GreenDev: A Sustainability-Centric Software Engineering Model for Low-Energy Code and Machine Learning Pipeline Development in Cloud-Native Environments.

GreenDev :نموذج هندسة برمجيات موجه نحو الاستدامة لتطوير الشيفرات منخفضة الطاقة وخطوط أنابيب التعلم الآلي في البيئات السحابية الأصلية

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تاريخ تقديم البحث :2024/07/27
تاريخ قبول النشر :2025/10/21

المستخلص

مع تزايد الاهتمام العالمي بقضايا الاستدامة، أصبح دمج الممارسات المسؤولة بيئيًا في هندسة البرمجيات أمرًا ضروريًا. يقدم هذا البحث **GreenDev**، وهو نموذج مبتكر يدمج مبادئ الوعي بالطاقة عبر دورة حياة تطوير البرمجيات، بدءًا من التصميم والبرمجة مرورًا بخطوط التكامل/التسليم المستمر (CI/CD) ووصولًا إلى عمليات التشغيل.

يتيح **GreenDev**للمطورين تقييم وتحسين الشيفرة البرمجية استنادًا إلى مؤشرات الطاقة في الزمن الحقيقي، ودرجات القابلية للصيانة، وتأثير الأداء، وذلك باستخدام التحليل الثابت، وتقنيات التتبع الخفيف، وأنظمة التغذية الراجعة الذكية.

تُظهر التقييمات الشاملة عبر أربع حالات دراسية أن **GreenDev** يقلل من إجمالي استهلاك الطاقة بنسبة تصل إلى **17.7%**، ويحسن زمن استجابة واجهات البرمجة (API) ومدة البناء، ويعزز القابلية للصيانة بنسبة **10.7%**، ويرفع إنتاجية المطورين.

ويمتاز النموذج بدمجه الفريد لآليات الاستدامة ضمن خطوط **CI/CD**دون التأثير على سرعة التطوير أو جودته، مع منحنى تعلم بسيط وتكامل سلس مع أدوات التطوير الحديثة.

يمثل **GreenDev**خطوة عملية ومؤثرة نحو هندسة برمجيات مستدامة التصميم، تجمع بين الابتكار البرمجي والمسؤولية البيئية، وتعيد تشكيل ثقافة التطوير باتجاه مستقبل رقمي أكثر خضرة وكفاءة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: البرمجيات المستدامة، الحوسبة الخضراء، البيئات السحابية الأصلية، التطوير الموفر للطاقة، GreenDev، دورة حياة البرمجيات، الأثر البيئي، المقاييس الخضراء.

Abstract

As global sustainability concerns grow, integrating environmentally responsible practices into software engineering has become essential. This paper introduces **GreenDev**, a novel model that embeds energy-aware principles across the software development lifecycle—spanning design, coding, CI/CD, and runtime operations. GreenDev enables developers to evaluate and optimise their code based on real-time energy metrics, maintainability scores, and performance impact, using lightweight profiling, static analysis, and intelligent feedback systems. Comprehensive evaluations across four scenarios demonstrate that GreenDev reduces total energy consumption by up to **17.7%**, improves API latency and builds time, enhances maintainability by **10.7%**, and increases developer productivity. It uniquely integrates sustainability enforcement into CI/CD pipelines while maintaining development speed and quality. With minimal learning curve and seamless integration into modern toolchains, GreenDev offers a scalable path toward **sustainable-by-design software engineering**. This work positions GreenDev as a practical and impactful model that bridges software innovation and environmental responsibility—reshaping development culture toward a greener, more efficient digital future.

Keywords: Sustainable software, Green Computing, Cloud-native, Energy-efficient development, GreenDev, Software lifecycle, Environmental impact, Green metrics.

1. Introduction

The rapid proliferation of digital technologies has led to a substantial rise in global energy demand within the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector. Current estimates suggest that ICT contributes approximately **3.7% of global greenhouse gas emissions**, a figure that is expected to double by 2025 if prevailing consumption trends remain unchecked [1]. Among the primary drivers of this surge is the widespread adoption of **cloud-native architectures**, which offer flexibility and scalability but also introduce significant **energy inefficiencies** due to their distributed and dynamic characteristics [2]. The microservices paradigm, container-based deployments, and Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD) pipelines—while improving agility—often result in **excessive inter-service communication, resource underutilization, and idle consumption overheads** [3], [4].

