

Concurrent and Distributed Devices (CDD101)

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Performance Theory

- **Latency**

- Total time it takes to compute a single result
- Measured in units of time

- **Throughput**

- The rate at which a series of results can be computed
- Measured in units of work per unit time

- **Power Consumption**

- The amount of power required to perform a computation
- Measured in Work per power unit



Speedup

- **Compares latency in solving an identical problem on one hardware unit versus P hardware units**
 - $S_p = T_1 / T_p$
- **Absolute Speedup**
 - Sequential Algorithm Time used for T_1
- **Relative Speedup**
 - Parallel algorithm used for T_1



Efficiency

- **Speedup divided by number of workers**
 - S_p/P
 - $T_1/P \cdot T_p$
- **Ideal efficiency is 1**
 - 100% efficiency



Superlinear Speedup

- **Parallel Algorithm makes better use of cache**
- **Parallel Algorithm is better**
- **Parallel Algorithm with multiple threads uses cache better than single parallel algorithm execution**



Amdahl's Law

- **Work is of two types**
 - Serial Work
 - Cannot be parallelised
 - Parallel Work
 - Can be done in parallel
- **$T_1 = \text{Work}_{\text{serial}} + \text{Work}_{\text{parallel}}$**
- **$T_p \geq \text{Work}_{\text{serial}} + \text{Work}_{\text{parallel}}/P$**



Amdahl's Law

- **If f is the fraction of the total work that is serial then $(1-f)$ is the fraction that is parallel**
 - $W_{\text{serial}} = fT_1$
 - $W_{\text{parallel}} = (1-f)T_1$
- **$S_p \leq 1 / [f + (1-f)/p]$**
- **As $P \rightarrow \text{infinity}$**
 - $S_{\text{up}}_{\text{inf}} \leq 1/f$

