

Sustainability at HITS: from energy monitoring to carbon-aware computing

Oleksiy M. Kozlov

Staff scientist, Sustainable Computing Advisor

The Exelixis Lab
Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies (HITS gGmbH)
exelixis-lab.org | h-its.org

November 18, 2024

Energy monitoring: group servers

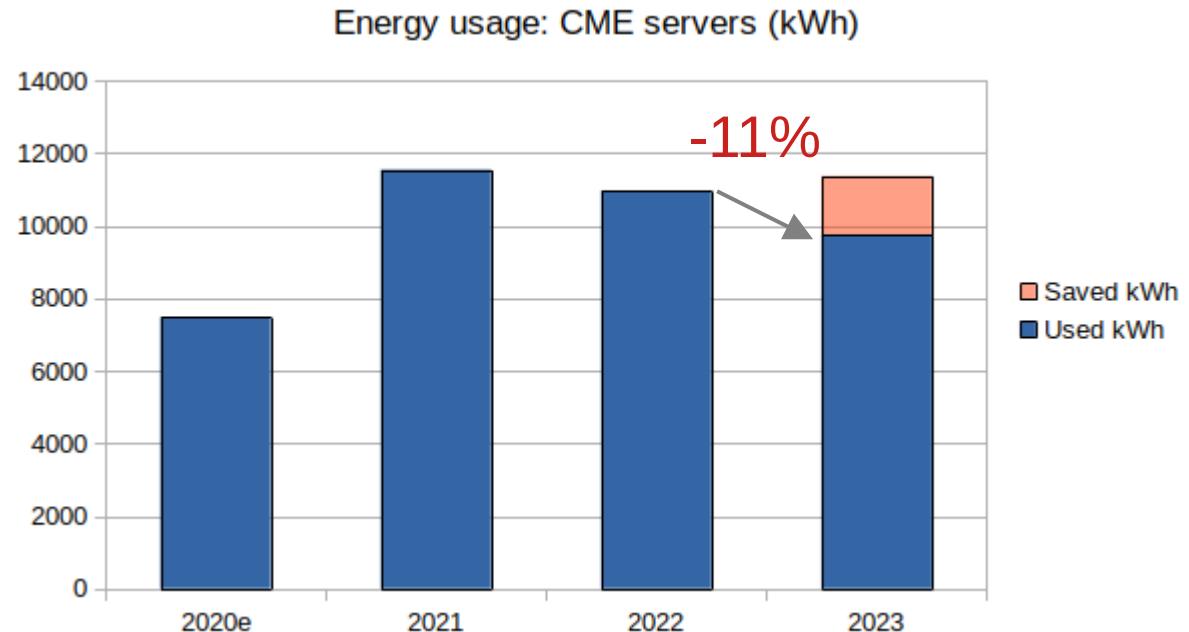
- Node-level power
 - IPMI → ~every server
- telegraf plugin
 - 30s query interval
- Store to influxDB
- Grafana dashboard



HowTo: <https://github.com/amkozlov/ipmi-grafana>

PowerOff-on-IDLE

- Server idle power:
100 W – 400 W
- Low utilization → wasted energy
- Detect idle → PowerOff
- PowerOn via IPMI

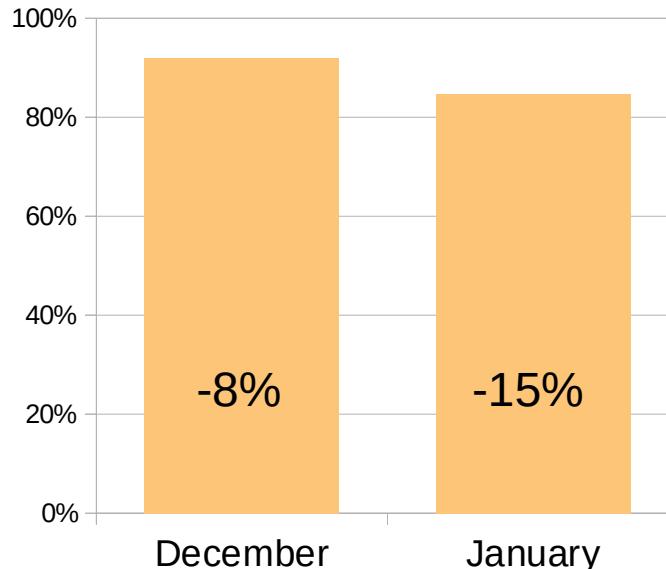


Savings 03.2023 – 11.2024: 3500 kWh (19%)

