



FRI

UNIVERZA
V LJUBLJANI

Fakulteta za računalništvo
in informatiko

Exam Preparation

Sustainable Computing

Aneta Kartali

Ljubljana, 14.01.2026.

NOTICE:

This lab session is created based on the course materials and is purposely designed as a quiz. The exam questions will be open-ended. **You will NOT have multiple answer questions but will be required to write from paragraph-long to essay-long answers.**

Quiz rules

- You will compete in teams
- 7 question categories covering lecture themes
- 25 questions – 1 minute per question
- A prize for the team with most points at the end

Question 2 for Player emmzee

Which of the following is included in the merits of Ivan Sutherland?

- [A] He is well known in the field of Software Engineering and has developed the use of data flow diagrams.
- [B] He is a co-founder of Sutherland and Evans Corporation.
- [C] He is a Turing Award winner.
- [D] He was one of the hardware engineers on the United Kingdom's Colossus computer in the 1940's.
- [E] He was a judge in the Second Annual Computer Bowl (1990).

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'RE CORRECT !!!!

ENTER ANY CHARACTER TO CONTINUE, <F2> TO SEE HINT_

<ESC>-EXIT, F1-NEW GAME, F2-HINT

Question categories

1. Core problems of sustainable computing
2. Measuring the impact
3. Mobile & IoT sustainability
4. Techniques & trade-offs
5. Design for sustainability
6. Frameworks & models
7. Policy & ethics

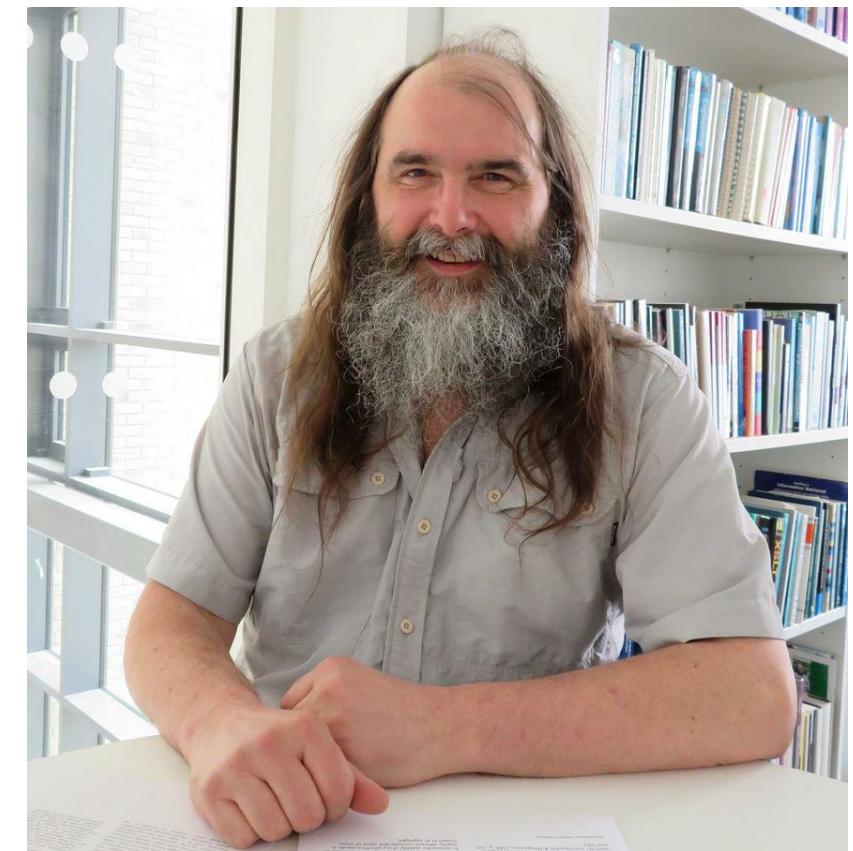


Core problems

Category 1

1. What is meant by a “*wicked problem*”?

- A. A problem with a single clear solution
- B. A problem that is difficult because of poor algorithms
- C. A problem that has no definitive solution and involves many stakeholders
- D. A problem that can be solved by more computing power
- E. A problem caused mainly by software bugs



2. What does "program profiling" mean and how does it help making software more sustainable?

- A. Measuring where a program spends time and resources
- B. Making programs shorter
- C. Identifying energy- and resource-intensive parts of code
- D. Encrypting software to make it safer
- E. Helping optimize software to use fewer resources

Call graph (explanation follows)

```
granularity: each sample hit covers 2 byte(s) for 2.25% of 0.44 sec
index % time    self   children   called      name
[1] 100.0    0.01    0.43
                0.29    0.00 1000000/1000000  main [1]
                0.14    0.00 1000000/1000000  b_fact [2]
                0.14    0.00 1000000/1000000  a_fact [3]
-----
[2] 65.9     0.29    0.00
                0.29    0.00 1000000/1000000  main [1]
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[3] 31.8     0.14    0.00
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```

3. Which are common and obvious optimization targets in programming code?

- A. Use of classes
- B. Data structures
- C. Loops
- D. Code comments
- E. Recursions



```
class Unit(object):
    def __init__(self, **kwargs):
        self.name = kwargs.get("name")
        self.damage = kwargs.get("damage")
        self.armor = kwargs.get("armor")
        self.hit_points = kwargs.get("hit_points")
        self.current_hit_points = self.hit_points
        self.level = kwargs.get("level")

    def attack(self, enemy: "Unit"):
        """
        Attack enemy unit. Returns damage dealt.
        """
        damage_top_limit = self.level * self.damage
        calculated_damage = min(damage_top_limit, enemy.current_hit_points)
        enemy.current_hit_points -= calculated_damage
        return calculated_damage

