

DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENGINEERING  
SCIENCE**



people  
~~technology~~  
It's the ~~economy~~, stupid

# Energy services, flexibility and data

## Part I

Energy Systems MSc – Energy Demand – MT2024

Phil Grunewald

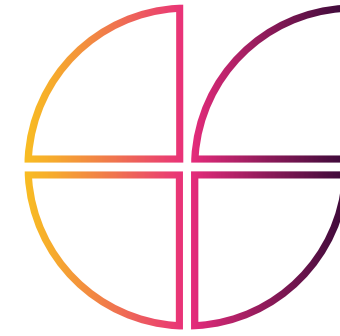
[energy-use.org/slides](https://energy-use.org/slides)

## Part I

- System flexibility
- Energy needs and uses
- Feedback systems
- Causality

## Part II

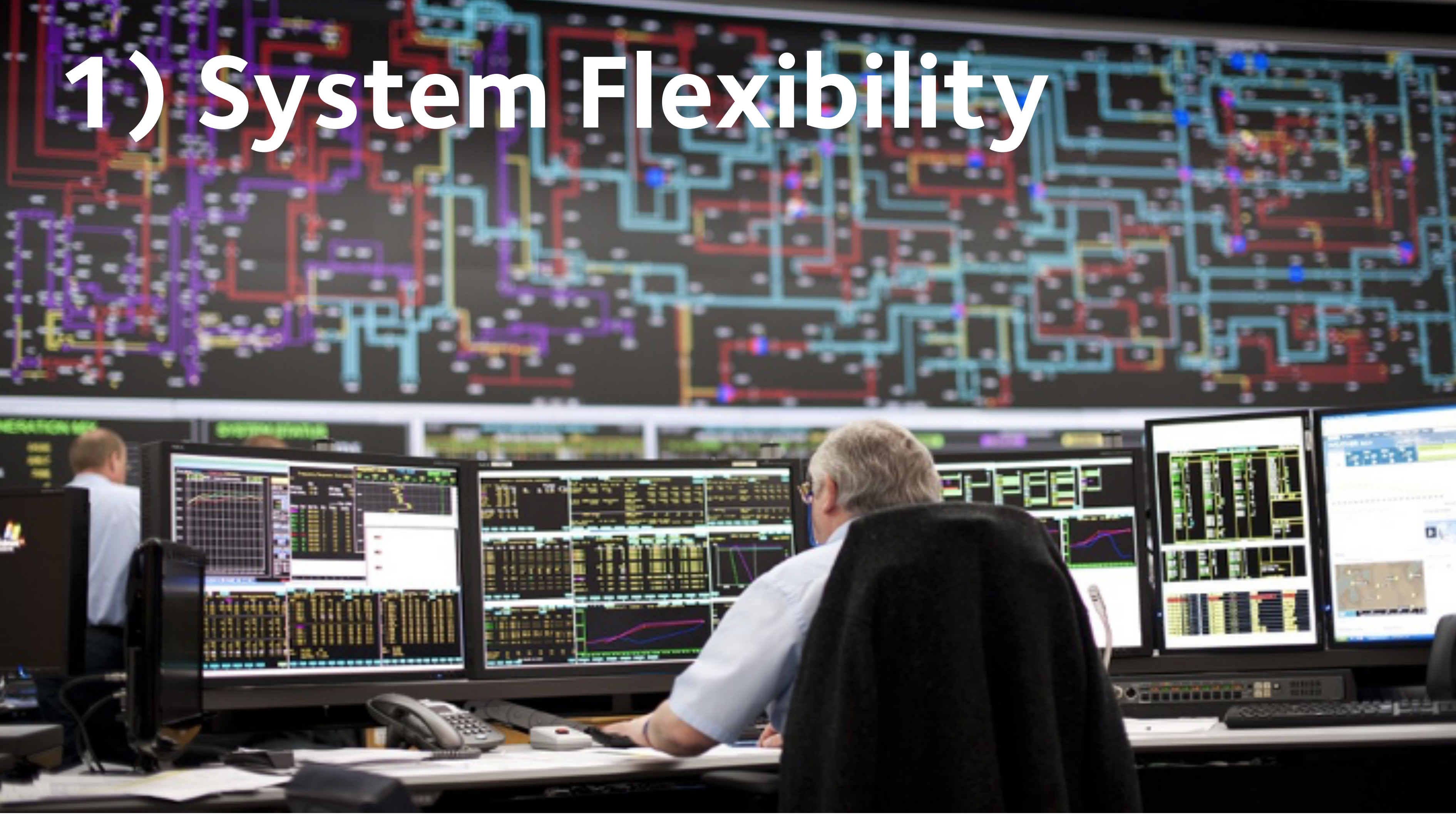
- Demand side flexibility
- Price elasticity
- Data and privacy
- Synthetic data



