

Carbon Costs in IRIS & UKRI NetZero DRI

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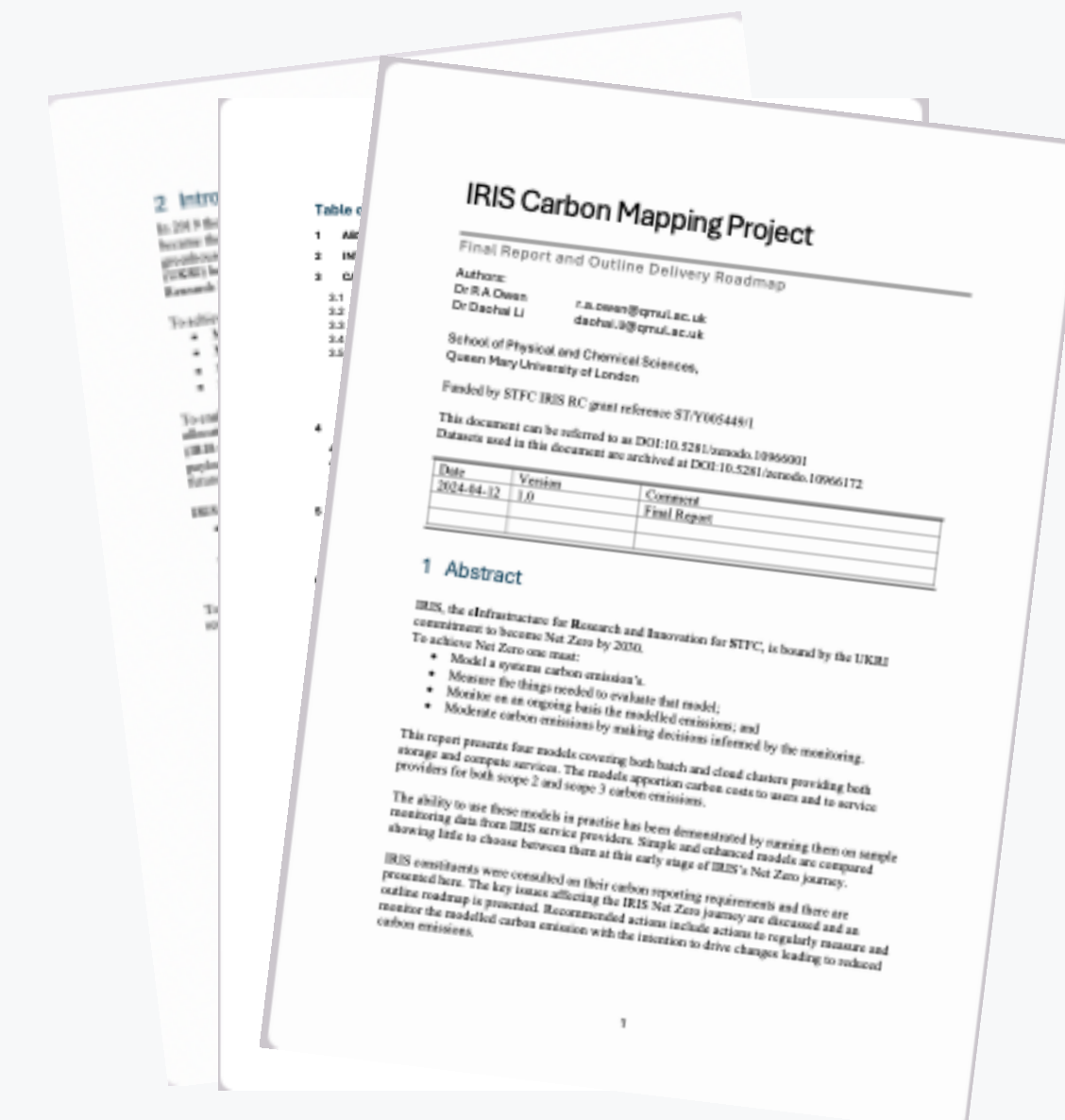


<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7692451>



iris Carbon Mapping Project

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10966001>



<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984>



eInfrastructure for **R**esearch and **I**nnovation for **S**TFC

<https://www.iris.ac.uk/>

IRIS is a cooperative community bringing together (mainly) STFC computing interests

Formed bottom up by science communities and compute providers

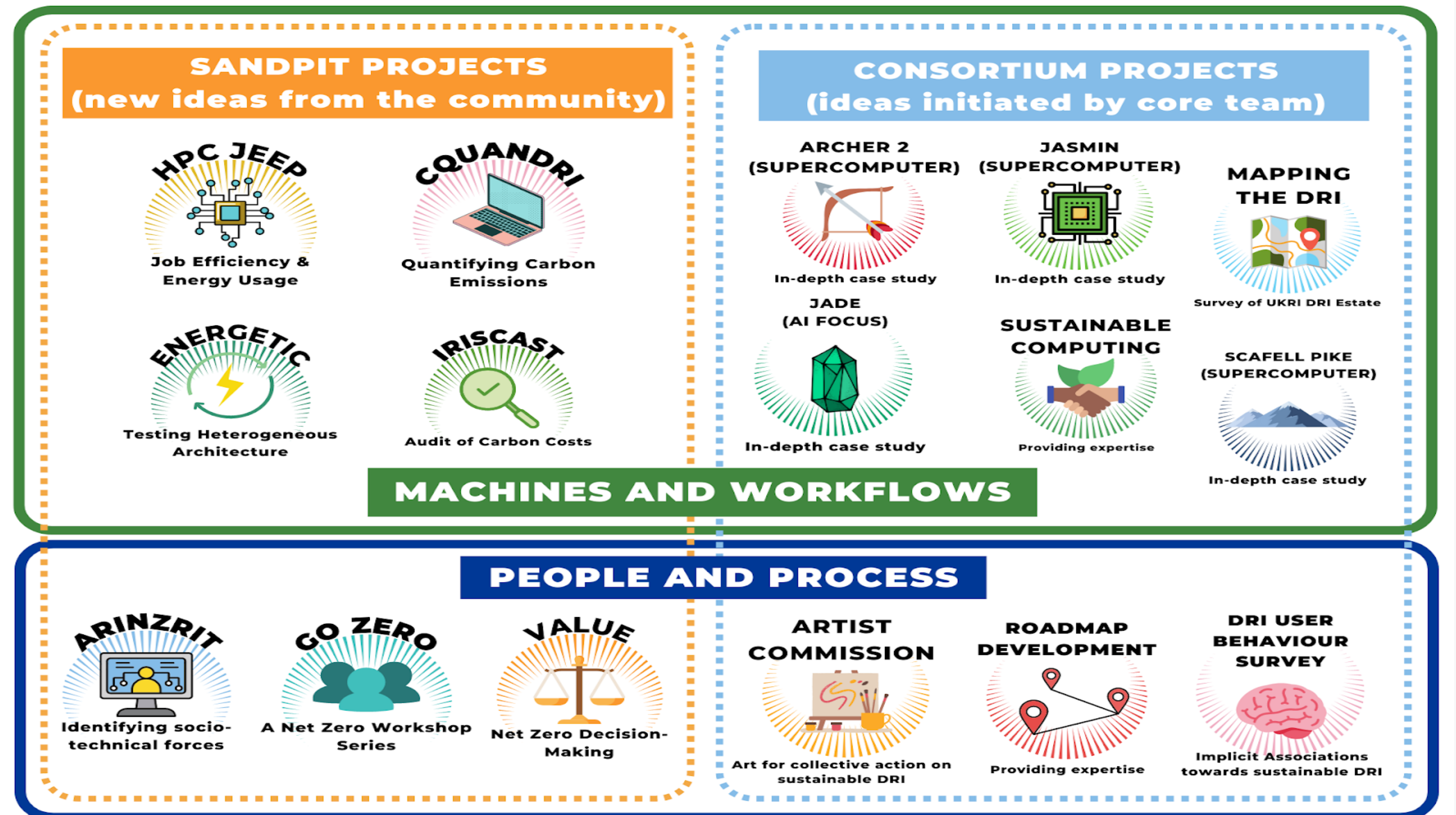
Works closely with STFC but run by the community

