



CURBIN G THE CARBON

of the digital industry

Jan van Dam
Robey de Jong

DID YOU KNOW?

digital accounts for

4-5%

of global carbon emissions

*... that's more than all aviation,
shipping and rails... combined*

DID YOU KNOW?

$$9 \times \text{[Icon of a web browser with an eye]} =$$



provides 1 tree with a day worth of work

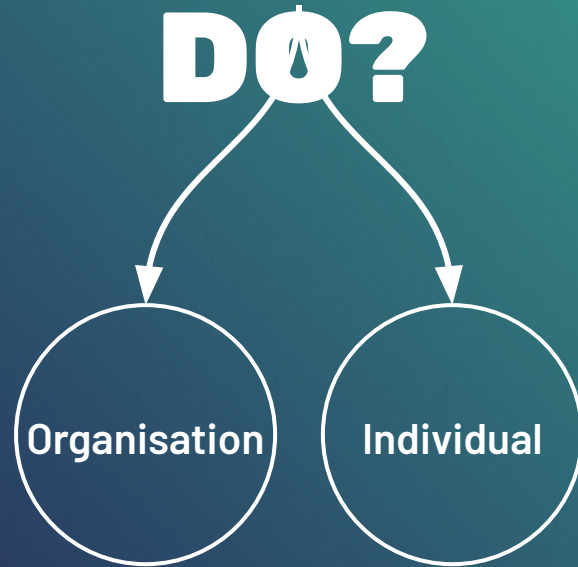
DID YOU KNOW?

1 prompt to Chat GPT consumes and costs around 3,96-Watt hour of energy / \$0.019



3,96-Watt hours (Wh) in tangible numbers:
The average smartphone battery has a capacity of around 10 to 12 Wh. So, 3.96 Wh could charge such a phone from 0% to about 33-40%

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

as an organisation



Sustainable design



Green engineering



Sustainable ops

Elegance meets sustainability

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Sustainability by design

The creative and technical design process is where crucial decisions are made. It is in this phase that apps, websites and platform are designed and the foundation is laid for the energy-efficiency of the digital product

Think...

Minimize video &
imaging content

Apply dark mode

Limit and control,
features

DARK MODE • D

Goed voor
toegankelijkheid,
je ogen, slaap én
milieu

Building a greener tomorrow

GREEN ENGINEERING

Engineering-by-design

Designs are translated into actual digital products through engineering. Through sustainable engineering principles, the energy footprint of the digital product can be further minimized.

Think...

Efficient caching and
minimizing data
exchange

Dynamic code and
energy consumption
analysis

Choice of programming
language

Greening the cloud

SUSTAINABLE OPS

The last green mile

Thanks to sustainable design and green engineering the final digital product has a maximized energy-efficiency. But now it must be hosted and maintained for the remainder of its lifecycle. Sustainable options will help keep the energy-usage and carbon footprint low.

Think...

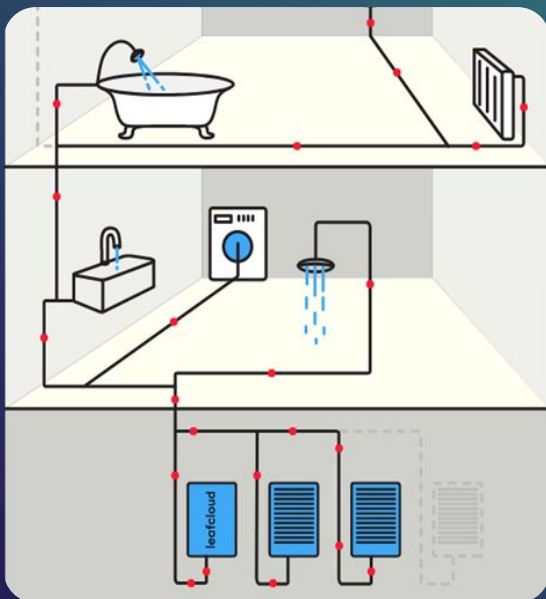
Remove unused
features and dark data

Monitor, manage and
refactor code base

Choose a circular cloud

X CIRCULAR CLOUD

Circular cloud

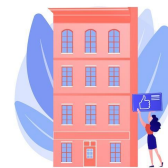


reusing heat



- ✓ Residual heat is directly used to heat water that is used within the same building (heating, showers, washers)
- ✓ Eliminates the extra 20%-60% energy consumption used by air conditioners
- ✓ Decreases the usage of natural gas otherwise needed to heat buildings

existing buildings



- ✓ Existing buildings such as apartment blocks, hotels and schools are used to house servers
- ✓ Eliminates the need to build entire facilities just to house servers
- ✓ Prevents large capital investments and uncertain capacity forecasts

BEFORE WE GO TO THE NEXT SECTION

let's talk a little about AI...

