Energy Transformations?



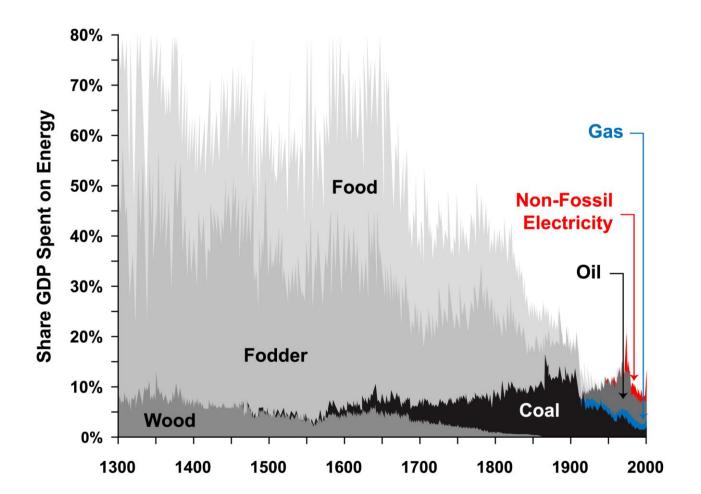
Mark P. Mills

Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute
Partner, Cottonwood Venture Partners
Faculty Fellow, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering

Fueling Humanity: Share Of GDP

Earth air, fire, and water in the end are all made of energy but the different forms they take are determined by information. To do anything requires energy. To specify what is done requires information."

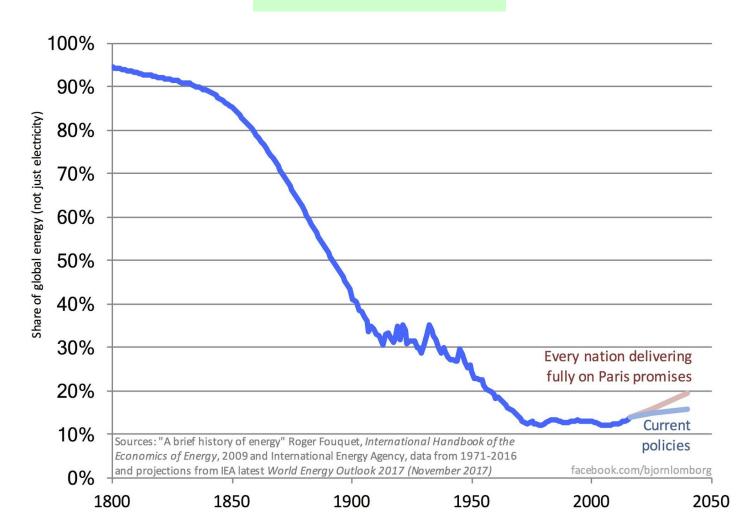
Seth Lloyd, MIT (2006)



Renewable Share Global Energy: 1800-2040

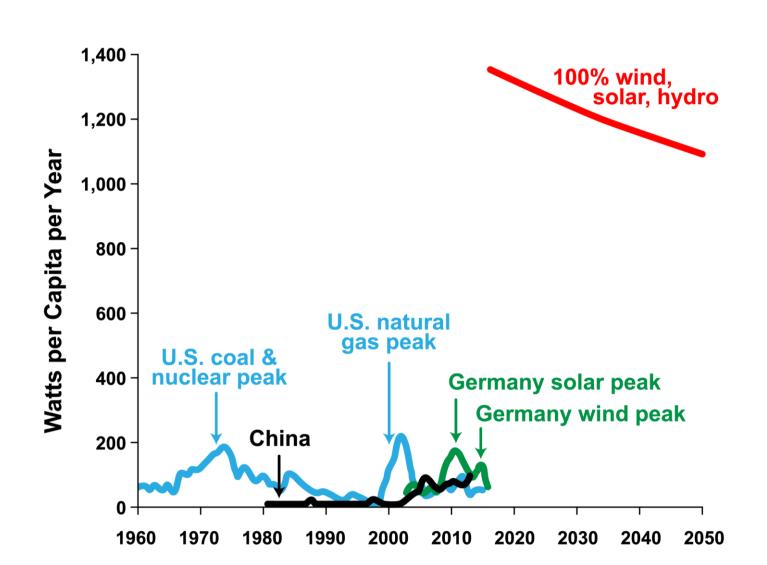
Energy realities:

- Scale & velocity
- Physics & materials
- Desires & demand



The Scale Challenge: U.S. Grid Only

20 yr transition > WWII mobilization

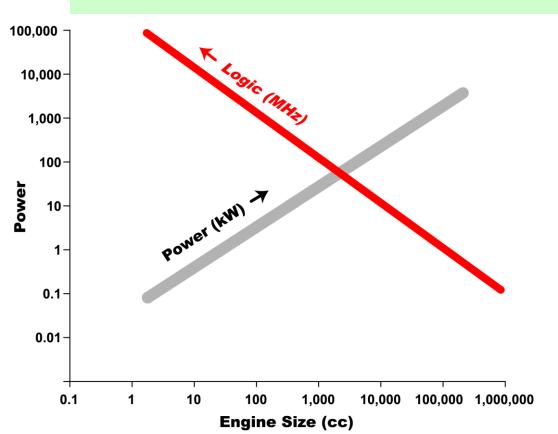


Energy vs. Logic Scaling

"Smartphone substitution seemed no more imminent in the early 2000s than large-scale energy substitution seems today." IMF

"[Clean-tech] 10x exponential process ...will wipe fossil fuels off the market in about a decade." Tony Seba, Stanford economist

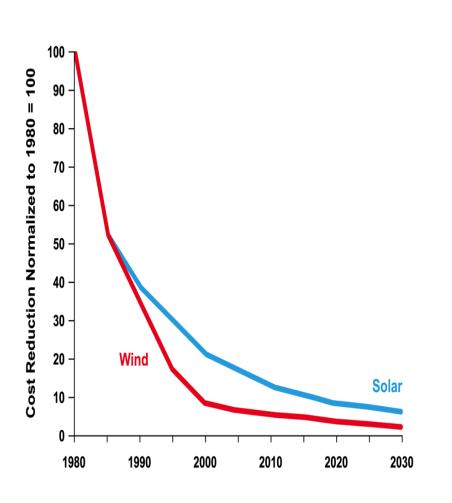
Only in comic books does energy scale like logic

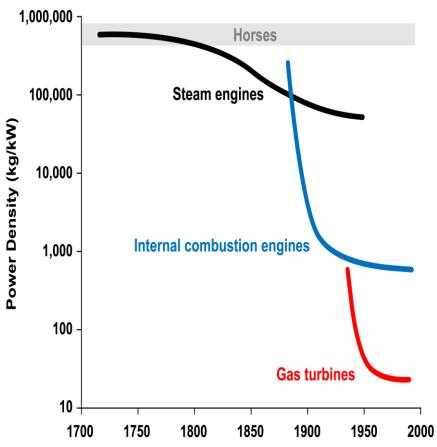




Energy Systems & Limits

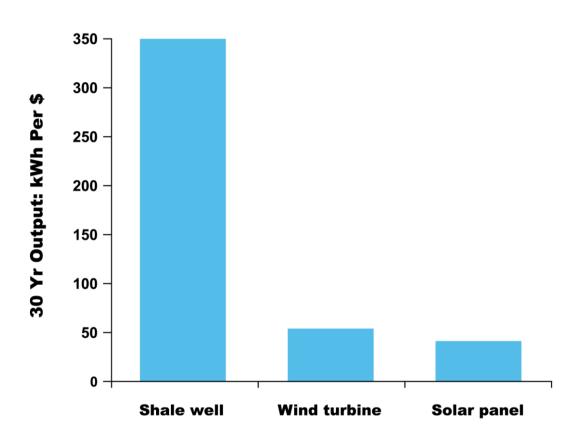
Subsidies don't eliminate physics asymptotes





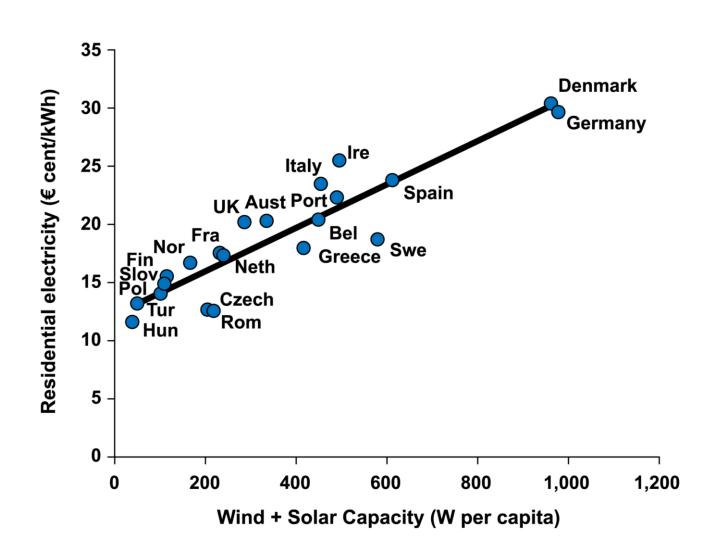
Physics Problem: Densities & Variabilities