IRIS Science Director is Prof J Hays who is also IRISCAST Project PI IRIS-CMP Project CI



UKRI DRI Net Zero by 2040

UKRI Net Zero DRI Scoping Project



<https://net-zero-dri.ceda.ac.uk/>

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984>



Measuring Carbon

NetZero and the IRISCAST Project



Scientific Computing

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Alexander Dibbo (STFC)
Jon Roddom (STFC)
Martin Summers (STFC)
Jacob Ward (STFC)
Dan Whitehouse (Imperial)
Alastair Basden (Durham)

6 Month Project Funded within UKRI Net Zero Scoping Project



What is IRISCAST?

IRISCAST is the **IRIS Carbon Audit Snapshot**

24 Hour snapshot across multiple 'IRIS Facilities'

The Challenge

Estimate carbon costs for scientific computing across a broad heterogeneous landscape

Identifying the key drivers for carbon costs

Identifying the hurdles and barriers

Communicating the carbon costs to drive change

Working coherently across different communities

The Project

Work together coherently across different facilities with different remits, tooling, and capabilities.

Learn by doing!

Document the gaps, the barriers and the issues, drive requirements for future work and decision making

Communicate across our communities and build a foundation for future action



Carbon Model

$C_t^p = C_a^p + C_e^p$
 Carbon Cost (C) for a period (p) is sum of active carbon (a) and embedded carbon (e)

$C_a^p = CM_e^p (E_{nodes}^p + E_{network}^p + E_{cooling}^p + E_{power}^p + E_{facility}^p)$
 Carbon Intensity of Power (Grid)

Measure Energy Usage (E)
 Obtain Carbon Grid Intensity (CM)

$C_e^p = \sum_1^{nodes} \sum_{t=0}^p \frac{C_{enode}}{L_{node}} + \sum_1^{networks} \sum_{t=0}^p \frac{C_{enetwork}}{L_{network}} + \sum_1^{facility\ items} \sum_{t=0}^p \frac{C_{efacility}}{L_{facility}}$

Inventory of Equipment
 Obtain Embedded Carbon
 Estimate Lifetime (L)

Carbon Model

Model a range of scenarios



Measuring computer energy usage is the easy bit.

Cooling energy usage/PUE less well known.

Computer embedded carbon figures hard to find.

Other equipment embedded carbon figures even more hard to find.

Factor	Scenario		
	Low	Medium	High
Carbon Intensity (gCO ₂ /kWh)	50	175	300
PUE	1.1	1.3	1.6
Server Embodied Carbon (KgCO ₂)	400	-	1100
Server Lifespan (years)	3	5	7

		Total carbon footprint estimate (kgCO ₂)		
		(Percentage active carbon)		
Server embodied carbon	Server lifespan	PUE Low Carbon Intensity Low	PUE Medium Carbon Intensity Medium	PUE High Carbon Intensity High
Low	3	1950 (55%)	5293 (83%)	10186 (91%)
	5	1600 (67%)	4943 (89%)	9836 (95%)
	7	1449 (74%)	4792 (92%)	9685 (96%)
High	3	3483 (31%)	6826 (65%)	11719 (79%)
	5	2519 (42%)	5862 (75%)	10755 (86%)
	7	2106 (51%)	5449 (81%)	10342 (90%)

IRISCAST 24 hour snapshot roughly 1-4 people on 12 hour return Jet

Potential to reduce carbon emissions by an order of magnitude!

Learning By Doing

24 Hour Snapshot at Six Facilities



Summary Inventories

Node Model	Quantity
Dell PowerEdge R640	118
Mellanox SN2410	4
APC APDU9953	12

Facility Inventory at QMUL

Node Model	Quantity
PowerEdge R410	68
PowerEdge R430	60
PowerEdge R440	15
PowerEdge R6525	30
ProLiant SLx170z G6	24
SYS-6028TP-HTR	12
X9DR7	24
Unknown (Generic Server)	8

Facility Inventory at Imperial

Node Specification		
CPU	RAM	Quantity
AMD Epyc 7502	256GB	246
Intel Gold 6126	192GB	164
Intel E5-2650v4	128GB	201
Intel E5-2650v3	128GB	88
Network Switches	-	-

Facility Inventory at STFC SCARF

Specification			
Model	CPU	RAM	Quantity
Dell PowerEdge C6320	x2 Intel Xeon CPU E5-2690 v4 @ 2.40GHz	256 GB DDR4-2400MHz ECC	60

Facility Inventory at Cambridge

Node Specification			
Model	CPU	RAM	Quantity
Dell PowerEdge C6420	x2 Intel Xeon Gold 5120 CPUs	512 GB	452
Dell PowerEdge C6525	x2 AMD EPYC 7H12	1024 GB	360

Facility Inventory at Durham

Node Specification			
Model	CPU	RAM	Quantity
Dell C6420	Intel Xeon 4108	96GB	96
Dell C6525	AMD Epyc7452	512	138
Supernano	AMD Epyc7452	512	238
Supernano	Intel 6130	384GB	74
Dell	Various	Various	10
GPU Nodes	Various	Various	94
FPGA Node	Intel 6148	192GB	1
Control Plane	Various	Various	12
Storage Nodes	Various	Various	105
Network Switches	Various	Various	-

Facility Inventory at STFC CLOUD

- ### Facilities
- Cambridge IRIS HPC/Cloud
 - STFC SCD Cloud
 - STFC SCARF
 - QMUL GridPP Tier 2
 - Imperial GridPP Tier 2
 - DiRAC (Durham)

