

Investigating the Flexibility of Data Centres for the Research Infrastructures of Tomorrow

(The RF2.0 Project at DESY)

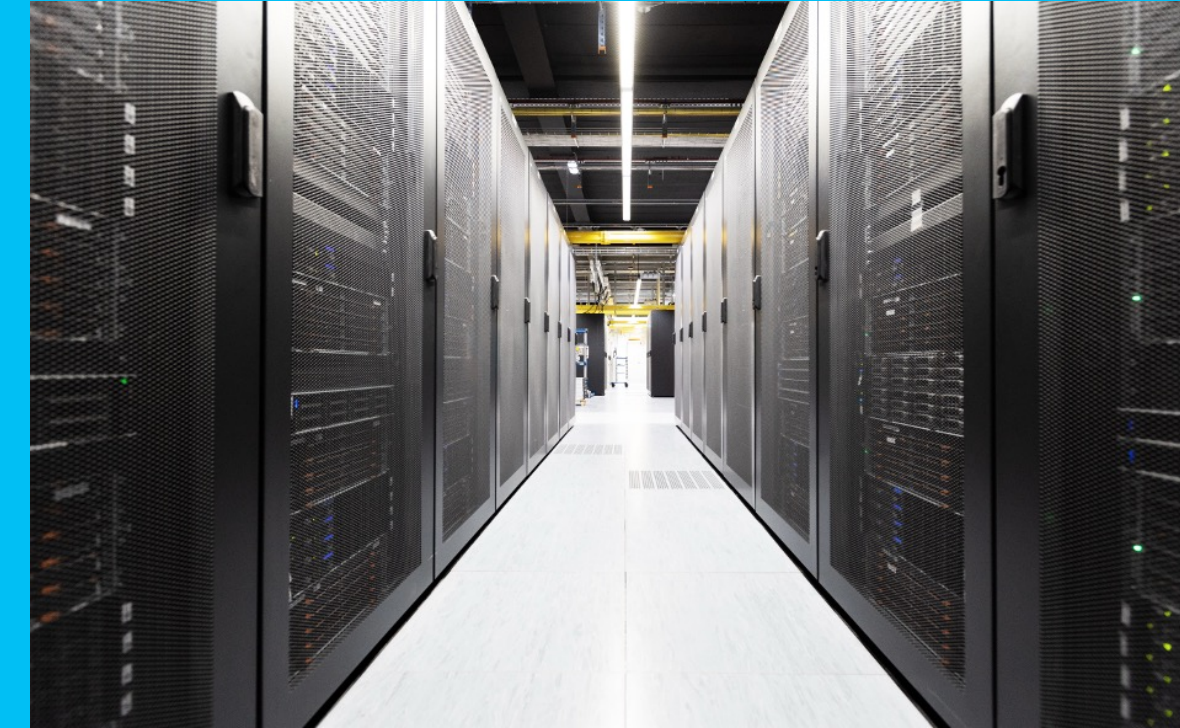
Dwayne Spiteri, Jan Hartmann, Yves Kemp, Konrad Kockler, Martin Gasthuber, Kilian Schwarz et al

SC4RC - 05/05/2026



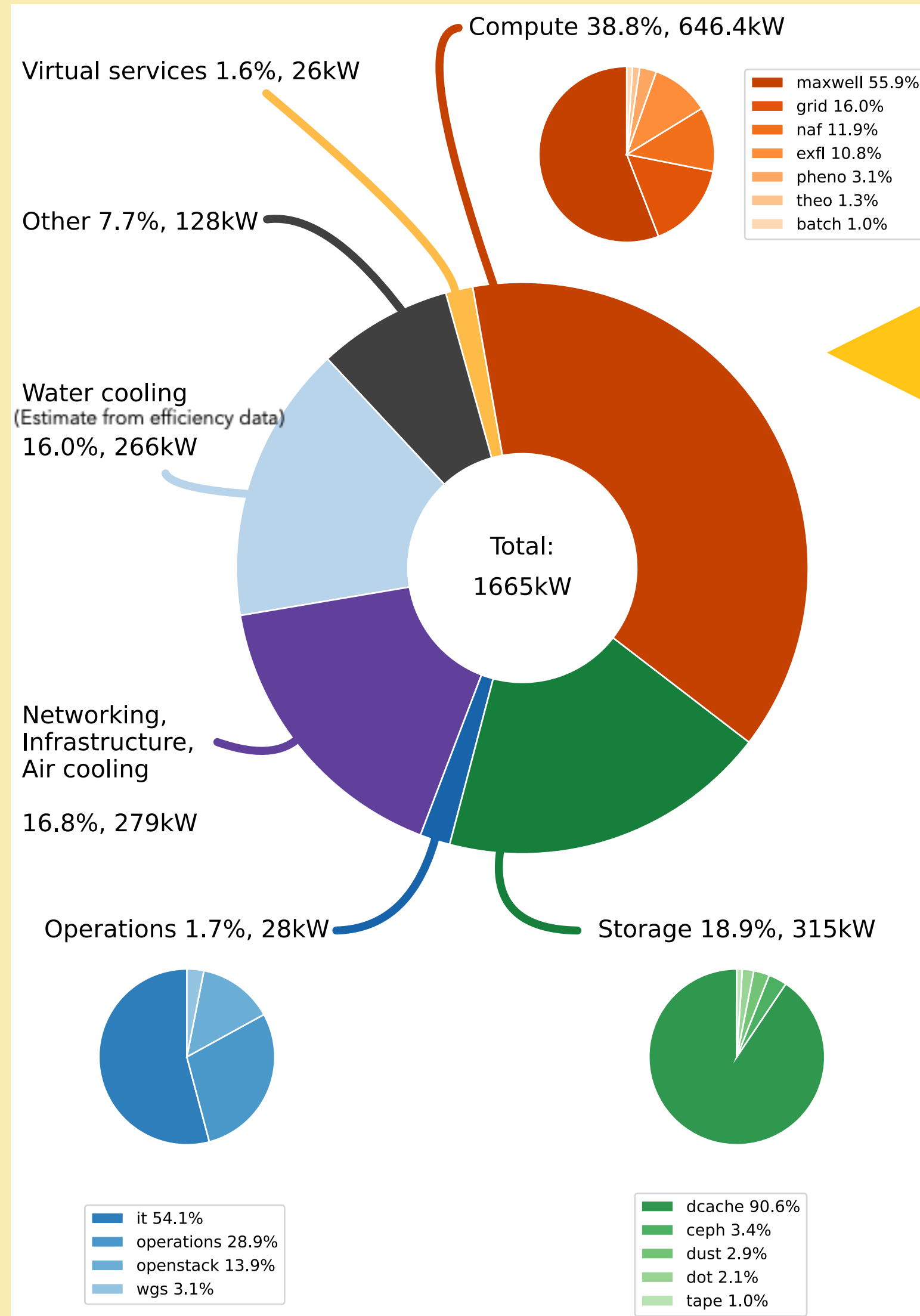
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- * At DESY we focus on what this means for current and future operation (and construction) of green data-centres.

