

COMPUTER ORGANIZATION AND DESIGN



The Hardware/Software Interface

EECS2021

Computer Organization

Textbook Slides

These slides have partial content for class lectures.

EECS2021

- Computer Organization and Design—The hardware/Software approach – RISC-V Edition
 - Author: Patterson and Hennessy
 - Publisher: Morgan Kaufmann



The Computer Revolution

- Progress in computer technology
 - Underpinned by Moore's Law
- Makes novel applications feasible
 - Computers in automobiles
 - Cell phones
 - Human genome project
 - World Wide Web
 - Search Engines
- Computers are pervasive



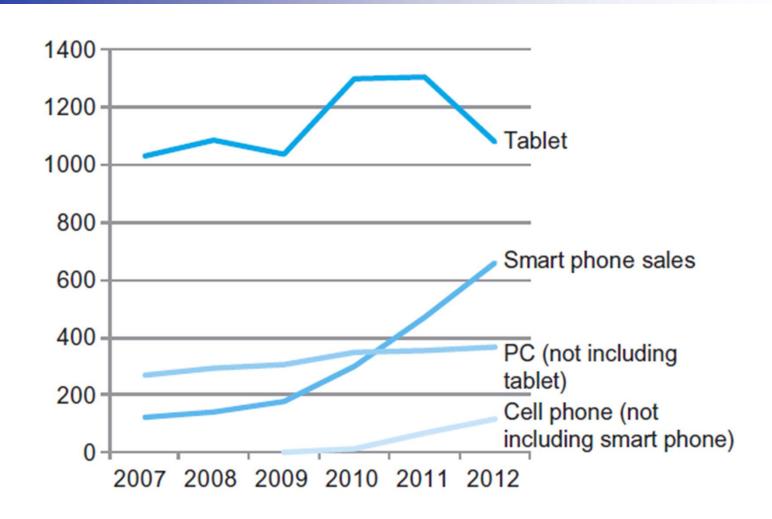
Classes of Computers

- Personal computers
 - General purpose, variety of software
 - Subject to cost/performance tradeoff
- Server computers
 - Network based
 - High capacity, performance, reliability
 - Range from small servers to building sized

Classes of Computers

- Supercomputers
 - High-end scientific and engineering calculations
 - Highest capability but represent a small fraction of the overall computer market
- Embedded computers
 - Hidden as components of systems
 - Stringent power/performance/cost constraints

The PostPC Era





The PostPC Era

- Personal Mobile Device (PMD)
 - Battery operated
 - Connects to the Internet
 - Hundreds of dollars
 - Smart phones, tablets, electronic glasses
- Cloud computing
 - Warehouse Scale Computers (WSC)
 - Software as a Service (SaaS)
 - Portion of software run on a PMD and a portion run in the Cloud
 - Amazon and Google



What You Will Learn

- How programs are translated into the machine language
 - And how the hardware executes them
- The hardware/software interface
- What determines program performance
 - And how it can be improved
- How hardware designers improve performance

Understanding Performance

- Algorithm
 - Determines number of operations executed
- Programming language, compiler, architecture
 - Determine number of machine instructions executed per operation
- Processor and memory system
 - Determine how fast instructions are executed
- I/O system (including OS)
 - Determines how fast I/O operations are executed

Eight Great Ideas

Design for *Moore's Law*

- Use *abstraction* to simplify design



Make the **common case fast**



Performance via parallelism



Performance via pipelining



Performance via prediction



Hierarchy of memories



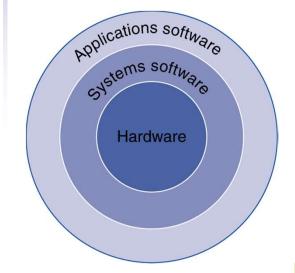
Dependability via redundancy





Below Your Program

- Application software
 - Written in high-level language
- System software
 - Compiler: translates HLL code to machine code
 - Operating System: service code
 - Handling input/output
 - Managing memory and storage
 - Scheduling tasks & sharing resources
- Hardware
 - Processor, memory, I/O controllers

