



# Consommation énergétique du numérique (cen)

## Introduction

Chantal Taconet et Hind Castel

Télécom SudParis

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# Outline

1. Module context
2. IT Impacts
3. The reasons of the growth of digital energy consumption
4. Numeric services can be energy intensive
5. Efficiency, usage and rebound effect
6. Conclusions
7. Module presentation

# Outline

## 1. Module context

- 1.1 Climate Changes and impacts on your profession
- 1.2 Climate agreements - COP21 - 2015
- 1.3 French laws and impact on the industries
- 1.4 Impact on digital master degree
- 1.5 Charte de l'ingénieur numérique responsable
- 1.6 Links with your future profession ?

## 2. IT Impacts

## 3. The reasons of the growth of digital energy consumption

## 4. Numeric services can be energy intensive

## 5. Efficiency, usage and rebound effect

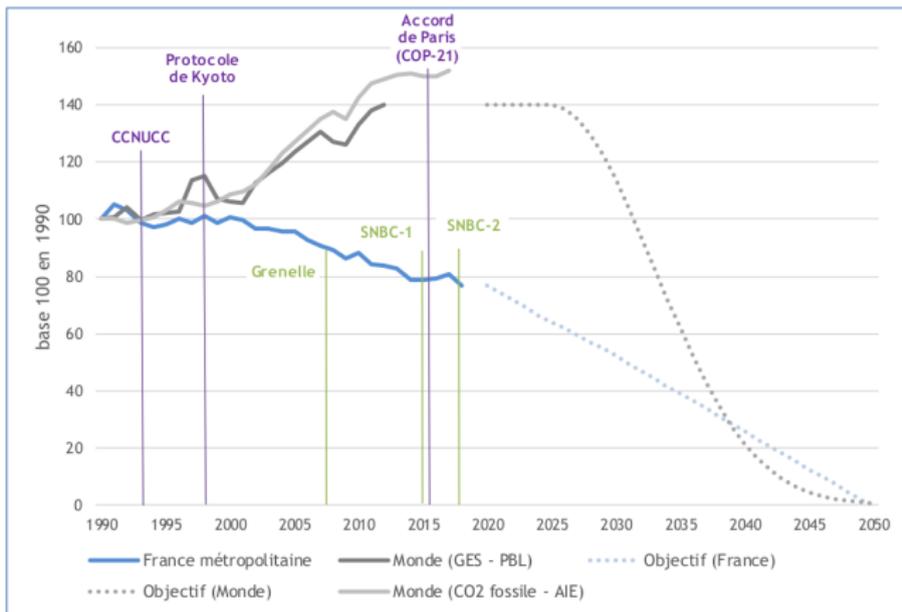
# Consequences of the climate deregulation



<https://www.noaa.gov/education/resource-collections/climate/climate-change-impacts>

- Increasingly frequent periods of heat waves and fires
- Melting ice
- Sea level rise
- Increased storm intensity
- ...

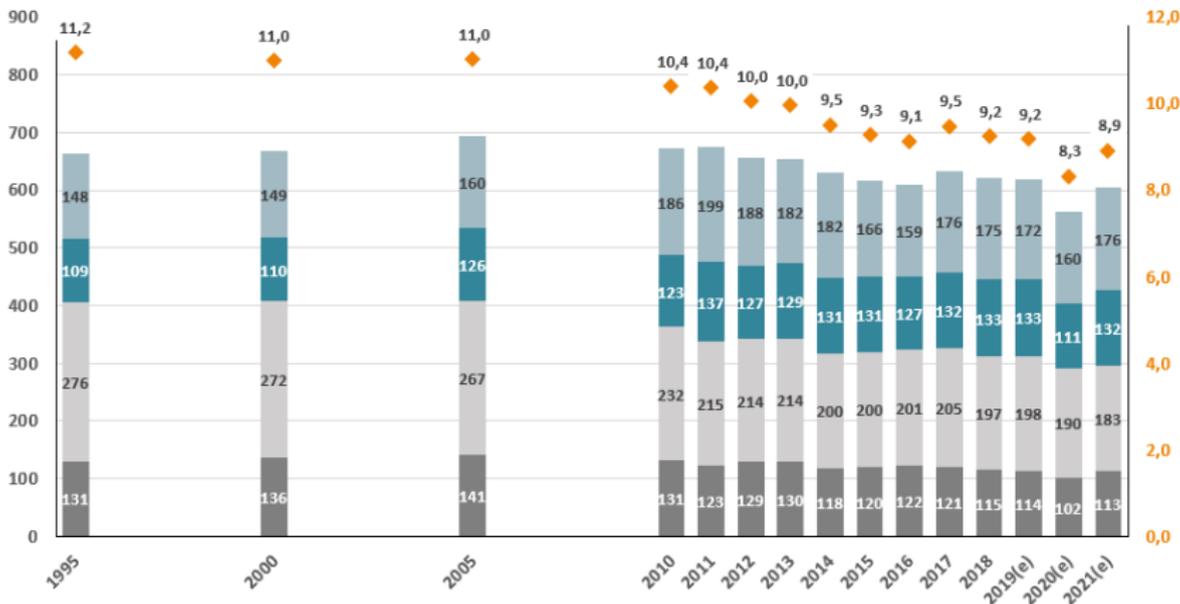
# Evolution of GHG<sup>2</sup> emission since 1990