DESY DATA CENTRE



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Median Power Consumption of the DESY Data-Centre

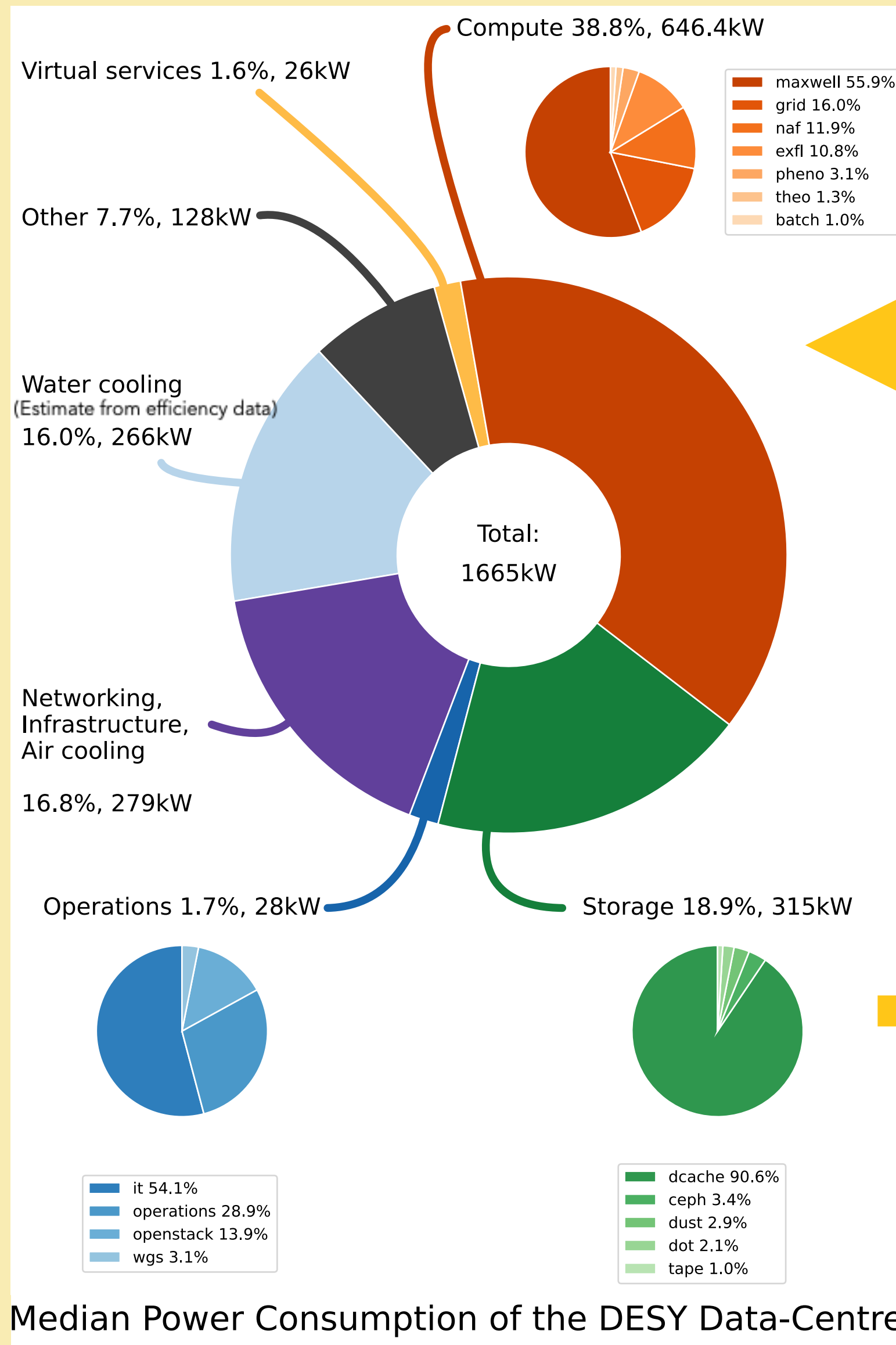
1. Learn

Take detailed and fine-grained measurements of data-centre components



