



University of
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COMP2213: Interaction Design
Hand-In # 2 (version 1):
Coded Interview Transcripts and Affinity
Diagram

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Thematic Analysis: Renewable Energy for Residential Use

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1. METHODS

Sources of data.

The data was collected based on four semi-structured interviews specifically conducted for the purpose of this research. The interviews focused on regular users of solar panels (either through ownership or profession) and smart home systems who were familiar with the topic of the discussion, which confirmed the suitability of the selected sample (Martínez-Mesa et al., 2016). The respondents were three males and one female, aged between 35–56 years. The interviews were carried out in the participants' homes or online.

Transcription of data.

Each interview was transcribed verbatim which reflected what the speakers have said. The data was then entered into NVivo 11 (version 1.7.1, QSR International) software programme (see: Roberts et al., 2019), which assisted with data management and systematic coding (see Appendix 1 for Transcribed Interviews with Codes). In place of real names, we also used participant numbers to comply with the ethical requirements related to participant anonymity (Allmark et al., 2009).

Procedures for Analysis and Interpretation.

First, following a deductive approach the thematic codes were developed based on the raw data, as opposed to being driven by a theory. The analysis was conducted in accordance to the principles of rigour and replicability of thematic analysis (Roberts et al., 2019), and followed five stage approach consisting of: (1) data familiarisation, (2) preliminary coding, (3) pattern searching, (4) theme review, and (5) codebook creation (Clarke et al., 2015; DeCuir-Gunby et al., 2011; Roberts et al., 2019). First, we familiarise ourselves with the data (e.g., through repeated interview playbacks). This was followed by the initial code creation where we assigned preliminary codes to relevant excerpts in the data (see Fig. 1, Affinity Map). We then began to refine the initial codes which helped to identify patterns in the data across all four interviews (see Fig. 2, Affinity Diagram). This provided foundations for the main themes. At this stage, to ascertain the validity of the codes, we also conducted an intercoder reliability check, to ensure that the same approaches were implemented by the coders and that similar observations were made. This also helped to resolve some of the initial associated with potentially ambiguous codes. During this process, two sub-themes were removed and merged with existing ones, which improved accuracy with which themes were differentiated. This

confirmed reliability of the coding protocol, which is known to also help control for the researcher subjectivity (Roberts et al., 2019). At this point, we also began to reach saturation in our data because we reported no new patterns or details provided by the participants. After reviewing the codes , we developed a codebook outlining and defining the main themes (see: DeCuir-Gunby et al., 2011)

Focusing on the three areas of interest, namely, solar panels (SP), smart home (SH), and energy consumption, five main themes and corresponding subthemes were identified. Each theme included a definition and supporting examples from the raw data. Leaning on procedure outlined by Roberts et al. (2019) we once again reviewed the themes against the raw data to ensure that all relevant examples were included.

2. CODEBOOK

Table 1. Analytical codebook outlining the main themes with corresponding definitions, subthemes, number of references, and examples of supporting statements.

Main themes and definition	Subthemes	References	Example statements
Diminished usability of SP		41	
Comments that describe negative experiences of SP including issues, limitations, and challenges	<i>Energy waste</i>	14	P1: “without the battery, you are going to have a lot of energy running off now it is going back to the grid” P2: “So if we ran a heater, for example, during the night, we wouldn't be able to run off the solar panel, because we can't store it” P4: “if you go to work in the day, you abandon a lot of clean energy”
	<i>Information</i>	12	P1: “To be absolutely honest. It's still kind of an abstract concept. Like, we know how they work, but we don't know 100%” P2: “I don't know if they are producing more energy at some times and other times whether there's more energy on a sunny day than a cloudy day” P2: “So I can't actually look and see what my energy consumption is.”
	<i>Manual monitoring</i>	15	P1: “make sure that we run, we run the dishwasher during the day. We do the washing during the day. So everything would be a drain on the power during the day we tend to use when we know that the solar panel will be feeding energy. ” P2: “And so the energy we use in the evening isn't from our solar panels, it's from from the grid. So to make the most of them, you've got to be thinking, okay, when do I need to consume energy, and make sure that you're doing it in the hours of daylight?” P2: “So on a cloudy day, you might find yourself having to go and stand in your cupboard and stare at a box to find out if your solar panels have enough light to actually be producing solar energy at that time”
Mindful energy consumption		38	
Comments that describe considerations and strategies that impact reduced energy consumption	<i>Convenience</i>	6	P1: “But yeah, I mean, realistically, I consider them in that. I won't switch them all on at once. If one comes on by accident.” P1: “Having to run everything during the day is a little bit of a faff to be honest” P2: “I've got to remember to put it on the right time. If I get to the end of my working day, in the winter, it's going to be dark. So then it's a case of deciding, do I wait till tomorrow?”
	<i>Cost</i>	10	P2: “So we've definitely had a shift now to thinking much more consciously about energy prices and energy consumption. Just because the prices have gotten so much higher.”

			<p>P3: “if you're on a budget, you probably would consider you would think about how long because you're showering”</p> <p>P3: “If the weather's good outside, then you wouldn't use tumble dryer because it uses quite a lot of electricity as well”</p>
	<i>Environment</i>	8	<p>P2: “And they make me feel also there is that feeling of you know, I'm doing something for the environment”</p> <p>P2: “To replace everything with them, one in terms of the ecological efficiency and environmental efficiency, you would be getting rid of perfectly good appliances, that's wasteful”</p>
	<i>Strategies</i>	14	<p>P4: “Oh, yes, actually solar panels are very good, can provide very clear energy compared with fossil fuels”</p> <p>P1: “regularly reminds me to turn off appliances and things when I'm leaving.”</p> <p>P2: “we actively try to use the bulk of electricity in the in the daytime, so mid morning through to mid to late afternoon and minimise it in the evening.”</p> <p>P3: “I'd rather use the gas heater rather than using electricity heater because it's more energy efficient”</p>
SH capabilities		49	
Statements that outline existing features and further applicability of SH	<i>Autonomy</i>	20	<p>P1: “anticipates the humidity”</p> <p>P1: “what happens with that is that if it goes over 55%, the small dehumidifier clicks on. And then when it lowers below 54 clicks back off again.”</p> <p>P2: “I also have the smart control which controls the temperature in the house, which means my well the heating my house is not running constantly”</p>
	<i>Energy control</i>	14	<p>P1: “It is the same as our heating. Our heating will click on when it drops below a certain temperature. So if it drops below 18 degrees, it will click itself on and heat the house straight back up”</p> <p>P2: “being able to monitor things remotely like that. It's pretty useful. But it also allows me to monitor our power usage”</p> <p>P3: “ smart home will allow you to maintain the temperature which works out cheaper in a way because it doesn't have to constantly work”</p>
	<i>Insight</i>	5	<p>P1: “And I can also check at the end of the day, there's a readout on my phone, which will show me when the height when the humidity spiked when the temperature drops to a certain level.”</p> <p>P1: “it will literally show us exactly when that is and I can also switch the light on”</p> <p>P2: “So one of them is connected to that system. So sat here with you right now, I could technically go in there. Turn on and off the fan”.</p>
	<i>Remote control</i>	10	<p>P1: “I've got something called Eve sensor. And that sensor, I can monitor from my phone.”</p> <p>P2: “it's things like the light bulbs that you can turn on and off from your phone”</p> <p>P3: “And say like if you've if you left home and you forgot to turn the turn off the lights, you can still turn them off by using your phone which is pretty good I think.”</p>
SP attitude drivers		26	
Statements that reference participants' positive and	<i>Convenience</i>	8	<p>P1: “Having to run everything during the day is a little bit of a faff to be honest”</p> <p>P2: “So in order to use that, to have that discretionary usage, we would need to be home.”</p> <p>P4: “You need to consider the energy fluctuation.”</p>

negative considerations that shape their attitudes	<i>Cost</i>	13	<p>P1: "I feel that electricity going back into the grid is great, but we get paid a negligible amount for it, and it's gonna cost us 1000s of pounds to store the power ourselves"</p> <p>P2: "It would be so much better if there was a more reasonable consideration where we could look to use that energy ourselves as opposed to feeding it back to energy companies who then sell it back to us for twice the price during the night"</p> <p>P2: "The lack of affordable storage options, I understand why the batteries are pricey. But at the same time without the battery, you are going to have a lot of energy running off now it is going back to the grid"</p>
	<i>Environment</i>	5	<p>P1: "And they make me feel also there is that feeling of you know, I'm doing something for the environment, because I'm using the solar energy as much as I can rather than taking it off the grid from you know, fossil fuel production."</p> <p>P3: "the requirement is to have the solar panels ...would bring the UK or any other nation who got those requirements into more like a energy efficient world, which means people will be using less electricity and moving towards self-producing, obviously electricity"</p> <p>P4: "actually solar panels are very good, can provide very clear energy compared with fossil fuels"</p>
SP Future directions		31	
Statements that describe features of solar panels that are wanted but are missing from the existing system	<i>Autonomy</i>	10	<p>P2: "So for me, it would really be it being in sync with that solar panel piece and be able to say, hey, the solar panels are working. We'll turn this device on, or we'll optimise it, optimise the energy consumption, toggle this to turn itself down or whatever, you know, you'd have to pre load the dishwasher or the washing machine."</p> <p>P2: "I say schedule things, so that they automatically go on either a set time or more usefully when there is the energy available from the solar pane"</p> <p>P3: "by setting up the temperature, the temperature in the house obviously keeps the temperature it doesn't require the doesn't require you to obviously turn on the heating"</p>
	<i>Energy preservation</i>	14	<p>P1: "Especially in a country where sunlight is such a precious resource anyway, it would be nice to be able to store it for things like winter or times times when we would like to use it a lot more"</p> <p>P2: "It would be so much better if there was a more reasonable consideration where we could look to use that energy ourselves"</p> <p>P3: "I think if you really want to use solar panels, I would suggest to you to instal also some batteries and compose them into a system"</p>
	<i>Insight</i>	7	<p>P2: "So it'd be nice to have a smart metre type setup, but that that would say, your solar panels are producing this much energy, and you are using X percentage of that, because that might then trigger me to go, oh, hang on, I need to charge my Kindle"</p> <p>P2: "More access to the information about what, what, what energy I'm producing, and how much of it I'm using"</p> <p>P3: "Maybe, maybe you can use some artificial intelligence to control the energy and energy costs. Yeah, energy flow and energy cost, anyway."</p>

