# The Demand Side: Behavioral Patterns and Unpicked Low-Hanging Fruit

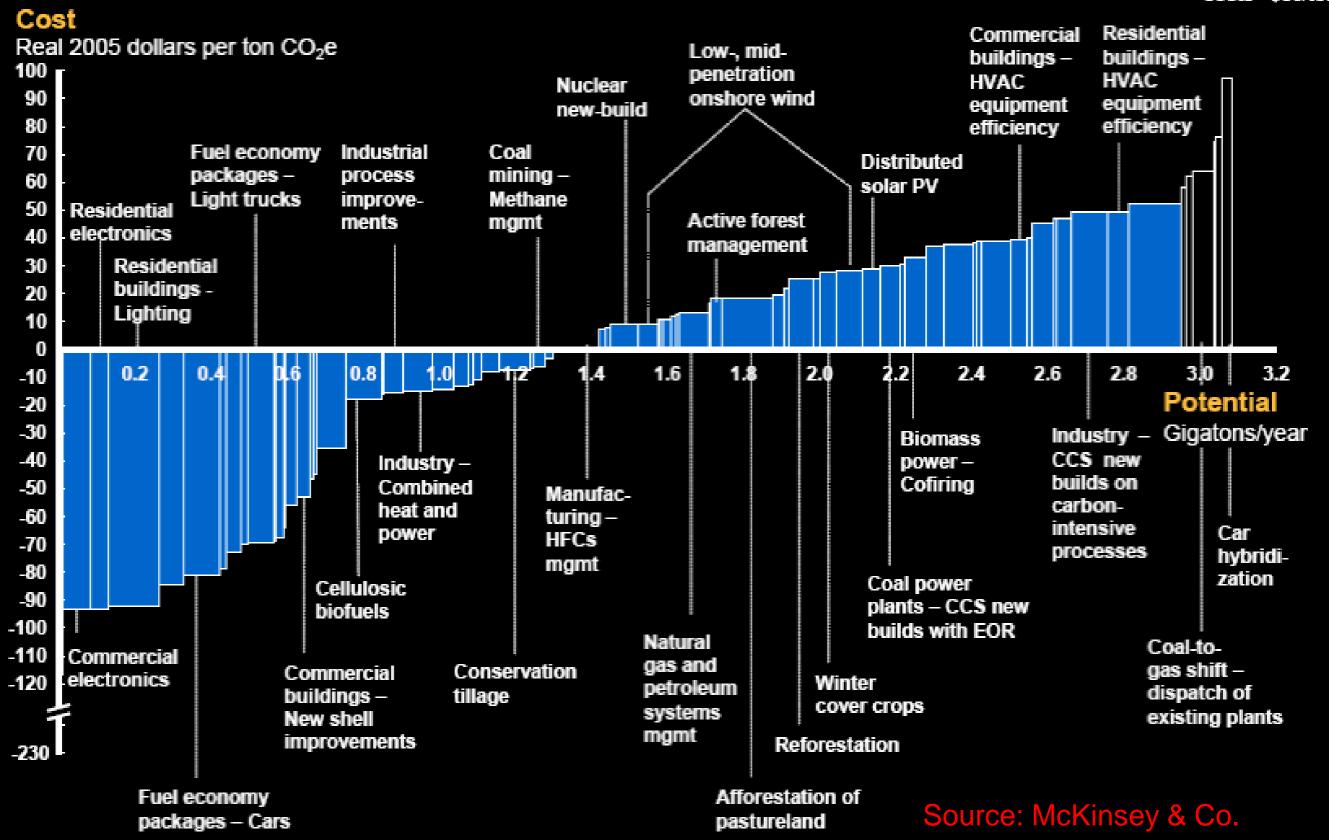
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# GHG reduction opportunities widely distributed – 2030 mid-range case





