10482	0.08148	0.10625	0.10749	0.10514
1970	0.13989	0.13318	0.13726	0.09503	0.08352	0.10269	0.10516	0.10338
1971	0.15276	0.14215	0.14820	0.09693	0.09623	0.10931	0.11056	0.11022
1972	0.17157	0.16120	0.16771	0.11916	0.11818	0.12582	0.12331	0.12547
1973	0.21048	0.19441	0.20087	0.16222	0.16111	0.15963	0.14975	0.15367
1974	0.20619	0.19081	0.19644	0.14346	0.13619	0.14857	0.14443	0.14403
1975	0.22286	0.20855	0.20823	0.14216	0.14520	0.15712	0.15241	0.15198
1976	0.24167	0.23149	0.22752	0.15871	0.16747	0.17637	0.16491	0.16659
1977	0.26097	0.24898	0.24405	0.17589	0.17862	0.19110	0.17320	0.17627
1978	0.29480	0.27448	0.27715	0.20855	0.21803	0.21831	0.18958	0.19512
1979	0.32396	0.29523	0.30019	0.21885	0.23318	0.23535	0.20505	0.20687
1980	0.32133	0.28985	0.29581	0.17490	0.17918	0.21942	0.19834	0.19733
1981	0.35111	0.30537	0.31073	0.20339	0.18103	0.22887	0.20795	0.20617
1982	0.35116	0.29705	0.30339	0.18084	0.15976	0.21273	0.19442	0.19669
1983	0.34869	0.30429	0.31264	0.19397	0.18691	0.21737	0.19505	0.19988
1984	0.41227	0.37015	0.37854	0.31695	0.31778	0.30091	0.24344	0.25197
1985	0.44322	0.39791	0.40994	0.37602	0.35963	0.33931	0.26097	0.27433
1986	0.44501	0.39257	0.40744	0.48061	0.40255	0.34018	0.23306	0.26840
1987	0.45613	0.40177	0.42784	0.50342	0.39231	0.35387	0.23012	0.27049
1988	0.49275	0.43272	0.46325	0.58695	0.44723	0.40169	0.25508	0.29233
1989	0.50591	0.45954	0.47642	0.66349	0.49404	0.41777	0.27652	0.29909
1990	0.50911	0.46847	0.46526	0.72205	0.49003	0.40575	0.27057	0.29461
1991	0.47602	0.44283	0.43609	0.70229	0.47826	0.37726	0.24522	0.27355
1992	0.51076	0.48413	0.47672	0.86271	0.55879	0.44591	0.26449	0.30692
1993	0.51095	0.47477	0.48665	0.89740	0.56382	0.44040	0.25523	0.30042
1994	0.53294	0.49626	0.50510	1.00655	0.62121	0.46437	0.26870	0.31309
1995	0.56335	0.52162	0.52950	1.03423	0.66920	0.48532	0.28290	0.32625
1996	0.62861	0.58282	0.58647	1.12767	0.76565	0.56837	0.32232	0.37511
1997	0.66856	0.60585	0.61740	1.16206	0.79336	0.61442	0.32750	0.39663
1998	0.72867	0.65763	0.67889	1.29081	0.84876	0.69721	0.34387	0.43271
1999	0.76565	0.68368	0.72428	1.47920	0.89927	0.77795	0.35011	0.45535
2000	0.80768	0.71105	0.76233	1.66345	0.89806	0.85925	0.36292	0.47644
2001	0.87725	0.76629	0.82632	2.02110	0.93616	0.99372	0.38508	0.51789