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# 1) System Flexibility



## Team Demand



**Charge car**

Flexible



**Oven**

Evening



**Tea**

Daytime



**Stand-by**

Baseload

Each  
Item  
= 10 GW

## Team Supply

Peaker  
OCGT  
£30 /MWh



Gas  
CCGT  
£20 /MWh



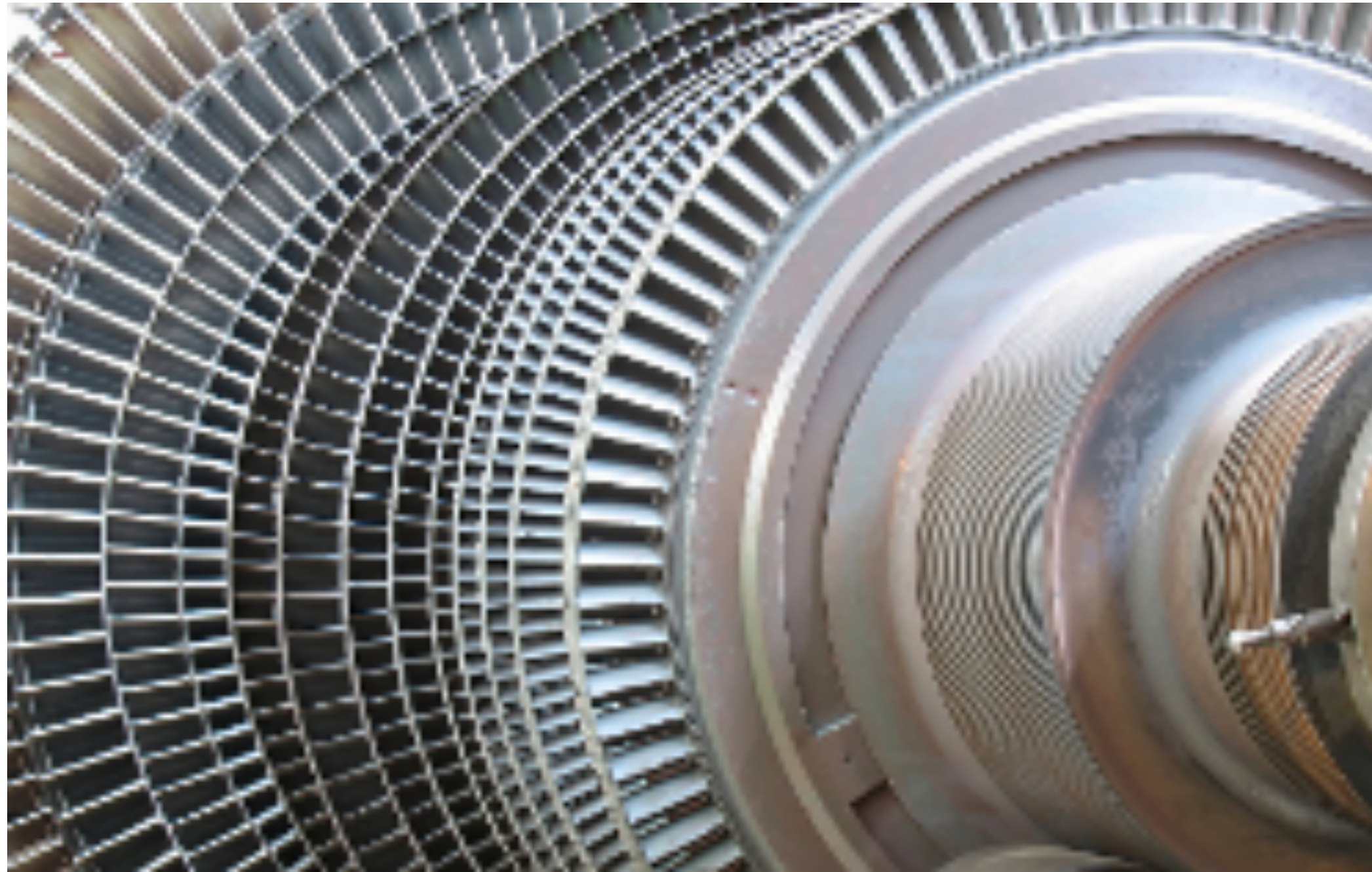
Nuclear  
£1 /MWh



Renewables  
£0 /MWh

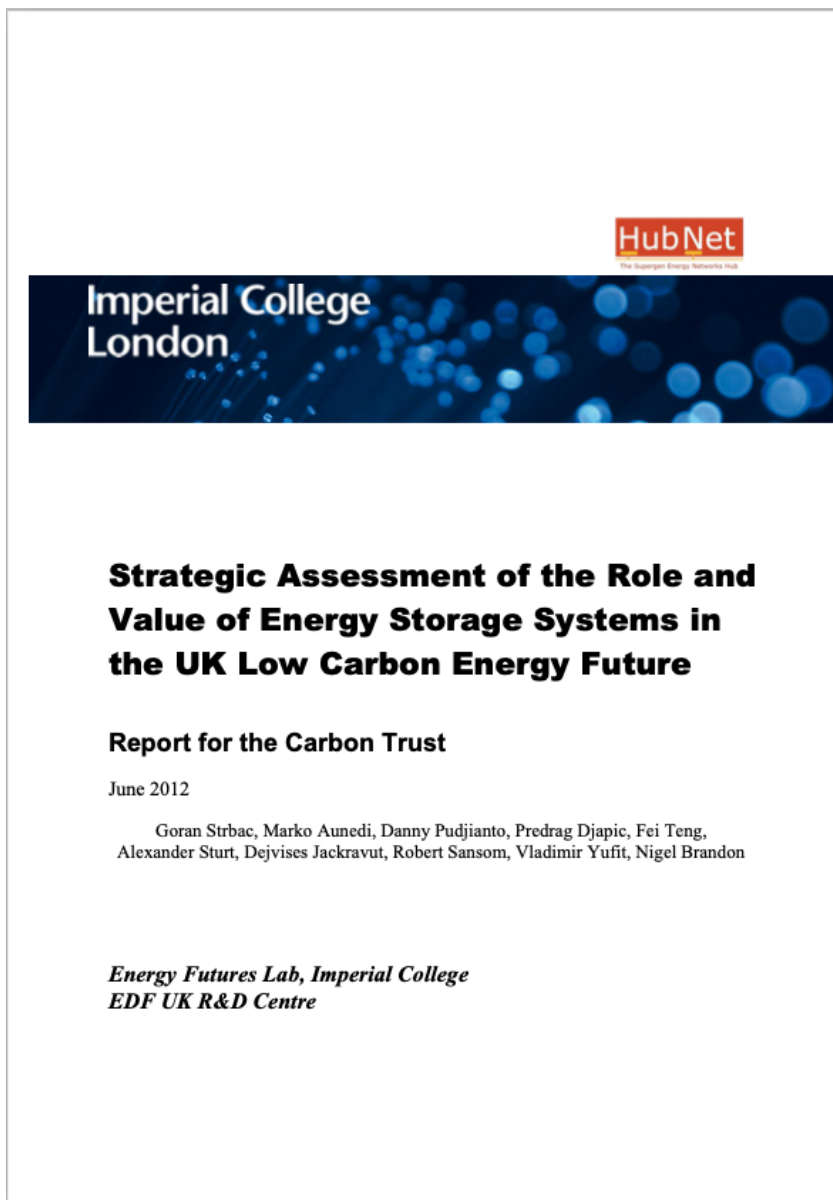


Merit order  
Peak pricing  
Curtailment  
Spinning reserve



**The (passive) flexibility we will miss**





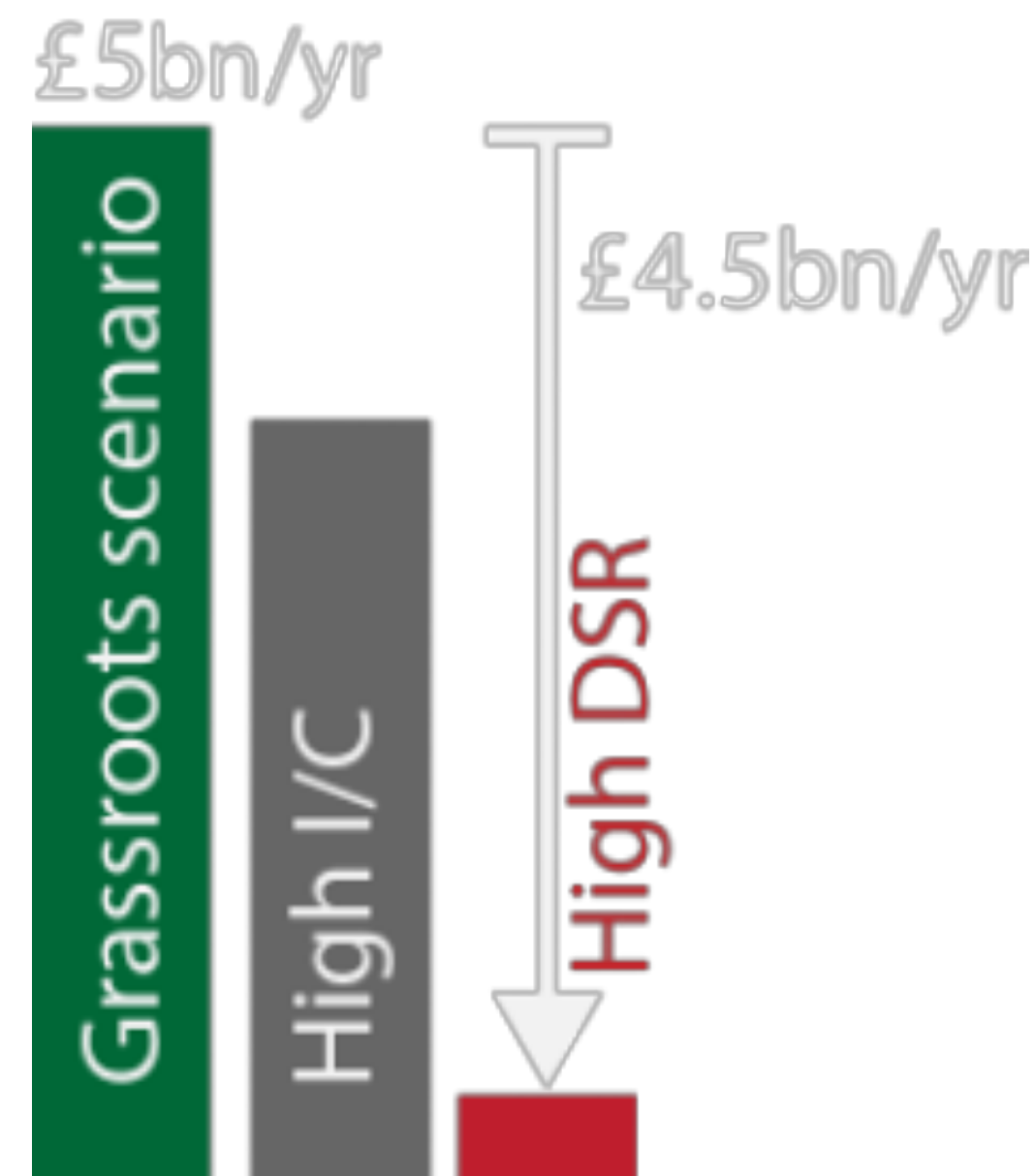
Estimated cost saving

**£40** (up to)

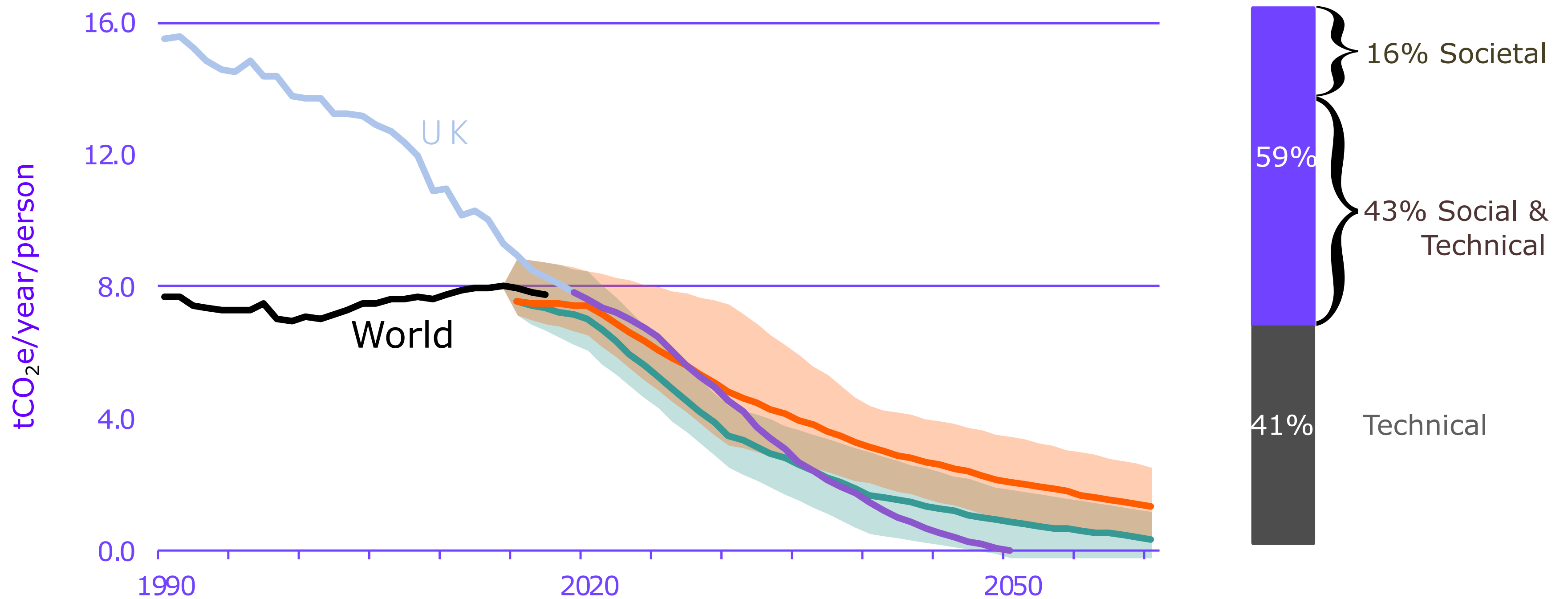
From savings on

- 1) Capacity
- 2) Operation
- 3) Networks, I/C

# Demand matters



# No demand measures - no net zero



Source: Climate Change Committee. The UK's path to net zero.  
The sixth carbon budget, Climate Change Committee, December 2020

Agency

Human



Behaviour



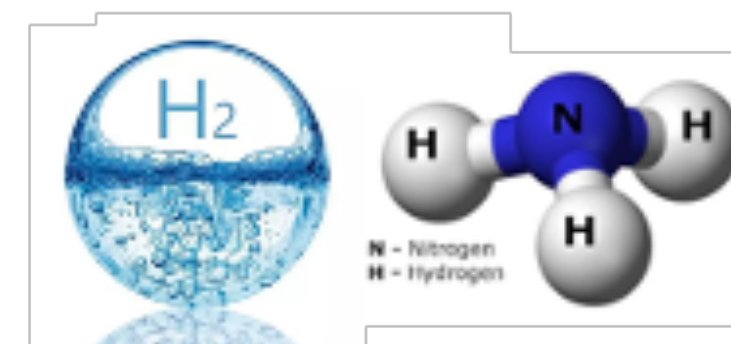
Practices



Automated



Autonomous



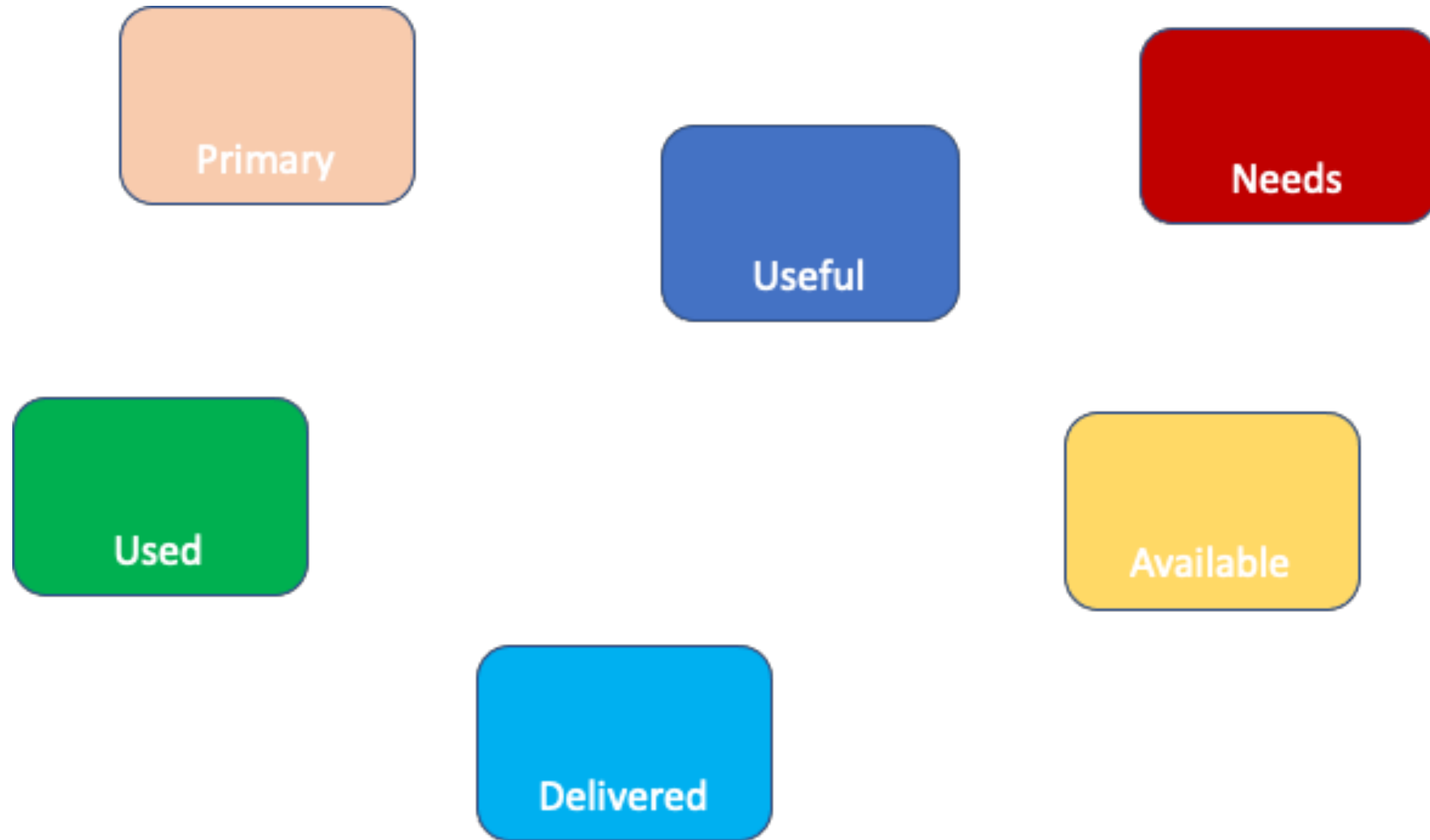
Hours

Seasons

Timescale

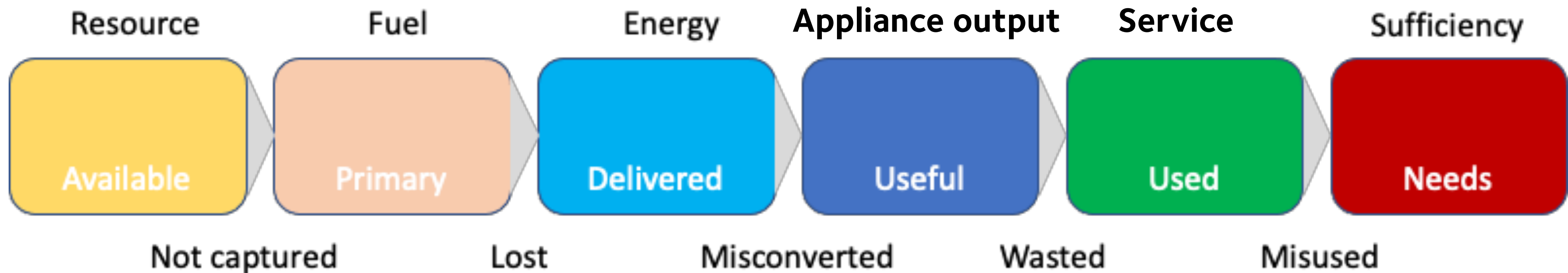
# Energy needs and uses

# Energy concepts





# Meaning and order of different energy forms









Nowhere near to scale

**The Sun**

2.5**MW**/person

**FF + Nuclear + RES**

2.7**kW**/person

**Metered**

1.3**kW**/person

**Appliance output**

**Service**

**Available**

**Primary**

**Delivered**

**Useful**

**Used**

**Needed**

**Well understood**

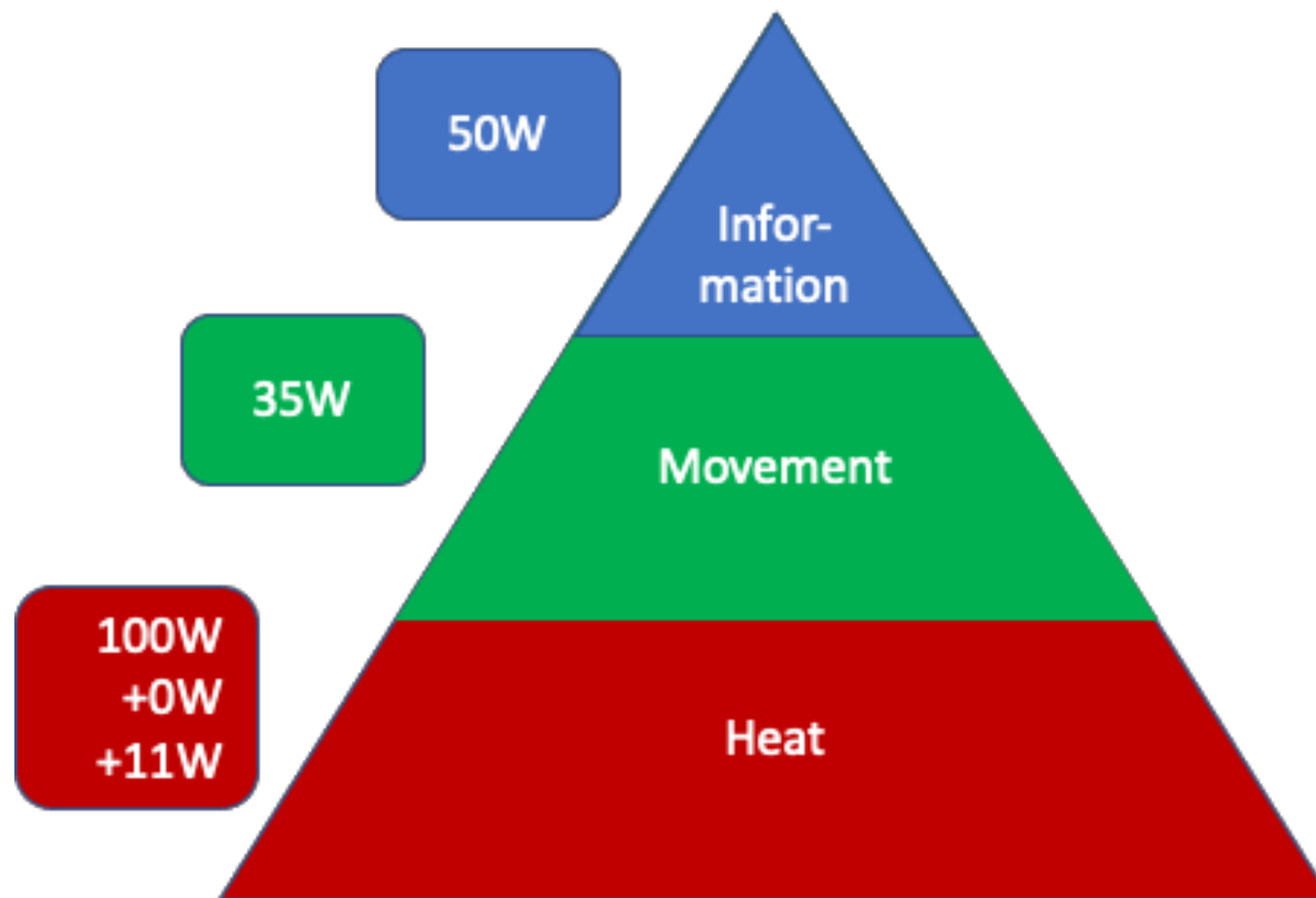
**Poorly understood**

data: worldbank.org, iea.org

# Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



# Energy service needs



## Information

- 60W / GB (IEA)
- Streaming at 1.25 GB 16 hours per day

## Movement

- $E = m (v^2/2 + g h)$
- $m=100\text{kg}$ ,  $v=100\text{km/h}$ ,  $h=100\text{m}$
- 5 trips per day: 830Wh

## Heat (100W ~2,000kcal)

- $E = -k \Delta T A$
- Inside 36°C, outside 0°C, surface 2m<sup>2</sup>,  $E=100\text{W}$
- $k = -1.4 \text{ W/mK}$

