


SCIENCE

Energy consumption and production




Prof Peter O'Donoghue

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Energy

defined as the ability to do work

- potential energy (stored)
- kinetic energy (of motion)
- thermal energy (heat)
- chemical energy (stored in bonds between atoms)
- nuclear energy (bound within nucleus of atom)
- electromagnetic energy (electricity, magnetism, light, X-rays, microwaves, radio waves, etc)




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Electricity


= electron flow

DC (direct current) – one way (battery)
AC (alternating current) – two way pulse (sine function)



Electricity
I = Current (amps)
V = Voltage (volts)
R = Resistance (ohms)

plumbing analogy
similar to flow rate
similar to water pressure
similar to pipe diameter



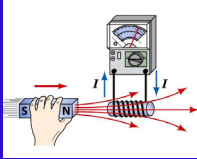
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Electromagnetic energy


Faraday found current in coiled wire:

- when brought near magnet
- alternated when - magnet rotated
- coil rotated

principle of dynamo
kinetic E (rotation) → electrical E



principle of motor
electrical E → kinetic E (rotation)



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ELECTRICITY BILL

Electricity Tariff - Tariff 11 & 33-Domestic+Controlled S						
	Meter Number	Previous Reading	Current Reading	Usage kWh	@Rate c/kWh	Amount \$
From 21 May 2009 to 30 Jun 2009 - Bill Days 40						
Peak Use						
Tariff 11 Domestic	206317	97478	98284.1	806.1	14.8100	119.38
Off Peak Use						
Tariff 33 Cont Supply	206320	93902	94475.5	573.5	8.8900	50.98
Total electricity (energy) used				= 1379.6 kWh		
What is a kWh?		kilowatt.hour				

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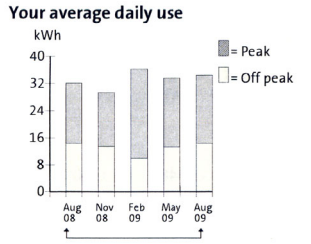
ELECTRICITY BILL

Check units?

Units for energy = kWh
Total E used = 3172 kWh

But graph shows rate (average daily use)
Period covered = 92 days
Average daily use = 34.5

Units should be kWh/d (energy / time = power)



This account Same time last year Average cost per day (Incl GST)

34.5 kWh
32.0 kWh
\$5.60

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UNITS

ENERGY	kWh	amount
POWER	kWh/d	rate

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
 Look at units for power!
 Can you spot an inconsistency?

$h/d = \text{time} / \text{time}$
 cancel out
 giving actual units for power as kW

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POWER (kW = kWh/d)

Does it make sense in terms of SI units?

FORCE: Newton's second law of motion
 Force (newtons) = mass (kg) x acceleration (m s⁻²) [1 kg m s⁻² = 1 N]

WORK: application of energy over distance
 Work, energy (joules) = force (N) x distance (m) [1 N m = 1 J]

POWER: rate of energy usage
 Power (watts) = work, energy (J) / time (s) [1 J s⁻¹ = 1 W]

[Algebraic reshuffle 1 J s⁻¹ = 1 W = 1 J = 1 W s]

Energy is a quantity (measured in kWh) [1 kWh = 3.6 million J]
 Power is a rate (measured in kW or kWh/d) [1 kW = 24 kWh/d]
 [40W = 1 kWh/d]

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Check units

Kinetic Energy: KE = ½ m v² [= kg (m s⁻¹)²]
 [= kg m² s⁻²]

Potential Energy: PE = m g h [= kg m s⁻² m]
 [= kg m² s⁻²]

Energy: E = m c² [= kg (m s⁻¹)²]
 [= kg m² s⁻²]
 [= N m]
 [= J]
 [= W s]
 [= kWh]

Power: P = E/t [= kW]
 [= kWh/d]

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UNITS

ENERGY	kWh	amount
POWER	kWh/d	rate

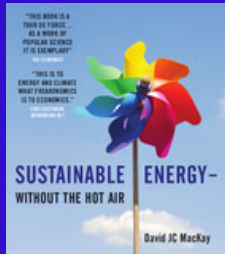
$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
 Use this as our currency
 [= rate of energy use per day]

