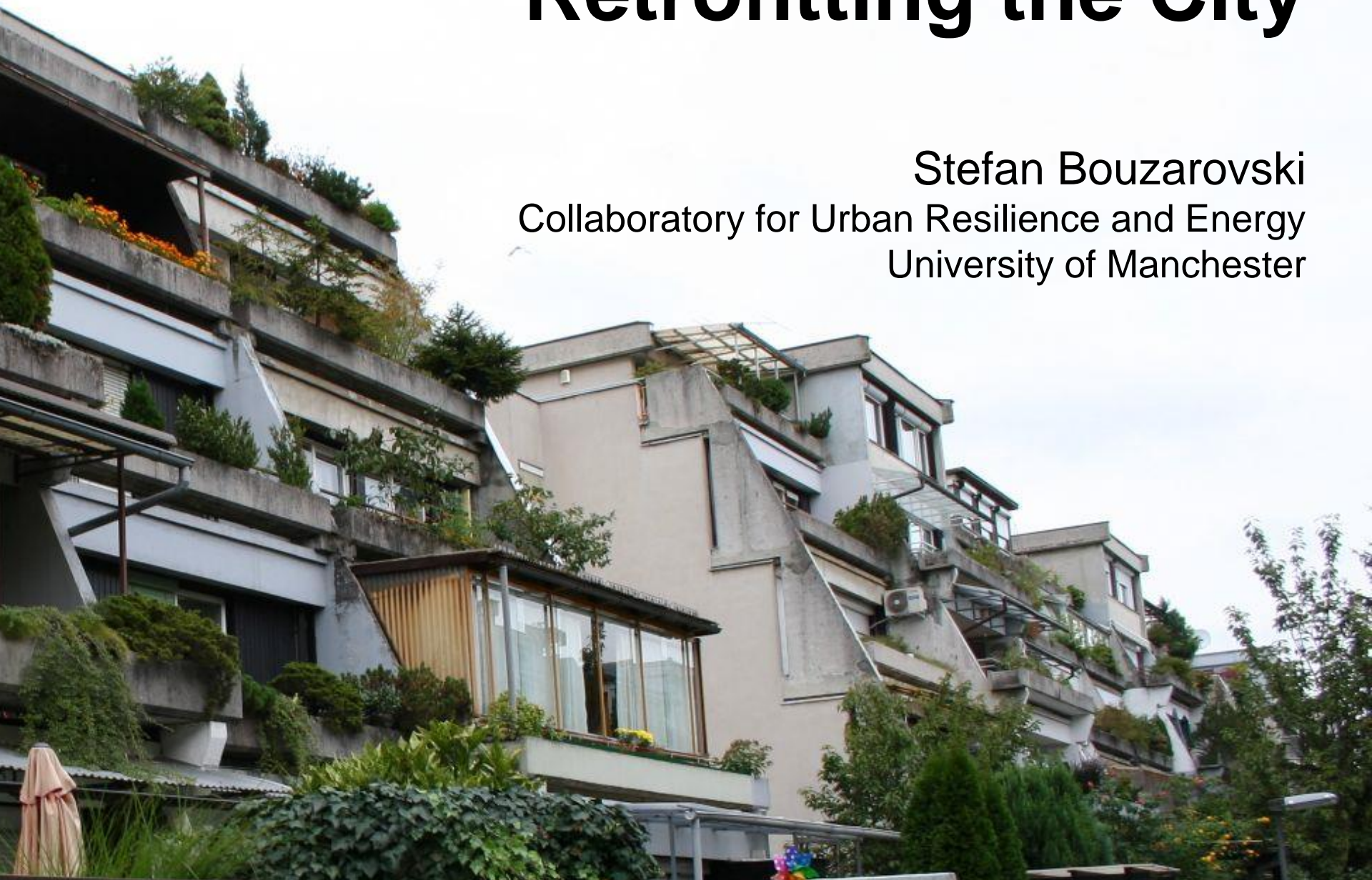


Retrofitting the City

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Incremental, DIY urbanism

- Position 'retrofit' as an everyday, 'mundane', vernacular activity
- Everyday geographies of repair and maintenance (Graham and Thrift 2007)
- Buildings that learn (Brand 1994)
- Unpack the multiple facets of adaptability in society and space
- Extend the meanings of flexibility and resilience (Till and Schneider 2005)



