

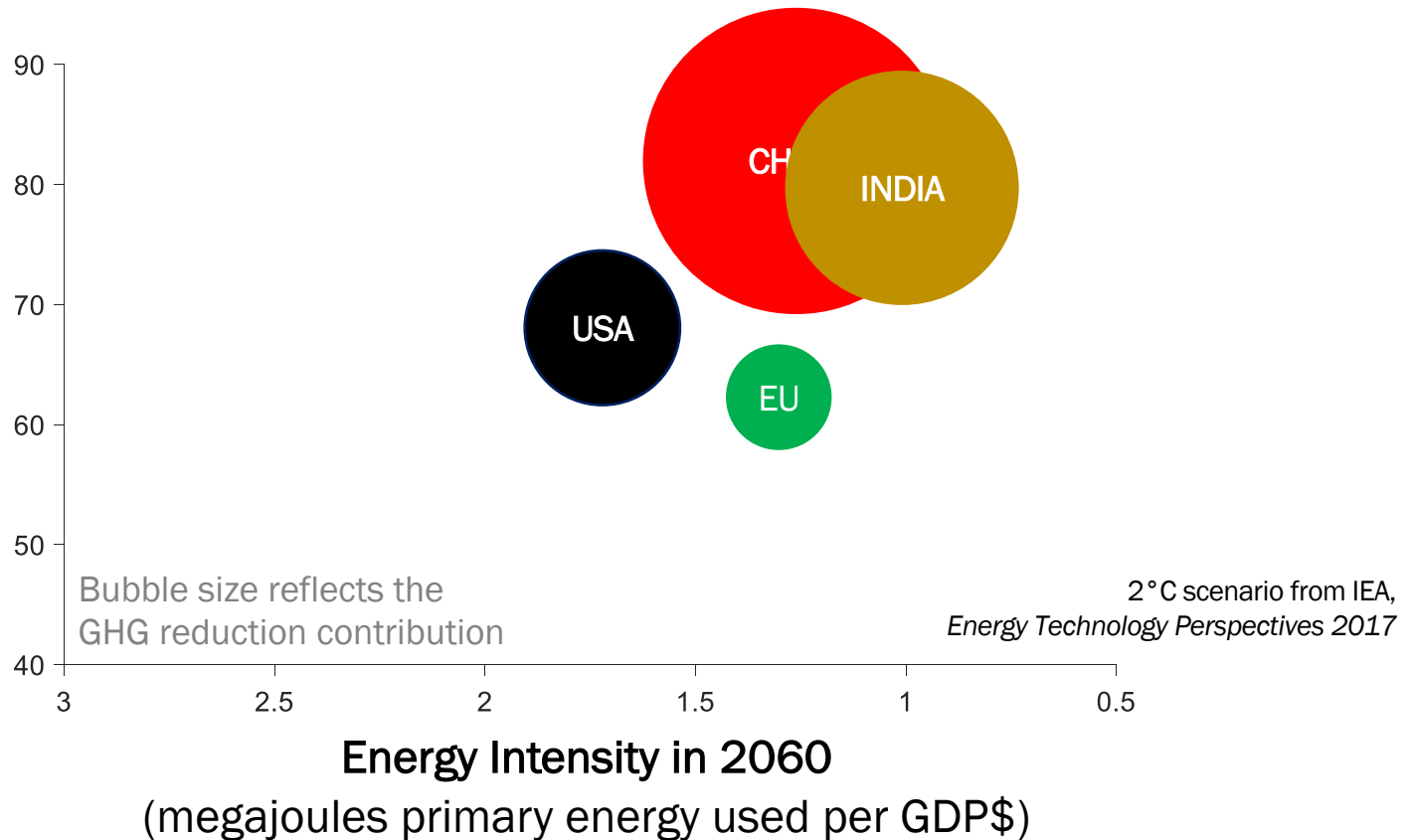
# *How rapidly can the world's energy system be decarbonized?*

**Eric D. Larson**  
**Senior Research Engineer**  
**Energy Systems Analysis Group**  
**Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment**

Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment  
Princeton University  
9 November 2018