#### **Decreased Energy Use** "Smart" "Smart **Energy Audits** LED **LED Regional Land Buildings**" **Halt SUV** (and followup) **General** General **Development Controls** Sales Lighting Lighting **LED: Traffic Optimized Reformed Fuel** (Future) (Now) Lights, Task Gasoline **Building Efficiency** Plug-In Lighting Plug-In **Rationing** Construction **Standards Hybrids Hybrids** Compact Old appliance **Appliance** (Future) (Now) **Fluorescent** replacement **Energy Appliance Penetration** Labeling **Efficiency Enterprise Efficient AC-DC Overly Strict Standards Smart Meters Mgmnt Software Building Converters** and Feedback **Standards Hybrid Gas-Program Thermostat, Tire Pigouvian** Congestion **Electric Pressure, Lights, Driving Energy Tax** Patterns, TV Usage **Vehicles Pricing** Reduced **Personal** Internet **Some Rail** Cost Computer Growth **Rapid Transit Penetration Systems Economic Increased Airline** development commercial **Deregulation** Much space Gasoline **High Definition Incandescent Accessible Enhanced Travel Price** TV Lighting **Business Travel** Infrastructure **Controls**

# Why Do Negative Cost Options Continue?

Some Incomplete Explanations



#### **Market Failures and Behavioral Issues**

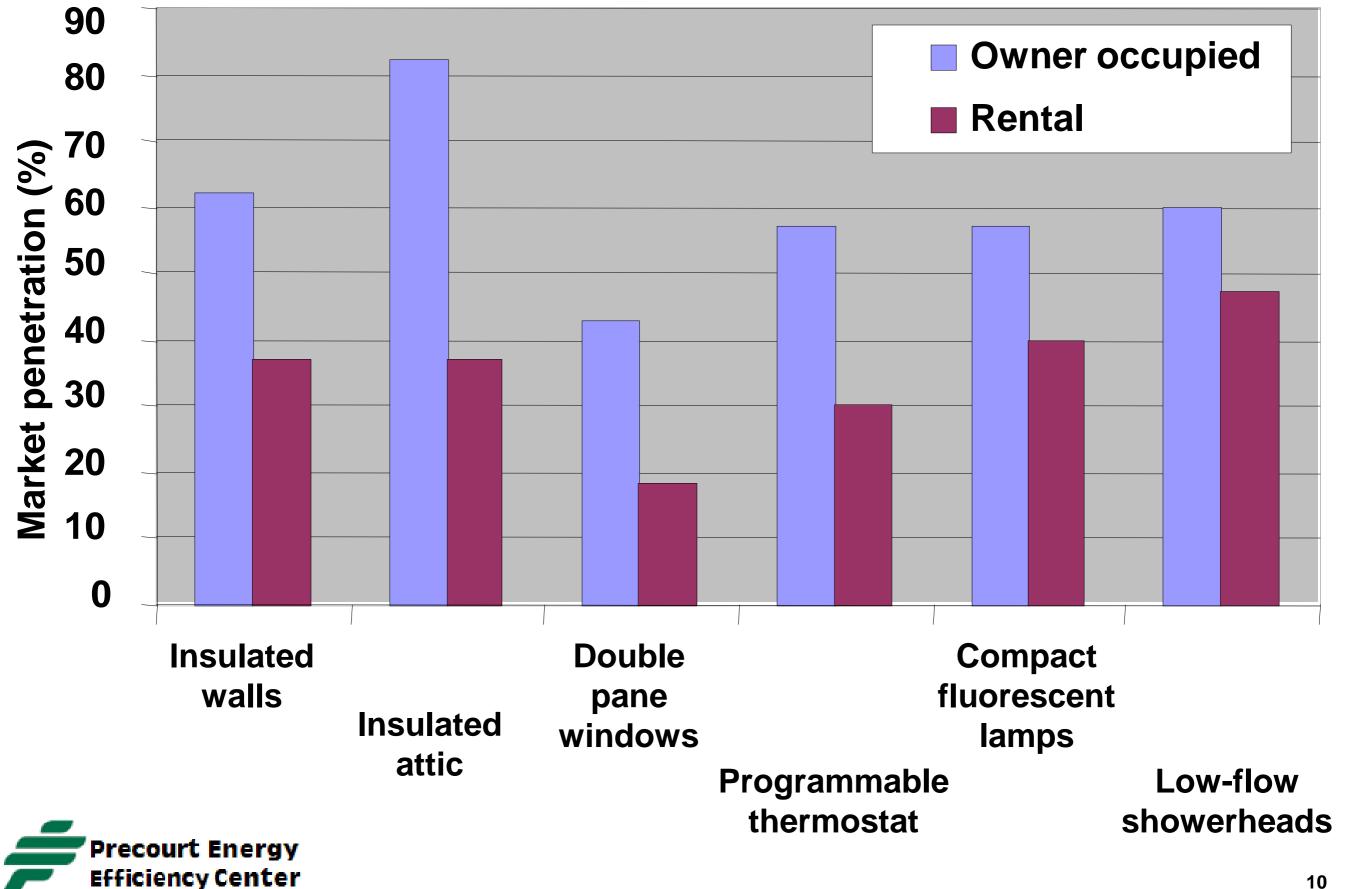
Market failures	Behavioral Issues
Externalities: Usage; R&D	Low salience of energy issues ???
Principal/Agent Problems	Principal/Agent Problems
Poor Information about Prices and Energy Use	Poor Information about Prices and Energy Use
Incomplete markets for energy efficiency	Managerial Priorities
Systems Issues (E.g. Chicken & Egg)	Lack of Energy-Related Information Systems
Distortionary regulatory and fiscal policies	Cognitive Skills
	Cognitive Skills

