



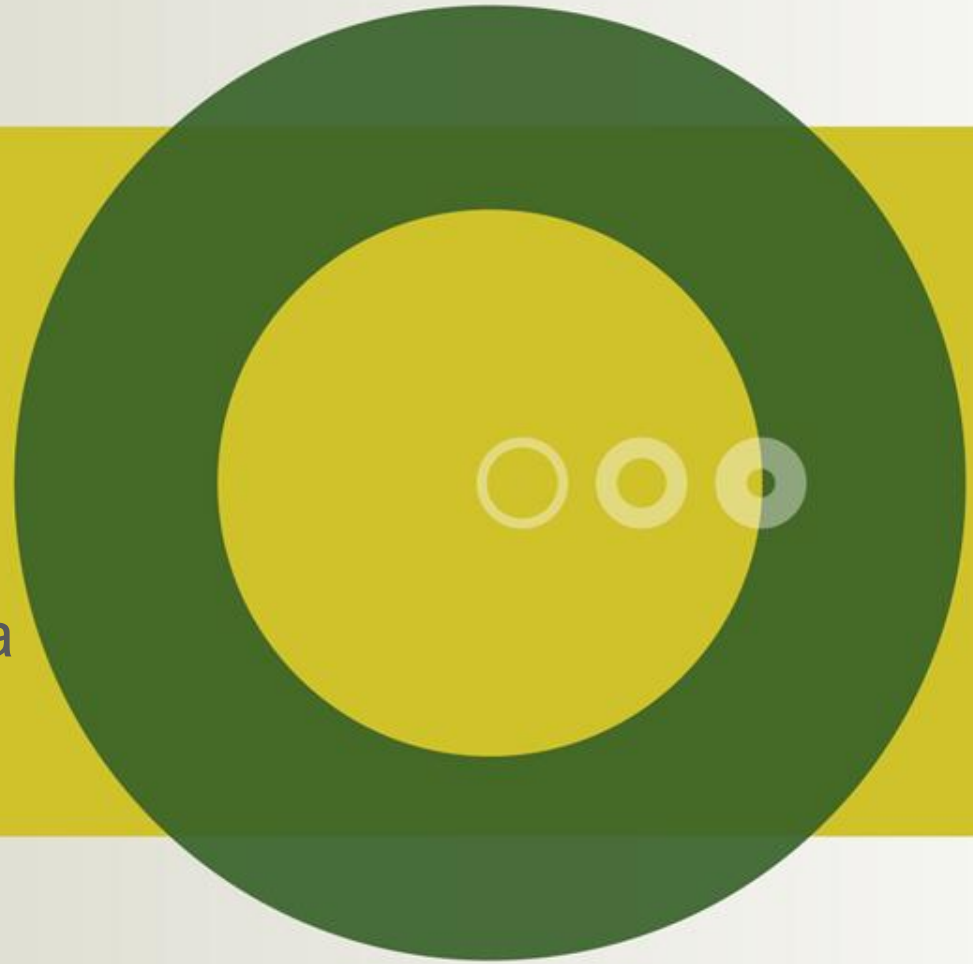
Essays on the Investment Behaviour of Danish Farmers

Jakob Vesterlund Olsen

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Møde for Produktions-
økonomer i VSP

Formidlet i projektet: "Fra
Idé til færdigt Byggeri"





Research question of dissertation

What are the drivers and impacts of farmers' investment behaviour in Denmark?



Papers in the thesis

- 1. An Empirical Analysis of Access to Finance for Danish Farms: Understanding Investment and the Absence of Risk Management
- 2. The Impact of Incentives and Socioeconomic Factors on Farmers' Investment Behaviour
- 3. An Empirical Test of the Effects of Financial Context on Investment Incentives and Expectations
- 4. Investment Utilisation, Adjustment Costs, and Technical Efficiency in Danish Pig Farms



**An Empirical Analysis of Access to Finance for Danish Farms:
Understanding Investment and the Absence of Risk Management**