## Coolth

- Inside 36°C, outside 40°C,  $k = -1.4\text{W/mK}$

# Energy service needs

2.5 **MW**/person

Efficiency requirement ~1 in 10,000

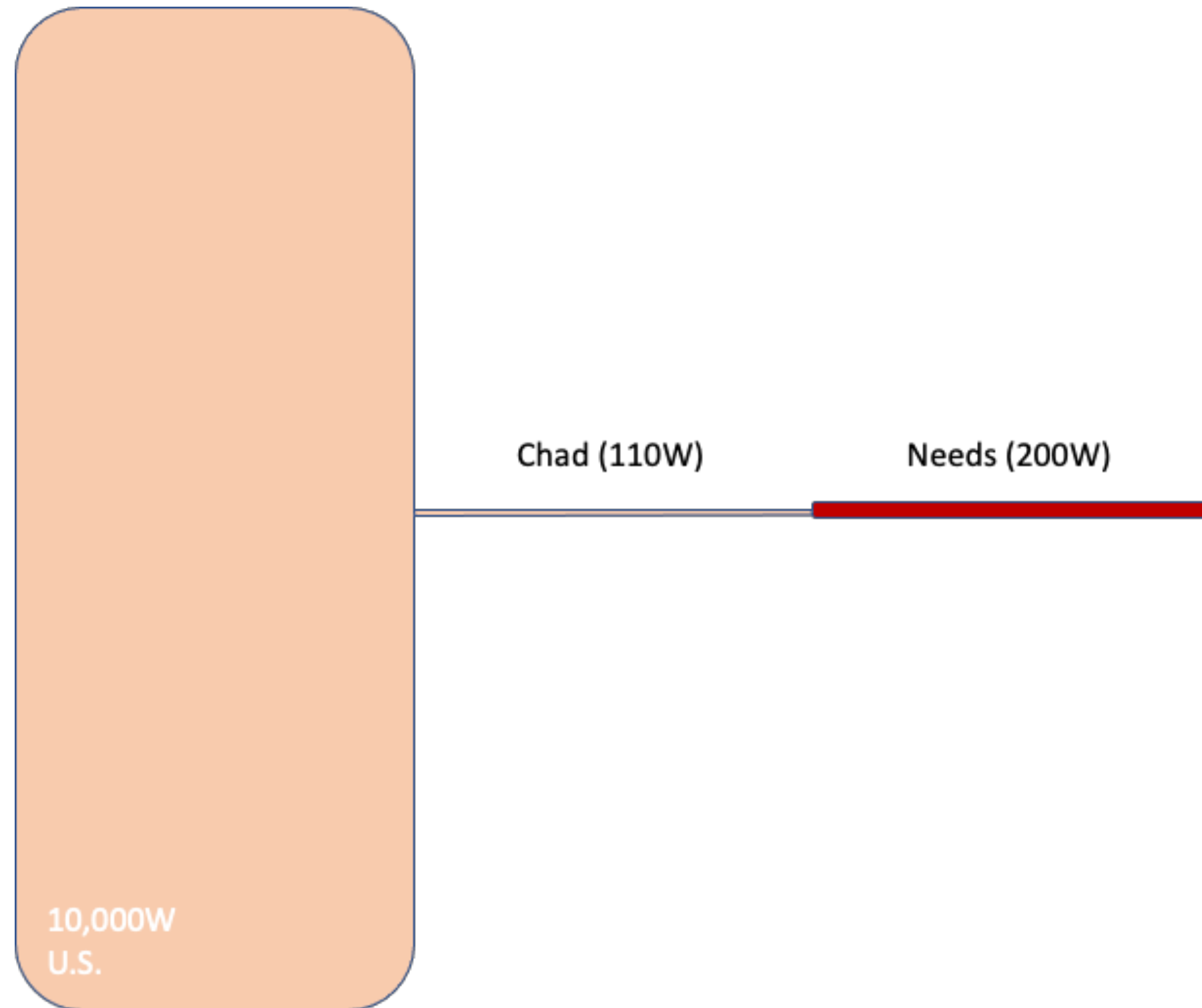
(Yes we can meet everyone's needs sustainably)