Calculate average per person
 kWh/d pp

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Modeling E consumption/production

David MacKay 2009 – Cambridge
www.withouthotair.com [free pdf]
 United Kingdom model



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World CO₂ emissions

Burning fossil fuels dumps ~ 30 GtCO₂e/ly into atmosphere

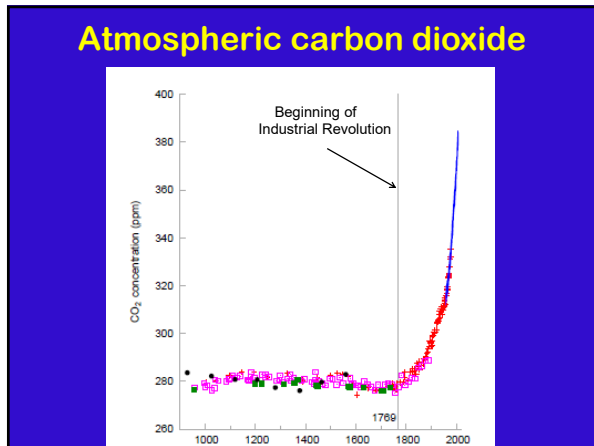
Small compared to: 440 GtCO₂e/ly from biosphere
 330 GtCO₂e/ly from oceans

BUT, biosphere extracts 440 GtCO₂e/ly } harmonious balance
 oceans extract 330 GtCO₂e/ly } through evolution

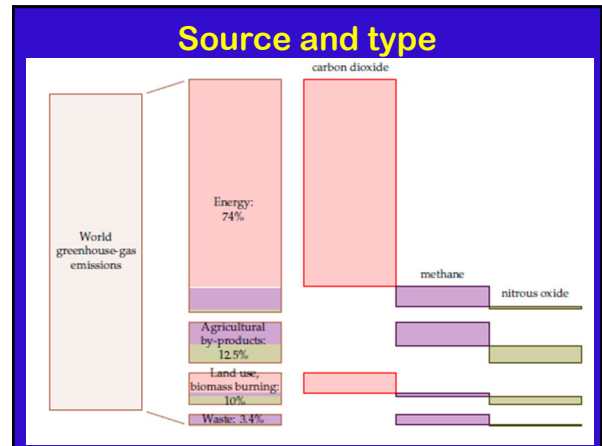
Problem is that extra amount added by humans
 is not extracted, utilized, sequestered, etc.

THUS, it is a cumulative problem

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Australian CO₂ emissions

World emission ~ 30 GtCO₂e/yr
(population of 6 billion, ⇒ ~ 5 tonsCO₂e/yr per person)

BUT, not all countries are equal

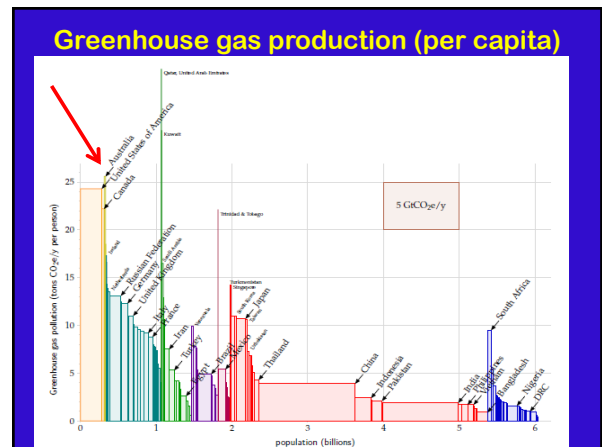
Australian emission ~ 0.5 GtCO₂e/yr
(population of 20 million, ⇒ ~ 25 tonsCO₂e/yr per person)

Regrettably, we are the champions!!!