Build a Community

Energy Vs Power

For active carbon we need to know about ENERGY usage



Time Stamped Energy usage is more robust than instantaneous power

APC PDU's SNMP query ✓ `PowerNet-MIB::rPDU2DeviceStatusEnergy.1`

Hectowatthour (100 wh) units

APC port n SNMP query ✓ `PowerNet-MIB::rPDU2OutletMeteredStatusEnergy.n`

IPMI query (freeipmi) ✓ `ipmi-oem dell get-power-consumption-data`

IPMI query (ipmitool) ? `ipmitool sensor list`

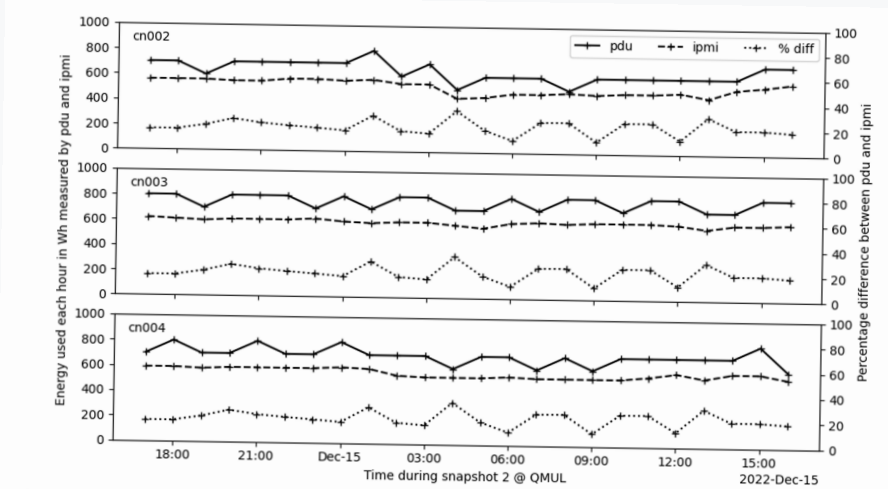
Probably Power Measurements Energy is better!

PDU Vs IPMI

IPMI approx 20% low cf PDU Except at QMUL where 1.5% (APDU9953)

More questions than answers: Check your calibrations!

System	Facility (kWh)	PDU (kWh)	IPMI (kWh)	TurboStat (kWh)	No. of Nodes
QMUL	1299	1299	1279	1214	118
CAM	261	-	261	-	59
DUR	8154	8154	6267	-	876
STFC CLOUD	3831	-	3831	-	721
STFC SCARF	4271	4271	3292	-	571
IMP	944	-	944	-	117
Total	18760				



20% difference between APC AP8459WW port measurements and IPMI measurements

Re test at QMUL with AP8459WW per port PDU 20% difference!

Tools at each Level

Precision of ipmitool output identified as a problem by Durham. They may have a patch!

Facility Level: Cooling energy usage/PUE generally poorly known

Facility Name	Enclosure Level			Node Level		
	Device	Protocol	Tool	Device	Protocol	Tool
QMUL	PDU	SNMP	Net-SNMP	BMC	IPMI	free-ipmi
Cambridge	-	-	-	BMC	Redfish	Prometheus
Durham	PDU	SSH	SSH	BMC	IPMI	unknown
DiRAC	-	-	-	BMC	IPMI	ipmitool
STFC Cloud	PDU	SNMP	LibreNMS	BMC	IPMI	ipmitool
STFC SCARF	PDU	SNMP	LibreNMS	BMC	IPMI	ipmitool
Imperial	-	-	-	BMC	IPMI	ipmitool

Comparison of predominant data collection methods at IRISCAS sites. Notably using intelligent Power Distribution Units (PDUs) and Baseboard Management Controllers (BMCs).

Job Level: SLURM queues can report Job Energy usage

Turbostat and other RAPL tools?

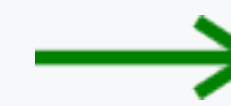
IRISCAST Proposes

High Level Feedback

Carbon Equivalent
per month

Low Level Feedback

Figure of merit
per Job



Carbon Equivalent
per Job



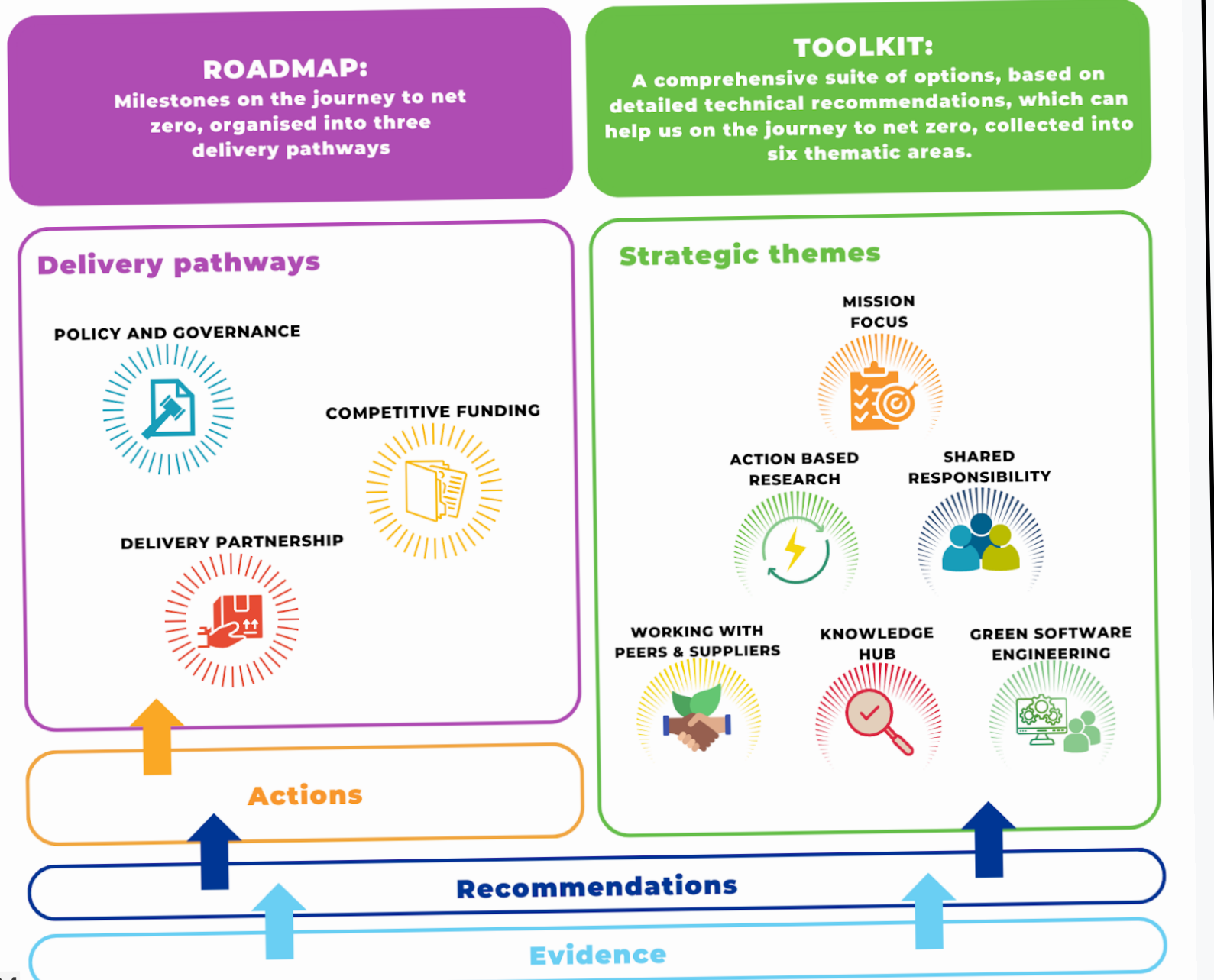
1. Future DRI procurement to include a score based on embedded carbon costs and equipment energy usage.
2. New computer hardware to include energy measurement capability such as IPMI (or per port PDUs) and require the supplier to provide best estimates of embedded carbon costs.
3. Measure energy used by cooling infrastructure and the computing infrastructure.
4. Facilities to keep an inventory of equipment including embedded carbon cost and idle power draw.
5. Monthly (or other periodic) reporting of carbon usage by facilities based on 3 and 4 above. Roll into standard grant reporting regime.