200 **W**/person

Nowhere near to scale

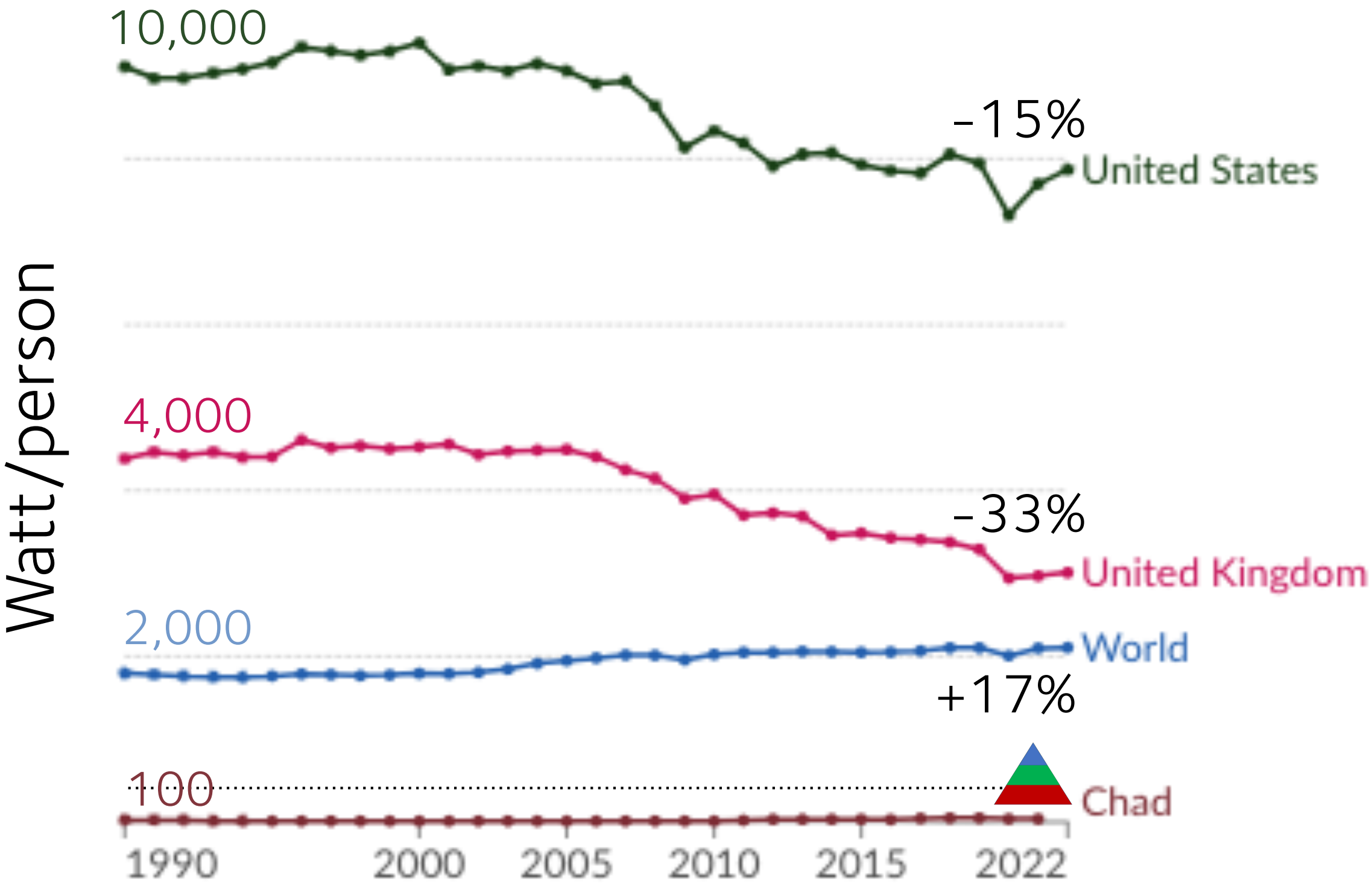
# Energy service needs



# Energy use

Over the past 30 years  
Energy use in the UK

- a) Increased 50%
- b) Increased 20%
- c) stayed the same
- d) reduced by 20%





# Feedback Systems

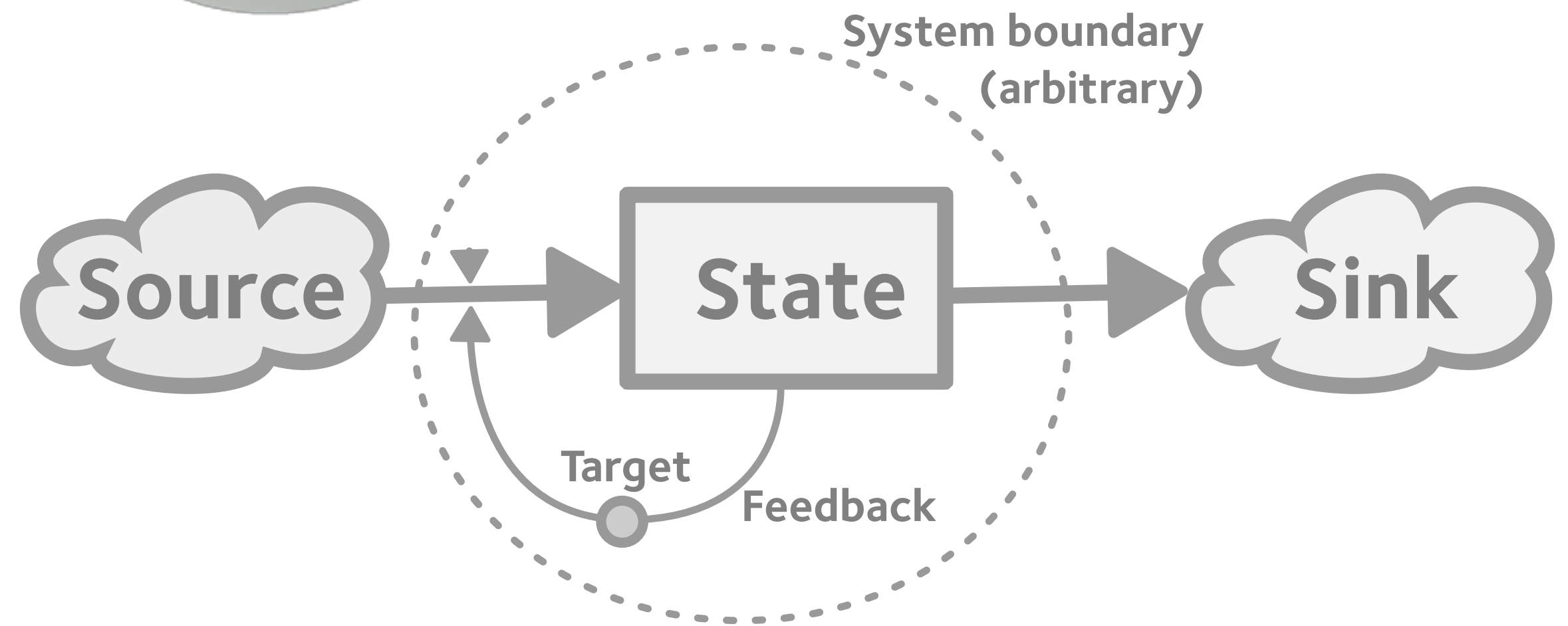
# Thinking in Systems

*A Primer*

Donella H. Meadows

*Edited by Diana Wright,*

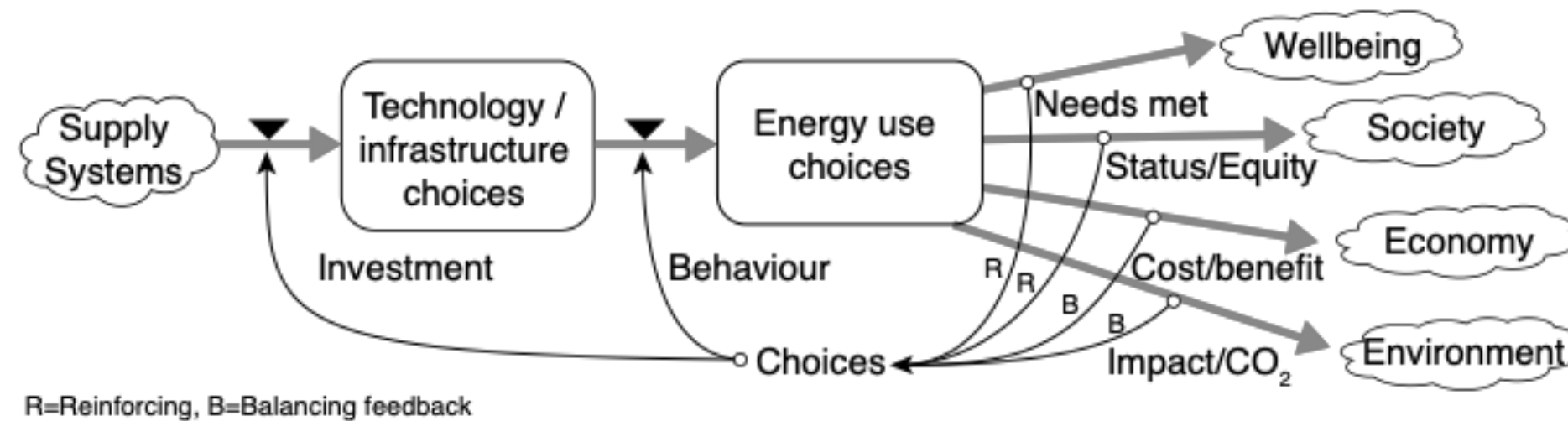
*Sustainability Institute*



# Energy feedback

## Good feedback is:

- Timely (not just fast)
- Accurate
- Relevant to system goals

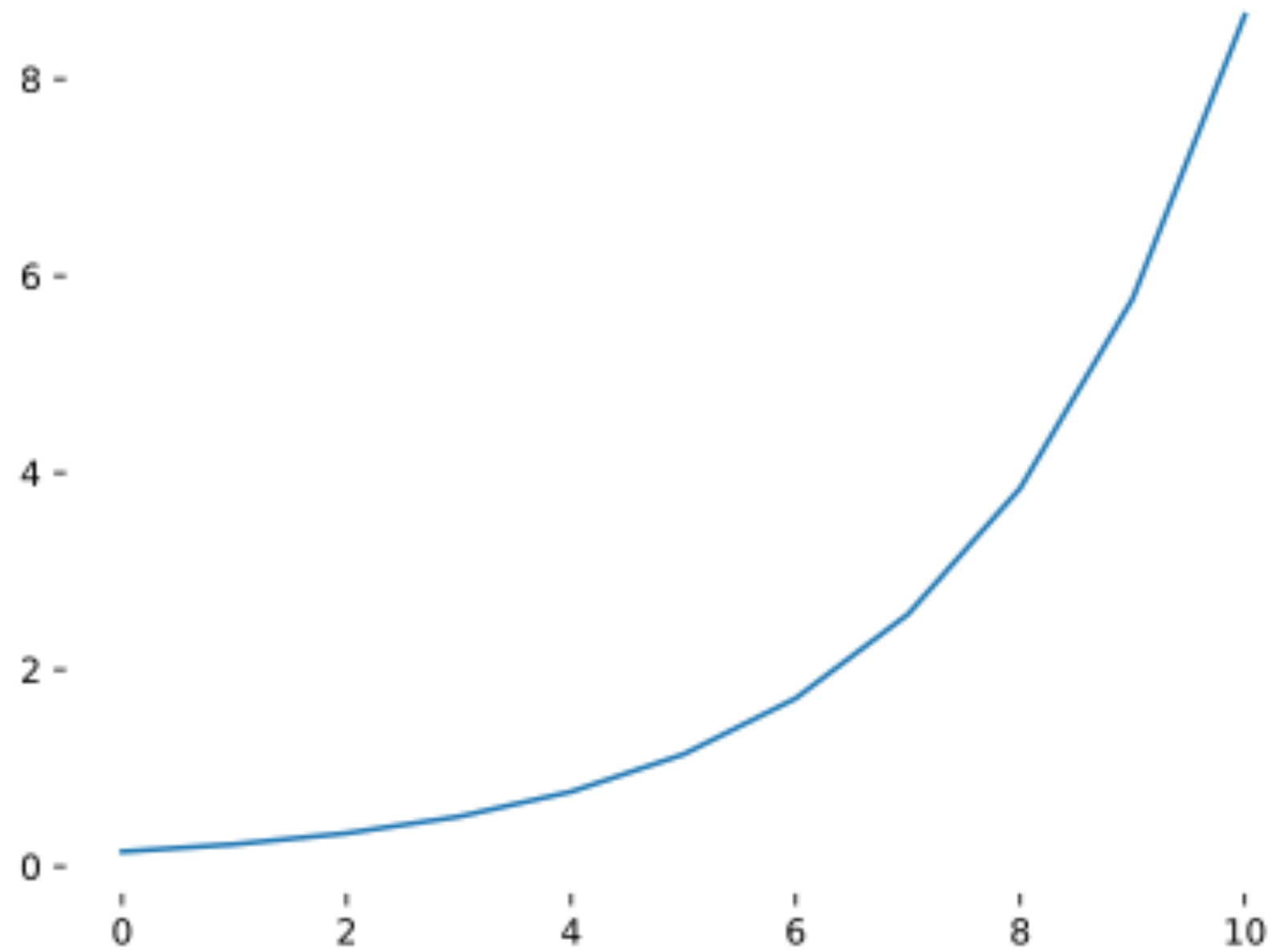


# The power of feedback

$$S_{t+1} = S_t \times r$$

$S_t$  = State at time  $t$

$r$  = growth rate

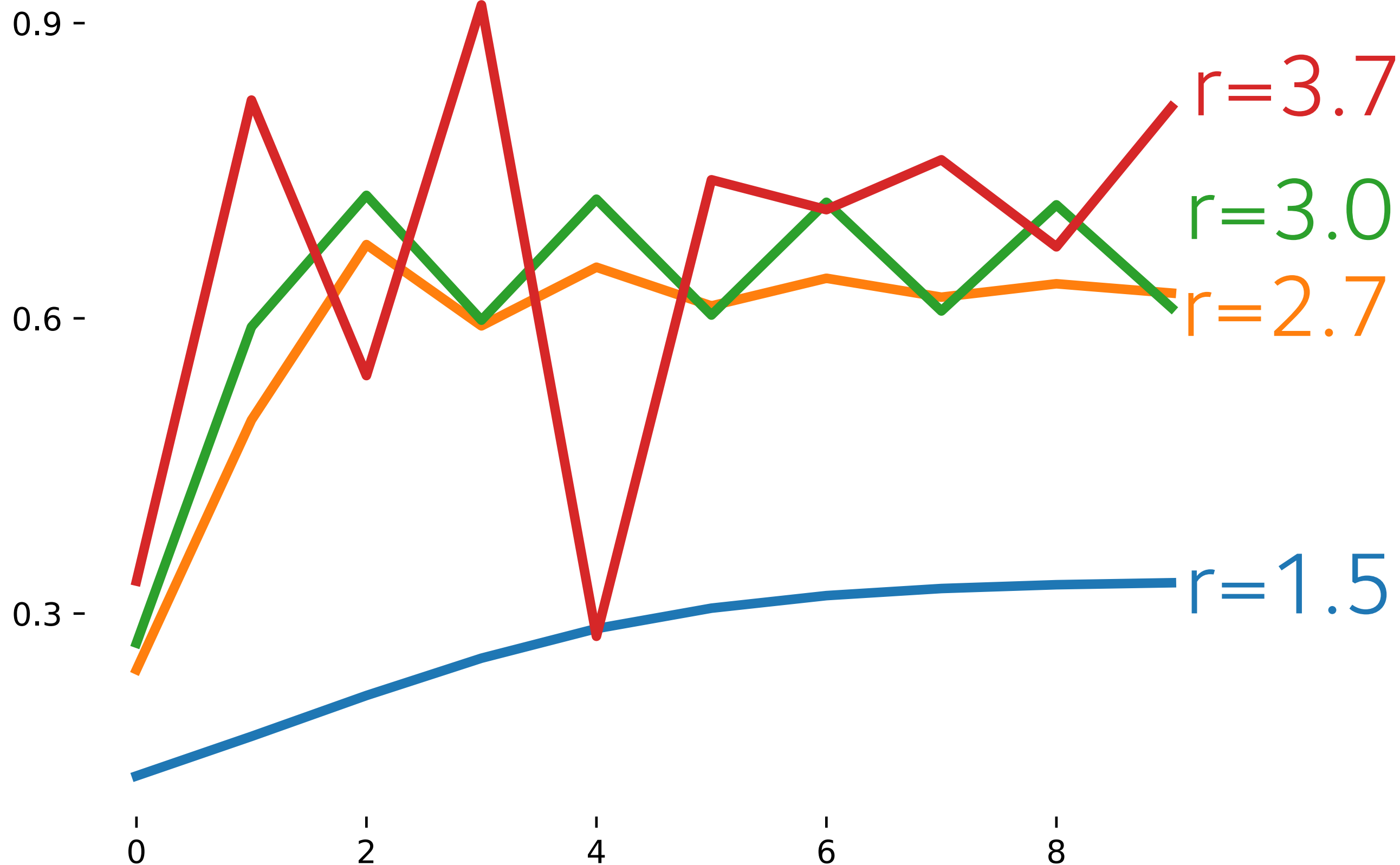


# The power of feedback

$$S_{t+1} = S_t \times r(1 - S_t)$$

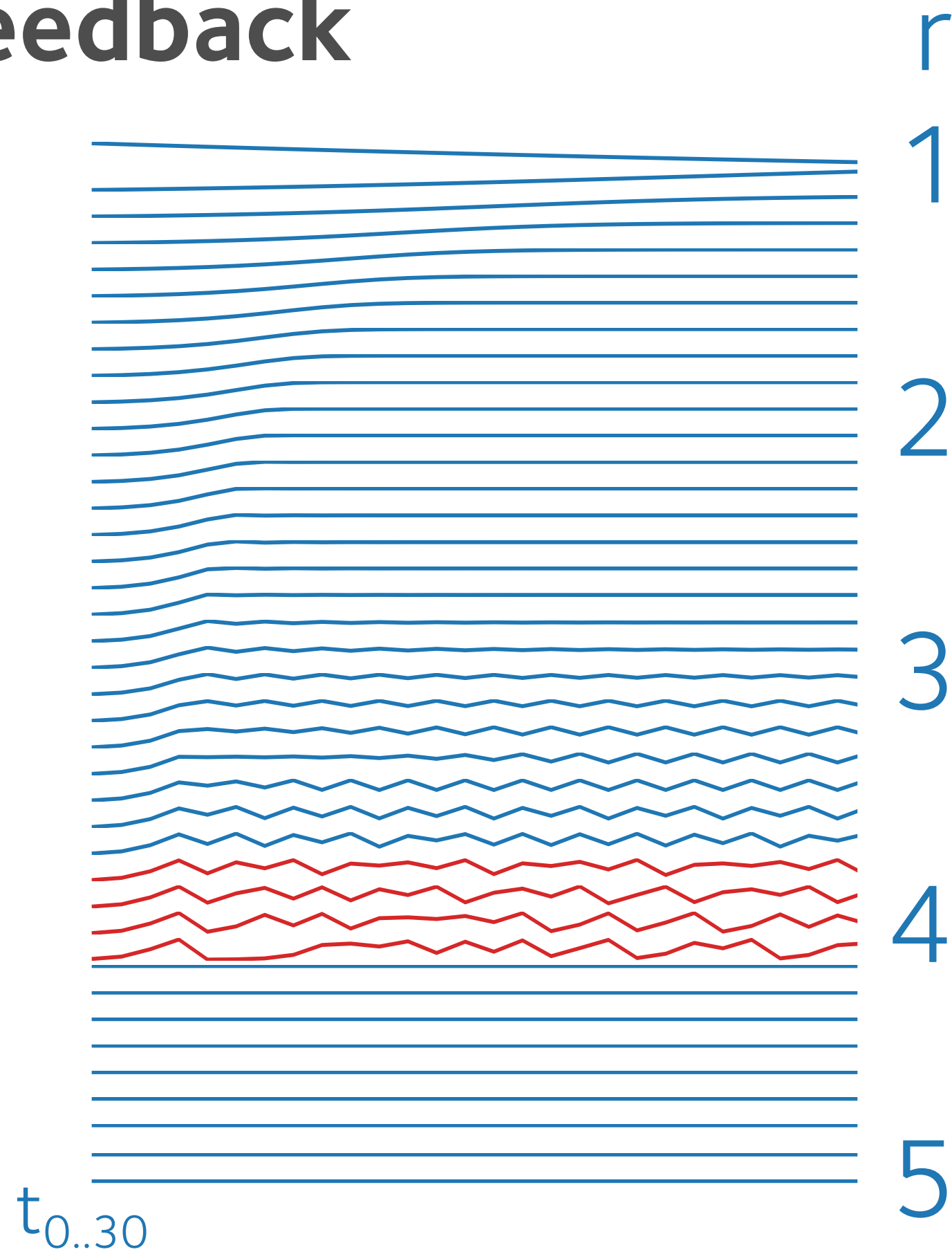
$S_t$  = State at time  $t$

$r$  = growth rate

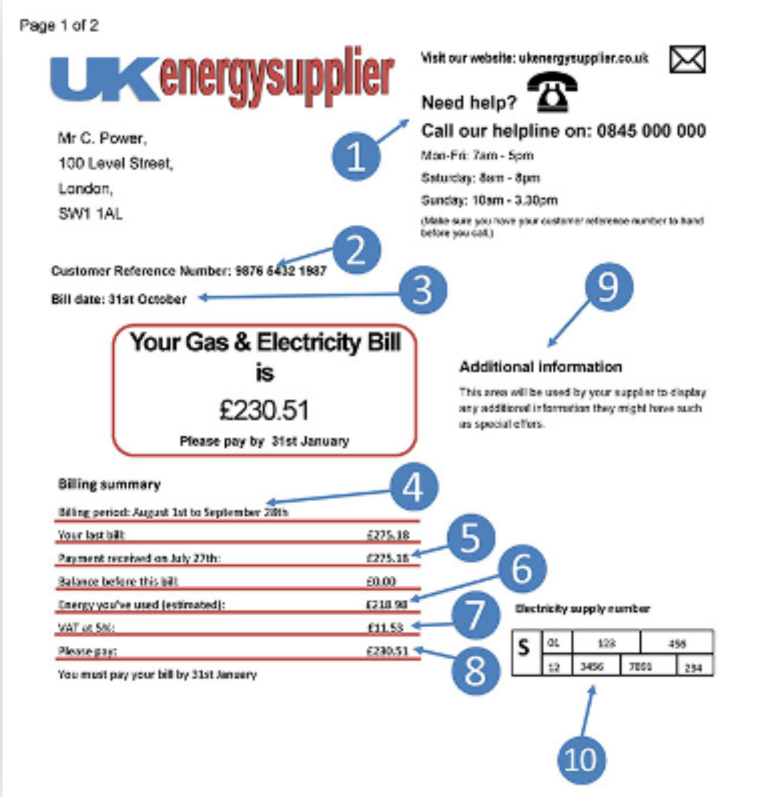


# The power of feedback

$$S_{t+1} = S_t \times r(1 - S_t)$$



# Good feedback?





Visit our website: [ukenergysupplier.co.uk](http://ukenergysupplier.co.uk)



Need help?



Call our helpline on: 0845 000 000

Mon-Fri: 7am - 5pm

Saturday: 8am - 8pm

Sunday: 10am - 3.30pm

(Make sure you have your customer reference number to hand before you call.)

Mr C. Power,  
100 Level Street,  
London,  
SW1 1AL

Customer Reference Number: 9876 6432 1987

Bill date: 31st October

**Your Gas & Electricity Bill  
is**  
**£230.51**  
Please pay by 31st January

Additional information

This area will be used by your supplier to display any additional information they might have such as special offers.

#### Billing summary

Billing period: August 1st to September 28th

Your last bill: £275.18

Payment received on July 27th: £275.18

Balance before this bill: £0.00

Energy you've used (estimated): £218.98

VAT at 5%: £11.53

Please pay: £230.51

You must pay your bill by 31st January

Electricity supply number

S	01	128	456
12	3456	7890	234

# TESCO

MUSSELBURGH 0485 677 9479

LOTTO BOTH	4.00
CHOC DIGESTIVE *	0.25
CHOC DIGESTIVE *	0.25
BEETROOT	90.20
CHOPPED HAM	0.35
CHOPPED HAM	0.35
POTATOES	0.18
NEWSPAPER	0.35
BANANAS	0.79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96.72</b>



# Data for feedback

Data

1.7 kW

0.24 kgCO<sub>2e</sub>

011000110

101111101

000000110

101011001

111010011

000010110



Information



Message

Fridge: €12 last month  
Heating: €160 last month



A new 50l fridge suits your needs and pays for itself in 2 years.

*options*

*do it*

A 3kW heat pump is your best next carbon saving step for you

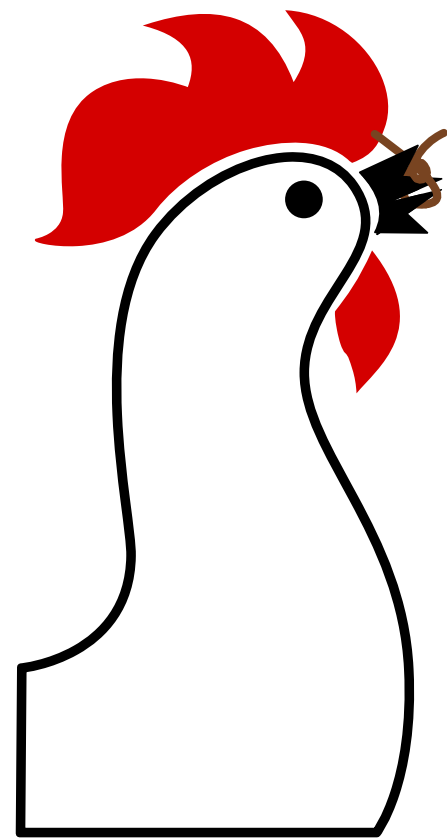
*options*

*do it*

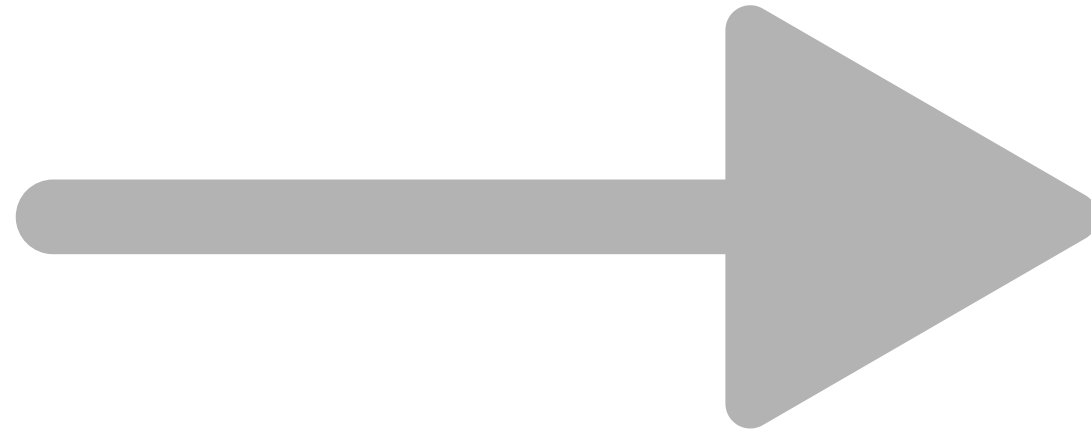


Judea Pearl

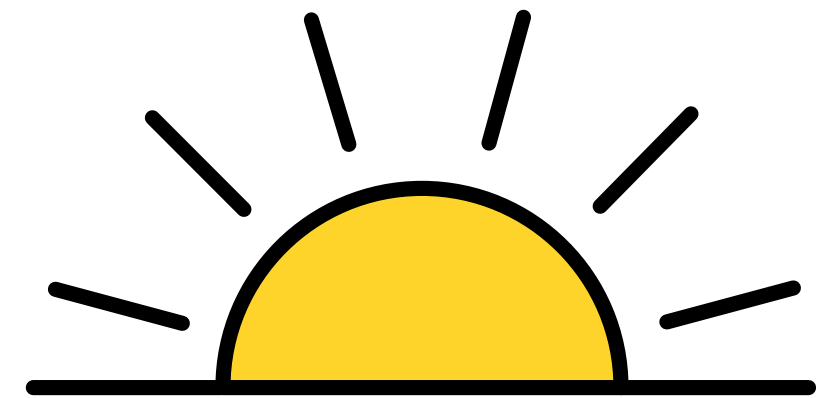
What **causes** the sun to rise?