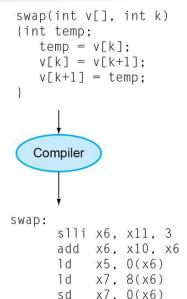


Levels of Program Code

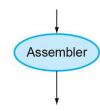
- High-level language
 - Level of abstraction closer to problem domain
 - Provides for productivity and portability
- Assembly language
 - Textual representation of instructions
- Hardware representation
 - Binary digits (bits)
 - Encoded instructions and data

High-level language program (in C)

Assembly language program (for RISC-V)



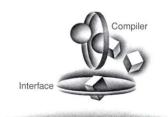
sd x5, 8(x6) jalr x0, 0(x1)



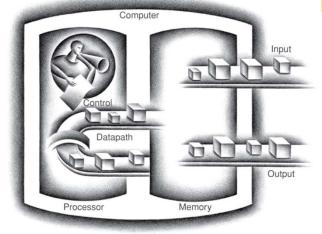
Binary machine language program (for RISC-V)

Components of a Computer

The BIG Picture







- Same components for all kinds of computer
 - Desktop, server, embedded
 - Input/output includes
 - User-interface devices
 - Display, keyboard, mouse
 - Storage devices
 - Hard disk, CD/DVD, flash
 - Network adapters
 - For communicating with other computers

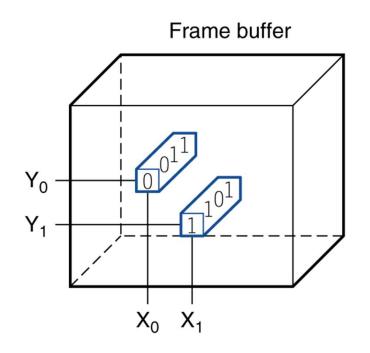
Touchscreen

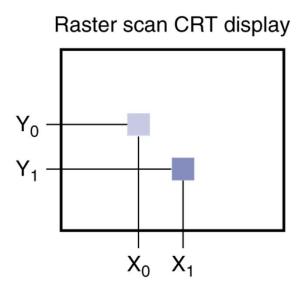
- PostPC device
- Supersedes keyboard and mouse
- Resistive and Capacitive types
 - Most tablets, smart phones use capacitive
 - Capacitive allows multiple touches simultaneously



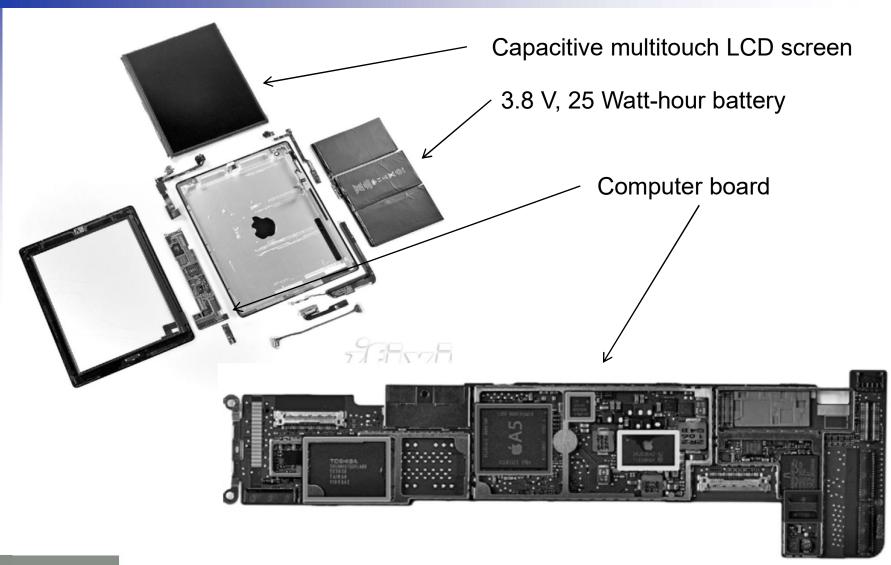
Through the Looking Glass

- LCD screen: picture elements (pixels)
 - Mirrors content of frame buffer memory