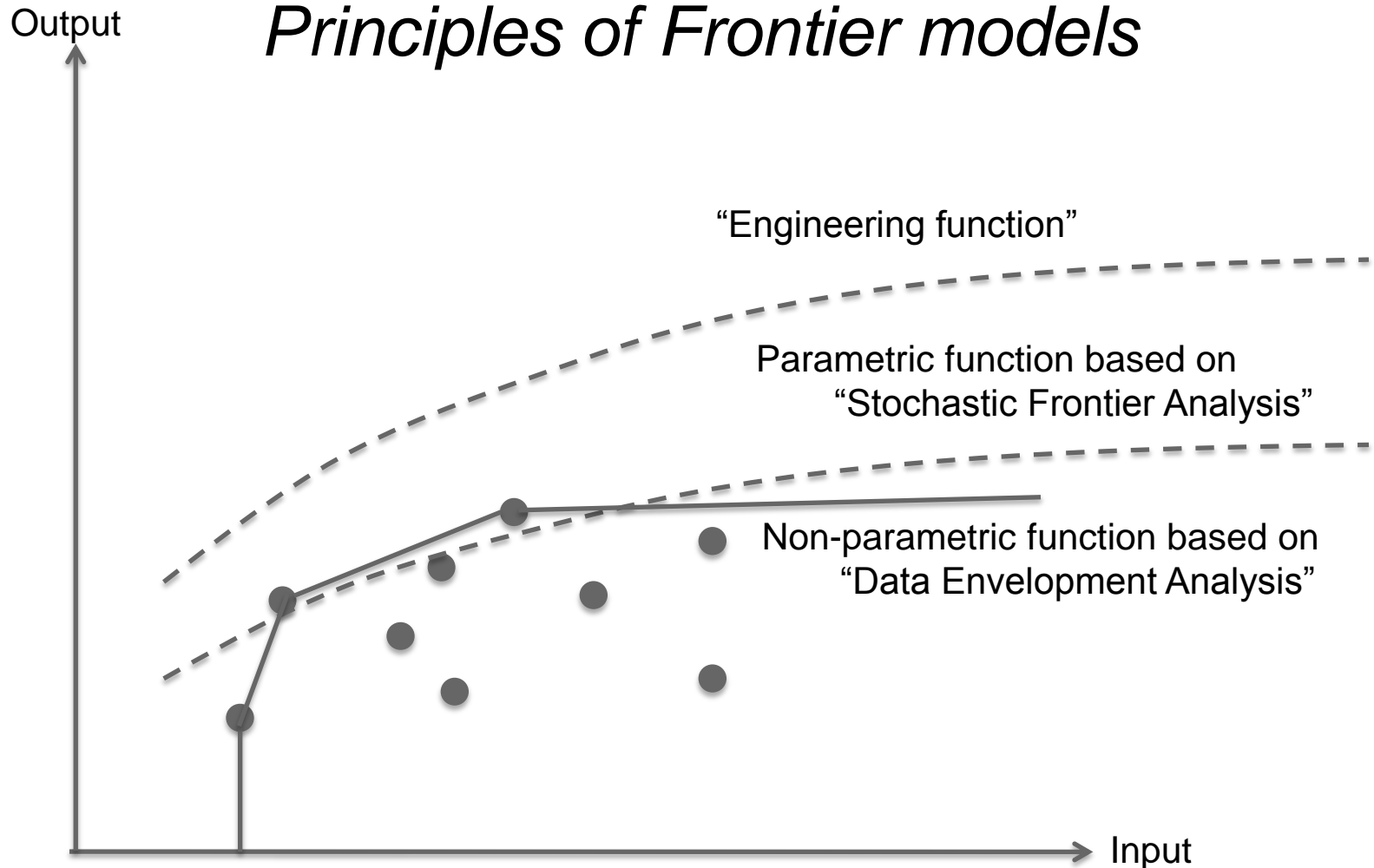
Co-authored with Michael Friis Pedersen

PAPER I

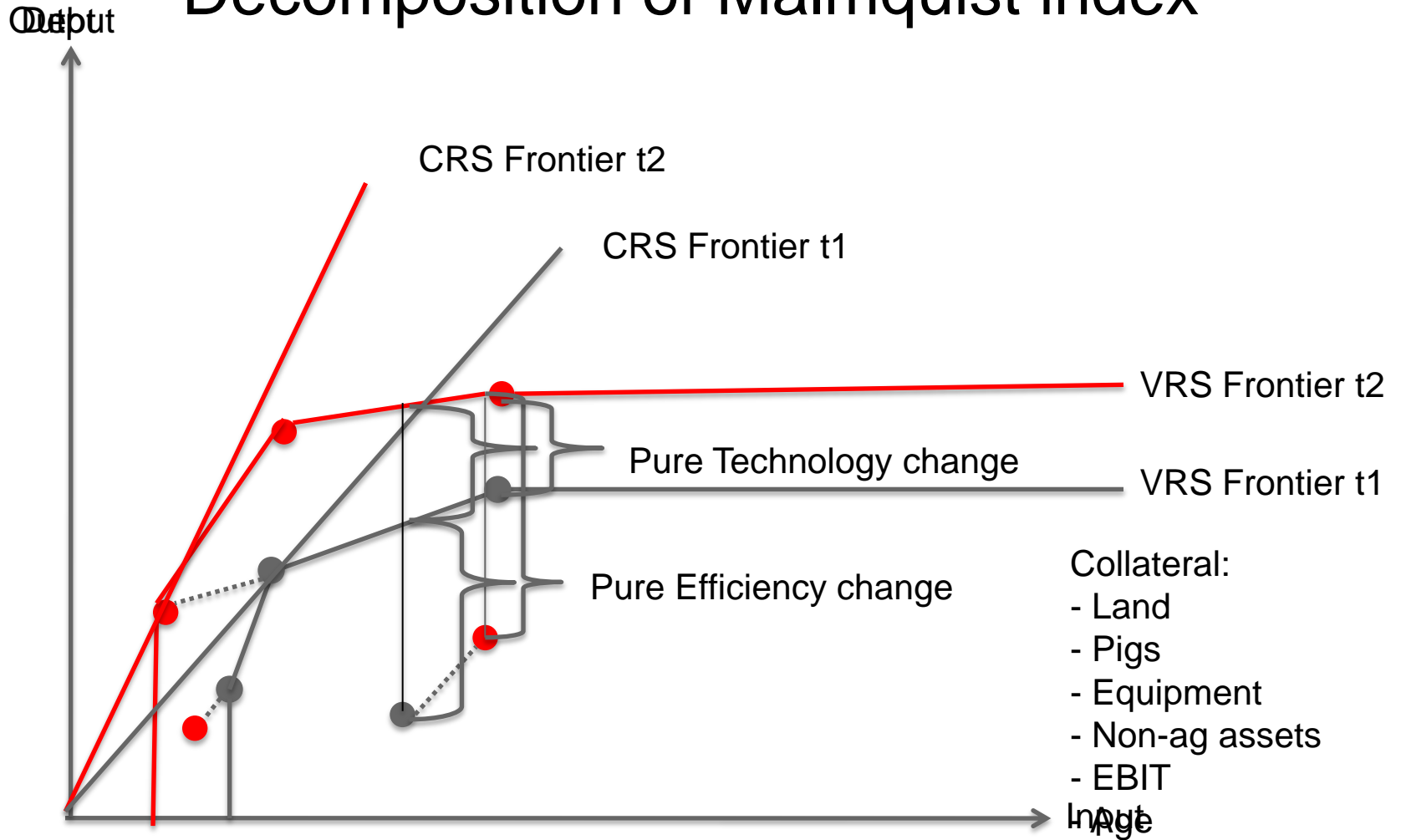
Objectives

- 1) An alternative method to measure access to finance
- 2) Development in access to finance for Danish agriculture over time
- 3) Propose that increasing investments and debt in Danish agriculture has affected investments
- 4) Propose that easy access to finance has diminished the need for risk management in Danish agriculture

