

# Modeling Climate Change Adaptation in a Computable General Equilibrium Model: an Application to Tourism

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# Outline

- 1 Project description
- 2 Tourism and climate change
- 3 Modeling approach
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion and next steps

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# Project goals

- The research project is a mandate from the Swiss federal office for the environment which aims at:
  - identifying the Swiss sectors most at risk from climate change
  - introducing and detailing these sectors in the CGE model GEMINI-E3
  - using GEMINI-E3 to assess the general equilibrium costs of climate change for Switzerland
  - studying the role of adaptation processes and measures to alleviate climate change costs
- The research project focuses on the following sectors:
  - Agriculture ; Energy ; Health ; Infrastructures ; Insurance ; Tourism ; Water

# The GEMINI-E3 model

- World computable general equilibrium model
- Fifth version
- Dedicated to the analysis of climate change & energy policies
- 28 regions (including Switzerland)
- 5 energy sectors
- 13 non-energy sectors
- All GHG Emissions (EMF 21)
- Database GTAP 6 (2001)
- [gemini-e3.epfl.ch](http://gemini-e3.epfl.ch)

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## The Swiss tourism sector - some stylized facts

### Why consider tourism ?

- “Only” 3.1% of the Swiss GDP in 2001 but highly important for certain regions
- Third largest export sector in 2001
- Highly sensitive to climate change
- One of the most vulnerable sectors of the Swiss economy
- Ski industry: between 7 to 9% of worldwide skier visits

# Tourism and climate change in Switzerland

- Valuation of impacts:
  - *NFP31 Studie (1998)*
  - *Ecoplan/Sigmaplan Studie (2007)*
  - *FIF-Studie (2007)*
- Main insights from the above-mentioned studies:
  - Impact costs ranging from 2 billion to 100 million CHF (2050) !
  - Alpine tourism: losses (winter) > extra-revenues (summer)
  - The most vulnerable segment  $\Rightarrow$  low-lying ski areas relying on day-trippers
  - Adaptation is important to alleviate the costs of climate change
  - A general equilibrium problem requiring a general equilibrium framework



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# Four steps

- 1 Create three tourism segments:
  - Winter Overnight Tourism
  - One-day Winter Tourism
  - Other Forms of Tourism
- 2 Determine and implement in GEMINI-E3:
  - A production structure for the snow-dependent segments
  - How tourism enters the household consumption function
- 3 Valuate the natural snow resource for the snow-dependent segments
- 4 Simulate a decrease in the snow resource

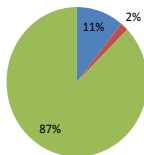
# The Swiss tourism sector

- The tourism sector in 2001 (CST):
  - 17 892 mio USD
  - 143 633 jobs

- Snow-dependent winter tourism segments:
  - 13% of revenues
  - 14% of FTE

## Shares in the tourism revenues

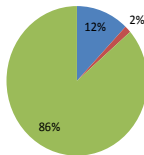
■ winter overnight tourism ■ one-day winter tourism ■ other forms of tourism



Tourism revenues in 2001:  
17'892 million USD

## Employment shares

■ winter overnight tourism ■ one-day winter tourism ■ other forms of tourism

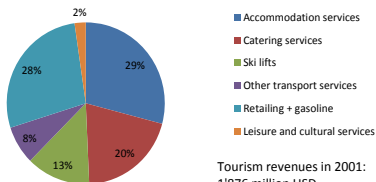


Workforce in 2001:  
143'633

# Snow-dependent winter tourism segments

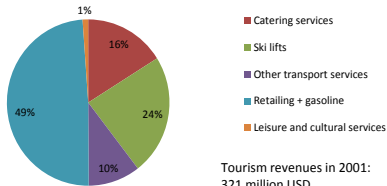
- Size difference:
  - 1 876 versus 321 million USD
- Relative shares of tourism products change:
  - Accommodation
  - Ski lifts
  - Gasoline