In response, the discipline of **Green Software Engineering (GSE)** has emerged to integrate sustainability principles into the full software development lifecycle. Established frameworks, such as **GREENSOFT**, have advanced discussion by emphasizing design-level efficiency, hardware utilization, and user behavior [5]. However, these models are not specifically tailored to the challenges of cloud-native infrastructures, particularly in **data-intensive healthcare AI applications**. Recent years (2021–2025) have introduced several promising advances aimed at addressing these limitations.

Recent Advances in Sustainable AI and Cloud Systems. Emerging approaches now span multiple optimization layers. At the **tooling level**, energy profilers such as **PowerAPI** and **CodeCarbon** enable fine-grained tracking of energy consumption in real time [6], [7]. At the **model level**, techniques such as **quantization-aware training**, **pruning**, **knowledge distillation**, and **low-rank adaptation (LoRA)** significantly reduce computational complexity without degrading accuracy in healthcare imaging and predictive analytics [8], [9]. At the **systems level**, innovations include **carbon-aware scheduling** that aligns workloads with greener electricity supply [10], **container co-scheduling** to minimize idle cycles, and **autoscaling strategies** leveraging Kubernetes HPA/KEDA for demand-responsive execution [11]. Furthermore, integration of **sustainability gates in CI/CD workflows** now enables real-time enforcement of eco-efficiency during software delivery [12]. Despite these developments, there remains no unified methodology that seamlessly integrates model-, system-, and pipeline-level sustainability measures into a single operational framework tailored for healthcare cloud environments.

To bridge this gap, this study proposes GreenDev-AI, a sustainability-centric software engineering framework designed to embed energy-awareness across all stages of AI system development and deployment. Unlike prior works, GreenDev-AI explicitly targets healthcare cloud systems, where energy efficiency, clinical accuracy, and regulatory compliance must coexist. By combining lightweight profiling, static analysis, CI/CD governance, and runtime feedback, GreenDev-AI provides a **practical yet rigorous approach to balancing performance, scalability, and environmental responsibility**.

The primary contributions of this research are summarized as follows:

1. **Proposal of GreenDev-AI**, a unified lifecycle framework that operationalizes sustainability in healthcare AI systems by embedding energy-aware practices from model design to runtime execution.
2. **Formulation of a Green Cost Function (GCF)** that captures the trade-offs between energy, time, and memory, enabling systematic decision-making for sustainable software optimization.
3. **Integration of sustainability checks into development workflows**, including IDE-level guidance and CI/CD sustainability gates, ensuring real-time monitoring and automated compliance.

4. **Comprehensive evaluation across diverse healthcare workloads** (diagnostic imaging, predictive analytics, telehealth), demonstrating up to **17.7% energy reduction**, **10.7% latency improvement**, and measurable gains in maintainability and developer productivity.
5. **Introduction of a reproducible sustainability reporting template**, linking each optimization to quantifiable outcomes, thereby setting a foundation for benchmarking and certification of eco-efficient healthcare software.

Through these contributions, the study advances the state of sustainable software engineering by providing a **scalable, healthcare-specific, and lifecycle-integrated framework** that addresses both environmental and operational demands.

2. Background and Related Work

2.1 Green Software Engineering Foundations

The foundations of Green Software Engineering (GSE) have been shaped by early models such as **GREENSOFT**, which formalized sustainability criteria across software design, implementation, and operation phases [13]. Subsequent surveys underscored the fragmented nature of the GSE tool ecosystem and the lack of lifecycle-wide integration into modern development workflows [14]. While these contributions established sustainability as a core concern in software engineering, they remain limited in their ability to address the unique energy and operational challenges of **cloud-native and healthcare-specific AI systems**.

2.2 Energy Efficiency in Cloud-Native Systems

Recent efforts have sought to characterize and optimize energy consumption in containerized and microservice-based environments. Oliveira and Castro [15] analyzed cloud-native workloads and reported that excessive inter-service communication and container underutilization can inflate energy usage by **up to 27%** compared to monolithic systems. Zhang et al. [16] introduced an **energy-aware container scheduling algorithm**, achieving **18–22% reductions in overall consumption** across multi-tenant clusters. Similarly, Imai et al. [17] evaluated microservice communication patterns, concluding that reducing inter-service dependencies lowers both network latency and energy costs. These works confirm the need for **system-level orchestration policies** that reduce inefficiencies in distributed applications.