Ranked fourth in world (behind Qatar, UAE & Kuwait)
(worse than USA & Canada)

WHY? Life-style, tyranny of distance, over-reliance of coal

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Australian power consumption

Australians emit ~ 25 tonsCO₂e/yr per person

Equates to:

Power consumption = rate of energy use
= 7.9 kW pp [1 kW = 24 kWh/d]
= 190 kWh/d pp

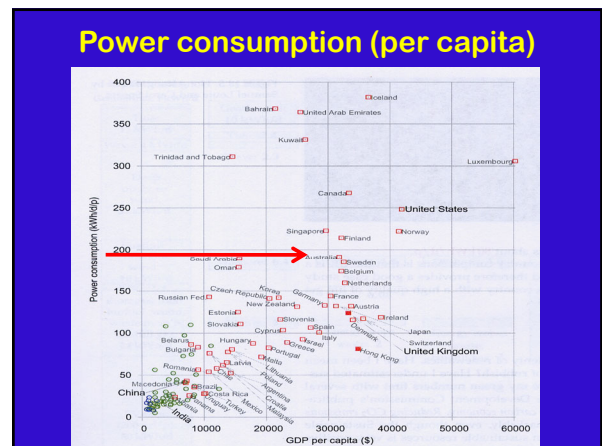
Sources:

- fossil fuels (coal, gas, oil)
- renewables (hydroelectricity, solar, wind, geothermal)

Consumption:

- most as electricity (domestic/industrial power)
- internal combustion engines (automotive power)

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Power consumption (Oz)

TOTAL 190 kWh/d per person

Cars	
Planes	
Household	
Lighting	
Gadjets	
Food/farming	
Manufacturing	
Public services	


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Power consumption: cars

Consider average daily use of car
 Fuel calorific value = 10 kWh/L

Energy per day = $\frac{\text{distance travelled per day pp}}{\text{distance per unit fuel}} \times \text{energy per unit fuel}$

$$= \frac{50 \text{ km/day pp}}{12 \text{ km/L}} \times 10 \text{ kWh/L}$$

$$= 40 \text{ kWh/d pp}$$


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Power consumption: planes

Boeing 747 uses 200,000 L fuel to carry 400 passengers a distance of 14,000 km [fuel calorific value = 10 kWh/L]

Energy used for single return flight once per year

$$= \frac{\text{distance travelled per day pp}}{\text{distance per unit fuel}} \times \text{energy per unit fuel}$$

$$= \frac{(2 \times 14,000 \text{ km}) / 365 \text{ days}}{(2 \times 14,000 \text{ km}) / [(2 \times 200,000 \text{ L}) / 400 \text{ persons}]} \times 10 \text{ kWh/L}$$

$$= 27 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$


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Power consumption: household

$E_{\text{hot-water}} = \text{heat capacity} \times \text{volume} \times \text{temperature difference}$

$$E_{\text{shower}} = 4200 \text{ J/L}^\circ\text{C} \times 30 \text{ L} \times (50-10)^\circ\text{C} = 5 \text{ MJ} (= 1.4 \text{ kWh})$$


Power used for one 5 minute shower per day = $1.4/12 = 0.1 \text{ kWh/d}$

Energy used by electric kettle per day = $\text{power} \times \text{time used per day}$

$$= 3 \text{ kW} \times 0.5 \text{ h/d} = 1.5 \text{ kWh/d}$$

Cooking (stove, oven, microwave, kettle) (~3kW appliances) = 5 kWh/d
 Cleaning (bathing, washer/dryer, dishwasher) (~2.5 kW) = 5 kWh/d
 Cooling (refrigerator, freezer) (0.1 kW) = 2 kWh/d
 Air-conditioning (heating/cooling) (1 kW) = 24 kWh/d

TOTAL = 36 kWh/d



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Power consumption: light

Average home uses ~ 20 globes for 6 hours per day
 10 incandescent globes require 1 kW power
 10 low-energy globes require 0.1 kW power

