The background is a dark teal color. In the top-right and bottom-left corners, there are decorative elements consisting of numerous thin, wavy, golden-yellow lines that create a sense of motion and depth, resembling a stylized wave or a digital mesh.

# Toward a Carbon-Aware Cloud

# Olivier Bierlaire

  @obierlaire



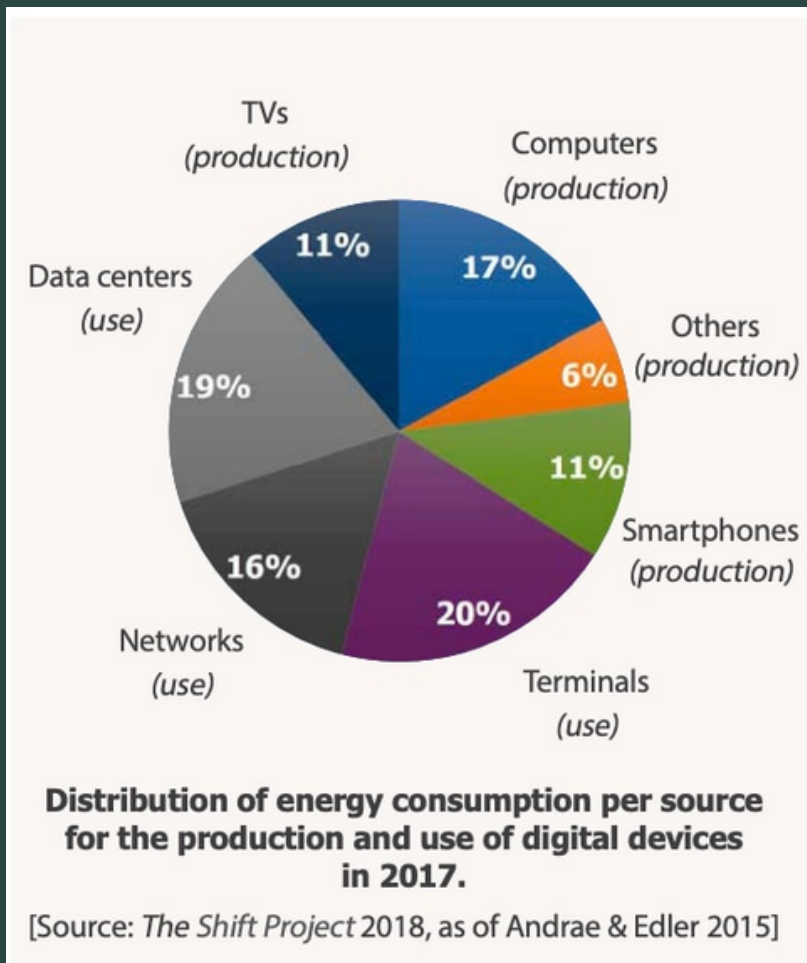
elastic



CARBONIFER

"I have all my infra in the cloud, so I do not emit CO2."

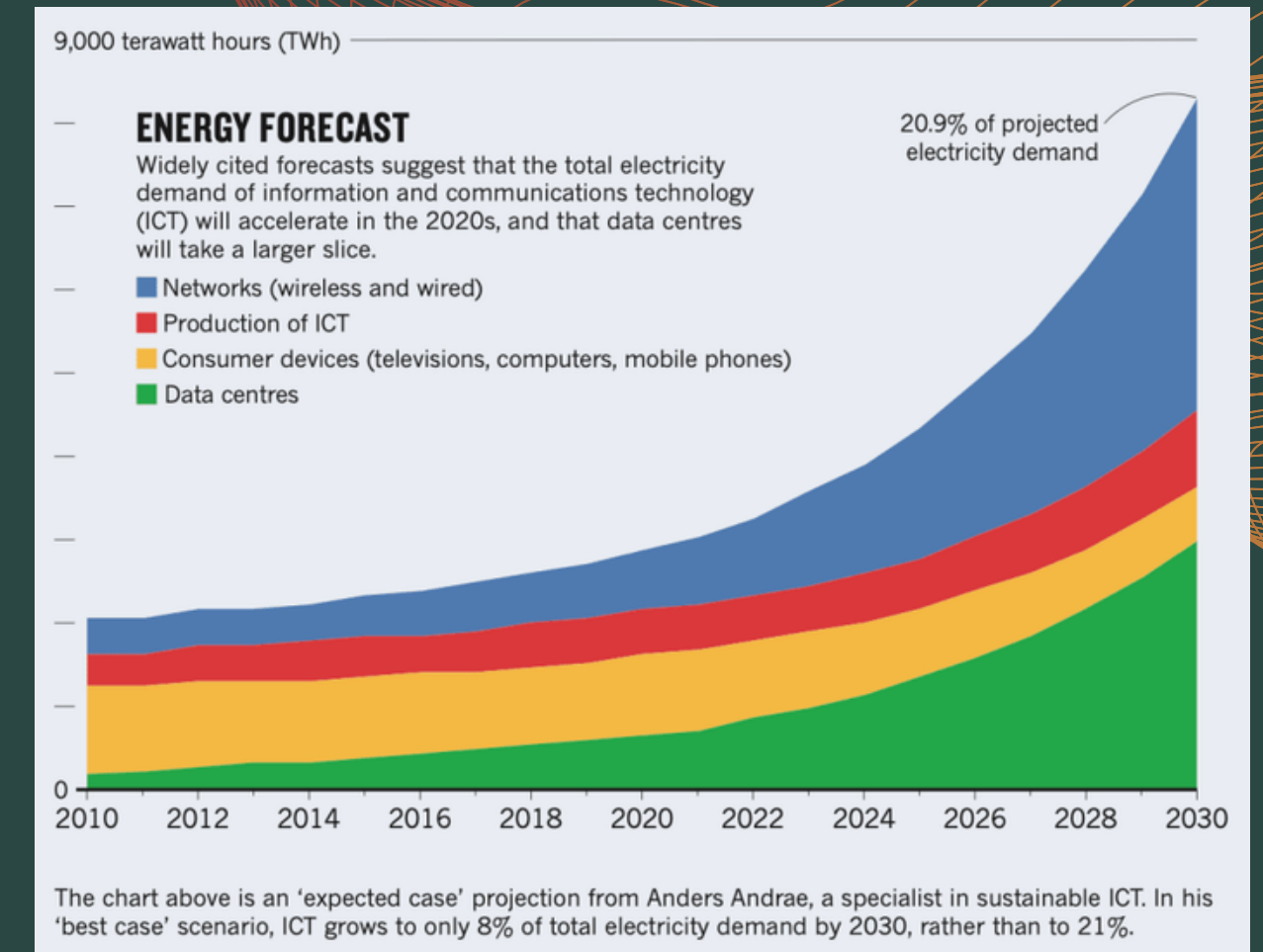
# Voracious Datacenters



20-25 %

electricity used by the digital sector

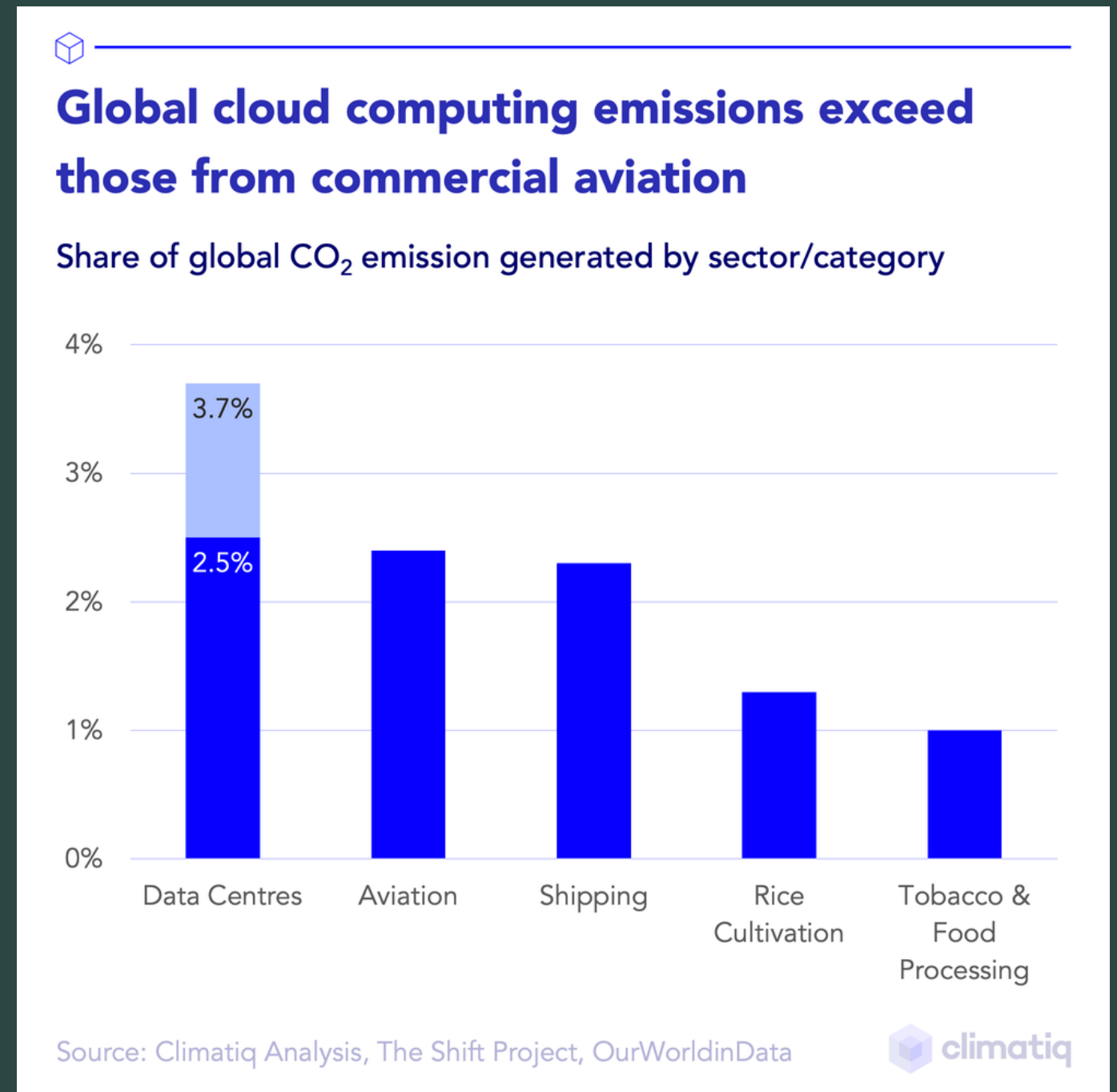
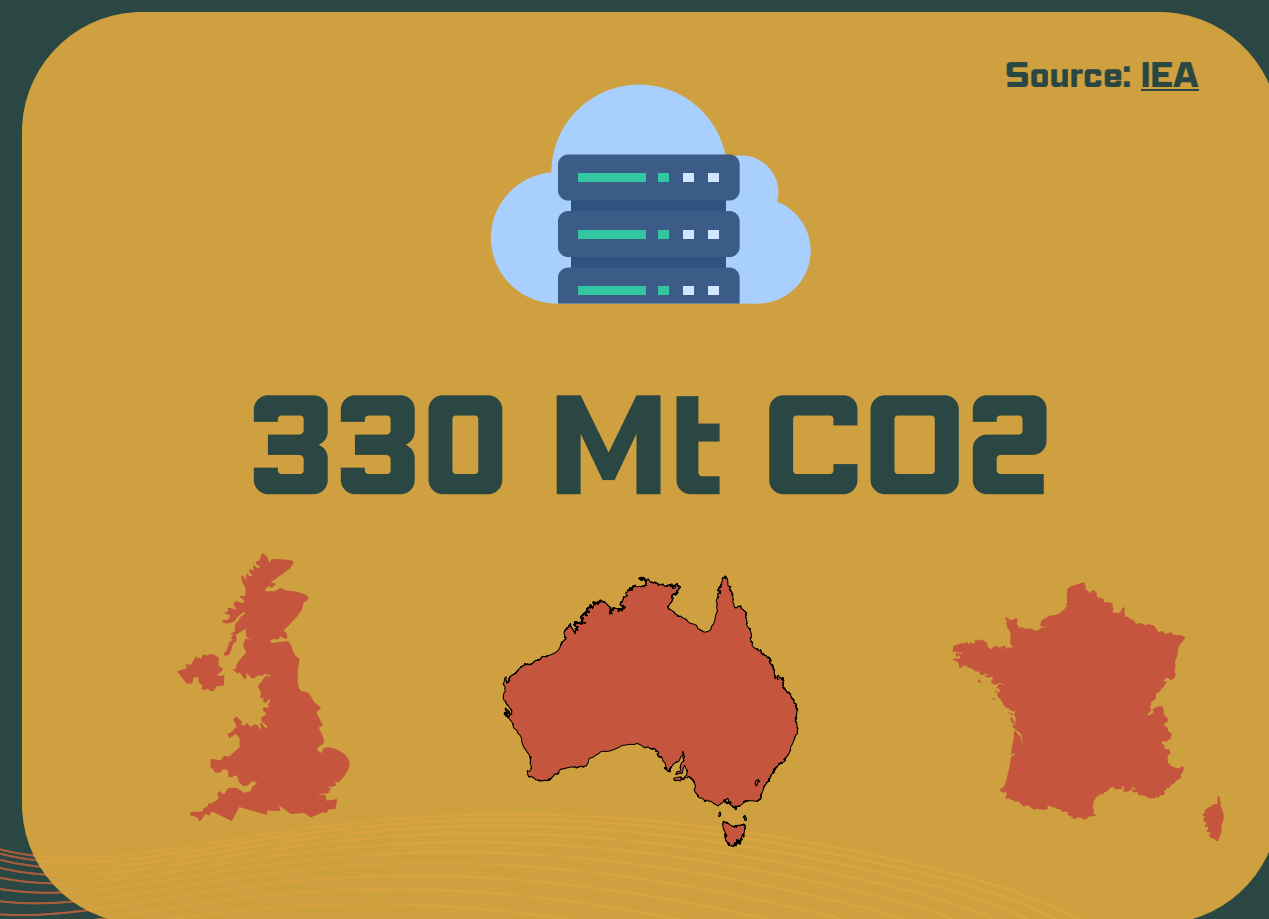
1.3 % total electricity worldwide, excluding crypto mining - [IEA](#)



