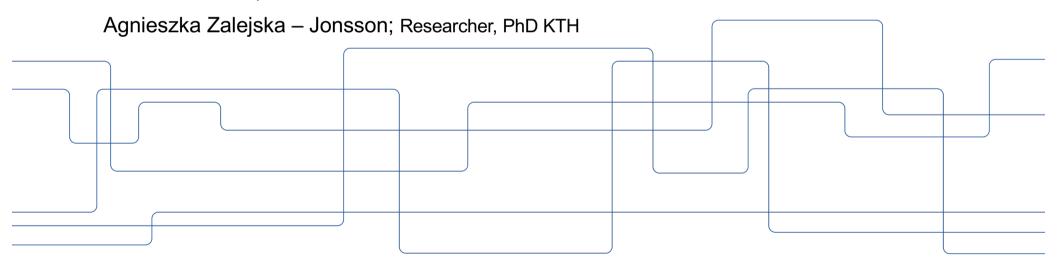


## KTH live-in-Lab Buildings and user behaviour

# Consumer and occupant pro-environmental choice and behaviour

Sara Wilkinsson, Professor UTS





## Human needs, human role

- Total energy consumption is growing faster than global population (2.75% compared to 1.4%), (Allouhi et al, 2015)
- Predication of world energy consumption to grow even 56% from 2010 to 2040 with, (Sieminski, 2013)
- Green building
- Technological solutions and building progression
  - Sensors
  - IoT
  - ML
  - Al
- Resource optimisation
- The occupant (human) role



## Human behaviour and environmental (in)action

## Limited cognition

- Ancient brain
- Ignorance
- Environmental numbness
- Uncertainty
- Judgemental discounting
- Optimism bias
- Perceived behavioural control

#### Perceived risk

- Functional risk
- Physical risk
- Financial risk
- Social risk
- Psychological risk
- Temporal risk

#### Ideologies

- Worldviews
- Suprahuman
- Technosalvation
- System justification

#### Comparison

- Social comparison
- Social norms and networks
- Perceived inequity

#### Sunk costs

- Financial investment
- Behavioural momentum
- Conflicting values

## Limited behaviour

- Rebound
- Tokenism

#### Discredence

- Mistrust
- Program inadequacy
- Denial

(Gifford, 2011)



## a + House



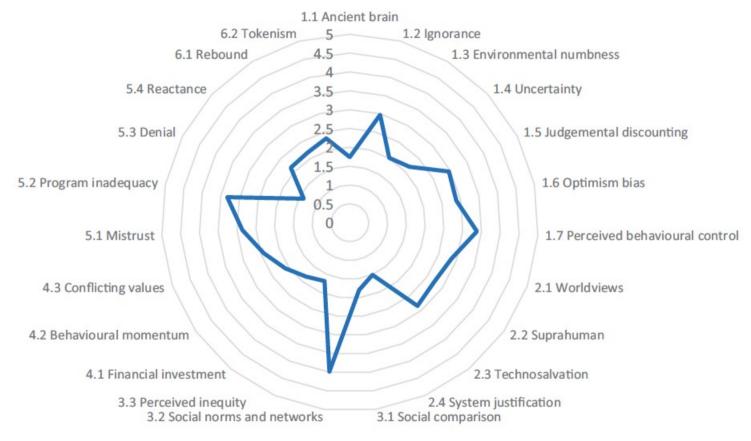


- Best Property Innovation and Sustainability Award 2018
- Ground source heat pumps connected to 12 boreholes with a total length of 3600m
- 1150 sqm of photovoltaic panels on the roof
- 64 wastewater heat exchangers installed both vertical and horizontal
- Supply and return air can be adjusted in all apartments
- Hot water, electricity, CO2 and temperature are measured in all apartments

2021-03-17 6



## Did students pass the test?



<u>Wilkinson, S.</u> and <u>Zalejska Jonsson, A.</u> (2021), "Student accommodation, environmental behaviour and lessons for property managers", <u>Property Management</u>, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. https://doi.org/10.1108/PM-09-2020-0055



### **Lessons learned**

- Ignorance
  - need for more knowledge
  - insufficient (not fast enough) feedback on consequences
  - difficult to comprehend and to visualise
- · Optimism bias & judgemental discounting
  - people under estimate the effects of climate change in respect of spatial and time distances
- Perceived behavioural control & Perceived program inadequacy
  - Internal responsibility versus external responsibility (blame)
  - Justification of not acting
- · Social norms and networks
  - Fitting the norm

- o Relevant knowledge
- Increasing knowledge and individual responsibility
- Engaging tenants in social exchange



## The next chapter









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