#### **Principal/Agent Problems**

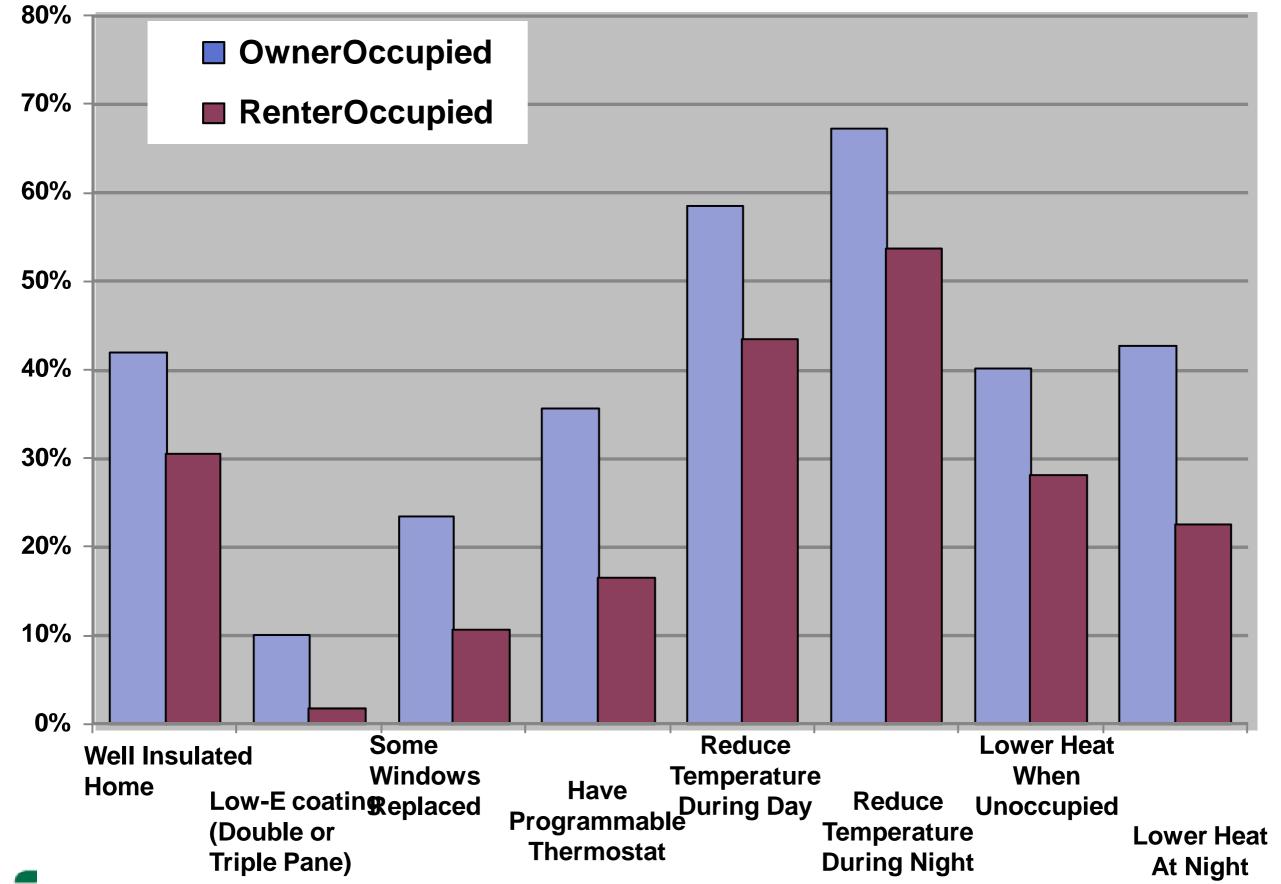
- Examples
  - New Building Construction
  - Rental vs Owner-occupied buildings
  - Consumer Product Design
  - Consumer Product Marketing
- Information/cognitive limitations generally central to agency problems
  - Electricity Use by TVs, passive chargers
  - Digital set top recorders