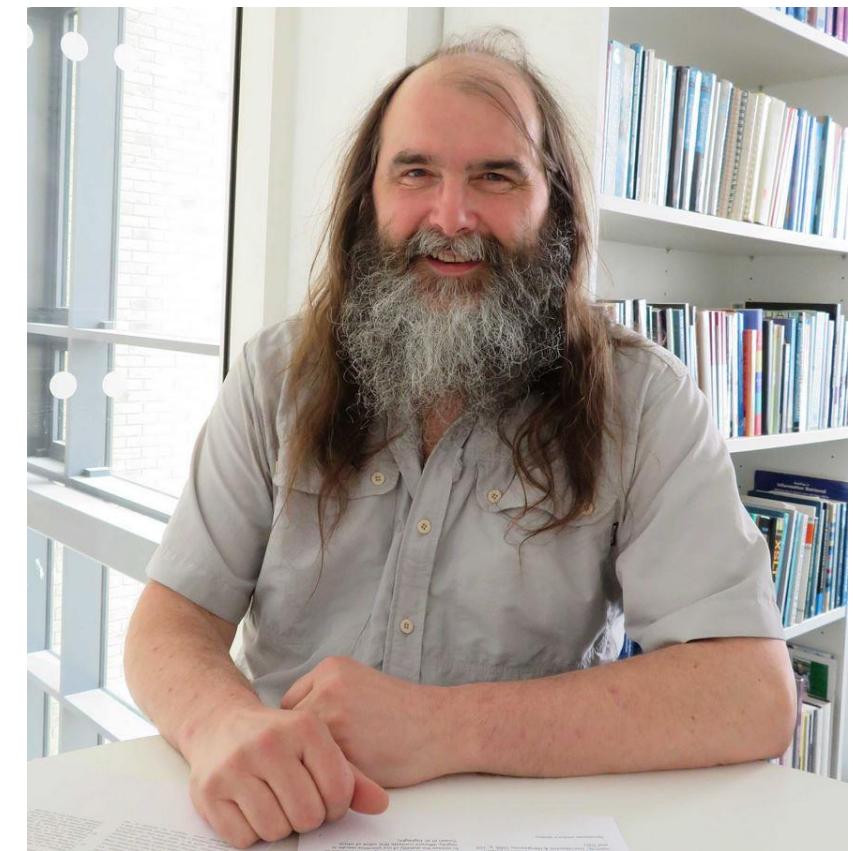
    @staticmethod
    def fight(units: List[Unit], turn: int) -> None:
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Core problems

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Measuring impact

Category 2

4. What best describes *Software Carbon Intensity (SCI)*?

- A. The total cost of running software
- B. The carbon emissions per unit of useful work done by software
- C. The speed of a program
- D. The size of the codebase
- E. The number of users

We are building a trusted ecosystem of people, standards, tooling and best practices for

GREEN SOFTWARE

5. Which elements are part of the SCI calculation?

- A. Energy consumption
- B. Carbon intensity of electricity
- C. Embodied emissions of hardware
- D. Number of developers
- E. Functional unit (e.g., per request)



SCI Specification

**Software Carbon Intensity (SCI)
Specification**

$$\text{SCI} = (O + M) \text{ per R}$$

6. Which are general guidelines for green software engineering?

- A. Measure before optimizing
- B. Avoid unnecessary computation
- C. Prefer efficient algorithms and data structures
- D. Always maximize graphical quality
- E. Use renewable energy where possible

Measuring impact

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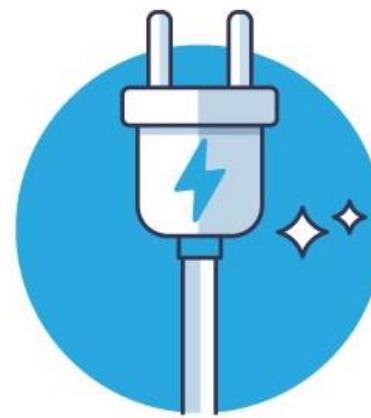
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Mobile & IoT sustainability

Category 3

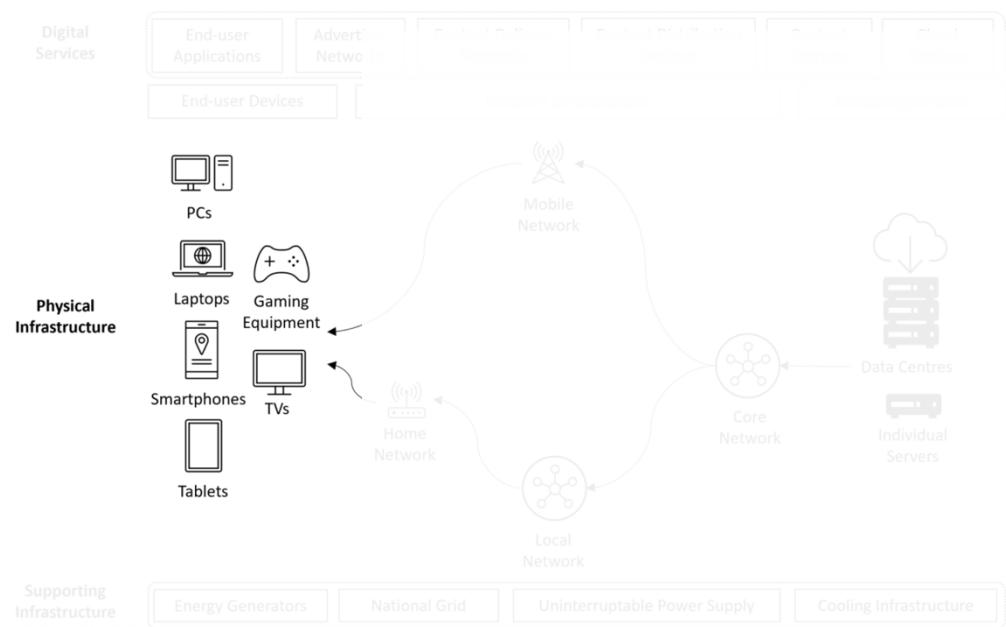
7. For mobile and IoT computing, what can be said about Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions?