Sources:  
[The Shift Project](#)  
[Nature](#)  
[International Energy Agency](#)  
[Dr. Anders Andrae](#)  
[Arte](#)

# Voracious Datacenters

Digital technologies now emit 4% of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), and its energy consumption is **increasing by 9% a year** – The Shift Project



8 % by 2030 ?

# Why bothering?

- Regulations and Law Compliance
- ESG funds
- Recruitment and Staff Retention
- Customer retention
- Cost reduction



# The GHG protocol

- **Scope 1** : Direct emissions
- **Scope 2** : Indirect emissions related purchased energy
- **Scope 3** : Other indirect emissions ( value chain emissions)
  - business travel
  - raw material purchased
  - services purchased
  - ...

GHG Scope	2	3
Private Cloud	Energy	Embodied
Public Cloud	-	Energy + Embodied
Hybrid Cloud	Some Energy	Some Energy + Embodied
Front End	-	Energy + Embodied

# Regulations

- **CSRD**

- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
- 2024 for large companies
- 2026 for listed SMEs
- scope 1,2 and **scope 3**

- **SFDR**

- Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation
- financial sector
- financed scope 3



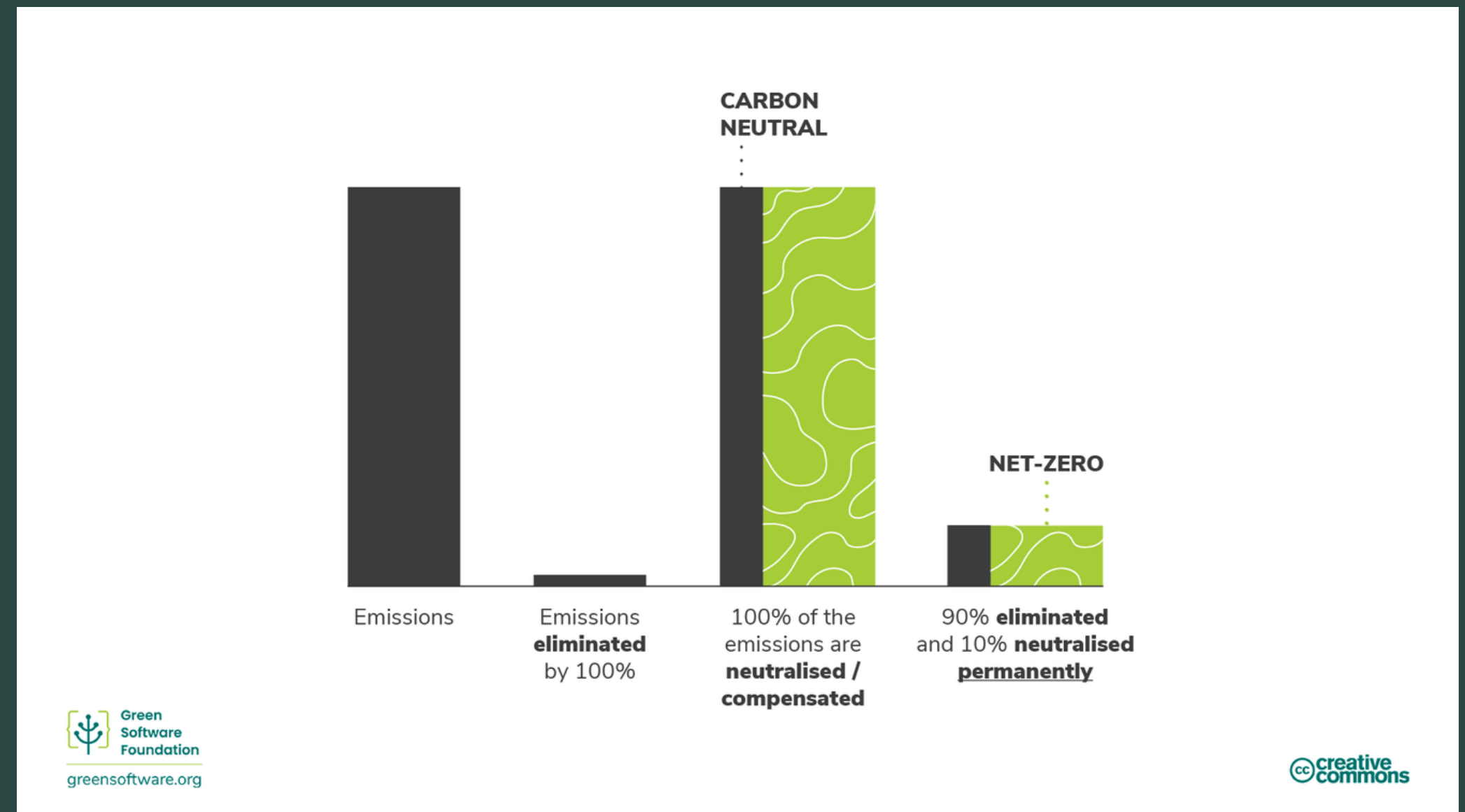
# Commitments

- CO2 Offset
  - Compensation
  - Removal
- Elimination:
  - not emitting CO2
  - eliminating source of CO2



# Commitments

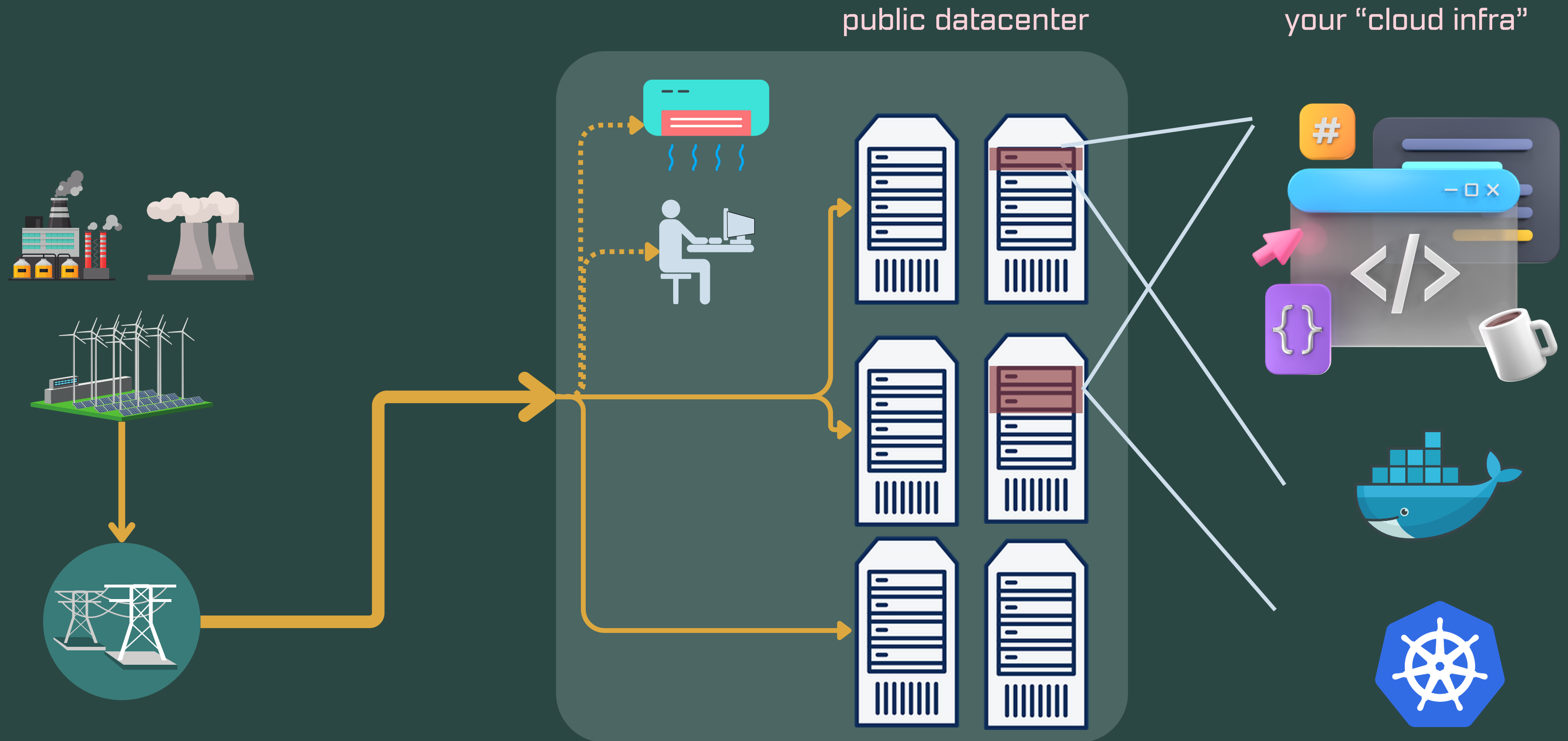
- **Carbon Neutral**
  - focus on offset
- **Net Zero:**
  - focus on elimination
  - offset the rest
- **100% Renewable**
  - powered by
  - matched by