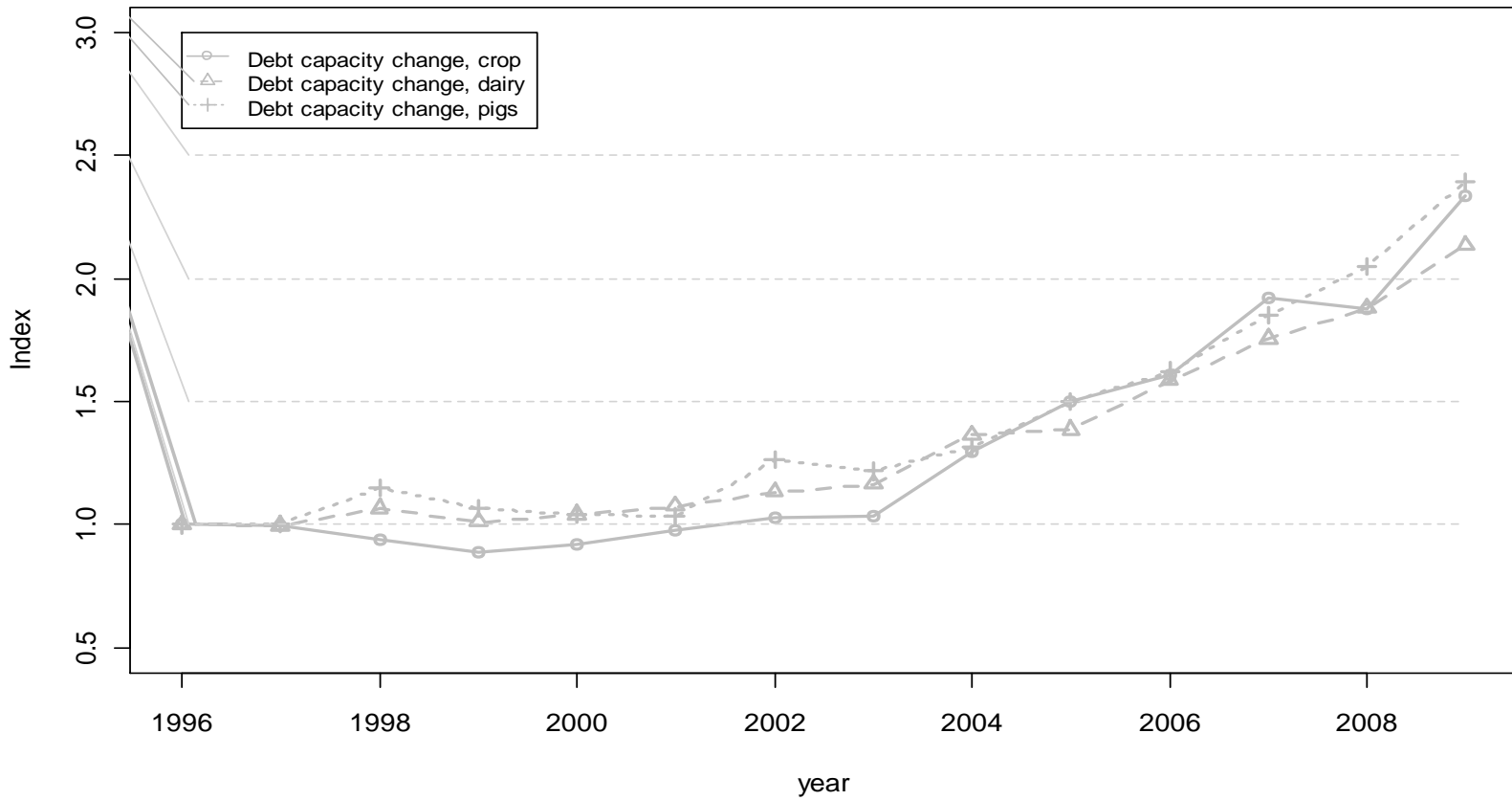
Principles of Frontier models



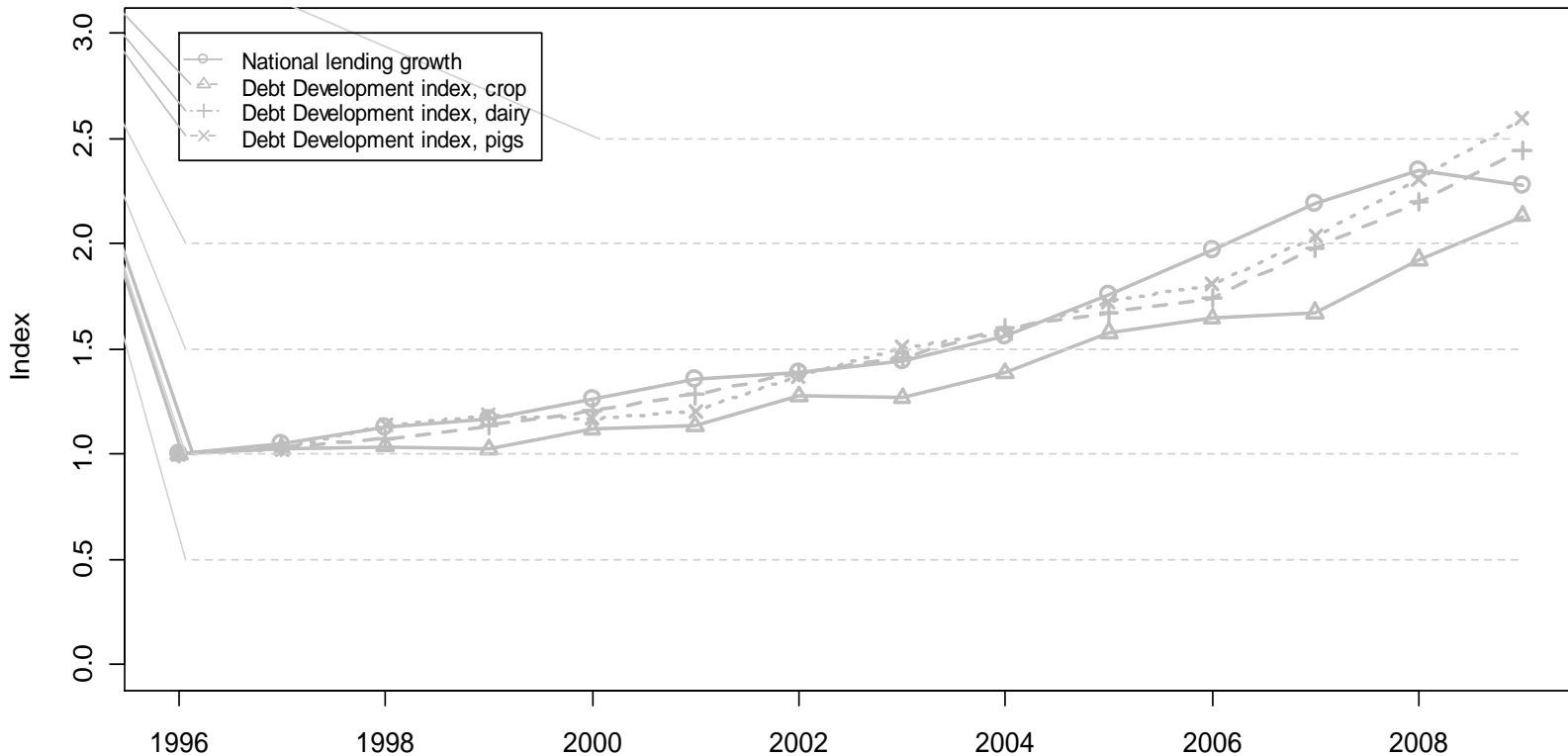
Decomposition of Malmquist index



Change in debt capacity



Compared to national lending growth



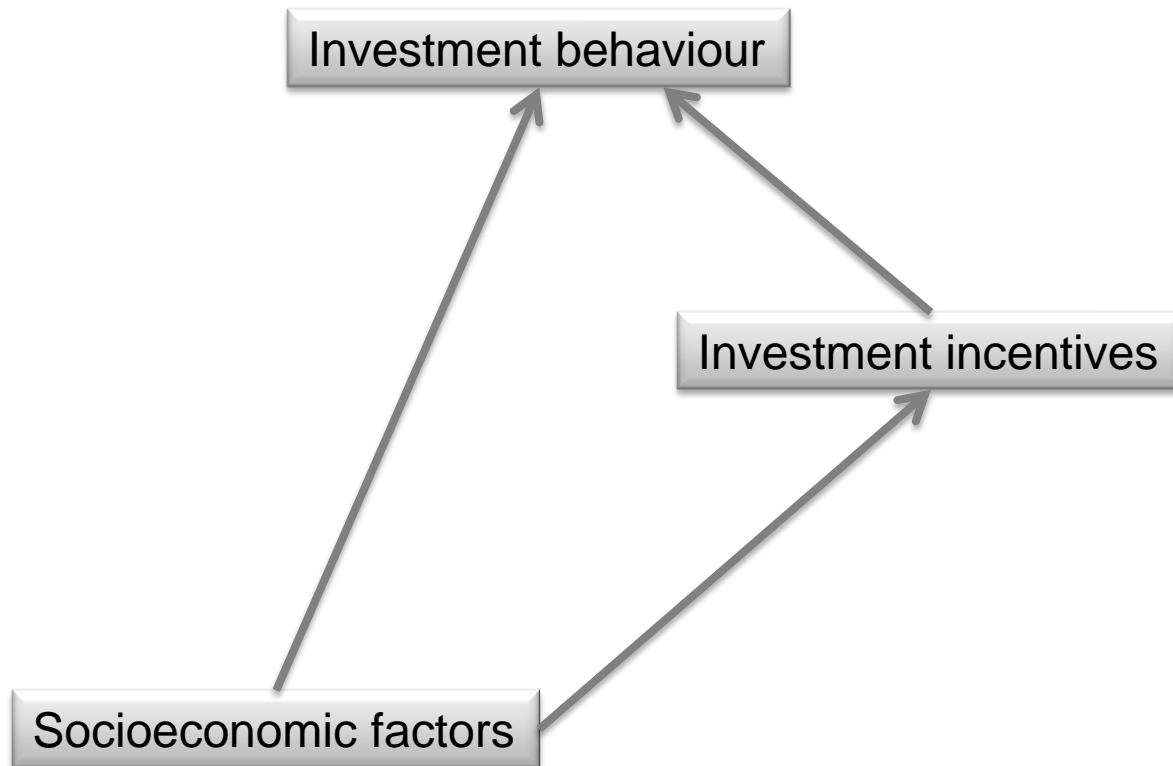


The Impact of Incentives and Socioeconomic Factors on Farmers' Investment Behaviour

Co-authored with Mogens Lund

PAPER II

Objectives

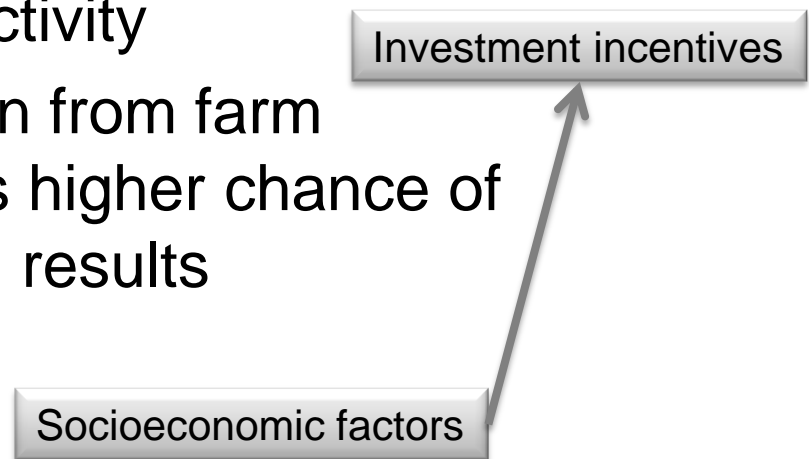


Incentives II

Incentive		Land	Pig units	Machinery
Economic	Agree	77	50	41
	Neither-nor	18	13	27
	Disagree	9	7	29
To keep up with the structural changes in agriculture	Agree	18	14	
	Neither-nor	28	12	
	Disagree	58	44	
Ensure future investment possibilities	Agree	94		
	Neither-nor	6		
	Disagree	4		
Interest in machinery	Agree			28
	Neither-nor			35
	Disagree			34

Socioeconomic factors on incentives