Opening the Box

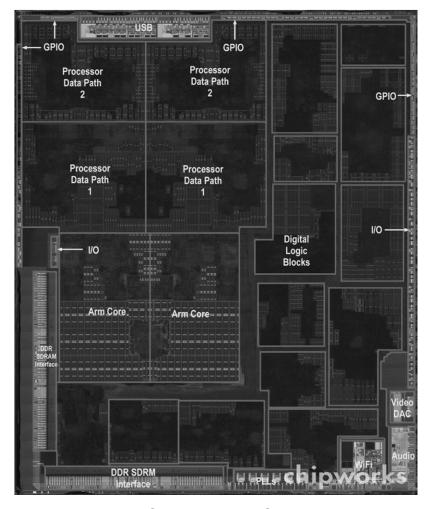


Inside the Processor (CPU)

- Datapath: performs operations on data
- Control: sequences datapath, memory, ...
- Cache memory
 - Small fast SRAM memory for immediate access to data

Inside the Processor

Apple A5





Abstractions

The BIG Picture

- Abstraction helps us deal with complexity
 - Hide lower-level detail
- Instruction set architecture (ISA)
 - The hardware/software interface
- Application binary interface
 - The ISA plus system software interface
- Implementation
 - The details underlying and interface

A Safe Place for Data

- Volatile main memory
 - Loses instructions and data when power off
- Non-volatile secondary memory
 - Magnetic disk
 - Flash memory
 - Optical disk (CDROM, DVD)









Networks

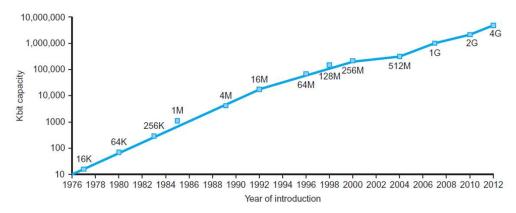
- Communication, resource sharing, nonlocal access
- Local area network (LAN): Ethernet
- Wide area network (WAN): the Internet
- Wireless network: WiFi, Bluetooth





Technology Trends

- Electronics technology continues to evolve
 - Increased capacity and performance
 - Reduced cost



DRAM capacity

Year	Technology	Relative performance/cost
1951	Vacuum tube	1
1965	Transistor	35
1975	Integrated circuit (IC)	900
1995	Very large scale IC (VLSI)	2,400,000
2013	Ultra large scale IC	250,000,000,000

Announcement

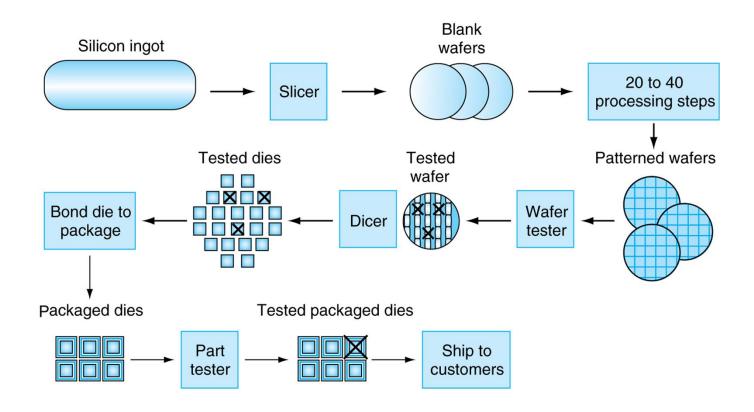
- Moodle is now available
- Lab Test 2 is changed to Assignment 1(5%)
- Assignment 1 topics list will be uploaded this weekend
- Lab sessions start next week with Lab A

Semiconductor Technology

- Silicon: semiconductor
- Add materials to transform properties:
 - Conductors N or P.
 - Switch Combine them to make switches.