• 2 grid-days → 1,000 yrs Gigafactory output



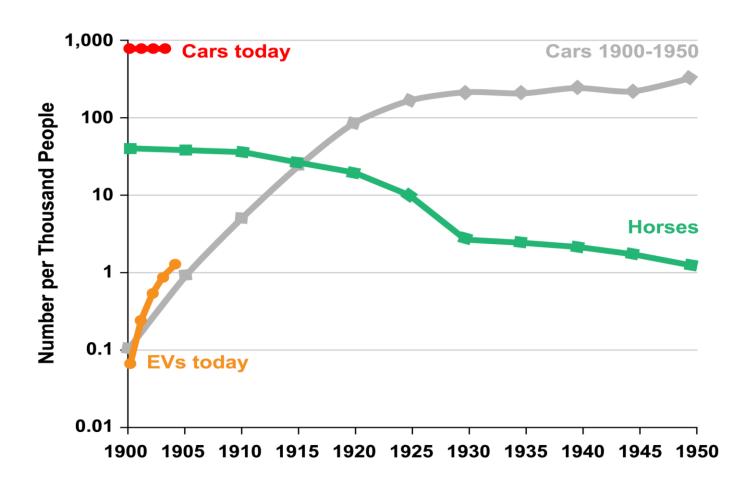
European Experiment: Myth of Grid Parity

More wind + solar capacity → higher grid costs



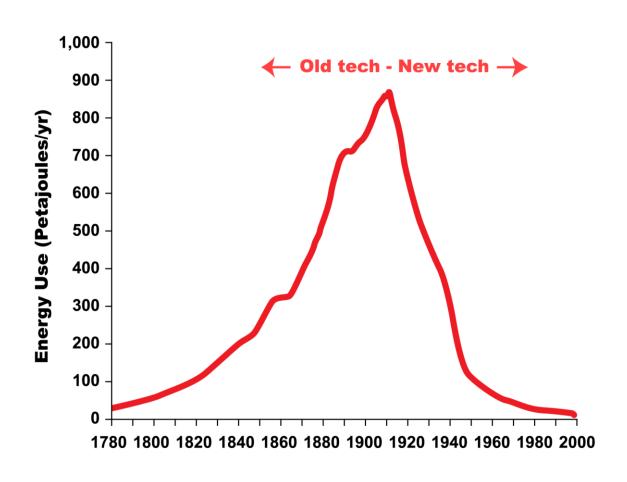
EV vs ICE: Complexity Swap

Horse → car because 10x safer & 100x more useful



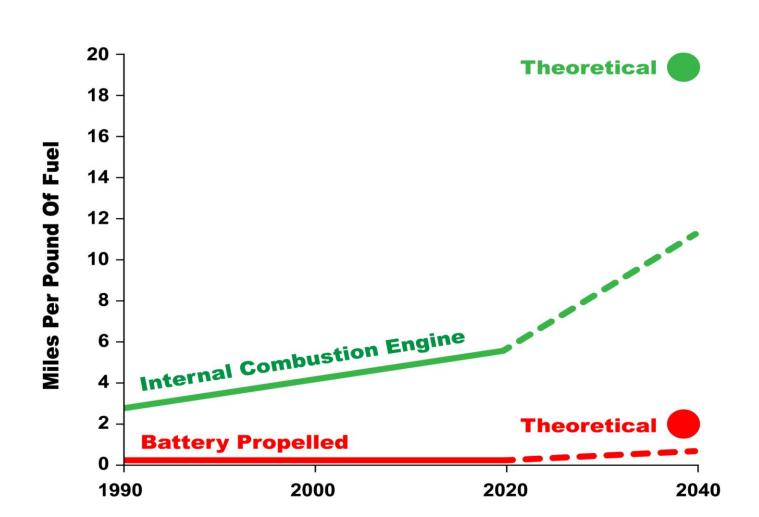
Grand Energy Transition?

