Opportunities for Energy Efficiency in Buildings

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# Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration



### U.S. Energy Flow 2004 Traditional Solution Focus



### U.S. Energy Flow 2004 Neglected Focus



# **Energy Efficient Buildings**

- Building Efficiency is an Important Solution to Energy Problem
- Cost Effective when Done Properly
- Requires Integrated Approach
- Important Contributions
  - New Technology
  - New Assessment Tools: Virtual Building
- Challenges in the future

# **U.S. Buildings**

- •39 % of total energy ( in UK 50 % )
- •72 % of electricity
- •90% of time spent indoors
- Major health problems: indoor climate

#### 2004 U.S. Buildings End Use





Total Energy Consumption: 21.07 Quadrillion Btu

#### 2004 Commercial Buildings End Use



\* -- Excludes buildings energy consumption in the industrial sector.

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# **Physical Limits of Performance**

Commercial Buildings For example: green roof, cool roof??

Zero net energy high rise? Cover entire surface with PV, what % of building energy?



# Wind



# **Economic Limits**

#### **Electric Power Costs**

Technology	Cents/kWe-hr		
Nuclear	4-7		
Gas/Combined Cycle	4-6		
Coal	4		

Sources: Deutch and Moniz, MIT study 2003; Langcake, Renewable Energy World, 2003; Kats, California study, 2003

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Renewable			
Wind	3-8		
Biomass (25MW)	4-9		
Small Hydro	5-10		
Solar Thermal Electric	12-18		
Solar PV	30-80		

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Efficiency of Consumption			
Advanced Buildings	0-6		

Sources: Glicksman Physics Today 2008 Deutch and Moniz, MIT study 2003; Langcake, Renewable Energy World, 2003; Kats, California study, 2003

#### Figure 2 U.S. mid-range abatement curve - 2030

Carbon dioxide abatement: estimated removal cost per ton of CO<sup>2</sup> in 2005 dollars and removal potential in gigatons/yr for various strategies. Transportation and building efficiency measures



# **Energy Efficient Buildings**

- Building Efficiency is an Important Solution to Energy Problem
- Cost Effective when Done Properly
- Why don't more US homes adopt efficient measures?

# Barriers

- Conservative Industry
- Fragmented Field
- Lowest First Cost
- Lack of Incentives
- Poor Education
- Lack of information
  - Performance Projections
  - Results from New Buildings
- Linear Designs



Figure ES- 5: Measured versus Proposed Savings Percentages

# There's no single silver bullet to solve the energy problem



# There's silver buckshot



# Building Technology Program at MIT

- Joint program Architecture and Engineering
- 5 full time faculty
- 25 graduate students
- Research on the next generation of technology
  - Materials
  - Energy efficient operations
  - Community level impact
- Research on integrated design
  - Optimized design
  - Trade off: energy efficiency- renewables

# Virtual Design Tools - some examples: MIT Design Advisor

Introduction		Les cripuor	Typology: single double triple single glazed glazed glazed (no blinds) (no blinds)	e double triple inside d glazed glazed vent.	outside vent.	
Comfort			Clazing Type: Iow-e  Vindow Area: 75 % - the percentage of the room wall that the window takes up			Advanced (blinds, ventilation)
i Comfort	2a	Wall Description	Insulation Type: foam  Insulation Thickness: 2.0 (standard)  om		Design Advis	<mark>or for</mark>
Daylighting	3	Building	Location: by oity by olimate Boston Building Dimensions North-South Length: East-West Length:	12     m - (four-sided case only)       12     m - (four-sided case only)	Architects	
I   Daynghining     I   Report	4	Occupancy [1]	Choose an occupancy type         Occupancy Load:       0.10         Lighting Requirements:       400 - office work (EU std.)         Equipment Load:       5.00	ux		Advanced (air changes)
	5	Representative Room [	N         Room Depth:         7         m - perpendicu           W         E         Room Width:         5         m - parallel to u           S         Room Height:         3         m - vertically p.	lar to windowed surface windowed surface arallel to windowed sur Scenari	nt Design os	
6       Natural Ventilation       Image: Pure Mechanical Energy System         Image: Im						
	7	Thermal Mass 1	High Thermal Mass: exposed ceiling and floor; concretes     Low Thermal Mass: carpeting/ wood, stone systems	ilab system		
	8	Overhang [	Overhang Depth: 0 m - (0 indicates no overhang)			
				save ▼ edit ▲ delete	save - edit ▲ delete	save →  edit ▲  delete
			Sceñario One low-e 3 meters	Scenario I wo low-e 3 meters	Scenario Three low-e 3 meters	Scenario Four Iow-e 3 meters
			Boston 🔿 N	Boston 🔷 Ň	Boston 📿 N	Boston 📿 N
			Choose an occupancy type 0.10 pp/m <sup>2</sup> - 400 lux - 5.00 M/m <sup>2</sup>	Choose an occupancy type 0.10 pp/m <sup>2</sup> · 400 lux · 5.00 W/m <sup>2</sup>	Choose an occupancy type 0,10 pp/m <sup>2</sup> - 400 lux - 5.00 W/m <sup>2</sup>	Choose an occupancy type 0.10 pp/m <sup>2</sup> - 400 lux - 5.00 W/m <sup>2</sup>
			room: 5 m × 7 m	room: 5 m × 7 m	100m: 5 m × 7 m	room: 5 m × 7 m