Energy used per day for:


household lighting = $(\text{power} \times \text{time}) / \text{av. no. people per home}$

$$= (1.1 \text{ Kw} \times 6 \text{ h/d}) / 2 \text{ persons}$$

$$= 3.3 \text{ kWh/d pp}$$

workplace lighting = 1.6 kWh/d pp
 street lighting = 0.1 kWh/d pp

TOTAL = 5 kWh/d pp




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Power consumption: gadjets

Appliance with power rating of 40 W = 1 kWh/d but only used for fraction of each day


	quantity (no.)	rating (W)	sum (kW)	usage (h/d)	Power (kWh/d)
Computer/printer	2	100	0.2	4	0.8
TV/DVD/VCR	2	100	0.2	3	0.6
Xbox/PS/Wii	2	200	0.4	2	0.8
CD/stereo/radio	2	100	0.2	2	0.4
Chargers (phone,...)	4	5	0.02	24	0.5
Vacuum cleaner	1	1600	1.6	1	1.6
Lawn mower	1				0.3
TOTAL					= 5 kWh/d



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Power consumption: food/farming

One 65 kg person uses 2,600 Calories per day (= 2.6 million calories) ~ 3 kWh/d

Item	Consumption – Production	Power
milk, cheese	consume 0.75 L/d, 450 kg cow produces 16 L/d, uses 450 x 3/65 kWh/d (0.75/16 x 450 x 3/65)	1 kWh/d
eggs	eat 2 eggs/d, chicken lays 290 eggs/yr, eat 120 g/d @ 3.3 kWh/kg (2 x 365/290 x 0.12 x 3.3)	1 kWh/d
meat 	eat 100 g/d each of chicken, beef and pork, (50, 1000 & 400 days nurture @ 3/65 kWh/d/kg)	7 kWh/d
fruit/vegies	eat 250 g/d, 200 days nurture @ 3/130 kWh/d/kg	1 kWh/d
pets	cats, dogs and horses, 1 per 10 persons	3 kWh/d
TOTAL		13 kWh/d

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Power consumption: manufacturing

Item	Consumption x embodied production cost	Power
drink containers (aluminum cans/bottles)	5 units/d @ 0.6 kWh/unit	3 kWh/d
packaging (glass/paper/plastic/steel)	0.4 kg/d @ 10 kWh/kg	4 kWh/d
computer (1 every 2 years)	1/(2x365) unit/d @ 1500kWh/unit	2 kWh/d
print (newspapers/magazines/junk mail)	0.2 kg/d @ 10 kWh/kg	2 kWh/d
house (1 every 100 years, 2.3 persons)	1/(100x365x2.3) @ 84000	1 kWh/d
car (1 every 15 years)	1/(15x365) units/d @ 76000 kWh/unit	14 kWh/d
roads (building/upkeep over 50 yrs)	1/(50x365) m/d @ 36000 kWh/m	2 kWh/d
road transport	51billion t-km / (365 x 20 million pop) @ 1 kWh/t-km	7 kWh/d
shipping	2000billion t-km / (365 x 20million pop) @ 0.015kWh/t-km	4 kWh/d
water treatment	160 L/d @ 0.002 kWh/L	0.3 kWh/d
sewage treatment	100L/d @ 0.002 kWh/L	0.2 kWh/d
supermarkets	5000 units / (365 x 20 million) @ 3.6 GWh/unit	0.5 kWh/d
imports (55 million tonnes per yr)	2 kg/d @ 10 kWh/kg	20 kWh/d
TOTAL		60 kWh/d

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Power consumption: public services

Australian government annual budget \$560 billion (GDP)

Energy consumption greatest in ADF


3.2% GDP spent on defence = \$18 billion

25% spent on energy = \$4.5 billion

@ 14.8cents/kWh = 30 billion kWh per year

= 83 million kWh per day

Population of 20 million

gives 4 kWh/d per person 

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Power consumption (Oz)

	kWh/d per person
Cars	40
Planes	27
Household	36
Lighting	5
Gadgets	5
Food/farming	13
Manufacturing	60
Public services	4
TOTAL	190

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What can we do about energy consumption?


- Use less!
 - mandates profound life-style changes (sell car, do not fly, limit gadgets, reduce lighting, make household more efficient, eat less, buy less..)

Should your generation expect less than what your parents have?