Measure  
cloud  
infrastructure

# Powering your cloud



# Software Carbon Intensity

Carbon emitted per kWh  
of energy, gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh

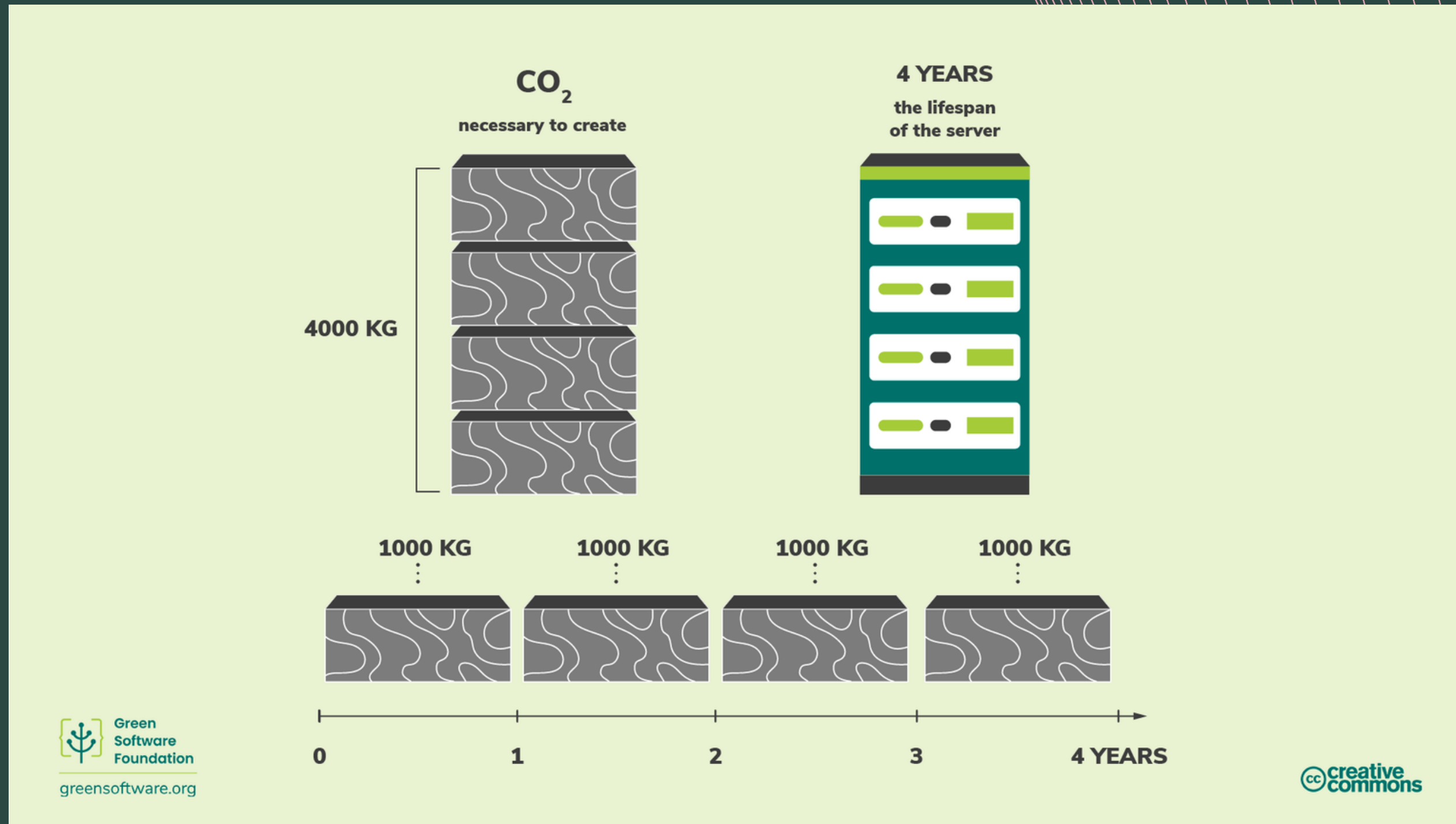
Carbon emitted through  
the hardware that the  
software is running on

$$SCI = ((E * I) + M) \text{ per } R$$

Energy consumed by  
software in kWh

Functional Unit; this is how  
software scales, for example  
per user or per device

# Embodied Emissions



# Use Emissions

Energy of software/VM (kWh)

×

Power usage effectiveness (PUE)

*exemple: 1.5*

×

Carbon intensity of the grid

( gCO<sub>2</sub>eq / kWh )

=

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

(gCO<sub>2</sub>eq/h)

Carbon emitted per kWh  
of energy, gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh

Carbon emitted through  
the hardware that the  
software is running on

$$SCI = ((E * I) + M) \text{ per } R$$

Energy consumed by  
software in kWh

Functional Unit; this is how  
software scales, for example  
per user or per device



greensoftware.org

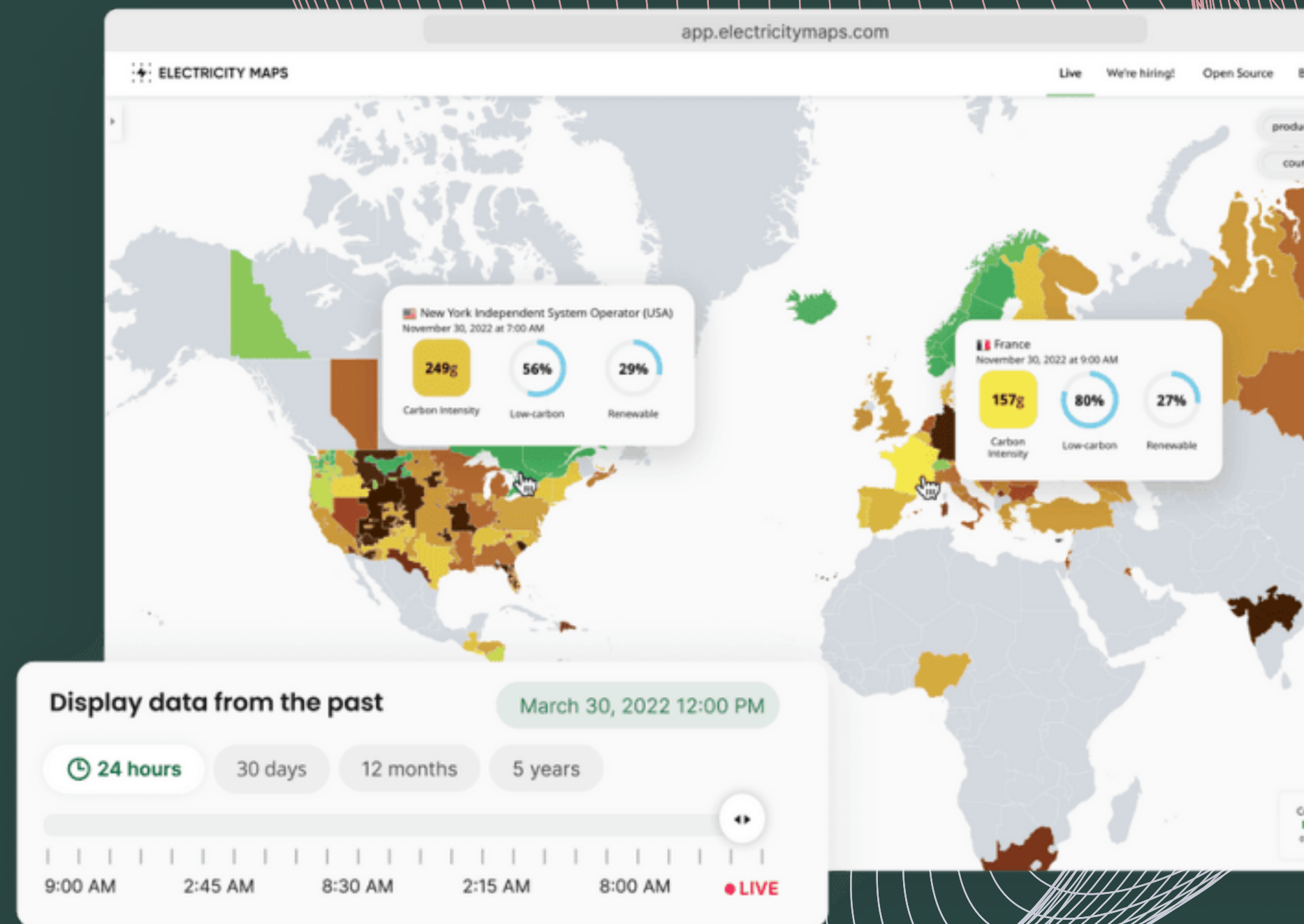


AWS t2.nano : 1 CPU / 0.5 Gb RAM

- **125g** of CO<sub>2</sub> per month in **France**
- **600g** of CO<sub>2</sub> per month in **Germany**

# Available Data

- Average carbon intensity of regional grids (gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh)
- Live carbon intensity: [app.electricitymaps.com](https://app.electricitymaps.com)
- Power usage effectiveness (PUE)
  - Amazon Web Services : 1.135
  - Google Cloud : 1.1, ...





