

Efficient energy management for data center servers



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First things first

- **Some context, FYI:**

➤ OVO Energy UK study “*Think before you thank*”

16.433 Tonnes of carbon a year!!



➤ Outsourcing/external cloud?

OK, but their carbon footprint is yours too!



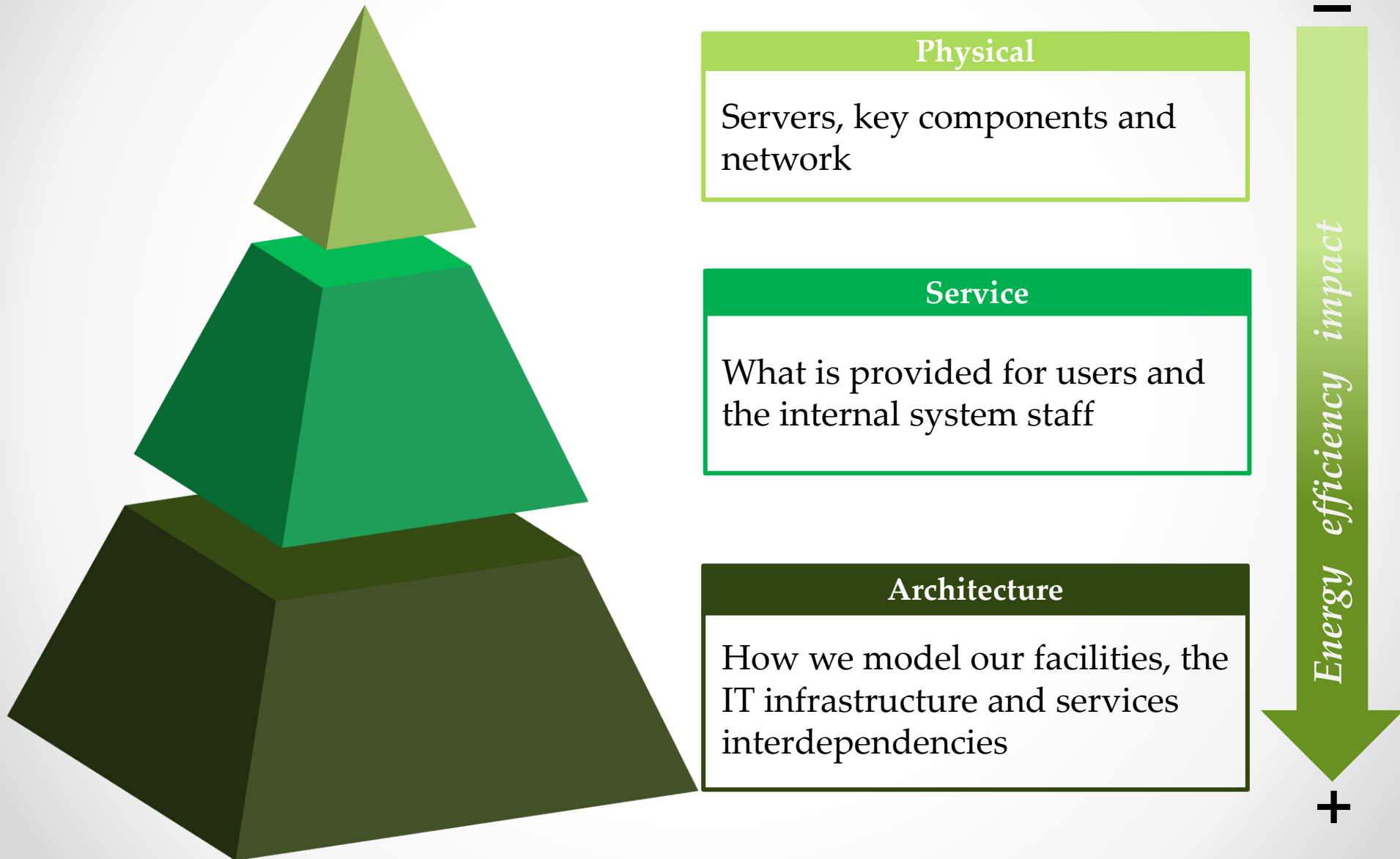
- **Expectations and reality**

➤ **Frustration** = Expectation – Reality