**Winter overnight tourism:  
share of different tourism products**



Tourism revenues in 2001:  
1'876 million USD

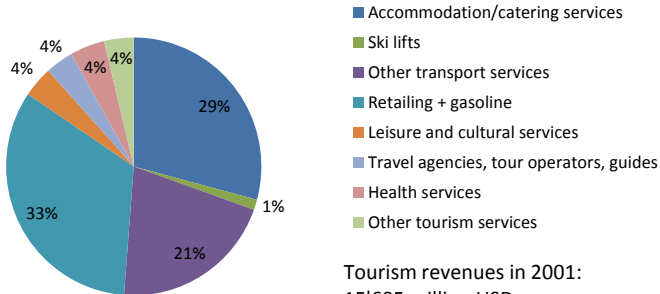
**One-day Winter Tourism:  
share of different tourism products**



Tourism revenues in 2001:  
321 million USD

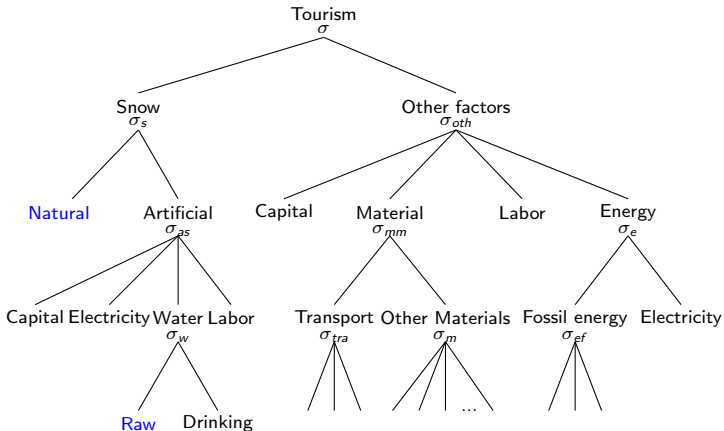
# The “other forms of tourism” segment

## Other forms of tourism: share of different tourism products



Tourism revenues in 2001:  
15'695 million USD

# Nested CES production function

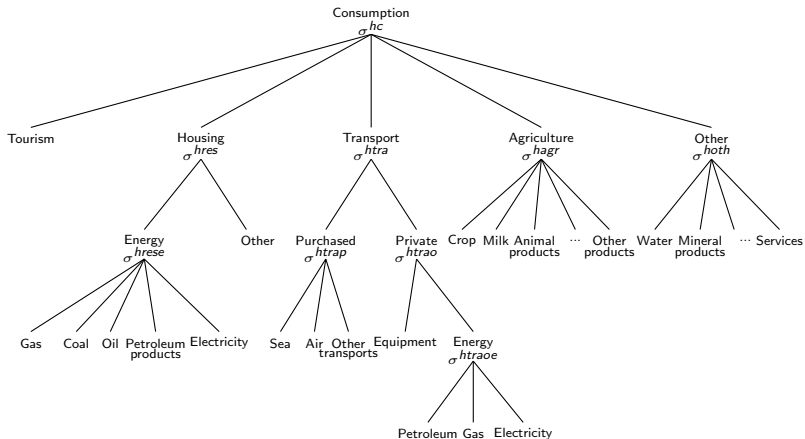


# Nested CES production function

TABLE 1: Elasticities of substitution

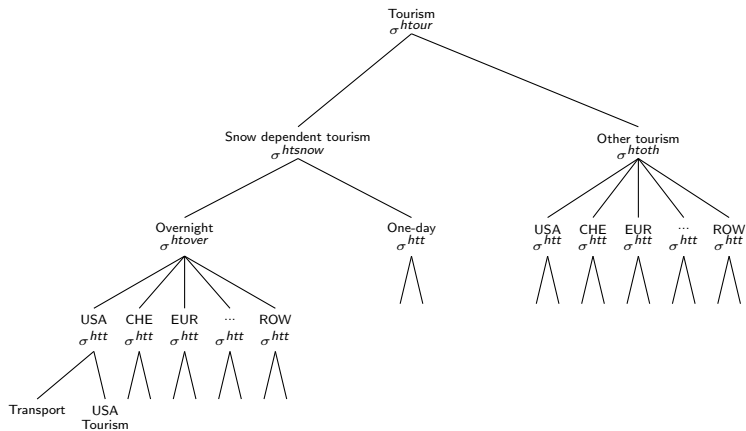
Elasticities of substitution		
Snow and other factors	$\sigma$	0.1
Natural and artificial snow (overnight)	$\sigma_s$	0.9
Natural and artificial snow (one-day)	$\sigma_s$	0.45
Among inputs used to produce artificial snow	$\sigma_{as}$	0.3
Industrial and drinking water	$\sigma_w$	0.5