 Let's watch how semiconductors are used to create transistors.

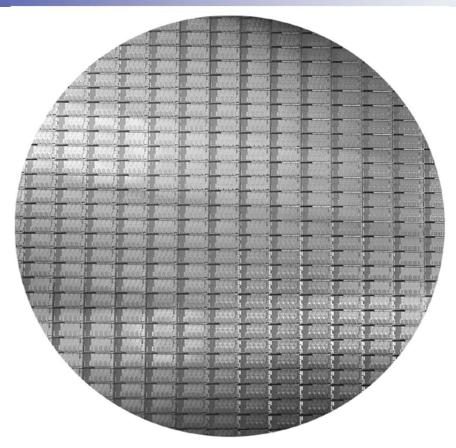
Manufacturing ICs



Yield: proportion of working dies per wafer



Intel Core i7 Wafer



- 300mm wafer, 280 chips, 32nm technology
- Each chip is 20.7 x 10.5 mm



Integrated Circuit Cost

Cost per die =
$$\frac{\text{Cost per wafer}}{\text{Dies per wafer} \times \text{Yield}}$$

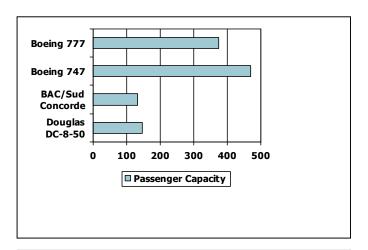
Dies per wafer $\approx \text{Wafer area/Die area}$

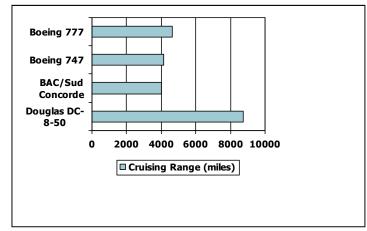
Yield = $\frac{1}{(1+(\text{Defects per area} \times \text{Die area/2}))^2}$

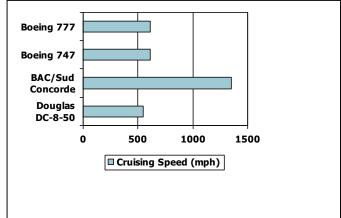
- Nonlinear relation to area and defect rate
 - Wafer cost and area are fixed
 - Defect rate determined by manufacturing process
 - Die area determined by architecture and circuit design

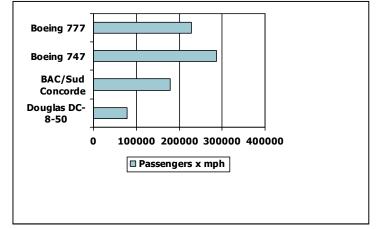
Defining Performance

Which airplane has the best performance?









Response Time and Throughput

- Response time
 - How long it takes to do a task
- Throughput
 - Total work done per unit time
 - e.g., tasks/transactions/... per hour
- How are response time and throughput affected by
 - Replacing the processor with a faster version?
 - Adding more processors?
- We'll focus on response time for now...

Relative Performance

- Define Performance = 1/Execution Time
- "X is n time faster than Y"

```
Performance<sub>x</sub>/Performance<sub>y</sub>
= Execution time<sub>y</sub> / Execution time<sub>x</sub> = n
```

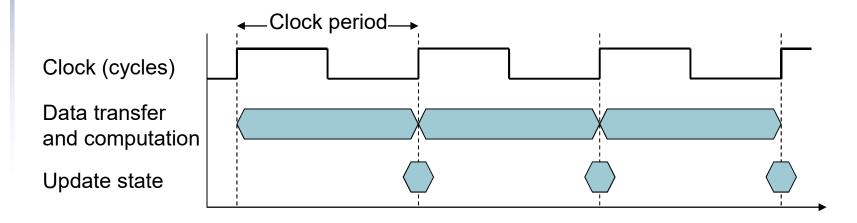
- Example: time taken to run a program
 - 10s on A, 15s on B
 - Execution Time_B / Execution Time_A
 = 15s / 10s = 1.5
 - So A is 1.5 times faster than B