2002	0.89609	0.77268	0.84788	2.21420	0.90996	1.04537	0.36879	0.51611
2003	0.89541	0.76843	0.85115	2.35272	0.89420	1.08796	0.36595	0.50877
2004	0.93595	0.79918	0.88556	2.62028	0.92106	1.19506	0.38156	0.52357
2005	0.98764	0.82665	0.91046	2.78533	0.97651	1.21808	0.38359	0.52215
2006	1.09190	0.87821	0.98376	3.00999	1.12311	1.31632	0.40610	0.55317
2007	1.06849	0.86302	0.94837	2.74417	1.06806	1.20008	0.37771	0.51976
2008	1.17424	0.96556	1.02484	2.90817	1.20796	1.27180	0.43966	0.57481
2009	1.09671	0.93383	0.94392	2.32784	1.09790	1.01801	0.38136	0.53409
2010	1.14236	0.97373	0.99817	2.45241	1.22855	1.07249	0.41152	0.57780
2011	1.34185	1.18273	1.16477	2.68566	1.63422	1.17449	0.51099	0.69210
2012	1.45062	1.29131	1.23493	2.74040	1.88226	1.19843	0.56112	0.74816
2013	1.46947	1.29809	1.25836	3.03315	2.04035	1.32645	0.54961	0.74258
2014	1.49843	1.29237	1.28191	3.30081	2.11523	1.44351	0.52778	0.73457

**Table A4: Real Value Added Output Volumes  $y^t$  and Input Quantities  $x_1^t$  for Labour and  $x_2^t-x_{15}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014 in Billions of 1960 U.S. Dollars**

Year	$y^t$	$x_1^t$	$x_2^t$	$x_3^t$	$x_4^t$	$x_5^t$	$x_6^t$	$x_7^t$
1960	107.40	76.63	27.20	14.50	1.70	2.30	2.60	32.30
1961	108.46	74.57	27.09	14.56	1.77	2.34	2.65	33.24
1962	110.81	73.13	26.87	14.55	1.82	2.42	2.76	34.14
1963	112.34	71.47	27.07	14.73	1.89	2.48	2.83	35.23
1964	116.05	71.22	27.60	15.08	1.97	2.52	2.88	36.38
1965	120.26	70.24	28.43	15.71	2.00	2.52	2.88	37.54
1966	124.31	69.03	29.71	16.53	2.06	2.53	2.88	38.85
1967	123.63	67.32	31.28	17.67	2.17	2.53	2.86	39.97
1968	124.68	65.69	32.39	18.46	2.25	2.50	2.81	40.99
1969	125.83	65.08	33.35	19.20	2.34	2.48	2.79	41.84
1970	125.38	63.31	34.51	20.17	2.42	2.47	2.76	42.81
1971	126.85	61.94	35.59	21.08	2.53	2.46	2.73	43.77
1972	133.69	61.82	36.64	21.81	2.61	2.44	2.68	44.60
1973	149.72	63.69	37.95	22.40	2.71	2.40	2.61	45.33
1974	143.99	63.96	40.59	23.39	2.83	2.35	2.56	46.43
1975	139.86	62.50	42.21	23.93	2.99	2.29	2.49	47.57
1976	140.71	62.63	43.00	24.13	3.15	2.24	2.43	48.64
1977	141.63	63.82	43.92	24.27	3.32	2.24	2.44	49.68
1978	149.77	65.87	45.30	24.76	3.56	2.22	2.40	50.80
1979	149.54	67.44	47.77	25.85	3.60	2.28	2.47	52.38
1980	147.36	67.40	50.36	27.27	3.82	2.42	2.60	54.10
1981	146.33	67.21	50.94	28.00	3.84	2.56	2.72	55.95
1982	143.46	67.12	51.59	29.07	3.90	2.74	2.88	58.48
1983	141.09	68.39	50.69	29.47	3.81	2.85	2.95	60.50
1984	161.22	70.75	49.94	29.54	3.68	3.00	3.05	61.63
1985	165.94	70.79	50.13	30.42	3.57	3.21	3.25	62.98
1986	172.81	70.85	49.82	31.50	3.89	3.43	3.50	64.47
1987	172.81	71.81	49.35	32.35	4.03	3.71	3.79	65.57
1988	179.53	73.01	49.00	33.23	3.99	4.10	4.20	66.75
1989	181.42	74.83	49.20	34.47	3.99	4.47	4.63	67.90
1990	181.67	75.52	49.35	35.47	3.94	4.85	5.07	68.71
1991	176.04	75.76	48.57	35.06	3.99	5.15	5.42	69.02
1992	184.98	74.09	47.47	34.38	3.98	5.45	5.76	68.89
1993	187.72	77.42	46.54	33.61	4.03	5.79	6.09	68.37
1994	195.38	78.99	46.61	33.56	4.12	6.11	6.39	68.28
1995	194.55	79.86	47.54	34.06	4.19	6.38	6.68	68.16
1996	199.49	80.39	48.54	34.83	4.27	6.61	7.01	68.22
1997	205.21	81.85	49.60	35.90	4.36	6.85	7.39	68.39
1998	217.13	81.78	51.18	37.36	4.47	7.26	7.91	68.54
1999	227.58	81.46	52.23	40.03	4.62	7.79	9.03	68.83
2000	234.13	82.32	52.71	44.11	4.88	8.29	10.69	69.05
2001	258.36	93.06	52.93	49.54	5.29	8.65	12.73	69.31
2002	268.19	94.87	52.36	54.71	5.77	8.71	14.72	69.29