# Challenges for energy-productivity improvement

% Reduction in Energy Intensity, today to 2060

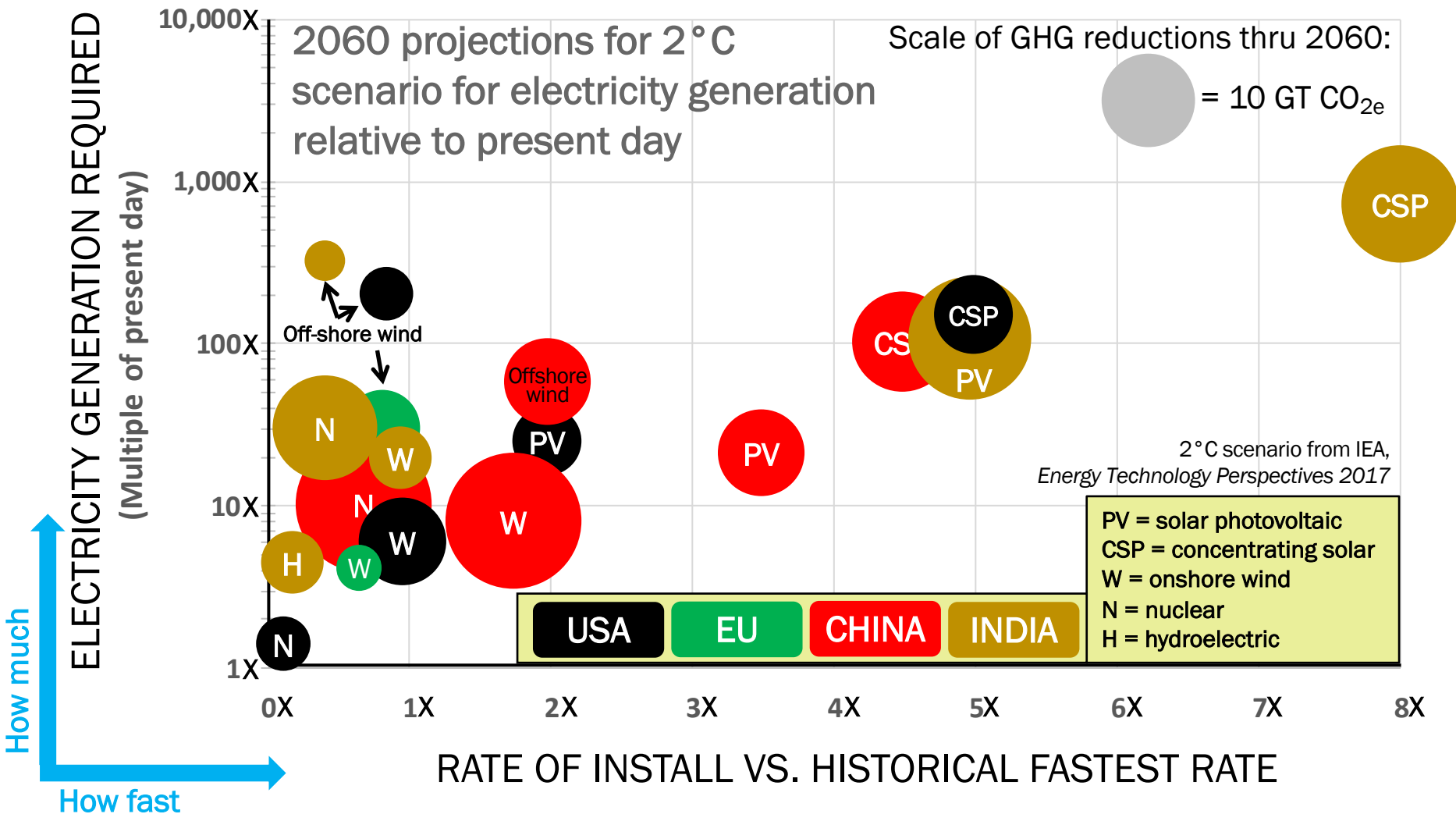


By 2060, India and China are projected to have

- (a) The highest energy productivity in the world.
- (b) Achieved bigger energy productivity gains than any other countries

