

# Material intensity of decarbonated power systems

in Resources to achieve a just transition: levers & limits (COP 29 Side-Event)

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Intermediate 2050 vision is adapted from: https://www.irena.org/Energy-Transition/Outlook/Renewable-energy-roadmaps

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## Power system evolution under CO<sub>2</sub>-free constraint

Naturally derived from the thermodynamic Second Law

Contribution	adequacy				stability		
	flexibility	variability	dispatchability	inertia	synchronism	grid coupling	
Sources &	• Storage	rage • Solar • Hydro (with d					
Loads	<ul> <li>Demand Side Management</li> </ul>	• Wind	Nuclear power plants				
		<ul> <li>Versatile loads</li> </ul>	Fossil power plants				
Drivers	Migration towards electricity Decommi			ssioning of fossil power plant From umbrella to Russian dolls			
	CO <sub>2</sub> -free			uniform implementation of renewables			
Interfaces	Grid-supporting inverters with agile control			Grid-forming inverters copper plate			
Functional	• Si(C)			kg	• Fe (magnetic)	• Cu	
materials	• Ga				• Si(C)	• A1	
	• Co, Dy, Nd				• Ga	• Ag	
	• Li					• Au	
	• Fe (structure)						
Trends	^	<b>↑</b>	$\rightarrow$	Ko		0لا	
Energy for	Infrastructure		Carbon Capture & Sequestration (CCS)				Agility & Control
Externalities	↑		↑				1

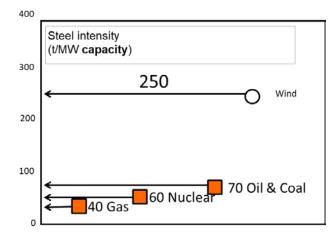
V. Mazauric, "Entanglement of Energy, Material, and Informational Challenges for Attaining a Sustainable Global Future (distinguished lecturer)," presented at the Tohoku Forum for Creativity/Future Society Design Program: Sustainable Structural Integrity for Energy Infrastructure, Sendai, Japan, November 21, 2023. <u>https://www.tfc.tohoku.ac.jp/future-society-design-program/event/3012.html</u>

Life Is Or

## Energy system materiality

### Dilution of energy infrastructures under decarbonation :

• Material intensity of renewables is higher than conventional



### Geostrategic stake:

- From primary energy to functional material tension
- Low potential in developed countries

## Business model constraint for mining industries:

- Change the merit order and subsequent value of ores
- Modify the profitability of extraction sites

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### Kennecott Copper Mine (Utah) 3.2 x 1.2 x 1.2 km<sup>3</sup>

## ICT in energy systems

#### Control:

- Provide energy efficiency strategies in a context of tension between demand and supply
- Balance supply and demand in "real time" in a context of decreasing inertia
- Manage highly diluted assets and versatile loads within a general migration of the energy towards electricity
- Signal quality under variability: Enforce synchronism (clock) to provide the lowest dissipative grid

#### Forecast:

- Local weather to mitigate intermittency
- Predictive maintenance for highly dispersed energy assets

#### Role:

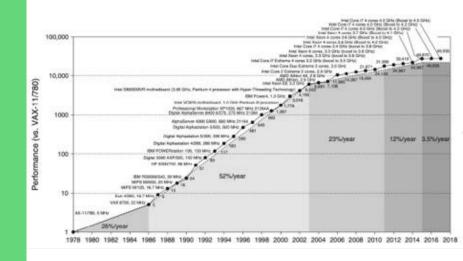
- Increase the knowledge on the energy system by decreasing its missing information
- Ensure trusted transactions in a competitive and open market (blockchain)

#### but

- Spoil the natural evolution of a system (2<sup>nd</sup> principle)
- Require a processor to gain information on the system... And reject a larger amount of missing information (heat) elsewhere!

#### Issue:

- Is accurate information (local, real-time) sustainable from a thermodynamic viewpoint? In a context of:
  - data-deluge
  - Koomey's law faltering



From: J.L. Hennessy and D.A. Pattersson, "Fundamentals of Quantitative Design and Analysis" in Computer architecture: A quantitative approach (5th edition), Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier (2018): 1-97.

The Koomey's law is derived in: Koomey, Jonathan; Berard, Stephen; Sanchez, Marla; Wong, Henry; "Implications of Historical Trends in the Electrical Efficiency of Computing", IEEE Annals of the History of Computing, vol. 33, no 3, 29 mars 2010, p. 46–54.



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# **Digital Technology: Perspectives**

Intrinsic energy weaknesses of ICT:

- ambiguity vs. switching barriers of binary information
- memory volatility
- information erasure (Turing machine)

Game changers for the future:

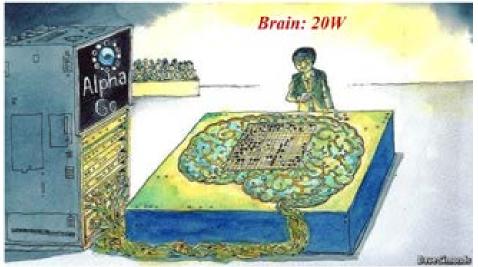
- Mid-term: Decouple reading and writing in memory
  - > Spintronics (merging of electronics and magnetism at nanoscale)
  - Bio-inspired (neuromorphic) architecture
- Long-term:
  - > HP Computing allowing ramping polarization (superposition)
  - > Reversible computing avoiding erasure (intrication)
  - Quantum computing dedicated to energy supremacy

V.K. Joshi: Spintronics: a contemporary review of emerging electronics devices, Engineering Science and Technology, an International Journal ,19, pp. 1503–1513 (2016). J. Torrejon et al.: Neuromorphic computing with nanoscale spintronic oscillators, Nature, vol. 547, no. 7664, pp. 428-431, 2017.

C.H. Bennett: Logical reversibility of computation, IBM J. Res. Develop. 17(6), pp.525-532 (1973); Notes on the history of reversible computation, IBM J. Res. Develop. 32(1), pp.16-23 (1988).

M. Konopik, T. Korten, E. Lutz, and H. Linke, "Fundamental energy cost of finite-time parallelizable computing," Nature Communications, vol. 14, no. 1, p. 447, 2023, Property of Schneider Electric Page 5

## AlphaGo: 150 kW



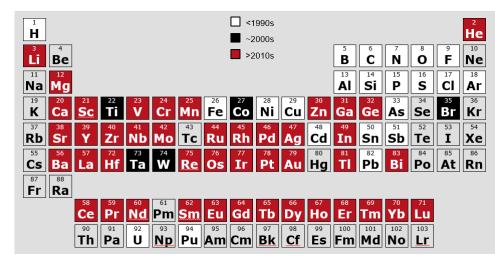


# **Power system footprint (including ICT)**

60 elements are used, less than 15% is recycled

Due to energy footprint of digital solution:

- Digital and energy transitions (2050-70) appear intricated
- Functional resources availability require longterm planning exercises endogenizing energy, information and material processing
- Magnetism is at the crossroads between energy generation and digitalization!



Adapted from: T. Ernst, "Vers une électronique soutenable dans un monde digital: Enjeux et perspectives," *Revue de l'électricité et de l'électronique, vol. 5, pp. 18-24, 2022.* 