2003	280.52	99.49	51.85	59.70	6.28	8.73	16.83	68.96
2004	298.44	104.48	51.72	64.31	6.77	8.82	18.67	68.63
2005	312.47	108.97	52.32	69.53	7.19	8.93	20.38	68.21
2006	336.97	114.97	53.49	75.43	7.71	9.15	22.18	67.75
2007	337.97	118.85	54.79	81.99	8.39	9.33	23.87	67.33
2008	353.53	116.87	55.87	88.78	9.17	9.45	25.45	67.09
2009	338.15	111.44	55.03	94.95	9.78	9.31	27.09	67.09
2010	337.58	110.59	53.27	96.50	10.24	9.22	28.21	66.75
2011	358.99	110.59	52.46	99.78	10.68	9.20	29.23	66.08
2012	371.99	112.98	52.42	103.83	11.22	9.19	30.18	65.44
2013	376.96	113.80	53.70	109.50	11.83	9.33	31.25	64.93
2014	384.68	116.08	55.11	115.16	12.35	9.46	32.31	64.54

**Table A4 Continued: Real Value Added Output Volumes  $y^t$  and Input Quantities  $x_1^t$  for Labour and  $x_2^t$ – $x_{15}^t$  for Capital Services for the U.S. Corporate Nonfinancial Sector, 1960-2014 in Billions of 1960 U.S. Dollars**

Year	$x_8^t$	$x_9^t$	$x_{10}^t$	$x_{11}^t$	$x_{12}^t$	$x_{13}^t$	$x_{14}^t$	$x_{15}^t$
1960	19.70	3.20	45.00	63.77	86.77	17.02	34.10	18.70
1961	20.38	3.33	45.45	64.31	86.64	17.01	34.99	17.74
1962	21.12	3.45	46.02	64.90	86.58	17.61	36.48	17.82
1963	21.97	3.57	46.72	65.52	86.46	18.19	38.09	17.58
1964	22.88	3.69	47.36	65.78	86.17	18.85	36.49	17.16
1965	23.92	3.81	48.12	67.43	85.66	19.92	35.44	17.02
1966	25.27	3.94	48.71	69.41	84.93	20.94	38.61	16.86
1967	26.49	4.07	49.59	71.73	83.99	21.90	39.10	16.34
1968	27.54	4.24	50.22	73.99	82.86	22.57	39.34	16.02
1969	28.35	4.40	54.30	76.53	81.57	23.74	41.72	15.53
1970	29.43	4.57	59.74	81.09	80.19	24.92	43.15	14.91
1971	30.46	4.74	64.77	83.65	78.85	26.02	40.99	15.40
1972	31.60	4.91	71.13	84.66	77.67	28.13	45.09	16.10
1973	32.83	5.08	79.45	85.53	76.80	30.04	50.09	16.93
1974	34.43	5.24	86.03	87.07	76.38	31.89	53.93	19.93
1975	35.41	5.38	91.83	90.47	76.46	32.13	45.19	18.83
1976	36.20	5.62	93.47	92.31	76.83	31.12	46.28	18.13
1977	37.04	5.86	94.66	91.70	77.23	31.06	43.97	19.05
1978	37.90	6.16	96.56	90.86	77.37	31.95	46.08	20.52
1979	39.21	6.27	99.05	91.23	77.07	33.28	52.71	22.13
1980	41.47	6.51	102.64	91.57	76.46	34.83	54.55	23.83
1981	44.00	6.62	105.11	93.63	75.70	36.14	50.01	23.75
1982	47.57	6.75	107.05	96.61	74.99	38.04	47.17	23.42
1983	51.14	6.75	107.94	99.82	74.46	38.72	48.50	24.37
1984	53.73	6.68	110.06	100.61	74.08	38.96	45.48	27.41
1985	57.29	6.63	112.67	101.64	73.77	41.00	47.38	29.13
1986	61.80	6.77	115.83	102.71	73.45	43.03	47.90	34.14
1987	65.52	6.84	119.60	102.38	73.06	44.12	45.12	34.85
1988	69.29	6.84	122.27	101.82	72.57	45.75	44.79	33.27
1989	72.93	6.81	124.30	101.70	72.03	47.04	44.00	35.00
1990	75.95	6.79	126.23	101.63	71.51	48.25	44.52	34.39
1991	77.46	6.83	127.62	103.14	71.12	48.27	45.22	34.00
1992	77.91	6.87	128.22	103.97	70.94	46.97	42.45	34.28
1993	77.50	6.88	128.73	103.04	71.03	46.36	44.77	36.36
1994	77.77	6.91	129.61	102.65	71.29	46.78	43.70	36.50
1995	77.86	6.90	129.83	101.89	71.61	47.54	45.16	39.43
1996	78.31	6.93	131.92	102.55	71.89	47.71	42.95	42.60
1997	78.88	7.00	133.91	102.57	72.02	48.65	53.99	46.89
1998	79.64	7.06	136.11	102.68	71.95	50.69	55.73	53.98
1999	80.81	7.15	138.17	102.33	71.67	52.96	53.40	63.73
2000	82.20	7.26	140.65	101.97	71.25	55.04	54.39	74.91
2001	83.79	7.53	142.87	102.66	70.73	57.53	56.07	88.97
2002	85.18	7.88	145.02	103.10	70.19	60.05	54.41	89.45
2003	86.36	8.09	147.25	100.68	69.70	61.82	55.88	91.22
2004	87.01	8.28	149.74	99.21	69.25	63.07	58.27	99.60