A holistic approach

- Efficiency management levels



A holistic approach II

- **STRATEGY = Architecture + Service**

➤ Medium/long term → slow changes + change resistances

IT energy strategy $\subset$ Institutional energy strategy



- **Third best option: The physical level**

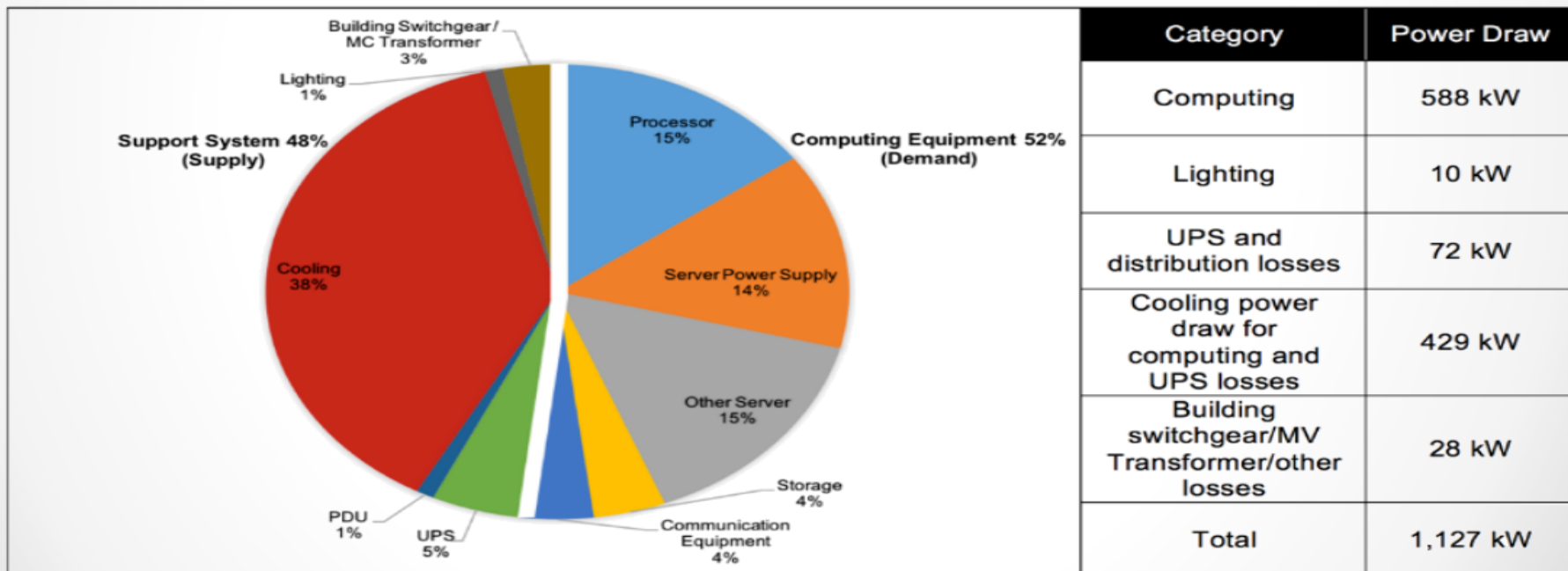


Figure 1. Analysis of a typical 465 m² data center (Emerson 2015).

We deal “only” with 50% of energy consumption!