### Commercial Roof Types



modified bitumen roof



#### ballasted roof





#### cool roof

http://www.lexiscoatings.com/wp-content/uploads/mod-splash.jpg http://home.att.net/~wavetrader/spf6.JPG https://ssl2.msstate.edu/vpfa/admin/fm/conprojects/conprojimages/00000441.jpg http://www.epa.gov/region8/images/greenroof\_terrace.jpg



#### Boston, 3-story, 50% glazing in each room





#### ABU-DHABI MASDAR DEVELOPMENT Goal: Zero Carbon



**Foster and Partners** 



Energy Use vs Additional Capital Cost Above Baseline Commercial Building PV \$4/W over 5 years.

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# **Total Cost vs Capital Cost**



# Updated output

\$4/W over 5 years.



# **Natural Ventilation**



MIT- Cambridge University Monitoring and Simulation

MIT CoolVent Design Program

### **Test Building 2** Philip Merrill Environmental Center





# Natural Ventilated Building, Luton England



# Luton Building Interior



### Cross Ventilation Design: Night cooling



Walls Release Heat, Maximum Ventilation



Walls Absorb Heat, Minimum Ventilation

C

#### Luton Interior Temperatures: August 2003

Luton August 2003



#### Natural Ventilation: Wind scoop



#### Natural Ventilation: Wind scoop



# Zion National Part Visitor Center







Floor area ~ 500 m2 Chimney area ~ 9 m2 to vent 5 floors

# CoolVent



# Open fume hoods: Energy Loss



#### Energy Efficient Ventilation Design for New Cancer Research Facility





Comfortable

No Central Heating System!



### Aerogel insulation using nanotechnology



Aspen Aerogel

# Commercially available aerogel for insulation purposes





Cabot Nanogel<sup>®</sup> particles and Thermal Wrap<sup>™</sup>

Aspen Aerogel<sup>™</sup> Spaceloft<sup>®</sup>

- Granules or aerogel particles embedded in a fiber blanket
- Thermal properties: 14-20 mW/mK
- Our objective: practical aerogel insulation systems with improved performance



# Use of Solar Energy

- Acceptable Interior Lighting Level : 1/10 to 1/100 of exterior level
- Associated thermal load of solar less than that for artificial lighting
- How to control it?
- How to bring it deeper into interior?

### Enhancing daylight deeper in rooms

- Anidolics (based on non-imaging optics: research made at LESO-PB/EPFL)
  - Photos show 2 identical rooms at the same time, one equipped with an anidology system, the other without







# Full Scale Test in Tokyo of Window Unit



# **Building Condition Monitoring**

# Broken Buildings Waste Energy

- HVAC ≈ 50% of **Total** building energy use
- Faulty HVAC ≈ 5-30% of **Total** building energy use
- Simultaneous heating and cooling, extraneous HVAC operation, imbalanced flows ≈ 80% of "faults"
- Detecting, evaluating and diagnosing broken buildings is central to scalable energy efficiency

### Fixing Buildings Is Very Hard

- Culture of fixing buildings is re-active, not pro-active
- Performance data is rarely collected, reviewed, or used for decisions; data is expensive ~ \$1k per point
- Building documentation is usually poor; collecting system and equipment details is time consuming
- Risk-aversion and up-front labor costs control activities (~70% of data point cost is labor)

Thesis Focus on Automated Fault Detection and Evaluation

- Create a low-cost, easy-to-use tool to help fix lots of buildings, everywhere, quickly and consistently
- Help buildings saves money, reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, improve comfort conditions and create jobs
- Combine theory and practice into a web-based, automated FDD&E software system

### Testing M16 and M56 AHUs





# China ~ 10 M new residence units/year!







#### We conducted surveys with three groups of Chinese consumers:

- 1. Visitors to the *Tian Hong* sales office in Beijing,
- 2. Other potential home-buyers in Beijing, and
- 3. Chinese nationals at MIT.

*Tian Hong* is a new "affordable" housing development in Beijing priced at 2600 RMB (\$313) per sq. m.



### Survey: Three Most Important Features of Home



#### Published Fall 2006

#### SUSTAINABLE URBAN HOUSING IN CHINA

#### Principles and Case Studies for Low-Energy Design

Leon Glicksman and Juintow Lin

Editors







