Maxwell Climate Change Workshop: The US Energy Sector and CO2 Emissions

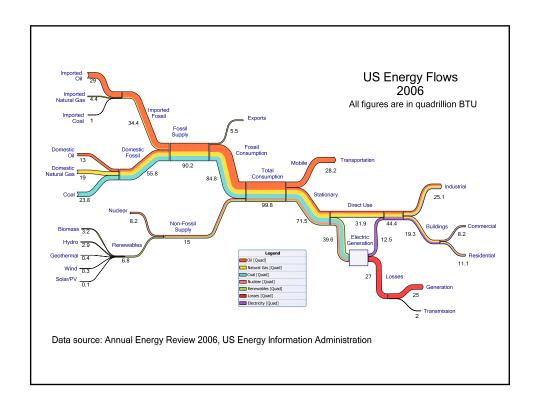
Peter J Wilcoxen

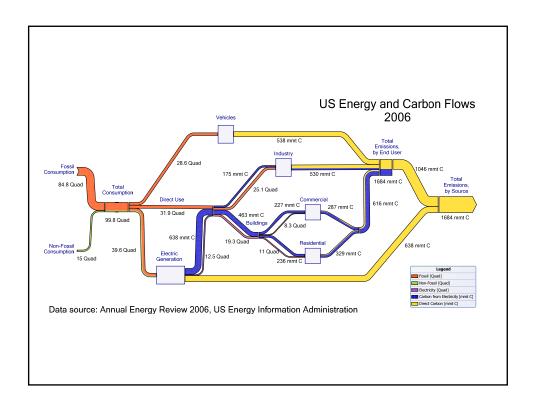
Departments of Economics and Public Administration

The Maxwell School of Syracuse University

October 5, 2010

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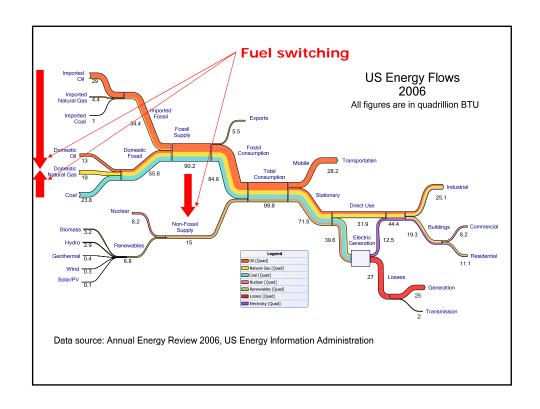


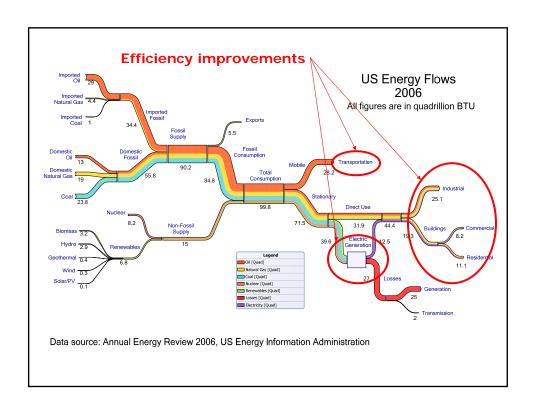


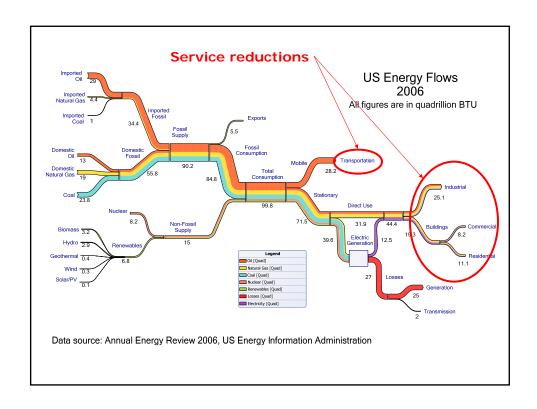
Three options for abatement

- Fuel switching
 - ⇒ Shift to fuels with lower CO2 for equivalent energy Example: coal to gas for electricity
- Efficiency improvements
 - ⇒ Use less fuel for equivalent energy services
 Example: better lights
- Reductions in demand for energy services
 - □ Demand lower services
 Example: turn lights off