2005	87.67	8.39	152.03	97.99	68.80	66.79	58.37	114.81
2006	88.36	8.49	153.34	95.94	68.35	72.17	58.89	130.02
2007	90.03	8.62	155.63	95.57	67.87	76.24	58.73	145.10
2008	92.47	8.90	157.24	96.77	67.44	78.39	57.07	154.89
2009	95.34	9.17	157.83	98.68	67.12	79.68	60.24	153.10
2010	96.72	9.58	157.45	99.65	66.96	74.64	55.18	153.03
2011	97.11	9.89	156.34	100.29	67.01	73.69	59.44	151.12
2012	97.58	10.19	155.43	101.41	67.28	73.35	63.59	152.28
2013	98.35	10.64	154.66	101.68	67.87	74.13	62.50	160.94
2014	99.30	10.93	154.81	102.99	67.87	76.01	62.57	162.79

## Appendix B: Nonparametric TFP Decompositions when there are Many Outputs

The analysis in this Appendix is an adaptation of the analysis presented in section 2 of Diewert (2014). We assume that we have information on the period  $t$  vector of *net outputs* produced by a production unit,  $y^t \equiv [y_1^t, \dots, y_M^t]$  for  $t = 1, \dots, T$  where the number of outputs is  $M \geq 2$ .<sup>27</sup> As in the main text, the vector of inputs used during period  $t$  is  $x^t \equiv [x_1^t, \dots, x_N^t] > 0_N$ , and the corresponding vector of input prices is  $w^t \equiv [w_1^t, \dots, w_N^t] > 0_N$  for periods  $t = 1, \dots, T$ . Again, the period  $t$  observed *total input cost* is defined as  $C^t \equiv w^t \cdot x^t$  for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ .