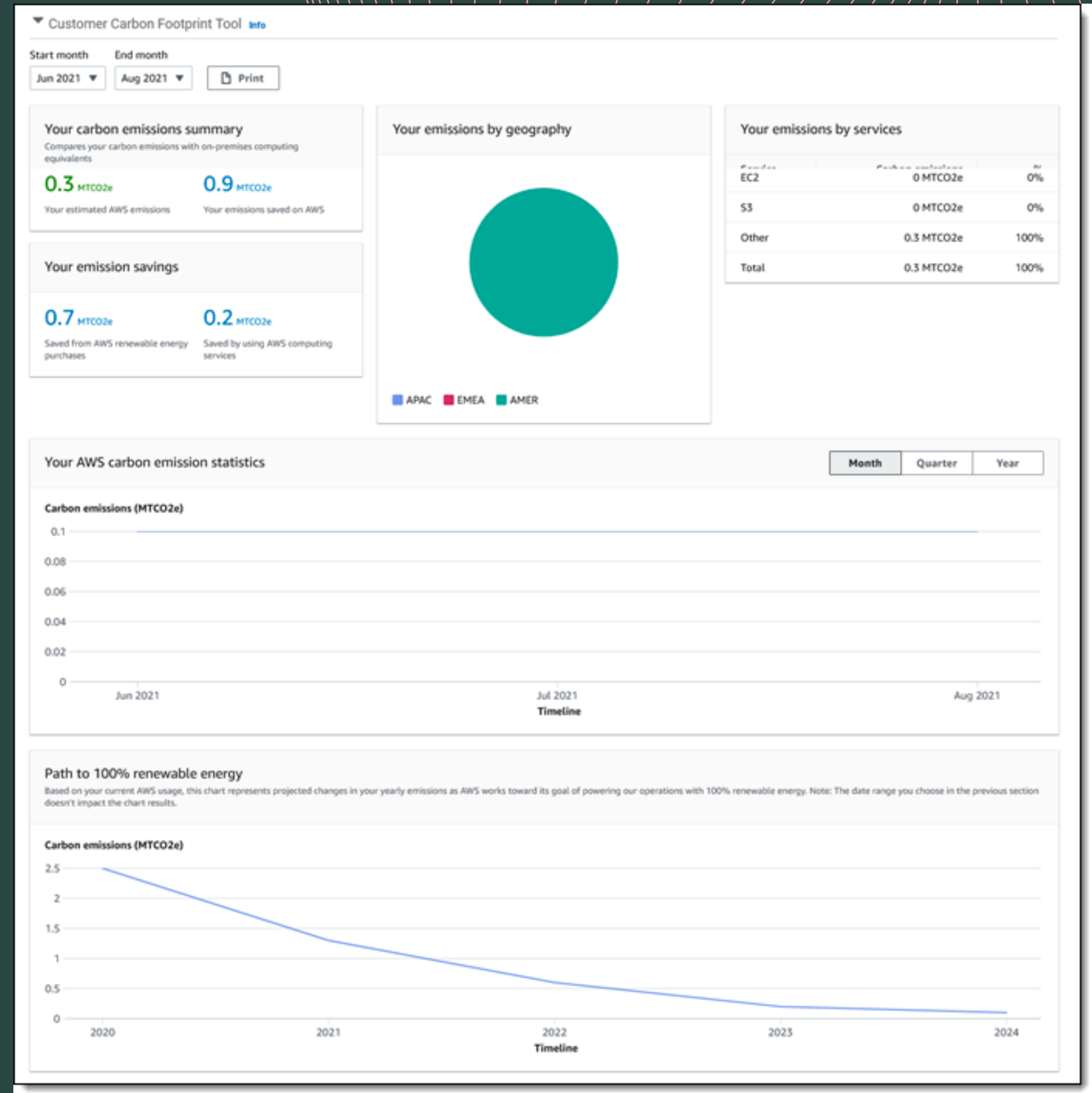
# "less" available data

- Energy consumed by hardware
  - CPU / GPU
    - Model/type
    - % usage
  - Memory
  - Storage
  - Network
  - => Estimations, Coefficients ...
- Energy-mix "weather" predictions



# Cloud Provider

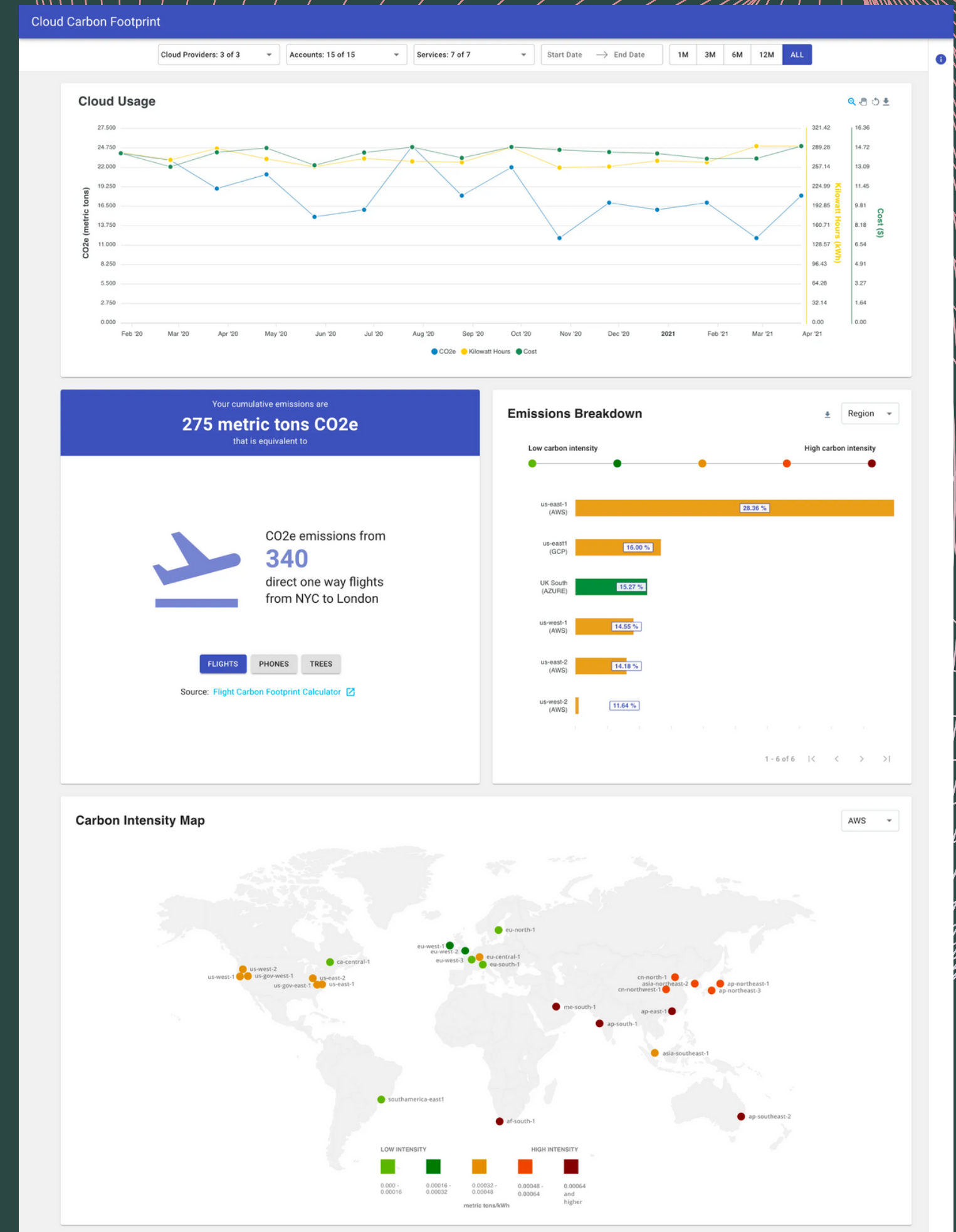
- AWS [Carbon Footprint Tool](#)
- Google Cloud [Carbon Footprint](#)
- Microsoft Azure [Sustainability Calculator](#)



# Cloud carbon footprint

- Cloud Carbon Footprint
- opensource
- sponsored by Toughworks
- read bills of AWS, GCP...
  - Time usage of instance types...
  - Estimate using ratios (50% usage CPU...)

<https://demo.cloudcarbonfootprint.org/>



Cloud Carbon Footprint

# Climatiq

- <https://www.climatiq.io/>
- commercial api
- gives CO2 for an estimation factor
  - cloud computing instance
  - any domain (transportation, freight)
- Lot of data sources

```
curl --request POST \  
--url https://beta4.api.climatiq.io/compute/azure/instance \  
--header 'Authorization: Bearer API_KEY' \  
--data '{  
  "region": "uk_west",  
  "instance": "h8",  
  "duration": 24,  
  "duration_unit": "h"  
'
```