Measuring Execution Time

- Elapsed time
 - Total response time, including all aspects
 - Processing, I/O, OS overhead, idle time
 - Determines system performance
- CPU time
 - Time spent processing a given job
 - Discounts I/O time, other jobs' shares
 - Comprises user CPU time and system CPU time
 - Different programs are affected differently by CPU and system performance

CPU Clocking

 Operation of digital hardware governed by a constant-rate clock



- Clock period: duration of a clock cycle
 - e.g., $250ps = 0.25ns = 250 \times 10^{-12}s$
- Clock frequency (rate): cycles per second
 - e.g., $4.0GHz = 4000MHz = 4.0 \times 10^9Hz$

CPU Time

 $CPU Time = CPU Clock Cycles \times Clock Cycle Time$ $= \frac{CPU Clock Cycles}{Clock Rate}$

- Performance improved by
 - Reducing number of clock cycles
 - Increasing clock rate
 - Hardware designer must often trade off clock rate against cycle count



CPU Time Example

- Computer A: 2GHz clock, 10s CPU time
- Designing Computer B
 - Aim for 6s CPU time
 - Can do faster clock, but causes 1.2 × clock cycles
- How fast must Computer B clock be?

$$\frac{T_A}{T_B} = \frac{IC_A \times TC_A}{IC_B \times TC_B} = \frac{10}{6}$$

$$\frac{IC_A \times CLOCK_B}{IC_B \times CLOCK_A} = \frac{10}{6}$$

$$\frac{IC_A \times CLOCK_B}{1.2IC_A \times 2G} = \frac{10}{6}$$

$$CLOCK_B = 4GHz$$

Instruction Count and CPI

Clock Cycles = Instruction Count \times Cycles per Instruction

CPU Time = Instruction Count \times CPI \times Clock Cycle Time $= \frac{Instruction Count \times CPI}{Clock Rate}$

- Instruction Count for a program
 - Determined by program, ISA and compiler
- Average cycles per instruction
 - Determined by CPU hardware
 - If different instructions have different CPI
 - Average CPI affected by instruction mix



CPI Example

- Computer A: Cycle Time = 250ps, CPI = 2.0
- Computer B: Cycle Time = 500ps, CPI = 1.2
- Same ISA
- Which is faster, and by how much?

CPI in More Detail

 If different instruction classes take different numbers of cycles

Clock Cycles =
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} (CPI_i \times Instruction Count_i)$$

Weighted average CPI

$$CPI = \frac{Clock \ Cycles}{Instruction \ Count} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(CPI_i \times \frac{Instruction \ Count_i}{Instruction \ Count} \right)$$

Relative frequency

CPI Example

 Alternative compiled code sequences using instructions in classes A, B, C

Class	А	В	С
CPI for class	1	2	3
IC in sequence 1	2	1	2
IC in sequence 2	4	1	1

- Sequence 1: IC = 5
 - Clock Cycles= 2×1 + 1×2 + 2×3= 10
 - Avg. CPI = 10/5 = 2.0

- Sequence 2: IC = 6
 - Clock Cycles= 4×1 + 1×2 + 1×3= 9
 - Avg. CPI = 9/6 = 1.5

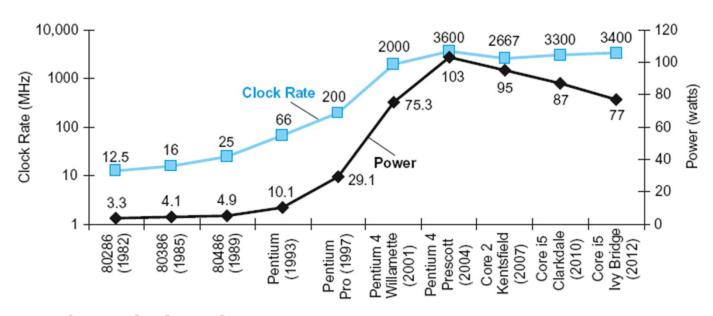
Performance Summary

The BIG Picture

$$CPU Time = \frac{Instructions}{Program} \times \frac{Clock \ cycles}{Instruction} \times \frac{Seconds}{Clock \ cycle}$$