- A. Scope 2 is usually much larger than Scope 3
- B. Scope 3 emissions often dominate
- C. They are always equal
- D. Scope 3 is often larger than Scope 2
- E. Scope 2 does not exist for IoT



8. What does “*taking the whole picture into account*” mean when assessing mobile/IoT impact?

- A. Only looking at energy used during execution
- B. Considering manufacturing, usage, and disposal
- C. Ignoring user behavior
- D. Including infrastructure and networks
- E. Focusing only on software



9. Which are common issues with e-waste recycling?

- A. Toxic materials
- B. Informal and unsafe recycling practices
- C. Loss of valuable materials
- D. Perfect recovery rates
- E. Export to developing countries



10. Which measures can make mobile/IoT computing more sustainable?

- A. Energy-efficient hardware
- B. Longer device lifetimes
- C. Increased service quality
- D. Frequent device replacement
- E. Software updates instead of new hardware

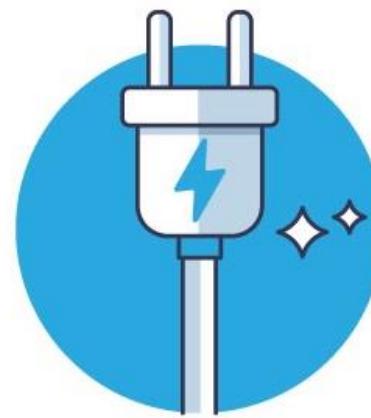


Mobile & IoT sustainability

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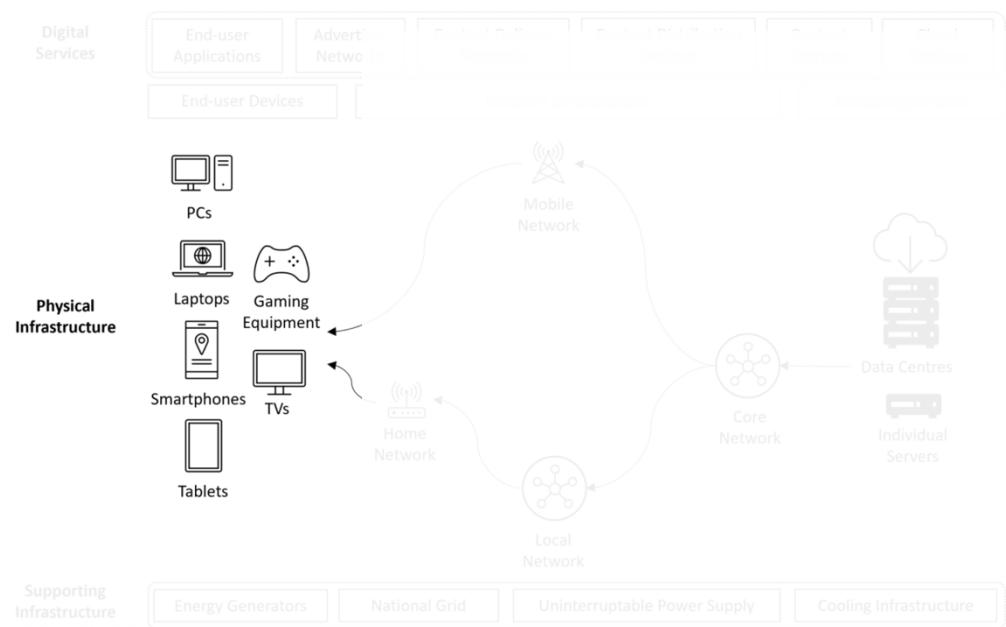


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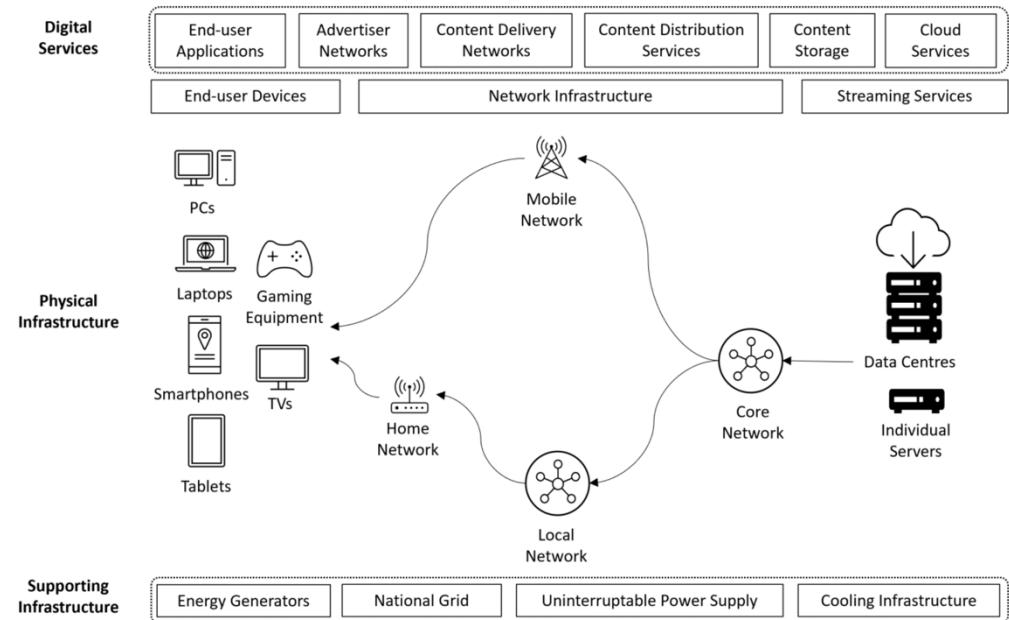
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Techniques & trade-offs

Category 4

11. What is duty cycling?

- A. Turning devices on and off periodically
- B. Running hardware at maximum speed
- C. Keeping sensors active all the time
- D. Saving energy by sleeping when not needed
- E. Improving efficiency with minimal loss of service quality