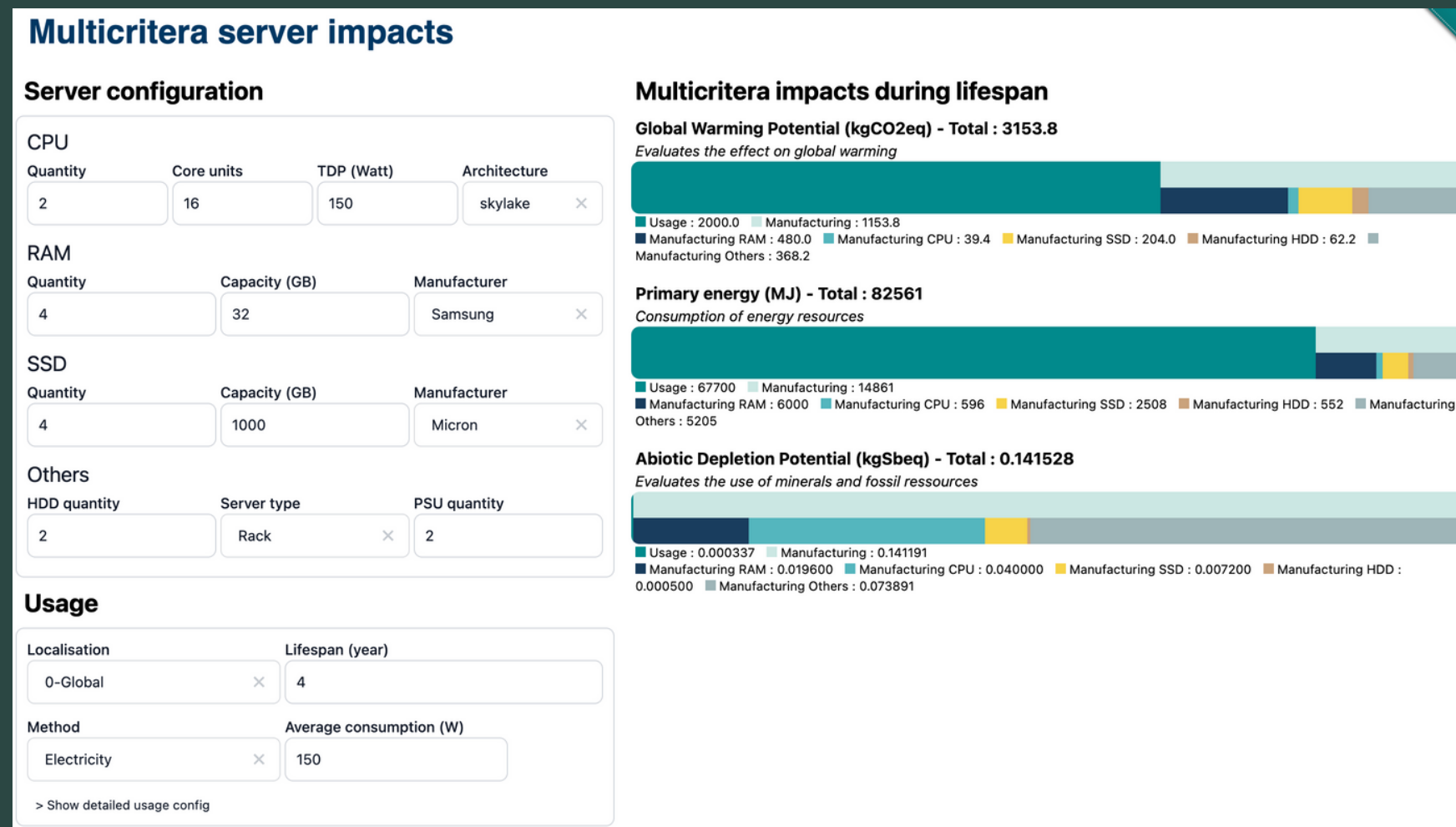
```
{  
  "total_co2e": 0.7436632058974948,  
  "total_co2e_unit": "kg",  
  "memory_estimate": {  
    "co2e": 0.13822429911349482,  
    "co2e_unit": "kg",  
    "co2e_calculation_method": "ar5",  
    "co2e_calculation_origin": "source",  
    "emission_factor": {  
      "name": "Electricity supplied from grid"    }  
  }  
}
```



# Boavizta

- <https://www.boavizta.org/>
- opensource
  - free api
  - free dataset (hardware consumption....)
- gives CO2 for an instance type use:
  - manufacture (embodied)
  - use

```
{
  "provider": "aws",
  "instance_type": "t2.micro",
  "usage": {
    "hours_use_time": 1000,
    "usage_location": "FRA",
    "time_workload": [
      {
        "time_percentage": 100,
        "load_percentage": 50
      }
    ]
  }
}
```



```
{
  "gwp": {
    "manufacture": 34.0,
    "use": 0.7,
    "unit": "kgCO2eq"
  },
  "pe": {
    "manufacture": 440.0,
    "use": 80.1,
    "unit": "MJ"
  },
  "adp": {
    "manufacture": 0.0043,
    "use": 3.45e-07,
    "unit": "kgSbeq"
  }
}
```

# Scaphandre

- <https://hubblo.org/>
- opensource
- read power consumption of CPU
- No CO2 estimation



Demo:

<https://metrics.hubblo.org/>



# Carbonifer

- <https://github.com/carboniferio/carbonifer>
- <https://carbonifer.io>
- opensource
- command line
- **estimates Terraform project**



```
resource "google_compute_instance" "example" {
  name = "example"
  machine_type = "e2-standard-2"
  zone = "europe-west9-a"

  boot_disk {
    initialize_params {
      image = "debian-cloud/debian-11"
      size = 567
      type = "pd-balanced"
    }
  }
}
```

resource type	name	count	emissions per instance
google_compute_instance	example	1	0.5692 gCO2eq/h
Total		1	0.5692 gCO2eq/h

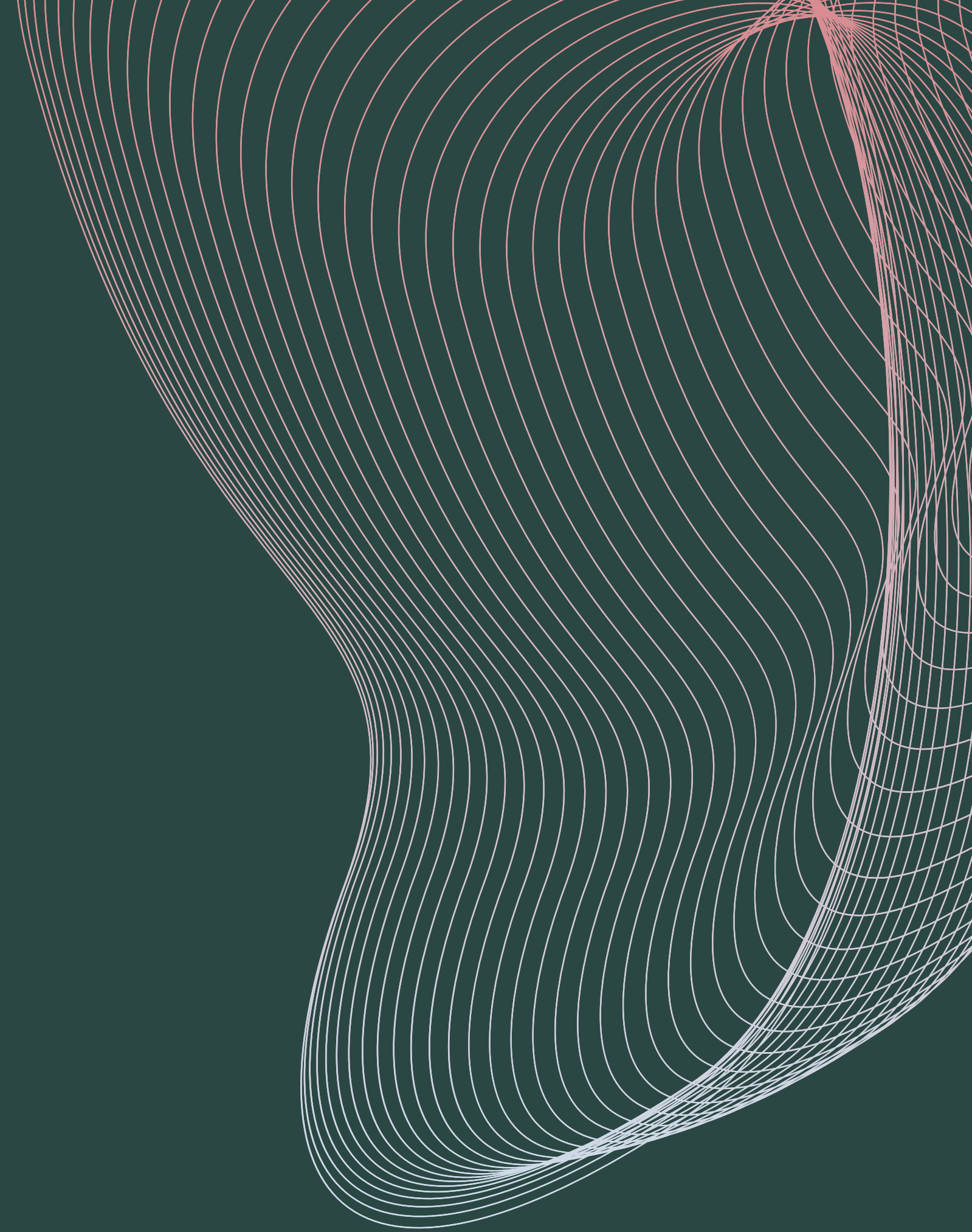


# Reduction



# Reduction

- Green-coding / Software Ecodesign
- Migrate to
  - Hyperscaler
  - "net-zero" datacenter?
- Keep it to a minimum
  - auto-scaling groups
  - containers
  - ...
- Change region / zone



# Hyperscalers



Net-Zero by 2040  
100% renewable energy by 2025



Net-Zero by 2030  
50% emissions by 2030  
(scope 1,2,3)



Carbon Negative by 2030  
50% emissions by 2030  
(scope 1,2,3)

- Improvement:
- PUE (AC, ..)
  - Hardware Lifespan
  - Renewable energy



**on premise**  
numerous underused servers



**cloud**  
fewer highly used server

# FinOps => GreenOps

Autoscaling Groups  
Scheduled Scaling  
Serverless



Adapt infra to the demand

less \$ = less gCO2

# Choose your region wisely

Google Cloud Region	Location	Google CFE	Grid carbon intensity (gCO <sub>2</sub> eq / kWh)
europa-central2	Warsaw	0.24	738
europa-north1	Finland	0.97	112
europa-southwest1	Madrid	0.67	160
europa-west1	Belgium	0.80	123
europa-west2	London	0.85	166
europa-west3	Frankfurt	0.96	413
europa-west4	Netherlands	0.57	317
europa-west6	Zurich	0.85	118
europa-west8	Milan	0.42	323
europa-west9	Paris	0.87	71
europa-west12	Turin	0.42	323