Publications

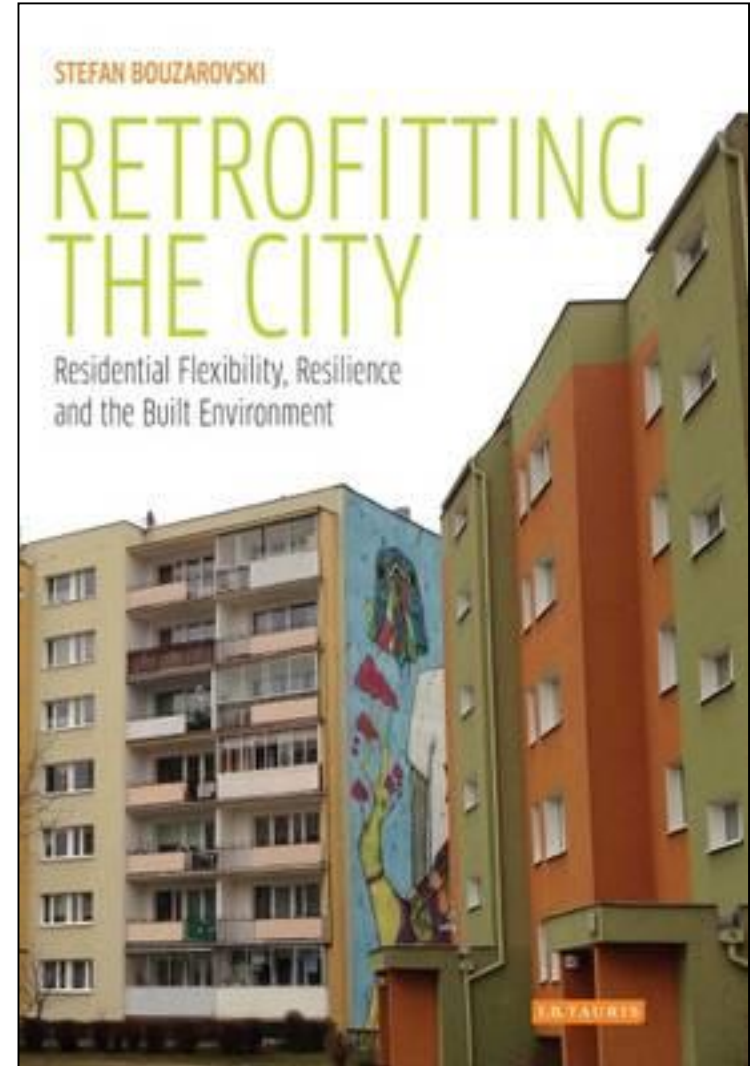
Bouzarovski S (2014) Energy poverty in the European Union: Landscapes of vulnerability. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews* 3: 276-289.

Bouzarovski S, Petrova S (2015). A global perspective on domestic energy deprivation: Overcoming the energy poverty–fuel poverty binary. *Energy Research & Social Science* 10: 31-40.

Bouzarovski S, Tirado Herrero S (2015) The energy divide: Connecting energy transitions, regional inequalities and poverty trends in the European Union. *European Urban and Regional Studies*. DOI:10.1177/0969776415596449