[https://www.citepa.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/secten/Citepa\\_Secten-2019\\_Rapport\\_Completv3.pdf](https://www.citepa.org/wp-content/uploads/publications/secten/Citepa_Secten-2019_Rapport_Completv3.pdf)

1. CNUCC : Convention-cadre des Nations unies sur les changements climatiques  
COP : Conférence of Parties on climate change  
SNBC : Stratégie Nationale Bas-Carbone
2. GHG : Greenhouse gas measured by CO<sub>2</sub> – eqg

# Evolution of France GHG footprint 1995-2021



- Emissions associées aux importations de consommations intermédiaires
- Emissions associées aux importations pour usage final
- Emissions de la production intérieure hors exportations
- Emissions directes des ménages
- ◆ Empreinte totale par personne (échelle de droite)

[https://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/styles/max\\_1300x1300/public/2023-03/empreinte-carbone.1995\\_2021\\_graphique.1.PNG](https://www.statistiques.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/styles/max_1300x1300/public/2023-03/empreinte-carbone.1995_2021_graphique.1.PNG)

# SNBC Stratégie Nationale Bas Carbone<sup>3</sup>



- Towards GHG neutrality in 2050



## Divide by 4 French GHG footprint

- 600MT in 1990 ( $\approx 10 T / person$ )
- ↘ 140MT in 2050 ( $\approx 2,3 T / person$ )

3. Laws 08/2015 on climate plan, [11/2019](#) on energy and climate



# SNBC Impact for the Industries

- Reduce industry GHG (Greenhouse gas) footprint
  - ↳ 35% period 2015-2033
  - ↳ 81% period 2015-2050
- Financial support  $\subset$  criterion on reduction of GHG
- $> 50$  employees  $\implies$  Should establish a **greenhouse gas emission report** <sup>4</sup>
-  **Numeric impact** is included in those emission reports

Scope 1 : Direct emission (e.g. boiler)

Scope 2 : Indirect emission through electricity use in the company (e.g. Wh consumed by computers)

Scope 3 : Other indirect emission (e.g. buy AND sell of product and services)

- Mozilla example <https://blog.mozilla.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/278/files/2021/02/>

[Mozillas-2019-Greenhouse-Gas-emissions-baseline..2020-11-18.pdf](#)

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4. Decree no. 2021-1784 of December 24, 2021



# Michelin testimony



# France : The REEN law (11/2021) <sup>5</sup>

## Réduire l'Empreinte Environnementale du Numérique



### Extraits de la loi

- Délit d'obsolescence programmée
- Réduction des taxes pour les Data Centers vertueux
- Enseignement supérieur
  - « La formation aux outils et ressources numériques dispensée aux étudiants de l'enseignement supérieur comprend un volet consacré à l'impact environnemental du numérique. »
  - « Elle vérifie, pour les formations d'ingénieurs en informatique, la validation d'une attestation de compétences acquises en écoconception logicielle. »

5. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000044327272>

L'INGÉNIEUR RESPONSABLE, DIPLOMÉ DE TELECOM SUDPARIS, SE DOIT DE :

1. **Maitriser les notions scientifiques de base liées à l'écologie et à l'environnement.**
2. Cette maitrise lui permet de **Conceptualiser et Modéliser les enjeux environnementaux de l'activité humaine.**
3. **Connaître les enjeux du numérique (évolution du secteur, des infrastructures, des usages) et Réaliser la nécessité du développement d'un numérique écologiquement responsable.**
4. **Connaître les impacts environnementaux directs du numérique.**
5. **Savoir identifier les impacts environnementaux indirects du numérique.**
6. **Mesurer les impacts environnementaux du numérique car il connaît les méthodologies, leurs avantages et leurs limites.**
7. **Comparer plusieurs services numériques à travers le prisme de leur impact environnemental direct et indirect.**
8. **Concevoir des solutions et services numérique durables car il sait Prendre en compte l'ensemble des conséquences environnementales dès la conception d'une nouvelle technologie, d'un service ou d'un appareil numérique.**