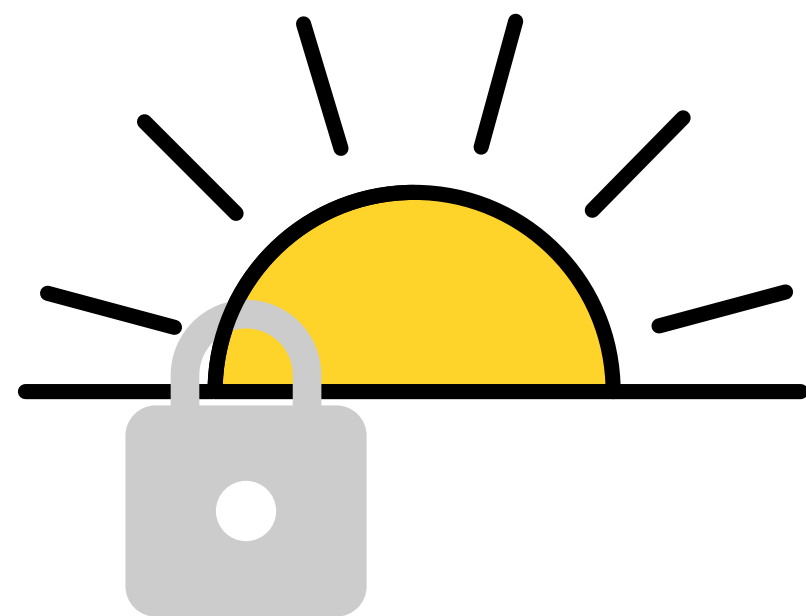
$P(\text{Sun} \mid \text{Crow})$



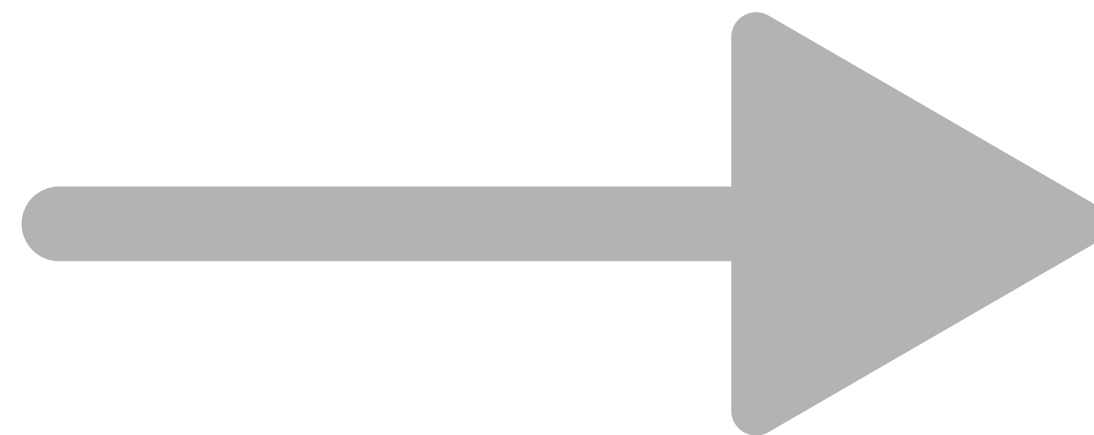
$P(\text{Sun} \mid \text{do not (Crow)})$



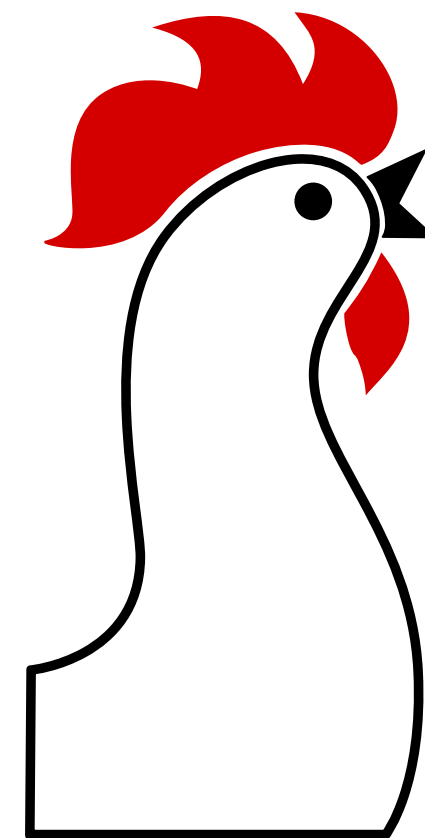
What **causes** the the cockerill to crow?



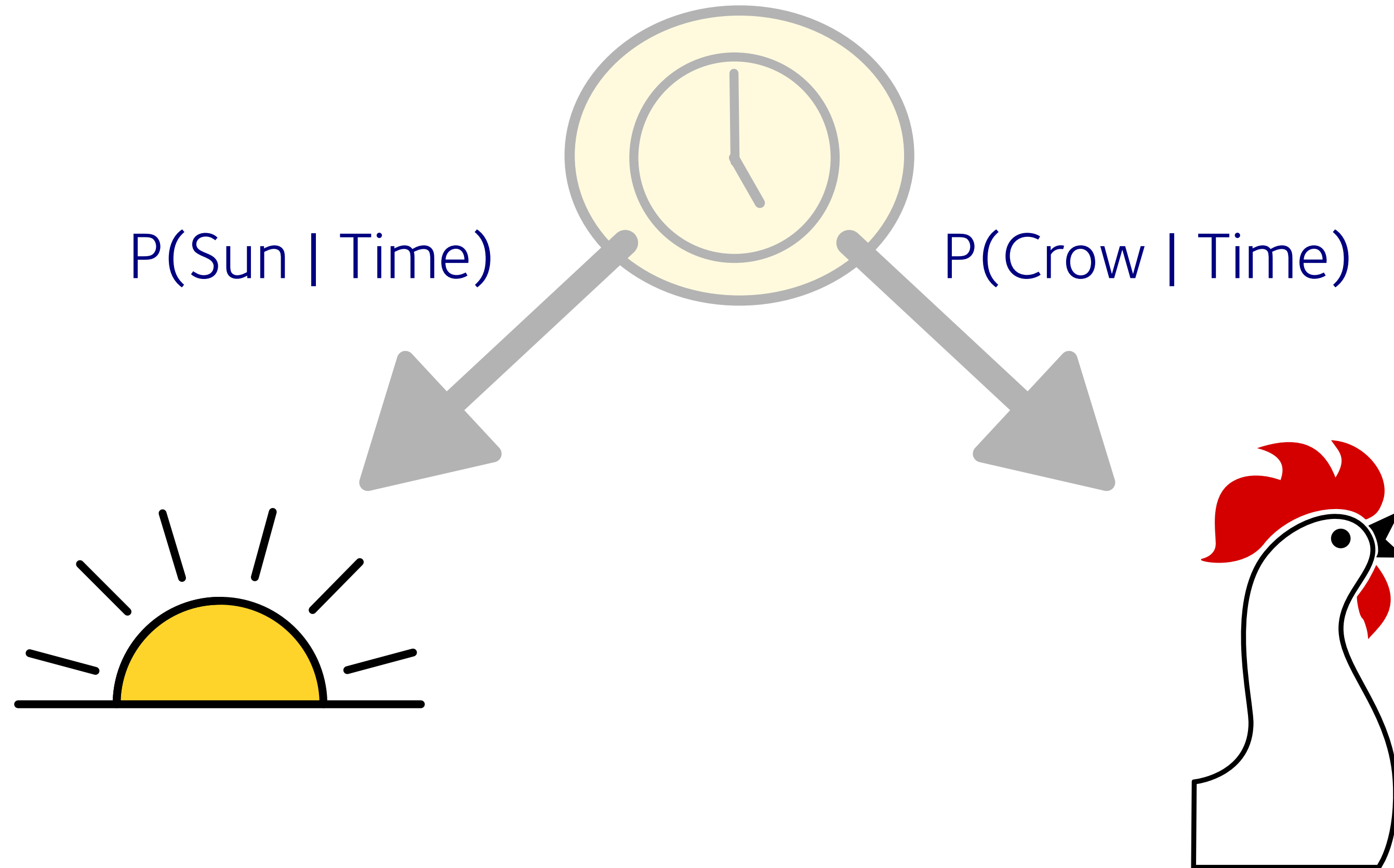
$P(\text{Crow} \mid \text{Sun})$



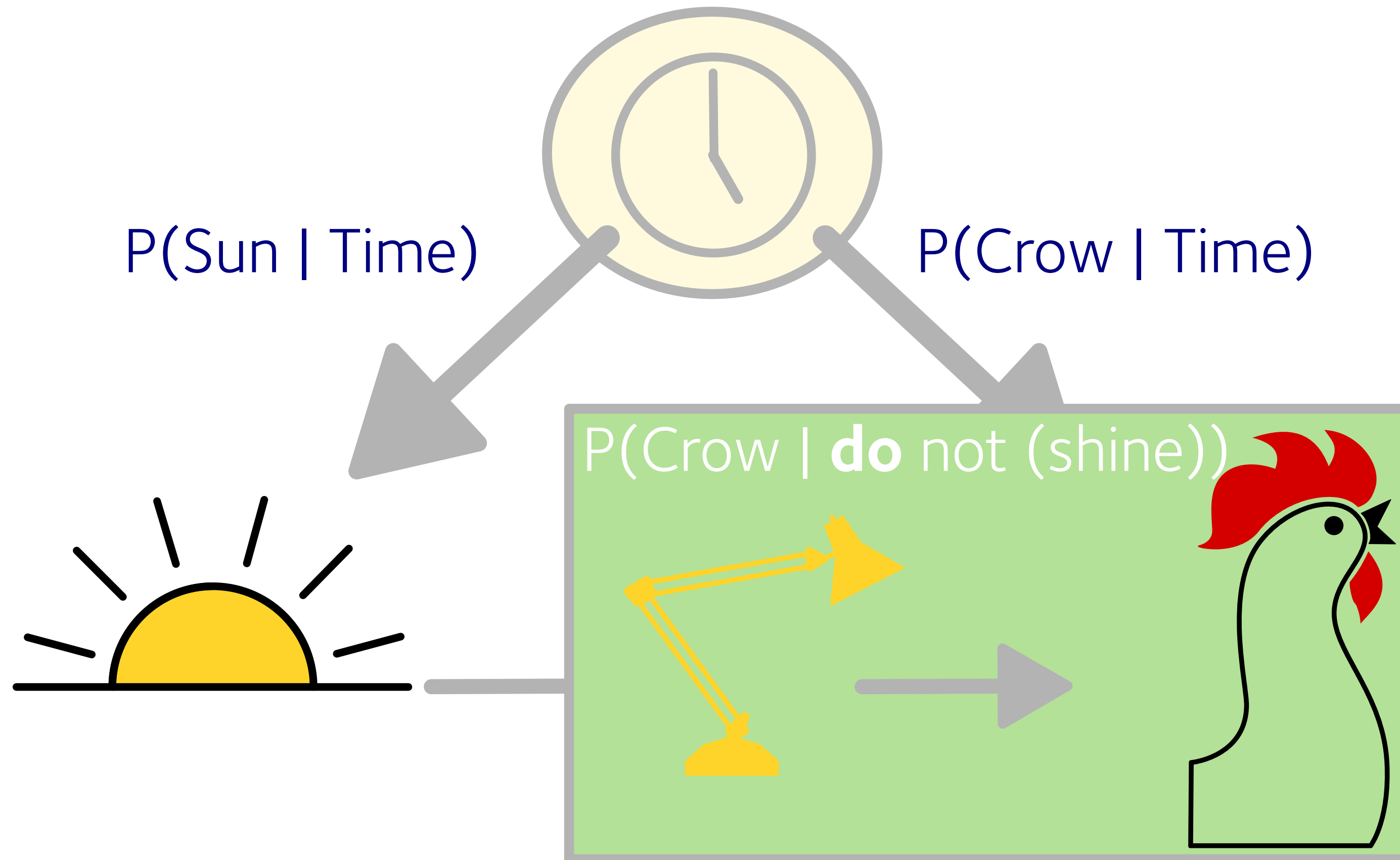
$P(\text{Crow} \mid \text{do not (Sun)})$