# Tourism demand in GEMINI-E3





# Tourism demand in GEMINI-E3



# Tourism demand in GEMINI-E3

TABLE 2: Elasticities of substitution

Elasticities of substitution		
Snow dependent and other tourism	$\sigma^{htour}$	0.7
Overnight and one-day tourism	$\sigma^{htsnow}$	0.5
Domestic and foreign tourism (overnight)	$\sigma^{htover}$	0.1
Domestic and foreign tourism (other tourism)	$\sigma^{htoth}$	0.1
Transport and other goods consumed	$\sigma^{htt}$	0.2

# Valuation of the snow resource: method

- Econometric analysis both at the Swiss ski lifts companies and ski domains levels:
  - Control for omitted variable bias (e.g. weather conditions in lowlands, snow conditions in the other ski areas, monthly features of tourism demand)
  - Estimation of linear panel data regression models using different samples and estimators
- Winter season profit from “snow days” extrapolated:
  - first for the ski lifts sector and the hotel industry
  - then for the snow-dependent tourism segments

## Valuation of the snow resource: results

- Results from the econometric analysis:
  - Partial effects of snow on ski lift tickets sales, skier visits and overnight stays
  - Coefficients interpreted as (short-term) semi-elasticities
  - Differentiated impacts for ski areas located at different altitudes

TABLE 3: Table of semi-elasticities

Max. altitude	tickets sales (winter season)	Skier visits (winter season)	Overn. Stays (monthly)
< 2000m	0.23%	0.67%	0.57%
> 2000m		0.10%	-0.04%

- Snow endowment valuation (preliminary results):

$$V_{one-day,snow} : 8\,647\,704 \text{ USD}$$

$$V_{overnight,snow} : 84\,924\,888 \text{ USD}$$

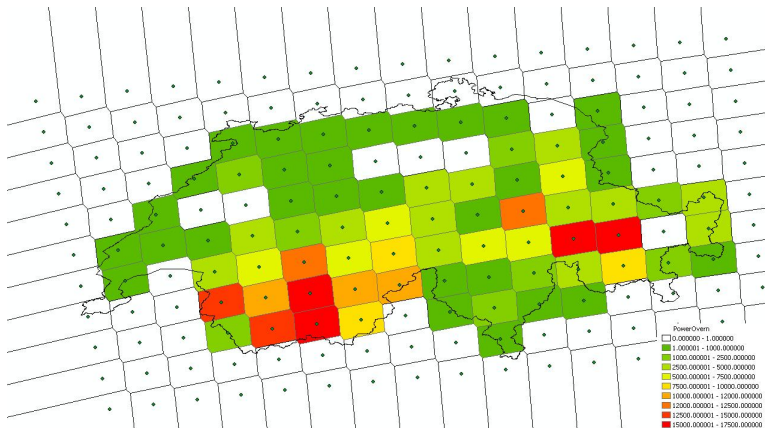
## Variation in the snow endowment

- We downscale our climate change impacts by using the ENSEMBLES regional scenarios (simulations for scenario A1B)
- We use 4 GCM/RCM combinations (grid with a mesh of 25x25km):
  - KNMI - ECHAM5-r3 avec RACMO (1951-2100);
  - SMHI - BCM-RCA (1961-2100);
  - C4I - HadCM3Q16-RCA3 (1951-2099);
  - DMI - ARPEGE-HIRHAM (1951-2100);
- Climate variable: Fractional snow cover (monthly values)