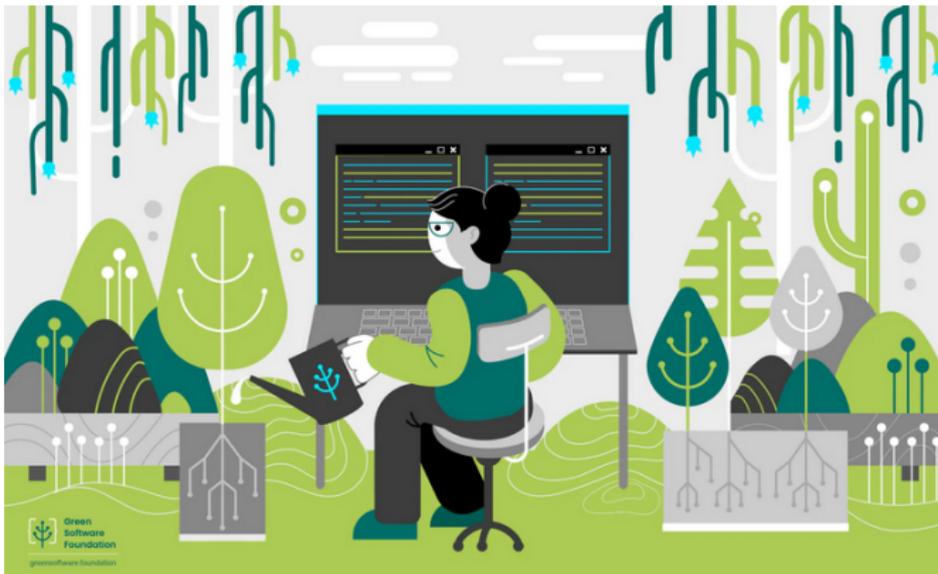


9. **Mettre en œuvre le numérique au service de la transition écologique (IT for Green) car il sait Analyser et Optimiser le rôle positif que peut y prendre le numérique.**

10. **Appréhender avec lucidité les forces et faiblesses d'un service**

# Sustainability and your future profession ?

## Green Software Developer



# Sustainability and your future profession ? (cont.)

## Sustainability Consultant



Green Software Foundation  
greensoft.org

# Sustainability and your future profession ? (cont.)

Founder of a Green Tech startup



# Outline

1. Module context
2. IT Impacts
  - 2.1 IT : a solution for environmental problems ?
  - 2.2 Direct impacts of IT in terms of Greenhouse Gas (GHG)
  - 2.3 Impacts in terms of Energy
  - 2.4 From Wh to  $CO_2 - eq$
3. The reasons of the growth of digital energy consumption
4. Numeric services can be energy intensive
5. Efficiency, usage and rebound effect
6. Conclusions

# IT for green

- IT is crucial for implementation of prediction climate models (including ocean, atmosphere,...)
- IT is crucial to preserve the biodiversity (to predict the disappearance of species)
- IT is crucial to develop agriculture that optimizes resources (water, energy) and the use of pesticides
- IT is crucial for energetic transition : smart grids with renewable energy sources (solar, wind, hydrogen,...)