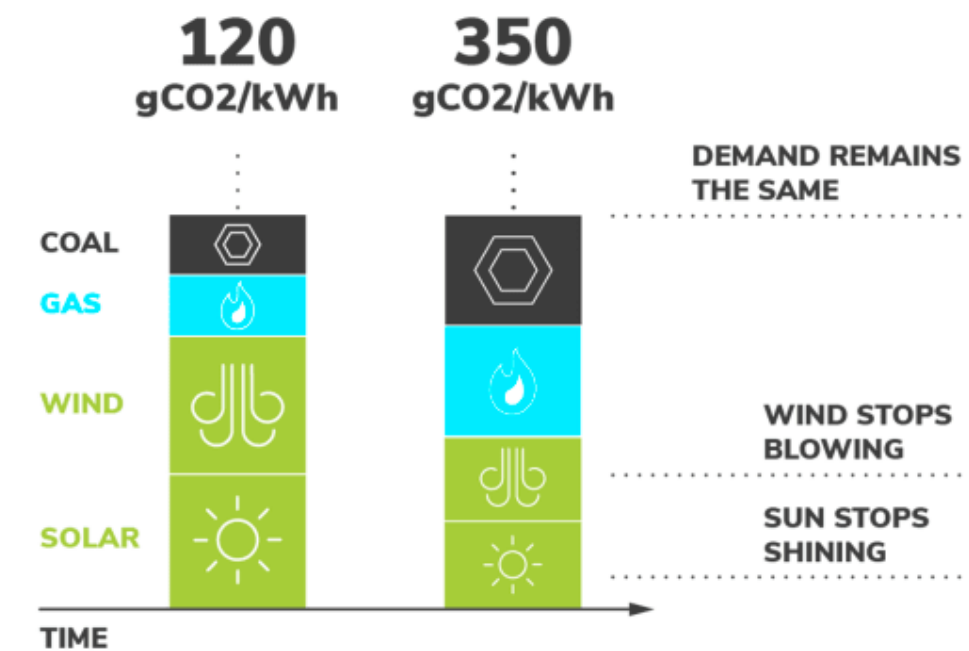
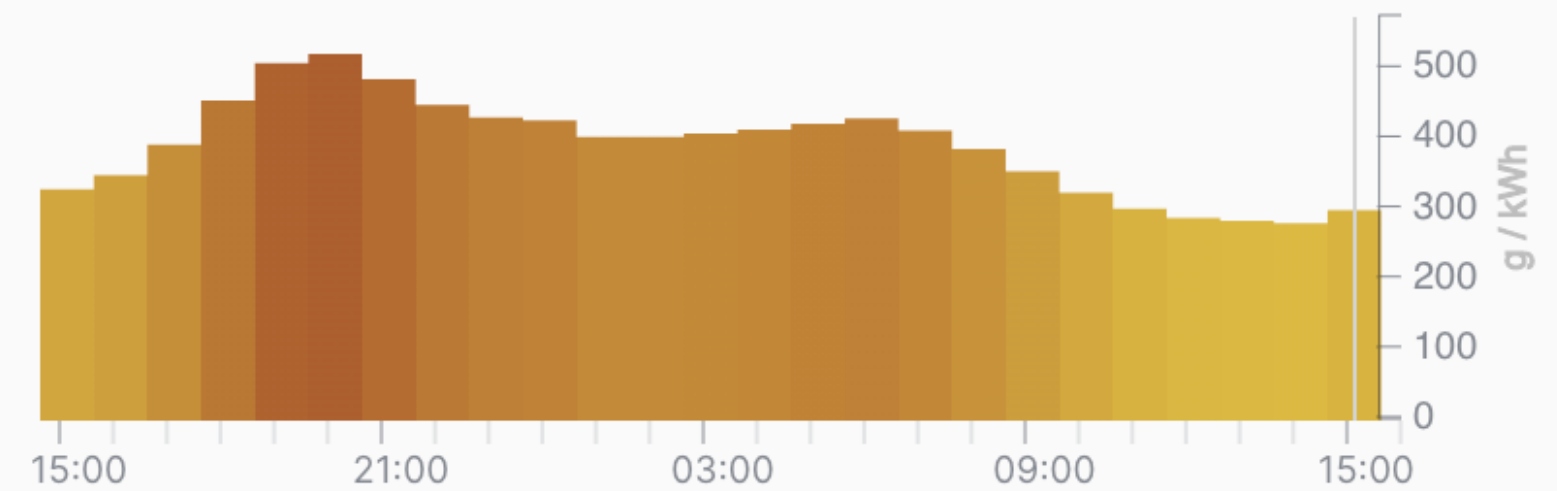


# Follow the sun

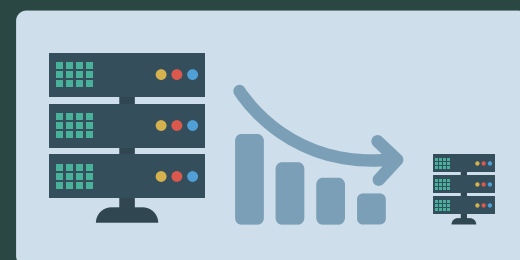
- Renewable energy are weather sensitive (sun, wind...)
- day/night
- [app.electricitymaps.com](http://app.electricitymaps.com)
- plan heavy asynchronous tasks according to energy mix of the grid

## Carbon intensity in the last 24 hours

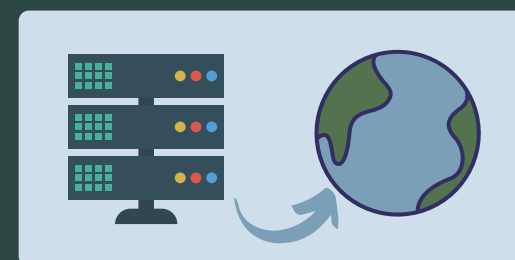
↓ Get hourly historical, live, and forecast data with Electricity Maps API



# Carbon Awareness



Resize

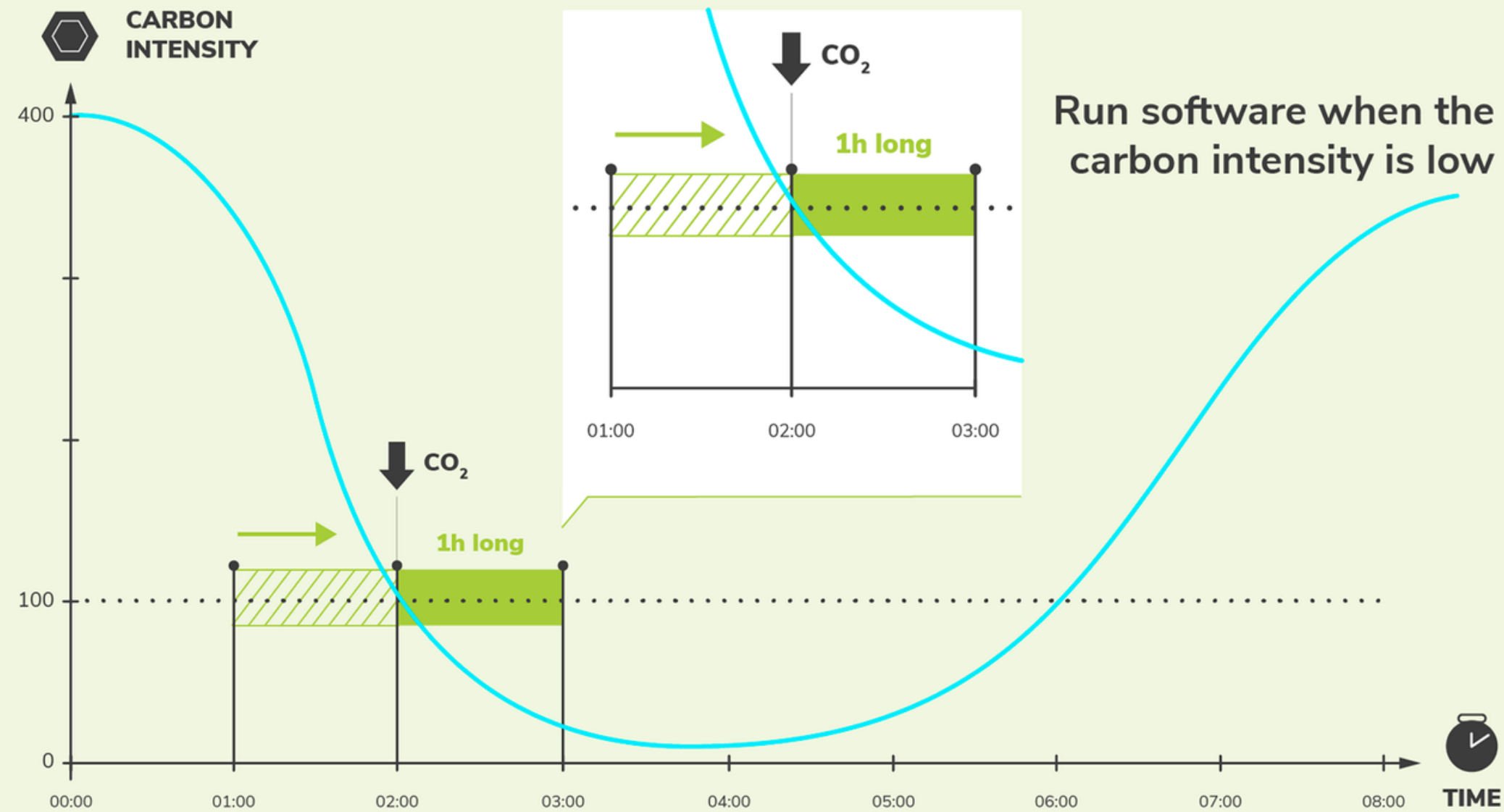


Move



Schedule

# Carbon Awareness

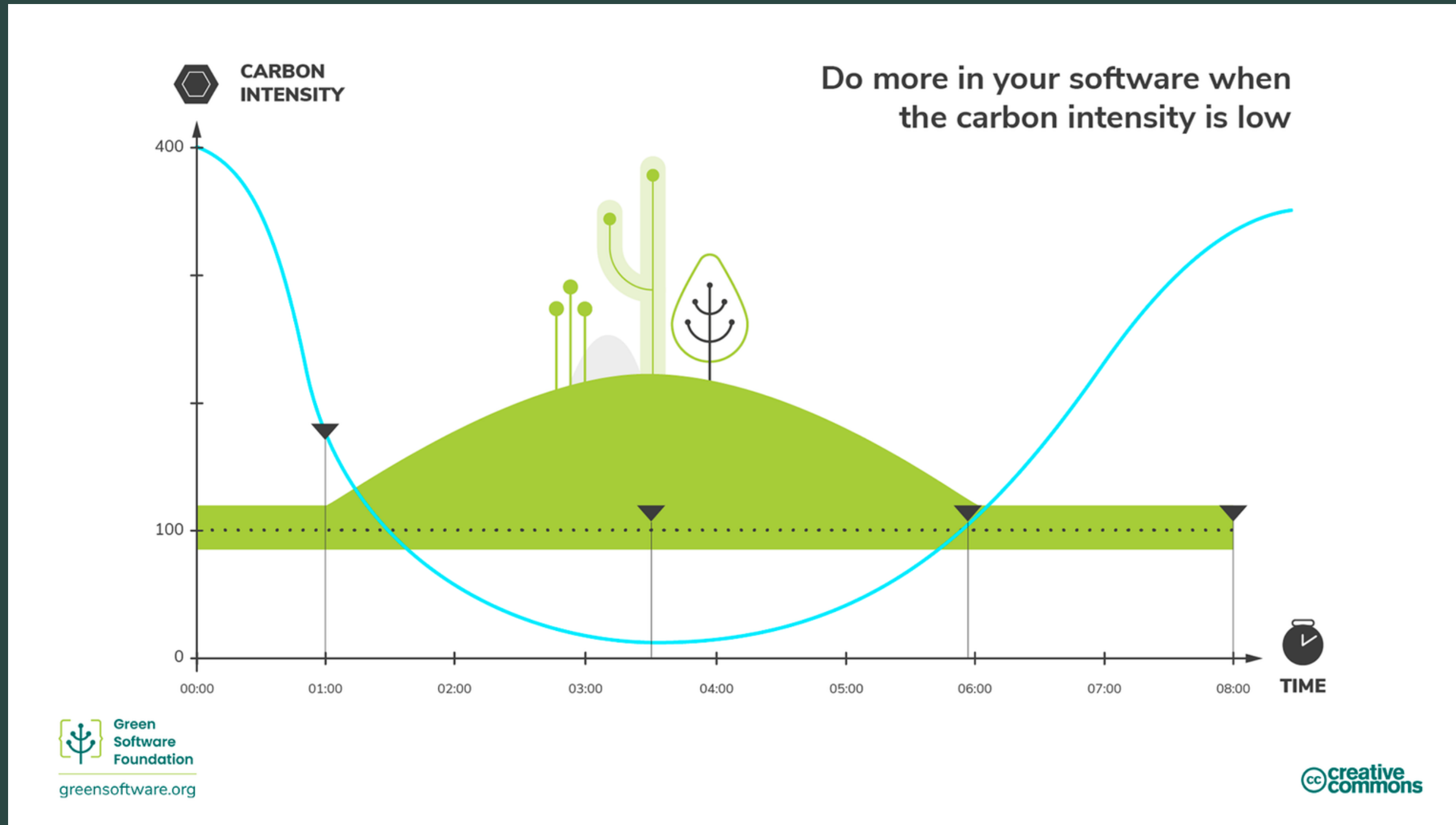


Examples :