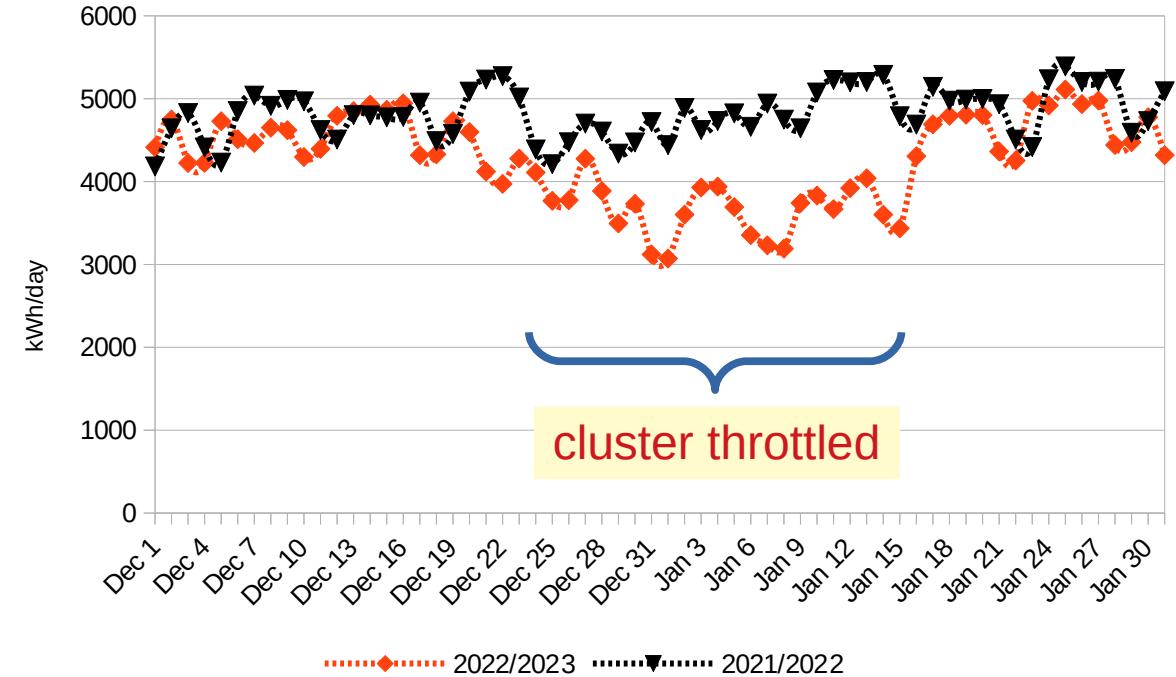
Scripts & HowTo: <https://github.com/amkozlov/idle-sleep>

Cluster powercap: Winter 2022/23

Monthly: 2022/23 vs. 2021/22



Daily: 2022/23 vs. 2021/22 (kWh)