100x more EVs → displaces ~ 5% world oil



What If Batteries Get Better?

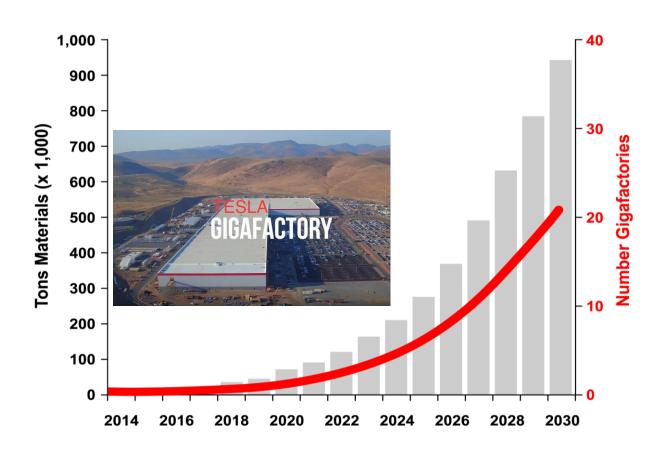
\$1 vs \$100 per BOE



More Batteries → Mining Bonanza

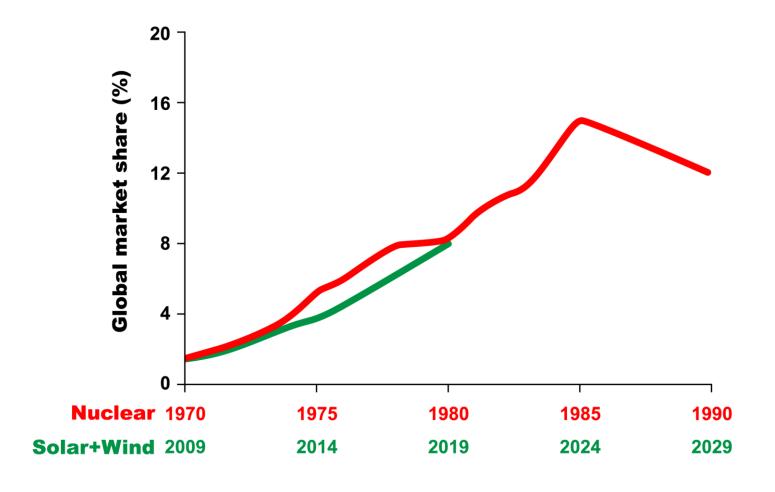
"Exponential growth in [global] renewable energy production capacity is not possible..." Leiden University

• 1 car battery @ 1000 lbs \rightarrow 500,000 lb materials



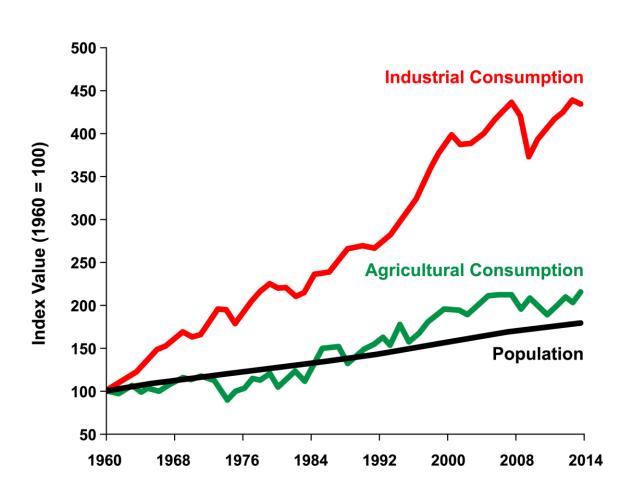
More Solar & Wind: The Scale Challenge

- Nukes at peak ~ 16% world electricity, < 4% all energy
- Ended because? Expensive + subsidy exhaustion