#### Market Penetration of Energy Efficiency Measures in Owner-Occupied and **Rental Housing in California (CEC 2004)**



#### Fraction of Homes With Efficient Technologies or Behaviors





Source: Calculated from the 2005 RECS survey, by Anant Sudarshan

# Behavioral Issues: Salience/Cognitive

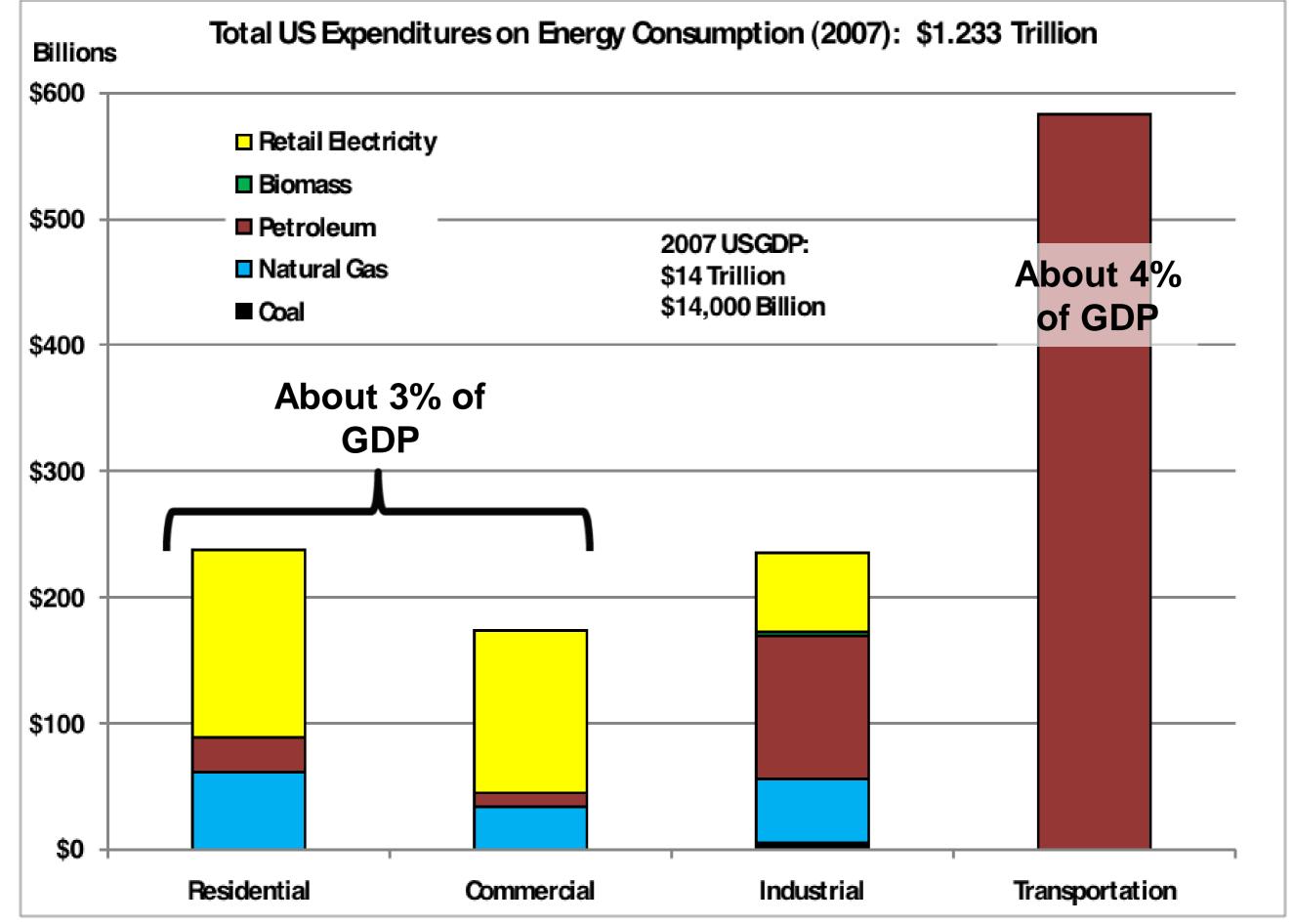
#### Low Priority of Energy Issues

- Often stated: energy costs are so small that it is not worth the effort to try to optimize.
  - Transactions costs of optimizing are greater than marginal gain.
- But I doubt that is end of story.

#### Cognitive issues

- Probably very important for residential, small commercial, and individual transportation decisions
- 2004 study. Only 20% of Americans own programmable thermostats. Of those, 70% have never programmed their thermostats.







Electricity includes non-primary energy costs of electric system

# Poor Information: Prices and Energy Use

- Electricity Use: Point of Purchase
  - Ease of Information about use (TV, Communications Equip.)
    - When appliance is on
    - When appliance is off
  - Appliances purchased in emergency
    - Water heaters
    - Furnaces
  - This problem need not be: e.g. refrigerator cost labeling
- Electricity Use By Appliances: Time of Use
  - Monthly electricity bills
    - What is link between what you do and the monthly bill?
    - What is the price structure you face for electricity?



#### **How To Deal With Problems?**

- There is not just one problem
  - Therefore there is not going to be a single solution
- Can we match solutions to the particular problems?

One Solution: Go beyond the economics





"It runs on its conventional gasoline-powered engine until it senses guilt, at which point it switches over to battery power."

# Some Motivational Approaches

#### Pricing

- A carbon price would have pervasive effects on energy use in all sectors
- However, carbon prices will not address many of the market failures nor the information and cognitive issues
- Navy experiment with base housing: benchmarks and charges or payments for deviations in energy use from the benchmarks