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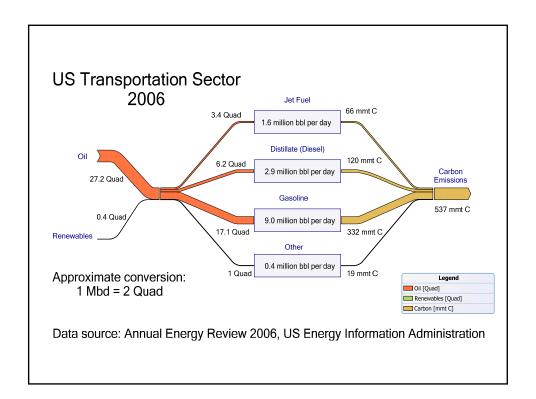




Vehicles

- Almost exclusively use oil
- Emissions shares by type of fuel
 - ⇒ 12% jet fuel
 - ⇒ 22% diesel
 - ⇒ 63% gasoline
 - ⇒ 3% other

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Abating vehicle emissions

- Shift fuel mix -- less CO2 per unit of energy
 - ⇒ Toward natural gas
 - ⇒ Toward biofuels (really feasible?)
 - □ Toward electricity with sequestration
- Improve fuel efficiency -- less energy per mile
 - ⇒ Hybrids
 - ⇒ Advanced diesel
 - \Rightarrow Public transportation
- Reduce driving -- fewer miles

 - ⇔ Change habits

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Electric sector has multiple roles

- Adapting to climate change
 - ⇒ Higher summer temperatures
- Implementing climate policies
 - □ Generation and delivery of renewable power
 - \Rightarrow Replace on-site fuel use in order to sequester carbon
 - ⇒ Support plug-in hybrids
- Implications
 - \Rightarrow Even greater role for the grid

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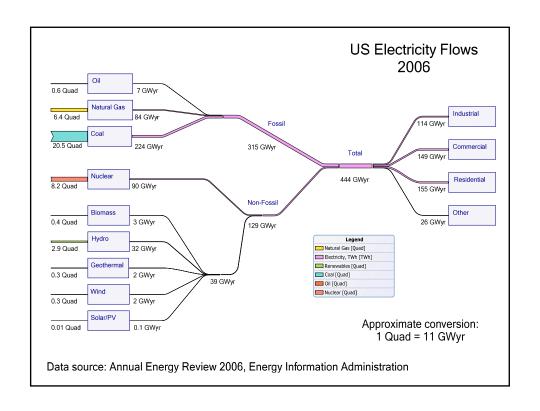
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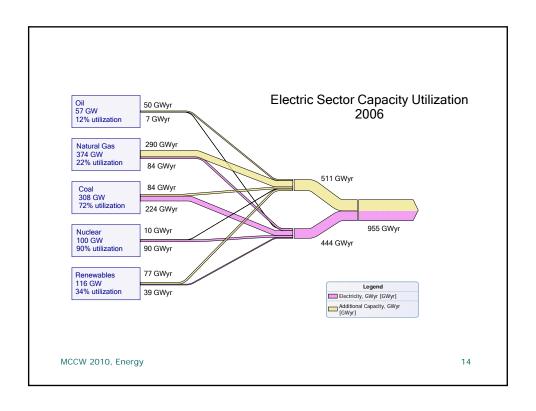
Electricity units

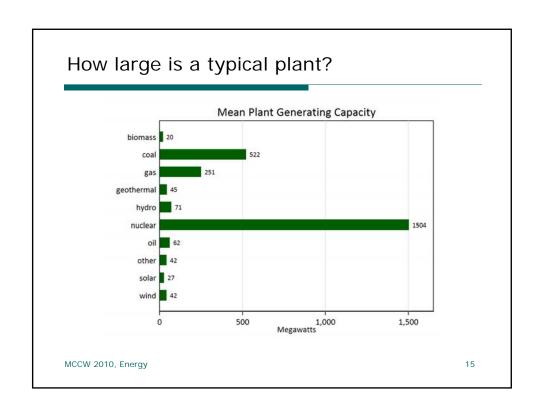
- Electric power and generating capacity
 - ⇒ Rate of electricity generation at a point in time
 - ⇒ Measured in watts (W)
 - ⇒ 1 Megawatt (MW) =10^6 watts
 - ⇒ 1 Gigawatt (GW) = 10^9 watts
 - ⇒ 1 Terawatt (TW) = 10^12 watts
- Electric energy

