

Hierarchical Global Pollution Control in Asymmetric Information Environments: A Continuous-type, Three-tier Agency Framework¹

Yutaka Suzuki

Faculty of Economics, Hosei University

This version, December 29, 2013

Abstract

We construct a continuous-type, three-tier agency model with hidden information and collusion à la Tirole (1986, 1992), thereby providing a framework that can address the problem of the global pollution control. By extensively utilizing the Monotone Comparative Statics method, the First Order (Mirrlees) approach and a graphical explanation, we characterize the nature of the equilibrium contract that the Supra-National Regulator (SNR) can implement under the possibility of collusion by the government and the firm. We compare the two-tier vs. three-tier regulation structures from the SNR's viewpoint, and then obtain a comparative statics result on the accuracy of monitoring and the possibility of collusion. We further examine whether the SNR has an incentive to adopt the dual supervision structure, with reference to "Regulatory Capture".

Key Words: Global Pollution Control, Mechanism Design, Hidden Information, Collusion, Monotone Comparative Statics

JEL Classification: D82, D86, Q58

¹Earlier versions of this paper were presented at *International Conference on Game Theory*, Stony Brook, New York, 2012, Asia Meeting of the *Econometric Society* (AMES 2013), Singapore, 2013, and Japan Association for Applied Economics 2013. I would like to thank John Quah, Bruno Strulovici, Yasunori Fujita and session participants for their useful comments, and also to thank two anonymous referees for their valuable comments. I also thank Harvard University for the stimulating academic environment and the hospitality during my visiting scholarship in 2011-2012. This research was supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science(C) No. 23530383.