





### Overview

- U.S. Energy usage increased exponentially from 1850-1975 (~ 4.3%/year)
- Early 1970 projections were U.S. needed 160 QBtu/year by 2000, but reality was only 100 QBtu/year. What happened?
- 1973: Arabs organized to *reduce* oil production.
  - Cost \$0.25 bbl to get oil out of ground & price was \$2/bbl
  - Very quickly price went to \$12/bbl => factor of 5-6 increase
  - U.S. introduced legislation
    - CAFE (*Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency*)
    - *Insulation standards for houses/refrigerators (R values)*
    - *55 mph freeway speed limit and many other conservation standards*
  - Thought would need massive nuclear expansion, but conservation worked much better than expected
- 1978: 2nd “oil crisis”, price doubled to \$24/bbl
  - stayed ~ \$30/bbl until a few years ago (Still ~ 1\$/bbl to get oil: => Texans got rich)
- Estimate aggressive conservation now could bring us to 60 QBtu/year; Conservation cheapest way out of energy crisis!

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### Focus on household energy

- 22% energy in households, 21% transportation, 33% industrial, 18% commercial
- In U.S. space heating is number one use: 47% of household energy
- Insulation! Insulation! Insulation!
  - If insulation was perfect no energy would be needed! Heat on a cold day once and then energy conservation would keep the air warm! Is this ideal possible?
- Typical U.S. house (not San Diego!) in cold season
  - 17% heat lost through walls
  - 16% heat lost through windows
  - 21% lost through basement walls and floor
  - 5% lost through ceiling
  - 3% lost through doors

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### Heat loss equation

- Heat energy lost in one “season” is:
 
$$Q = 24 A \text{ degree-days} / R_{\text{tot}}$$
  - Q is energy in Btu
  - A is area of wall or window or ceiling, etc. in ft<sup>2</sup>
  - R<sub>tot</sub> is “R” factor or insulation factor, depends on material and thickness
  - Degree-days = SUM over season of (65°F - outside temp)
- Most important thing is where you live (how cold it is in winter)
  - Miami FL: 170 degree-days (in one year)
  - Los Angeles 2000 degree-days
  - San Francisco 3000 degree-days
  - NY, NY: 5000 degree-days
  - Denver, CO 6000 degree-days
  - Madison, WI 7300 degree-days
  - Barrow Alaska 20,000 degree-days

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### R values are listed at Home Depot, etc.

- Formula means big R-value => less heat loss
- More area => more heat loss
- More degree days => more heat loss
- Good thing about R-values is they add:  $R_{\text{tot}} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$ , etc
- Example R values:
  - Glass window, 1/8 inch: 0.03
  - Drywall, 1/2 inch: 0.45
  - Plywood, 3/4 inch: 0.95
  - Concrete (per inch): 0.08
  - Brick (per inch): 0.2
  - Fiber glass ins (per inch): 3.7
  - Urea foam (per inch) 5.25
  - Insulating board: 2.06
  - Inside air layer 0.68
  - Outside air layer 0.17
- $Q = 24 A \text{ degree-days} / R_{\text{tot}}$

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### Example: Heat loss through wall in Reno

- Assume wall is 20ft by 8 ft
- w/o insulation: wall is made of insulating board, 3.5 inch empty gap and drywall
  - $R_{\text{tot}} = \text{outside air layer } (.17) + \text{insulating board } (2.06) + \text{inside air layer } (.68) + \text{another inside air layer } (.68) + \text{drywall } (.45) + \text{inside air layer } (.68) = 4.72$
  - $Q = 24 \times (20\text{ft} \times 8\text{ft}) \times 6000 \text{ degree-days} / 4.7 = 4.9 \text{ million Btu}$
- with insulation: add fiber glass insulation in 3.5 inch gap
  - $R_{\text{tot}} = R_{\text{tot}}(\text{above}) + 3.5\text{inch} \times 3.7 - 2(.68) = 4.7 + 13 = 16.3$
  - $Q(\text{insulation}) = 1.41 \text{ million Btu} \Rightarrow \text{save } 3.5 \text{ million Btu for this one wall!}$
  - With natural gas at  $\sim \$13/\text{MBtu} \Rightarrow \text{save } \$13 \times 3.5 = \$45.50 \text{ each year by insulating this one wall.}$
- Note glass wall would have  $R = .17 + .03 + .68 = 0.88 \Rightarrow 26 \text{ million Btu or cost } \$388/\text{year in heating!}$
- Note: similar for air conditioning required for cooling when hot

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### Insulation only helps if heat can't run out through open doors, windows or cracks

- Called air infiltration: typical house has air infiltration of once per hour => need to reheat entire house each hour, gives about 1/3 of total heat loss
- Weather stripping leaky doors, windows, etc; close chimney flue can reduce greatly
- BUT if too good: radioactive Radon gas and carbon monoxide can build up; especially in basements
- Also note, new furnaces should be > 90% efficient, old ones more like 50%; they put 1/2 of heat out vent
- Finally, lowering inside thermostat helps; Formula says lowering temp by  $n$  °F reduces heating cost by a factor of  $n/(T_{\text{inside}} - T_{\text{outside}})$

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### Fireplace or woodburning stove?

- Woodburning stoves and fireplaces are not really energy conservers!
- Woodburners are typically only 40-60% efficient; can save money only if have supply of free fire wood
- Open fireplaces mostly have negative efficiencies! They actually remove heat from most houses!
  - If central heating is on, heated indoor air is drawn into fire place and out chimney. Warmer near fire, but rest of house gets colder.
  - Can use fireplaces with glass doors; doors heat up and radiate some heat into room; newer fireplaces have these, now you know why!

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### Household appliances in order of energy use

- Electric Water heater ~ \$550/year
- Central air conditioner ~ \$335/year
- Refrigerator ~ \$116/year
- Clothes washer (inc hot water) ~ \$112/year
- Dishwasher (inc hot water) ~ \$96/year
- Clothes dryer ~ \$92/year
- Lights ~ \$88/year
- Electric Range ~ \$70/year
- Microwave oven ~ \$18/year
- Television ~ \$16/year
- Home computer ~ \$13/year
- Coffee maker ~ \$10/year
- Stereo and radio ~ \$8/year

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### Recycling

- Aluminum cans take ~7100 Btu to make, ~2500 Btu if recycled
- Glass bottles used once take ~3900 Btu, recycled 2400 Btu, refilled ~600Btu
- Recycling works for Al since Al costs ~\$130/lb => most Al is recycled; glass and paper not so valuable so much less recycled
- Paper vs. Plastic? How to tell?
  - Simple rule of thumb: pick the one that weighs less!
  - e.g. if paper cup weighs more than plastic cup probably means it used more resources and is worse for the environment!
  - (exception: toxic substances (lead, poisons, etc.))