## Variation in the snow endowment: method

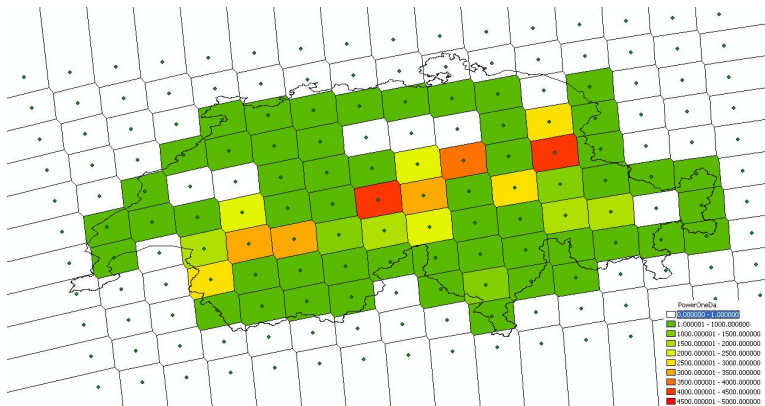
- For the 176 meshes covering the Swiss territory, averages of monthly values are first computed for the period 1961-1990 and then by decades up to 2050
- A specific set of (time-invariant) grid weights is defined for each snow-dependent winter tourism segment
- Monthly variations are aggregated into a single winter season variation by giving a (time-invariant) weight to each month

## Variation in the snow endowment: grid weights



**FIGURE 1:** Weights obtained for the winter overnight tourism segment (using data on ski lifts' transport capacities and skier visits)

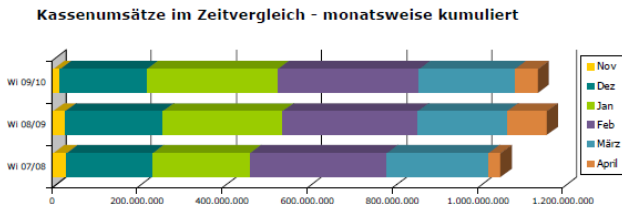
## Variation in the snow endowment: grid weights



**FIGURE 2:** Weights obtained for the one-day winter tourism segment (using data on ski lifts' transport capacities and skier visits)



# Variation in the snow endowment: time weights



**FIGURE 3:** Distribution of transport revenues during the winter season for the Austrian ski lifts (Source: Fachverband der Seilbahnen Österreichs)

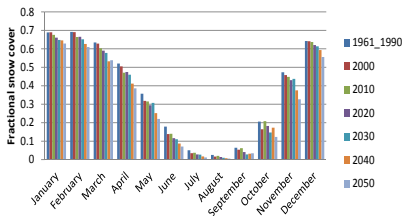
November	December	January	February	March	April
0.03	0.17	0.25	0.35	0.15	0.05

**TABLE 4:** Weights given to each of winter season months

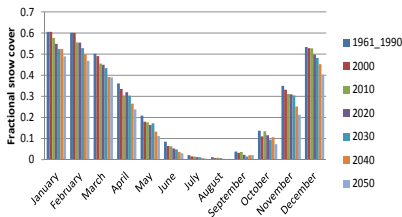
# Variation in the natural snow endowment: results

Segment	<i>Variation</i> <sub>2050</sub>
Overnight	-13.1%
One-day	-22.9%

### Winter Overnight Tourism



### One-day Winter Tourism



# Scenarios performed in the tourism sector

We perform 8 scenarios:

- 1 **With adaptation:** We implement the variation of the natural snow endowment derived from Ensembles with adaptation
- 2 **Without adaptation:** We run the same scenario without adaptation on the supply side ( $\sigma=0$  and  $\sigma_s=0$ )
- 3 **High adaptation:** We suppose high level of adaptation on the supply side ( $\sigma$  and  $\sigma_s$  are multiplied by 2)
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- 7 **High snow decrease with government subsidies:** We suppose that snow endowment variations are multiplied by 2 and that government implements subsidies on the cost of artificial snow (25%); Subsidies financed through lump sum transfer
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# Results of the scenarios in 2050