12. What is hierarchical sensing?

- A. All sensors always active
- B. Using low-power sensors first, high-power only when needed
- C. Collecting data randomly
- D. Storing all data locally
- E. Always reducing sensing accuracy



13. How can reducing Quality of Service (QoS) save resources in mobile computing?

- A. Lower resolution or sampling rates
- B. Higher battery drain
- C. Reduced computation
- D. Increasing network traffic
- E. Lower screen brightness

14. Reducing resource usage can harm usability. How can this be mitigated?

- A. Adaptive quality based on context
- B. User control over settings
- C. Clear communication to users
- D. Always using lowest quality
- E. Enabling precise sensor measurements



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Design for sustainability

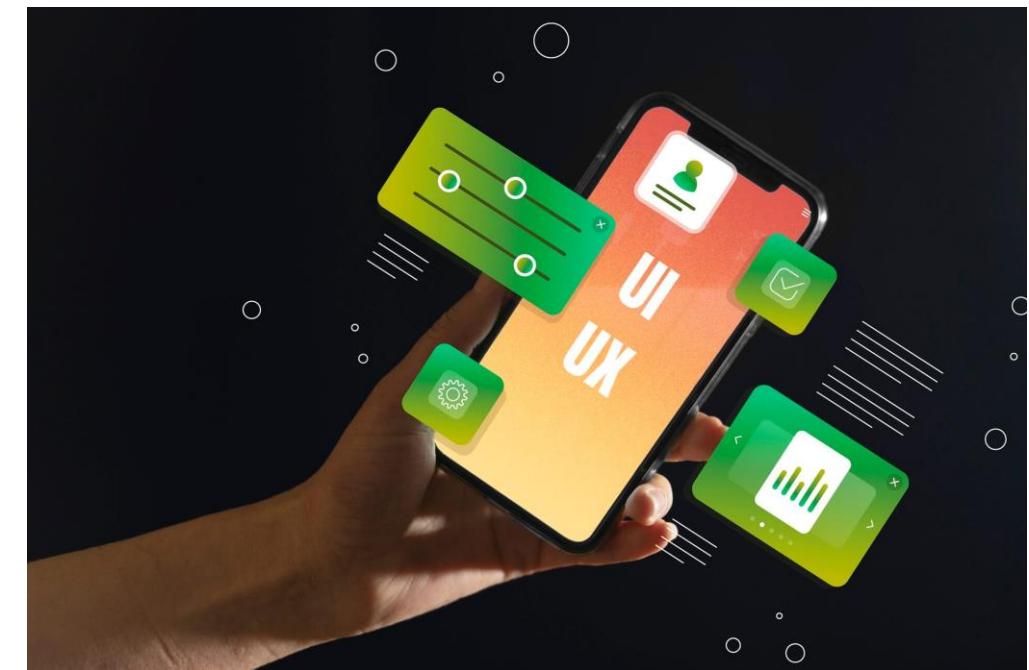
Category 5

15. Which questions are central to Sustainable Interaction Design (SID)?

- A. Is the design visually impressive?
- B. Does the design provide for transfer of ownership?
- C. Does it cause the disposal of physical material?
- D. Does it promote overuse?
- E. Does the design motivate preservation?

16. Which unrealistic expectations does the Sustainable Digital Interaction Design (SDID) challenge?

- A. Constant need for new services
- B. Increasingly high quality
- C. Perfect user behavior
- D. Ability to deal with peak loads
- E. Unlimited storage



17. What questions does SDID pose about infrastructural sustainability of digital solutions?

- A. Does the design encourage increased use?
- B. Does it encourage digital waste?
- C. Can it overcome planetary boundaries?
- D. What color is the UI?
- E. What happens if usage explodes?



Design for sustainability

Answers

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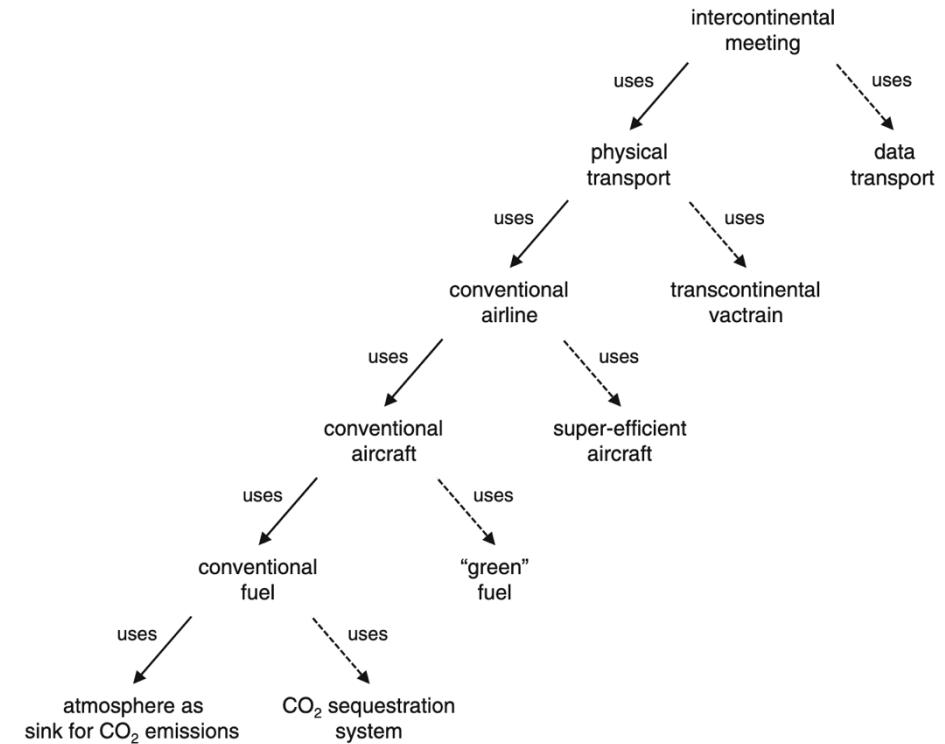
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Frameworks & models