- The analysis is subdivided into investment types:
- More focus on neo-classical investment incentives for farmers with higher farm income
- with higher partial productivity
- If focus on financial return from farm investments then there is higher chance of achieving better financial results





An Empirical Test of the Effects of Financial Context on Investment Incentives and Expectations

PAPER III

Objective

- How does a change in context influences the investment expectations and investment incentives for Danish pig producers?

Expected investments from 2008 to 2009

Investment type	Expected investment 2008	Expected investment 2009	t-value	Probability of equal means
Total investments (T€) ¹⁾	1,921	885	5.51	<0.001***
Investments in land (T€) ¹⁾	866	284	5.29	<0.001***
Investments in pig units (T€) ¹⁾	613	383	2.26	0.026*
Investments in machinery (T€) ¹⁾	129	69	3.77	<0.001***
Other investments (T€) ¹⁾	314	149	3.13	0.002 **

Conclusion

- Farmers reduce their expected investments as a consequence of a financial crisis
- This has not been found to be driven by financial constraints
- Farmers incentives for making investments are less driven by non-pecuniary returns after the crisis than before the crisis
- The incentives of the farmers who do not invest, are not affected by the financial crisis
- A financial crisis does affect the investment behaviour of Danish farmers



Investment Utilisation, Adjustment Costs, and Technical Efficiency in Danish Pig Farms

Co-authored with Arne Henningsen

PAPER IV

Objective

To empirically investigate the size and timing of adjustment costs and investment utilisation in Danish pig production