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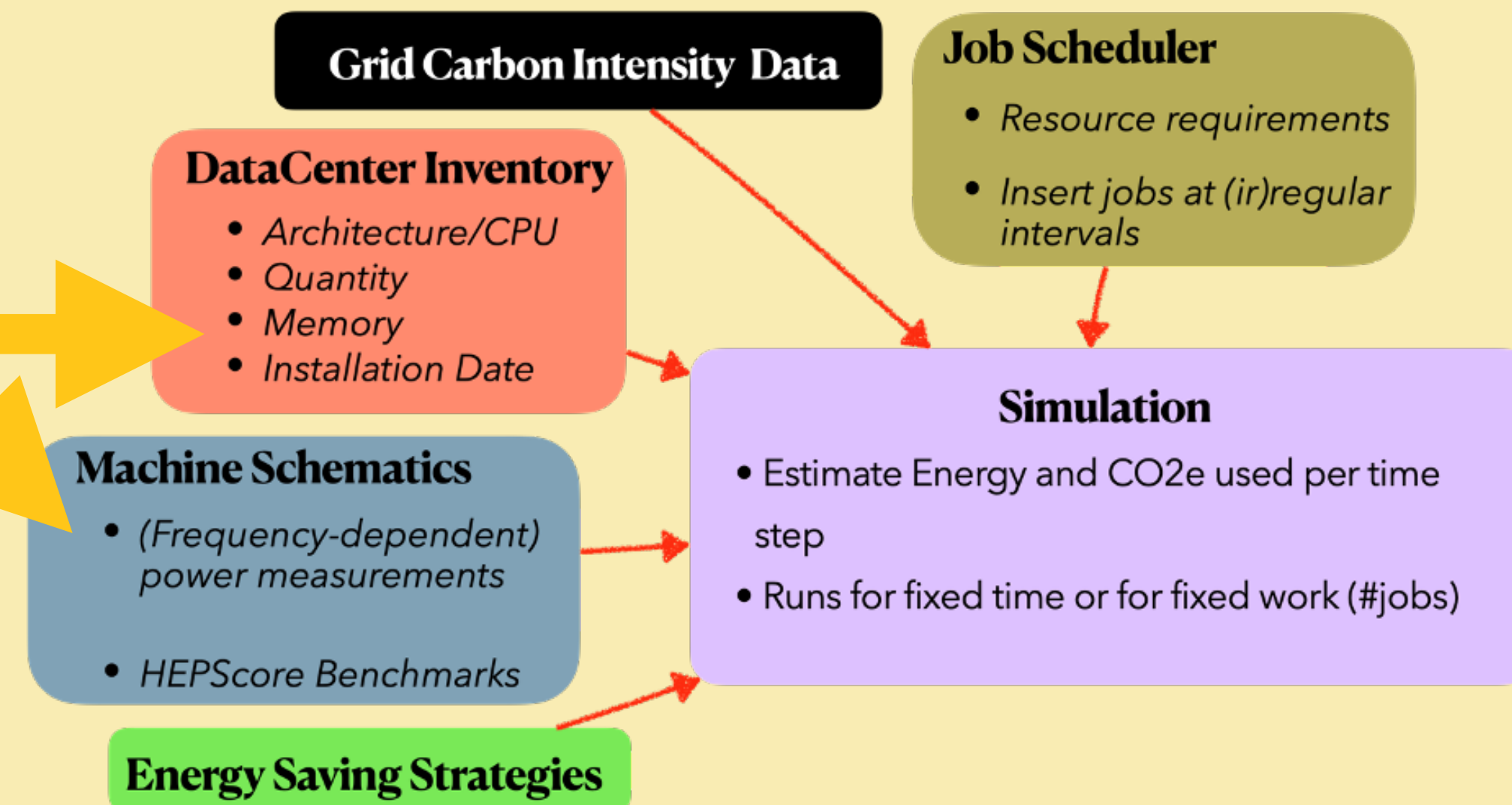


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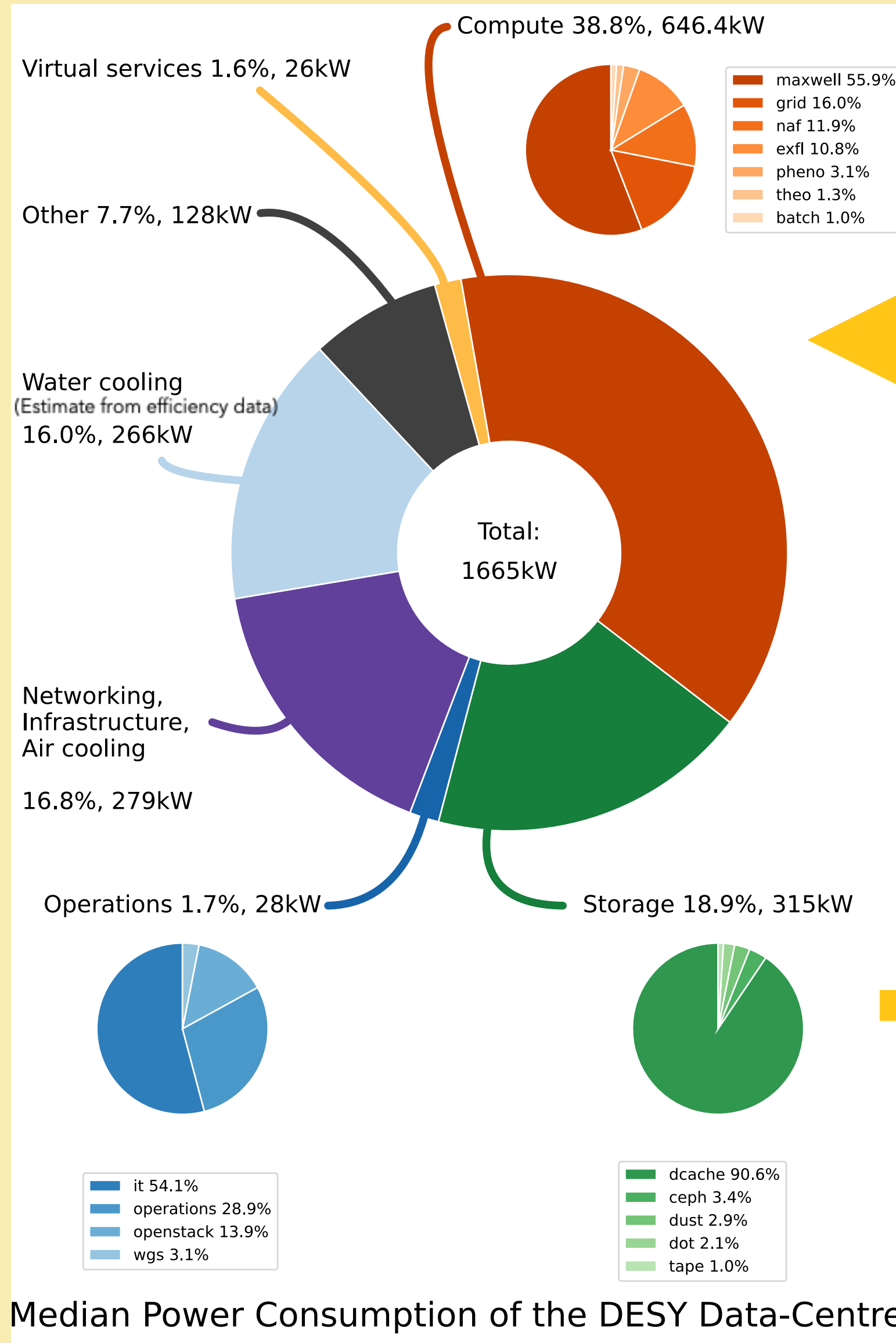
2. Simulate

Test different energy-saving strategies/policies in a simulation of the data-centre