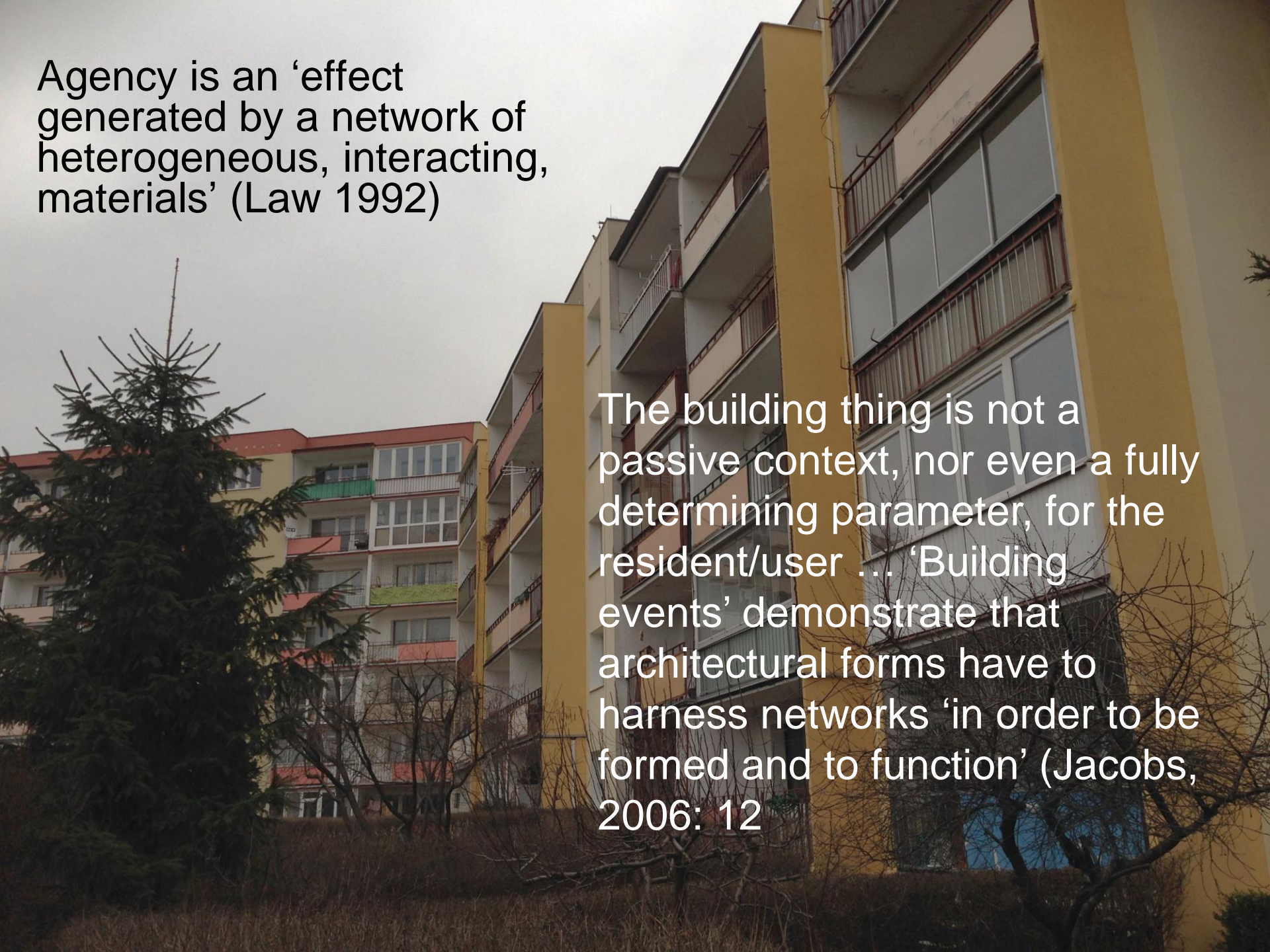
Bouzarovski S, Tirado Herrero S, Petrova S, Ürge Vorsatz D (2015) Unpacking the spaces and politics of energy poverty: Path-dependencies, deprivation and fuel switching in post-communist Hungary. *Local Environment*. DOI:10.1080/13549839.2015.1075480.