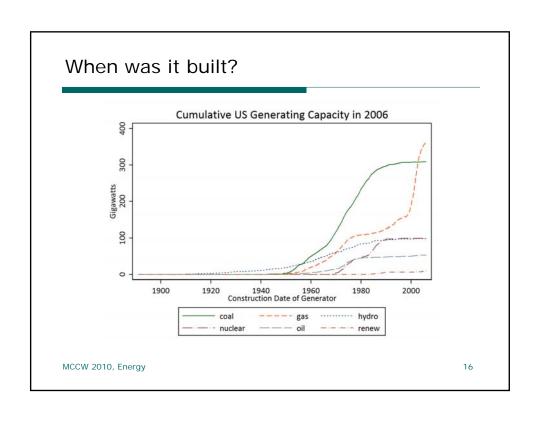
 - \Rightarrow Gigawatt-year = 8.76 x 10^12 Wh
 - \Rightarrow Gigawatt-year = 8.76 TWh

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Typical coal plant

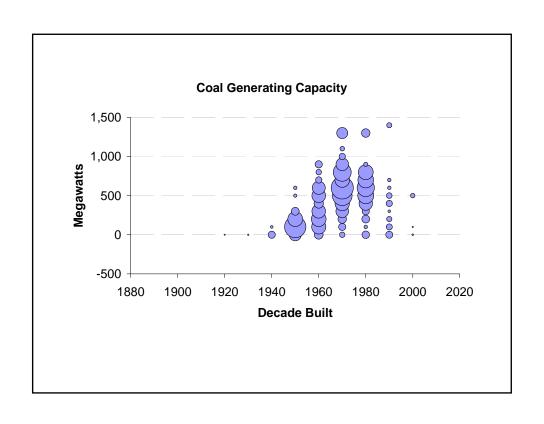
- AES Somerset on Lake Ontario
- 655 MW capacity
- Output in 2005:
 - ⇒ 91% utilization
 - ⇒ 5.2 million MWh
- Waste:

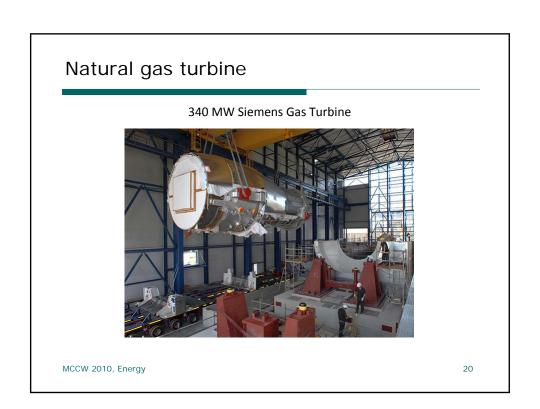


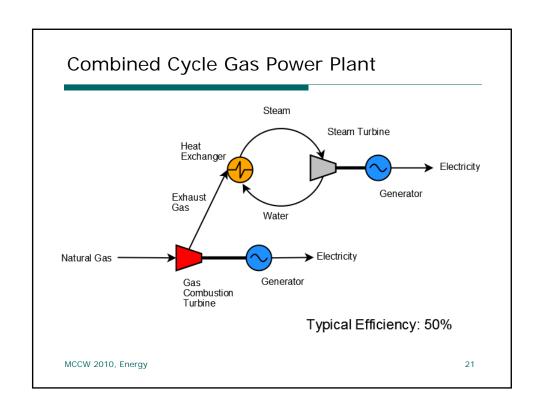
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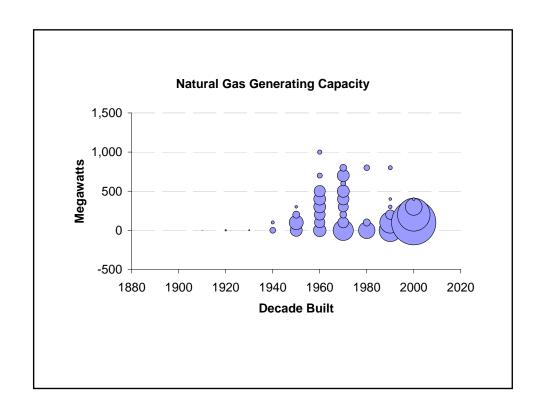
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Conventional Thermal Power Plant Boiler Steam Turbine Electricity Coal,Oil, Gas or Biomass Typical Efficiency: 33% MCCW 2010, Energy