6. Collect per job (or VM) energy usage by using tools like Slurm (correctly configured). Combined this with embedded carbon from inventory and electricity carbon intensity to feedback job carbon cost to the end user to drive improvements in user code and workflow.
7. Identify user communities and the authors of community codebases so that useful feedback can be given to them to drive the development of more efficient code and workflows.

UKRI DRI Net Zero Scoping Outputs



<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984>



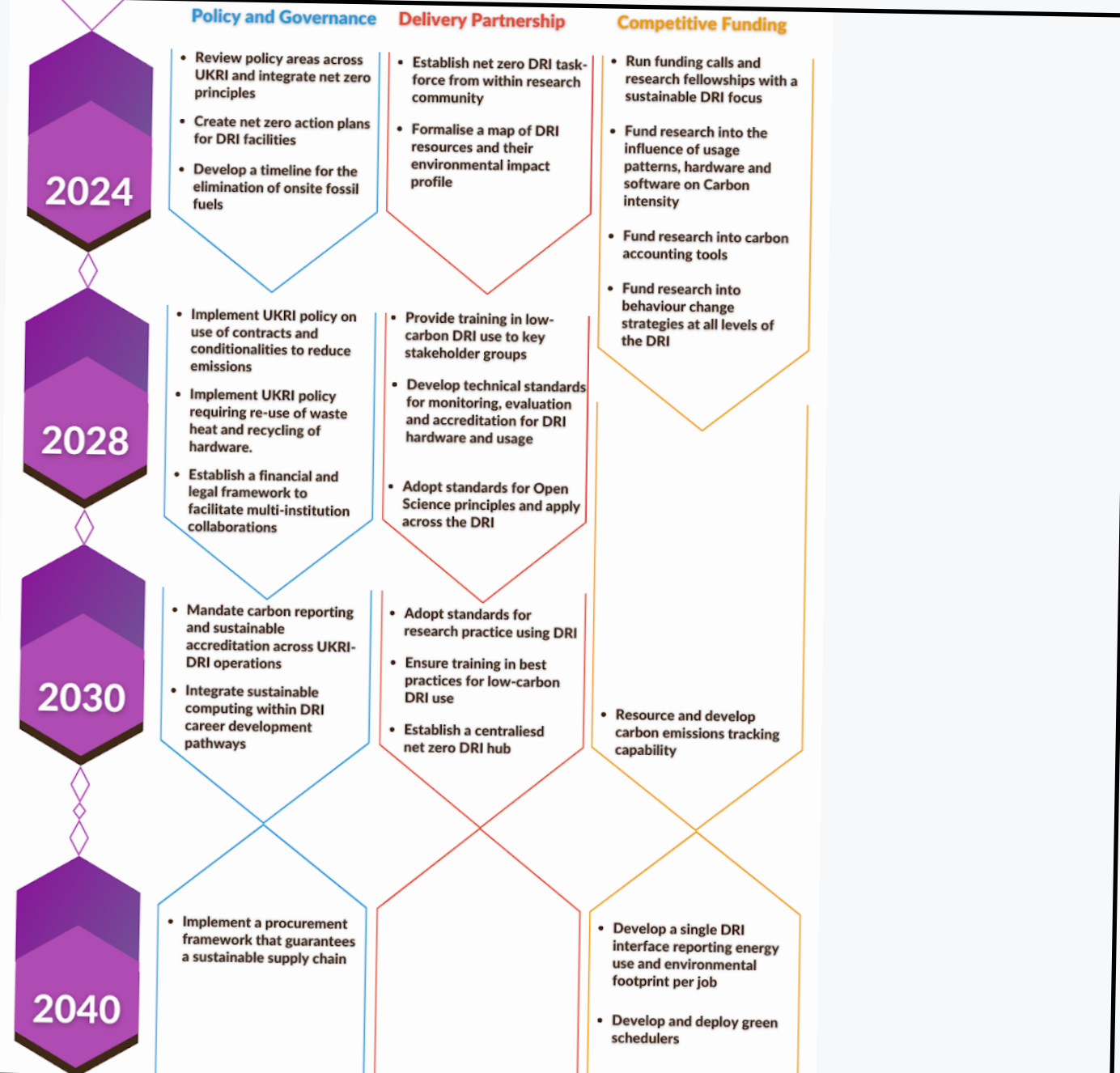
Grant call to lead the follow on implementation activity closed this week

Lets see what happens next...