The physical level

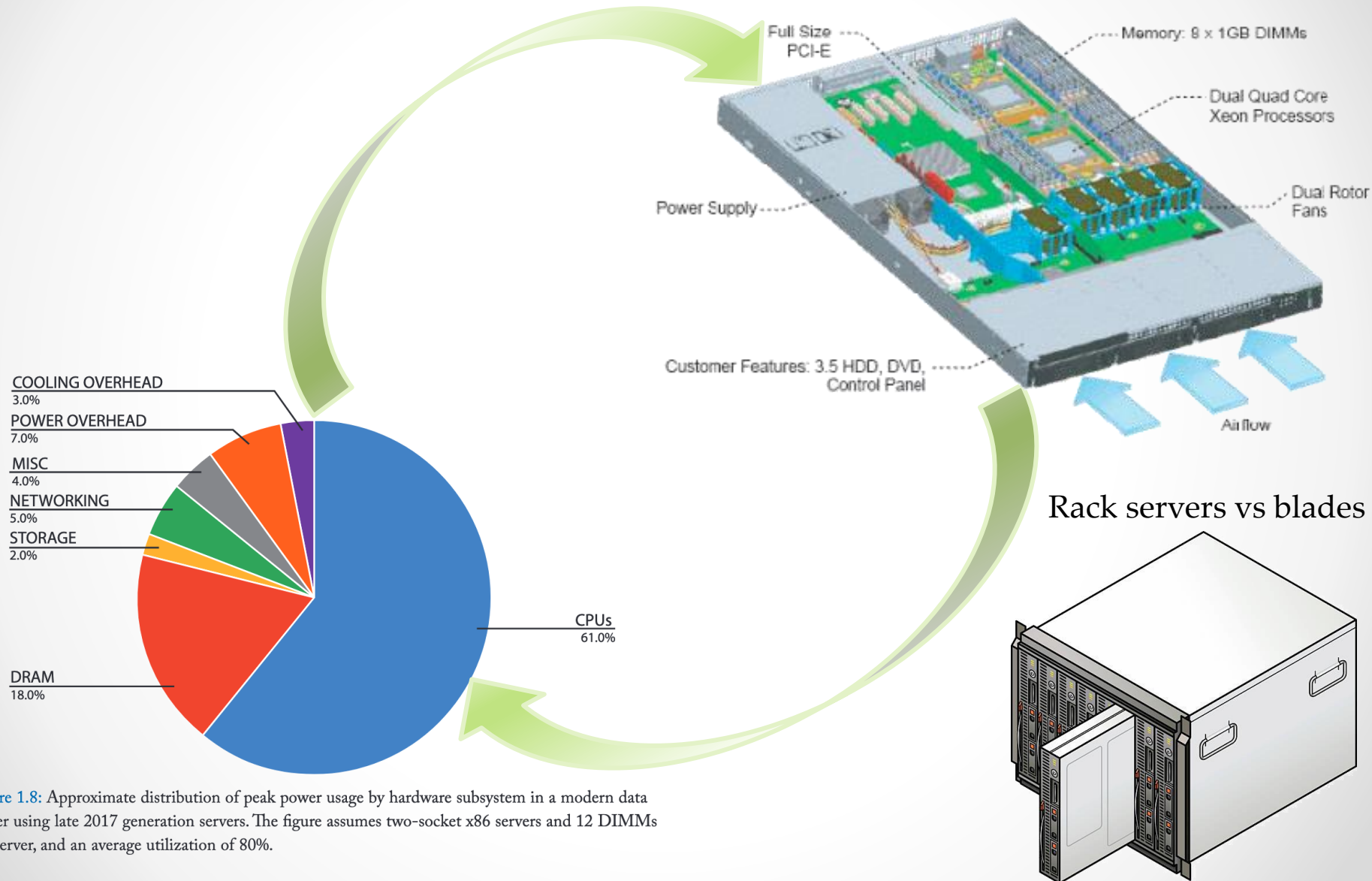


Figure 1.8: Approximate distribution of peak power usage by hardware subsystem in a modern data center using late 2017 generation servers. The figure assumes two-socket x86 servers and 12 DIMMs per server, and an average utilization of 80%.



“...because without (proper) data, you are just another person with an opinion.”