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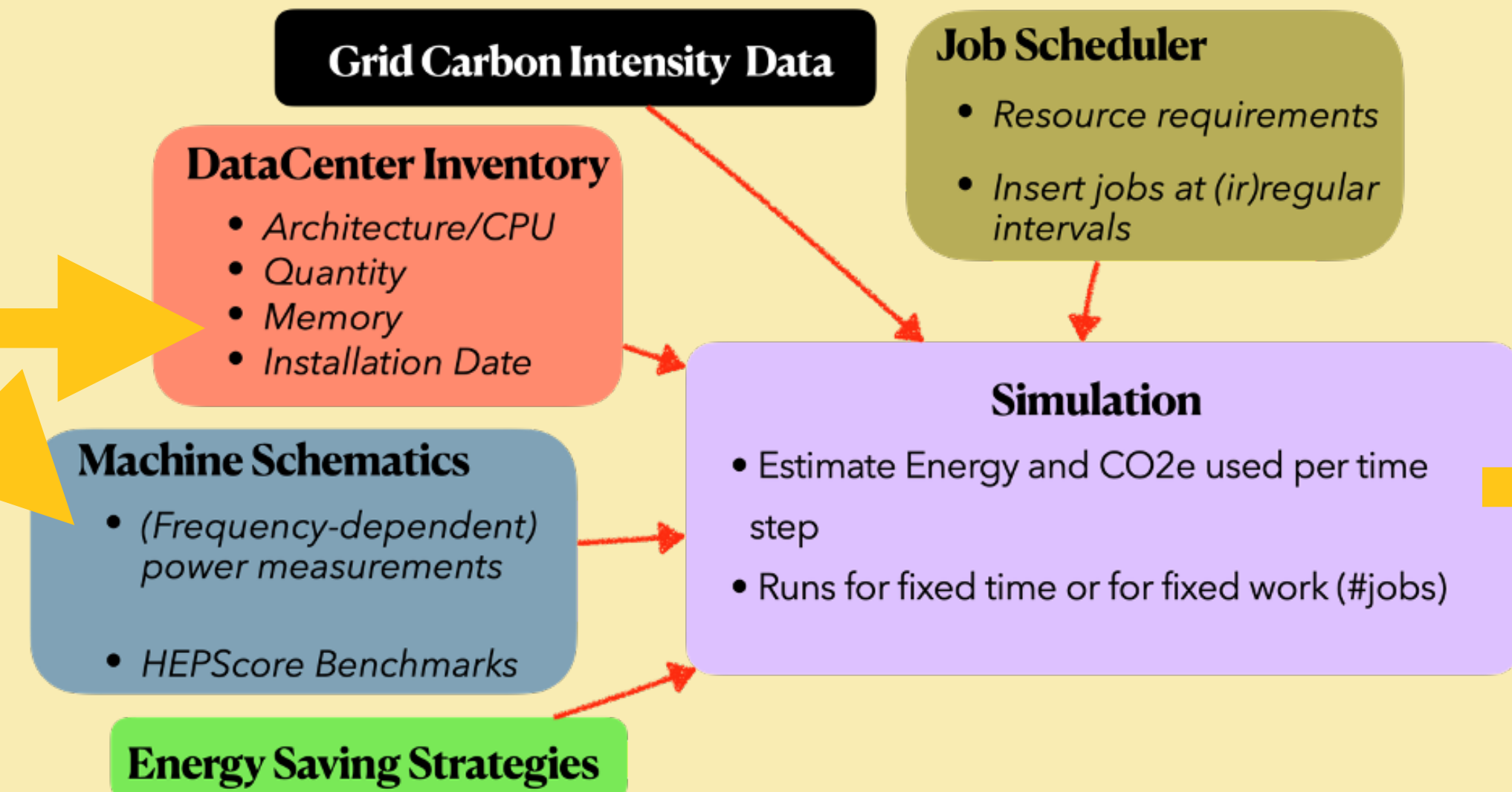
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3. Refine