We assume that the production unit's period  $t$  production possibilities set can be adequately approximated by the convex conical free disposal hull of the period  $t$  actual production vector and past production vectors that are in our sample of time series observations for the unit. Using this assumption, for each vector of input prices  $w > 0_N$  and vector of feasible net outputs  $y$ ,<sup>28</sup> we define the *period  $t$  best practice (total) cost function*  $C(y, w, t)$ , as follows for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ :

$$(B1) \ C(y, w, t) \equiv \min_{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_t} \{ w \cdot (\sum_{s=1}^t x_s \lambda_s) ; \sum_{s=1}^t y^s \lambda_s \geq y ; \lambda_1 \geq 0, \dots, \lambda_t \geq 0 \}.$$

It will not necessarily be the case that the production unit being studied achieves the best practice level of costs in period  $t$ ; i.e., the following inequalities will be satisfied:

$$(B2) \ C^t = w^t \cdot x^t \geq C(y^t, w^t, t) ; \quad t = 1, \dots, T.$$

Thus the observed period  $t$  cost for the unit,  $C^t$ , will be equal to or greater than the best practice minimum cost,  $C(y^t, w^t, t)$ , where this minimum cost is computed using the period  $t$  best practice technology, the same vector of outputs  $y^t$  that the unit produced during period  $t$  and facing the same input prices  $w^t$  that the production unit faced during period  $t$ . As in the main text, the difference between these two costs or their ratio can serve as a measure of the cost efficiency of the unit during period  $t$ . Thus again following Balk (1998; 28), we define the *cost efficiency* of the production unit during period  $t$ ,  $e^t$ , as follows:

$$(B3) \ e^t \equiv C(y^t, w^t, t) / w^t \cdot x^t \leq 1 ; \quad t = 1, \dots, T$$

<sup>27</sup> If the  $m$ th net output is an intermediate input used during period  $t$ , then  $y_m^t$  is equal to *minus* the quantity of this intermediate input that was used during the period.

<sup>28</sup> The net output vector  $y$  is a *feasible net output vector* if a feasible solution exists for the linear programming problem that is defined by (A1).

where the inequalities in (B3) follow from (B2). Thus if the establishment or firm is *cost efficient* in period  $t$ ,  $e^t$  will equal its upper bound of 1. Given the above definition of cost efficiency in period  $t$ , we can define an index of the *change in the production unit's cost efficiency* over the two periods as follows:

$$(B4) \quad \varepsilon^t \equiv e^t/e^{t-1} = [C(y^t, w^t, t)/C^t]/[C(y^{t-1}, w^{t-1}, t-1)/C^{t-1}] \quad t = 2, 3, \dots, T.$$

Thus if  $\varepsilon^t > 1$ , then the cost efficiency of the production unit has *improved* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  whereas it has *fallen* if  $\varepsilon^t < 1$ .

At this point, we will follow the methodology that is used in the theoretical index number literature that originated with Konüs (1939) and Allen (1949) and we will use the reference cost function to define *three families of indexes* that vary only one of the three sets of variables,  $t$ ,  $y$  and  $w$ , between the two periods under consideration and hold constant the other two sets of variables.<sup>29</sup>

Our first family of factors that explain cost changes is a *family of cost based measures of output change*,  $\alpha(y^0, y^1, w, s)$ :

$$(B5) \quad \alpha(y^{t-1}, y^t, w, s) \equiv C(y^t, w, s)/C(y^{t-1}, w, s)$$

For each choice of best practice technology for period  $s$  and for each choice of a reference vector of input prices  $w$ , we obtain a measure of the effects on best practice cost of a change in output quantities going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ .

Following the example of Konüs (1939), it is natural to single out the following two special cases of the family of output quantity indexes defined by (B5):

$$(B6) \quad \alpha_L^t \equiv \alpha(y^{t-1}, y^t, w^{t-1}, t-1) = C(y^t, w^{t-1}, t-1)/C(y^{t-1}, w^{t-1}, t-1); \quad t = 2, \dots, T;$$

$$(B7) \quad \alpha_P^t \equiv \alpha(y^{t-1}, y^t, w^t, t) = C(y^t, w^t, t)/C(y^{t-1}, w^t, t); \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

Since both measures of output change,  $\alpha_L^t$  and  $\alpha_P^t$ , are equally representative, a single estimate of cost change due to output quantity changes between the two periods should be set equal to a symmetric average of these two estimates. We will choose the geometric mean as our preferred symmetric average and thus our preferred measure of cost based output quantity growth is the following *Fisher type theoretical measure*,  $\alpha^t$ :

$$(B8) \quad \alpha^t \equiv [\alpha_L^t \alpha_P^t]^{1/2}; \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