	With Adapt.	Without Adapt.	With High Adapt.	Low elas. Conso.	High elas. Conso.	High Snow ↘	High Snow ↘ + sub. 25%	High Snow ↘ +sub. 50%
<b>Ski Overnight</b>								
Production*	-2.6%	-13.1%	-1.4%	-2.0%	-3.5%	-6.3%	-4.3%	-1.7%
Natural Snow	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-26.2%	-26.2%	-26.2%
Artificial Snow	19.8%	-13.1%	25.7%	21.8%	16.7%	45.3%	66.5%	100.0%
Production price	2.8%	16.3%	1.5%	2.9%	2.5%	6.7%	4.1%	1.0%
Employment †	-1.9%	-13.1%	-0.7%	-1.3%	-2.9%	-4.8%	-2.9%	-0.4%
<b>Ski One day</b>								
Production*	-5.4%	-22.9%	-2.6%	-3.3%	-8.2%	-19.4%	-18.5%	-17.3%
Natural Snow	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-45.9%	-45.9%	-45.9%
Artificial Snow	23.9%	-22.9%	35.1%	31.3%	14.5%	60.9%	82.1%	116.8%
Production price	10.7%	59.9%	4.9%	12.8%	8.2%	49.8%	47.3%	44.3%
Employment †	-3.8%	-22.9%	-1.3%	-1.4%	-7.0%	-14.4%	-13.4%	-12.2%
<b>Other Tourism</b>								
Employment †	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
<b>Total Employment in Tourism †</b>	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%
<b>Consumption</b>								
Ski Overnight	-1.8%	-9.2%	-0.9%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-4.6%	-3.2%	-1.6%
Ski One day	-5.4%	-22.9%	-2.6%	-3.3%	-8.2%	-8.2%	-18.4%	-17.3%
Other Tourism	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
<b>Surplus Mio USD<sub>2010</sub></b>	-35	-122	-24	-28	-41	-108	-93	-75
<b>in % Household Final Consumption</b>	-0.01%	-0.03%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.02%	-0.02%	-0.02%

\* Constant price sales revenue

† Employment expressed as full-time job equivalents

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# Results of the scenarios in 2050

	With Adapt.	Without Adapt.	With High Adapt.	Low elas. Conso.	High elas. Conso.	High Snow ↘	High Snow ↘ + sub. 25%	High Snow ↘ +sub. 50%
<b>Ski Overnight</b>								
Production*	-2.6%	-13.1%	-1.4%	-2.0%	-3.5%	-6.3%	-4.3%	-1.7%
Natural Snow	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-26.2%	-26.2%	-26.2%
Artificial Snow	19.8%	-13.1%	25.7%	21.8%	16.7%	45.3%	66.5%	100.0%
Production price	2.8%	16.3%	1.5%	2.9%	2.5%	6.7%	4.1%	1.0%
Employment †	-1.9%	-13.1%	-0.7%	-1.3%	-2.9%	-4.8%	-2.9%	-0.4%
<b>Ski One day</b>								
Production*	-5.4%	-22.9%	-2.6%	-3.3%	-8.2%	-19.4%	-18.5%	-17.3%
Natural Snow	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-22.9%	-45.9%	-45.9%	-45.9%
Artificial Snow	23.9%	-22.9%	35.1%	31.3%	14.5%	60.9%	82.1%	116.8%
Production price	10.7%	59.9%	4.9%	12.8%	8.2%	49.8%	47.3%	44.3%
Employment †	-3.8%	-22.9%	-1.3%	-1.4%	-7.0%	-14.4%	-13.4%	-12.2%
<b>Other Tourism</b>								
Employment †	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
<b>Total Employment in Tourism †</b>	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%
<b>Consumption</b>								
Ski Overnight	-1.8%	-9.2%	-0.9%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-4.6%	-3.2%	-1.6%
Ski One day	-5.4%	-22.9%	-2.6%	-3.3%	-8.2%	-8.2%	-18.4%	-17.3%
Other Tourism	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
<b>Surplus Mio USD<sub>2010</sub></b>	-35	-122	-24	-28	-41	-108	-93	-75
<b>in % Household Final Consumption</b>	-0.01%	-0.03%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.02%	-0.02%	-0.02%