Take simulation findings and dynamically implement them at the datacenter

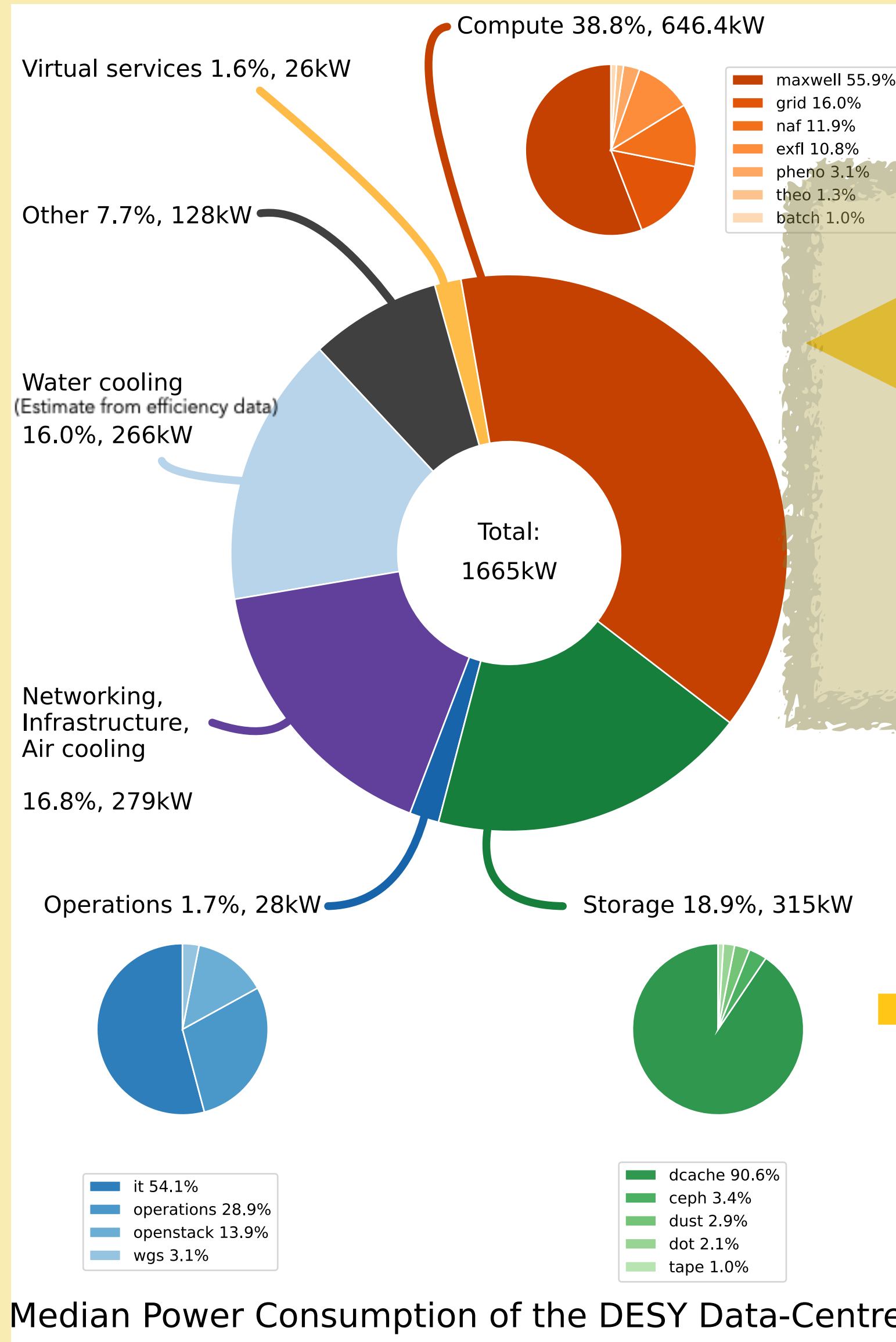
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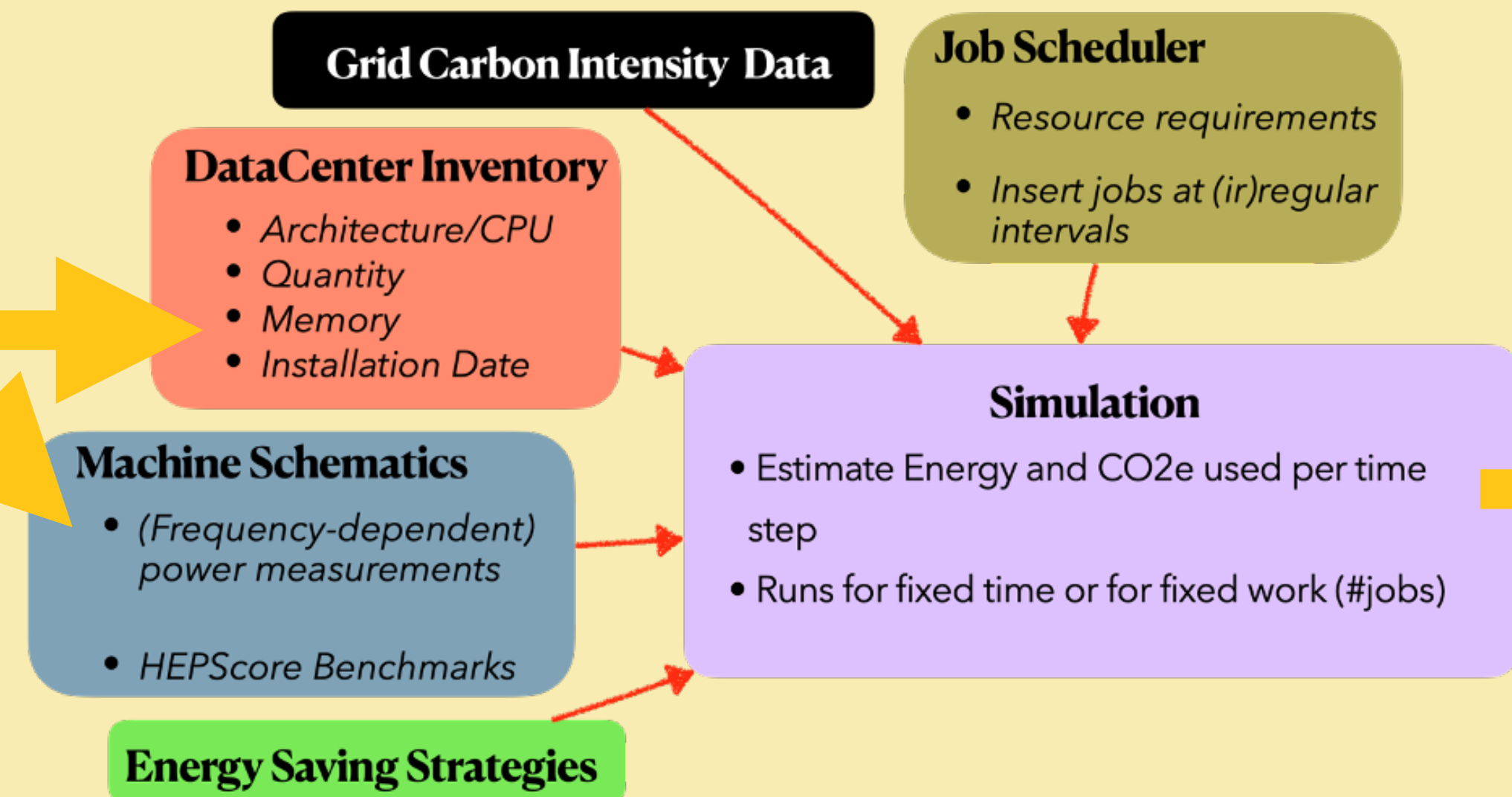
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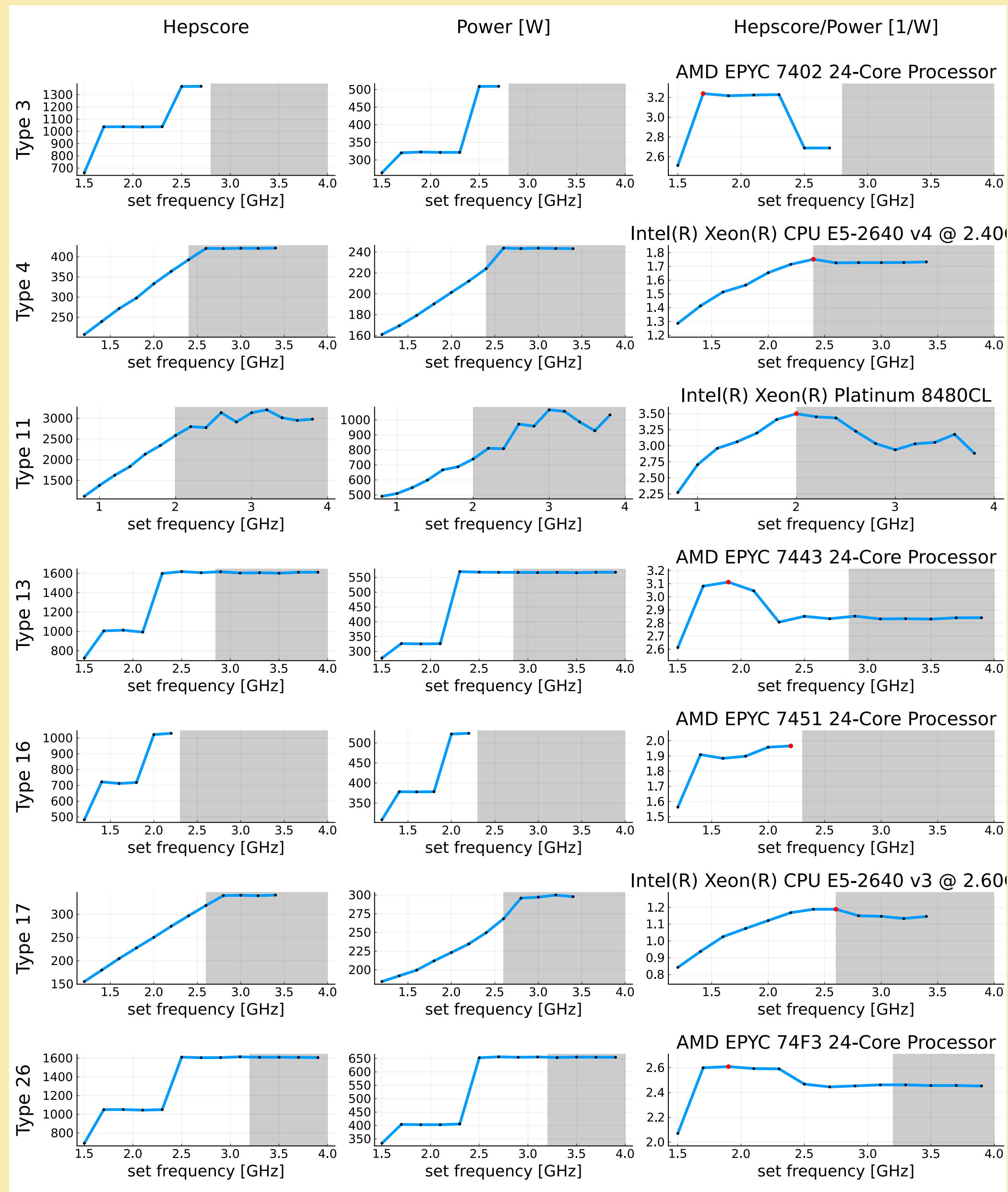