# How to eliminate confounders?



# How to eliminate confounders?



To understand causes we need (up to) three things

Causal model

Observation

Do something

# Energy demand research is evolving

Understanding Demand

No data

Assume  
& model

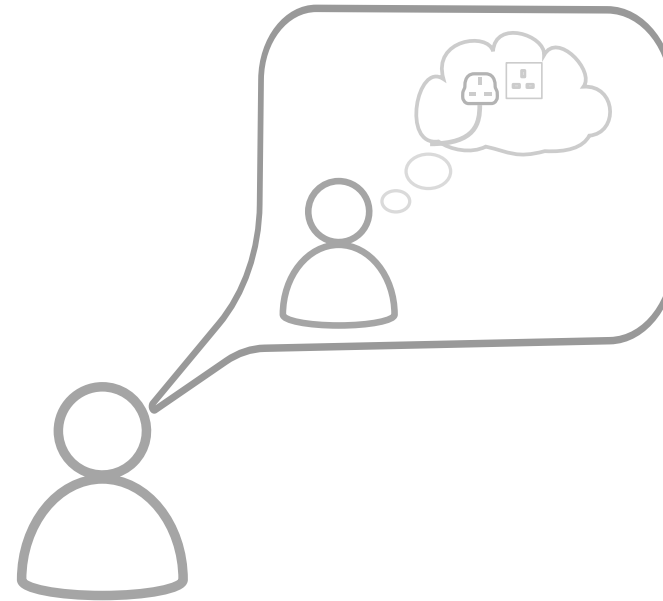
What **I think**  
people do



Some data

Interpolate  
& scale up

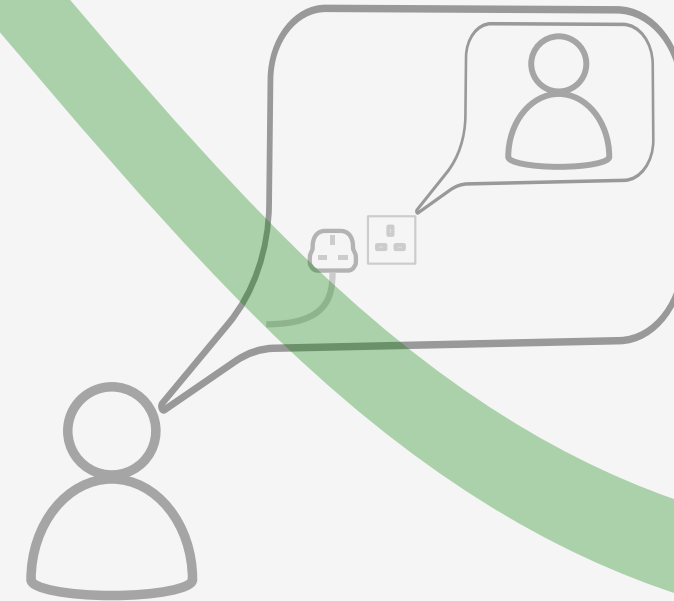
What **people** think  
they do



Big data

Train model  
& analyse

What **data** says  
people do





# Understanding demand the hard way

JoyMeter.uk



Current clamp



EDDI



App



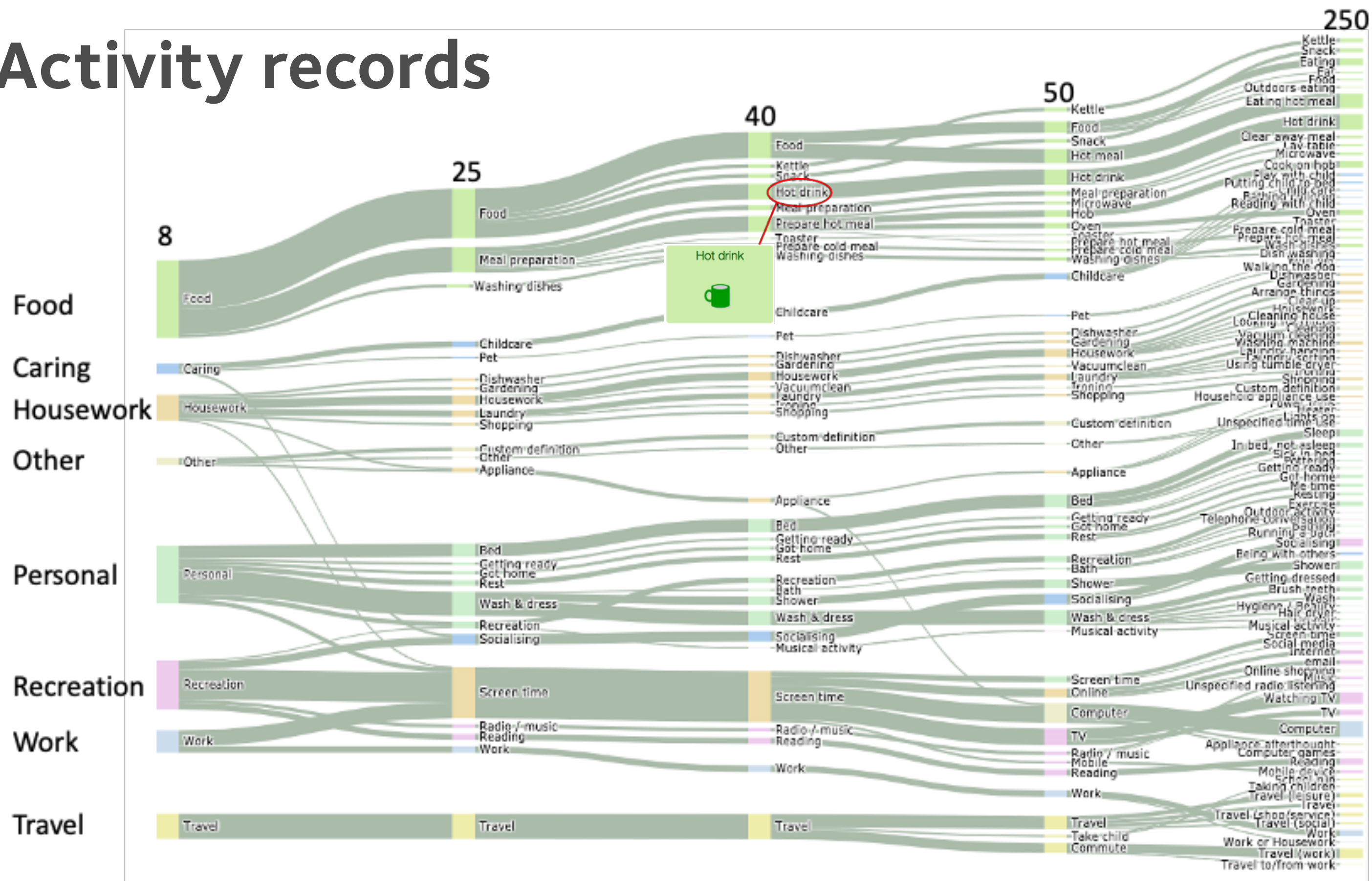
CAD (Consumer  
Access Device)

Diary

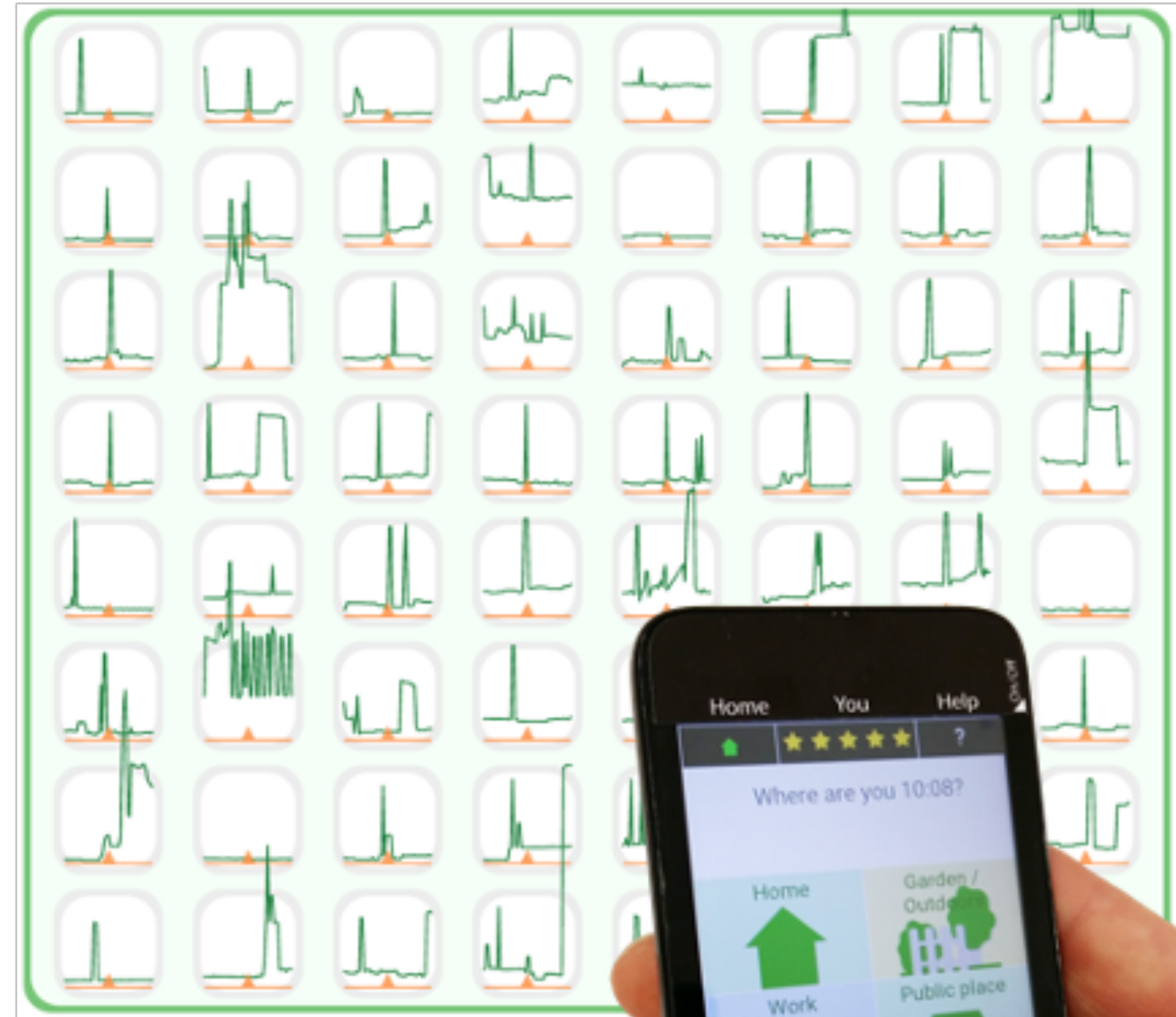
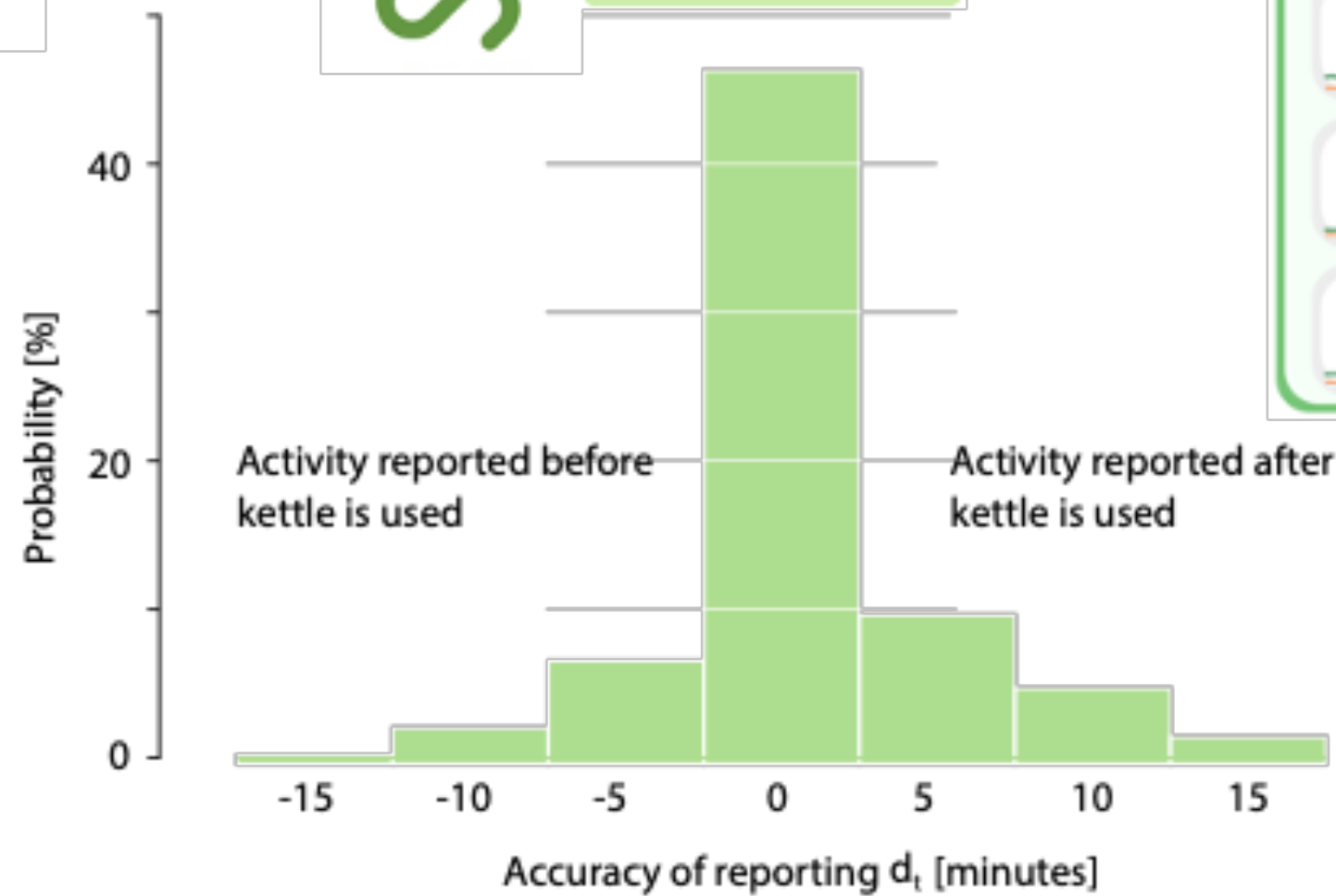