- Performance depends on
 - Algorithm: affects IC, possibly CPI
 - Programming language: affects IC, CPI
 - Compiler: affects IC, CPI
 - Instruction set architecture: affects IC, CPI, T_c

Power Trends



In CMOS IC technology

Power = Capacitive load × Voltage² × Frequency

×30

×1000

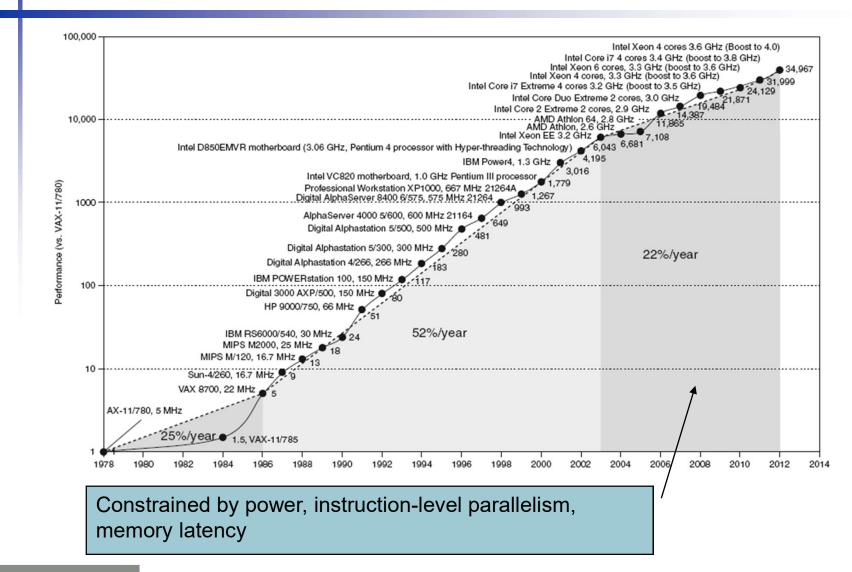
Reducing Power

- Suppose a new CPU has
 - 85% of capacitive load of old CPU
 - 15% voltage and 15% frequency reduction

$$\frac{P_{\text{new}}}{P_{\text{old}}} = \frac{C_{\text{old}} \times 0.85 \times (V_{\text{old}} \times 0.85)^2 \times F_{\text{old}} \times 0.85}{C_{\text{old}} \times V_{\text{old}}^2 \times F_{\text{old}}} = 0.85^4 = 0.52$$

- The power wall
 - We can't reduce voltage further
 - We can't remove more heat
- How else can we improve performance?

Uniprocessor Performance





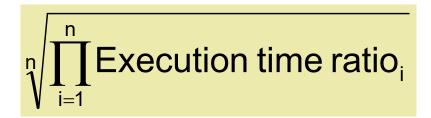
Multiprocessors

- Multicore microprocessors
 - More than one processor per chip
- Requires explicitly parallel programming
 - Compare with instruction level parallelism
 - Hardware executes multiple instructions at once
 - Hidden from the programmer
 - Hard to do
 - Programming for performance
 - Load balancing
 - Optimizing communication and synchronization



SPEC CPU Benchmark

- Programs used to measure performance
 - Supposedly typical of actual workload
- Standard Performance Evaluation Corp (SPEC)
 - Develops benchmarks for CPU, I/O, Web, ...
- SPEC CPU2006
 - Elapsed time to execute a selection of programs
 - Negligible I/O, so focuses on CPU performance
 - Normalize relative to reference machine
 - Summarize as geometric mean of performance ratios
 - CINT2006 (integer) and CFP2006 (floating-point)