3. AFFINITY MAPPING AND DIAGRAM

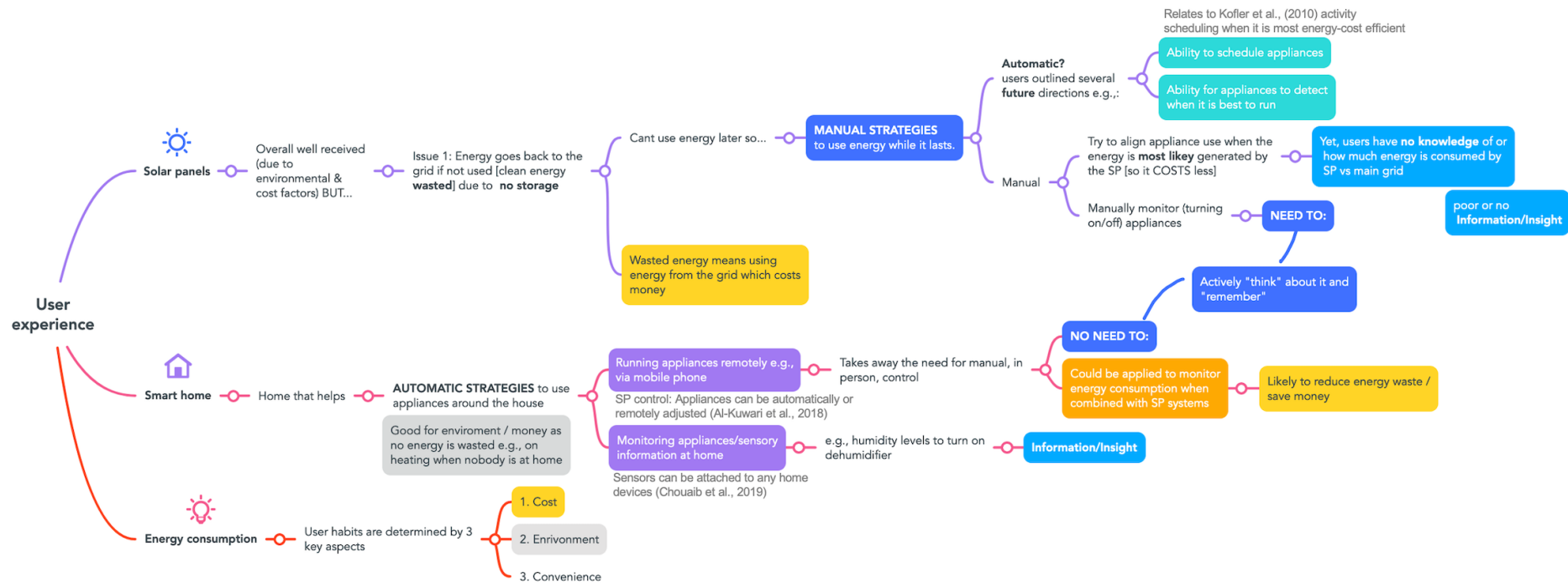


Figure 1. Affinity map. A breakdown of participants views and emerging patterns. Each element of relevance is colour-coded and related to a specific theme or sub-theme in the affinity diagram (see Fig. 2). The arrows show and explain relationships between the codes/themes and to previous literature (Al-Kuwari et al., 2018; Chouaib et al., 2019; Kofler et al., 2011).

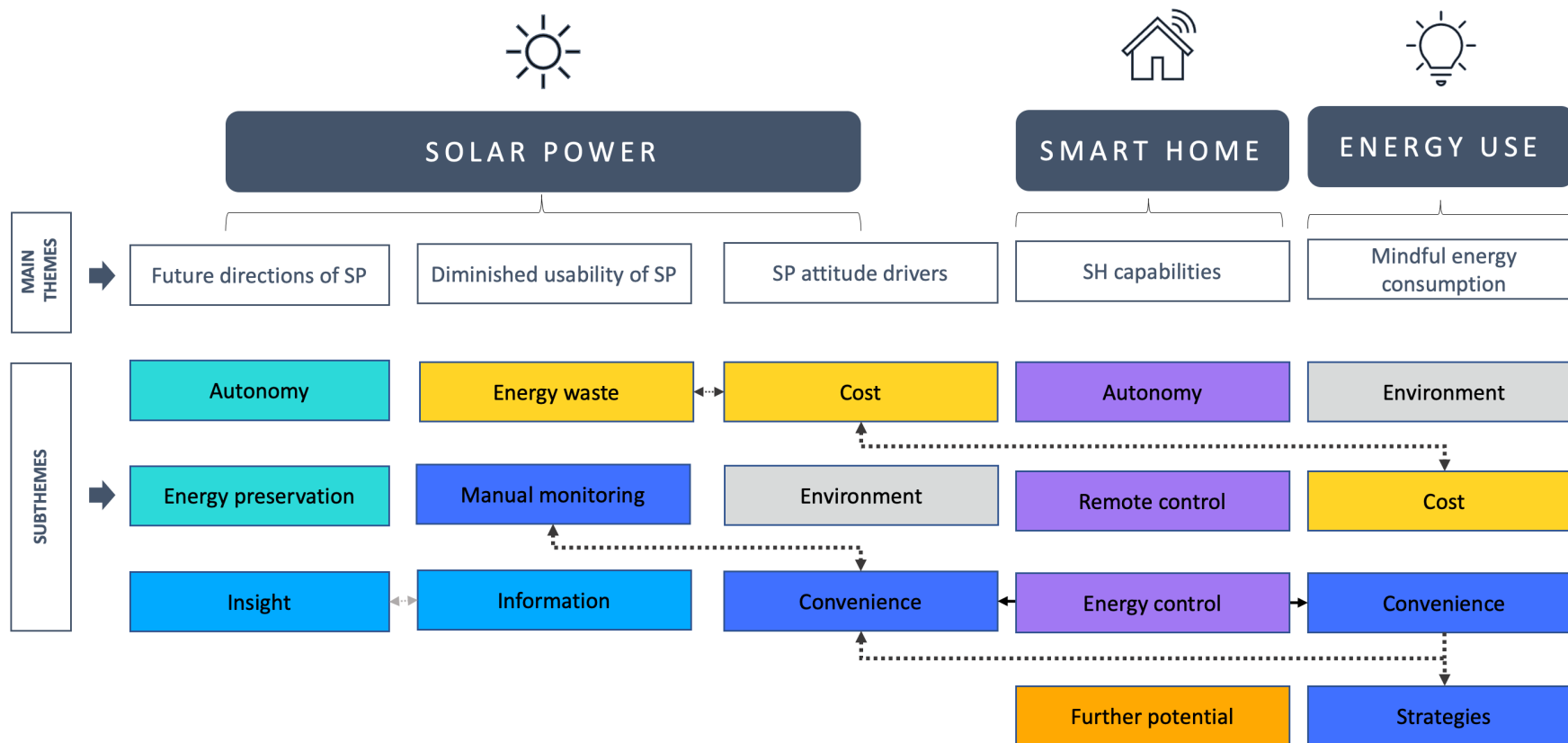


Figure 2. Affinity diagram. The findings represent 5 main themes with corresponding subthemes. Arrows depict links and relationship between the codes across the different subthemes.

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Appendix 1. Transcribed Interviews with Codes

INTERVIEW 1, PARTICIPANT 1

Interviewer: Okay, all right, I was recording. So I'm G. So I need to get verbal consent from you to be able to record the interview.

Participant1: Yep. Cool.

Interviewer: If actually if you hold it because you get your answers as it as soon as like it's recording. Okay. So, the purpose of this is just to look at renewable energy for residential use, and just have some questions along those lines. So, if you could identify like your age bracket, are you between like 18 to 24-25 to 34-35, to 40-44

Participant 1: 35 to 44

Interviewer: 35 to 44, age bracket, okay,

Participant 1: Brutal

Interviewer: You've given verbal consent. This is face to face. Alright, so, are you ready for question one?

Participant 1: Absolutely.

Interviewer: Okay. All right. So question one. What appliances do you think will carry the most energy in your home?

Participant 1: The video games consoles for the game consoles.

Interviewer: Really?

Participant 1: Absolutely. They are like energy vampires, because I can't switch them off. So the PlayStation five and the series X have to sit in standby, which means they're constantly consuming energy.

Interviewer: Is that is that even worse than like your dishwasher?

Participant 1: Yeah, absolutely. Yeah, crazy power, because they are on 24/7, So the dishwasher will only run for 20 minutes at the max. Yeah. Whereas the consoles will be on all of the time. Okay.

Interviewer: Okay. Yeah. I mean, that makes sense.

Participant 1: Now with the steam deck, I guess the battery that gets recharged every 20 minutes.

Interviewer: Okay, cool. And so I guess , you know, the question is, when do you use them? When do you use these?

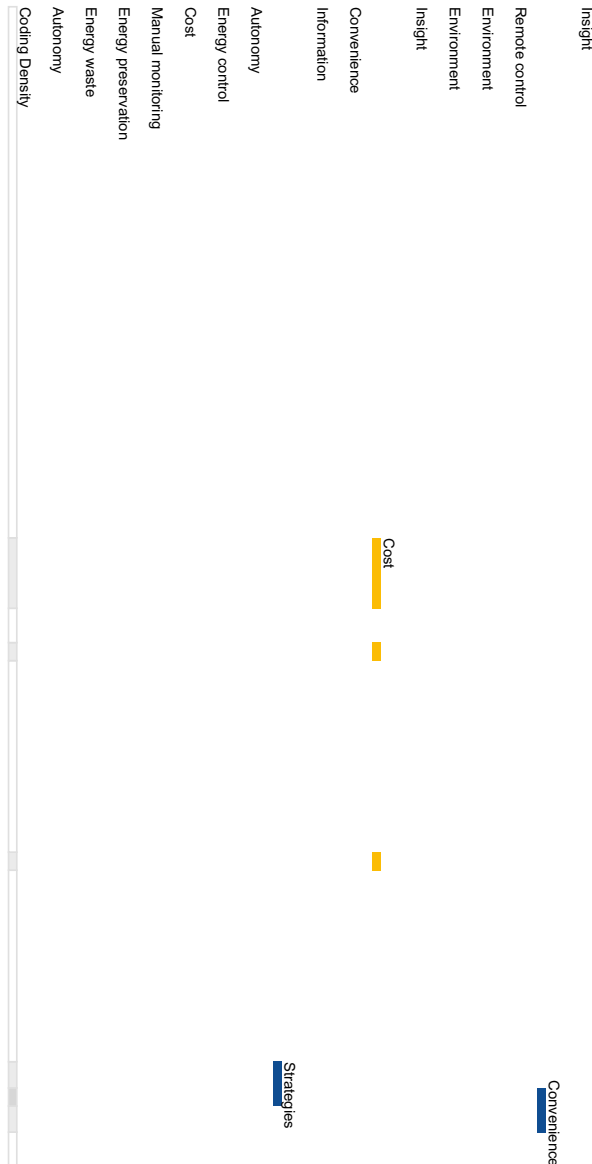
Participant 1: So, as they're always on standby, I tend to use them in the evenings. So probably between sort of six, six and 10.

Interviewer: Okay. And do you think like your, the energy consumption changes when you use the console?

Participant 1: Absolutely. Yes.

Interviewer: Okay. Thank you. Question three. So how much do you consider the electricity costs when you run these appliances?

Participant 1: Not as much as Emma. Okay, not, not so much. Not, not really as much as I should do. Because [partner] regularly reminds me to turn off appliances and things when I'm leaving. But yeah, I mean, realistically, I consider them in that. I won't switch them all on at once. If one comes on by accident. I'll



44 switch to that console and switch it off. Okay. I won't leave everything
 45 running at once. But yeah, as I said, not not as much as I should do really.