# Activity records

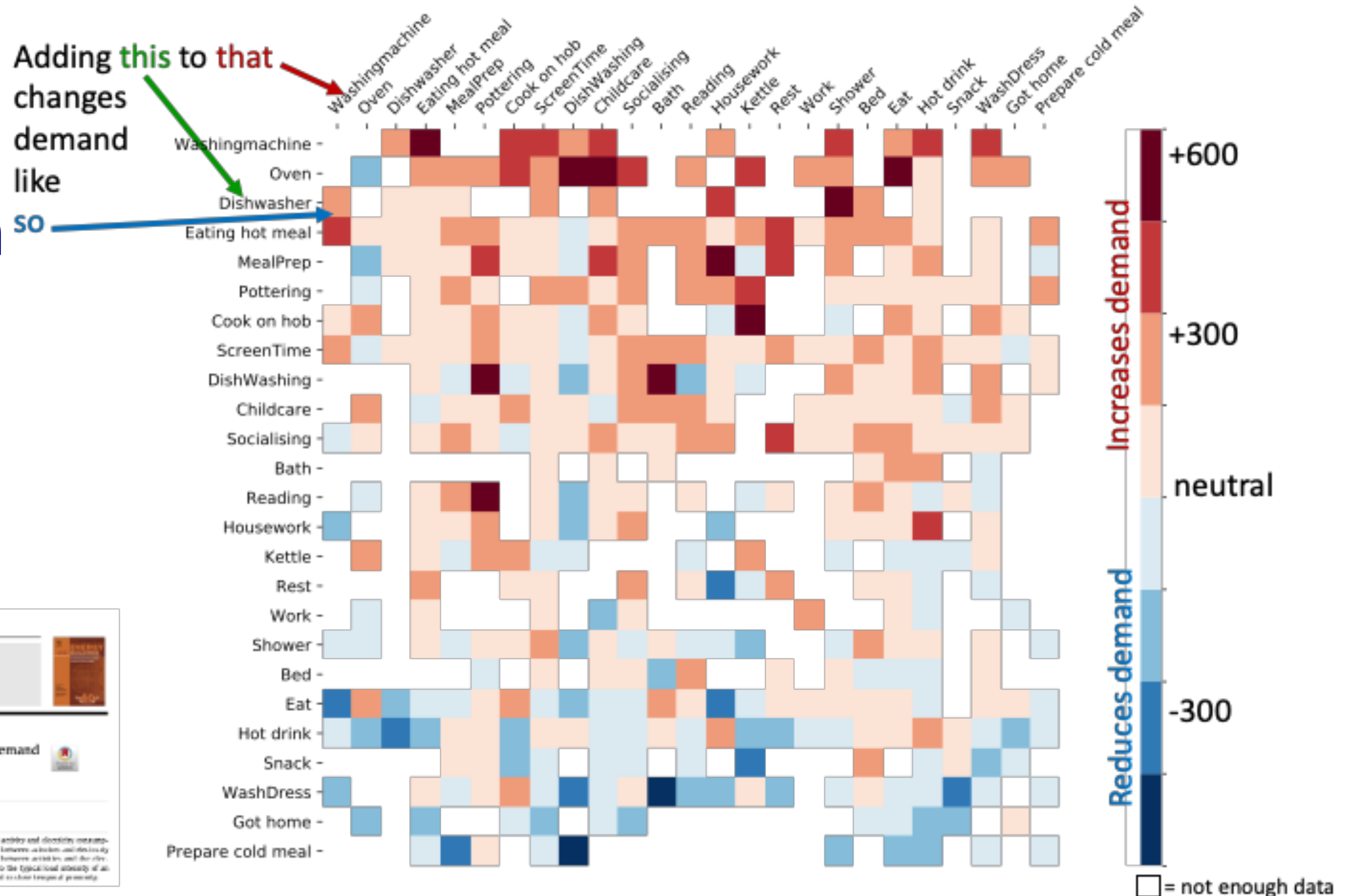


# Tea-test

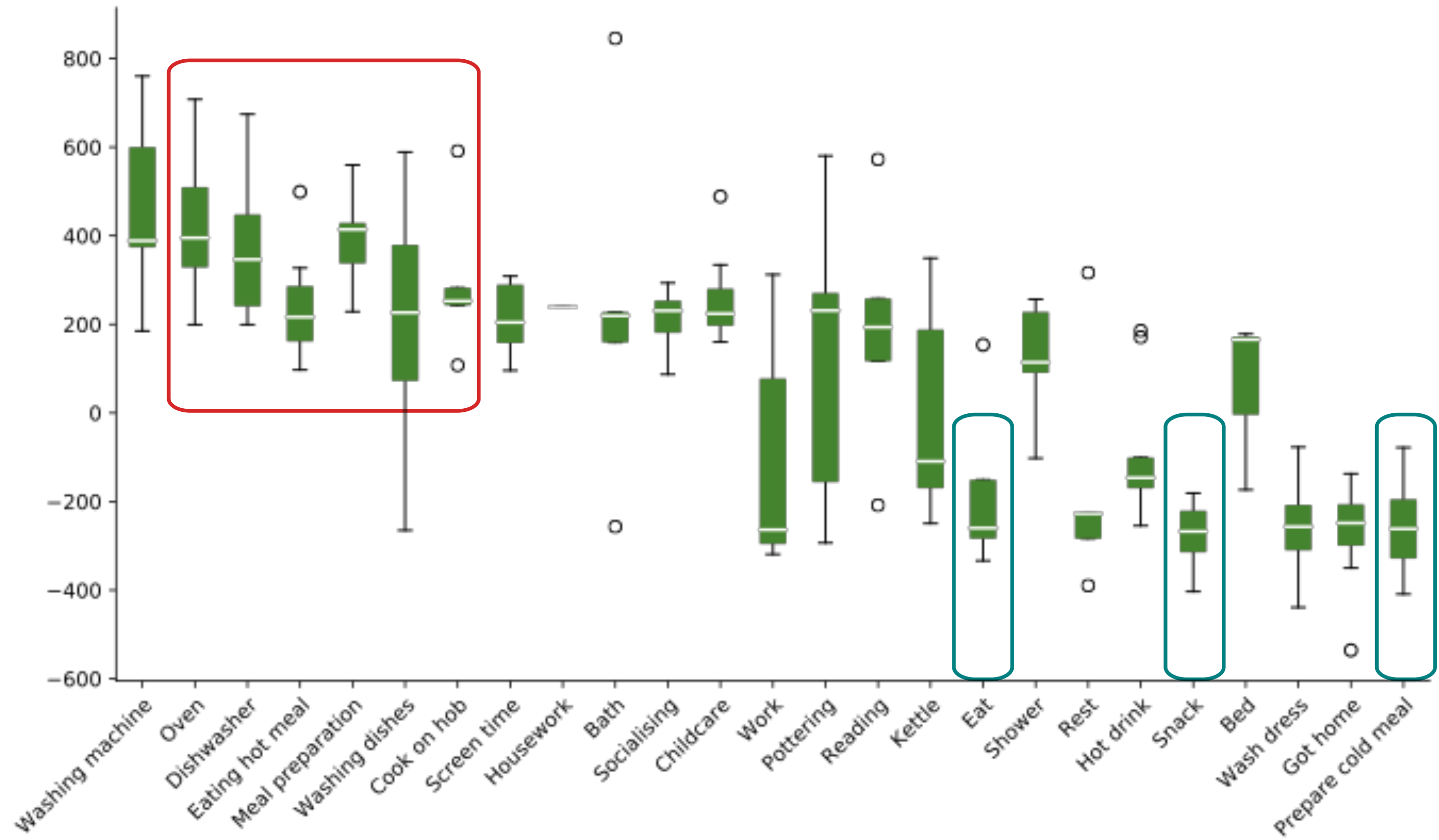




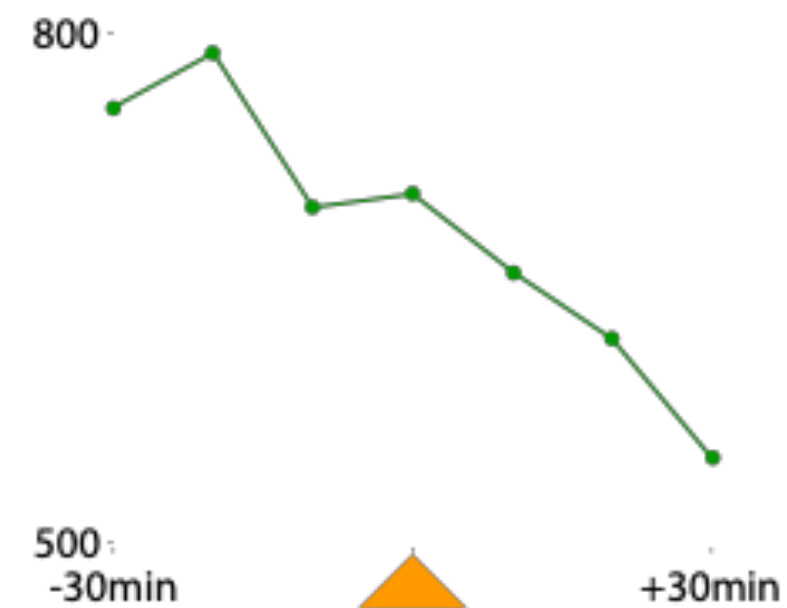
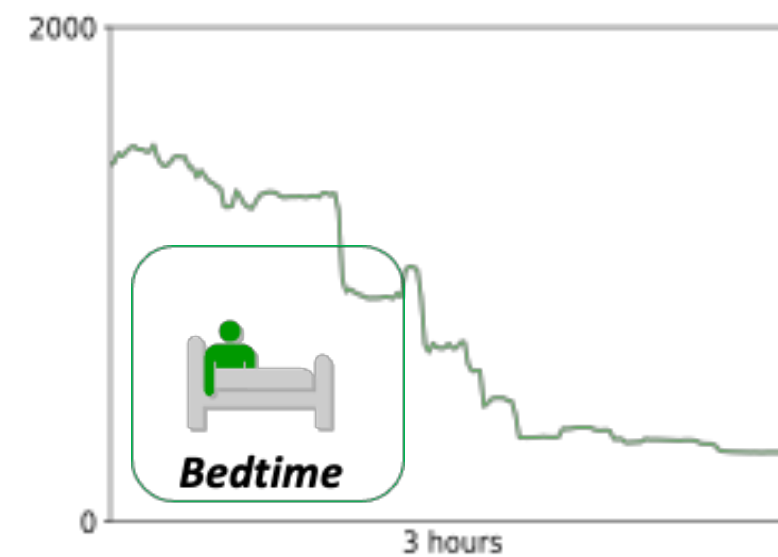
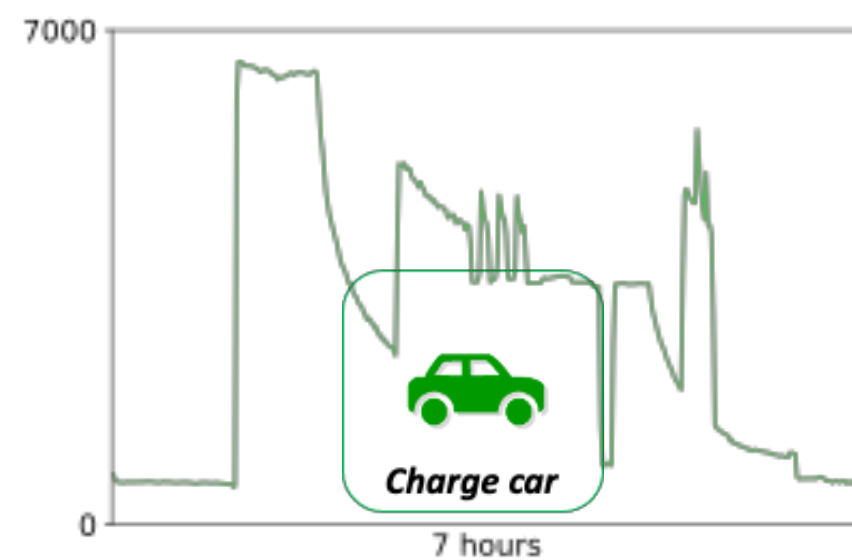
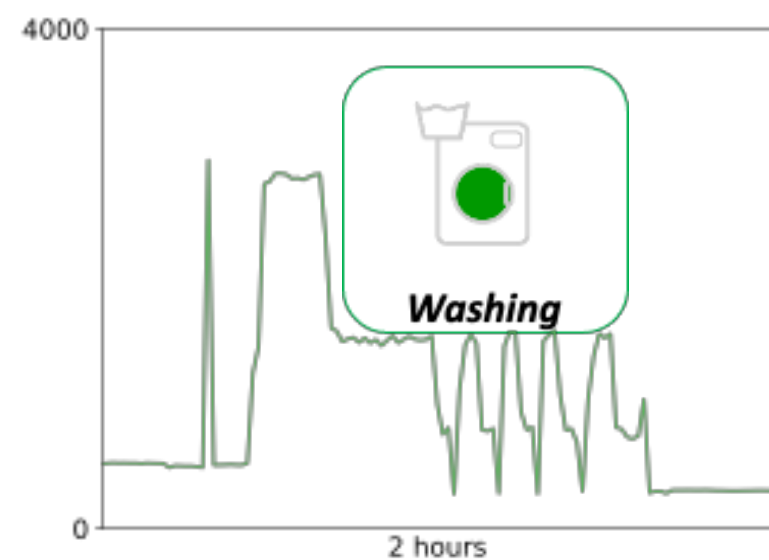
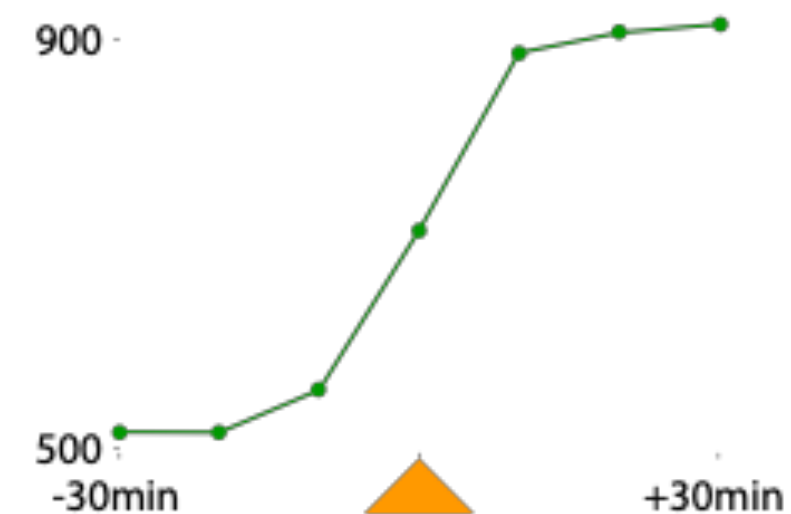
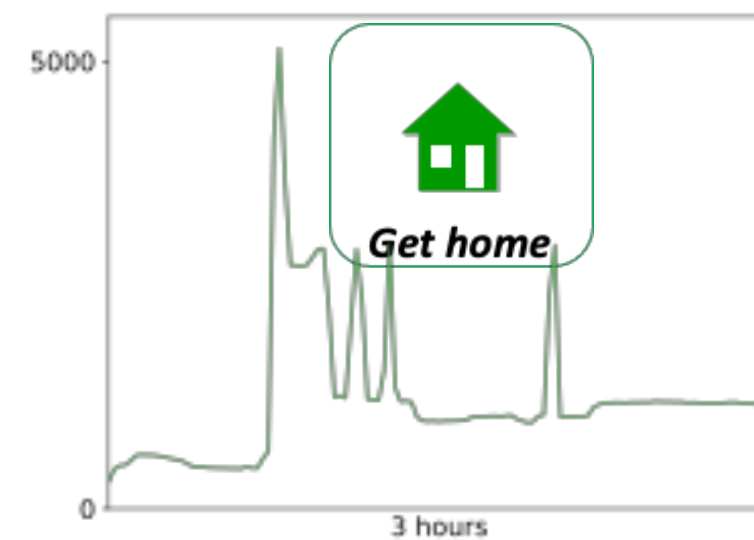
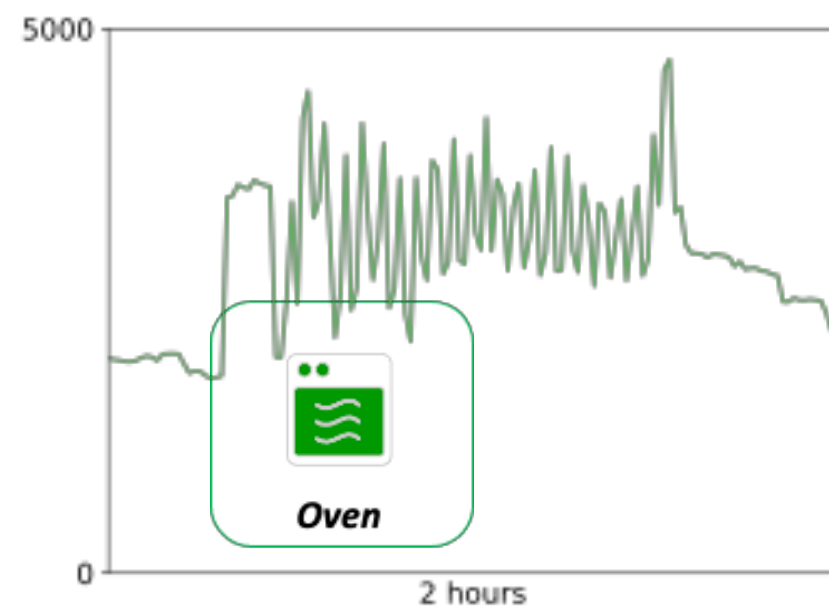
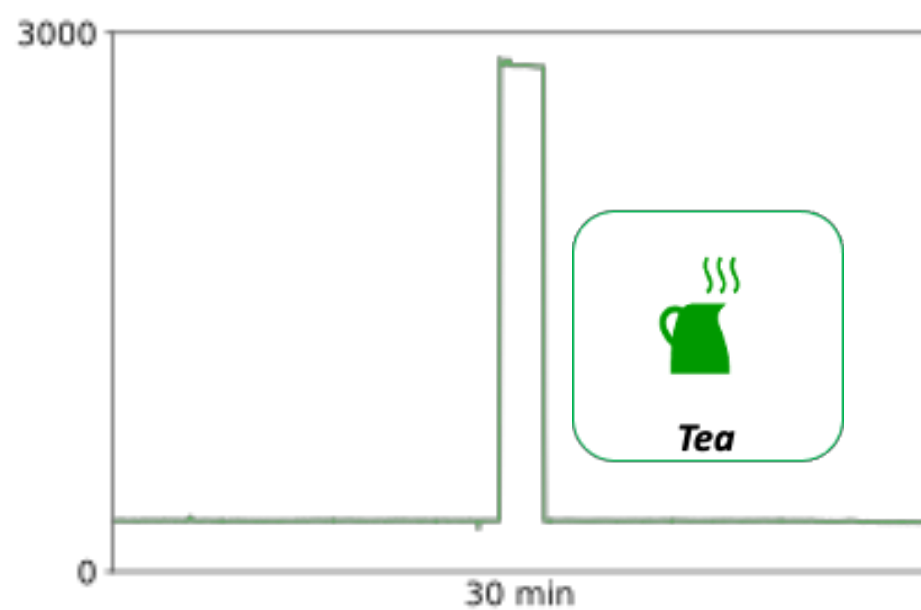
# What is the 'marginal' contribution of activities to demand?