CINT2006 for Intel Core i7 920

Description	Name	Instruction Count x 10 ⁹	CPI	Clock cycle time (seconds x 10 ⁻⁹)	Execution Time (seconds)	Reference Time (seconds)	SPECratio
Interpreted string processing	perl	2252	0.60	0.376	508	9770	19.2
Block-sorting compression	bzip2	2390	0.70	0.376	629	9650	15.4
GNU C compiler	gcc	794	1.20	0.376	358	8050	22.5
Combinatorial optimization	mcf	221	2.66	0.376	221	9120	41.2
Go game (AI)	go	1274	1.10	0.376	527	10490	19.9
Search gene sequence	hmmer	2616	0.60	0.376	590	9330	15.8
Chess game (AI)	sjeng	1948	0.80	0.376	586	12100	20.7
Quantum computer simulation	libquantum	659	0.44	0.376	109	20720	190.0
Video compression	h264avc	3793	0.50	0.376	713	22130	31.0
Discrete event simulation library	omnetpp	367	2.10	0.376	290	6250	21.5
Games/path finding	astar	1250	1.00	0.376	470	7020	14.9
XML parsing	xalancbmk	1045	0.70	0.376	275	6900	25.1
Geometric mean	-	_	-	-	-	-	25.7

SPEC Power Benchmark

- Power consumption of server at different workload levels
 - Performance: ssj_ops/sec
 - Power: Watts (Joules/sec)

Overall ssj_ops per Watt =
$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^{10} ssj_ops_i\right) / \left(\sum_{i=0}^{10} power_i\right)$$

SPECpower_ssj2008 for Xeon X5650

Target Load %	Performance (ssj_ops)	Average Power (Watts)		
100%	865,618	258		
90%	786,688	242		
80%	698,051	224		
70%	607,826	204		
60%	521,391	185		
50%	436,757	170		
40%	345,919	157		
30%	262,071	146		
20%	176,061	135		
10%	86,784	121		
0%	0	80		
Overall Sum	4,787,166	1,922		
Σ ssj_ops/ Σ power =		2,490		

Pitfall: Amdahl's Law

 Improving an aspect of a computer and expecting a proportional improvement in overall performance

$$T_{\text{improved}} = \frac{T_{\text{affected}}}{\text{improvement factor}} + T_{\text{unaffected}}$$

- Example: multiply accounts for 80s/100s
 - How much improvement in multiply performance to get 5× overall?

$$20 = \frac{80}{n} + 20$$
 • Can't be done!

Corollary: make the common case fast

Fallacy: Low Power at Idle

- Look back at i7 power benchmark
 - At 100% load: 258W
 - At 50% load: 170W (66%)
 - At 10% load: 121W (47%)
- Google data center
 - Mostly operates at 10% 50% load
 - At 100% load less than 1% of the time
- Consider designing processors to make power proportional to load



Pitfall: MIPS as a Performance Metric

- MIPS: Millions of Instructions Per Second
 - Doesn't account for
 - Differences in ISAs between computers
 - Differences in complexity between instructions

$$\begin{split} \text{MIPS} = & \frac{\text{Instruction count}}{\text{Execution time} \times 10^6} \\ = & \frac{\text{Instruction count}}{\frac{\text{Instruction count} \times \text{CPI}}{\text{Clock rate}}} = \frac{\text{Clock rate}}{\text{CPI} \times 10^6} \end{split}$$

CPI varies between programs on a given CPU

Concluding Remarks

- Cost/performance is improving
 - Due to underlying technology development
- Hierarchical layers of abstraction
 - In both hardware and software
- Instruction set architecture
 - The hardware/software interface
- Execution time: the best performance measure
- Power is a limiting factor
 - Use parallelism to improve performance