## Qarnot : use of IT energy for heating



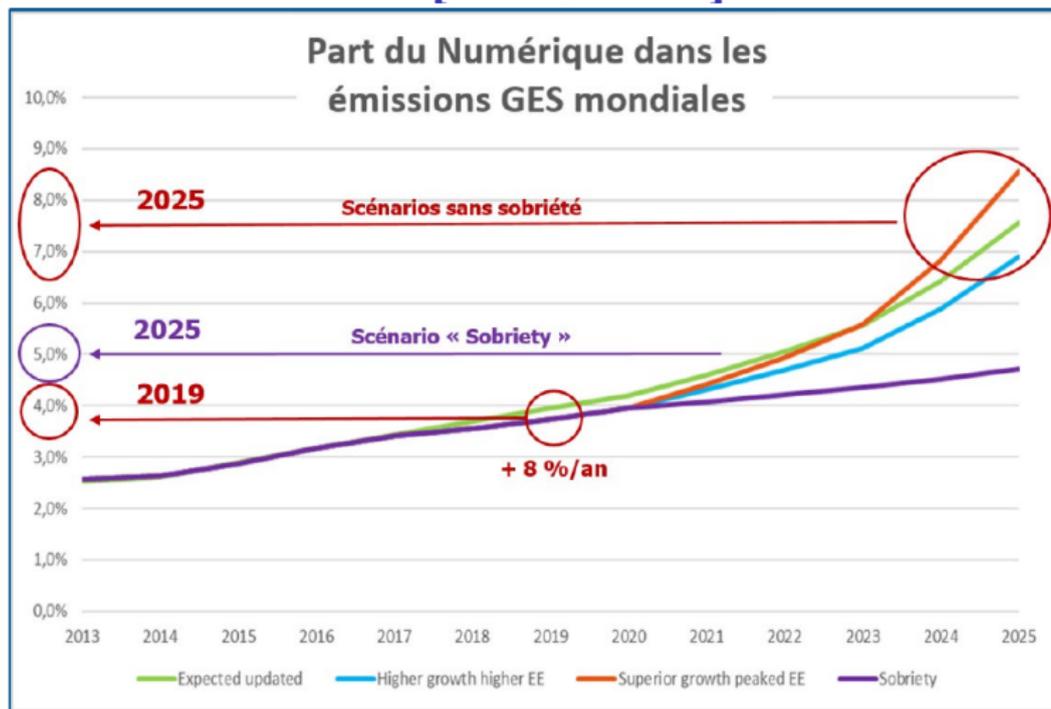
<https://qarnot.com/fr>

# IoT for green



<https://www.quora.com/What-is-green-IoT>

# GHG evolution [Shift, 2021]



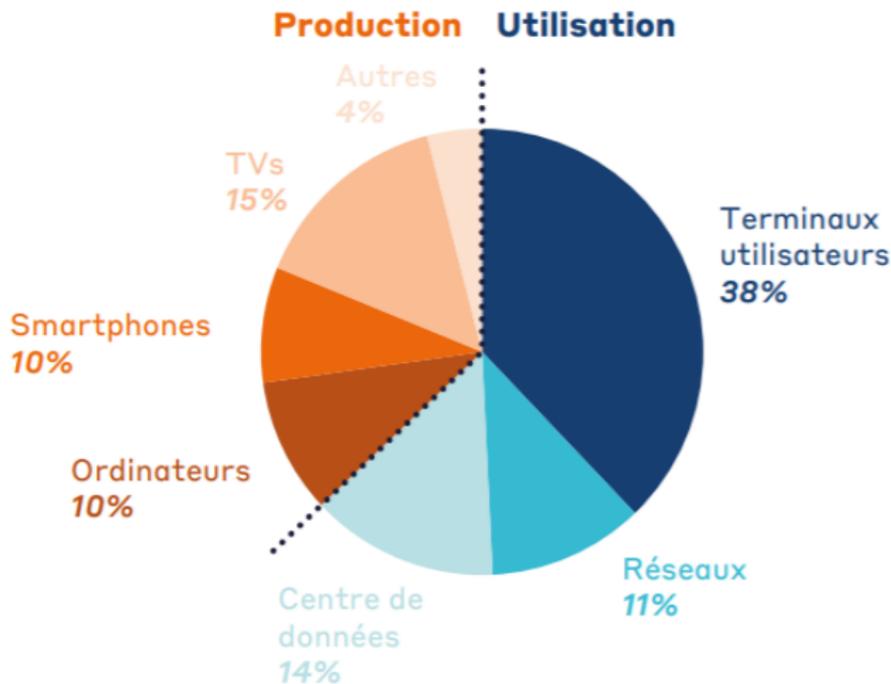
<https://theshiftproject.org/article/impact-environnemental-du-numerique-5g-nouvelle-etude-du-shift/>



estimation



# Distribution of IT GHG footprint (e.g.2019)



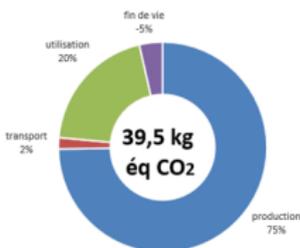
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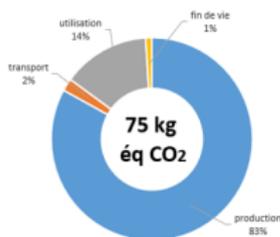
estimation

# Distribution of personal device GHG footprint

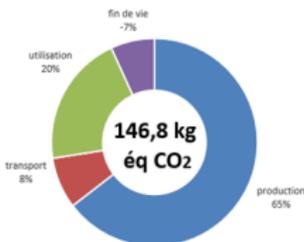
Empreinte carbone Fairphone 3



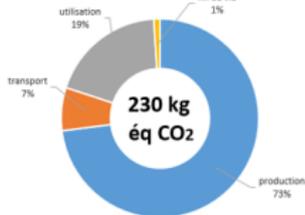
Empreinte carbone iPhone 12 (128GB)



Empreinte carbone Dell Latitude 7300



Empreinte carbone MacBook Pro (512GB)



<https://www.ecoconso.be/fr/content/quelle-pollution-le-numerique-entraîne-t-il-sur-lenvironnement>



estimation

What about your personal device . . . ? How long do you keep your device ?

<https://dataviz.boavizta.org/manufacturereadata> ?

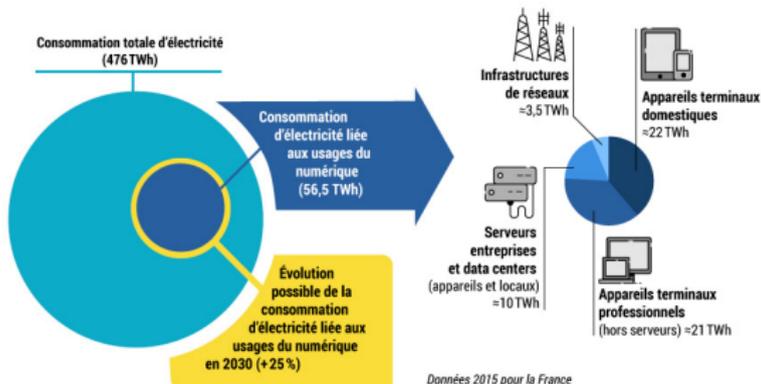


# Numeric electrical consumption

World In 2019, ICT represents 5,5% of total electricity consumption [www.greenit.fr](http://www.greenit.fr)

France In 2015, ICT consumes 56 TWh - 12% of electricity consumption

[www.notre-environnement.gouv.fr](http://www.notre-environnement.gouv.fr)



Le développement du numérique aura  
**UN IMPACT MODÉRÉ SUR LA CONSOMMATION D'ÉLECTRICITÉ**  
en France

[www.decrypterenergie.org](http://www.decrypterenergie.org)

[decrypterenergie.org](http://decrypterenergie.org)



estimation

## From KWh to CO<sub>2</sub> – eq emissions

IT services consume electricity (KWh)

- How much CO<sub>2</sub> – eq is emitted per kWh of electricity consumed (gCO<sub>2</sub> – eq/kWh)?
-  Depends on the mix energetic of each country
  - Electricity map Real time data <https://app.electricitymap.org/>
  - RTE Real time data in France
    - Mix energetic <https://www.rte-france.com/eco2mix/la-production-deelectricite-par-filiere>
    - gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh <https://www.rte-france.com/eco2mix/les-emissions-de-co2-par-kwh-produit-en-france>
    - « En 2022, l'intensité carbone de l'électricité et de la chaleur produite par le groupe EDF s'établit à 50 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh » <https://www.edf.fr/groupe-edf/produire-une-energie-respectueuse-du-climat>

## From KWh to $CO_2$ – eq emissions (cont.)

? In which country is running my service?