\* Constant price sales revenue

† Employment expressed as full-time job equivalents

# Results of the scenarios in 2050

	With Adapt.	Without Adapt.	With High Adapt.	Low elas. Conso.	High elas. Conso.	High Snow ↘	High Snow ↘ + sub. 25%	High Snow ↘ +sub. 50%
<b>Ski Overnight</b>								
Production*	-2.6%	-13.1%	-1.4%	-2.0%	-3.5%	-6.3%	-4.3%	-1.7%
Natural Snow	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-13.1%	-26.2%	-26.2%	-26.2%
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<b>Other Tourism</b>								
Employment †	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Total Employment in Tourism †	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%
<b>Consumption</b>								
Ski Overnight	-1.8%	-9.2%	-0.9%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-4.6%	-3.2%	-1.6%
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Surplus Mio USD <sub>2010</sub>	-35	-122	-24	-28	-41	-108	-93	-75
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<b>Other Tourism</b>								
Employment <sup>†</sup>	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Total Employment in Tourism <sup>†</sup>	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%
<b>Consumption</b>								
Ski Overnight	-1.8%	-9.2%	-0.9%	-1.0%	-3.0%	-4.6%	-3.2%	-1.6%
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Other Tourism	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Surplus Mio USD <sub>2010</sub>	-35	-122	-24	-28	-41	-108	-93	-75
in % Household Final Consumption	-0.01%	-0.03%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.01%	-0.02%	-0.02%	-0.02%

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Total Employment in Tourism †	-0.2%	-1.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-0.1%
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## Results of the scenarios in 2050

- Scenario “With Adapt.”:
  - Relative small welfare impact for 2050: 35 mio USD (0.01% of HFC)
  - Nearly no effect on employment in the tourism sector: -0.2%
  - Both domestic *and* foreign consumptions of “Ski Overnight” are reduced
- The role of adaptation:
  - Adaptation on the demand side is important and reduces costs from -377 to -122 mio USD
  - Adaptation on the supply side reduces costs from -122 to -35 mio USD (or even to -24 mio USD ⇒ high adaptation scenario)
  - The net effect of public authorities subsidizing artificial snow (⇒ **exogenous adaptation**) is positive
- Snow endowment variations:
  - A doubling effect of climate change on snow cover more than double the detrimental welfare effect

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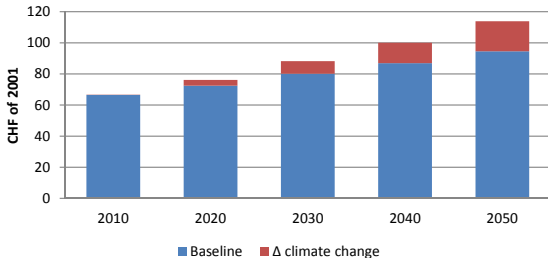
## Results of the scenarios in 2050

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## Results of the scenarios in 2050

- Snowmaking production in the scenario “With Adapt.”:

### Artificial snow production



- In 2050, a 20.4% change in artificial snow production compared to the baseline (same increase for the production factors)
- From 2010 to 2050, a 70.8% increase in artificial snow production versus a 42.2% increase in the baseline (same increases for the production factors)



# Conclusion and next steps

## • Summary

- A tourism sector endowed with a snow resource has been included for Switzerland in GEMINI-E3
- ENSEMBLES data have been extracted and processed in order to get the evolution of the snow cover up to 2050
- First simulations of a decrease in the snow resource show moderate impacts on the Swiss economy
- Adaptation changes drastically the size of the welfare impacts

## • Next steps

- Impacting the tourism sector of the other regions included in GEMINI-E3 (OECD, 2007)
- Constraining the future production of artificial snow:
  - Legal restrictions already exist (period for running the equipment, ski slopes that could be equipped, limits on water withdrawal)
  - Less favorable weather conditions for snowmaking (rising temperatures)
  - Impact of the reduction in water availability
- Carrying more in-depth sensitivity analysis

# Conclusion and next steps

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  - Legal restrictions already exist (period for running the equipment, ski slopes that could be equipped, limits on water withdrawal)
  - Less favorable weather conditions for snowmaking (rising temperatures)
  - Impact of the reduction in water availability
- Carrying more in-depth sensitivity analysis

Thank you  
for your attention !