- Gasoline taxes in Europe vs US motivate purchase of smaller more fuel efficient vehicles



### Some Motivational Approaches

- Information
  - Labeling; e.g. Energy Star
  - Building performance rating and rating disclosure.
    - E.g., California mandatory building ratings
  - Easily processed economic data
- Information systems
  - New genre of enterprise-wide energy and carbon accounting and management software.
    - E.g., C3, Hara. Make it less costly to find energy efficiency options in large distributed organization, allow central management of energy and carbon savings, allow alignment of incentives with management energy goals



# Other Motivational Approaches

- Feedback (immediate information linked to decisions)
  - Smart meters, sensors, energy information appliances
  - Google/Stanford experiment with Google Powermeter
  - Three levels of possible feedback
    - Consumer use of appliance/technology
    - Consumer purchase of appliance/technology
    - Manufacturer supply of appliance technology



# Other Motivational Approaches

- Stochastic Rewards
  - Balaji Prabhakar congestion experiment with Infosys in Bangalore, India
  - Goal: incentives for Infosys commuters to travel at uncongested times
  - Infosys employees given chance for one month extra salary each time they took bus to arrive one half hour earlier than rush hour, two chances for arriving one hour earlier.
    - Expected value per ticket was 20 rupees 10 cents.
    - Roughly 15% of employees decided to come one-half hour or one hour early.



### Other Motivational Approaches

- Social norms
  - Billing information that compares electricity use to neighbors or other norms. E.g. OPower mailings.
  - Navy housing experiments mentioned in last slide



#### **Analogies**

- Smoking. How did US move from nation of predominantly smokers to predominantly non-smokers?
- Motivating obesity solutions
  - If most of your friends are obese, then obesity is seen as norm
- Motivating litter reduction
  - Robert Cialdini work





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