Category 6

18. Using the substitution framework, how do virtual meetings compare to air travel?

- A. Digital meetings can replace physical travel
- B. Digital meetings always increase emissions
- C. Substitution can reduce emissions significantly
- D. Substitution has no social effects
- E. Digital infrastructure also has impacts



19. What is the difference between sustainability “in design” and “sustainability through design”?

- A. “In design” focuses on making the product itself sustainable
- B. “Through design” focuses on influencing user behavior
- C. They mean the same thing
- D. “Through design” can enable systemic change
- E. “In design” ignores users



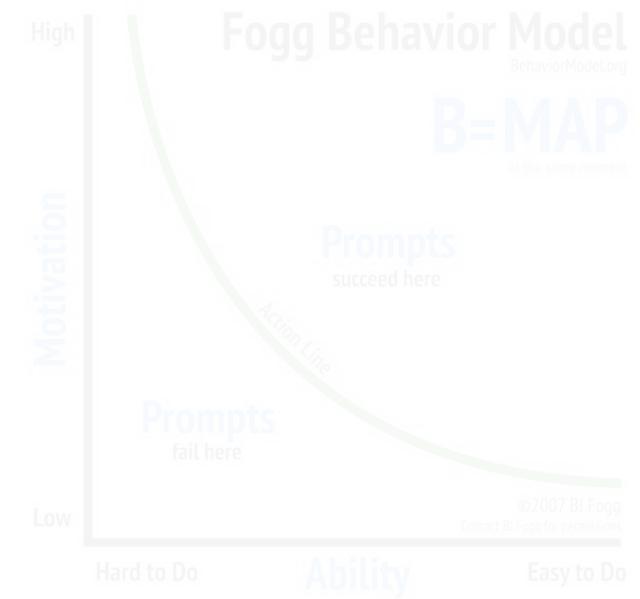
20. Which are common themes in sustainability through design?

- A. Behavior change
- B. Awareness and feedback
- C. Efficiency improvements
- D. Short-term profit
- E. Social practices



21. According to the Fogg model, behavior happens when:

- A. Motivation is high
- B. Ability is sufficient
- C. A trigger is present
- D. Technology is advanced
- E. All three (A, B, C) align

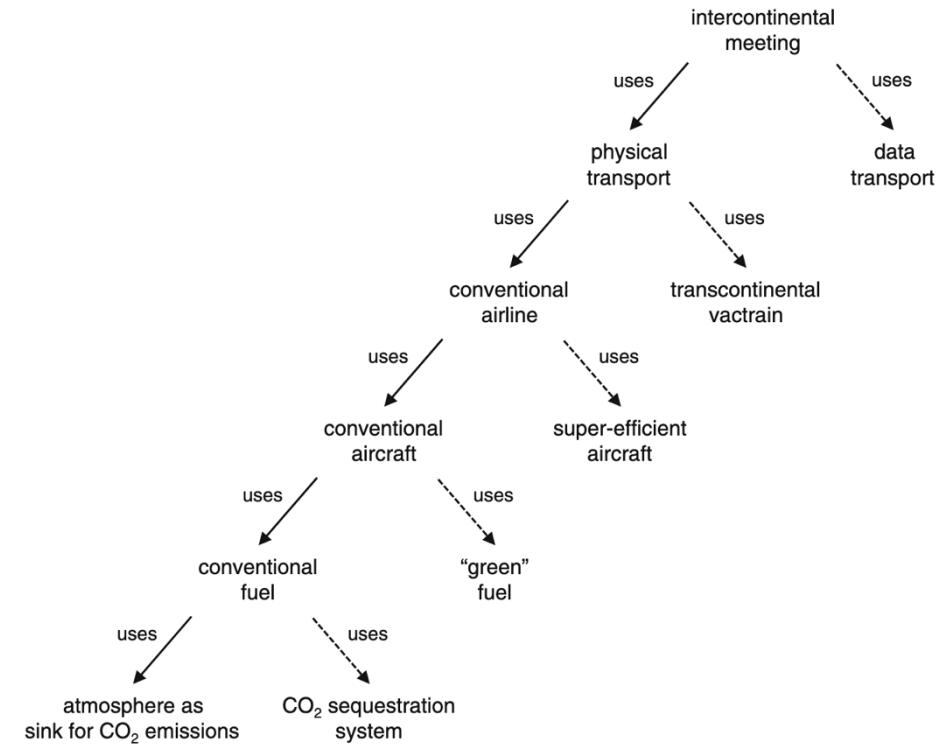


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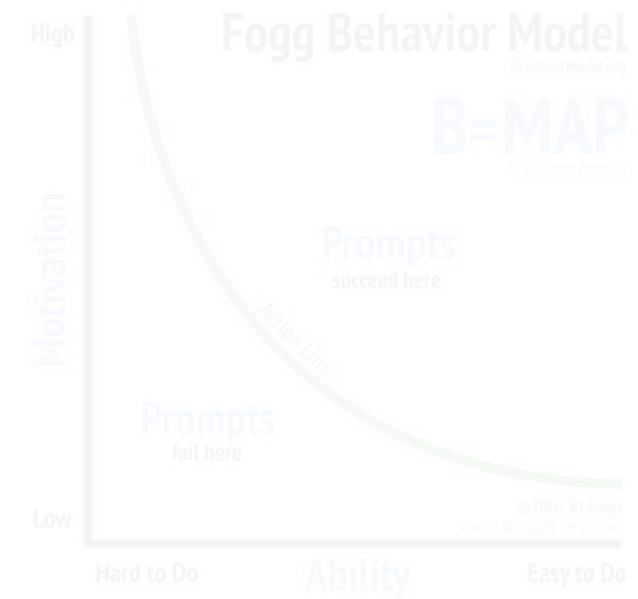