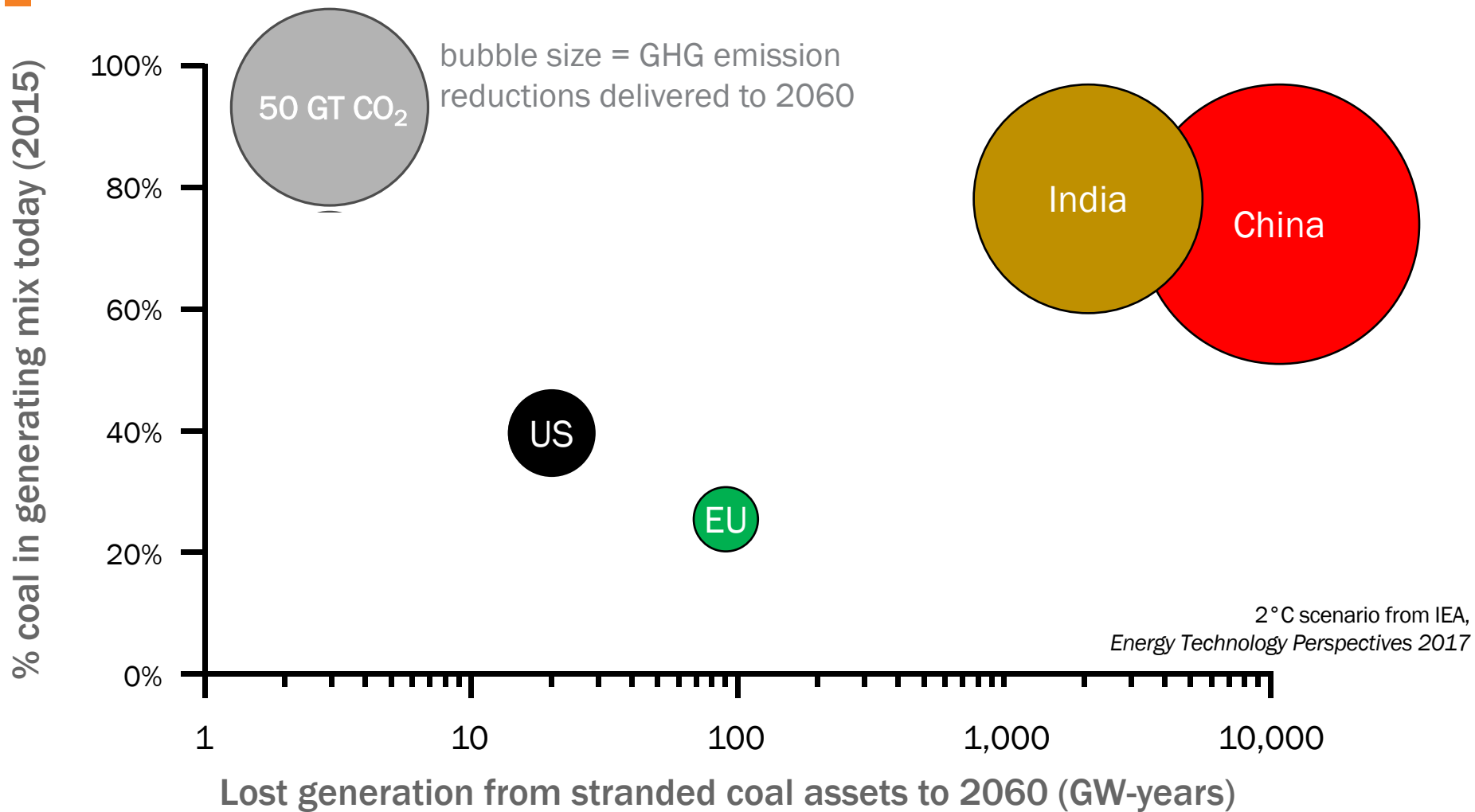
Courtesy of Joe Lane and Chris Greig, The University of Queensland

# Challenges for low-carbon electricity supply



Courtesy of Joe Lane and Chris Greig, The University of Queensland

## Challenges of early coal-plant retirements



Courtesy of Joe Lane and Chris Greig, The University of Queensland

# Rapid Switch – a new global, cross-disciplinary collaboration seeking insights to maximize the pace of decarbonization

- + Regional, sectoral, and technological assessments of
  - + Industrial bottlenecks -- critical materials, manufacturing capacity, supply chains
  - + Human & organizational capacity for systems and infrastructure transformations
  - + Political systems, social norms/behaviors, and other influences
  - + Broader social and economic consequences of transitions
- + Inform technology innovation and investment decisions, human resource development efforts, policies to accelerate mitigation.
- + Initial focus on grid decarbonization: India, U.S. case studies and comparative analysis.