- Image/Video processing
- AI model training
- Machine Learning
- DB indexing

# Temporal Shifting

# Carbon Awareness



Examples :

- video quality
- CI server

# Demand Shaping



# Carbon Awareness

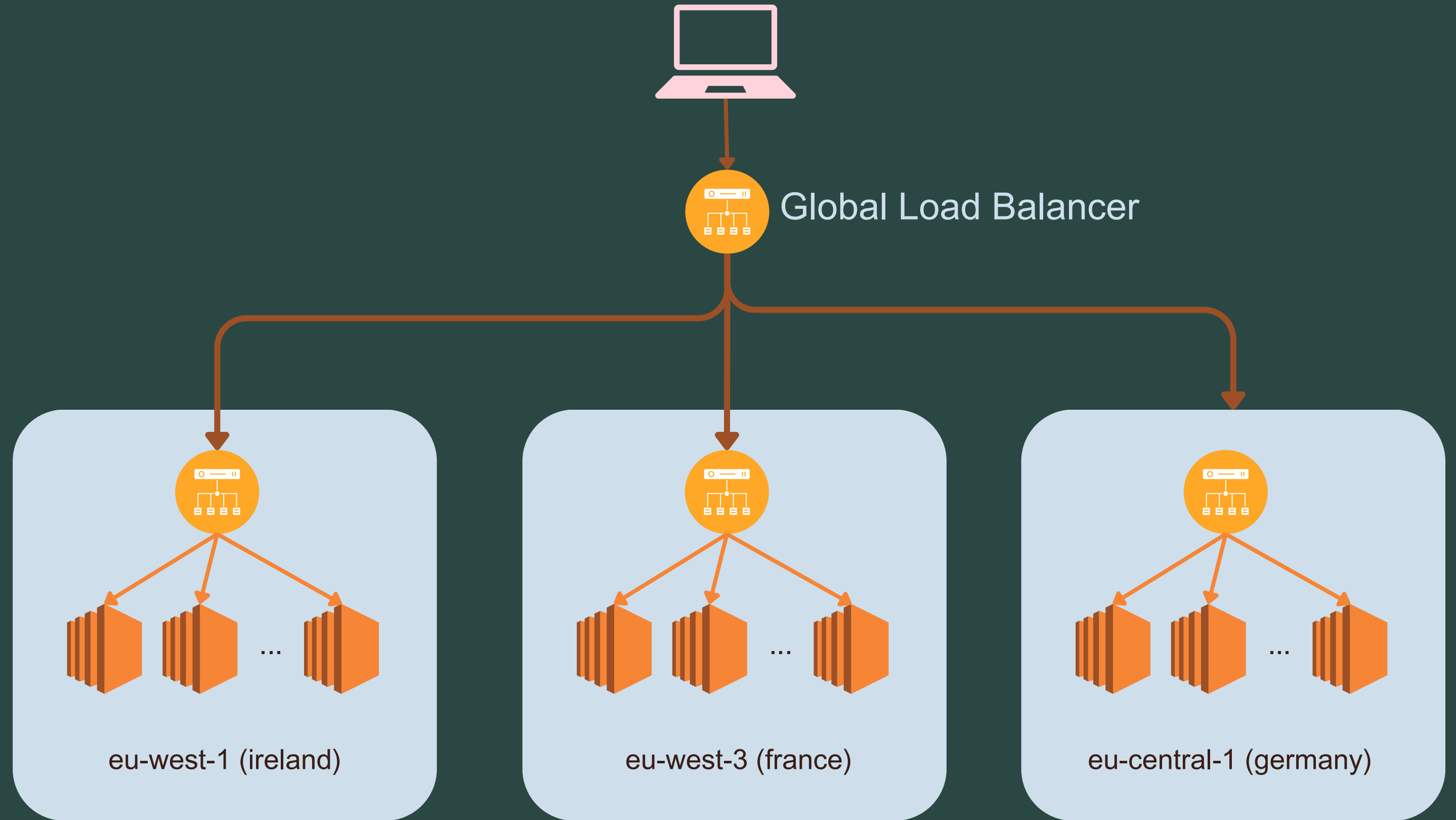


Spatial Shifting



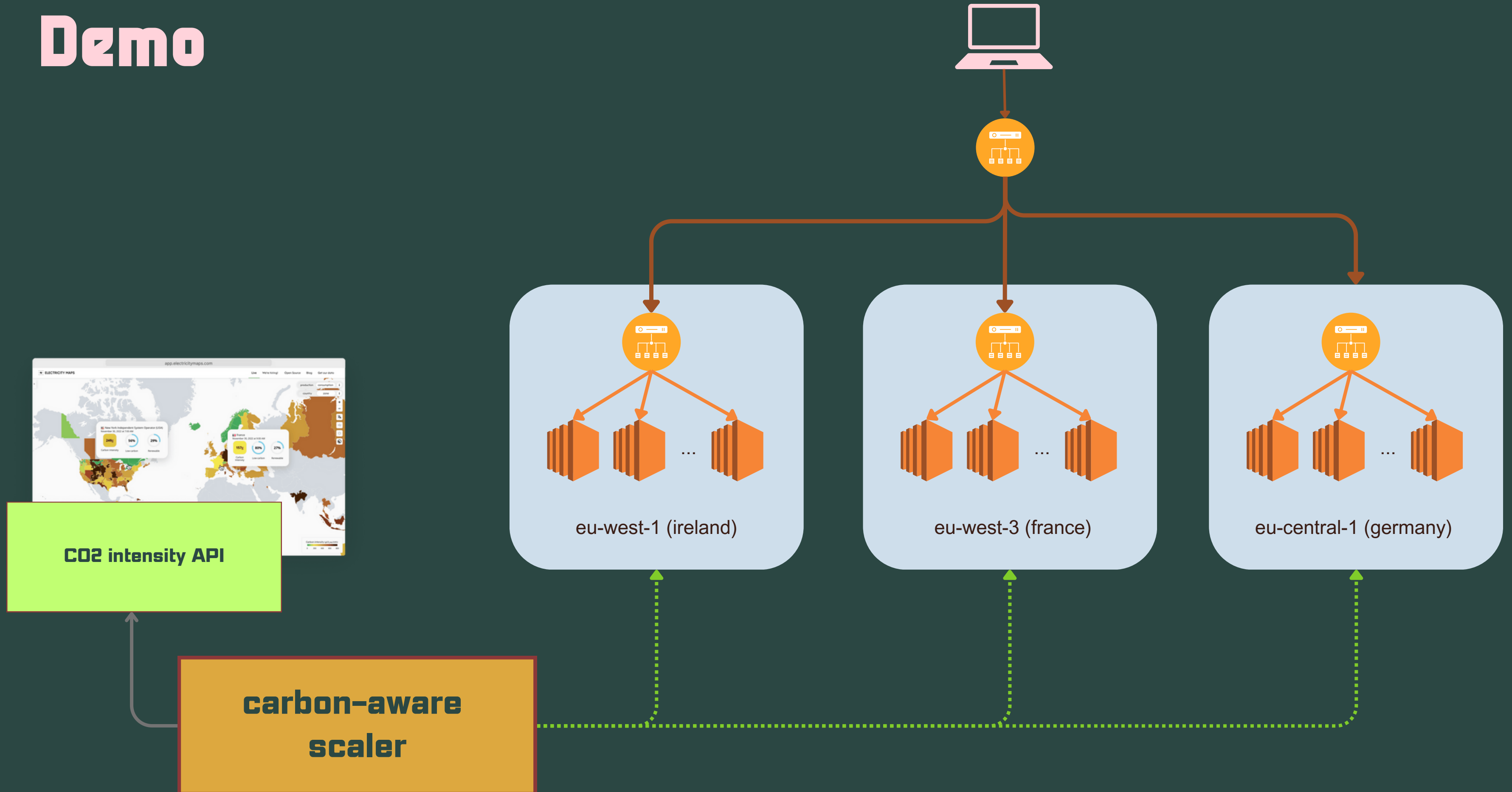
Demo

# Demo



Autoscaling Groups

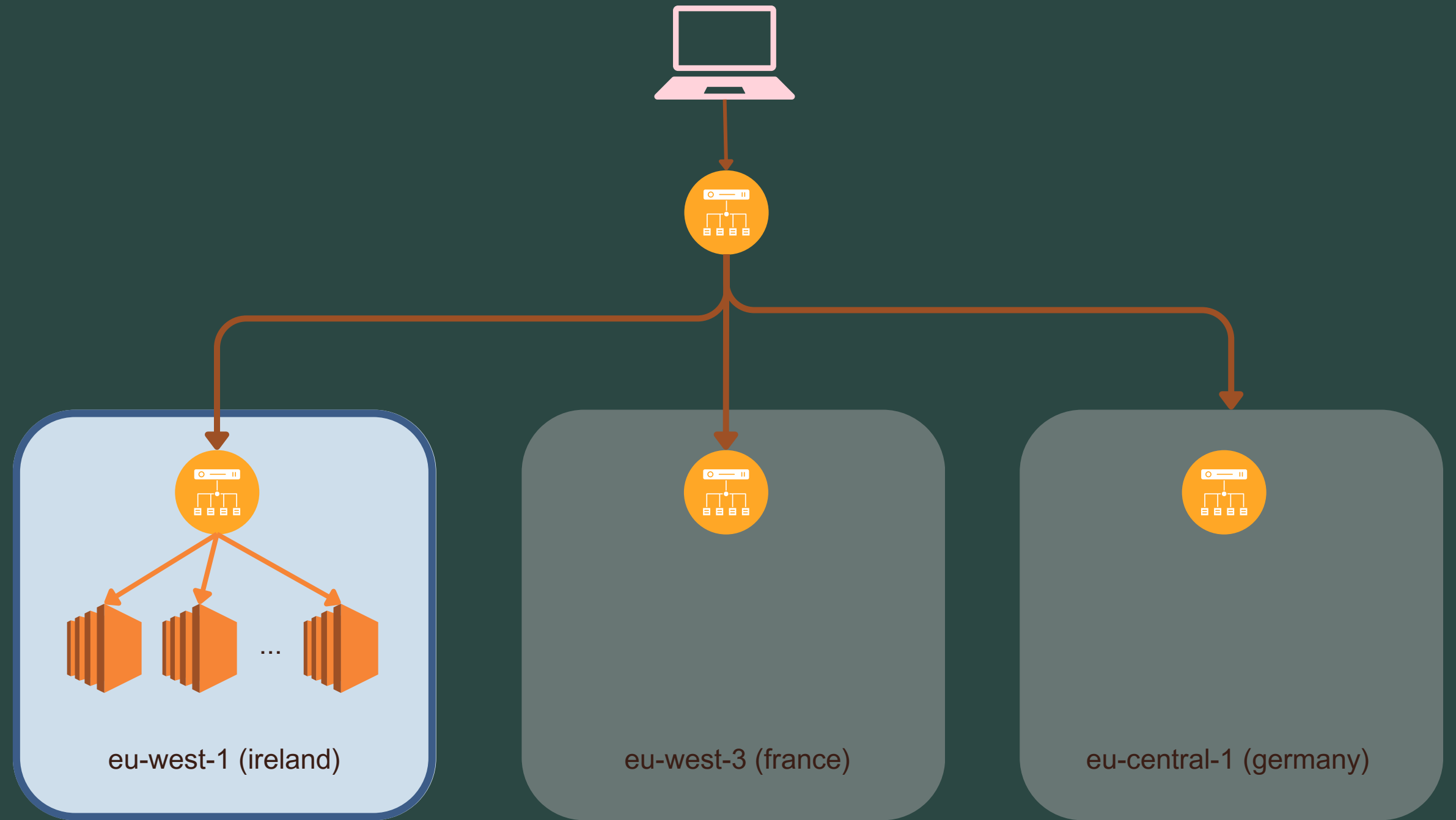
# Demo



# Demo

Ireland	<b>61 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>
France	<b>112 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>
Germany	<b>405 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>

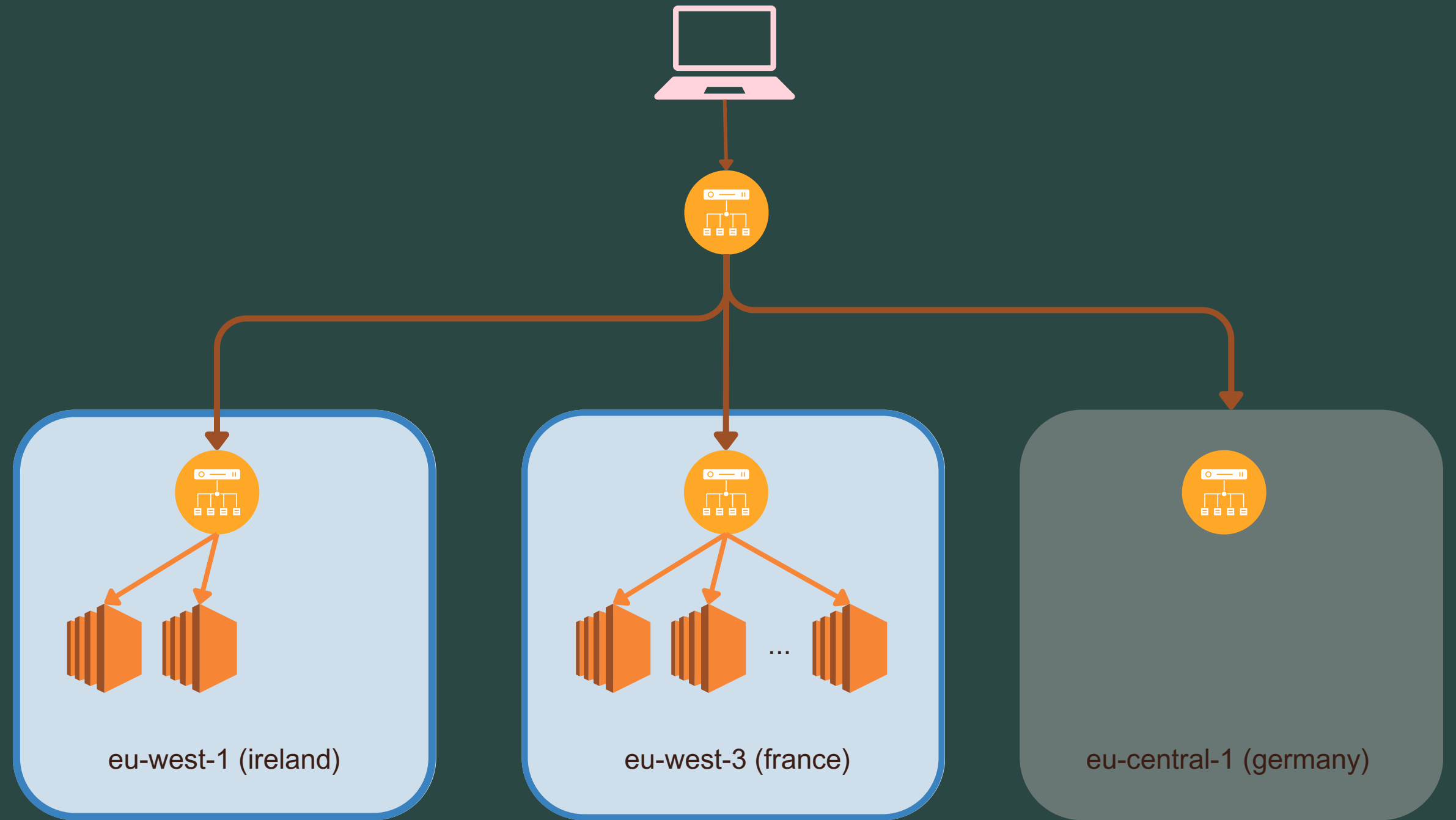
**carbon-aware  
scaler**



# Demo

Ireland	<b>65 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>
France	<b>31 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>