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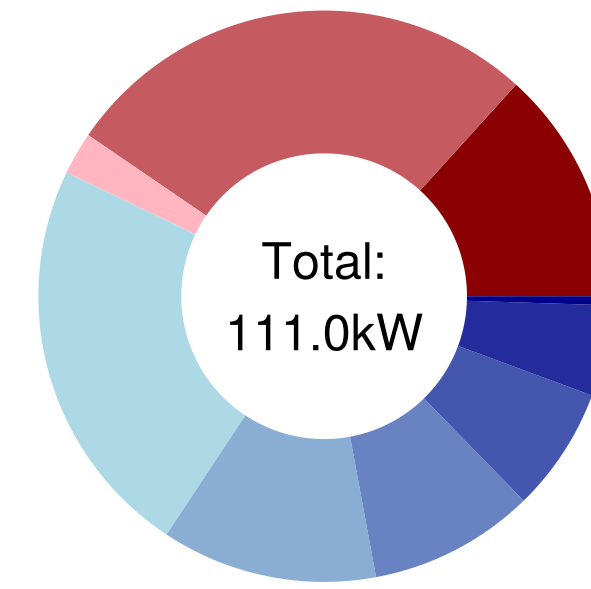
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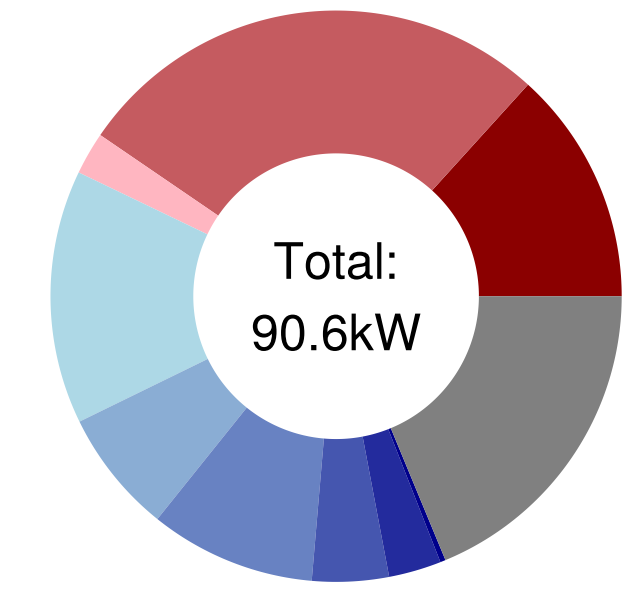
Data-Centre Data Summary Analysis