Bouzarovski S, Tirado Herrero S (2016) Geographies of injustice: the socio-spatial determinants of energy poverty in Poland, Czechia and Hungary. *Post Communist Economies*. DOI: 10.1080/14631377.2016.1242257



Agency is an 'effect generated by a network of heterogeneous, interacting, materials' (Law 1992)

The building thing is not a passive context, nor even a fully determining parameter, for the resident/user ... 'Building events' demonstrate that architectural forms have to harness networks 'in order to be formed and to function' (Jacobs, 2006: 12)



Working in transitioning contexts

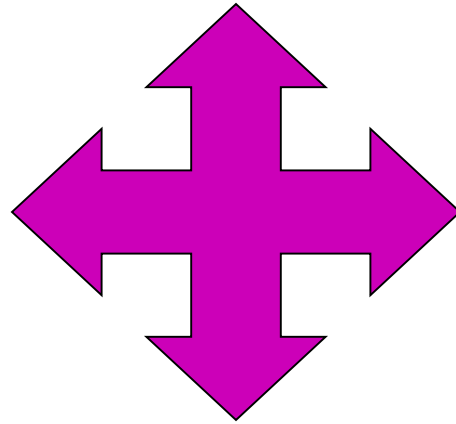
- Central and Eastern Europe has experienced a movement towards a market based housing regulation since 1989
- Neoliberal market practices have entered almost all aspects of the housing sector
- Society has become more unequal and polarised
- Working class: 'feckless', 'dependent', 'passive', 'lacking entrepreneurship' and 'unable to adapt to the new economic situation' (Stenning 2006).



Flexibilization of the household (fluid demographics - LATs, dual location hhs, urban tribes)



Flexible architectures: communication zones rather than rooms

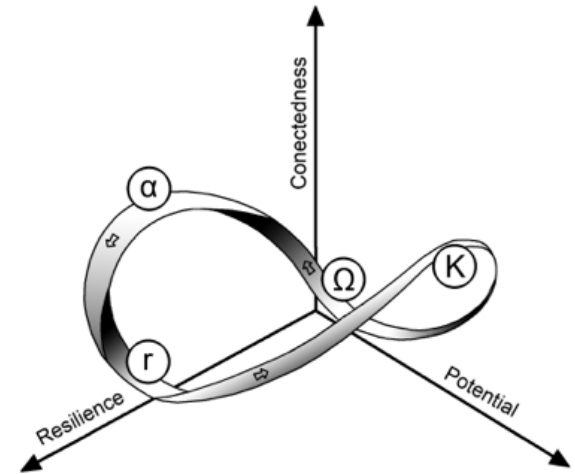


Fusing work and home: 'flexi-time, flexi-place of the new economy

Flexible employment (removal of worker protection, changing work arrangements)



