Entrepreneurial activities in digital fabrication spaces (FabLabs)

There are three Word format files in this collection

Table A: Sample characteristics of interviewees

Table B: Representative quotes for each of the coding categories used in the data analysis

Interview\_schedule: contains the interview schedule used for the research

Background: Our research examines entrepreneurial cognition on the use of analogical and metaphorical reasoning in conditions of elevated uncertainty. It investigated how entrepreneurs use historical analogy to think about opportunities in a digital fabrication space, the Manchester FabLab. Methods: Between July 2015 and May 2016 we conducted 30 interviews in the Manchester FabLab and used participate observation to note how entrepreneurs in the FabLab used the space, the equipment and interacted with each other. Results: We found that the use of historical analogy varied by type of entrepreneur and we present a typology of users. Conclusions: Historical analogy has shaped the thinking of many actors involved in fab technology.