The Future: Food vs Stuff

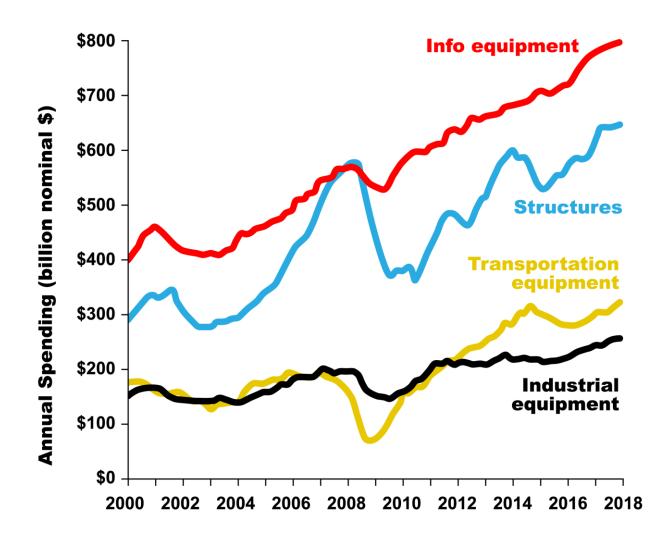
It's a manufactured world \rightarrow unlimited demand



Digital Future: "Software is eating everything"

\$1 billion in datacenters → \$2 billion kWh/decade

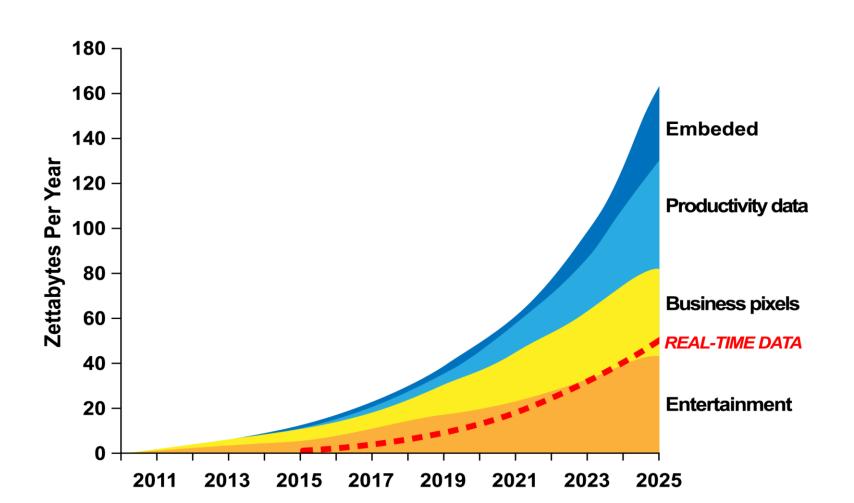
\$400 billion/yr



Data Tsunami: Bits Are Electrons

In 1960, \$1 bought 1 calculation per second ...

- In 2000 \rightarrow 10,000
- Today → 1 billion



How Much Does A Zettabyte Weigh?

1/10th zettabyte sent to the Cloud on...

- High-speed fiber takes 20 years
- Snowmobile takes 2 weeks

Annual internet traffic \rightarrow

- 2,700 mile row of Snowmobiles weighing...
- 10 million tons

Amazon's "Snowmobile"



Datacenters: A New Class Of "Real Estate"

1,500 skyscrapers
5,000 enterprise-class datacenters

Square foot of datacenter vs. skyscraper

- Same construction
- 5x rent
- 100x power demand

Gazprom, St. Petersburg

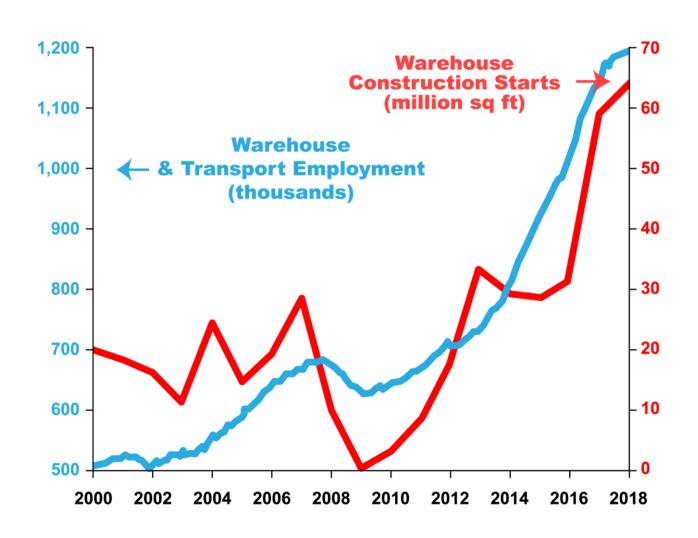


Datacenter, Nevada



Digital Future: From Bits To Atoms

"One click" → Trucks & warehouses



The Future: More Efficient & More Demand

When 2 billion poor @ 15% what we have → 2x global energy demand