Social resilience

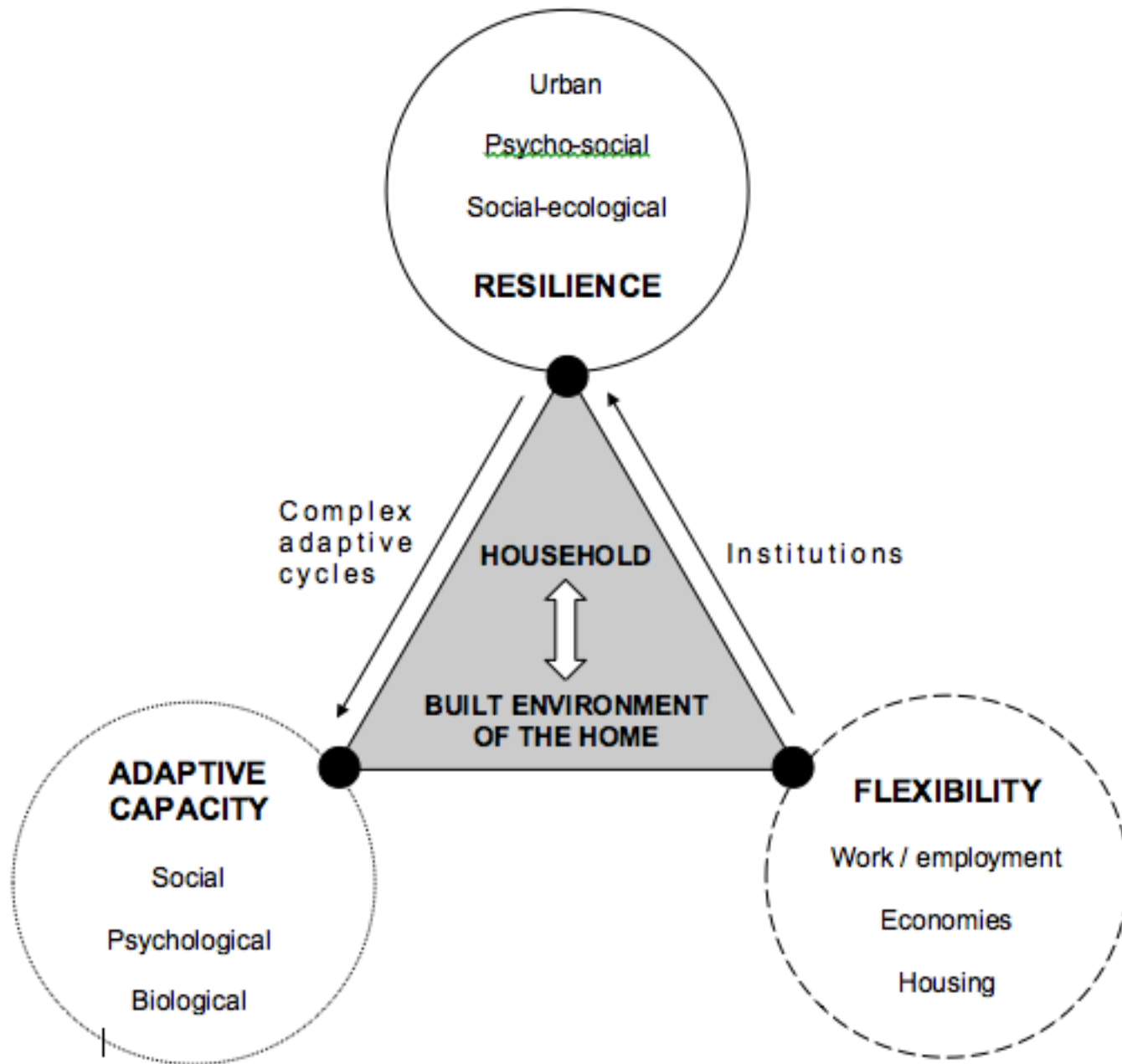


- Ability of social systems to respond and adapt to external shocks (Adger 2000, Adger *et al.* 200, Folke 2006)
- Socio-ecological: Complex adaptive cycles (Holling 2002)
- Multiple equilibria (Walker and Salt 2006)
- Ignorant of practices/relations of power and politics