46 Interviewer: Okay. Thank you. Question Four. How would you describe your attitude
 47 towards solar panels?

48 Participant 1: They could be better. Yeah, I think they're really useful. But problem with us
 49 having to use everything during the day means it doesn't really take into
 50 account things like cold nights. So if we ran a heater, for example, during the
 51 night, we wouldn't be able to run off the solar panel, because we can't store it.
 52 Right. But yeah, yeah, I think it's a good step in the right direction. But I do
 53 feel that there's, there's a lot that can be adjusted. Like what types of things
 54 like, like, as we discussed, like having a storage unit. I feel that electricity
 55 going back into the grid is great, but we get paid a negligible amount for it,
 56 and it's gonna cost us 1000s of pounds to store the power ourselves. I think
 57 that that is a I think it's a good step in the right direction that the government
 58 ensures that all new new build homes have to have a solar panel. But they
 59 don't really take into account the storage and the maintenance costs of such.

60 Interviewer: So you wished they like, better off as a way to better optimise

61 Participant 1: Absolutely, that's an issue. Especially in a country where sunlight is such a
 62 precious resource anyway, it would be nice to be able to store it for things like
 63 winter or times times when we would like to use it a lot more. Okay. Imagine
 64 if you could store it all the way through summer for when you want to have
 65 heaters in the winter, that'd be far better off.

66 Interviewer: So, do you have solar panels? If so, why? If not, why not?

67 Participant 1: We do and because it's a government initiative that all new build homes have
 68 solar panels?

69 Interviewer: Oh, is it? ,

70 Participant 1: Yeah.

71 Interviewer: So on all new builds have to have solar panels?

72 Participant 1: Yep.

73 Interviewer: Alright. See, were there any types of considerations or benefits to thinking
 74 about before? You got them? This isn't like you're looking forward to this kind
 75 of house?

76 Participant 1: Oh, yeah, it was kind of just as part of the house really? To be absolutely
 77 honest. It's still kind of an abstract concept. Like, we know how they work, but
 78 we don't know 100%. What, what they do? Okay. We had to call a man into
 79 sort of have a look and see how the energy consumption was doing. Because
 80 there's a there's a switch in the loft, that I have absolutely no idea how it
 81 works.

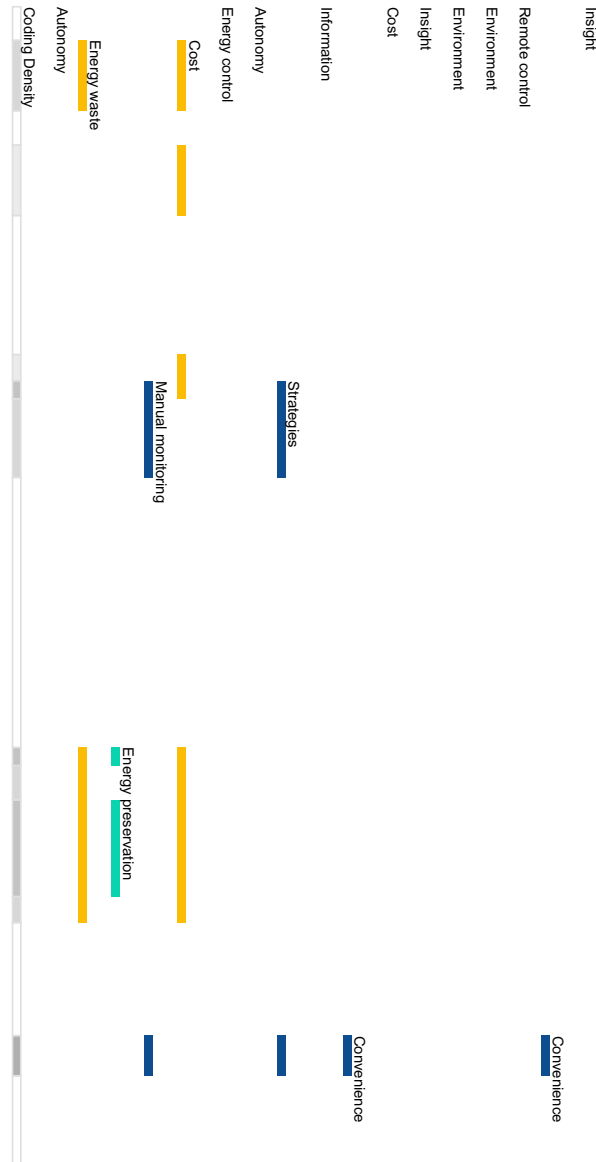
82 Interviewer: Let's kind of see what let me make sure it's recording. I think it is. Let me just
 83 double check. Yeah, that's all good. Okay. Yes, thank you. So, there's a switch
 84 that is switching?

85 Participant 1: Yes. There's like a junction box that feeds the power from the solar panel
 86 converts the power from the solar panels into the house.

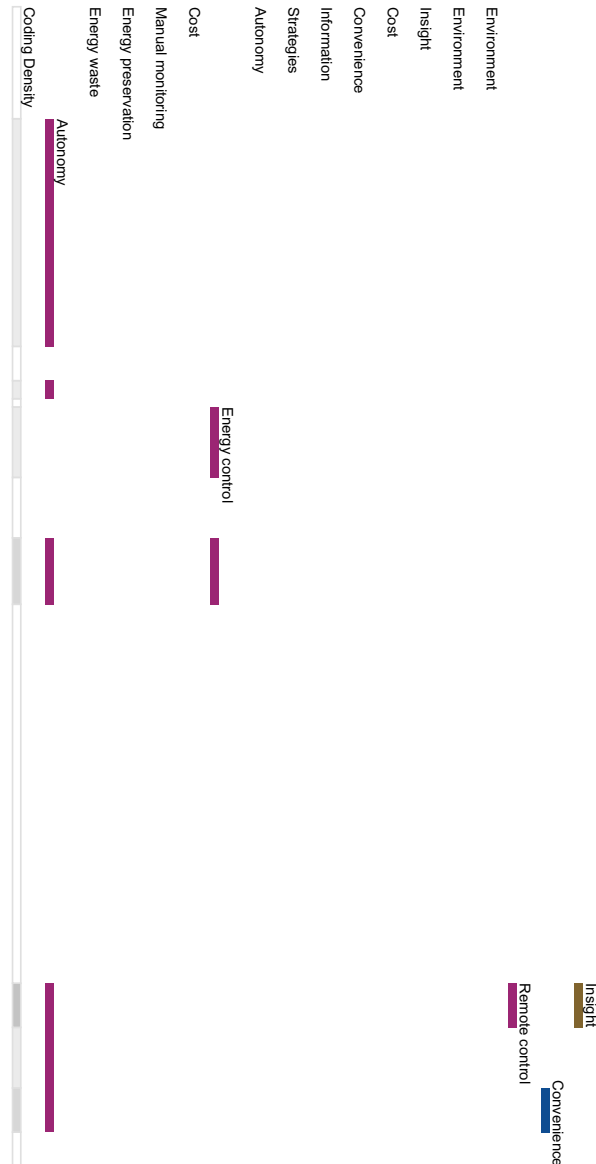
87 Interviewer: So, so there's like a power switch?



88 Participant 1: Yes. Because it has to convert the solar energy into, into power for the house.
89 Okay, so there's like, almost like a dynamo, I guess, that converts it and then
90 feeds it back to the grid. That's where the battery would go if you had five
91 grand to spare.
92 Interviewer: Right.
93 Participant 1: And they're about five grand. They are not cheap. We did look into them.
94 Because objectively, it will be a really good idea. But it was that we're getting
95 a lot boarded. Unfortunately, we have too much crap to not have that last
96 boarded.
97 Interviewer: I think Tesla does as well. I think it was very expensive.
98 Participant 1: They are ludicrously expensive.
99 Interviewer: Pretty crazy. Okay. Question six. What are your thoughts on using solar panels
100 to supplement the energy in your home? So it's been kind of answered, but...
101 Participant 1: Yeah, brilliant, absolutely fantastic. I mean, obviously supplements, our
102 energy when we use stuff during the day and make sure that we run, we run
103 the dishwasher during the day. We do the washing during the day. So
104 everything would be a drain on the power during the day we tend to use when
105 we know that the solar panel will be feeding energy. And so yeah, that's pretty
106 good, to be honest.
107 Interviewer: Okay, so it is I guess like when you use appliances, it's kind of considered a
108 little bit because this whole...
109 Participant 1: Yeah, absolutely. You think about it, yeah, definitely. Absolutely. Little bit.
110 Yeah. Well, as I said, Ms. [name] thinks she is the practical head of the two of
111 us.
112 Interviewer: Okay, thank you.
113 Participant 1: No worries.
114 Interviewer: All right. So question seven, source seven out of 10. What challenges do you
115 think people face when using solar panels? This is also been covered.
116 Participant 1: I was gonna say exactly. Storage. Yeah, at the moment we are paying, we are
117 sending our energy back to get a negligible amount of discount on our energy
118 bills, when in reality, it would be much more practical for the individuals to be
119 able to store the power that they are producing. It would be so much better if
120 there was a more reasonable consideration where we could look to use that
121 energy ourselves as opposed to feeding it back to energy companies who then
122 sell it back to us for twice the price during the night.
123 Interviewer: So part of the problem is, you're not getting as much money from the from
124 selling energy as it's costing you to actually get it back
125 Participant 1: Yeah, yeah. Yeah.
126 Interviewer: So like being able to optimise?
127 Participant 1: Yeah, yeah, like kind of important. Having to run everything during the day is
128 a little bit of a faff to be honest.
129 Interviewer: Especially because like, I guess your usage of your consoles and sophists were
130 Participant 1: Yes. The sun especially nowadays, it's kind of sick. That's true.