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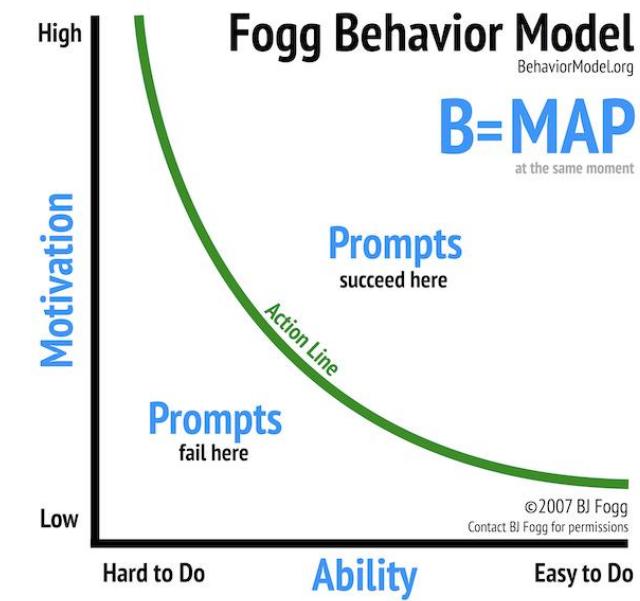
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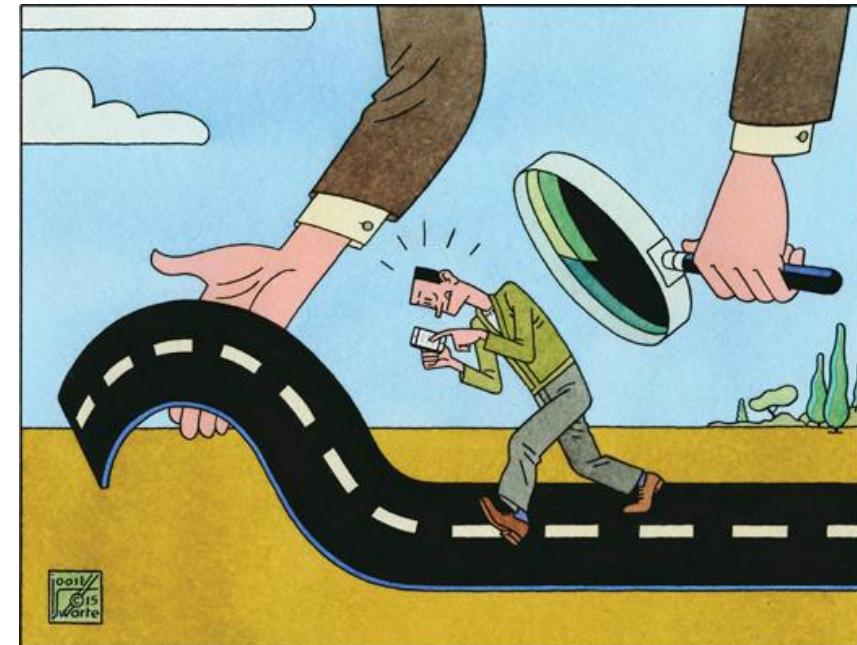


Policy & ethics

Category 7

22. What are concerns about persuasive technology for sustainability?

- A. Manipulation of users
- B. Ethical concerns
- C. Rebound effects
- D. None - positive outcomes are guaranteed
- E. Loss of autonomy



23. What is green policy informatics about?

- A. Using data and models to support environmental policy
- B. Optimizing user interfaces
- C. Decision support for sustainability
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Green Policy

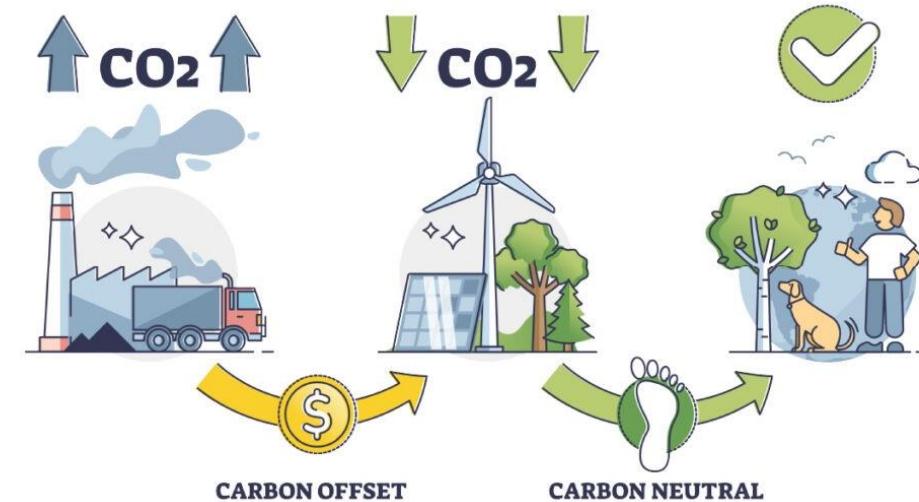
24. What is a life-cycle assessment (LCA)?

- A. Evaluating environmental impacts across a product's life
- B. Only measuring use-phase energy
- C. Including production, use, and disposal
- D. A financial audit
- E. A one-time measurement



25. Which statements about carbon offsetting are correct?

- A. Emissions are compensated elsewhere
- B. It removes emissions at the source
- C. Quality and permanence can be uncertain
- D. It can delay real reductions
- E. It guarantees zero climate impact