! Services are distributed (end user Terminal and Clouds) spread over several countries

# Outline

1. Module context
2. IT Impacts
3. The reasons of the growth of digital energy consumption
  - 3.1 Multiplication of the peripherals of daily life
  - 3.2 Explosion of data traffic
4. Numeric services can be energy intensive
5. Efficiency, usage and rebound effect
6. Conclusions
7. Module presentation

# Raise of the number of daily life equipments

2012	2017	2022
2 smartphones	4 smartphones	4 smartphones
2 laptops / computers	2 laptops / computers	2 laptops / computers
1 tablet	2 tablets	2 tablets
1 DSL/Cable/Fibre/Wifi Modem	2 DSL/Cable/Fibre/Wifi Modem	3 DSL/Cable/Fibre/Wifi Modem
1 Printer / scanner	1 Printer / scanner	1 Printer / scanner
1 Game console	1 Game console	1 Game console
	1 connected television	3 connected television
	2 network attached storage	1 network attached storage
	2 eReaders	2 eReaders
	1 smart metre	1 smart metre
	2 connected stereo systems	3 connected stereo systems
	1 energy consumption display	1 energy consumption display
	1 Internet connected car	2 Internet connected car
	1 pair of connected sport shoes	3 connectes sport devices
	1 pay as you drive device	2 pay as you drive devices
		1 digital camera
		7 smart light bubles
		5 internet connected power socker
		1 weight scale
		1 eHealth device
		1 intelligent thermostat
		4 home automation sensors

**Figure 9 : Équipements numériques dans un foyer de 4 personnes dans un pays de l'OCDE**  
(Source : (GSMA, 2015))

<https://theshiftproject.org/article/impact-environnemental-du-numerique-5g-nouvelle-etude-du-shift/>

# Number of connected equipments/type

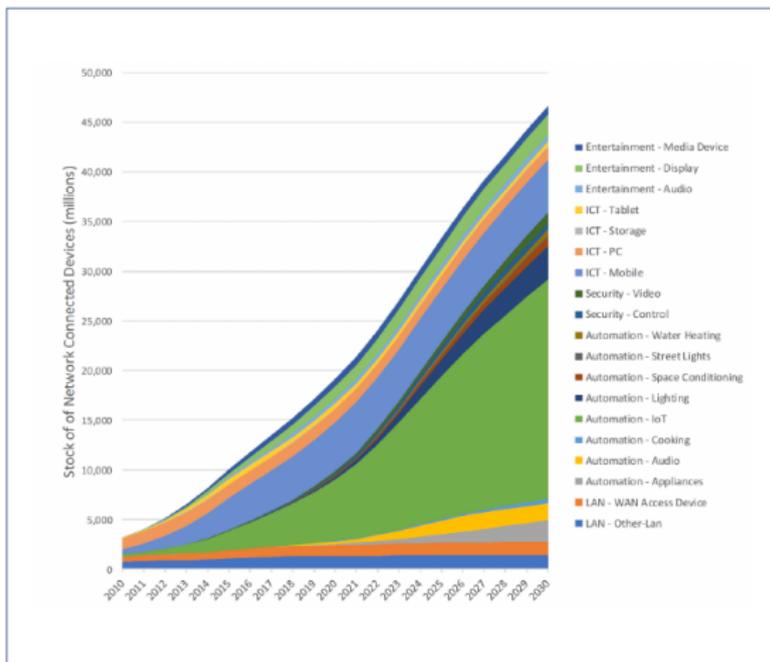


Figure 7 : Evolution des parcs d'équipements connectés dans le monde  
(Source : (IEA 4E EDNA, 2019))

<https://theshiftproject.org/article/impact-environnemental-du-numerique-5g-nouvelle-etude-du-shift/>

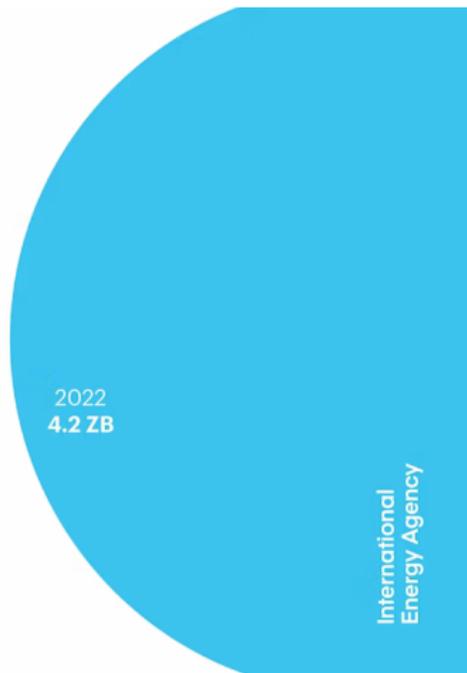
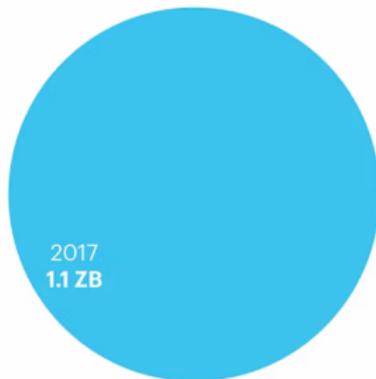
# Explosion of data traffic