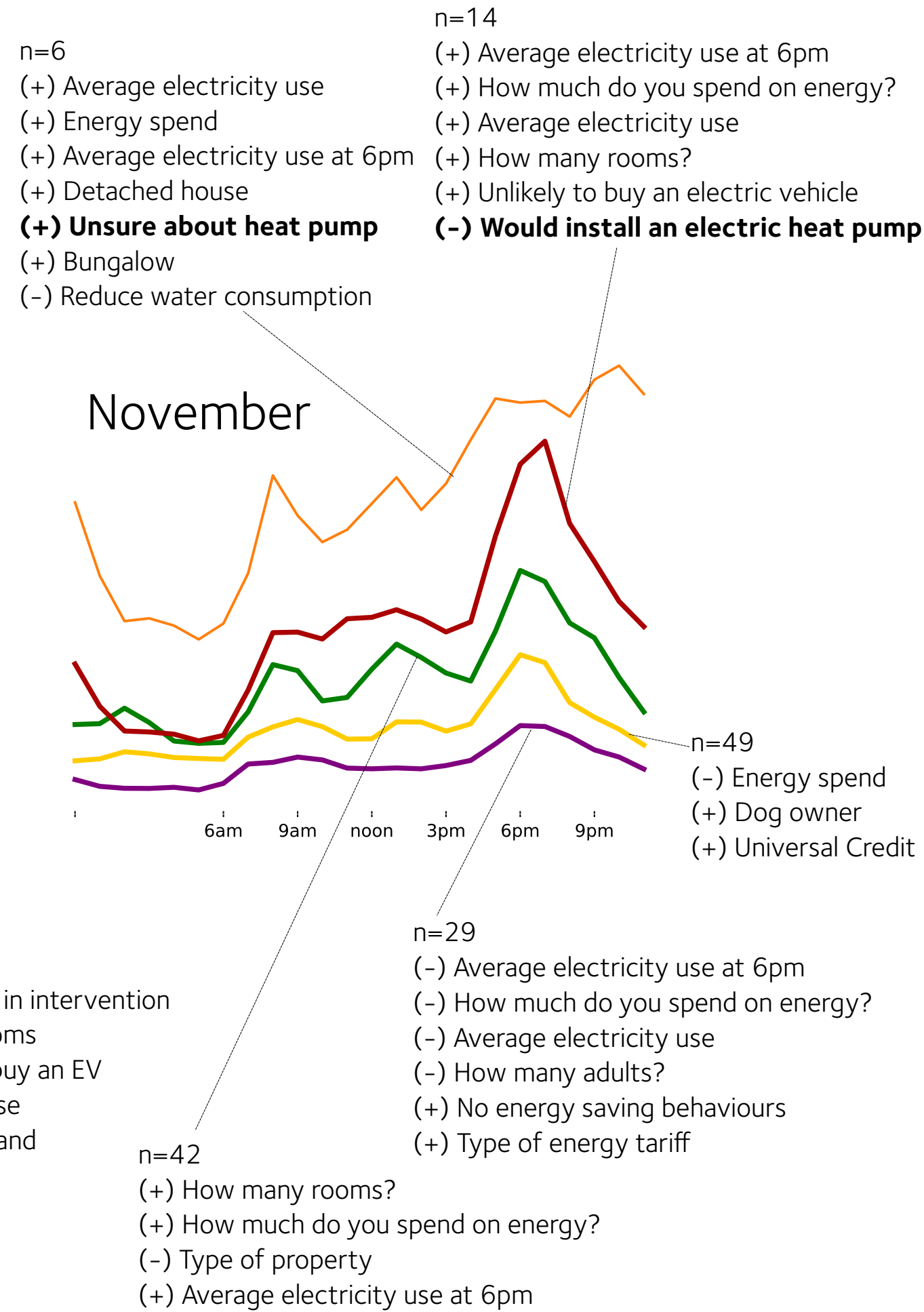
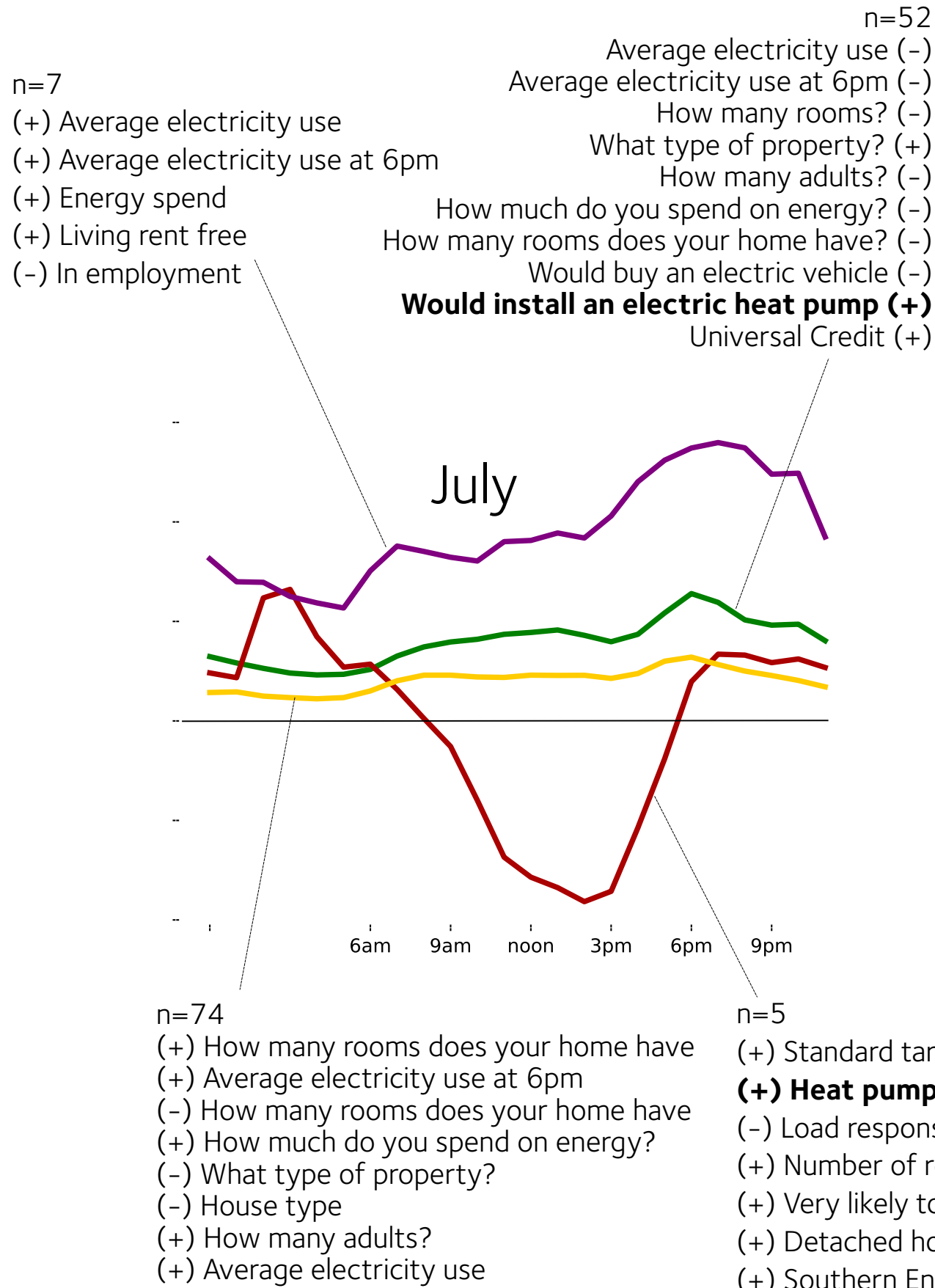
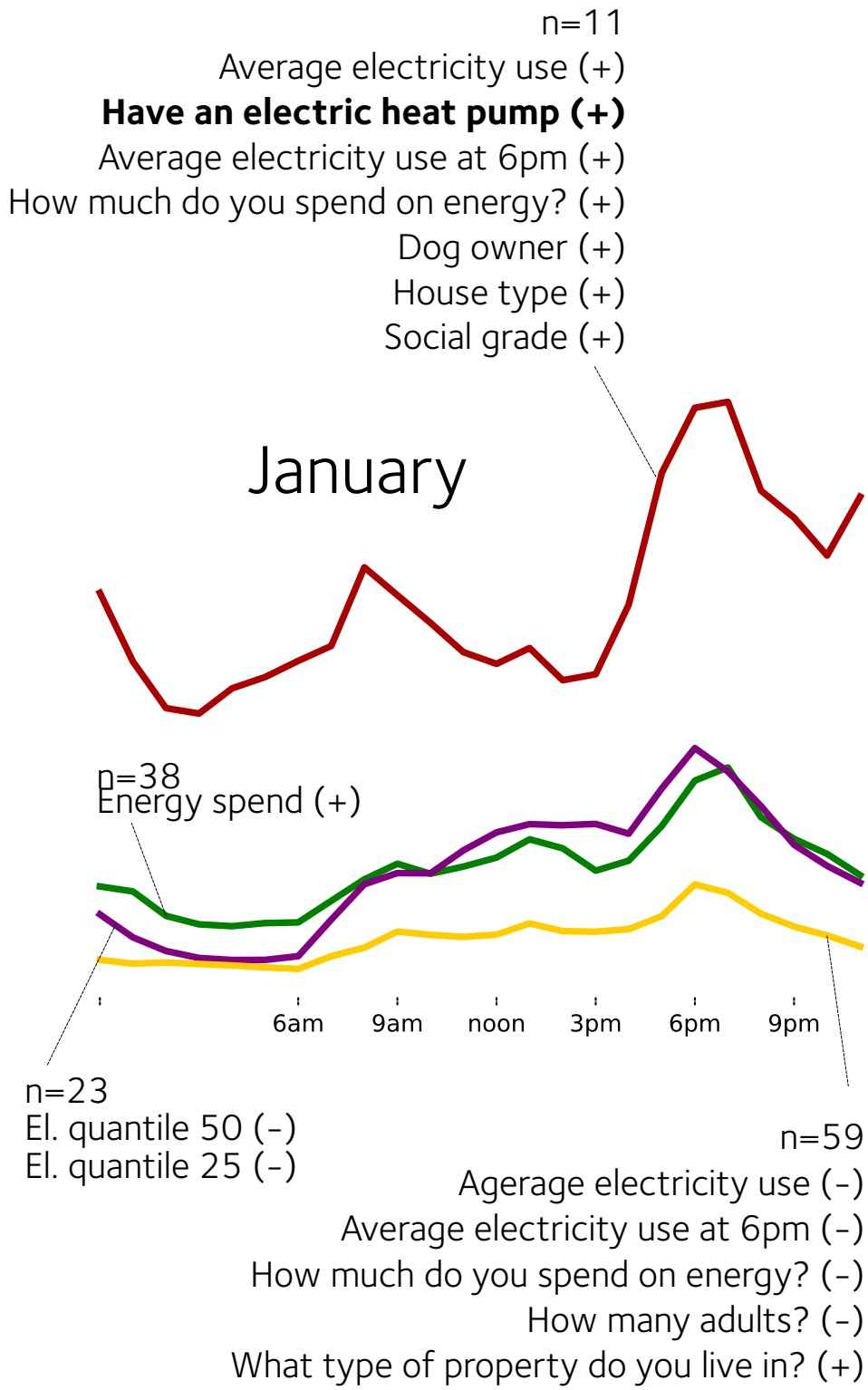
# Marginal contribution of activities to demand



# Watts this?



# DTW clusters



## Top 12 enjoyable activities

1. Socialising
2. Reading
3. Eating hot meal
4. Snack
5. Exercise
6. Sleep
7. Hot drink
8. TV
9. Got home
10. Eating
11. Me time
12. Gardening



1. Clear up
2. Wash dishes
3. Washing machine
4. Clear away meal
5. Wash
6. Travel (work)
7. Arrange things
8. Getting dressed
9. Brush teeth
10. Work
11. Computer
12. Travel (shop/service)





# Enjoyment of activities and demand



## **Part I**

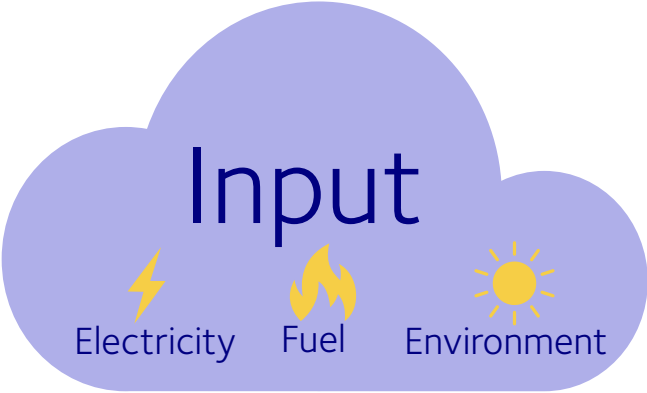
- System flexibility
- Energy needs and uses
- Feedback systems
- Causality

## **Part II**

- Demand side flexibility
- Price elasticity
- Data and privacy
- Synthetic data

# To **change** energy use we need to **understand** energy use (as a system)

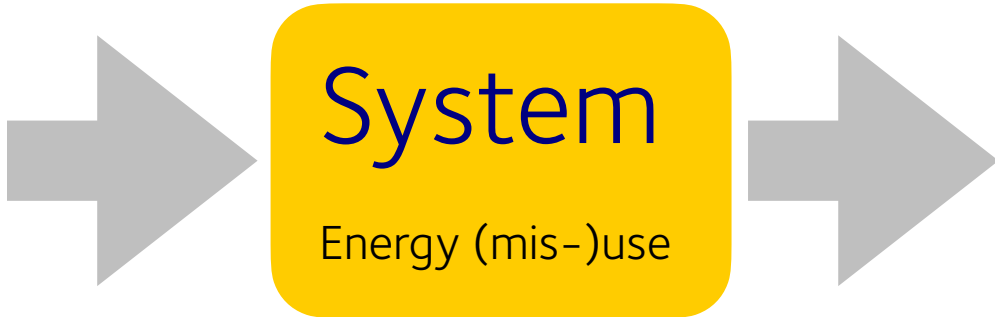
How much?



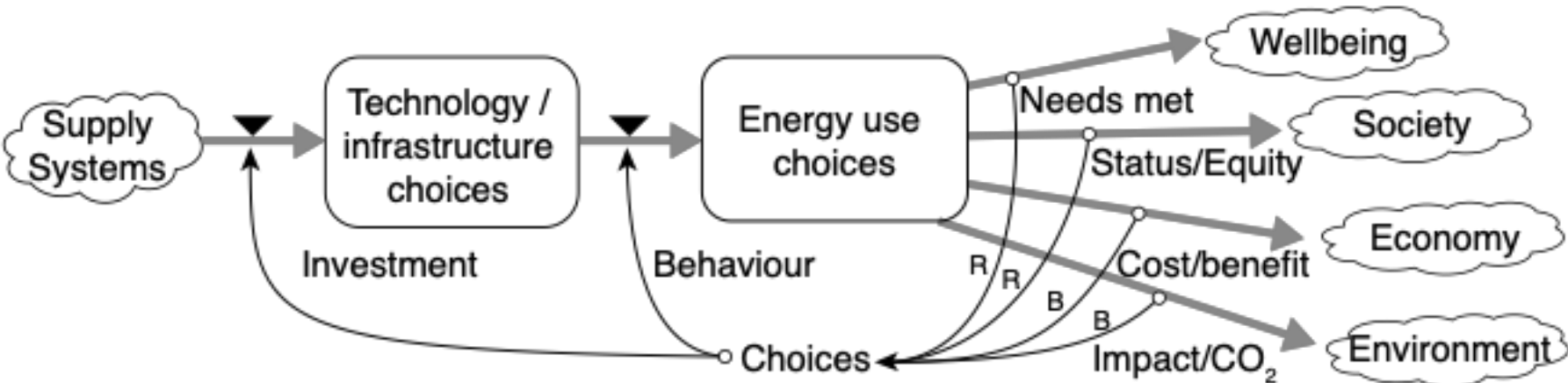
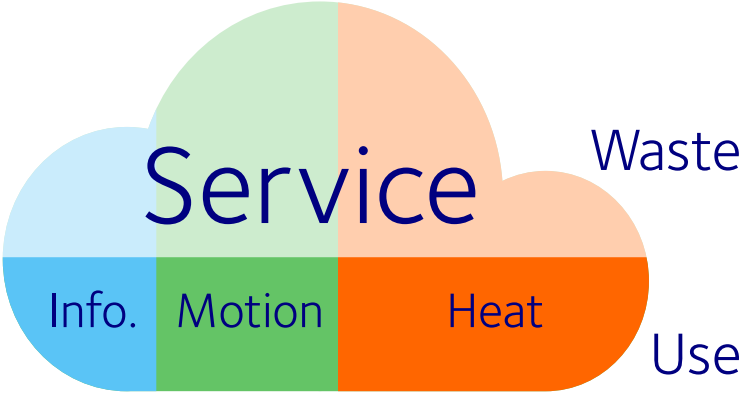
Gas  
Wood  
Coal  
Oil  
H<sub>2</sub>

Sun (light)  
Air (temp)  
Wind

What?



Why?



R=Reinforcing, B=Balancing feedback

- Good feedback is:**
- Timely (not just fast)
  - Accurate
  - Relevant to system goals