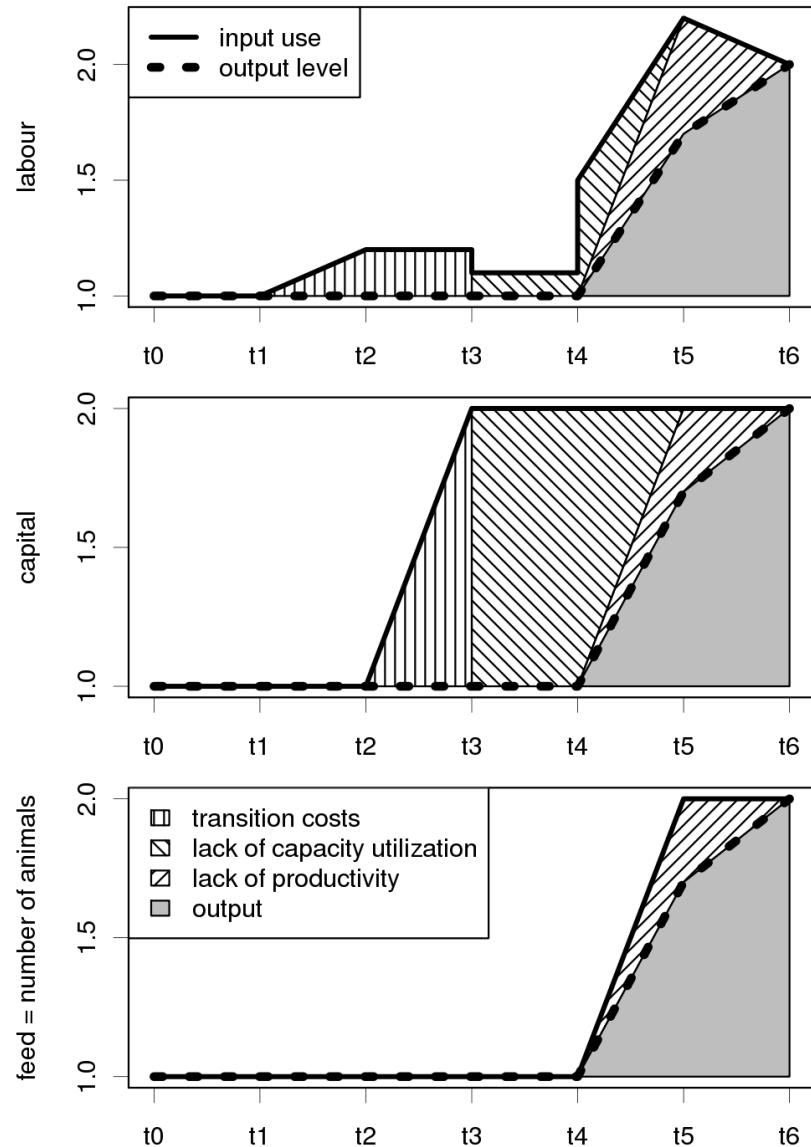
Variables in SFA-model

Variable name	Variable	Unit	Mean	Std Dev.
Animal output	Y_1	Thousand Euro (1996)	459	362
Crop output	Y_2	Thousand Euro (1996)	123	97
Feed	X_1	Thousand Euro (1996)	201	149
Intermediate pig input	X_2	Thousand Euro (1996)	28.3	24.5
Intermediate crop input	X_3	Thousand Euro (1996)	19.2	15.0
Land	X_4	Hectare	104.1	72.9
Labour	X_5	Hours	4,356	2,292
Capital	X_6	Thousand Euro (1996)	93.4	68.1
General input	X_7	Thousand Euro (1996)	40.4	29.6
Only piglets production	H_1	Product dummy	0.39	0.49
Only slaughter pigs	H_2	Product dummy	0.20	0.40
Soil quality	H_3	Share of land, clay	0.48	0.45
Net investments	I_{t-2}^r	Thousand Euro (1996)	30.1	147.9
Net investments	I_{t-3}^r	Thousand Euro (1996)	29.3	133.2
Net investments		Thousand Euro (1996)	32.1	120.7
Net investments		Thousand Euro (1996)	37.2	118.6
Age	Age	10 years	4.61	0.87

Formidlet i projektet "Fra Idé til Færdigt Byggeri", som er støttet af Det Europæiske Fællesskab og Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri.