131 Interviewer: Okay, question eight. Right. So what do you think you could do to improve
 132 the energy consumption in your home?
 133 Participant 1: So, our home's pretty well insulated, because obviously, as a new building, it
 134 comes as kind of a standard. So we're pretty conscious about that. I, I bought a
 135 smart dehumidifier. Okay, specifically for that purpose. So we have a small
 136 dehumidifier that runs on a smart circuit in the room that stores my comic
 137 books, right? . And we have a large scale dehumidifier outside which purifies
 138 the air, but the principle behind that is that it learns. So it basically it registers
 139 the humidity at certain times. Okay, so when you first buy it, it will have to
 140 learn when you are most likely to say, shower or hang your washing and then
 141 it will switch itself onto a higher level at that period of time. . And then it will
 142 go into overdrive and then it will switch back just based off the humidity it
 143 serves to pre-emptively.
 144 Interviewer: Yeah?
 145 Participant 1: Yeah, anticipates the humidity. Yeah, it's really useful, actually. And in fact,
 146 as Emma was deeply surprised, because the things pretty huge. She was
 147 paranoid that it was gonna cost an arm and a leg and energy, but thankfully, it
 148 hasn't. were burned. But what I will tell you the name of it, it's a British
 149 company is really good. Really good. The only only expense we have is filters
 150 for it. Okay, you have to buy air filters because they get banged up. But
 151 realistically, it's whisper quiet. And yeah, clicks into clicks into overdrive
 152 every now and again, but realistically, it doesn't really doesn't really cost that
 153 much at all.
 154 Interviewer: It's interesting, because I have a British dehumidifier as well. So I was just
 155 wondering, I forget the brand might be it might be the same thing, let me
 156 check.
 157 Participant 1: Who is it? Is it's a big ask grey thing. Eback?
 158 Interviewer: eback? Even back? Okay. No, I don't have eback .
 159 Participant 1: So, it's 12 litre smart dehumidifier.
 160 Interviewer: Yeah, that's cool.
 161 Participant 1: That's now dead cheap. Actually.
 162 Interviewer: I've got I've got some as the reason why is because there's like 70% humidity
 163 in the house.
 164 Participant 1: Yeah. And so as okay, this is too much not keeping up. 47 actually got to
 165 yesterday. It's got a laundry function to speed LED display. And then basically
 166 what happens , it specifically put it on at night hasn't been given away. So
 167 yeah, basically, yeah, switches and so forth. But yeah, ours is the same, like
 168 so. I've, I've got something called Eve sensor. And that sensor, I can monitor
 169 from my phone. And it's set up on a circuit. So there's a small dehumidifier in
 170 the study, which is where the comics are. And what happens with that is that if
 171 it goes over 55%, the small dehumidifier clicks on, okay. And then when it
 172 lowers below 54 clicks back off again. You don't actually need to think about
 173 it. It's not gonna work for you.
 174 Interviewer: Okay



175 Participant 1: So it's just programming in a row that the, the hygrometer will literally pick
 176 up. Yeah.

177 Interviewer: Two questions. So the last two, so question nine, what do you think of when
 178 you think of a smart home?

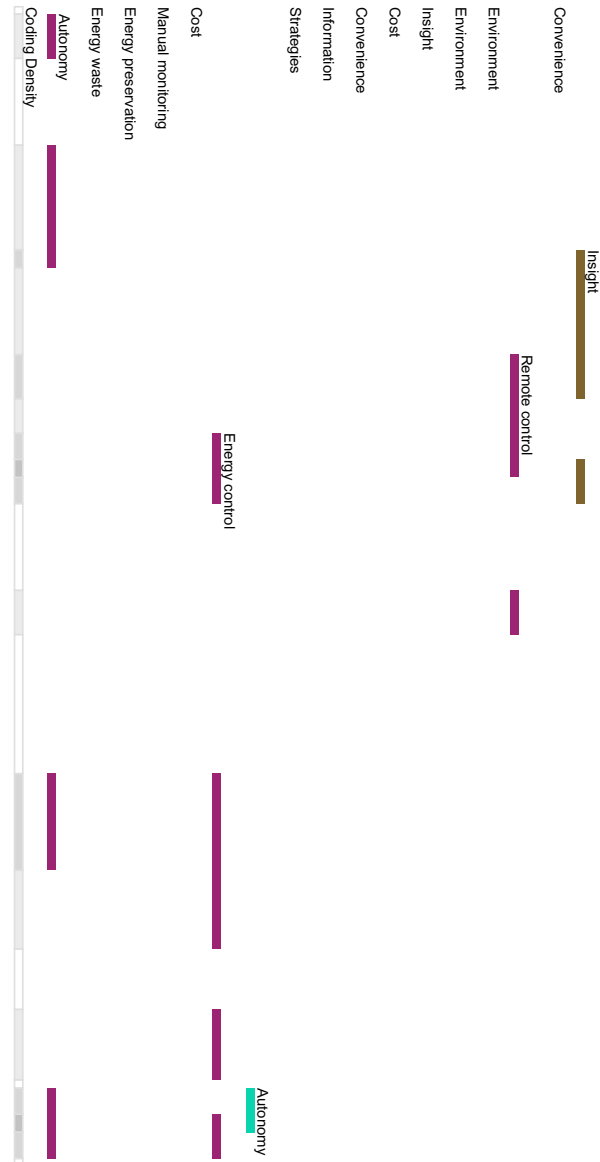
179 Participant 1: Pretty much exactly that it's a home where technology serves the purpose that
 180 it removes the need to think about things. So not a home that obviously
 181 governs itself, but, but assists you in your day to day life. So like, the the
 182 dehumidifier example is that I need the humidity in that room to stay at a
 183 certain percentage, I have set it up so that it will do that for me. And I don't
 184 have to worry about monitoring that on a daily basis. And I can also check at
 185 the end of the day, there's a readout on my phone, which will show me when
 186 the height when the humidity spiked when the temperature drops to a certain
 187 level. So nowadays, we've just got an eve camp, we just got a camera for the
 188 back on, okay. Which allows us to pick up when the counsellor leaving, and it
 189 will literally show us exactly when that is and I can also switch the light on
 190 from my phone to share the scare the crap out of them, which is something I'm
 191 never going to tolerate doing to be honest. But yeah, I love stuff like that,
 192 being able to monitor things remotely like that. It's pretty useful. But it also
 193 allows me to monitor our power usage. So it's kind of like using a house. It's a
 194 house that helps you. Yeah, so it's not obviously like the science fiction. The
 195 whole house is run by an AI that like small increments that can that can help
 196 you work towards a better future for you and the house around you. Yeah. No,
 197 I have a strong future. So I know. It is. Apple home is really useful. Like the
 198 fact that we can have everything linked to a centralised network, I mean, my
 199 Sonos the Sonos in each different room completed for music. I can have
 200 different music playing in the study the den downstairs, the kitchen the lounge,
 201 and have different songs playing in every single room. And as a kid, that
 202 would have been a mind blowing idea. So it's really cool.

203 Interviewer: I guess like it's a way to help you. Manage a certain level of quality of life.

204 Participant 1: Yeah, because you don't need to worry. No worries, right? It is the same as our
 205 heating. Our heating will click on when it drops below a certain temperature.
 206 So if it drops below 18 degrees, it will click itself on and heat the house
 207 straight back up, which is absolutely fantastic. Because again, it's something
 208 we don't have to monitor, we don't have to be like, oh really cold switch that
 209 on the whole house runs on a on a system that basically monitors it for us to
 210 improve our quality of life, which is pretty cool.

211 Interviewer: That is super cool. And then the last question is, in what ways do you think a
 212 smart home could allow you to be more energy efficient?

213 Participant 1: Exactly that I can monitor exactly what power we're using exactly when to
 214 make sure that it is only used in a necessity, we're not wasting it, that we're
 215 keeping the house warm when I'm realistic, when in reality, it's just because
 216 we've got a chill about us. It's because the house has dropped to a certain
 217 temperature. The dehumidifier works to specifically optimise power usage to
 218 ensure that in both rooms where humidity is an issue. I mean, it's not an issue.

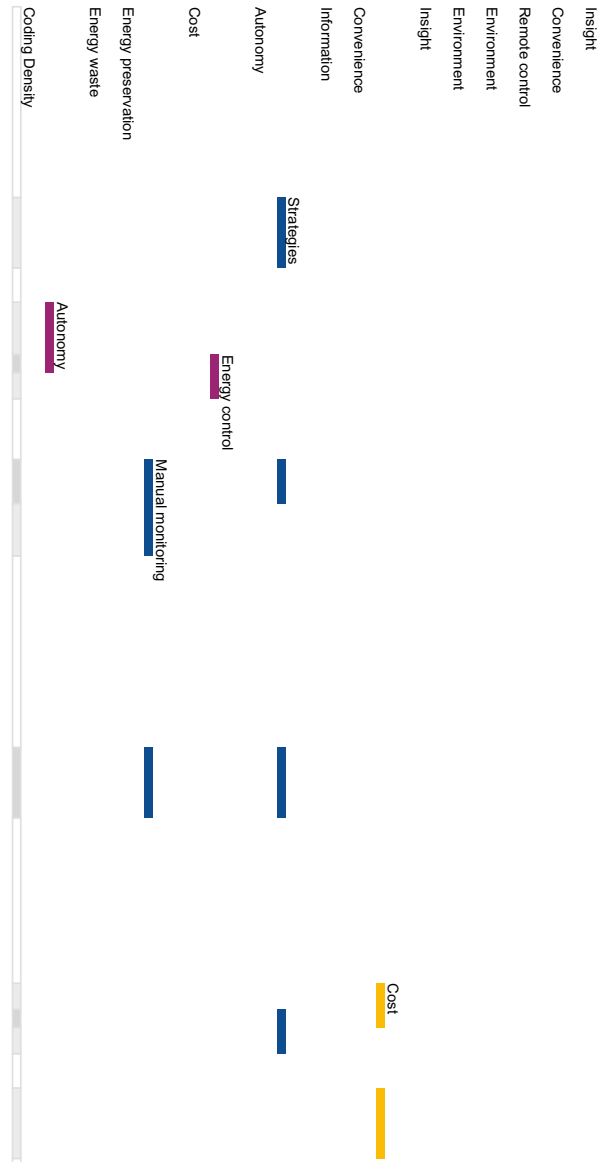


219 It's a modern house. We've got no problem. I'm just paranoid. But it ensures
 220 that the humidity is monitored.
 221 Interviewer: People naturally produce low humidity
 222 Participant 1: Yeah, absolutely. And we live we live near a river. Like we live there's a
 223 stream pretty much down the road from us. So there's always that paranoia.
 224 Plus, like I have an insurance policy on paper items. They are remarkably hot
 225 and humidity. So stuff like that. It's pretty interesting. But yeah, there we go.
 226 Yeah, that's probably good.
 227 Interviewer: Thank you very much.
 228 Participant 1: No worries. I appreciate you talking to someone massive nerd when it comes
 229 to stuff like that.
 230
 231

Insight
Convenience
Remote control
Environment
Environment
Insight
Cost
Convenience
Information
Strategies
Autonomy
Energy control
Cost
Manual monitoring
Energy preservation
Energy waste
Autonomy
Coding Density

INTERVIEW 2, PARTICIPANT 2

1
2
3 Interviewer: So, this this recording now typically, I know you will have like, just gonna
4 jump immediately into the question. So the first question is, what appliances
5 do you think required the most energy in your home.
6 Participant 2: So most energy in our home would probably be washing machine and tumble
7 dryer Combi. Really games consoles, because we have a number of homes
8 running at one time, so they use quite a lot of power. We do try and buy
9 energy efficient appliances. So you know, the fridge freezer, the dishwasher
10 all have good eco ratings.
11 Interviewer: Okay, interesting.
12 Participant 2: And the dehumidifier so we have a dehumidifier that runs 24/7. Okay, but it's
13 a smart one. So it'll drop down. When it needs to run Max, say if you've had a
14 shower, and it'll drop down throughout the day, okay. And again, that's eco. So
15 I'm not sure how much impact that has on our electricity.
16 Interviewer: I know you've mentioned it a little bit about running the dehumidifier. But
17 with regards to the other appliances, when do you use them?
18 Participant 2: So we have solar panels. So what we try and do is run them during the
19 daytime when we're getting that solar energy. So typically, if I'm putting the
20 washer on, I'll do that in the daytime, if I'm doing the dishwasher, we get we
21 load it in the evening, but we weren't on till the morning when the sun's out.
22 And we'll do it then. And then of course, we work both work from home the
23 majority of the time, so laptops, computer screens, all those things they're on
24 in the daytime, in the evening, there will be watching TV, then games
25 consulted that because energy consumption happens in the evening.
26 Interviewer: So do you think your energy consumption changes throughout the day? Or do
27 you think like maybe using more electricity in the morning compared to
28 afternoon, do you think there is a certain pattern?
29 Participant 2: I would say we use the ballpark high, we actively try to use the bulk of
30 electricity in the in the daytime, so mid morning through to mid to late
31 afternoon and minimise it in the evening. But of course, naturally in the
32 evenings, you need to put the lights on. And we're going to be doing
33 something to relax that usually involves electricity. And we do charge our
34 phones overnight while we're sleeping. So I think probably is peak in the
35 daytime. But it was not, not a huge peak of you know, I mean, because it's it's
36 evenly throughout.
37 Interviewer: So how much you consider the electricity cost when running these appliances.
38 Participant 2: So currently, with the energy bills and enterprises going up quite a lot yet, but
39 historically, much less. So I've only been very strict about when we put the
40 appliances that we can time on. In the last I would say nine months or so.
41 Previously, it was like I guess I want to goes on whatever I mean, it's from
42 dishwasher at night. So we've definitely had a shift now to thinking much
43 more consciously about energy prices and energy consumption. Just because
44 the prices have gotten so much higher.