Dynamism and adaptability in the social/built environment or the home

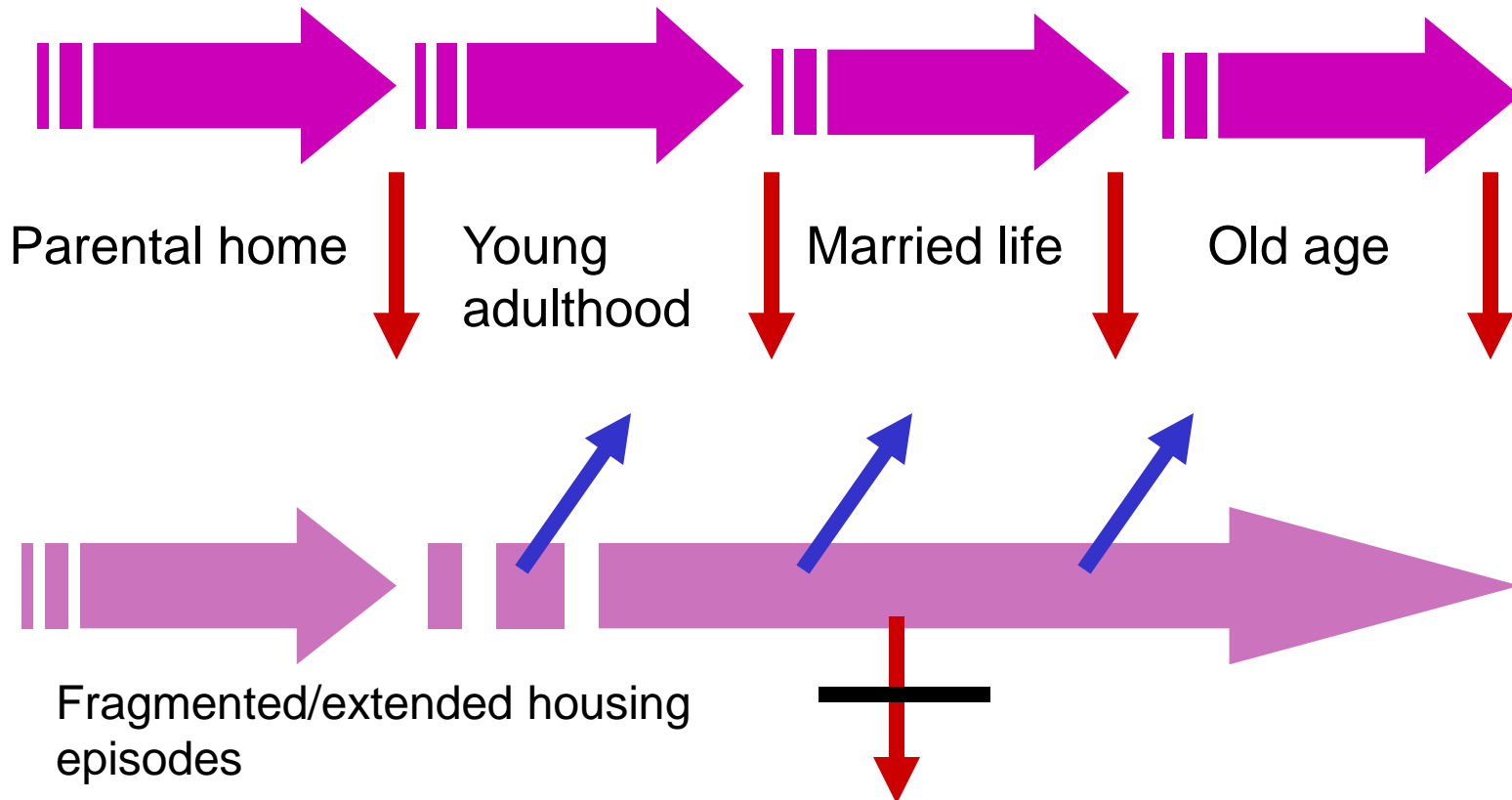
- **Residential flexibility:** The degree of facility with which a household is able to change its use of the built environment of the home, in response to altered social, economic, or political circumstances
- Housing events
- *In situ* housing adjustments