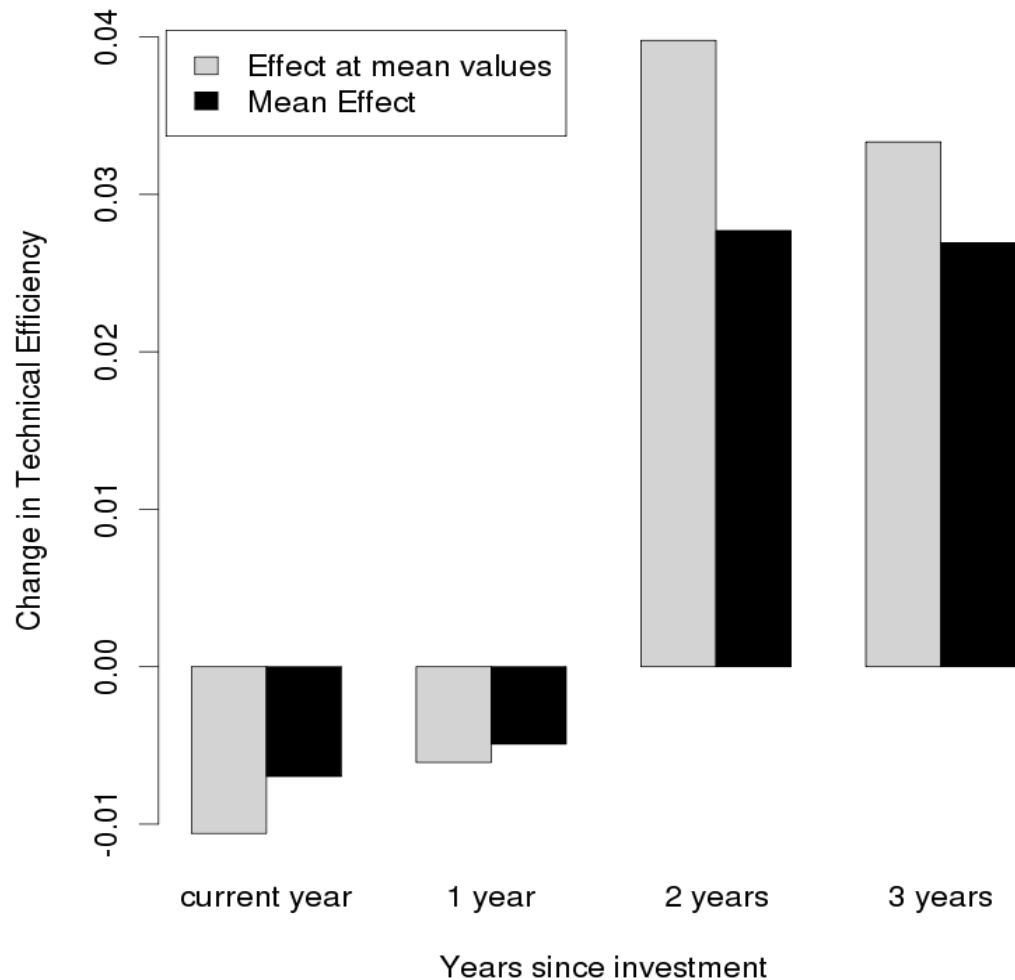
Adjustment costs and investment utilisation

Formidlet i projektet "Fra Idé til Færdigt Byggeri", som er støttet af Det Europæiske Fællesskab og Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri.