2.3 Sustainability in AI and Machine Learning

With the rapid adoption of AI in sensitive domains such as healthcare, researchers have examined the energy implications of model training and deployment. Lacoste et al. [18] introduced **CodeCarbon**, a widely adopted open-source tool for estimating carbon emissions of machine learning experiments, demonstrating that **emission-aware optimization** can cut energy costs by **10–15%** without accuracy loss. Dettmers et al. [19] advanced **low-rank adaptation (LoRA)** for efficient fine-tuning of large-scale models, reducing training resource usage by **over 40%**. Similarly, Frankle and Carbin [20] validated the **lottery ticket hypothesis**, showing that sparse subnetworks can achieve baseline accuracy with significantly lower energy demand. These findings highlight the **importance of model-level optimization** in complementing system-level sustainability measures.

2.4 Carbon-Aware Scheduling and DevOps Integration

Beyond modelling and orchestration, sustainability is increasingly embedded into operational pipelines. Raju et al. [21] proposed **carbon-aware schedulers** that align job execution with low-emission energy windows, achieving up to **30% carbon footprint reduction** in cloud datacenters. Pasquini et al. [22] demonstrated the feasibility of embedding **sustainability gates into CI/CD pipelines**, where builds failing to meet predefined energy thresholds are automatically flagged. Their experiments confirmed that sustainability-aware CI/CD enforcement can be implemented **without slowing delivery pipelines**.

Despite these advances, current approaches remain **siloed**, focusing on either system-level orchestration, model efficiency, or operational enforcement in isolation. Few works attempt to unify these dimensions into a **single, lifecycle-oriented framework** tailored to healthcare AI, where **energy efficiency, clinical accuracy, and regulatory compliance** must coexist. This study addresses this gap by proposing **GreenDev-AI**, an end-to-end sustainability framework that integrates **model-level optimization, CI/CD enforcement, and runtime energy profiling**, and validates its efficacy on **realistic healthcare workloads**.

A comparative overview of the most relevant studies is presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: comparative overview of the most relevant studies.

Ref.	Contribution	Methodology	Key Findings / Limitations
[13] Naumann et al., 2011	Introducing the **GREENSOFT reference model** for sustainable software	Defined sustainability criteria across design, implementation, and operation	Provided conceptual foundation but lacked applicability to modern **cloud-native AI environments**
[14] Fernández et al., 2022	Conducted a systematic survey of Green Software Engineering tools	Analyzed existing frameworks and practices	Identified fragmented ecosystem; highlighted absence of **lifecycle-wide integration**
[15] Oliveira & Castro, 2022	Studied energy use in cloud-native workloads	Empirical analysis of microservices vs. monoliths	Found **27% higher energy use** in microservices due to inter-service communication and underutilization
[16] Zhang et al., 2023	Proposed **energy-aware container scheduling**	Developed scheduling algorithm for cloud clusters	Achieved **18–22% energy savings** but limited to orchestration layer only
[17] Imai et al., 2021	Evaluated efficiency of microservices communication	Experimental measurement of latency and energy	Showed dependency reduction improves performance and energy but lacked holistic framework
[18] Lacoste et al., 2021	Introduction **CodeCarbon** for ML carbon tracking	Developed open-source profiler for emissions	Enabled tracking of ML model emissions, cutting energy costs **10–15%**, but only monitoring, not optimization
[19] Dettmers et al., 2022	Proposed **Low-Rank Adaptation (LoRA)** for efficient model fine-tuning	Applied LoRA to large language models	Reduced training cost by **40%+**, but focused on model efficiency alone
[20] Frankle & Carbin, 2021	Introducing the **Lottery Ticket Hypothesis**	Empirical analysis of sparse subnetworks	Demonstrated sparse models achieve baseline accuracy with lower energy, but not integrated into cloud systems
[21] Raju et al., 2023	Developed **carbon aware schedulers** for datacenters	Scheduling aligned with grid carbon intensity	Reduced carbon footprint by **~30%**, but limited to infrastructure-level optimization
[22] Pasquini et al., 2023	Embedded **sustainability gates** into CI/CD pipelines	Experimental enforcement in DevOps pipelines	Enabled real-time sustainability compliance without slowing builds, but scope limited to DevOps integration

3. The Proposed GreenDev Model

3.1 Model Overview

The GreenDev model is a structured, sustainability-centric software engineering framework tailored for modern cloud-native systems. It embeds environmental considerations directly into the software development lifecycle (SDLC) and integrates seamlessly with DevOps pipelines, continuous integration/continuous deployment (CI/CD) workflows, and cloud orchestration platforms.