45 Interviewer: So with regards to your solar panels, how would you describe your attitude
 46 towards yourself?

47 Participant 2: How would I describe? Okay, so genuinely positive. So we bought a new
 48 build. So it came with the solar panels, I think that's the government
 49 legislation is that new builds have to have them. So it wasn't an active choice.
 50 But I do really like them, because I have noticed that, you know, they keep
 51 some of the costs off, we've not had the same jumps that some people have.
 52 And they make me feel also there is that feeling of you know, I'm doing
 53 something for the environment, because I'm using the solar energy as much as
 54 I can rather than taking it off the grid from you know, fossil fuel production.
 55 So that is it gives you that kind of ethical moral moral boost as well as the
 56 financial benefits as well.

57 Interviewer: Since your house already came with the solar panels imagine if it did not, and
 58 how likely would you be to actually instal it yourself?

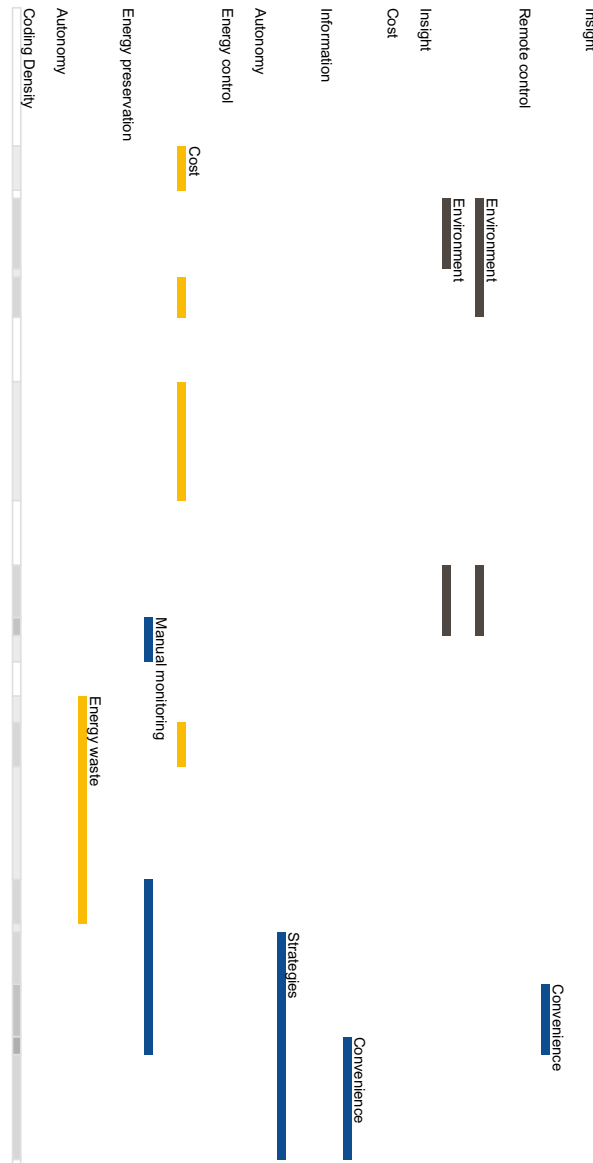
59 Participant 2: Because of the cost. And you know, the amount of wiring so as you know,
 60 you've got to wire them in, you've got to have a box in our cupboard,
 61 essentially, that it's all wired to so because of the cost of installation, I think it
 62 would be very unlikely we would have had them installed had we bought an
 63 older house.

64 Interviewer: So overall, what are your thoughts on using solar panels to supplement the
 65 energy in your home? So you can think about the efficiency?

66 Participant 2: Yeah, so I think overall, I think it's, it can be done. And I think it will it can
 67 have an impact can have an impact on your individual energy consumption.
 68 Then in terms of fossil fuel energy, but I also think that it's not necessarily the
 69 easiest because you have to actively think about when you're doing things.

70 Interviewer: Okay? And why is that? Why do you have to actively think about it?

71 Participant 2: We don't have a battery. So how's it when you have a solar panels that have to
 72 come with the battery, in fact, the majority of solar panels to my
 73 understanding don't, because the batteries are very pricey and take up a lot of
 74 space. So instead, the energy goes back to the grid. Now, that's really good for
 75 other people and the energy companies because there's energy going back. But
 76 what it means for us as individuals is that if we're not using it, at the time it's
 77 being produced. So minute by minute, then we essentially lose access to that
 78 energy. And instead, we withdraw from the grid. And so the energy we use in
 79 the evening isn't from our solar panels, it's from from the grid. So to make the
 80 most of them, you've got to be thinking, okay, when do I need to consume
 81 energy, and make sure that you're doing it in the hours of daylight? So for
 82 example, if I want to run the dishwasher, I've got to remember to put it on the
 83 right time. If I get to the end of my working day, in the winter, it's going to be
 84 dark. So then it's a case of deciding, do I wait till tomorrow? Is there enough
 85 space? You know, we only run it when it's full? So can I leave the stuff on the
 86 surface until tomorrow, because it won't fit in the dishwasher and run the
 87 dishwasher tomorrow and reload? Or do I run the dishwasher in the evening,
 88 in which case I'm not using the solar panels are not being less efficient. Yeah.



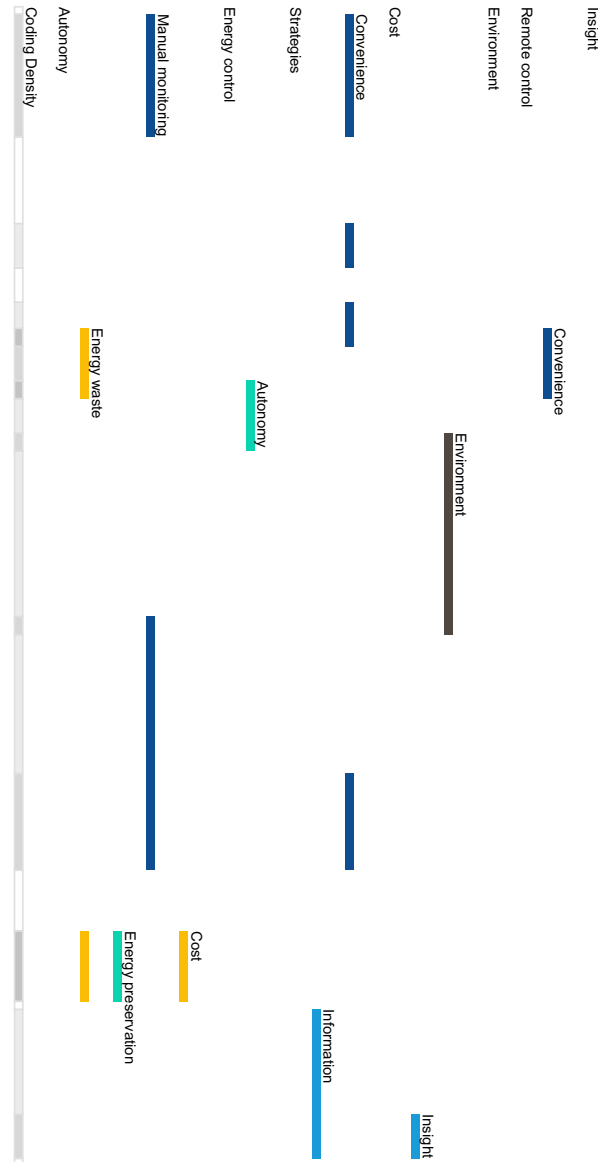
89 Same with clothes washing, and with clothes washing, because you want to do
 90 the drying, we use a heated era, again pulling the energy from the solar panels,
 91 well, that takes longer. So if you don't do your washing kind of in the
 92 morning, or lunchtime, you're getting less time drying it using the solar energy
 93 coming through the panels.

94 Interviewer: So what's your impression with regards to the flexibility of using it, of using
 95 the solar panels, that kind of suits your lifestyle,

96 Participant 2: It's fine, it's okay for us, because we work from home, we didn't work from
 97 home, it'd be much harder because we wouldn't be at home at the time was
 98 when it would be most useful to do the additional energy consumption. It's not
 99 just the constant underlying, you know, appliances going on in the background
 100 that kind of thing. So in order to use that, to have that discretionary usage, we
 101 would need to be home. And you know, we work full time who can work from
 102 home now, before the pandemic? Yeah, we probably didn't optimise the solar
 103 panels at all, because we weren't there to do so. So I think it would be useful if
 104 there was, you know, if you could say, programme, your washers and things
 105 like that, and we we've got decent appliances, we don't have high tech
 106 appliances, and those, they're really smart appliances possible for money. So
 107 to you know, to replace everything with them, one in terms of the ecological
 108 efficiency and environmental efficiency, you would be getting rid of perfectly
 109 good appliances, that's wasteful. There's energy consumption in the production
 110 of those appliances. So in terms of net zero, you're not going to get that that
 111 way. So we have the appliances we have till they break, we won't replace
 112 them. So that means that we have to actively keep doing it. If you forget you
 113 forget that's human, there's no way Oh, we don't set an alarm to get the
 114 dishwasher on. Yeah. And there's nothing smart to say, hey, the solar panels
 115 are on. In fact, I have to go and check. We've got a box in the cupboard, and
 116 we have to go and open the door and stand and watch it. If the red light is
 117 blinking, the solar panels are working. If the red light is on permanently, then
 118 they're not they're not working, because there's not enough light. So on a
 119 cloudy day, you might find yourself having to go and stand in your cupboard
 120 and stare at a box to find out if your solar panels have enough light to actually
 121 be producing solar energy at that time.

122 Interviewer: That's interesting. So considering your experience with solar panels, what
 123 challenges do you think people face when using solar panels?