We now turn our attention to measures of the effects on best practice cost of input price change. We use the period  $s$  best practice cost function  $C(y, w, s)$  in order to define a *family of input price indexes*,  $\beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, y, s)$ , as follows:

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<sup>29</sup> The theory which follows is adapted from Diewert (2014). This approach to the output quantity and input price indexes is a reasonably straightforward adaptation of the earlier work on theoretical price and quantity indexes by Konüs (1939), Allen (1949), Fisher and Shell (1972), Archibald (1977), Diewert (1980; 461) (1983; 1054-1083) (2011) (2012) and Balk (1998).

$$(B9) \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, y, s) \equiv C(y, w^t, s) / C(y, w^{t-1}, s).$$

Again following the example of Konüs (1939) in his analysis of the true cost of living index, it is natural to single out two special cases of the family of input price indexes defined by (B9): one choice where we use the period  $t-1$  technology and set the reference quantities equal to the period  $t-1$  quantities  $y^{t-1}$  (which gives rise to a *Laspeyres type input price index*) and another choice where we use the period  $t$  technology and set the reference quantities equal to the period  $t$  quantities  $y^t$  (which gives rise to a *Paasche type input price index*). Thus define these special cases as  $\beta_L^t$  and  $\beta_P^t$ :

$$(B10) \beta_L^t \equiv \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, y^{t-1}, t-1) = C(y^{t-1}, w^t, t-1) / C(y^{t-1}, w^{t-1}, t-1); \quad t = 2, \dots, T;$$

$$(B11) \beta_P^t \equiv \beta(w^{t-1}, w^t, y^t, t) = C(y^t, w^t, t) / C(y^t, w^{t-1}, t); \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

Since both input price indexes,  $\beta_L^t$  and  $\beta_P^t$ , are equally representative, a single estimate of input price change should be set equal to a symmetric average of these two estimates. We again choose the geometric mean as our preferred symmetric average and thus our preferred overall measure of input price growth is the following *Fisher type theoretical index*,  $\beta^t$ :

$$(B12) \beta^t \equiv [\beta_L^t \beta_P^t]^{1/2}; \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

We now define our last family of cost function based indexes for this section. We again use reference total cost function defined by (B1) in order to define a *family of indexes of technical progress* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ ,  $\tau(t-1, t, y, w)$ , for a reference vector of outputs  $y$  and a reference vector of input prices  $w$  as follows:

$$(B13) \tau(t-1, t, y, w) \equiv C(y, w, t-1) / C(y, w, t); \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

Technical progress measures are usually defined in terms of upward shifts in production functions or outward shifts of production possibilities sets due to the discovery of new techniques or managerial innovations over time. However, in the regulatory literature, it is quite common to specify technical progress in terms of downward shifts in the cost function over time. Thus in definition (B13), we pick reference vectors  $y$  and  $w$  and use the best practice technology of periods  $t-1$  and  $t$  to calculate the minimum cost of producing the output vector  $y$  at the input prices  $w$ . This gives rise to the total costs,  $C(y, w, t-1)$  and  $C(y, w, t)$ , respectively. If there is positive technical progress going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ , then  $C(y, w, t)$  will be less than  $C(y, w, t-1)$  and hence  $\tau(t-1, t, y, w)$  will be greater than one and this measure of technical progress is the reciprocal of the degree of proportional cost reduction that results from the expansion of the underlying best practice technology sets due to the passage of time. For each choice of a reference vector of output quantities  $y$  and reference vector of input prices  $w$ , we obtain a possibly different measure of exogenous cost reduction and hence of technical progress.