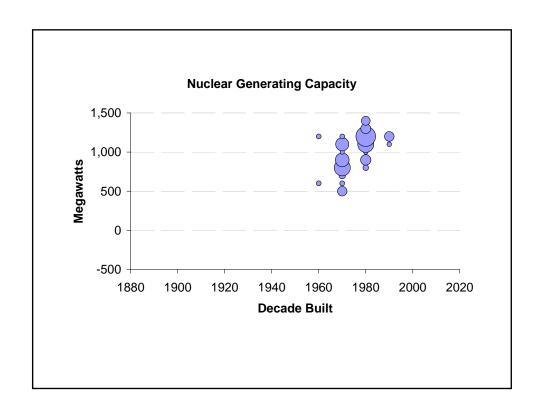


Typical nuclear plant

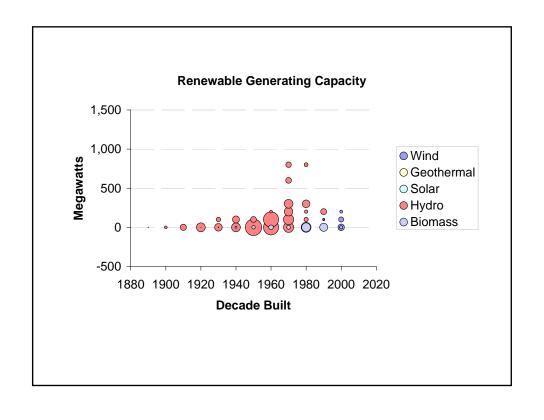
- Nine Mile Point
- Two reactors:
 - ⇒ 620 MW, 1970
 - ⇒ 1138 MW, 1988
- Output in 2007:
 - ⇒ 91% cap utilization
 - ⇒ 14 million MWh
- Waste:
 - ⇒ 0.006 lbs/MWh
 - ⇒ 38 t/year



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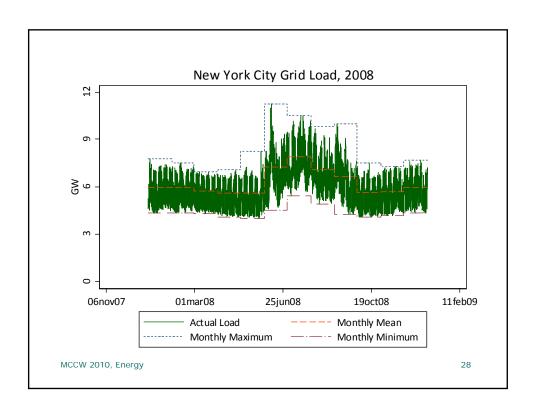
Horizontal axis wind turbines 1.75 MW Turbine, Australia 2 MW Turbine, Wales WCCW 2010, Energy 2 MW Turbine, Wales

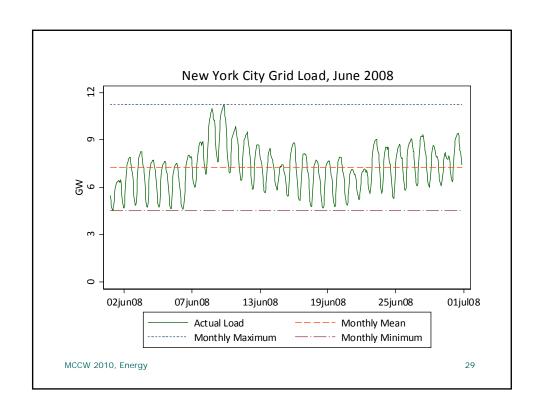


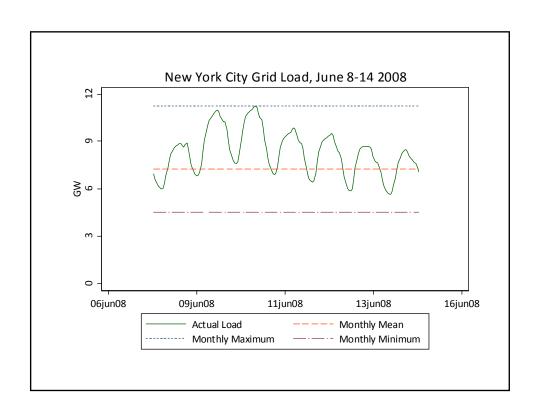
Key problem for power producers...