124 Participant 2: The lack of affordable storage options, I understand why the batteries are
 125 pricey. But at the same time without the battery, you are going to have a lot of
 126 energy running off now it is going back to the grid. So it's not is helping the
 127 country overall, I guess but it's still helping the individual. I think another
 128 challenge will be I have no idea how to maintain them. And I wouldn't know if
 129 there was something wrong with them. And so I went and stared at the box. So
 130 actually, knowing that they're not work when they're on and when they're off
 131 is a bit of guesswork. So it'd be it'd be good to have a way of understanding on
 132 hot to optimise it. You know are they working? I don't know if they are



133 producing more energy at some times and other times whether there's more
 134 energy on a sunny day than a cloudy day I guess there might be and actually
 135 we are we have a smart electricity metre mm But because we changed energy
 136 provider, what they didn't tell us until after we've moved is that while we have
 137 a smart metre, they couldn't read it, only British Gas at the moment can read a
 138 smart metre and we're with Aeon. Okay, so my smart metre, little box thing
 139 doesn't work. So I can't actually look and see what my energy consumption is.
 140 And the smart metre, even if I did only tells me what I'm taking, I assume
 141 through the metre, not from the solar panels, okay, so don't actually ever know
 142 what I'm using from the solar panel. So it'd be nice to have a smart metre type
 143 setup, but that that would say, your solar panels are producing this much
 144 energy, and you are using X percentage of that, because that might then trigger
 145 me to go, oh, hang on, I need to charge my Kindle, I'll do that. Now. Because
 146 I've got 20% energy that I could use. I'll go whack my phone on charge,
 147 because that'll put me out. And I could do things even more efficiently.

148 Interviewer: So you don't actually have an insight into how much energy is being produced.
 149 And how much energy is being consumed?

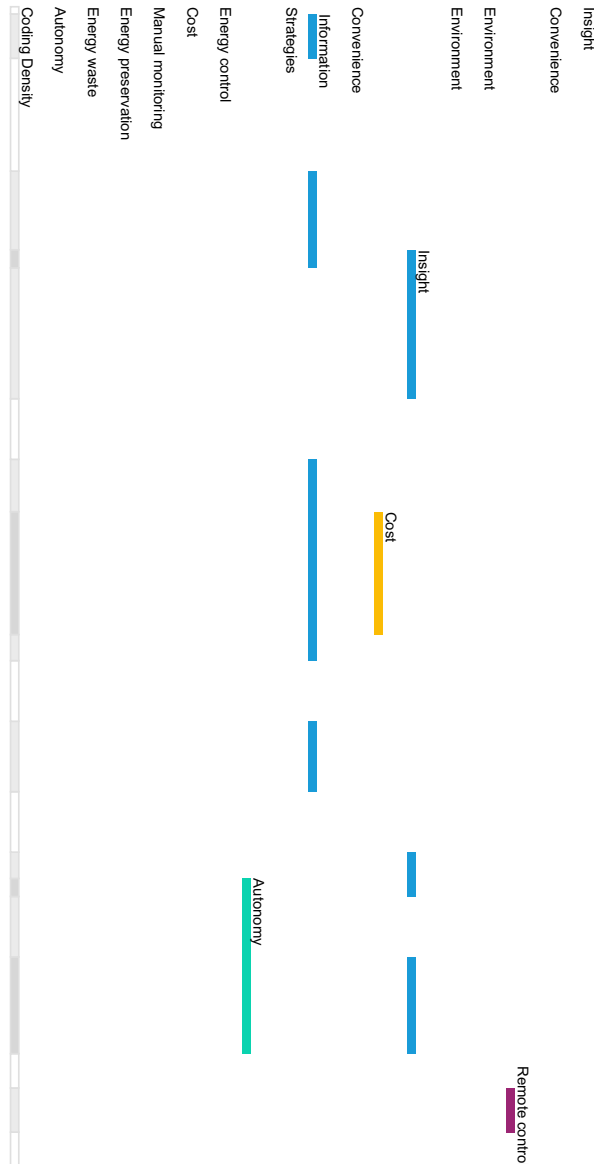
150 Participant 2: I have a box that blinks a red light when they're working. And that is the end
 151 of everything I do. And the rest is guesswork. The rest is essentially looking at
 152 my bill and comparing. So for example, at one point, we were leaving the
 153 laptops and computer monitors on standby overnight, I noticed the energy
 154 consumption was going up. So we stopped using them overnight. But that
 155 difference is because we're not using the energy not because we're using the
 156 solar energy. Yeah, I don't have a point of comparison in this household to
 157 know what the difference would be using them with or without now, as we're
 158 getting into winter, we'll have a couple more hours of using not solar energy.
 159 So we might be able to tell but on the other hand, the prices have just gone up
 160 in October. So that will probably mask it. Yeah, there isn't really a way for me
 161 to work out what they're saving me or how much of it I'm using and how much
 162 of it I'm sending back to the grid.

163 Interviewer: Very interesting. So what do you think you could improve, you could do to
 164 improve the energy consumption in your home?

165 Participant 2: More access to the information about what, what, what energy I'm producing,
 166 and how much of it I'm using, I think it'd be key to me, also being able to
 167 share, as I say schedule things, so that they automatically go on either a set
 168 time or more usefully when there is the energy available from the solar panel.
 169 So I don't know whether if I'm running a washing machine and dishwasher at
 170 the same time. One is using all the solar energy, so the other is pulling from
 171 the grid. And I would be better off staggering them so they could each take
 172 their turn with a solar energy. I don't know that.

173 Interviewer: Okay. So what do you think when you think of a smart home?

174 Participant 2: When I think of a smart home, it's things like the light bulbs that you can turn
 175 on and off from your phone. Nest thermostats, which we could think about
 176 getting around to Google Home or Apple and all those things. So we've got



177 we've got the apple smart devices in our home. So we can, you know, we
 178 mostly use and play music through the house, we do have one of the we've got
 179 actually got two dehumidifiers. So one of them is connected to that system. So
 180 sat here with you right now, I could technically go in there. Turn on and off
 181 the fan. If you give me the fire. I can play some music in the bedroom, but
 182 only the cats could hear. Well, yeah, and that's pretty much all I can do from
 183 here, maybe control the Apple TV, we could use that more I could do the
 184 lights through that I could do the heating, but we don't have it installed. And
 185 part of that is that they've also pricey, a smart light bulb is going to set me
 186 back the best part of 20 pounds. Standard. Just led energy efficient light bulb,
 187 less than a fiver. So I'm not. Affordability is an element, but also, in some
 188 cases, usefulness. With light bulbs. Just turn them off on the switch when you
 189 leave the room. I think there's been quite some focus on Smart Home things
 190 that sound cool, like, Hey, you can play music anywhere. Hey, you can turn
 191 lights on and off. When am I gonna want to do that when I'm at home? Turn it
 192 all off before you leave. That's not hard. The heating thing is useful, I think.
 193 So we don't have a nest thermostat but it would be good to be able to go hey,
 194 we're out so don't bother turning the heating up because we're not in cuz we do
 195 it on a timer on our thermostats to be able to say actually don't bother because
 196 we're out here or you know what we're about to come back and it's limited
 197 freezing. Turn it up a bit so it's nice and warm when we get home again,
 198 would be nice to be able to do from your phone work with the appliances to
 199 turn the dishwasher washing machine. I know there are smart appliances that
 200 do that. We don't have them.

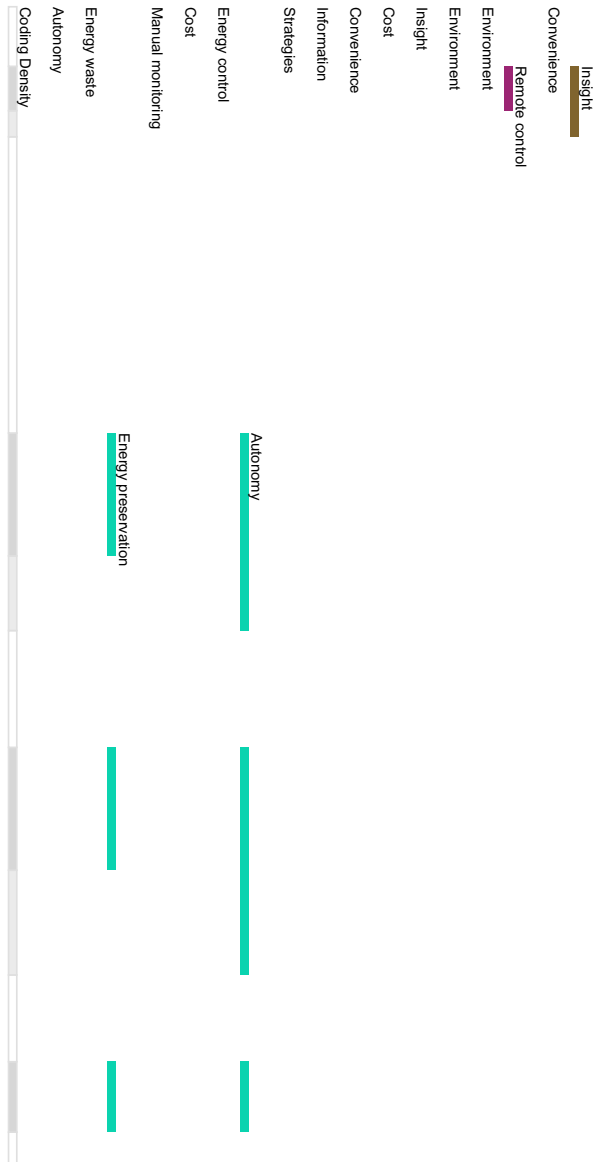
201 Interviewer: So in what ways do you think a smart phone smart home could allow you to be
 202 more efficient? - when it comes to your energy consumption.

203 Participant 2: I think to be more efficient, I mean, there's the thermostat thing. But again, we
 204 set quite good when setting the timer and turning it up and down when we're
 205 not in etc. So for me, it would really be it being in sync with that solar panel
 206 piece and be able to say, hey, the solar panels are working. We'll turn this
 207 device on, or we'll optimise it, optimise the energy consumption, toggle this to
 208 turn itself down or whatever, you know, you'd have to pre load the dishwasher
 209 or the washing machine. But if you could set it to go, if it's low, if there is a
 210 tablet in there, and the device is on, but on standby, don't start the wash cycle,
 211 start the wash cycle, when the solar energy is at the maximum and you've got
 212 it there to do. So it's almost like the two devices communicate. Yeah, so the
 213 two devices communicating saying this one saying hey, I'm all set up. Yeah,

214 Interviewer: Interesting.

215 Participant 2: Yeah, I think it would need to, for me the efficiency would be we as a
 216 household or what, sorry, I as a member of the House quite on quite on it in
 217 terms of when we're using what, but it would be good to have it be able to me
 218 go right at night or put everything in the washing machine dishwasher. Smart,
 219 whatever, turn it on when it's got the solar panel to do it.