Featuring William Edwards Deming

FACTS ~~MYTHS~~

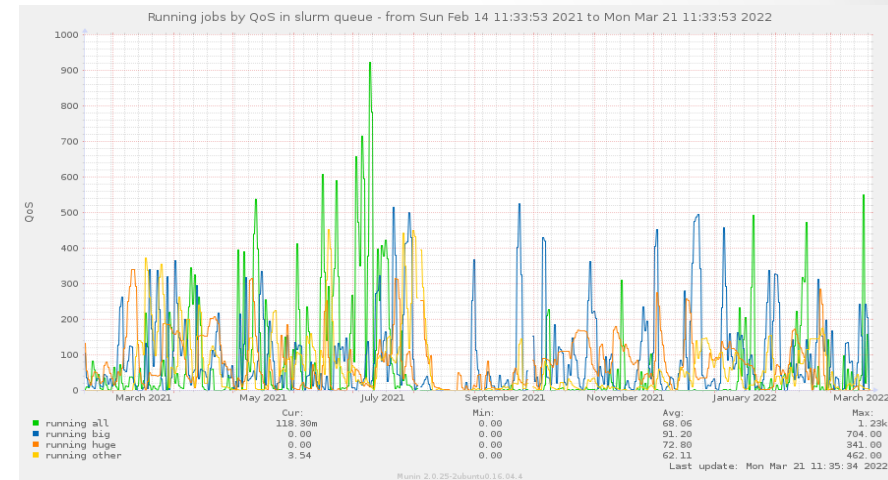
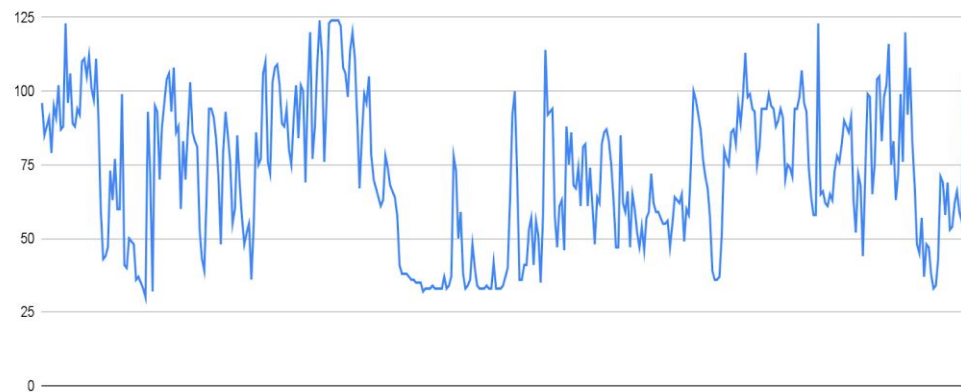


MythBusters: idle vs power off

- HPC system: 122 nodes and ~2.500.000 jobs per year at DAC

➤ Slurm queue system power management → self node power on/off when needed

Nodes actius 2021/2022



- Power consumption

- 1 x 460 W PSU
- 2 x CPU 6C/12T
- 16 x 8 GB ECC = 128 GB
- 1 x 1 TByte HDD SATA Disk

(*) 0,142 € KWh

State	Power	KWh	€ / hour*	€ / day 100 nodes	€ / year 100 nodes
Unplugged	0 W	0	0	0	0
Connected → power off	10 W	0,01	0,00142705	3,4	1241
Connected → idle	81 W	0,08	0,0114164	27,4	10001
Stress 1 CPU	103 W	0,1	0,0142705	34,2	12483
Stress 1 IO	91 W	0,09	0,01284345	30,8	11242
Stress 10 CPU	151 W	0,15	0,02140575	51,4	18761
Stress 10 IO	118 W	0,12	0,0171246	41,1	15002
Stress 24 CPU	160 W	0,16	0,0228328	54,8	20002
Stress 24xCPU+IO+HDD	182 W	0,18	0,0256869	61,6	22484

MythBusters II: hdd vs ssd



2015 server:

- 2 x Intel E5-2430 (12C/24T)
- 1 x SATA 1TBytes
- 32 GB RAM



# Disks	Type	State	Model	Power (MAX)
0	-	Connected → idle	-	55.3w
1	HDD	Connected → idle	Seagate Constellation 1Tbyte 7.2k rpm	62.2w (+12%)
1	HDD	I/O Stress	Seagate Constellation 1Tbyte 7.2k rpm	71.5w (+29%)
1	SSD	Connected → idle	Samsung 860 EVO 1TB	58.0w (+5%)
1	SSD	I/O Stress	Samsung 860 EVO 1TB	66.3w (+19%)

MythBusters III: old servers lifespan



2010 server:

- 2 x Intel Xeon 5120 (4C)
- 2 x SATA 500GBytes
- 2 x PSU 460w
- 4 GB RAM
(RAID* hardware controller+ cache)



# Disks	Type	State	Model	Power (MAX)
2	HDD	Connected → idle	Western Digital 500GB RE3 7.2k rpm	169w
2	HDD	I/O Stress	Western Digital 500GB RE3 7.2k rpm	171.8w (+2%)*

“old” server power consumption is +2.5 times a 2015 server power consumption!!!