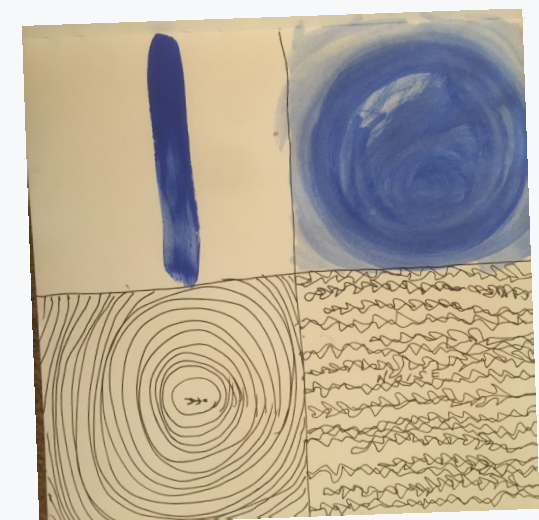
UKRI DRI Net Zero Scoping Roadmap



<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984>



UKRI DRI Net Zero Scoping Toolkit



<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984>

Box 2.1.A: Six Strategic Themes that make up the toolkit

- Mission Focus:** continuous assessment and focus on the mission of achieving sustainability; active measures to counter the risk of enhanced demand negating efficiency gains.
- Recognition of shared responsibility:** mandate and empower all staff (from student to CEO) to take proportionate action to drive change and reduce the environmental impact of their work; community building; encourage discussion among colleagues and learn from others to foster positive changes in behaviour.
- Action-based-research:** work must start now with commitment appropriate to the climate emergency while recognising that there will be a need for regular checks and adjustments; focus on progress not perfection; small steps; learn from experience.
- Work with peers and suppliers:** through contracts, conditionalities, and understanding mutual benefits, to develop a low carbon supply chain [essential in the longer term]
- Build and Share Knowledge:** providing leadership, support and advice for business cases and large procurements feeding into reporting; central hub for information and institutional knowledge [also likely to create short term results]
- Green Software Engineering:** creating a body of expertise around green software engineering, providing training, developing tools, metrics, expert assessment, and standards to transform current approaches to writing code, and supporting codes running in data centres, such that GSE becomes the norm rather than an optional extra.



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Carbon Mapping Project

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Alex Dibbo (STFC)

Motivation: How should IRIS work towards NetZero DRI?

Models and Tools

Outline Delivery Roadmap

Allocate Carbon Costs to User Payloads



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Apportion by Real Time

	Scope 2 – Energy	Scope 3 – Carbon
Payload	$E_p = E_f^t \cdot \frac{R_p}{R_f} \cdot \frac{t_p}{t}$	$C_{ep} = \frac{R_p}{R_f} \cdot t_p \cdot Q_{ef}$ <p>Where:</p> $Q_{ef} = \sum_{x=1}^{items} \frac{C_{ex}}{T_x}$
Idle	$E_{idle}^t = E_f^t - \sum_{p=1}^{payloads} E_p$	$C_{e\ idle}^t = t \cdot Q_{ef} - \left(\sum_{p=1}^{payloads} C_{ep} \right)$

Table 1: Summary of the Simple Payload Model showing allocations of Scope 2 energy and Scope 3 carbon to user payloads and the remaining idle allocation to the provider.

Simple Payload Model

Input	Description
E_f^t	Facility Energy usage over an accounting period (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings multiplied by PUE
t	Duration of accounting period
t_p	Elapsed time of a payload (Wall clock)
R_p	Resource slots allocated to job (eg CPU's)
R_f	Total slots available at facility
C_{ex}	Inventory Entry: Embedded carbon of each item x in facility
T_x	Inventory Entry: expected lifetime of each item x in facility

Table 2: Summary of the inputs needed to evaluate the Simple Payload Model.



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	Scope 2 - Energy	Scope 3 - Carbon
Payload	$E_p = P_f^{idle} \cdot \frac{R_p}{R_f} \cdot t_p + P_{slot}^{CPU} \cdot t_p^{CPU}$ <p>Where:</p> $P_{slot}^{CPU} = \frac{E_f^t - P_f^{idle} \cdot t}{t_f^{CPU}}$	$C_{ep} = \frac{R_p}{R_f} \cdot t_p \cdot Q_{ef}$ <p>Where:</p> $Q_{ef} = \sum_{x=1}^{items} \frac{C_{ex}}{T_x}$
Idle	$E_{idle}^t = E_f^t - \sum_{p=1}^{payloads} E_p$	$C_{e\ idle}^t = t \cdot Q_{ef} - \left(\sum_{p=1}^{payloads} C_{ep} \right)$

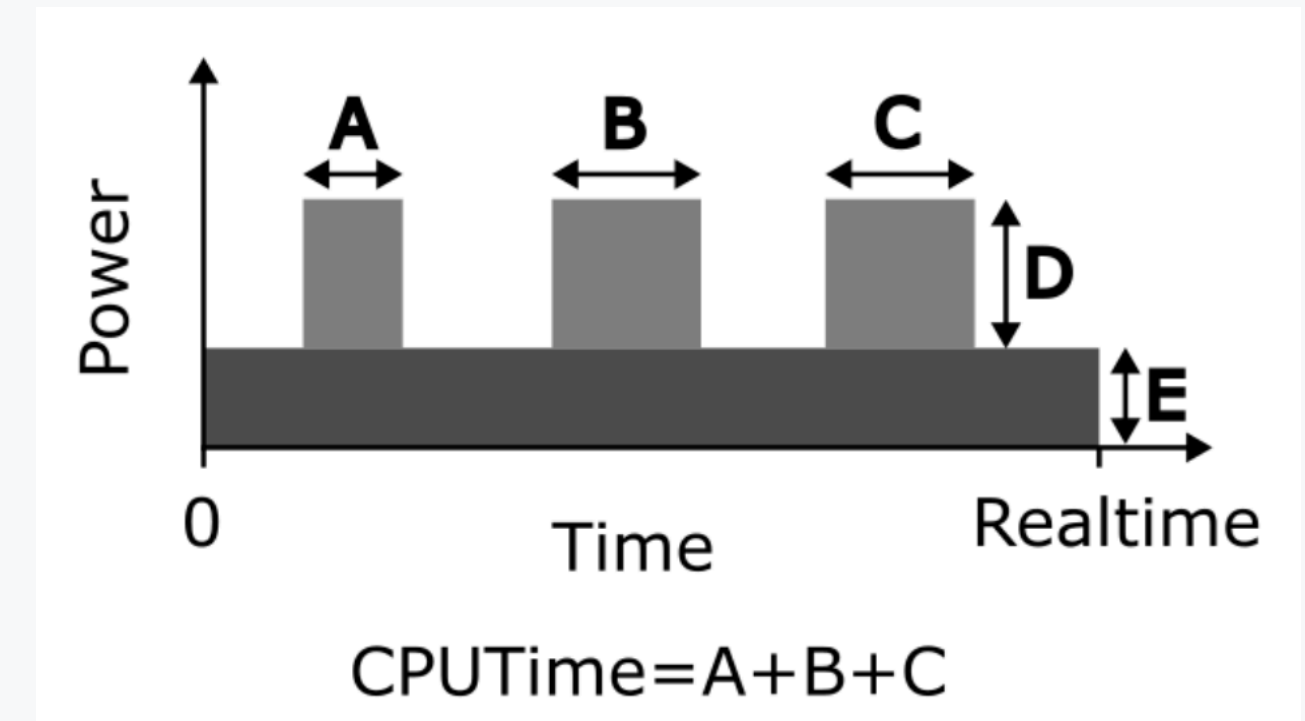


Table 3: Summary of the Enhanced Payload Model showing allocations of Scope 2 energy and Scope 3 carbon to user payloads and the remaining idle allocation to the provider

Input	Description
E_f^t	Facility Energy usage over an accounting period (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings multiplied by PUE
P_f^{idle}	Idle power draw of the facility (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings during an idle period multiplied by PUE
t	Duration of accounting period
t_f^{CPU}	Total CPUtime delivered by the facility during the accounting period.
t_p	Elapsed time of a payload (Wall clock)
t_p^{CPU}	CPUtime of a payload
R_p	Resource slots allocated to job (eg CPU's)
R_f	Total slots available at facility
C_{ex}	Inventory Entry: Embedded carbon of each item x in facility
T_x	Inventory Entry: expected lifetime of each item x in facility

Table 4: Summary of the inputs needed to evaluate the Enhanced Payload Model.