220 Interviewer: Lovely, thank you for your help. Is there anything else you would like to add?

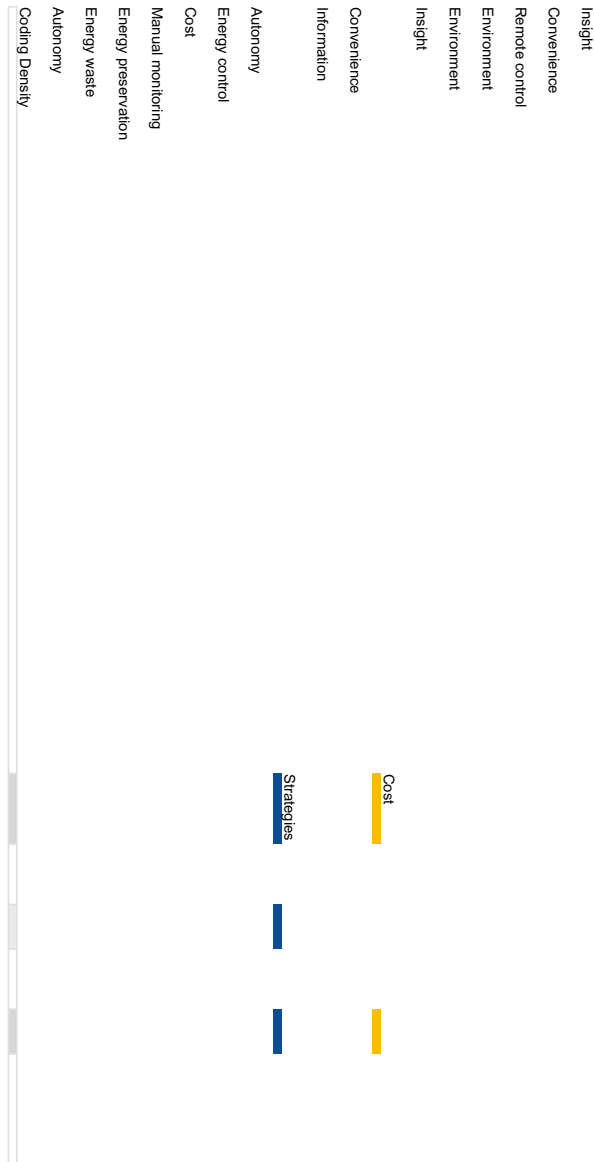


Insight	
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Cost	
Convenience	
Information	
Strategies	
Autonomy	
Energy control	
Cost	
Manual monitoring	
Energy preservation	
Energy waste	
Autonomy	
Coding Density	

221
Participant 2: No, I don't think so.
222
223

INTERVIEW 3, PARTICIPANT 3

1
2
3 Interviewer: All right. Mr. [name], first of all go through ethical considerations. In line with
4 ethical guidelines for conducting research interviews, your name will be
5 anonymized and replaced with an ID number. The interview recordings will be
6 securely stored on Password Protected laptops. And the data will be reviewed
7 and analysed only by the group members and solely use for initial intended
8 purpose. Sure. So I'll go through 10 questions, and we will please answer
9 them.
10 Interviewer: So the first question is, what appliances do think require the most energy in
11 your home?
12 Participant 3: I think most appliances are Energy Efficient in my home. However, the most
13 the one which uses the most electricity is probably the shower oven and
14 electric heaters.
15 Interviewer: Would you say the heaters are the most consuming ones?
16 Participant 3: Yeah. Especially in the winter if you use. Yeah. All right.
17 Interviewer: When do you use them? So you said the heater in the winter and the others
18 obviously, oven you use it more often? When you cook, and then shower, you
19 use it frequently?
20 Participant 3: Pretty much every day. If it's basically on a daily basis, showers on a day to
21 shower and oven pretty much on it.
22 Interviewer: Would you use heaters during the rest of the year or only in winter?
23 Participant 3: Winter.
24 Interviewer: How much do you consider the electricity cost when you run these appliances?
25 Participant 3: The shower uses quite a lot of electricity, I think. Probably a pound per
26 shower.
27 Interviewer: So when you're taking showers or cooking you mean a kilowatt? Now, I mean,
28 when you when you use these appliances, do you think about electricity cost?
29 Do you take that into consideration?
30 Participant 3: Oh, I need to finish my shower quicker or things if you're if you're on a
31 budget, you probably would consider you would think about how long because
32 you're showering
33 Interviewer: Do you think about this on daily basis or time to time or you don't really take
34 that into consideration?
35 Participant 3: I do. So I would rather use say like with a heater, I'd rather use the gas heater
36 rather than using electricity heater because it's more energy efficient.
37 Interviewer: And with our appliances do you think of when using them to use them less?
38 Participant 3: Not really, I don't think about it. I just Okay, yeah. Obviously, things like
39 tumble dryer. If the weather's good outside, then you wouldn't use tumble
40 dryer because it uses quite a lot of electricity as well.
41 Interviewer: All right. Next, we'll move on to questions regarding solar panels. How would
42 you describe your attitude towards solar panels,
43 Participant 3: I think it's a pretty good idea to have solar panels. I'm, I'm for it. I actually did
44 have solar panels to our panels, and it was very efficient. The solar panels



45 were installed maybe about seven or eight years ago, when there was an
 46 incentive for people to instal the solar panels. And during that time, the
 47 National Grid used to offer good rates to buy your electricity and I've
 48 benefited quite quite a lot from it. So I the electricity I used to produce from
 49 solar panels was enough for me, obviously for the day to day use. And also I
 50 used to sell quite a lot of it as well. So which used to cover the bills for gas as
 51 well. So I pretty much haven't paid for electricity when I had solar panels.

52 Interviewer: Okay so you can't answer this question now, but we'll go through it. What are
 53 your thoughts on using solar panels to supplement the energy in your house?

54 Participant 3: With solar panels obviously you've got several types of solar panels. I had
 55 both. So I've had the heated solar panels which obviously used to produce the
 56 hot water in your house. But also I used to have the normal solar panels which
 57 which is for electricity periodic, I think. Like, what there is a requirement now
 58 for new homes. Like when when you apply for planning, they, the requirement
 59 is to have the solar panels as well as plugin plugin for the electric cars. So
 60 which which, which is pretty good idea, I think, because that would bring UK
 61 or any other nation who got those requirements into more like a energy
 62 efficient world, which means people will be using less electricity and moving
 63 towards self producing, obviously electricity.

64 Interviewer: I see. Yeah. So, you mentioned two types of panels, which ones do you think
 65 are superior?

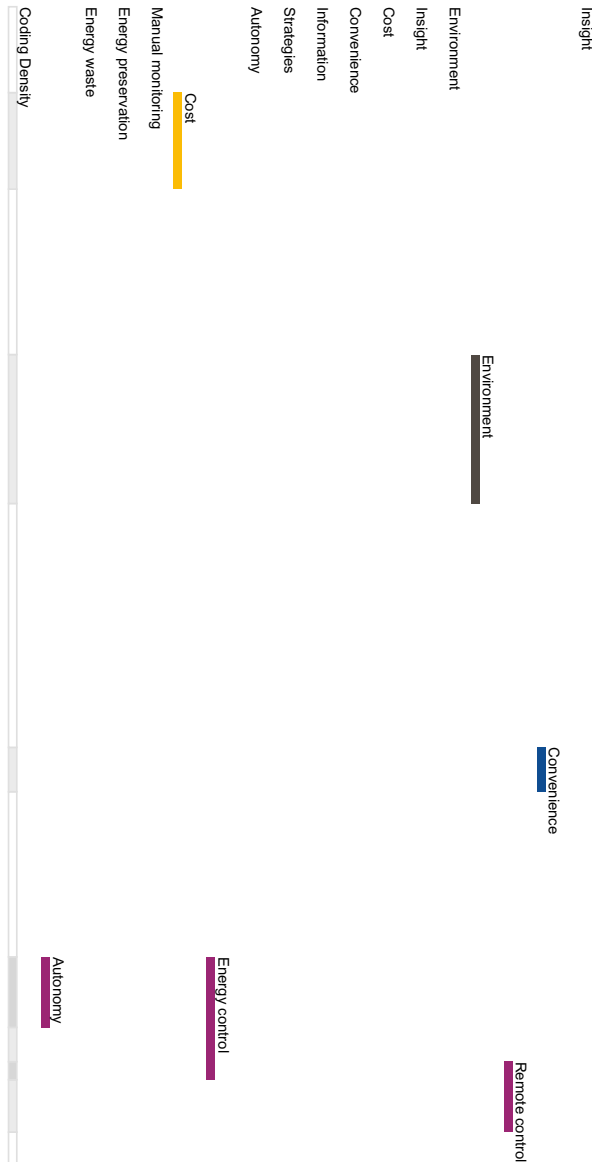
66 Participant 3: Electricity, because the electricity one obviously produces the general
 67 electricity, but also, you can use that electricity to heat up the water in your
 68 like to act as a immersion heater. Yeah.

69 Interviewer: I see. Thank you. And finally, what chain challenges do you think people face
 70 when using solar panels? Can you talk about what challenges you had?

71 Participant 3: I think the main main challenge, obviously, having the right type of house. So
 72 if you have a south facing is obviously you're gonna get better energy out of it
 73 as well, because you you have electricity pretty much all day. The second
 74 challenge is applying for planning permission. Because to have the solar
 75 panels you have to apply for planning which have to be approved by Council,
 76 you can't just instal them, because it's changing the appearance of the building.

77 Interviewer: I see. Thank you. And for the last section of our interview, I'll ask you about
 78 smart homes. What do you think you could do to improve the energy
 79 consumption in your house?

80 Participant 3: In my own house, I've got what my house is very smart. So I've got smart TVs,
 81 switch to control each radiator. But I also have the smart control which
 82 controls the temperature in the house, which means my well the heating my
 83 house is not running constantly. This one second thing is the lighting
 84 obviously nowadays with a smart technology, you can dim the lights which
 85 uses less electricity as well. And say like if you've if you left home and you
 86 forgot to turn the turn off the lights, you can still turn them off by using your
 87 phone which is pretty good I think. Yeah.



88 Interviewer: So, you describe that you already have a very smart house to begin with. Do
89 you have any ideas how you could improve over what you already have?