- Need to follow variations in demand
 - ⇒ Electricity essentially non-storable at the grid level
- Power demand varies strongly over the day
 - ⇒ Higher during the day than at night
- Also varies strongly over the year
 - ⇒ Higher in the summer due to air conditioning

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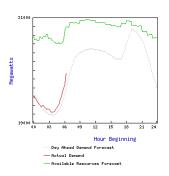






Real time California ISO load curve

- Independent System Operator (ISO)
 - Operates part of the electrical grid
- Data for Feb 3, 2010
- Demand (red curve):
 - ⇒ Min about 3 am, 20 GW
 - ⇒ Max about 7 pm, 30 GW
- Capacity (green curve):
 - *⇒* 28-32 GW



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Types of generators

- Base load
 - ⇒ Run almost all the time
 - ⇒ Expensive to build, slow start, cheap to run
 - ⇒ Coal, nuclear
- Peaking
 - ⇒ Run during peak periods
 - \Rightarrow Cheap to build, quick start, expensive to run
- Intermittent
 - ⇒ Weather dependent: wind, solar, not dispatchable

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Summary of generation mix

Fuel	Capacity	Generation	Fossil Fuel Use	Carbon
ruei	(GW)	(GWyr)	(Quads)	(Mmt C)
Oil	57	7	0.6	13
Gas	374	84	6.4	93
Coal	310	224	20.5	532
Fossil total	741	315	27.5	638
Nuclear	100	90		
Renewables	116	39		
Total	958	444	27.5	638

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Leading options for replacing fossil

- Integrated gasification combined cycle coal (IGCC)
 - ⇒ With carbon capture and sequestration (CCS)
- Combined cycle gas (CC)
 - ⇒ With CCS
- Nuclear
- Renewables
 - ⇒ Biomass
 - ⇒ Hydro
 - ⇒ Wind
 - ⇒ Solar thermal, photovoltaic

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Advanced coal power plants

Integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC)



http://www.powergeneration.siemens.com/press/press-pictures/igcc/igcc-puertollano1.htm

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Cost of building new power plants

Technology	Capital cost per GW of capacity	Technology	Capital cost per GW of capacity
Coal	\$2.1 B	Adv Nuclear	\$3.3 B
IGCC	\$2.4 B	Biomass	\$3.8 B
IGCC with CCS	\$3.5 B	Hydro	\$2.2 B
Nat Gas CC	\$0.9 B	Onshore Wind	\$1.9 B
CC with CCS	\$1.9 B	Solar Thermal	\$5.0 B
		Solar/PV	\$6.0 B

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Replacing fossil completely?

- Need about 550 GW total
 - ⇒ 330 GW baseload
 - ⇒ 220 GW peaking
- Fossil with CCS
 - ⇒ 410 GW of IGCC CCS coal (80% utilization) = \$1.4 T
 - \Rightarrow 220 GW of CC CCS gas = \$420 B Total = \$1.8T
- Intermittent renewables
 - \Rightarrow 1300 GW of wind (25% utilization) = \$2.5 T
 - \Rightarrow 220 GW of CC CCS gas = \$420 B Total = \$2.9 T

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Replacing fossil capacity, continued

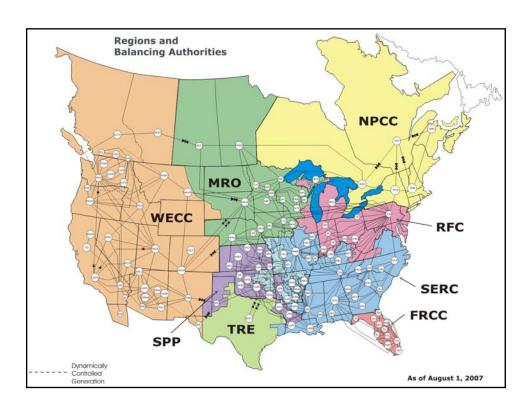
- Not impossible but definitely expensive
- Also, very uncertain
 - ⇒ No large scale CCS plants
- Population growth makes things worse

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Transmission grid

- Can we get power where it's needed?
- Especially important for wind and solar
 - \Rightarrow Best locations are far from cities
 - ⇒ Need geographic dispersion

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More grid capacity needed for wind

Variation in wholesale electricity prices due to grid congestion

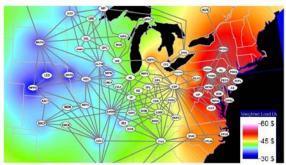


Figure 2.2-3 Contour Map of Annual Load Weighted LMP

From "2006 Midwest ISO-PJM Coordinated System Plan (CSP)," December 2006.