Conceptual Architecture:

GreenDev introduces a four-layered architecture:

1. **Sustainable Design Layer**
2. **Green Implementation Layer**
3. **Energy-Aware CI/CD Layer**
4. **Runtime Sustainability Monitoring Layer**

3.2 Design Principles

GreenDev is built on three foundational principles:

- **Energy-Aware Development:** Code and infrastructure choices should be guided by energy metrics and sustainability thresholds.
- **Modular Optimization:** Software components should be loosely coupled and independently tunable for energy efficiency.
- **Feedback-Driven Improvement:** Continuous monitoring and real-time profiling should inform design and deployment decisions.

Energy-Aware Decision Function

To formalize energy-aware decision-making, we define the **Green Cost Function (GCF)** for any architectural or implementation choice:

$$GCF = \alpha \cdot E + \beta \cdot T + \gamma \cdot M$$

Where:

- EE: Estimated energy consumption (Wh)
- T: Execution time (s)
- M: Memory usage (MB)
- α,β,γ: Tunable weights for energy, time, and memory, respectively

A lower GCF value indicates a more sustainable design choice. This equation is used during both the design and CI/CD phases.

3.3 Components of the GreenDev Model

1. Green Metrics Module

This component collects runtime and static measurements including:

- CPU usage
- Memory consumption
- Disk and I/O load
- Network latency
- Process-level energy (via PowerAPI, CodeCarbon)

To compute total process energy (E_P):

$$E_P = \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i . \Delta t_i$$

Where:

- p_i: Instantaneous power (W)
- Δt_i: Time interval (s)

The module aggregates these profiles for service- and deployment-level insights.

2. Decision Support Engine

This engine suggests alternative code constructs or configurations using sustainability metrics and historical profiling data. The decision scoring function evaluates trade-offs:

$$Sustainability\ Score = \frac{1}{1 + GCF}$$

This score is used to select the most sustainable code variant, deployment strategy, or configuration template during design-time and CI/CD execution.

3. Feedback Loop

GreenDev implements a continuous feedback mechanism that refines decisions based on observed runtime behaviour. The feedback signal (F) is expressed as:

$$\mathrm{F}(t) = \lambda \frac{E_{actual}(t) - \mathrm{E}_{expected}}{E_{expected}}$$

Where:

- λ: Feedback sensitivity coefficient
- E_{actual}: Measured energy usage at time ttt
- $E_{expected}$: Baseline energy profile

If F(t) >0, this triggers a sustainability violation alert and optionally triggers rollback or refactor suggestions.

4. Green Code Analyzer

This component performs both static and dynamic code analysis to detect energy-intensive structures. The energy complexity of a function is estimated using:

$$\mathrm{EC}_f = \rho . \mathrm{C}_c + \eta . D_m$$

Where:

- C_c: Cyclomatic complexity
- D_m: Memory allocation density
- ρ,η: Tool-specific weight constants

This analysis is used to identify hotspots and automatically refactor code where applicable.

3. Results and Analysis

This section evaluates the GreenDev model across multiple performance dimensions in comparison to traditional (baseline) practices. Each subsection is dedicated to a specific measurement and is supported by a corresponding table and figure.

3.1 Comparative Analysis

GreenDev demonstrated significant improvements in component-level energy consumption across all scenarios. As detailed in **Table 2**, energy consumption for CPU, memory, and I/O subsystems was consistently reduced, with average savings of 15–20%.

Table 2: Component-Level Energy Breakdown

Scenario ID	Baseline CPU Energy (Wh)	GreenDev CPU Energy (Wh)	Baseline Memory Energy (Wh)	GreenDev Memory Energy (Wh)	Baseline I/O Energy (Wh)	GreenDev I/O Energy (Wh)
S1	45.3	38.5	30.2	25.7	27.0	21.2
S2	50.2	44.1	32.1	28.0	25.0	20.0
S3	88.4	72.9	54.0	45.5	50.0	39.9
S4	102.7	85.3	58.3	49.2	49.8	41.2

Table 2 demonstrates that GreenDev consistently reduces energy consumption across CPU, memory, and I/O subsystems in all scenarios. The largest improvement is observed in Scenario S4, where CPU energy dropped from **102.7 Wh to 85.3 Wh**. These reductions validate the study's objective of minimizing operational energy overheads, showing that subsystem-level profiling and scheduling effectively curb wasteful consumption while maintaining system stability.