MythBusters IV: dual power supply



2020 Server:

2 x Intel Xeon 4214R
2 x PSU 500w
1 x HDD SATA 1TByte
64 GB RAM



PSU-1	PSU-2	State	Power (MAX)
Connected	Unplugged	Connected → power off	17.5w
Connected	Connected	Connected → power off	23w (+31%)
Connected	Unplugged	Connected → idle	102.1w
Connected	Connected	Connected → idle	110.5w (+8%)

**Physical vs Architecture/Service
(logical) level redundancy!!!**



How to be a doer in 3 lessons: I

1. Fuente de alimentación

Seleccionad una fuente de alimentación que proporcione una potencia inferior al 125% del consumo máximo del sumatorio de componentes del servidor (CPU+RAM+Discos+Placa base) y que tenga eficiencia dentro de la norma 80Plus. Evitad, si es posible, fuentes de alimentación redundantes. Se recomienda buscar la flexibilidad a nivel de servicio y arquitectura TIC, a excepción de casos de sistemas de alta disponibilidad (HA) o equipos críticos.

Puntuación: 0 para las 80 Plus y añadid 2 puntos adicionales para cada mejora de la categoría energética.

Referencia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/80_Plus

2. Procesador

- Servidores genéricos : Seleccionad la CPU dentro de la familia compatible con el socket de la placa base que tenga menor consumo y que proporcione los cores/threads requeridos. Son preferibles los sistemas con refrigeración pasiva versus los tradicionales con ventiladores. Recordad que generalmente es necesario configurar/habilitar los estados de bajo consumo energético a la BIOS.

- Servidores HPC o específicos (GPUs...): Según necesidades.

CM = Consumo Máximo = Máximo(consumo en watts de todos los procesadores ofertados)

Cm = Consumo mínimo = mínimo(consumo en watts de todos los procesadores ofertados)

VE = Varianza Energética = CM - Cm

Puntuación: $10 * (CM - \text{Consumo procesador}) / VE$

Referencia para CPUs Intel: <https://ark.intel.com/content/www/us/en/ark.html>

Referencia para CPUs AMD: <https://www.amd.com/en/processors>

NOTA: Son preferibles sistemas con 2 o más procesadores físicos en un mismo equipo, que servidores múltiples desde el punto de vista de ahorro energético para propósito general.

3. RAM

- Servidores con procesadores de equipos portátiles o bajo consumo: 2 DIMMs por procesador físico. Servidores con procesadores para servicios genéricos: 4 DIMMs por procesador físico.

- Servidores con procesadores para equipos HPC/específicos: Según el fabricante, arquitectura del procesador (dual channel, quad channel...) y número de CPU sockets.

Puntuación: $10 - \text{Valor Absoluto} (\# \text{DIMMs recomendados para la gama del procesador} - \# \text{DIMMs ofertados})$

NOTA: En el caso de ofertar configuraciones con menos DIMMs de los recomendados por el fabricante del procesador, se puntuará con 0 puntos por ineficiente.

4. Disco

- Servidores genéricos: Seleccionad preferentemente discos SSD hasta los 2TBytes. Tened en cuenta la activación en el sistema operativo de la gestión SMART de los discos y TRIM si es necesario.

- Servidores de disco/HPC/específicos: Según necesidades.

Puntuación: $10 * (\# \text{discos SSD ofertados} / \# \text{discos totales ofertados})$

Referencia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S.M.A.R.T.>

Referencia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trim_\(computing\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trim_(computing))

Fórmula Puntuación Energética = Procesador * 0.4 + FA * 0.3 + RAM * 0.1 + DISC * 0.2

How to be a doer in 3 lessons: II

- **The 10 – 10 – 10 Challenge:**

- **10% Reduction of electrical power in data centers servers**

- Measurable (benchmarking)

- Real impact

- **10% Of electrical budget investment**

- Self-financing

- Continuous Return On Investment

- **10 Months for execution time**

- Finite time (vs multi-year)

- Procurement period



CAMPUS **UPC**
SQS
TENI
BLE
2030

How to be a doer in 3 lessons: III



Spending **vs** Investing

Buy **vs** Use

Local **vs** Institutional Consortium

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