## Global annual internet traffic

Tracking Clean Energy Progress

1997  
**60 PB**

2007  
**54 EB**



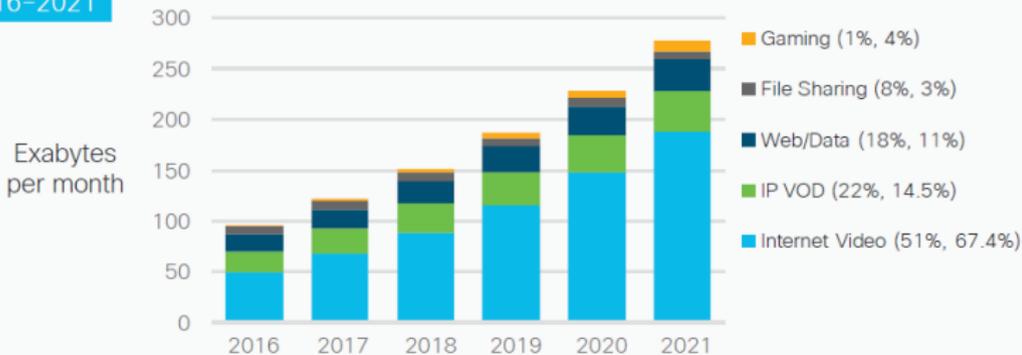
KB	kilobyte	10 <sup>3</sup> bytes
MB	megabyte	10 <sup>6</sup> bytes
GB	gigabyte	10 <sup>9</sup> bytes
TB	terabyte	10 <sup>12</sup> bytes
PB	petabyte	10 <sup>15</sup> bytes
EB	exabyte	10 <sup>18</sup> bytes
ZB	zettabyte	10 <sup>21</sup> bytes
YB	yottabyte	10 <sup>24</sup> bytes

<https://www.iea.org/reports/digitalisation-and-energy>



## Explosion of data traffic (cont.)

24% CAGR  
2016-2021



Figures (n) refer to 2016, 2021 traffic shares.

Source: Cisco VNI Global IP Traffic Forecast, 2016-2021.

<https://theshiftproject.org/article/impact-environnemental-du-numerique-5g-nouvelle-etude-du-shift/>

# Outline

1. Module context
2. IT Impacts
3. The reasons of the growth of digital energy consumption
4. Numeric services can be energy intensive
  - 4.1 Video
  - 4.2 Artificial intelligence
  - 4.3 Bitcoin
  - 4.4 Software growth
5. Efficiency, usage and rebound effect
6. Conclusions

## Youtube case : Gnamnam style video clip

4,5 billions of views 2012/2022



estimation! Energy consumed to view this 4mn  KWh/view

- Once :  $0,04 \text{ KWH}^6$
- 4,5 billions :  $0,04 * 4.500.000.000 = 180.000.000 \text{ KWH} = 180 \text{ GWH}$



Comparison

- Given that one french consumes  $7 \text{ MWH}/\text{year}$  in 2020
- $180 \text{ GWH} \equiv \text{yearly energy consumption of } 25\,700 \text{ } \img alt="person icon" data-bbox="678 838 698 858"/> \dots \text{for one video clip}$

6. estimation from the Shift Project [[Efoui-Hess, 2019](#)]



## AI case

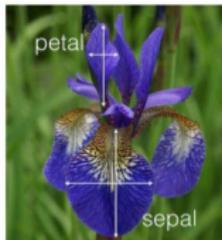
 *estimation!* The amount of computational power required to run large AI training models **has been increasing exponentially**, with a 4 month doubling time [[Hao, 2019](#)]

- Training a single neural network model today can emit as much carbon as **five 🚗 in their lifetimes** ( $\approx 40 * 5 = 200 TCO_2$ )
- Training an AI model on a simple dataset [[Podder et al., 2020](#)]
  - Classify Iris flowers in different species



Impact of the accuracy on Energy (in Joules) :

Supervised learning *classification* problem  
(using the [Iris flower data set](#))



Training / test data				
Features				Labels
Sepal length	Sepal width	Petal length	Petal width	Species
5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	Iris setosa
4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	Iris setosa
7.0	3.2	4.7	1.4	Iris versicolor
6.4	3.2	4.5	1.5	Iris versicolor
6.3	3.3	6.0	2.5	Iris virginica
5.8	3.3	6.0	2.5	Iris virginica

- 96.17% : 964 J
- 96.17%+1,74% : 964+2815 J
- 96.17%+1,74%+0,08%  
964+2815+3856 J
-  Accuracy/energy balance ?



