Erasmus School of Economics

Towards Sustainable Computing: Effective Strategies for Product Lifetime Extension in Personal Computer

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Introduction

- Shift in consumer habits towards frequent PC upgrades
- Environmental impact of e-waste and rising hardware costs
- The need for sustainable practices in personal computing

Research Question

What are the most effective strategies for implementing Product Lifetime Extension in personal computers, specifically regarding the selection and timing of component upgrades, to balance technological advancement, environmental sustainability, and economic viability?



Research Methodology



Data Collection: Web Scraping from Passmark



Data Cleaning: Removal of unnecessary data



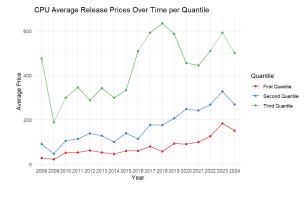
Pre-processing: Inflation adjustment



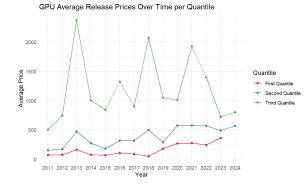
Modeling: Development of an optimization model



Price trends





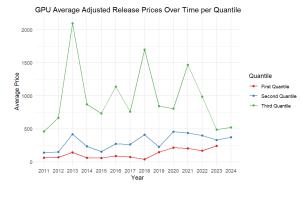




Price trends









Optimization Model

Define System Components and Tiers (Quantiles)

Component Cost and Performance

- Inflation adjustment
- PassMark Rating

Optimization Problem

- Maximize extended period while maintaining acceptable performance
- Find optimal upgrade time
- Full Replacement Policy of 5 years

Optimization Methodology

• Non-Linear Optimization: Nlopt library in R

Sustainability and Cost Analysis

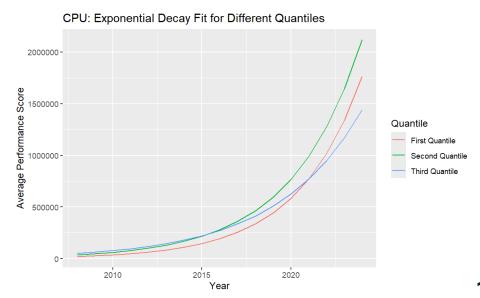
- Compare carbon emission
- Compare average yearly cost



Forecasting Technological Improvements (Deterioration)

- Non-linear regression
- Forecasts of technological improvements

performance
$$(t) = P_0 \cdot e^{-\lambda t}$$



Ezafus

Optimization Model

- Full Replacement vs. Component Upgrades
 - Scenarios for one-component and two components upgrades
- System Performance (PassMark Rating)

$$\mathbf{PassMark\ Rating} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{\text{CPU} \times 0.397} + \frac{1}{2\text{D} \times 3.179} + \frac{1}{3\text{D} \times 2.525} + \frac{1}{\text{Memory} \times 1.757} + \frac{1}{\text{Disk} \times 1.668}\right)/5}$$

Results

- Average emission is 47.8 kg/year
- Prices are in dollar
- Period is in years

Component	Quantile	${ m Opt_Up_Time}$	Extended_Period	Avg_FRC	Avg_UC	Avg_Sys_Em
CPU	First	2.7098	8.225	46.82	37.83	37.78
CPU	Second	2.8274	7.65	120.37	100.25	40.61
CPU	Third	2.4122	7	365.19	334.80	44.39
Disk	First	$-2.\overline{1957}$	5.15	46.82	50.70	50.12
Disk	Second	1.8174	5.95	120.37	112.30	43.38
Disk	Third	2.0006	7.25	365.19	277.71	35.62
$\overline{\mathrm{GPU}}$	First	2.1213	6.925	46.82	51.73	39.67
GPU	Second	2.1673	6.3	120.37	136.42	43.61
GPU	Third	2.0697	6.175	365.19	457.51	44.43
Memory	First	$ \frac{1}{2.5}$ $ -$	$5.\overline{1}$	48.65	57.96	49.20
Memory	Second	2.1283	5.1	120.37	141.70	49.20
Memory	Third	2.5	5.1	351.23	410.10	49.20

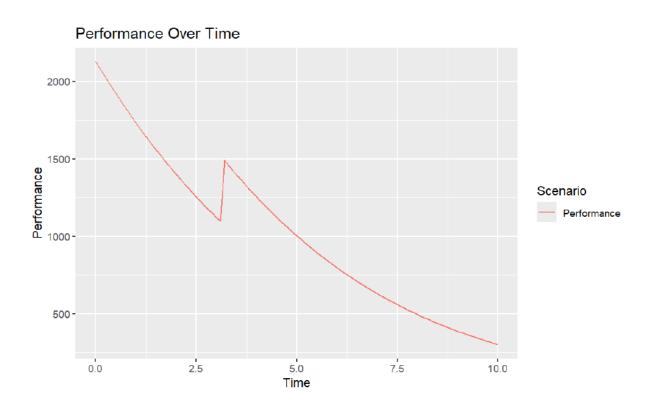


Results (2)

Component	Quantile	${ m Opt_Up_Time}$	Extended_Period	Avg_FRC	Avg_UC	Avg_Sys_Em
CPU; Disk	First	2.74	11.00	46.82	22.09	29.98
CPU; Disk	Second	3.88	15.05	120.37	41.64	21.91
CPU; Disk	Third	4.19	16.75	365.19	115.64	19.69
CPŪ; GPŪ	First	$\frac{-}{4.20}$	19.18	46.82	12.67	18.07
CPU; GPU	Second	3.00	12.30	125.93	59.09	28.17
CPU; GPU	Third	2.91	9.47	365.19	200.25	29.03
CPU; Memory	First	2.83	10.50	46.82	-23.07	30.04
CPU; Memory	Second	3.13	8.88	120.37	69.59	34.00
CPU; Memory	Third	2.46	7.75	365.19	240.16	41.54
Disk; Memory	First	2.50	5.18	46.82	45.30	48.55
Disk; Memory	Second	2.12	6.10	120.37	98.08	44.09
Disk; Memory	Third	2.00	7.95	365.19	242.09	33.64
GPU; Disk	First	2.13	6.68	46.82	35.65	$-42.\overline{26}$
GPU; Disk	Second	1.83	7.32	120.37	84.33	40.84
GPU; Disk	Third	2.68	9.15	365.19	212.96	32.75
GPU; Memory	First	2.16	6.50	46.82	36.45	41.96
GPU; Memory	Second	2.30	6.05	120.37	103.67	41.83
GPU; Memory	Third	1.96	5.90	365.19	309.15	48.16



Result (3)



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Key Findings

- CPU: High impact on performance, most beneficial to upgrade
- Disk: Significant benefits in higher quantiles
- GPU: High performance impact, less cost-effective due price
- Memory: Minimal effect on extending system lifespan

Marketing

- Targeted Marketing
- Sustainability Campaigns
- Product Bundling

Limitations

- Component Focus
- Price Assumptions

Conclusion

- PLE strategies extend PC lifespan, reduce costs, and lower emission
- Practical implications
- Future research

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