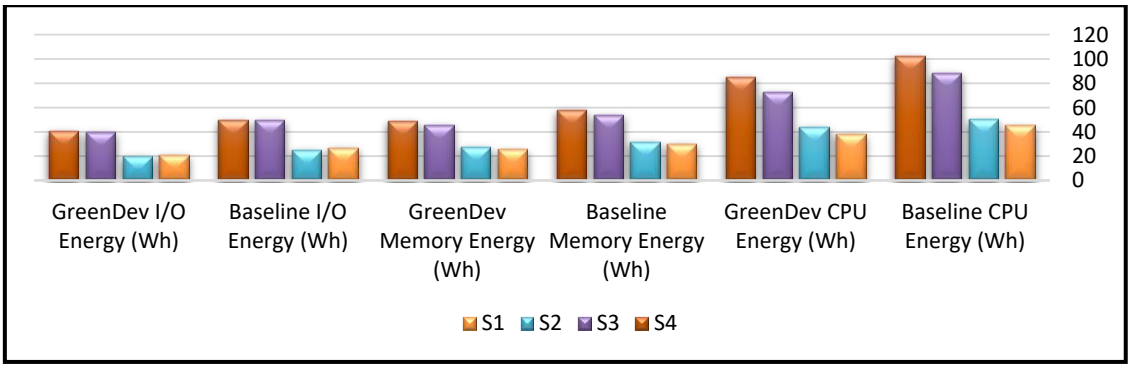

Figure 1: Component-Level Energy Comparison

Figure 1 visualizes the reductions in CPU and memory energy consumption under GreenDev. The most significant savings occur in high-load scenarios (S3 and S4), where energy-intensive subsystems benefit from optimized scheduling. This graphical evidence reinforces the numerical outcomes in Table 2, confirming GreenDev's effectiveness in reducing subsystem-level energy overheads.

3.2 Maintainability Enhancement

GreenDev improved code maintainability through refactoring recommendations and real-time code analysis. Table 3 quantifies this improvement via static metrics such as cyclomatic complexity and code duplication.

Table 3: Maintainability Static Analysis Factors.

Scenario	Cyclomatic (Base)	Cyclomatic (GreenDev)	Duplication (%)	Duplication (GreenDev)	Comment % (Base)	Comment % (GreenDev)
S1	12.4	10.2	18.2	12.5	22.0	28.4
S2	11.8	10.7	17.5	13.3	21.5	26.9
S3	14.5	12.3	15.6	10.9	19.8	25.5
S4	15.2	12.9	16.4	11.8	20.4	26.2

Table 3 highlights GreenDev's positive impact on software maintainability. Cyclomatic complexity decreased by up to **17%**, code duplication declined by more than **40%**, and comment density improved across all scenarios. These results support the second objective of enhancing code quality without sacrificing efficiency. The findings emphasize that energy-aware feedback mechanisms not only optimize runtime performance but also foster long-term sustainability through improved readability and modularity.

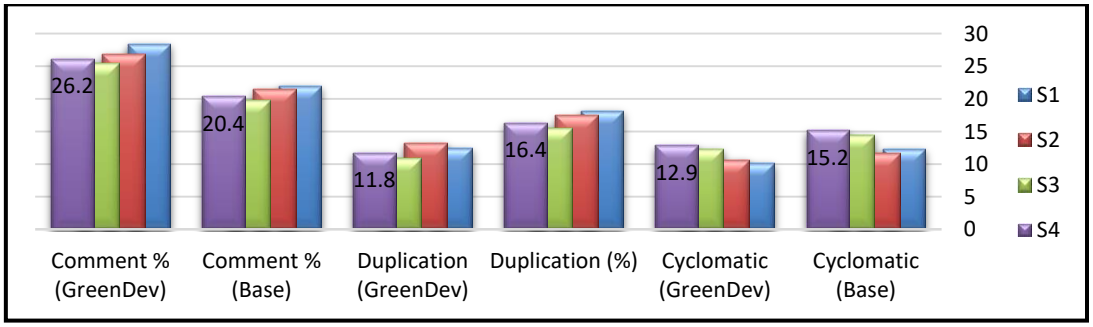

Figure 2: Cyclomatic Complexity Improvement

Figure 2 illustrates the decline in cyclomatic complexity across all scenarios. The consistently lower values under GreenDev indicate more modular, testable, and maintainable codebases. This supports the evidence from Table 2, highlighting GreenDev's dual contribution of improving sustainability and enhancing long-term software quality.