WHAT'S THE NEWS?

The Green Algorithm: Measuring Sustainability in AI

Rosemary J Thomas, PhD · Follow
Published in Version 1 · 7 min read · Oct 9, 2023



differences in energy sources and grids. While [AI currently contributes a relatively small 1.4% to global GHG emissions](#) within [Information and Communication Technologies](#), concerns arise about potential rapid increases if current AI research trends continue.

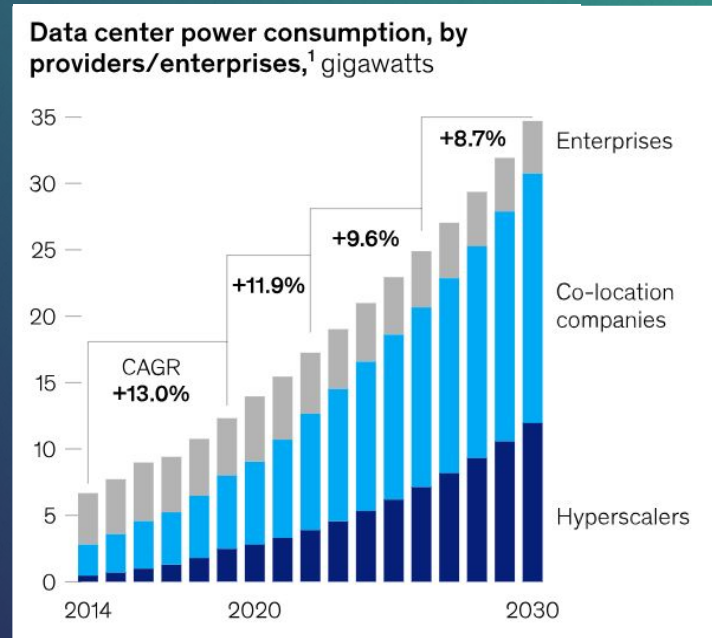


NOS Nieuws · Vandaag, 13:57

Energieslurpende AI zorgt voor forse stijging CO2-uitstoot Google

In één jaar tijd is de CO2-uitstoot van Google met 13 procent gestegen. Ten opzichte van vijf jaar geleden is de uitstoot zelfs met bijna 50 procent toegenomen. De stijging komt vooral door de groei van datacenters die AI-systemen ondersteunen.

AI NEEDS MORE ENERGY



Demand is measured by power consumption to reflect the number of servers a data center can house. Demand included megawatts for storage, servers, and network.
 CAGR = Compound Average Growth Rate

ENERGY UNAVAILABLE?

Infrastructure > Data Centres

Global power shortages mean data centers could struggle to shoulder the burden of energy-intensive generative AI demands in 2024

News By George Fitzmaurice published February 15, 2024

The global outlook for data centers is optimistic, but there are some serious roadblocks to overcome

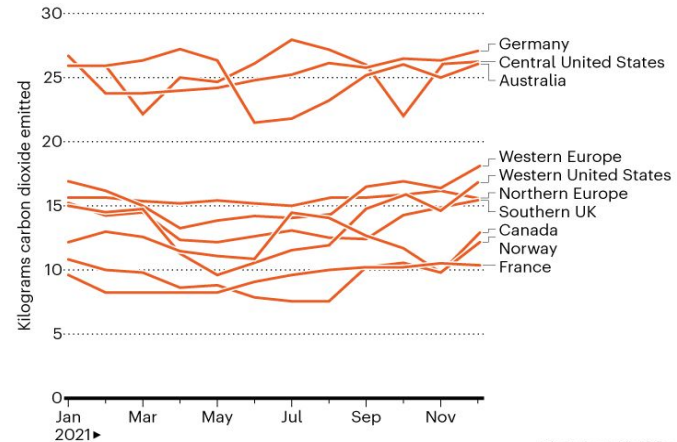
Power and storage requirements for data centers are growing exponentially and creating problems for the industry, according to JLL's data centers global outlook report for 2024.

The increased enterprise focus on generative AI requires a huge amount of power, which in turn is exacerbating a "scarcity of data center colocation supply" caused by regional power limitations.