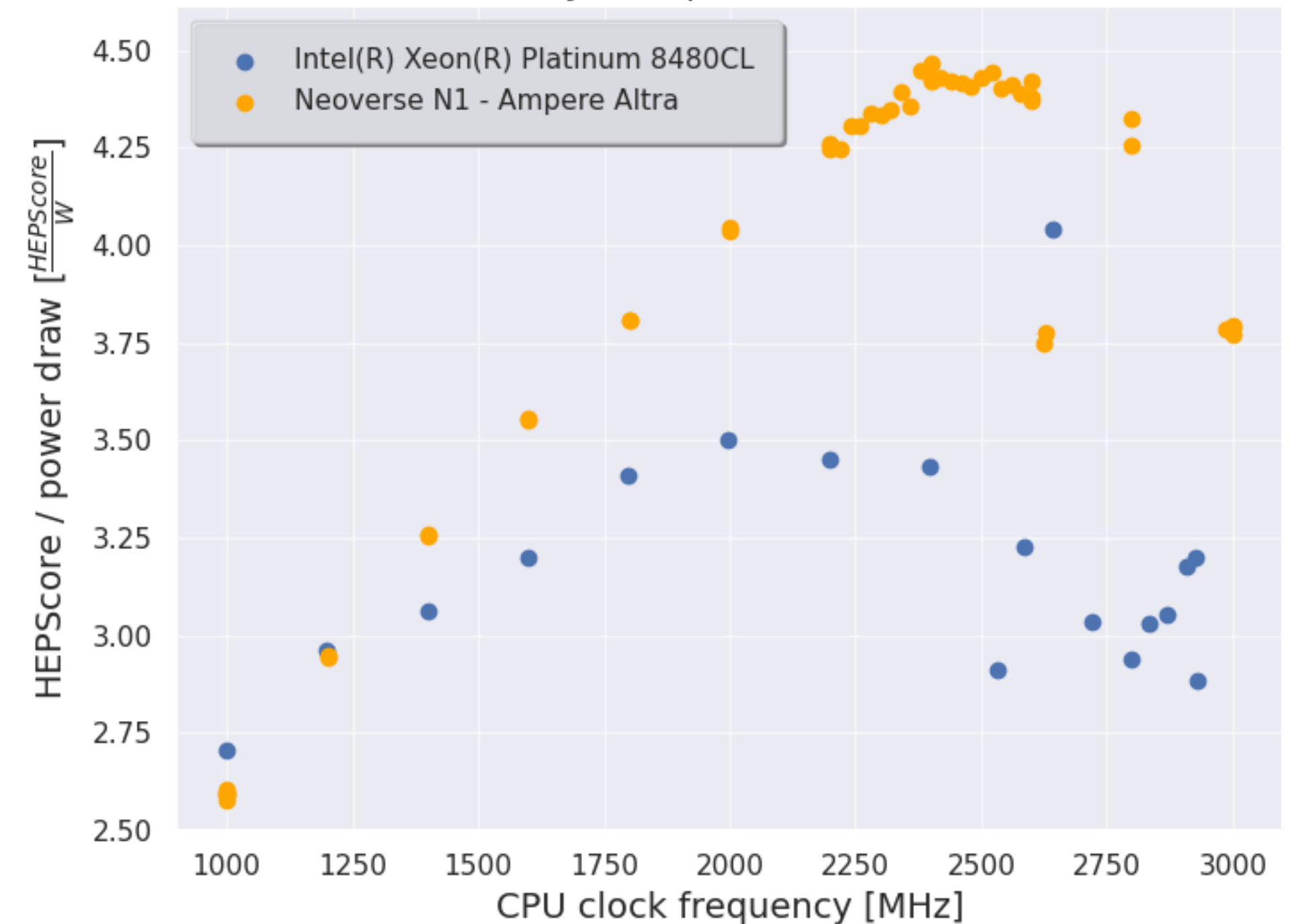
Energy usage at design frequency



Energy usage at optimal frequency

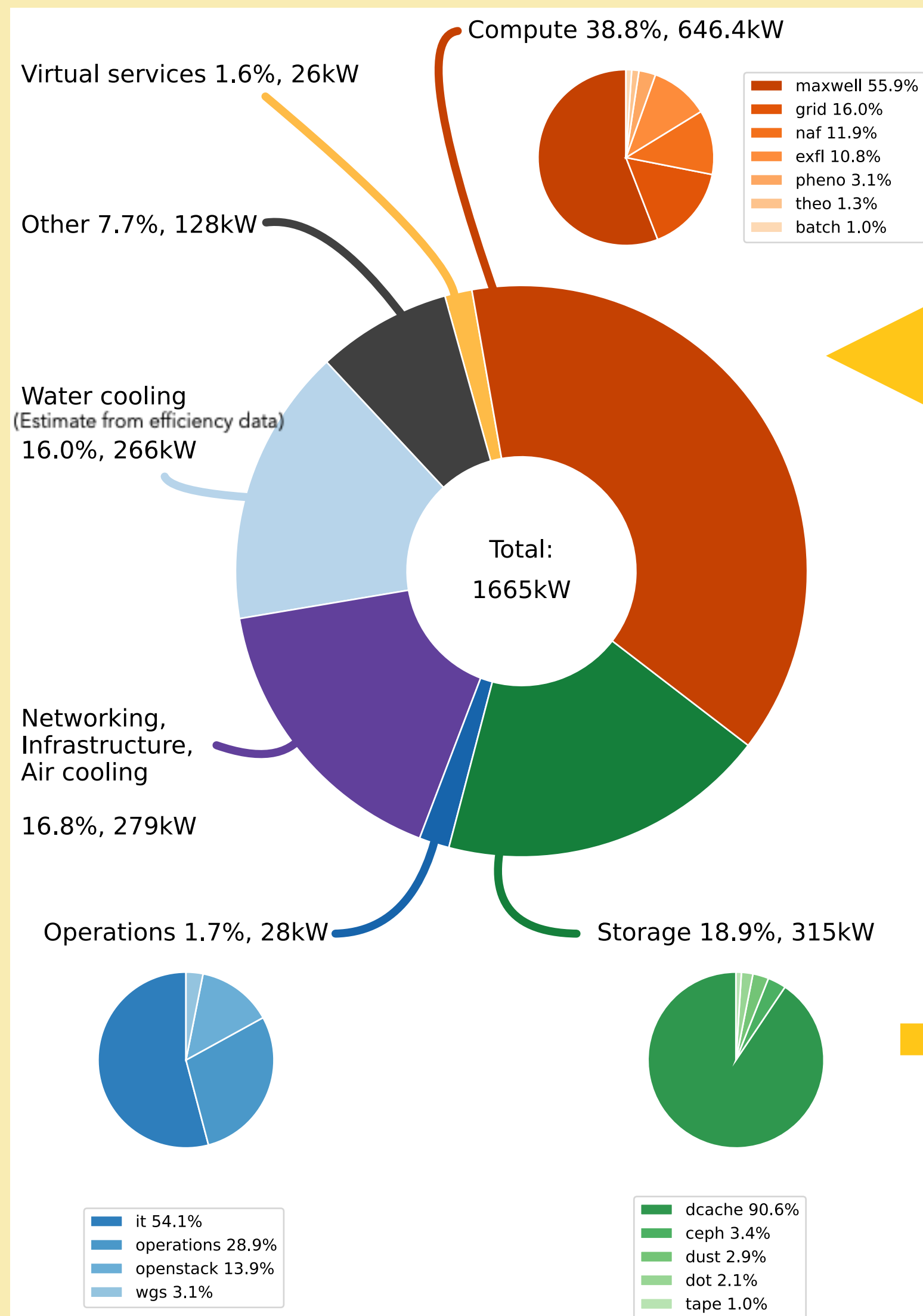


Power efficiency comparison ARM vs. Intel CPU



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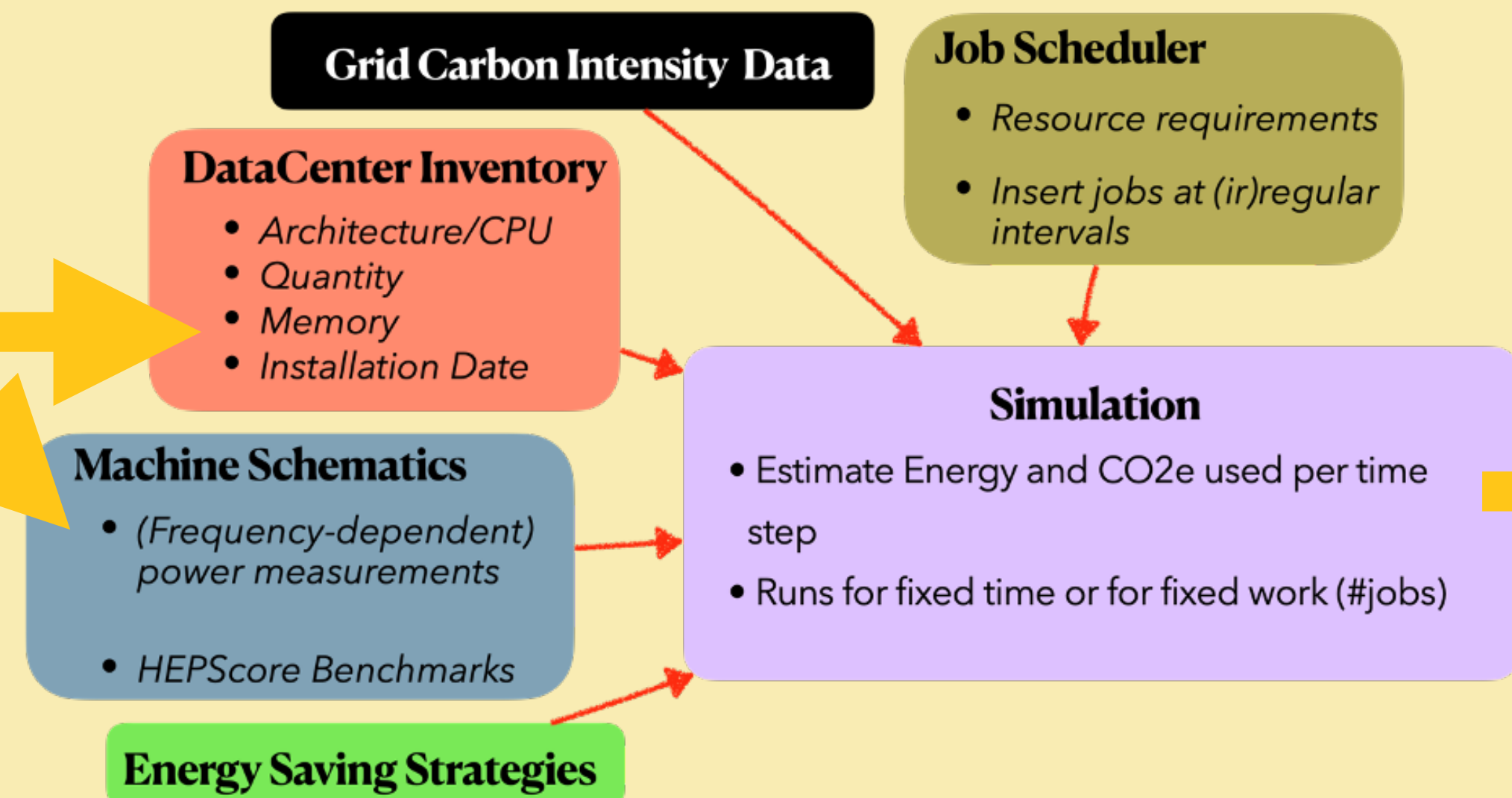


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Take simulation findings and dynamically implement them at the datacenter

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Test different energy-saving strategies/policies in a simulation of the data-centre



3. Refine

Take what we learn and apply it

- Ultimate goal is to have the data centre be more flexible on demand.
 - Consume electricity when green energy is available, do not consume electricity when green energy is sparse
 - Try to run on the most effective frequencies

- Different clusters serve different communities, and each have their own needs, and therefore their own demands - no one size fits all solution.

POCCET - Proof of Concept Cluster for Emissions Tracking

We installed:

- 17 Dell PowerEdge R430 Machines in two racks
- 2 Ampere Altra (ARM based machines)
- 2 Power metering capable smart PDUs installed, reporting to Graphite, visualized in Grafana
- These PDU's have the ability to switch each port individually, and allow for more accurate energy/power draw measurements
- The hosts have been configured to be part of a separate VLAN, to not interfere with the rest of the data centre
- A basic HTCondor setup is provisioned via puppet, consisting of central manager, access point and execution points

A mini data centre to test the future of flexible computing