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SCIE1100: Advanced TAPIS

Week 3: Energy production



Prof Peter O'Donoghue
Faculty of Science, UQ

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Power production *

<p>Fossil fuels Coal, gas, oil</p>	<p>Sources in Australia:</p>
<p>Renewable E Wind Solar Hydroelectricity Wave Tide Geothermal</p>	<p>- fossil fuels (coal, gas, oil) - renewables (hydroelectricity, solar, wind, geothermal)</p>
<p>Nuclear energy</p>	

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Power production: fossil fuels

Fossil fuels (coal, gas, oil)
Current global consumption 6.3 Gt/yr
Known reserves (mostly coal) = 1,600 Gt



To be sustainable, needs to last 1,000 years
Allows annual consumption = 1.6 Gt/yr
Divided by 6 billion people, gives ~6 kWh/d per person

Standard coal power stations only 37% efficient
Technology for clean coal (carbon capture and storage) unavailable

Only enough coal left for 250 years (if no population growth)
or 60 years (with 3.4% population growth)


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Power production: wind

Wind (onshore)

Turbines size-constrained, spaced for clear air, generate 2 W/m²
But: only 10% efficient, only work in moderate wind speeds, so only ~1% land in Australia suitable

Power/person = [efficiency] x wind power/unit area x area/person
= [10% x 1%] x 2 W/m² x 384,000 m²/person
= 768 W per person
~ 20 kWh/d per person




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Power production: wind

Wind (offshore) (shallow, < 25 m)

Winds stronger and steadier, generate 3 W/m²
Turbine problems with corrosion, still only 10% efficient
Shallow inshore area ~ 160,000 km²
But only 25% available (fishing, shipping, reefs, ..)

Power/person = [efficiency] x wind power/unit area x area/person
= [10% x 25%] x 3 W/m² x 8,000 m²/person
= 600 W per person
~ 15 kWh/d per person




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Power production: wind

Wind (offshore) (deep, 25-50 m)

Platforms more expensive, generate 3 W/m²
Turbine problems with corrosion, still only 10% efficient
Suitable coastal area ~ 320,000 km²
but only 25% available (fishing, shipping, reefs, ..)

Power/person = [efficiency] x wind power/unit area x area/person
= [10% x 25%] x 3 W/m² x 16,000 m²/person
= 1200 W per person
~ 30 kWh/d per person



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Power production: solar


Sunshine (midday, cloudless day, at Equator) = 1000 W/m²

<p>But compensate for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> latitude (tilt) daily variation cloud cover 	<p>Oz ~70% that of Equator average ~ 40% midday sun shines ~ 35% of day</p>
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Yields average solar power per area = 100 W/m²

Solar power

- Thermal (heat water)
- Photovoltaic (produce electricity)
- Biomass (grow plants to eat or for biofuel)



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Power production: solar

Solar (thermal)

Simplest technology – panel to heat water, 50% efficient

Average solar power = 100 W/m²

Assume everyone gets 10m² panels on roof

Solar heating = efficiency x area panels/person x average power

$$= 50\% \times 10 \text{ m}^2 \times 100 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$= 500 \text{ W}$$

$$= 12 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$

$$[40 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kWh/d}]$$



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Power production: solar

Solar (photovoltaic)

Developing technology – gallium arsenide photovoltaic cells

Convert sunlight into electricity, 20% efficient

Average solar power = 100 W/m²

Assume everyone gets 10m² panels on roof



Solar power = efficiency x area panels/person x average power

$$= 20\% \times 10 \text{ m}^2 \times 100 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$= 200 \text{ W}$$

$$= 5 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$

$$[40 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kWh/d}]$$

Could be increased 2-10 fold by establishing large solar farms but defeated by logistics of transporting it over large distances (incl. o/s)

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Power production: solar

Solar (biomass)

Grow plants: - to eat (food)
- to burn (fuel, wood)
- for biofuel (ethanol, diesel)
- for biogas (methane by-products)



Convert sunlight into carbohydrates, best plants only 0.5% efficient

Average solar power = 100 W/m²

In Australia, crops cover 21 million hectares (= 21 x 10¹⁰ m²)