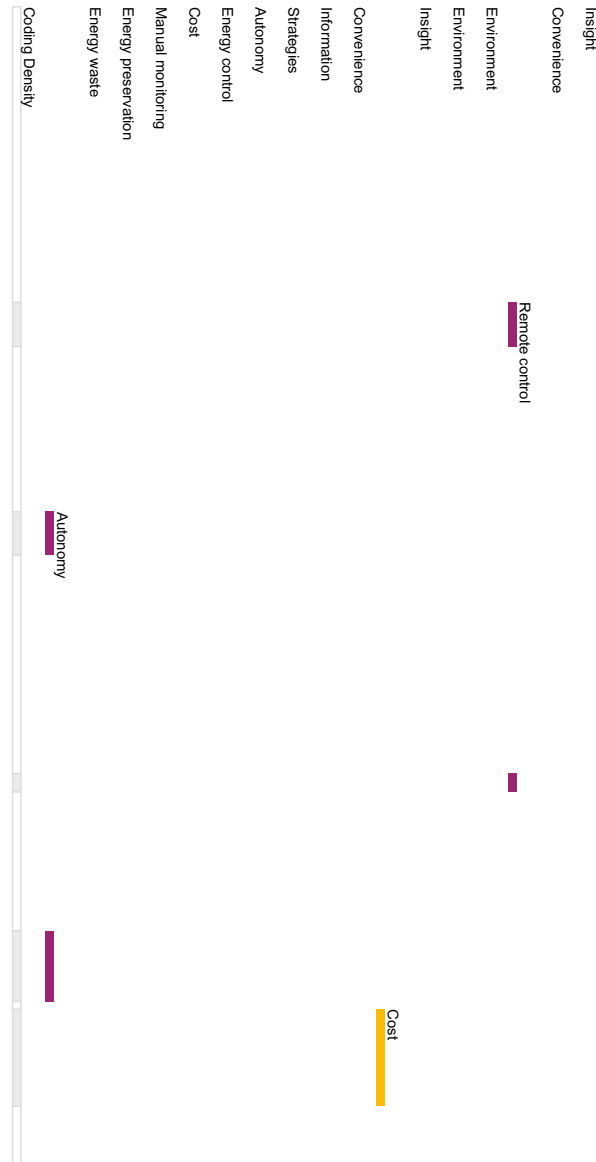
90 Participant 3: I guess because the smartphone produces that there are so many smartphone
91 produces and not all the devices compatible to each other. So I think if that
92 was centralised that would that would be very beneficial. Because then you
93 don't have to shop with one company like not not all companies necessarily
94 have all the technology like if if you had all the companies using the same
95 centralised system then you can have a very smart home.

96 Interviewer: Now in general step back - What do you think of when you think of a smart
97 home? Like describe the utopian smart home in your vision?

98 Participant 3: The Smart Home Smart Home obviously uses requires the internet so your
99 your house have to be connected to the internet. And I'm totally for the
100 smartphones. I'm a I like the idea of it. I think what do you mean in terms of
101 let's say not only related to energy consumption even what other devices you
102 would have would make make your house home for example. Automatic
103 Hoover's or stove I know, Some smart iron that, so now we're going into
104 robotics on this side. Yeah, yeah. You could have a smart Cleaner in a house
105 or smart chef. Yeah. Is it as well. But I think the technology is there for most
106 of the things. And what I could use the smart home for, I think I'm using it for
107 I think, if I really wanted to, I could have like, an automatic garage and
108 automatic blinds for outside or automatic curtains, for instance. Yeah. Or the
109 doors for instance, rather than using the keys. It's like a keyless entry or
110 whatever. Yeah. But then there is obviously with a smart homes, there is also a
111 risk, I believe, because anything connected with the internet is a race because
112 someone can hack it. Someone can hack the house and use all the technology
113 smart technology. The second risk is obviously we don't know 100%. If our
114 data like if our data is actually being collected, yeah. Because obviously,
115 things like Alexa, always like that. It always listens. And based on what it
116 listens is, it makes the suggestion sort of what you should be buying. Yeah. So
117 I think that's the only downside of it. But other than that I'm for smartphones.

118 Interviewer: All of these smart things also take into consideration US electricity. So having,
119 for example, a smart cook something like that will use a lot of energy. Would
120 you still go for it? Or do you think there is a limit at which we should let us let
121 humans still do it? Because it's more energy efficient? Or you think it's a
122 normal progression that we have?

123 Participant 3: I don't believe the smart homes use a lot of electricity uses the same. To boil
124 the kettle? It's the same was what? It's the same as the human boiling the
125 kettle, I suppose. It's just a physical touch, I suppose. More about it. Okay.
126 Yeah, I suppose. I don't know how deep you want to go about it. Like if we go
127 for like self boiling technology, where you've got the taps, which constantly
128 keep the boiling water, then I don't believe it's 100% efficient, because you
129 don't always use the boiling water, but it's always heating. So, yeah.



130 Interviewer: All right. Thank you. And last question, in what ways do you think a smart
 131 home could allow you to be more energy efficient? You've already talked
 132 about it if you could do a quick TLDR

133 Participant 3: So, I've gave you an example of heating, smart heating, obviously. So by
 134 setting up the temperature, the temperature in the house obviously keeps the
 135 temperature it doesn't require the doesn't require you to obviously turn on the
 136 heating and keep it on until it reaches the particular temperature, where the
 137 smart home will allow you to maintain the temperature which works out
 138 cheaper in a way because it doesn't have to constantly work. Same with the
 139 lighting, obviously, I've mentioned about the lighting. So Dimming the lights
 140 or have a habit on the automatic mode also is very efficient. And thermostats,
 141 obviously if you've got the rooms which you don't use in the house, so you
 142 don't have to hit them so which means you can switch them off on your phone
 143 and that saves electricity as well.

144 Interviewer: All right, thank you very much for your time. Have a nice day. Mr. Berger.
 145 Thank you. Is there anything you want to clarify or add?

146 Participant 3: No, that's all, thanks.
 147
 148



1 **INTERVIEW 4, PARTICIPANT 4**

2

3 Interviewer: What supplies do you think require the most energy in your home?

4 Participant 4: I think it's a gas cooker.

5 Interviewer: Okay.

6 Participant 4: And the next thing is the computers

7 Interviewer: Okay, so when do you use them?

8 Participant 4: I always use my gas cooker to cook my lunch and cook my dinner.

9 Interviewer: So, how much do you consider that are the electricity costs? How much do

10 you consider the electricity when you're using the appliances, like how much

11 money you think it's costing you a month?

12 Participant 4: Gas cooker don't consume a lot of electricity, is consuming natural gas.

13 Interviewer: Okay.

14 Participant 4: On the other hand, computer consumes a lot of electricity because I need to

15 write my papers files and run some simulations, and something like that.

16 Yeah.

17 Interviewer: Okay, yeah, we are going to ask some question related to solar panels. So, how

18 would you describe your attitude towards solar panels? So, what do you think

19 about it?

20 Participant 4: Oh, yes, actually solar panels are very good, can provide very clear energy

21 compared with fossil fuels. It has some problems like energy fluctuation

22 because you know, some go into waste when sun goes down every day, right.

23 So you can't have clean energy to burn when some cloud covers sky or are a

24 night, you can't have the clean energy for your electricity

25 Interviewer: Yeah. If you have them now why if not, no, why not?

26 Participant 4: Yeah, I actually I don't have. I didn't install them into my house. But I'm a

27 scientist. I do actually do some experiment about solar panels.

28 Interviewer: What are your thoughts on using solar panels to supply the energy in your

29 home?

30 Participant 4: I think if you if you use solar panels to provide energy to your home, firstly,

31 you need to consider the energy fluctuation. It is the most important thing and

32 also renewable energy and also to wind power. I think if you really want to use

33 solar panels, I would suggest to you to instal also some batteries and compose

34 them into a system. Okay. Because if you, if you go to work in the day, you

35 abandon a lot of clean energy. If you have batteries, you can store the

36 electricity and when you come back home, you can use that.

37 Interviewer: Okay. Yeah. And what challenges you think people face when they using solar

38 panels? What do you think?

39 Participant 4: Like, I just thought, the energy fluctuation.

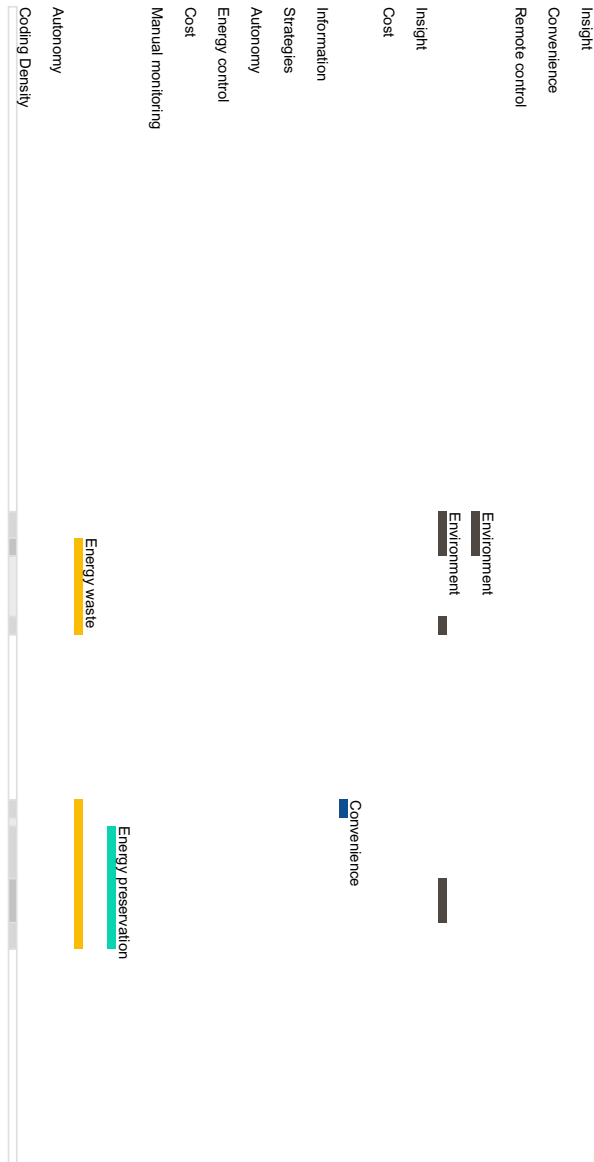
40 Interviewer: Okay, yeah. And that's it.

41 Participant 4: Sorry, that's all. That's all the challenges. It's the most important thing. What

42 do you also need, is to have enough area to instal the solar panels. Yeah. You

43 should have wider range, something with much more space to instal solar

44 panel.



45 Interviewer: Yeah. And next, I'm gonna ask some question related to the smart homes. So
 46 what do you think? What do you say? What do you think your do to improve
 47 his energy consumption in your home?
 48 Participant 4: I think the most efficient way is turn off the light when you don't need that.
 49 Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, exactly. And what do you think of when you think of a smart
 50 home?
 51 Participant 4: I don't get an actual definition about a smart home, to me is likely a patient
 52 home or a home with installed renewable energy system or renewable energy
 53 appliances. Solar panels, you can consider it as energy efficient home that uses
 54 artificial intelligence like Google Home or artificial intelligent home. Yeah.
 55 So, you can consider it all for, you know, your energy efficiency and waste.
 56 Come through all of it. You know? Maybe it's a good idea. When I think about
 57 the will, always think about the smart home. Yeah. Like, it can control your
 58 home. Automatically. Yeah. While you're in a room the light will turn on.
 59 Yeah. And when you leave for work, it will turn off. Yeah. That's a good idea.
 60 Interviewer: Yes. So in what way do you think a smart home could allow you to be more
 61 energy efficient?
 62 Participant 4: I think the most important thing for a smart home is financial control system.
 63 Oh, yeah. Maybe, maybe you can use some artificial intelligence to control the
 64 energy and energy costs. Yeah, energy flow and energy cost, anyway.
 65 Interviewer: That is the end of the interview, is there anything you want to add?
 66 Participant 4: No, thank you.