For further information and to follow our project progress visit www.rf20.eu



and our Social Media accounts: RF2.0 Project @rf20_project



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Confederazione Svizzera
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
**State Secretariat for Education,
Research and Innovation SERI**

Dynamic control of POCCKET

External inputs

- Simulation Feedback
- Power Grid Info (price, RE availability, demand curves)
- Manual Inputs/ Strategies (“save x%, cancel shortest job runtime first”)
- Time based-rules (Save x% between 11:00-15:00)

Run actions on servers and update machine states

Decision Tool - “Comptroller”

- Internal Input (States)**
- Machine Inventory + HEPScore/ Watt(Frequency)
 - Energy Use
 - Machine States
 - Host is up/down
 - Host is running at x Frequency
 - Job States
 - Jobs Running since ...
 - Jobs Running until ...

Decision Tool

- ➔ **Power available to consume?**
 - boot instances
 - set more aggressive cpu governor
- ➔ **Do we need to scale down?**
 - shutdown lowest HS/W first
 - try not to lose running compute jobs

Actions

- /instances/batchYYYY
 - Set governor “powersave”
- /instances/batchZZZZ
 - shutdown
- /instances/controller
 - Boot “batchWWWW”

Monitoring

Post state and resource consumption of servers

Instances/controller-agents
batchXXXX-agent

Send Actions to be performed on servers

How to build and test this Comptroller?

Work “Backwards”

- Create scripts that can automatically change the states of machines.
- Test various capabilities individually
- Evaluate effectiveness using monitoring