Enhanced Payload Model

Know your idle power?

Know your CPUtime?



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Apportion by Quota

Scope 2 - Energy	$E_{s\ user}^t = \frac{S_{user}}{S_{Total}} \cdot E_s^t$
Scope 3 - Carbon	<p>Where:</p> $C_{e\ s\ user}^t = \frac{S_{user}}{S_{Total}} \cdot t \cdot Q_{es}$ $Q_{es} = \sum_{x=1}^{storage_items} \frac{C_{ex}}{T_x}$

Table 5: Summary of the Simple Storage Model showing allocations of Scope 2 energy and Scope 3 carbon to user storage use and the remaining allocation to the provider.

Simple Storage Model

Input	Description
E_s^t	Storage Energy usage over an accounting period (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings multiplied by PUE
S_{user}	Storage capacity allocated to a user
S_{total}	Total storage capacity of the storage subsystem
t	Duration of accounting period
C_{ex}	Inventory Entry: Embedded carbon of each storage item x
T_x	Inventory Entry: expected lifetime of each storage item x

Table 6: Summary of the inputs needed to evaluate the Simple Storage Model.



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Enhanced Storage Model

Scope 2 - Energy	$E_{s\ user}^t = \frac{S_{user}}{S_{total}} \cdot P_s^{idle} \cdot t + (E_s^t - P_s^{idle} \cdot t) \frac{B_{user}}{\sum_{u=1}^{all_users} B_u}$
Scope 3 - Carbon	<p>Where:</p> $C_{e\ s\ user}^t = \frac{S_{user}}{S_{Total}} \cdot t \cdot Q_{es}$ $Q_{es} = \sum_{x=1}^{storage_items} \frac{C_{ex}}{T_x}$

Table 7: Summary of the Enhanced Storage Model showing allocations of Scope 2 energy and Scope 3 carbon use and the remaining allocation to the provider.

Input	Description
E_s^t	Storage Energy usage over an accounting period (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings multiplied by PUE
P_s^{idle}	Idle power draw of the storage cluster (including cooling) could be estimated from PDU readings during an idle period multiplied by PUE.
S_{user}	Storage capacity allocated to a user
S_{total}	Total Storage capacity of the storage subsystem
t	Duration of accounting period
B_{user}	Bytes read from, or written to, a users storage area
C_{ex}	Inventory Entry: Embedded carbon of each storage item x
T_x	Inventory Entry: expected lifetime of each storage item x

Table 8: Summary of the inputs needed to evaluate the Enhanced Storage Model.

Know your idle power?

Know your bytes?

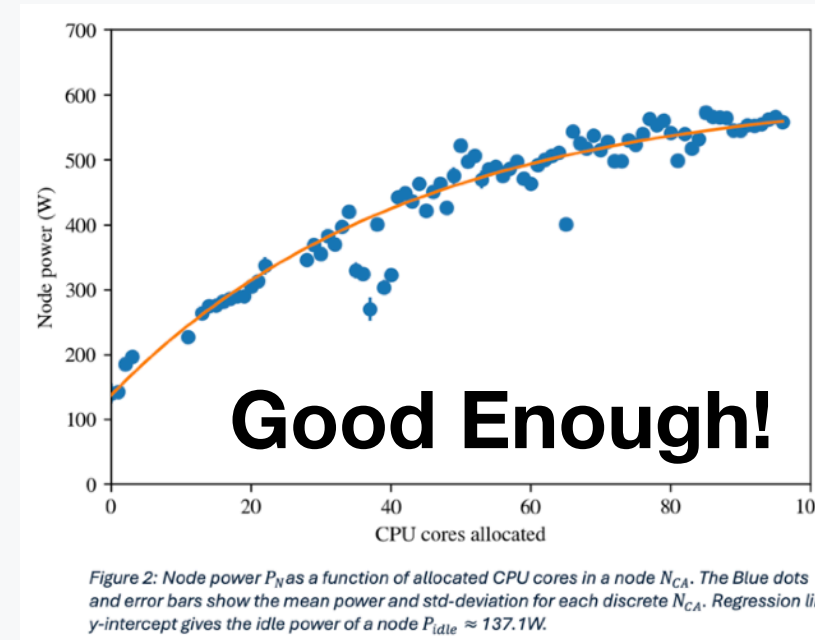


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Nice model but is it practical?

Idle Power →



User	Simple Payload Model	Enhanced Payload Model
	kWh	kWh
prdatl	1204.79	1191.95
pillhcb	159.08	242.24
pilcms	76.83	71.28
pilatl	48.86	51.58
Pilmoe	10.75	16.86
Pildune	2.46	0.61
Others	0.08	0.04
Sub total	1502.86	1574.57
Idle(provider)	94.14	22.43
Total	1597	1597

Table 10: Results of evaluating the Simple and Enhanced Payload models on QMUL batch payloads the 24 hour period of 2024-03-07.

Input	Value	Slurm name	Description
E_f^t	1597 kWh	-	Facility Energy usage. In this four rack example the PDU cumulative energy readings were used to calculate this.
p_f^{idle}	16.45 kW	-	Idle power draw of the facility. In this example the 137.1W per node was multiplied by 120 nodes.
t	86400 s	-	Duration of accounting period. In this case 24 hours.
t_f^{CPU}	-	$\sum TotalCPU$	Total CPUtime delivered by the facility during the accounting period. Sum of the TotalCPU figures for all payloads
t_p	-	Elapsed	Elapsed time of a payload (Wall clock)
t_p^{CPU}	-	TotalCPU	CPUtime of a payload
$Slots_p$	-	AllocCPUS	Resource slots allocated to job (eg CPU's)
$Slots_f$	11520	-	Total slots available at facility. In this case 120 nodes with 96 cores each.

Table 9: Measured and derived constants and Slurm accounting data names used to evaluate the payload models for QMUL batch payloads.

Works for Batch!



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Nice model but is it practical?