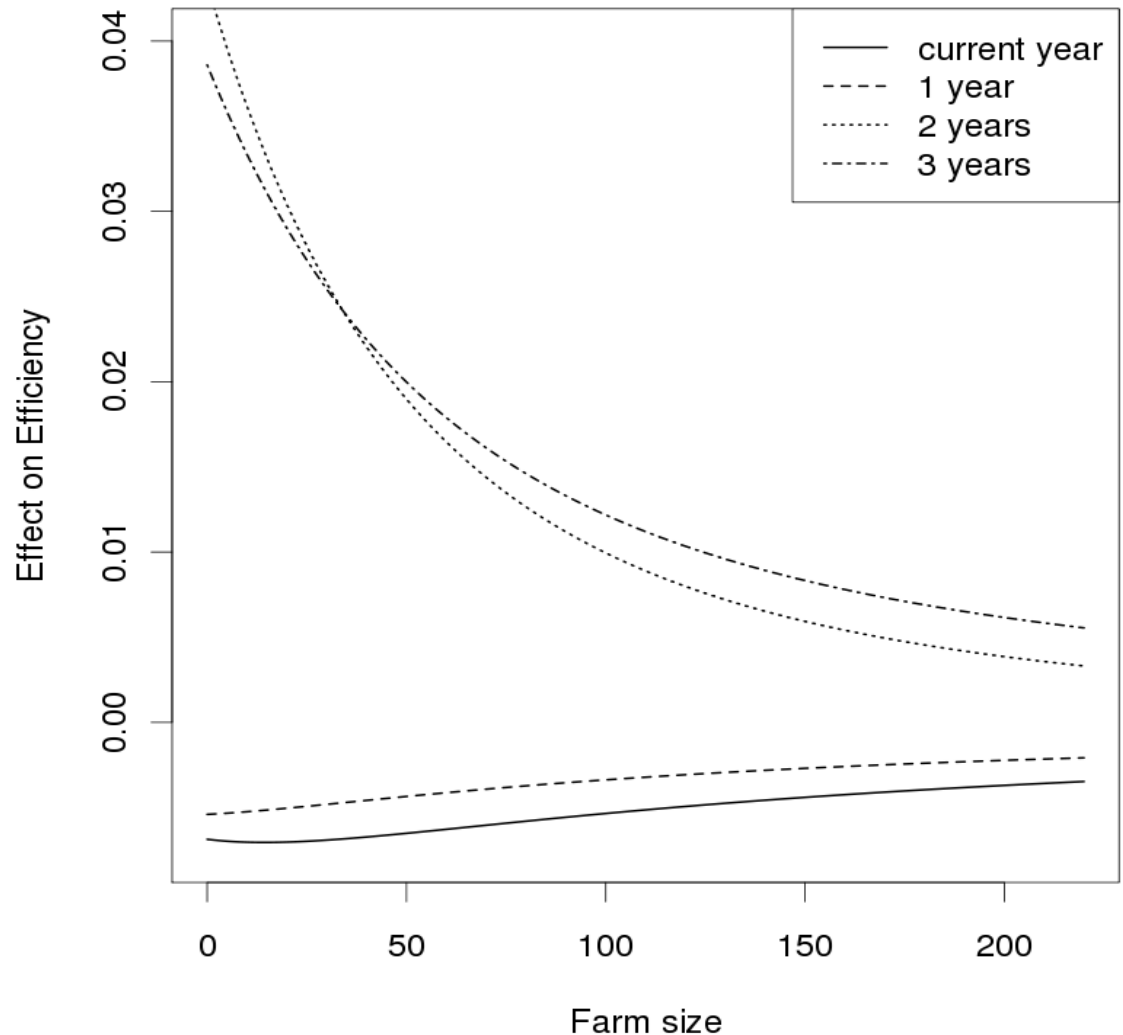
Effect of 500,000 € investment

Formidlet i projektet "Fra Idé til Færdigt Byggeri", som er støttet af Det Europæiske Fællesskab og Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri.



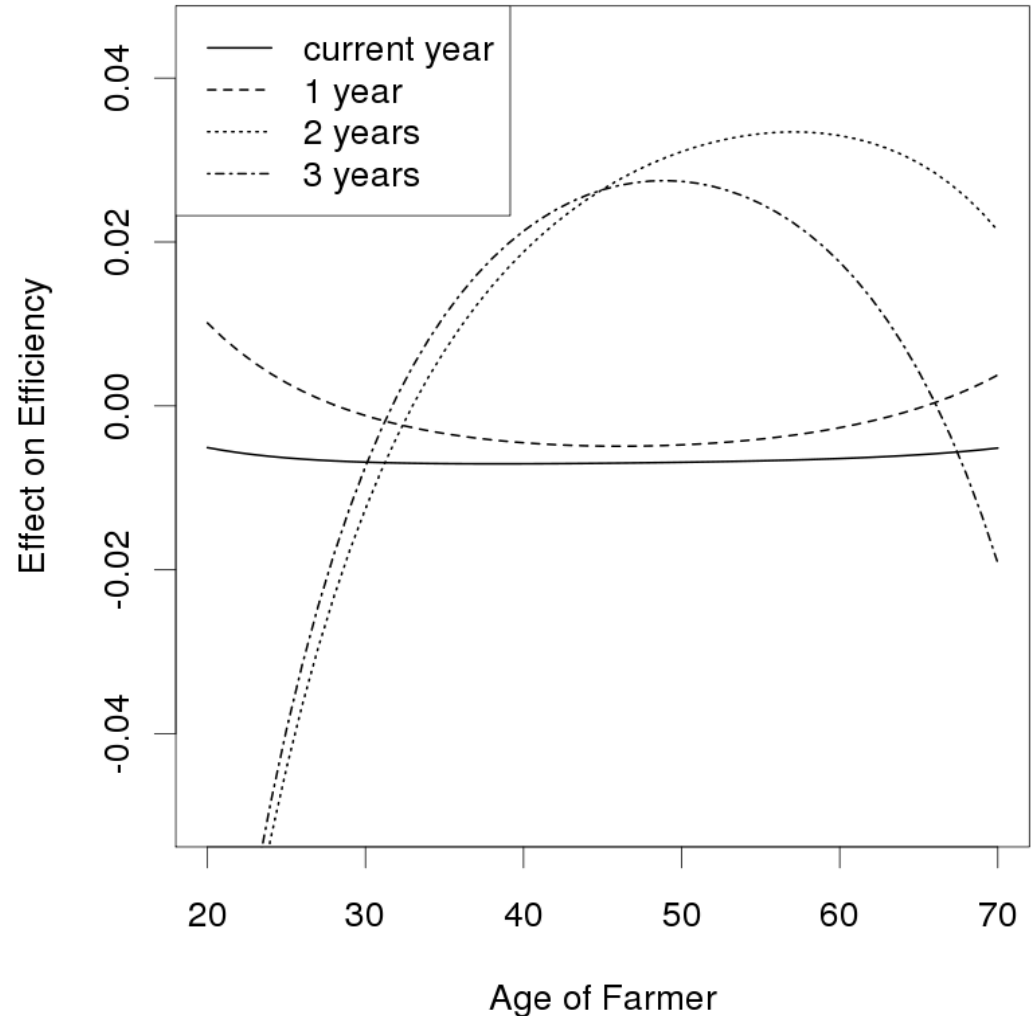
The effect on efficiency depending on size

Formidlet i projektet "Fra Idé til Færdigt Byggeri", som er støttet af Det Europæiske Fællesskab og Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri.



Marginal effect of investment and of age on efficiency

Formidlet i projektet "Fra Idé til Færdigt Byggeri", som er støttet af Det Europæiske Fællesskab og Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri.



Conclusion

- Investments have a positive effect on farm efficiency two and three years after investments
- Adjustment costs in the year of investments and the year after
- The optimal age of the farmer, in terms of investment, is in the 50ies
- Farmers aged 49 have *ceteris paribus* the highest technical efficiency.

Overall conclusion

- Multiple reasons for making farm investments
- Not purely driven by wealth maximisation
- The increase in access to finance led to an increase in investments
- The incentives change if the financial context changes
- Enhanced productivity