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Very important implication

- Would be less expensive if demand were lower
- Need to reduce fuel use on the demand side

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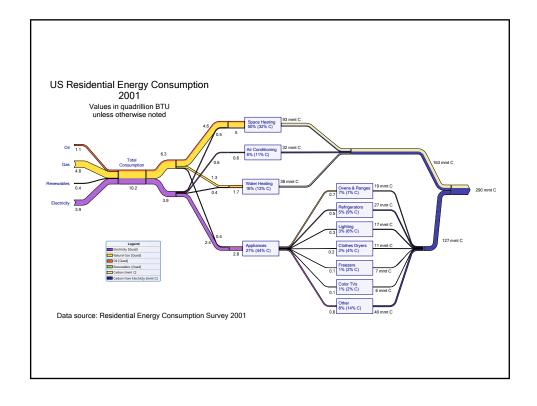
What do people do with energy?

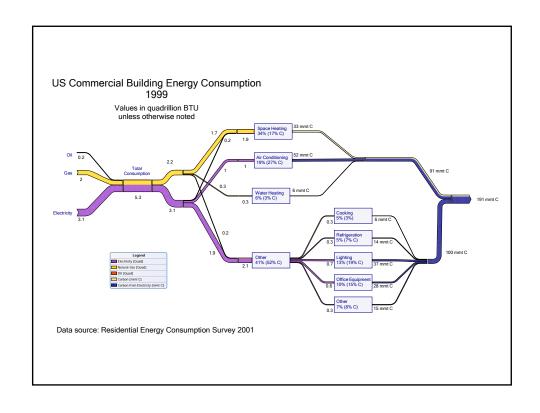
- Very quick overview of non-transportation use
- Residential and commercial
 - ⇒ Heating

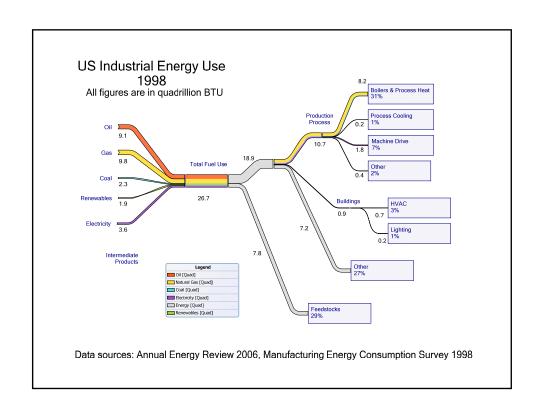
 - ⇒ Water heating
 - ⇒ Appliances
- Industry