Generative AI is expected to be a major factor in rising global electricity consumption in the coming years, according to research, which the European Commission estimates will have increased 60% by 2030.

AI'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

The emissions associated with training the language-learning model BERT depend on the time of year, and on the location of the data centre.



©nature

Chart shows 10 of the 16 locations studied.

AI EMISSION INSIGHTS

The survey found 64% of executive leaders believe they do not receive the emissions performance data they need from vendors. “Because of these limitations, some executive leaders struggle to prioritize sustainable IT initiatives or know where to start,” said Moyer. “They also neglect to consider sustainable IT initiatives that are low cost and achieve moderate GHG reduction.”

Green AI =

the practice of designing, developing and deploying data & analytics solutions that minimize their environmental impact

SMART CHOICES CUT CO2

Three main phases

Model training development

- Suitable AI algorithms
- Length & frequency of training cycles
- Right size of training batch
- Optimal number of parameters
- Re-use existing models/resources

Example: "AI developers can also schedule computation at times when renewable sources are more available. This can cut AI's carbon footprint by as much as 30% to 40%, compared to using a fossil fuel powered-grid"

Model operations runtime

- Conscious usage of models
- Optimize prompt structure
- Modify models without retraining

Example: "Deploying large deep-learning models to the cloud for inference purposes also consumes a lot of energy. Analysts report that NVIDIA estimates that 80–90% of the energy cost of neural networks lies in ongoing inference processing after a model has been trained"

Hardware & Cloud data center

- Eco-conscious server selection
- Evaluate energy efficiency of hardware
- Usage of renewable energy source

Example: "Google's study says that using a more efficient AI model architecture, processor and a greener data center can reduce the tech's carbon footprint by 100x to 1,000x"

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

as an individual

5 questions to ask yourself

Recommendation questions

**1. Do I need to visit
this page?**

Recommendation questions

2. Can I include a link to a document instead of an attachment in my email to save energy?

Recommendation questions

3. Can I turn off location services or background apps to save my phones battery?

Recommendation questions

4. Can I go over my pictures stored and delete pictures to keep myself from buying extra storage capacity?

Recommendation questions

5. Can I remove some open tabs in my browser?

WHAT IS A GOOD FIRST STEP?

as an organisation

**MEASURE
MEASURE
MEASURE**

DO A QUICK SCAN: SEE YOUR POTENTIAL

current footprint



Possibility to reduce Digital Carbon Footprint

1. Reduce



2. Rehost

-8 kg
CO2 /
year



3. Refactor

4. Working with Roots Digital makes you carbon negative

-1538 kg
CO2 /
year

Pushing for carbon negative

Roots Digital has a green pledge: we plant 1 tree for every hour worked. This quick scan took 40 hours, so 40 trees were donated.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see our collective impact!

Your Impact Report

Report for:
<https://eagerly.nl/>

Performance Impact

Ecograder Score

56

Out of 100 ⓘ

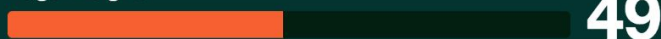
Emissions per Pageload

2.06

grams of carbon dioxide ⓘ

Ecograder scores pages based on a variety of performance, efficiency, and user experience factors as well as emissions estimates and green hosting powered by renewable energy.

Page Weight




UX Design



Green Hosting



This page scores worse than 80% of all URLs crawled by Ecograder

 Pilosa quick scan

[← Scan another site](#)

Eagerly - Digitale strategie met als hart je website

✓ Hosted on sustainable infrastructure

Total size



5.05 MB

Cacheable



14.71%

CDN hits



70.59%

Compressed



8.82%

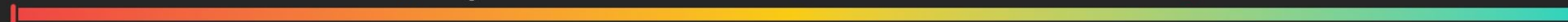
Score: F

Bad

Average

Good

Excellent



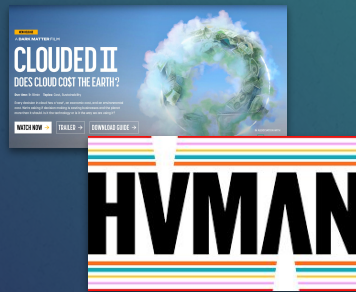
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Contact:
Jan van Dam
Robey de Jong



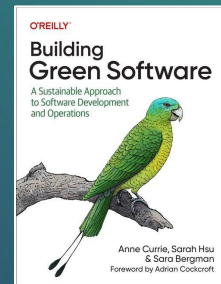
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