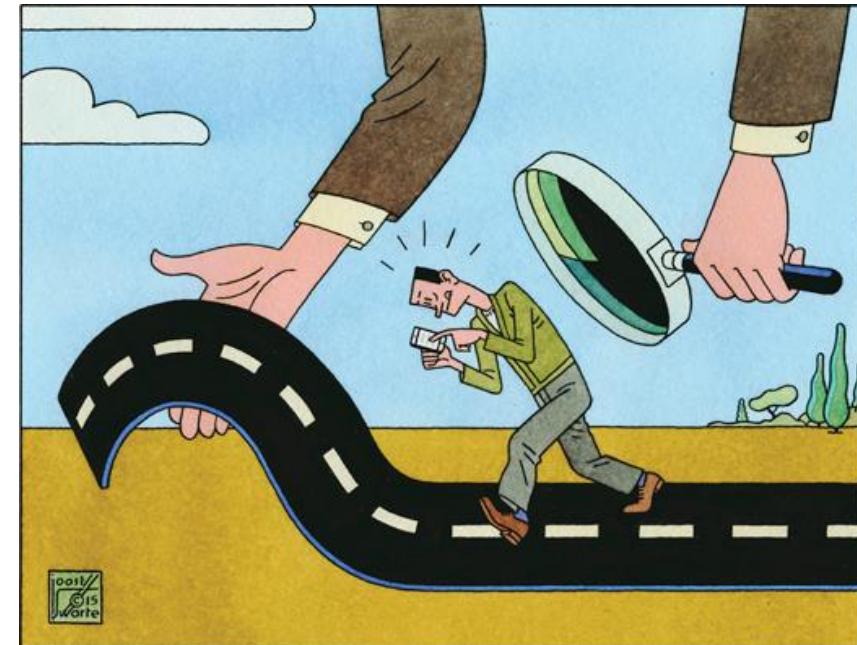


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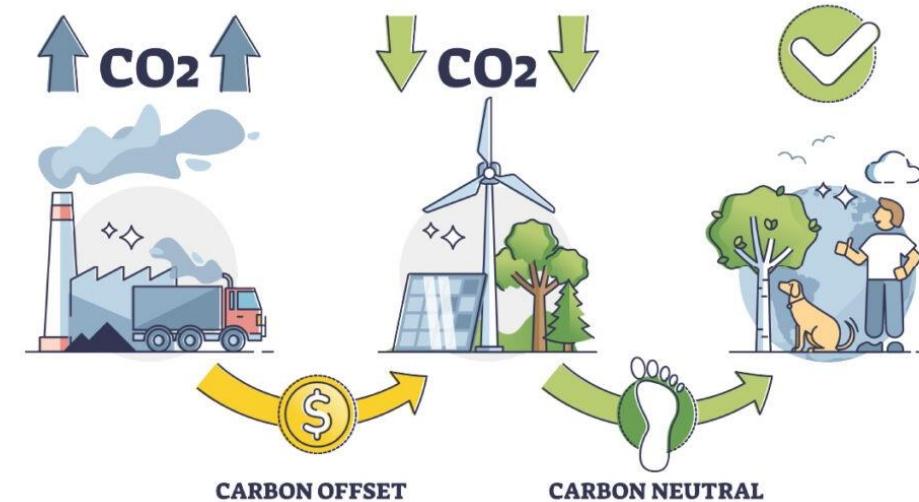


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- E. A one-time measurement

25. Which statements about carbon offsetting are correct?

- A. Emissions are compensated elsewhere
- B. It removes emissions at the source
- C. Quality and permanence can be uncertain
- D. It can delay real reductions
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Sustainability basics for computing

Bonus round

26. Which of the following are official UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

- A. Zero hunger
- B. Access to internet for everyone
- C. Gender equality
- D. Religious equality
- E. Affordable and clean energy
- F. Net zero homes
- G. Clean air
- H. Clean water and sanitation
- I. No greenhouse gas emissions



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

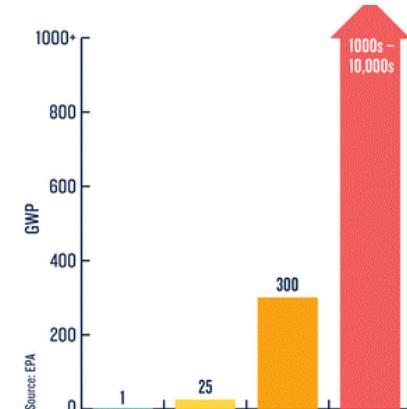
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	Group ►	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Noble gases
	Period ▼																			
Nonmetals	1	H																	Some elements near the dashed staircase are sometimes called metalloids	
Metals	2	Li	Be																2 He	
	3	Na	Mg																	
	4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	31	32	33	34	35	36	
	5	Rb	Sr	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	
	6	Cs	Ba	La to Yb	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	
	7	Fr	Ra	Ac to No	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
				Lr	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Nh	Fl	Mc	Lv	Ts	Og	
				s-block (plus He)	f-block									d-block				p-block (excluding He)		
Lanthanides		57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70					
Actinides		89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102					
		Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No					

28. What does global warming potential (GWP) measure?

- A. How much energy the Earth can absorb
- B. How much heat a greenhouse gas traps in the atmosphere compared to CO₂
- C. The maximum temperature the Earth can reach
- D. How much energy the oceans absorb in one day
- E. The speed at which a gas rises in the atmosphere



29. What are planetary boundaries?

- A. Natural borders between climate zones
- B. Limits defining how much humans can alter Earth systems without destabilizing them
- C. Boundaries between continents and oceans
- D. The outer edge of the atmosphere
- E. Legal environmental thresholds set by the UN

30. What is meant by carbon inequality?

- A. Fossil fuels exist only in certain regions
- B. A small, wealthy part of the population causes a disproportionate share of emissions
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- D. Emissions are equally distributed worldwide
- E. Carbon pricing affects everyone equally