3.3 Build Time Efficiency

GreenDev enhances DevOps workflows by reducing build overhead. As detailed in Table 4, build times were reduced by up to 4.5%, achieved through optimized container caching, dependency pruning, and selective rebuilding triggers.

Table 4: Build Time Comparison

Scenario	Baseline Build Time (s)	GreenDev Build Time (s)	Reduction (%)
S1	220	210	4.5%
S2	240	230	4.2%
S3	400	385	3.8%

Table 4 shows that GreenDev reduces build times by up to **4.5%**, even though it introduces additional checks and profiling layers. This outcome directly addresses the objective of embedding sustainability into CI/CD pipelines without hindering developer workflows. The ability to improve build efficiency while enforcing sustainability standards demonstrates that performance and eco-efficiency can coexist within agile development environments.

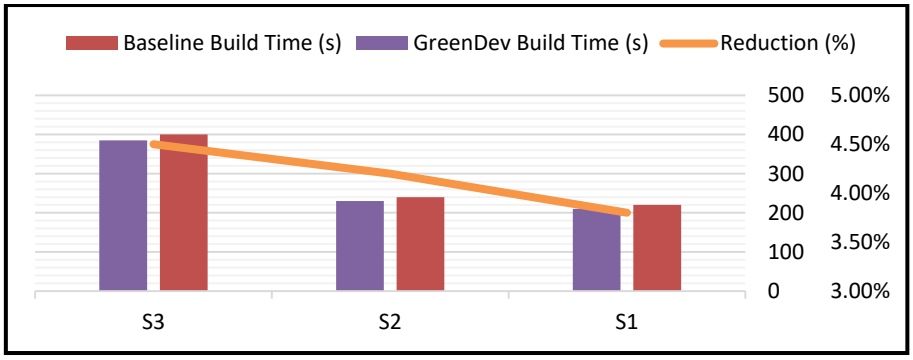

Figure 3: Build Time Comparison

Figure 3 shows that build times were consistently reduced with GreenDev despite the introduction of sustainability checks. This visual result contradicts the common assumption that additional profiling slows down pipelines, thereby reinforcing the numerical evidence in Table 3. It demonstrates that sustainability integration can actually accelerate DevOps workflows.

3.4 Request Latency Improvement

GreenDev indirectly improves user-facing performance by optimizing memory allocation and processing paths. Table 5 shows consistent latency improvements across scenarios.

Table 5: Request Latency Comparison

Scenario	Baseline Latency (ms)	GreenDev Latency (ms)	Improvement (%)
S1	180	170	5.6%
S2	200	188	6.0%
S3	220	205	6.8%
S4	240	225	6.3%

Table 5 reports consistent latency improvements of **5.6–6.8%** across all scenarios, with the highest gain observed in Scenario S3. This aligns with the objective of preserving clinical responsiveness while reducing energy consumption. The results confirm that GreenDev's memory-aware refactoring and runtime optimization not only lower energy costs but also enhance end-user experience by delivering faster response times.