Works for Cloud too!
(Simple does at least)

User	Simple Payload Model
	kWh
Project 1	51.51
Project 2	31.52
Project 3	25.07
Project 4	18.22
Project 5	17.61
Project 6	12.89
Others	94.00
Sub total	250.82
Idle(provider)	173.44
Total	424.26

Input	Value	Prometheus name	Description
E_f^t	424.26 kWh	-	Facility Energy usage, derived from “node_hwmon_power_average_watt” and our accounting period t on all nodes.
t	72000 seconds	-	Duration of accounting period. In this case 20 hours.
t_p	-	-	Elapsed time of a VM (Wall clock) during our accounting period, as inferred by the VM’s “launched_at” and “terminated_at” time from OpenStack.
R_p	-	openstack_nova_vcpus_used	Resource slots allocated to VM (eg CPU’s)
R_f	?	openstack_nova_vcpus_available	Total slots available at facility. In this case number of all vcpus on all the nodes.

Table 13: Measured and derived constants and Prometheus accounting data names used to evaluate the simple payload model for STFC Cloud payloads.

Enhanced should too...



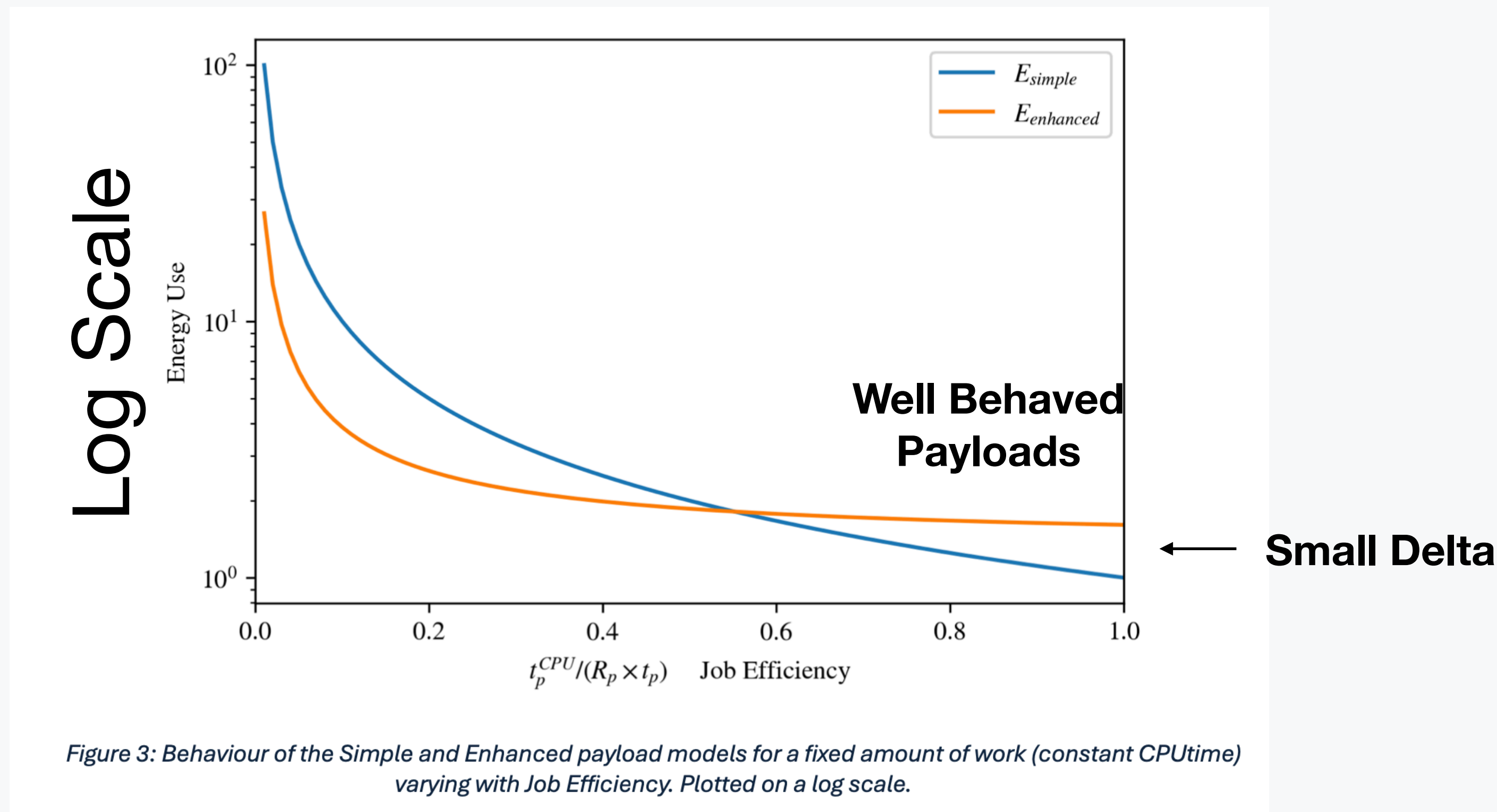
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Which Payload Mode is Best?

Not much to choose between them.

Both encourage more efficient code

Enhanced reduces Allocation to Providers



Which Storage Mode is Best? -> Can we get bytes read/written?



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Reporting Requirements / Concerns

Federation

Carbon costs of IRIS activity/providers broken down into scope 2 and scope 3.

Carbon costs of IRIS supported projects broken down into scope 2 and scope 3.

Carbon saved by being a federation

Reporting upwards:

Benefit realisation, infrastructure efficiency

Demonstrate right mix of platforms/tech

Value of heterogeneity in the federation

Present success while using more?

Power used per hepspec

Fossil power used per hepspc

Try to lead the narrative

Providers

Carbon costs of a provider's service broken down by scope.

Allocate service carbon cost to users and idle/provider

Ease of implementation

Allocate maximum to users (minimum to idle/provider)