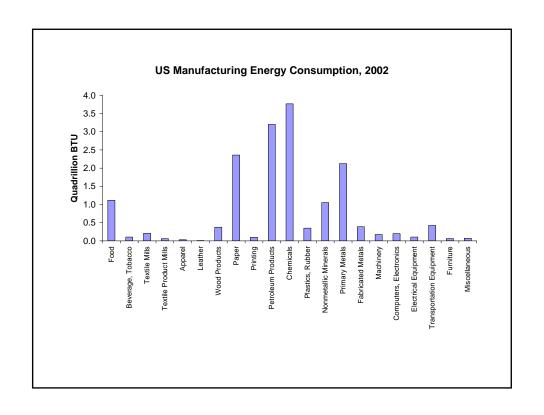
 - ⇒ Mostly in the production process

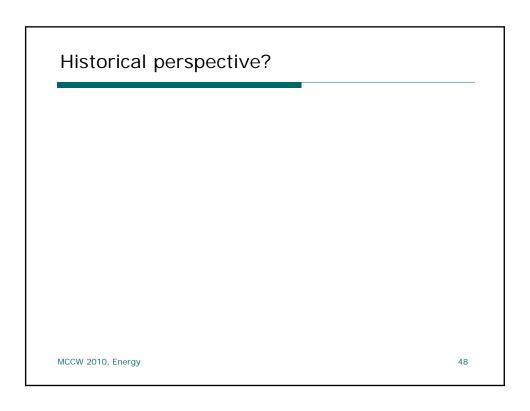
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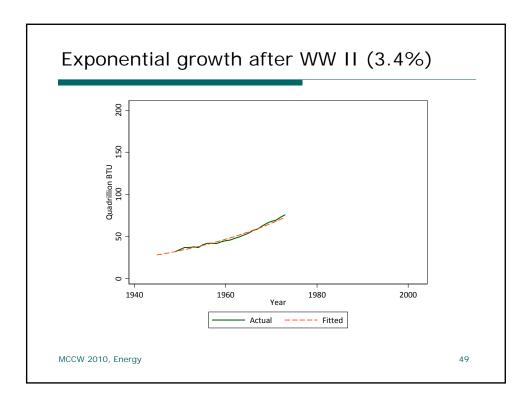








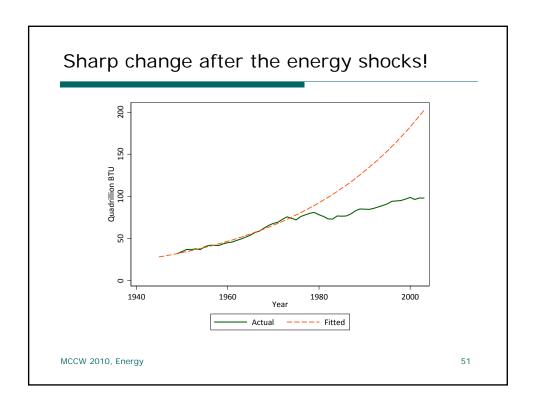




Model used (fitted equation)

- Exponential growth at unknown rate g:
 - $\Rightarrow Y = A*exp(g*t)$
- Estimated over 1945-1973
- Statistical results:
 - \Rightarrow Adjusted R-squared = 0.98
 - \Rightarrow Parameter g = 0.0341 (standard error 0.0010)
- Trivial model appears to work really well:
 - ⇒ Explains 98% of the variation
 - ⇒ Tightly estimated parameters

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Two big lessons

- Energy prices matter!
 - ⇒ Price spikes:

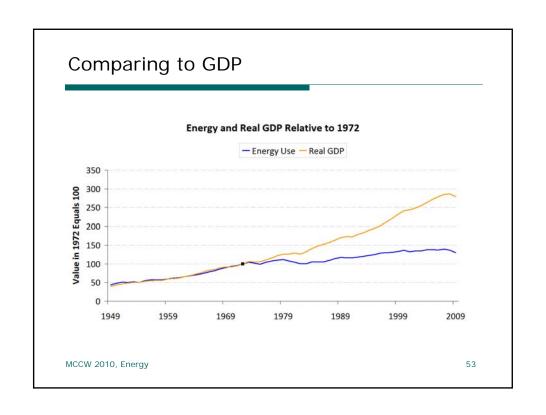
Stabilized US energy consumption for about 20 years

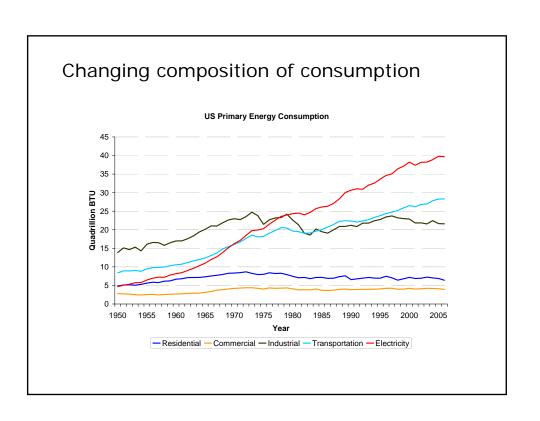
⇔ GDP growth:

Slightly slower: about 0.2% per year

- Be wary about projections
 - \Rightarrow Good fit does not automatically mean a model is useful

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What about rates of growth?

- Low growth in primary energy:
 - ⇒ Residential

 - **⇒** Industrial
- Electricity and transportation
 - *⇔* Slower post 1973
 - ⇒ Electricity: 6.5% annually before, 2.2% since
 - ⇒ Transportation: 3.5% annually before, 1.3% since
- For reference
 - ⇒ Population growth: 1.5% before, 1.1% since

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