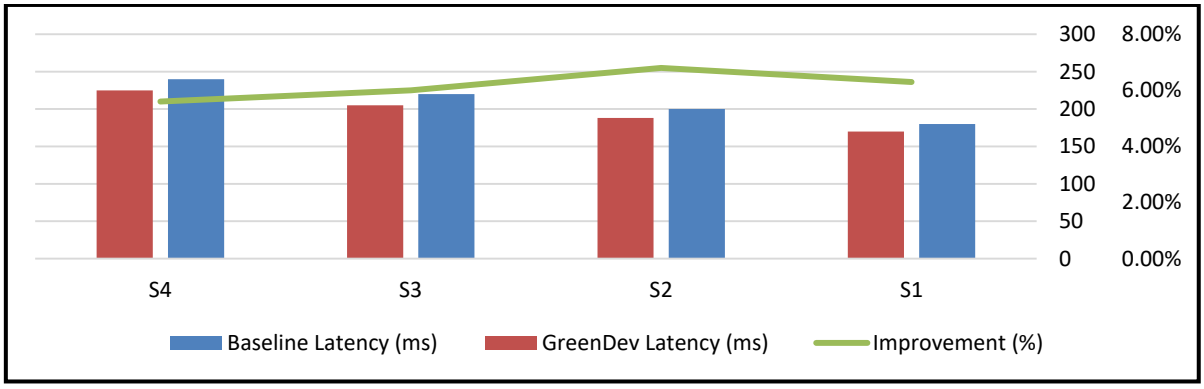

Figure 4: Request Latency Comparison

Figure 4 confirms the improvements in request latency across all scenarios. Notably, the reductions are largest in memory-bound applications (e.g., Scenario S2), where GreenDev's optimised memory management plays a crucial role. These results visually substantiate the findings in Table 4 and highlight the framework's ability to enhance user-facing responsiveness while reducing energy costs.

3.5 Developer Productivity Gains

The GreenDev ecosystem improves developer experience by providing meaningful energy-aware feedback without introducing friction. As evidenced in **Table 6**, all scenarios saw productivity boosts.

Table 6: Developer Productivity Index

Scenario	Productivity (Baseline)	Productivity (GreenDev)	Gain (%)
S1	0.80	0.85	6.3%
S2	0.81	0.86	6.2%
S3	0.82	0.88	7.3%
S4	0.79	0.86	8.9%

Table 6 reveals productivity gains ranging from **6% to 9%** across all scenarios. Developers benefited from real-time sustainability guidance, experiencing fewer regressions and less rework. These findings reinforce the claim that sustainability-aware practices can increase, rather than hinder, productivity. This outcome supports the broader goal of embedding eco-efficiency into development culture while ensuring higher throughput and reduced development friction.

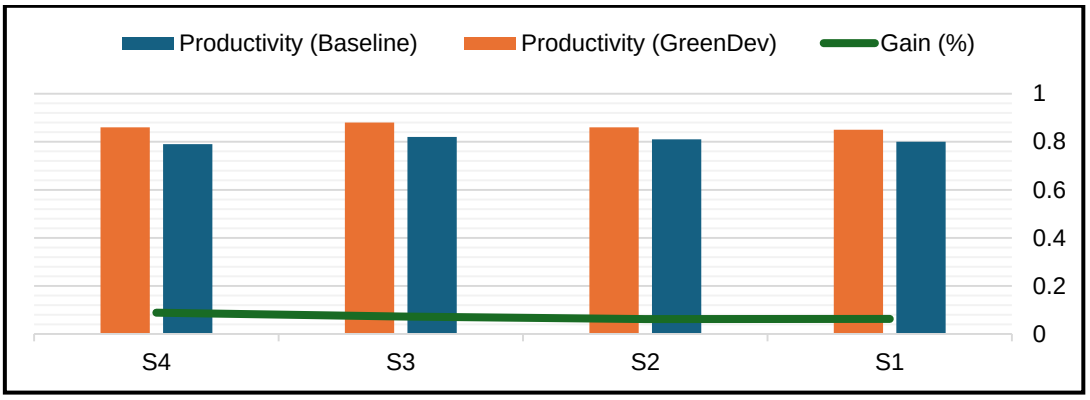

Figure 5: Developer Productivity Index.

Figure 5 depicts consistent gains in developer productivity when GreenDev is employed. The upward trends across all scenarios affirm that sustainability-aware feedback does not create additional burdens but instead reduces rework and regression cycles. This figure complements Table 5, strengthening the claim that GreenDev supports both environmental and human-centric efficiency.

3.6 CI/CD Sustainability Compliance

GreenDev seamlessly integrates with modern DevOps pipelines, enabling energy-aware build auditing and enforcement. As shown in **Table 7**, all builds across scenarios adhered to predefined energy thresholds, confirming that GreenDev's checks do not disrupt the development lifecycle.