Assume 25% used for fuel, 75% for food

Bioenergy = efficiency x area/person x average power

$$= 0.5\% \times 2,625 \text{ m}^2 \times 100 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$= 1300 \text{ W}$$

$$= 33 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$

$$[40 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kWh/d}]$$

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Power production: hydroelectricity

Hydroelectricity

Need altitude and rainfall to harvest gravitational power

(potential energy) of water

Most rain runs off, is used by plants or evaporates

(only ~ 10% could be used for hydroelectricity)



$$PE_{\text{grav}} = m g h$$

$$= (\text{volume} \times \text{density}) g h$$

$$= (\text{rainfall} \times \text{density}) \times \text{gravity} \times \text{altitude}$$

$$[\text{Density of water} = 1,000 \text{ kg/m}^3, \text{ Gravity} = 10 \text{ m/s}^2]$$

Lowlands altitude < 500 m (with 100 m drop)

Highlands altitude > 1,000 m (with 300 m drop)

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Power production: hydroelectricity

Hydroelectricity (lowlands)

Area Australia = 7.68 million km², but 85% is < 500 m high,

and only ~ 10% of that would have suitable altitude drop of 100 m

Average rainfall only ~ 400 mm/yr, but assume it all sees a turbine

Power per unit area = 400 mm/yr x 1000 kg/m³ x 10 m/s² x 100 m

$$= 0.4 \text{ m/yr} \times 1,000,000 \text{ kg.m}^{-1}.\text{s}^{-2}$$

$$= 0.4/(365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60) \text{ m/s} \times 10^9 \text{ kg.m}^{-1}.\text{s}^{-2}$$

$$= 0.01 \text{ kg.s}^{-3}$$

$$= 0.01 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$[1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kg.m}^2.\text{s}^{-3}]$$

Multiply by area/person (32,500 m² per person for lowlands)

$$= 325 \text{ W}$$

$$= 8 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$

$$[40 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kWh/d}]$$

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Power production: hydroelectricity

Hydroelectricity (highlands)

Area Australia = 7.68 million km², but only 0.5% is > 1,000 m high

Assume that is all has a suitable altitude drop of 300 m

Average rainfall ~ 800 mm/yr, and assume it all sees a turbine

Power per unit area = 800 mm/yr x 1000 kg/m³ x 10 m/s² x 300 m

$$= 0.8 \text{ m/yr} \times 3,000,000 \text{ kg.m}^{-1}.\text{s}^{-2}$$

$$= 0.8/(365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60) \text{ m/s} \times 3 \times 10^9 \text{ kg.m}^{-1}.\text{s}^{-2}$$

$$= 0.06 \text{ kg.s}^{-3}$$

$$= 0.06 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$[1 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kg.m}^2.\text{s}^{-3}]$$

Multiply by area/person (1,900 m² per person for lowlands)

$$= 114 \text{ W}$$

$$= 3 \text{ kWh/d per person}$$


$$[40 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ kWh/d}]$$

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Power production: wave

Wave (sun makes wind makes waves, when wind > 0.5 m/s)
 Wave energy collectors
 (floating articulated snakes perpendicular to wave direction)
 (flexion around articulation generates energy, but only 25% efficient)
 (power of waves measured at 40 kW/m of exposed coastline)
 Australian coastline 20,000 km (but only 2% with sustained oceanic waves)

Wave power = efficiency x power/length coastline x length per person
 = 25% x 40 kW/m x 0.02 m per person
 = 200 W [40 W = 1 kWh/d]
 = 5 kWh/d per person

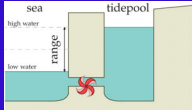


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Power production: tide

Tide (gravitational interaction between Earth and Moon)
 Two tides per day (6.25 hr period), predictable, regular, everlasting
 Use water flowing back and forth to turn turbine
 (establish tidal pools/lagoons, tidal stream farms, barrages)
 Tide range of 4 m (current of 2 knots, ~1 m/s) may generate 3 W/m²
 Tide turbines cheap, hidden underwater, 50% efficient
 Australian coastline 20,000 km, tidal currents up to 1 km offshore,
 Assume only 40% accessible/suitable