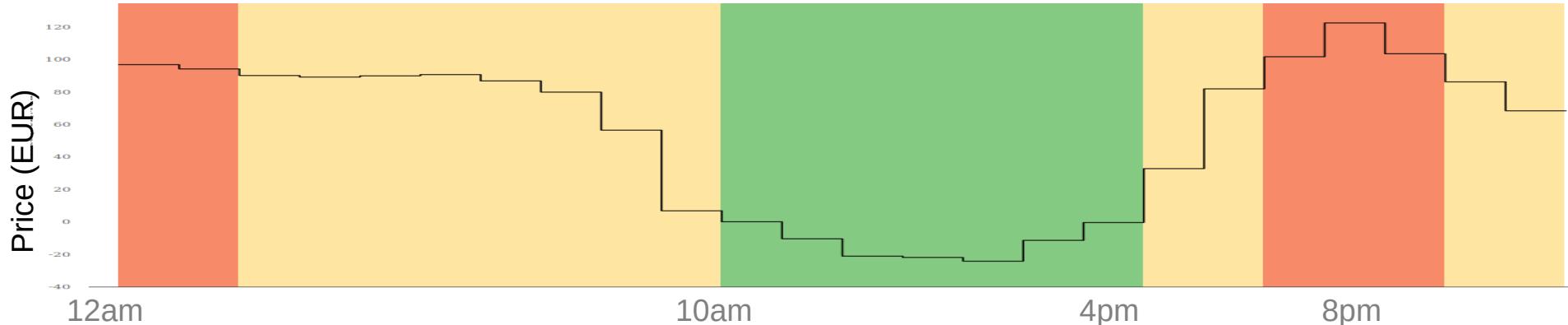


Static powercap: CPU 75%, GPU 70% => visible energy savings at HITS campus level!

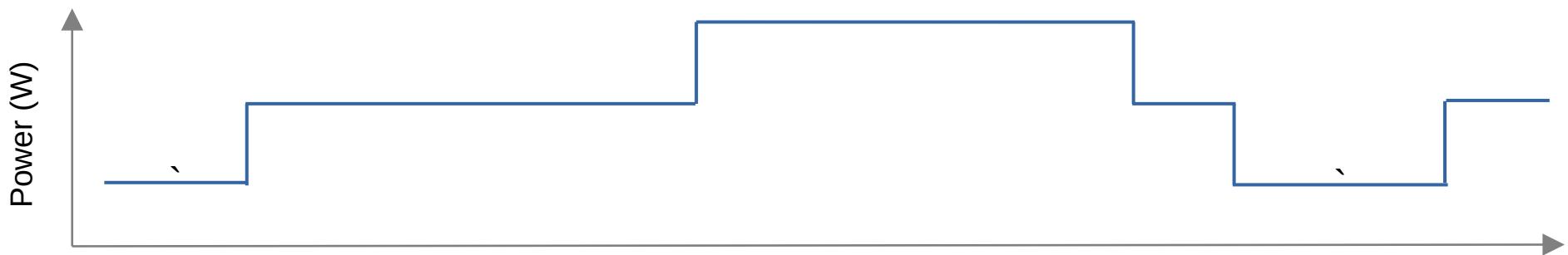
Carbon-aware power scaling

“Electricity traffic light”