Users

Energy per job

Average IRIS Carbon Intensity

Average Embedded carbon factor

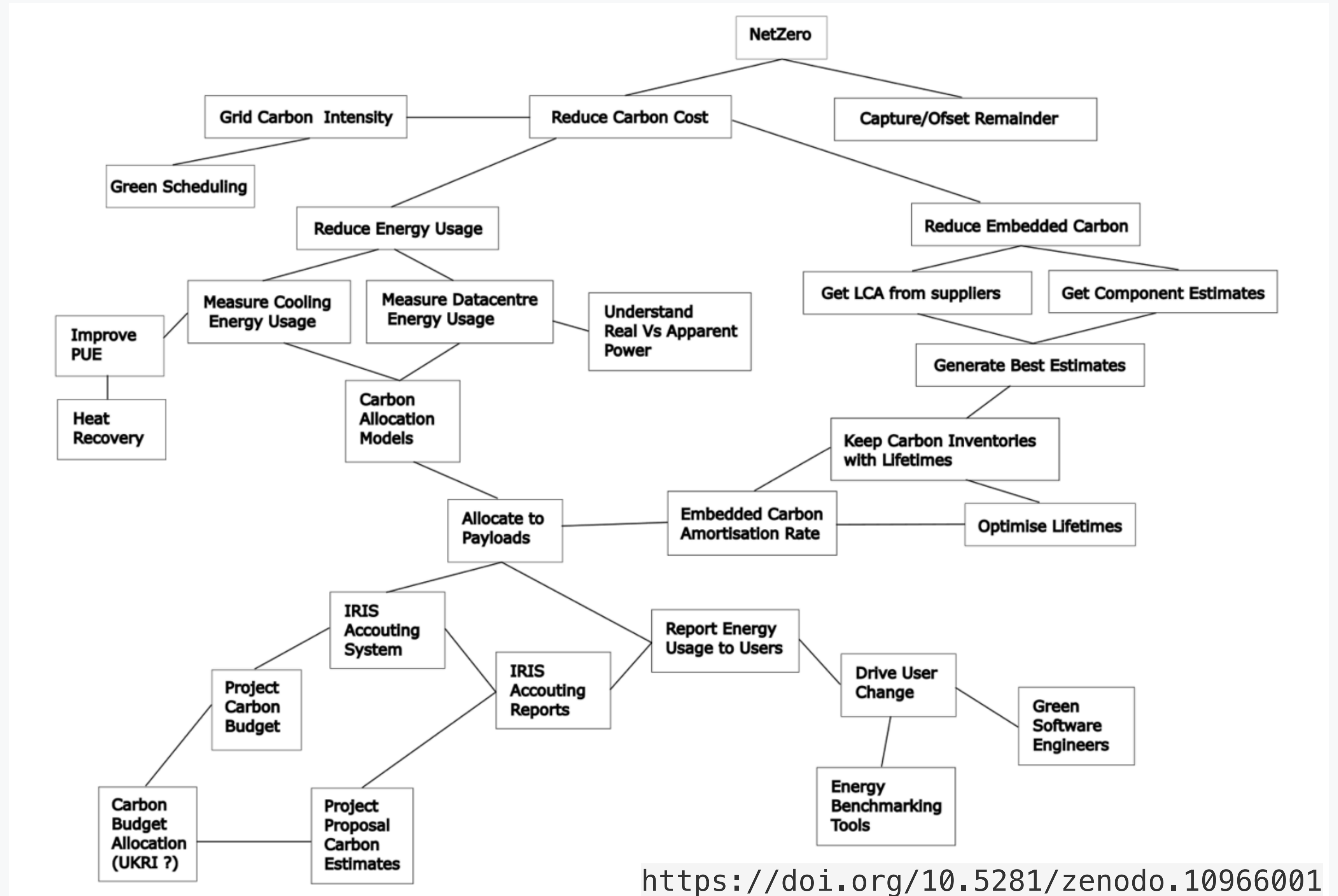
Try to avoid motivating behaviour that increase federation carbon costs.



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What's the Problem?





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What we will do...

ID	Action	By whom	Timeframe
1	Include energy efficiency and scope 3 carbon considerations into procurements with low weighting	Provider	Now
2	Request LCA and scope 3 data from suppliers at procurement	Provider	Now
3	Increase weighting of energy efficiency and scope 3 carbon considerations into procurements	Provider	Soon
4	Require LCA and scope 3 data from suppliers at procurement	Provider	Later
5	Agree a minimum Carbon Inventory schema	Federation	Now
6	Create and maintain the Carbon Inventory	Provider	Now
7	Decide carbon accounting policy for scope 3 write-off/credit if equipment disposed of early or sold as working	Federation	Now
8	Prepare guidelines on how to optimise lifetime of kit for carbon emissions	Federation	Soon
9	Collect Grid Carbon Intensity for: provider sites, federation average and UK average.	Fed/Prov	Now
10	Publish average federation carbon intensity	Federation	Now
11	Share good practice on how real vs apparent AC power measurements effect the processing of different energy use measurements.	Federation	Now
12	Decide on initial carbon model for payload allocation	Federation	Now

ID	Action	By whom	Timeframe
13	Commission an IRIS Carbon Accounting Data Repository: planning and implementation, including data model and data transfer.	Federation	Now
14	Evaluate selected model on payloads daily to give user energy feedback	Provider	Now
15	Evaluate selected model on payloads monthly to report sum of payload energies and idle energy and apportioned embedded carbon costs	Prov/Fed	Now
16	Collect monthly returns of data from providers to IRIS Carbon Accounting Data Repository	Federation	Now
17	Commission reporting portal to provide the identified reports to federation, providers, and users.	Federation	Now
18	Commission reporting to users of payload energy usage and average federation carbon intensity.	Federation	Now
19	Additional tools for user code optimisation such as energy benchmark tools and the addition of profiling queues to services run by providers.	Fed/Prov	Soon
20	Find or commission an energy benchmark for providers to run on compute nodes and keep results in inventory	Federation	Soon
21	Survey GPU energy monitoring frameworks and plan how to add accelerators into carbon monitoring models.	Federation	Soon
22	Review evidence from under-clocking of accelerators and the effect on carbon emissions.	Federation	Soon
23	Collect additional user carbon reporting needs.	Users	Soon
24	Plan how to record and report the impact of Green RSE's.	Federation	Now
25	Regular review of developments in 'Green Scheduling'.	Federation	Now
26	Regular review of UKRU DRI NetZero projects and policy	Federation	Now
27	Bid for UKRI DRI NetZero funds	ALL	Now
28	Prepare IRIS Carbon Costing Framework for grant proposals	Federation	Now



Energy Vs Power

For active carbon we need to know about ENERGY usage

APC PDU's
SNMP query ✓ `PowerNet-MIB::rPDU2DeviceStatusEnergy.1`

Hoctowatthour
(100 wh) units

APC port n
SNMP query ✓ `PowerNet-MIB::rPDU2OutletMeteredStatusEnergy.n`

IPMI query
(freeipmi) ✓ `ipmi-oem dell get-power-consumption-data`

freeipmi precision improved: <https://savannah.gnu.org/bugs/index.php?65449>

ipmitool bug submission + 1 line patch pending

IPMI query
(ipmitool) ? `ipmitool sensor list`

Probably Power Measurements
Energy is better!

Time Stamped Energy usage
is more robust than
instantaneous power

Do you know
your PUE?
(Cooling kWh)

Don't use IPMI for serious power measurements!



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We can measure Carbon Costs of a computer service



We can allocate Carbon Costs to Payloads



Next Steps

Establish Embedded Carbon Inventories

Measure model inputs regularly

Establish Carbon Accounting/Reporting System

Run Model Regularly

Monitor the model trends

Make informed decisions to recuse Carbon costs

Stay aware of UKRI NetZero DRI work

Carbon Costs in IRIS & UKRI NetZero DRI

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