Tidal power = efficiency x power per unit area x area per person
 = 50% x 3 W/m² x 400 m²/person
 = 600 W [40 W = 1 kWh/d]
 = 15 kWh/d per person



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Power production: geothermal

Geothermal (~50 milli-W/m² at surface of Earth)
 - heat trickling through mantle from core (~10 milli-W/m²)
 - radioactive decay in crust (~40 milli-W/m²)
 Available near surface at special 'hot-spots'
 Rate-limited (cannot exceed extraction limits)
 Crust 40 km thick, 500°C at 40 km depth
 Optimal depth to drill for extraction ~ 15 km, deliver 15 milli-W/m²
 Area of Australia = 7.68 million km², but only 3% suitable/active

Geothermal power = efficiency x power/unit area x area/person
 = 50% x 0.015 W/m² x 10,000 m²/person
 = 75 W [40 W = 1 kWh/d]
 = 2 kWh/d per person



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Power production (Oz)

SOURCE		kWh/d per person
Fossil fuels	coal, gas, oil	6
Wind	onshore	20
	offshore shallow	15
	offshore deep	30
Solar	thermal	12
	photovoltaic	5
	biomass	33
Hydroelectricity	lowland	8
	highland	3
Wave		5
Tide		15
Geothermal		2
TOTAL		154


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Power deficit

Total power production	154 kWh/d per person
Total power consumption	190 kWh/d per person
Deficit	36 kWh/d per person

Where will it come from?
 What sources are left?

Nuclear energy (fission, fusion) 1-420



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Nuclear energy

Nuclear energy

- fission (using heavy elements, uranium)
- fusion (using light elements, deuterium/tritium)

E = mc²

All about inter-conversion of matter and energy

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BIG BANG

Theory of Everything (Universal Theory)

- electromagnetic force (wave/particle)
- gravitational force (attraction)
- strong force (overcome repulsion)
- weak force (radio-active decay)

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Power production: nuclear energy

Nuclear energy (fission, using heavy elements, uranium)
(fusion, using light elements, deuterium, DT/DD)

Energy available per atom is 1,000,000 x greater than chemical energy

Fossil fuels	16 kg/d consumed pp	produces 30 Kg CO ₂ /d
Uranium	2 g/d consumed pp	produces 0.25 g waste

Source of radioactive elements

- ground (estimated reserves 27 million tons uranium)
- ocean (estimated reserves 4.5 billion tons uranium)

Usage

- once-through reactor (energy from ²³⁵U (discard ²³⁸U))
- fast-breeder reactor (energy from ²³⁸U), 60x more efficient

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FISSION

Fission = splitting atom (using a neutron)

only Uranium and Plutonium generate self-sustaining reactions

Plutonium not found naturally (formed when U-238 absorbs a neutron to become U-239 which then decays in days to Pu-239)

Uranium found naturally in earth (foci) and seawater (3.4 ppb)

Occurs as three isotopes: U-244, U-235, U-238

U-238 is most abundant but cannot sustain a reaction

U-235 makes up 0.7% of natural deposits

reactors use enriched (boosted) blend so U-235 is 3.5-5.0%

made into pellets and then put in long fuel rods

use gas centrifuges for enrichment (can be used for weapons)

light water reactor (core -> water -> turbine)

fast breeder reactor (core -> liquid salt/metal -> water -> turbine)

Thorium reactors (Th-232 + n -> Th-233 which decays to U-233)

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FISSION

440 reactors in the world provided 13% of energy in 2011

135 defunct reactors only 17 dismantled

disasters

Chernobyl 1986 Ukraine

Fukushima 2011 Japan

dangerous radiation

waste products

long half-lives

Figure - Chart showing the decay chain of the uranium and thorium series isotopes and the half-lives of each isotope (in green). Alpha decays are shown by the vertical arrows (↓) and beta decays by the diagonal arrows (↘).