Instead of singling out the reference vectors  $y$  and  $w$  that appear in the definition of  $\tau(t-1, t, y, w)$  to be the period  $t$  quantity and price vectors  $(y^t, w^t)$ , we will choose the *mixed vectors*  $(y^0, w^1)$  and  $(y^1, w^0)$  for special attention. The reason for these rather odd looking

choices is that with these choices, we can obtain an *exact* decomposition of observed total cost into explanatory factors.<sup>30</sup>

$$(B14) \tau_{t-1,t}^t \equiv \tau(t-1,t,y^{t-1},w^t) = C(y^{t-1},w^t,t-1)/C(y^{t-1},w^t,t); \quad t=2,\dots,T;$$

$$(B15) \tau_{t,t-1}^t \equiv \tau(t-1,t,y^t,w^{t-1}) = C(y^t,w^{t-1},t-1)/C(y^t,w^{t-1},t); \quad t=2,\dots,T.$$

Since both of the above measures of technical progress,  $\tau_{t-1,t}^t$  and  $\tau_{t,t-1}^t$ , are equally representative, a single estimate of technical progress should be set equal to a symmetric average of these two estimates. We again choose the geometric mean as our preferred symmetric average<sup>31</sup> and thus our preferred summary measure of technical progress going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  is the following *Fisher type index of technical progress*,  $\tau^t$ :

$$(B16) \tau^t \equiv [\tau_{t-1,t}^t \tau_{t,t-1}^t]^{1/2}; \quad t = 2,\dots,T.$$

We want to explain the growth in total costs going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  for the production unit under consideration,  $C^t/C^{t-1} = w^t \cdot x^t / w^{t-1} \cdot x^{t-1}$ , as the product of four growth factors:

- Growth in outputs; i.e., a factor of the form  $\alpha(y^{t-1},y^t,w,s)$  defined above by (B5);
- Growth in input prices; i.e., a factor of the form  $\beta(w^{t-1},w^t,y,s)$  defined by (B9);
- Exogenous reduction in costs due to technical progress; i.e., a factor of the form  $\tau(t-1,t,y,w)$  defined by (B13) and
- Changes in the production unit's cost efficiency over the two periods; i.e., the factor  $\varepsilon^t$  defined by (B4) above.

Using the algebra developed in Diewert (2014) and the above definitions, it can be shown we have the following decomposition of the observed cost ratio  $C^t/C^{t-1}$  into explanatory factors of the above type:

$$(B17) C^t/C^{t-1} = \alpha^t \beta^t / \tau^t \varepsilon^t; \quad t = 2,\dots,T$$

where  $\alpha^t$ ,  $\beta^t$ ,  $\tau^t$  and  $\varepsilon^t$  are defined by (B8), (B12), (B16) and (B4) respectively.<sup>32</sup>

An (implicit) *index of input growth* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$ ,  $\gamma^t$ , can be defined as the cost ratio  $C^t/C^{t-1}$  divided by the input price index  $\beta^t$ :

$$(B18) \gamma^t \equiv [C^t/C^{t-1}]/\beta^t; \quad t = 2,\dots,T.$$

*Total Factor Productivity growth* going from period  $t-1$  to  $t$  can be defined as the index of output growth  $\alpha^t$  divided by the index of input growth  $\gamma^t$ . Using this definition of TFP growth,

<sup>30</sup> With only one output, we did not have to use mixed vectors to define our measures of technical progress in the main text because with one output and constant returns to scale, the total cost function simplifies into the product of the single output level times the unit cost function.

<sup>31</sup> This will ensure that the resulting measure of technical progress satisfies the time reversal property; i.e., if we reverse the role of time and recalculate the measure of technical progress, we obtain the reciprocal of the original measure when we take the geometric average.

<sup>32</sup> Note that in order to define the growth factors  $\alpha^t$ ,  $\beta^t$ ,  $\tau^t$  and  $\varepsilon^t$ , we need to solve 8 linear programming problems of the type defined by (B1) for each time period  $t$ .

(B17) and (B18), it can be seen that we have the following exact decomposition of TFP growth into explanatory factors:

$$(B18) \text{TFP}_G^t \equiv \alpha^t/\gamma^t = \varepsilon^t\tau^t ; \quad t = 2, \dots, T.$$

(B18) is the counterpart to (16) in the main text. Thus even in the case where there are many outputs and inputs, we can decompose TFP growth over two periods into the product of cost efficiency change,  $\varepsilon^t$ , times an index of technical progress over the two periods,  $\tau^t$ .<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Equations (17)-(19) in the main text can be adapted to give a *levels decomposition* of TFP into explanatory factors in the many output case.

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