## ChatGPT case

### Estimation

[DataForGood, 2023, Luccioni et al., 2023]

### Learning phase

Depends on many parameters (model size, computer location)



<https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/artificial-intelligence-parameter-count>

GPT3 : 175 000 000 000 parameters → 10 000 GPU for 15 days → 1 287MWh  
(443g CO<sub>2</sub> – eq/kWh) →  
552 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – eq /learning (use)



Consider the number of learning phase/year and the production of the computers ...

### Inference phase

Depends on many parameters (number of users, location of servers ...)

GPT3 : 3 617 servers HGXA100 + 28 936 GPUs (changed /6years) →  
121 350 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – eq /Year (on the server side, production +use)

## Bitcoin case ₿



estimation !



Figure – Bitcoin mining machines, warehouse in Rockdale, Texas (USA)

<https://lejournald.cnrs.fr/billets/le-reseau-bitcoin-une-erreur-follement-couteuse>

[Delahaye, 2022]

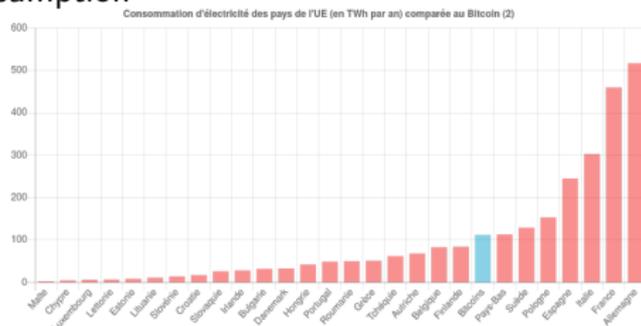


Other strategies could/should have been chosen at the conception (2009)

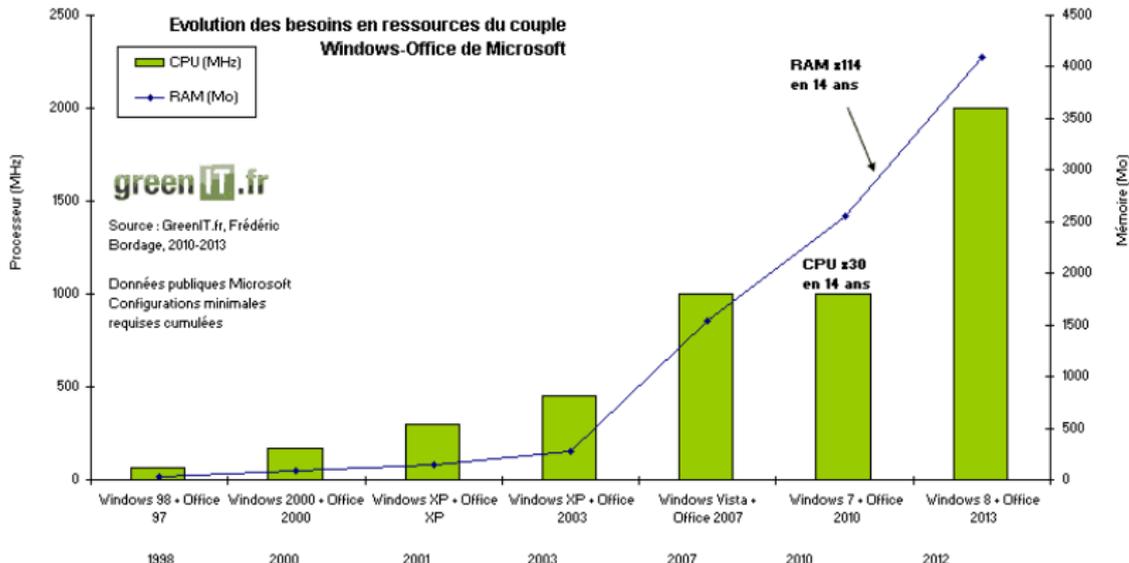
### ■ Election of miners by **proof of work**

- Miners work to solve complex math problems that are of **no use** at all

⇒ 112 TWh /year in 2022 [Perea, 2022]  
≡ 0,56% total world energy consumption  
≡ 9 nuclear power station for 1 year  
> than 20 european countries electricity consumption



# Obésiciel



<https://www.greenit.fr/2010/05/24/logiciel-la-cle-de-l-obsolence-programmee-du-materiel-informatique/>



Eco-conception : Do we keep all the features?

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# Efficiency



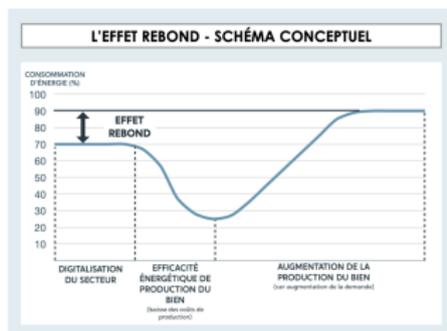
As an engineer you may/will work on

- digital **energy efficiency** and **eco-conception**
  - software, architecture, modelisation, network ...

but ....