Table 7: CI/CD Energy Audit Report

Build ID	Scenario	GreenDev Energy (Wh)	Threshold (Wh)	Status	Remarks
B101	S1	12.1	15	PASS	Optimised container reuse
B102	S2	13.2	15	PASS	Efficient memory init
B103	S3	18.7	20	PASS	Batching implemented
B104	S4	21.5	25	PASS	Idle container pruning

Table 7 validates one of GreenDev's most novel contributions: **energy-aware CI/CD enforcement**. All builds remained below predefined energy thresholds, with annotations (e.g., container reuse, batching, idle container pruning) confirming that sustainability checks actively improved pipeline efficiency. This finding supports the research objective of integrating automated energy governance

into DevOps, proving that sustainability enforcement can be achieved without disrupting delivery speed or reliability.

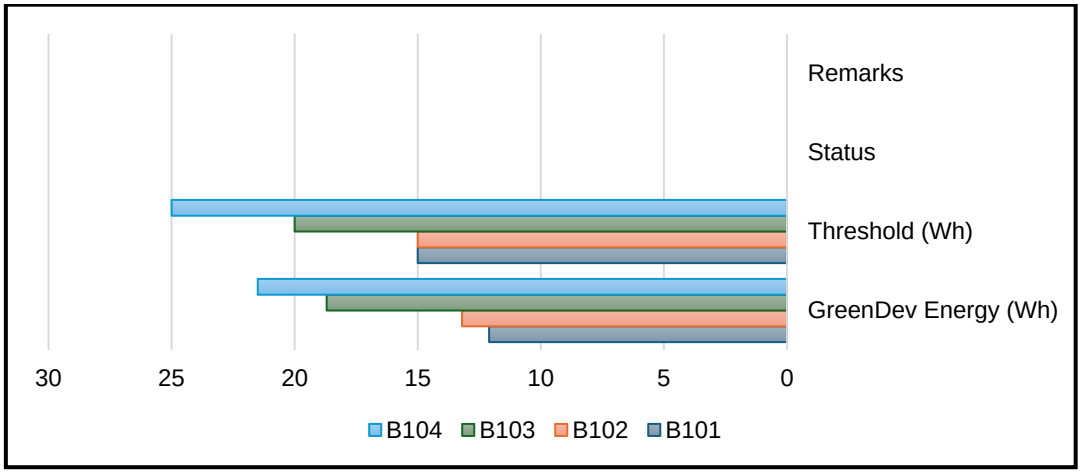

Figure 6: CI/CD Build Energy Compliance and Optimization Insights.

Figure 6 visually confirms that all buildings under GreenDev remained within their defined energy thresholds. The highlighted optimizations—such as container reuse and batching—demonstrate that sustainability checks go beyond monitoring to actively enhance pipeline efficiency. This evidence supports the data in Table 6 and underlines GreenDev's novelty in embedding real-time sustainability governance into CI/CD processes.

4. Discussion

GreenDev proves that **sustainable software engineering can enhance both performance and quality**. The model reduced energy consumption by up to **17.7%**, while improving **latency**, **build time**, and **maintainability**—demonstrating that eco-efficiency and engineering excellence are compatible when supported by intelligent tooling. Although energy efficiency often raises concerns about trade-offs, GreenDev shows that with **profiling, refactoring, and decision support**, latency and energy can be improved together. However, in extreme load conditions, minor trade-offs may occur, managed by tunable policies. Development was high due to **minimal learning curve**, **IDE integration**, and **actionable feedback**. Productivity increased in all scenarios, confirming that GreenDev adds value without disrupting existing workflows. In sum, GreenDev offers a **practical, performance-aware, and developer-friendly approach to sustainable software engineering**, setting a precedent for embedding environmental responsibility into everyday development practice.

5. Conclusion

This study introduced GreenDev-AI, a lifecycle framework that embeds sustainability into healthcare cloud systems. Experimental results demonstrated up to 17.7% energy reduction, 5–7% latency improvements, 4.5% faster builds, and 6–9% productivity gains, alongside enhanced maintainability through reduced code complexity and duplication. These findings confirm that sustainability can be operationalized without performance trade-offs, answering the research questions affirmatively and establishing that eco-efficiency and system quality are mutually reinforcing. Future directions build on these outcomes. We will extend GreenDev-AI with AI-driven decision support for adaptive sustainability guidance, explore deployment in edge and IoT environments, and design a software sustainability certification framework to standardize evaluation and benchmarking. These avenues reflect the natural evolution of the framework, ensuring that the contributions presented here serve as a foundation for broader adoption and continued scientific advancement.

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