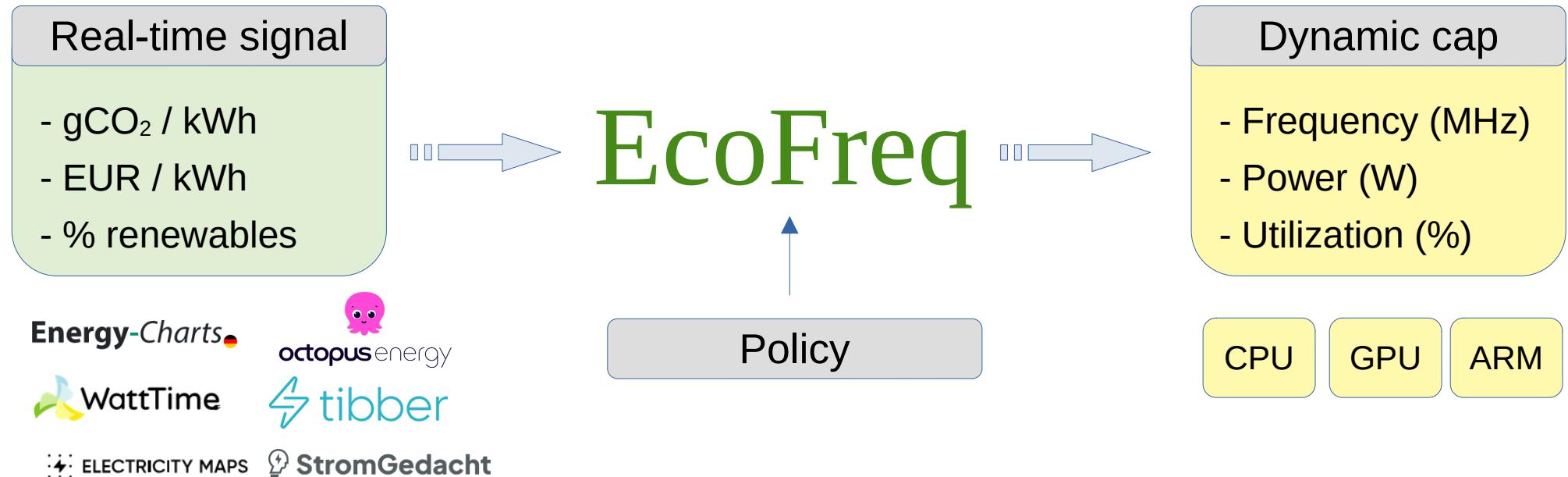
energy-charts.info



Use less energy in **red**, more in **green** phases → EcoFreq



Proof-of-concept: EcoFreq



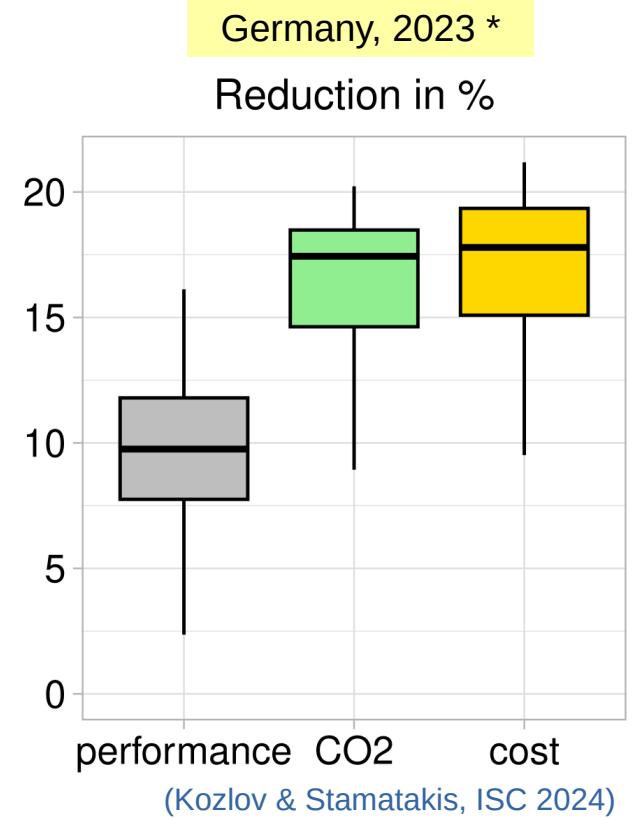
Zero workload modification

Low latency (seconds)

Broad hardware support

EcoFreq: evaluation

- Over-proportional savings
 - 15-18% lower CO₂ & electricity cost
 - @ 10% throughput loss
 - Adjustable via scaling policy
- Presented at ISC'24
 - Paper: <https://doi.org/10.23919/ISC.2024.10528928>
 - Code: <https://github.com/amkozlov/eco-freq>



* electricity day-ahead market data; 3-step scaling policy (100%/80%/60%); 14 HPC workloads, Xeon Cascade Lake

Future / ongoing work

- EcoFreq on the cluster
 - SLURM integration
- Sustainability dashboard
 - Energy, CO₂, travel etc.
- Rooftop solar
 - 5-7% of consumption
- Warm water cooling



Q & A

Backup

PowerOff-on-Idle

- Idle detection cron job
 - No active sessions + CPU utilization < 0.5 → **idle**
 - Idle since 1 hour → **poweroff**
 - Can be temporarily disabled:

```
deimos$ ecosleep disable 12h
Server will not be powered off until: Di 16. Mai 10:13:34 CEST 2023
```

- PowerOn via SSH

```
laptop$ alias | grep ecowake
alias ecowake='ssh kozlovay@XXXX.h-its.org sudo /hits/fast/cme/ecosleep/wakeup.sh'
```

```
laptop$ ecowake deimos
kozlovay@XXX.h-its.org's password:
Chassis Power Control: Up/On
waiting for
deimos ..... .
Server is back online!
```