# Rebound effect



<https://www.projetpangolin.com/la-pollution-numerique/>

- With time digital technologies have **gained in energy-efficiency**
  - Direct effect : energy reduction / usage unit
  - Indirect effect or rebound effect : modification in terms of usage that **does not necessarily lead to less usage of energy**
    - e.g. increase in the usage that leads to an increase in terms of energy (commonly known as the **Jevons paradox**)
    - Remark : Difficulty to measure rebound effect

## Rebound effect (cont.)

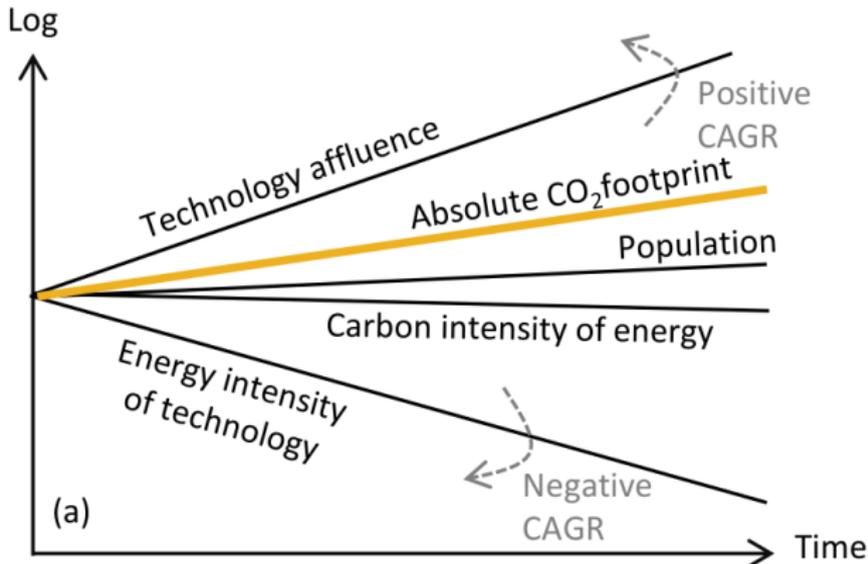
### Example

- Imagine that you reduce the energy consumption of training a neural network by 50%.
- Hence, data scientists saw an opportunity to improve the model by increasing the complexity of the neural network and the size of the input data.
- Although you have a more energy-efficient network, you might not be saving energy.

## Efficiency and $CO_2$ – ea footprint

Kaya-like relative factor decomposition:

$$CO_2 \text{ footprint} = \text{Population} \times \text{Technology Affluence} \\ \times \text{Energy Intensity} \times \text{Carbon Intensity}$$



[Bol et al., 2021]<sup>7</sup>

7. CAGR : Compound annual growth rate; Affluence : usage rate/person ; Carbon intensity :  $gCO_2/KWh$  ; Energy intensity :  $KWh/usage$

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# Conclusions

- Even if it seems mostly virtual ☁, IT has environmental impacts (GHG emission, mineral resource usage, water pollution)
  - Production phase has the highest impact
    - 💡 Augment the lifetime of devices ; Reduce the number of devices (devices/user or devices/computation) ;
  - Deployment choices may have an impact
    - 💡 Reduce the number of active computers ; choose the location of data centers according to their electrical mix ; choose the less impacting implementation of services
  - - 💡 Eco-conception is necessary to both reduce the number of devices and the electrical consumption of the software

## Conclusions (cont.)

- Even if numeric services are complex, industrials have to



measure, estimate, reduce environmental impact of their IT services

- Measure electrical consumption (of a device, a software)
- Model electrical consumption (of a data-center, of a service)
- Life cycle assessment (impact of a system during all its lifecycle)

- Keep in mind

- 👁 IT for green may save energy : balance energy consumed vs energy saved
- 👁 Efficiency may have direct (positive) impacts but also indirect effects (called rebound effects that may be positive or negative)
- 👁 Environmental impact go further than GHG emission, consider also : limited natural resource consumption, water consumption

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- 7. Module presentation**
  - 7.1 Web portal and contact**
  - 7.2 Objectives**
  - 7.3 Content**

# Web portal and contact

Web Portal : <https://www-inf.telecom-sudparis.eu/COURS/fisa-cen>

Contact : <mailto:hind.castel@telecom-sudparis.eu>, [chantal.taconet@telecom-sudparis.eu](mailto:chantal.taconet@telecom-sudparis.eu)

## Coordinatrices



Hind CASTEL



Chantal TACONET

# Objectives of the teaching unit

- Understanding the **impact of digital technology** on electricity consumption
- Analyze the energy impact of **current digital use cases**
- Calculate and **model** the electrical consumption of a **complex system**
- Think about the **environmental impact of all your future engineering projects** (student and professional)

# Content

- **INTRO/USECASE** Intro (3H30)
- **MESURE Terminal** : Computer energy consumption measure and software energy efficiency (3h30)
- **CLOUD Cloud**-Model Data/center energy consumption (7h00)
- **RESEAU Network** wired/wifi/cellular 3G/4G/5G comparison (3h30)
- **IOT** IoT and LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) (4h30)

# Evaluation

- Present one article (10 points)
- Lab reports (7 points)
- QCM (3 points)

# References

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In *Design, Automation & Test in Europe Conference & Exhibition, DATE 2021, Grenoble, France, February 1-5, 2021*, pages 19–24. IEEE.

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Podder, S., Burden, A., Kumar Singh, S., et al. (2020).

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