Atomic Number	Element	U-235 Series	U-238 Series
92	Uranium	U-235 7.04 x 10 ⁸ yrs	
91	Protactinium	↓	Pa-231 3.27 x 10 ⁴ yrs
90	Thorium	Th-231 25.5 hrs	Th-232 1.4 x 10 ¹⁰ yrs
89	Actinium	↓	Ac-227 21.8 yrs
88	Radium	↓	Ra-226 1.6 x 10 ³ yrs
87	Francium	↓	
86	Radon	↓	Rn-222 3.82 days
85	Astatine	↓	
84	Polonium	↓	Po-218 3.1 min
83	Bismuth	↓	Bi-214 20 min
82	Lead	↓	Pb-214 27 min

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FISSION

break down heavy element

$${}_{92}^{235}\text{U} + {}_0^1\text{n} \rightarrow {}_{92}^{236}\text{U} \rightarrow {}_{36}^{94}\text{Kr} + {}_{56}^{139}\text{Ba} + 3 {}_0^1\text{n}$$

uranium-235 neutron uranium-236 krypton-94 barium-139 neutrons

mass lost = 0.185 u = 3x10⁻²⁸kg

⇒ E = mc² = 2.8x10⁻¹¹J
(all from one fission)

cumulative chain reaction
energy from 1kg = 8x10¹³J
(= 2 tonnes coal)
(supply Sydney for 2 days)

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FISSION

energy generation in nuclear reactor

- use 2-4% uranium-235 (concentration too low for explosion)
- generates enormous amount of heat (need coolant to avoid melt-down) (use heat to drive steam turbines to produce electricity)
- once-through reactors v. fast-breeder reactors (60-fold difference in efficiency)
- all plagued with problems of radio-active waste (half-lives 10³ – 10⁹ years)

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Radio-activity

particles

- alpha (helium nucleus) ${}^4_2\text{He}$
- beta (electron) ${}^0_{-1}\text{e} + \bar{\nu}_e$ (anti-neutrino)
- gamma (high E photons) ${}^0_0\gamma$ [extremely penetrating]
- positron (+ electron) ${}^0_{+1}\text{e} + \nu_e$ (neutrino)
- neutron emission ${}^1_0\text{n}$
- electron capture proton \rightarrow neutron + ν_e + X-rays

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FUSION

theoretically generate more E than fission
 $3.4 \times 10^{14} \text{ J per kg}$ cf. $8 \times 10^{13} \text{ J}$

but must have huge KE to overcome repulsion between positively charged particles (in order of 10^7 k)

- use particle accelerator (too small for E production)
- use gravitational force (e.g. sun)
- use fission bomb to ignite fusion bomb

obvious technological problems

recent breakthrough

- use radiation to heat gaseous plasma confined in magnetic field (tokamak apparatus)

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FUSION

join light elements (releases more E, products stable, less r-a)

$${}^1_1\text{p} + {}^1_1\text{p} \rightarrow {}^2_1\text{D} + {}^0_1\text{e} + \nu_e + E$$

proton proton deuterium positron neutrino energy

$${}^1_1\text{p} + {}^2_1\text{D} \rightarrow {}^3_2\text{He} + {}^0_0\gamma + E$$

proton deuterium helium-3 photon energy

$${}^3_2\text{He} + {}^3_2\text{He} \rightarrow {}^4_2\text{He} + 2 {}^1_1\text{p} + {}^0_0\gamma + E$$

helium-3 helium-3 helium-4 protons photon energy

} 'hydrogen-burning'

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Power production: nuclear energy

Nuclear energy (fission, fusion)
 Estimated power production in kWh/d per person

FISSION	mined Uranium	ocean Uranium	mined Thorium
Once-through	0.55	7	4
Fast breeder	33	420	24

FUSION	mined Lithium	ocean Lithium	ocean Deuterium
Fantasy reactor	10	105	30,000

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Are we doomed to a nuclear future?

Unequivocally, YES!

But if we are smart, we will use the same nuclear source that the Earth has used since creation!

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Energy flow

solar energy

photosynthesis

chloroplasts

$$6 \text{ CO}_2 + 6 \text{ H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6 + 6 \text{ O}_2$$

(carbon dioxide) (water) (glucose) (oxygen)

mitochondria

glycolysis

chemical energy

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