Sustainability basics for computing

Answers

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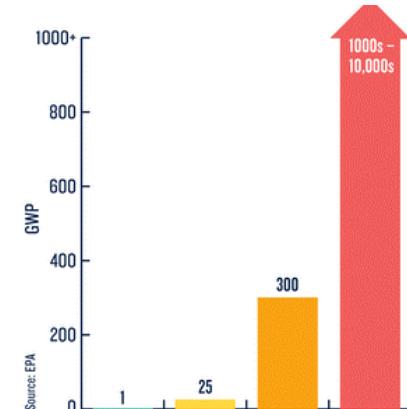
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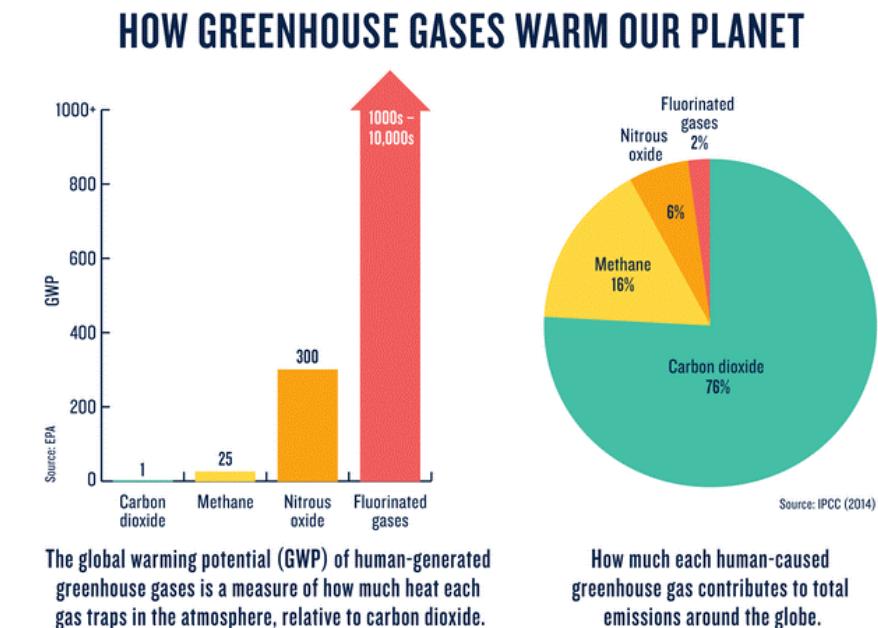
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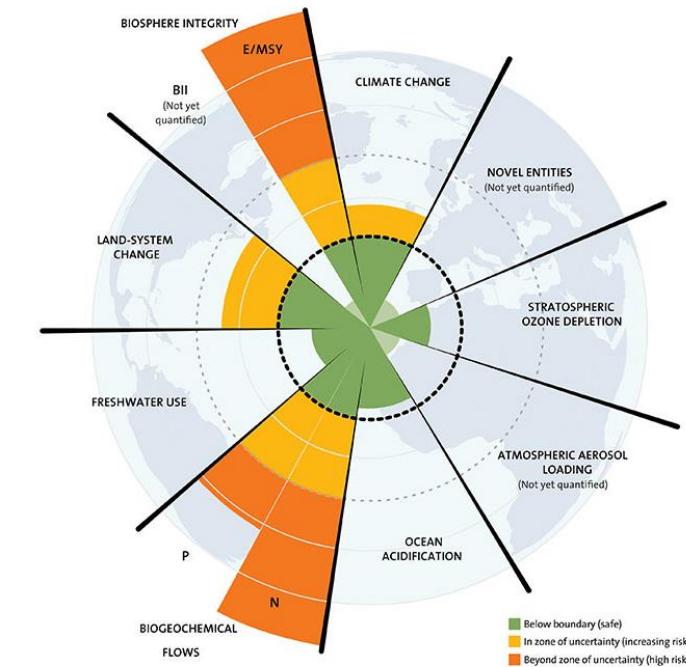


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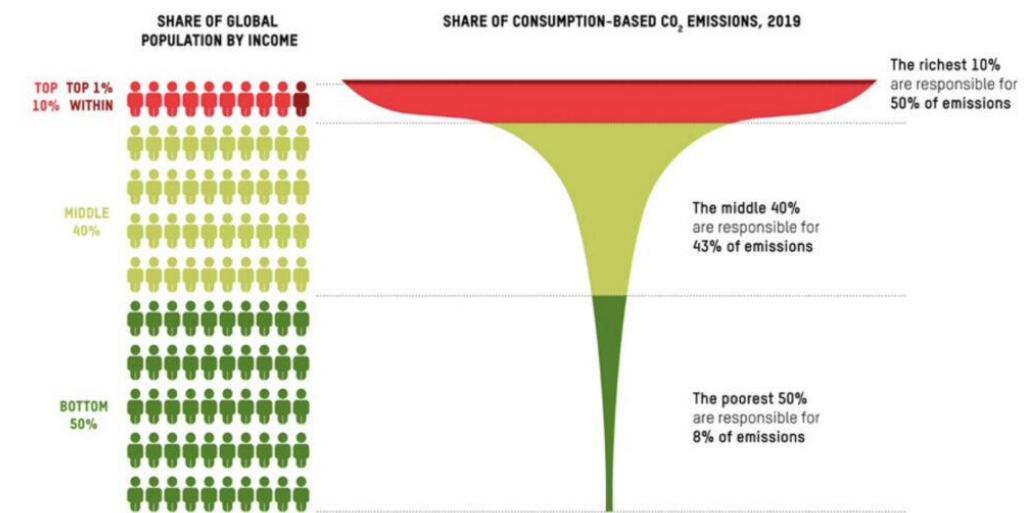


Figure ES.2 Global income groups and associated consumption emissions in 2019. Source: Oxfam/SEI.

Score board

Team name	1. Core problems	2. Measuring the impact	3. Mobile & IoT sustainability	4. Techniques & trade-offs	5. Design for sustainability	6. Frameworks & models	7. Privacy & ethics	Bonus round	Total score
Team 1	3	2	3.66	3.5	2.5	4	3.41	3.25	22.07
Team 2	3	2	3.5	3.5	2.16	3.75	3.41		21.05
Team 3	2.32	2.5	3.66	3	2.75	4	2.41	3	21.34
Team 4	2.32	2.3	3	3.25	2	3.41	3.5		19.78
Max points	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	5	25