Germany	<b>357 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh</b>

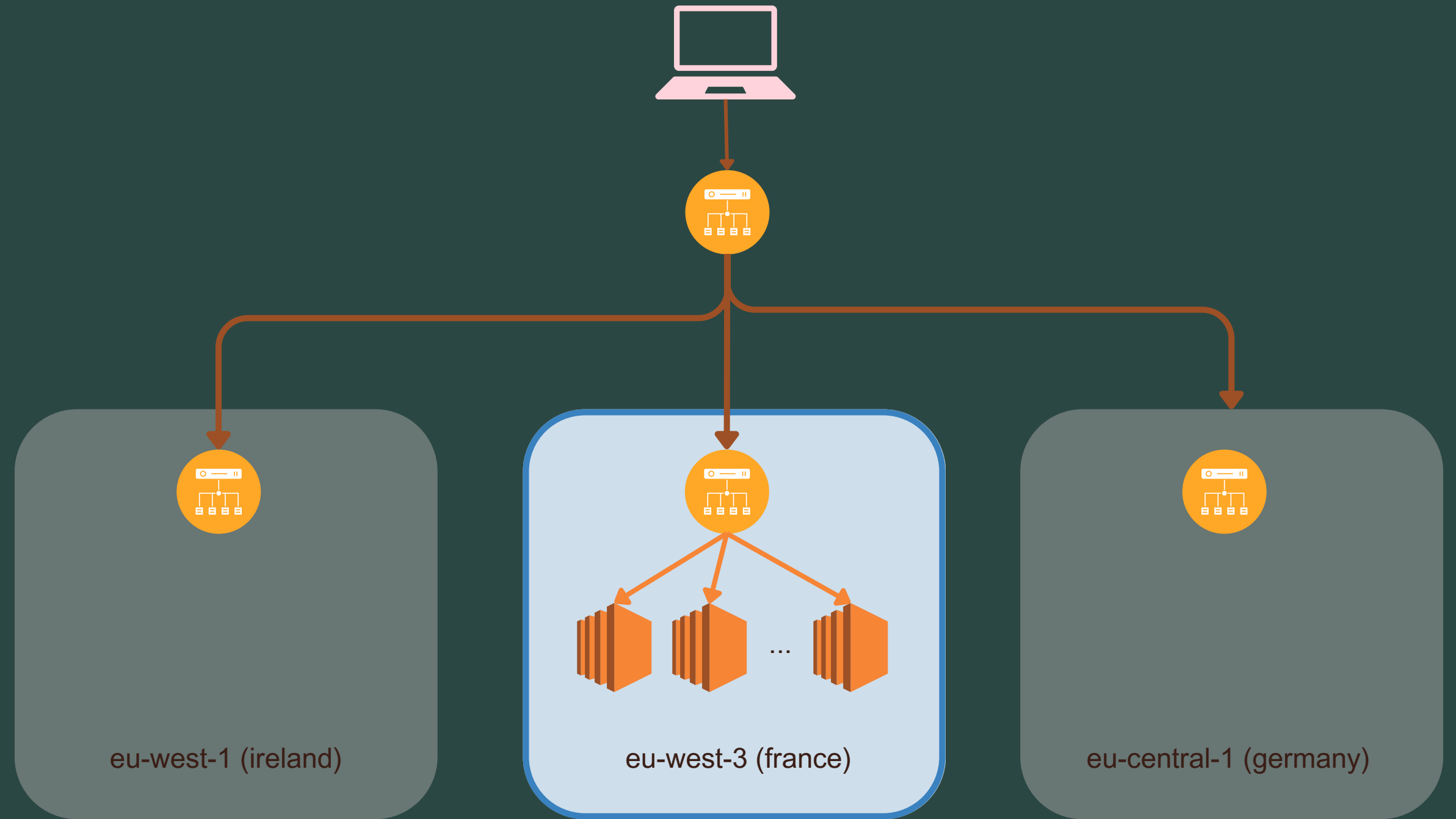
**carbon-aware  
scaler**



# Demo

Ireland	156 gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh
France	31 gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh
Germany	357 gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh

**carbon-aware  
scaler**





Demo



# Take-Away



Collect usage metrics



Estimate kWh



Estimate Carbon Emissions  
(gCO<sub>2</sub>/h)



Plan / Analyse / Correlate



Actions: reduce, schedule  
according to grid CO<sub>2</sub>



Carbon-Awareness

# Thank you



[Green Software Foundation](#)

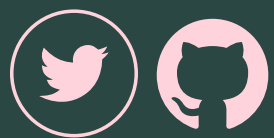
[Carbon Aware Cloud](#)



[Environment Variables](#)



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