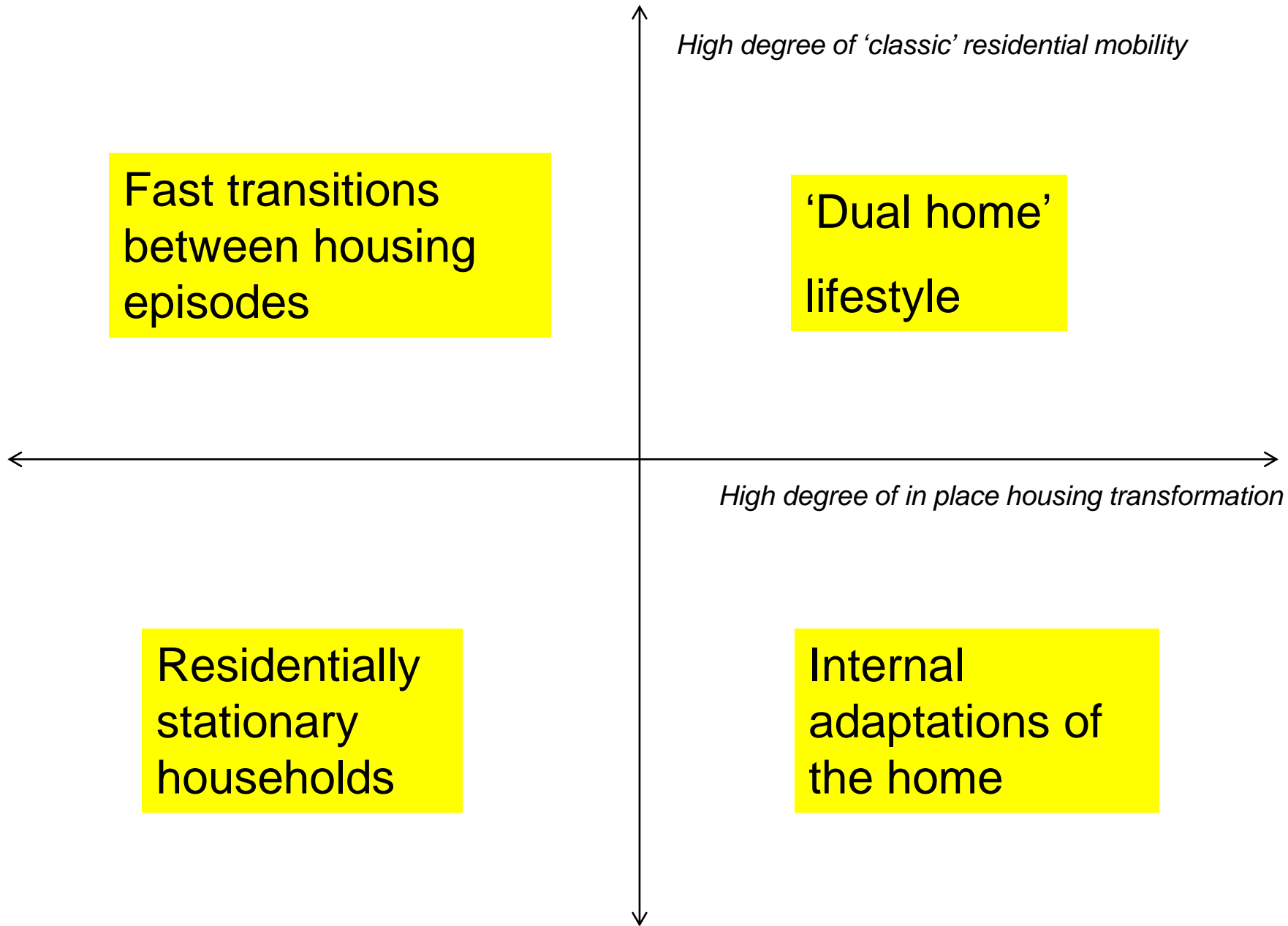




Classic residential mobility vs residential flexibility

Classic model suggests four basic housing episodes







‘We didn’t mind at all [the fact that the flat I bought was in total ruin] ... just on the contrary, we enjoyed the thought of starting from scratch to create new quality’ (young cohabiting couple with children)

‘When we moved in, the apartment was dirty and in a very poor technical state, with no gas or electric installation. We did all repairs and modifications that we could do ourselves, with our bare hands. Now it suits our needs’ (pensioner couple)

'in general – the exteriors of the buildings are in total mess, but ...



...the flats inside are very well maintained by even the poorest inhabitants'

(single mother)





Resilient buildings?

Nineteenth century 'tenement' buildings

- Demonstrate a higher degree of internal adaptability
- Slow process of refurbishment due to ownership issues
- Neighbourhoods selectively attractive

Collective housing estates

- Less adaptable internally
- Large-scale refurbishment possible
- Wide appeal to demographically 'dynamic' groups



Global challenges

- **‘Scaling up’ grassroots and mundane retrofits in accomplishing climate governance (Bulkeley 2016)**
- **How can we harness the social and cultural energies embedded within diverse neighbourhood contexts in order to enable emancipatory urban transformations?**
- **When and how can we foresee that certain measures/steps will lock us into undesirable paths rather than opening up the space for multiple trajectories of change?**



Thank you

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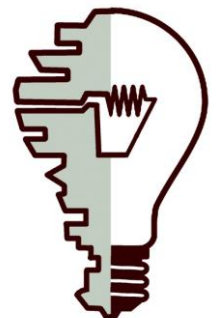
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