

SECR2033

Computer Organization and Architecture

Module 8

Performance Measurement and Analysis



Objectives:

- ❑ To understand the key performance issues that relate to computer design.
- ❑ Explain the reasons for the move to multicore organization, and understand the trade-off between cache and processor resources on a single chip.
- ❑ To summarize some of the issues in computer performance assessment.
- ❑ To discuss the benchmarks in general.

Module 8

Performance Measurement and Analysis

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 Defining Performance
- 8.3 Basic Measures of Computer Performance
- 8.4 Comparing Performance
- 8.5 Benchmarking
- 8.6 Summary

Module 8

Performance Measurement and Analysis

8.1 Introduction

8.2 Defining Performance

8.3 Basic Measures of Computer Performance

8.4 Comparing Performance

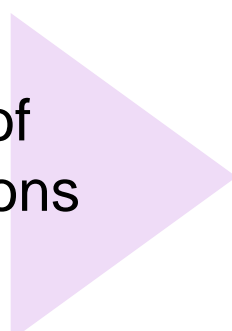
□ Overview

8.5 Benchmarks

□ Average Performance

8.6 Summary

- Computer performance assessment is a quantitative science.
- Mathematical and statistical tools give us many ways in which to rate the overall performance of a system and the performance of its constituent components.
- There are so many ways to quantify system performance.
- In this section, we describe the most common measures of “average” computer performance and then provide situations where the use of each is appropriate and inappropriate.



- In comparing the performance of two systems, we measure the *time* that it takes for each system to perform the same amount of work.
- If the same program is run on two different systems, System *A* and System *B*:

- System *A* is *n times as fast* as System *B* if:

$$\frac{\text{Running time on system } B}{\text{Running time on system } A} = n$$

- System *A* is *x% faster* than System *B* if:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Running time on system } B}{\text{Running time on system } A} - 1 \right) \times 100 = x$$

Example 7:

Consider the performance of two race cars. Car A completes a 10-mile run in 3 minutes, and car B completes the same 10-mile course in 4 minutes.

- (a) How many time car A fast as car B ?
- (b) What is % car A faster than car B ?



Solution :

*Car A is 1.33
times as fast as
Car B.*

(a) How many time car A fast as car B?

$$\frac{\text{Time for Car B to travel 10 miles}}{\text{Time for Car A to travel 10 miles}} = \frac{4}{3} = 1.33$$

(b) What is % car A faster than car B?

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\frac{\text{Time for Car B to travel 10 miles}}{\text{Time for Car A to travel 10 miles}} - 1 \right) \times 100 \\ &= (1.33 - 1) \times 100 \\ &= 0.33 \times 100 \\ &= 33\% \end{aligned}$$

*Car A is 33%
faster than Car B.*

Average Performance

- The previous formulas are useful in **comparing** the average performance of one system with the average performance of another.
- When we are evaluating system performance, we are most interested in its expected performance under a given workload.
- We use **statistical tools**, forming a concise *measures of central tendency*.

(a) The Arithmetic Mean

- The *arithmetic mean* (average) is the one with which everyone is most familiar.
- If we have n measurements, and we add them together and divide by n , then the result is the *arithmetic mean* (average), given by:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$$

- The arithmetic mean can be misleading if the data are skewed or scattered.

Example 8:

Consider the arithmetic average running time in seconds of five programs (v , w , x , y , z) on three systems (A , B , C) in the table below.

Program	System A Execution Time	System B Execution Time	System C Execution Time
v	50	100	500
w	200	400	600
x	250	500	500
y	400	800	800
z	5000	4100	3500
Average	1180	1180	1180

*The
performance
differences are
hidden by the
simple average.*

If execution frequencies (expected workloads) are known, a *weighted average* can be revealing. The running times for System A and System C are restated in the following table.

Example 9:

- Weighted average for System A = $(50 \times 0.5) + (200 \times 0.3) + (250 \times 0.1) + (400 \times 0.05) + (5000 \times 0.05) = 380$

Program	Execution Frequency	System A Execution Time	System C Execution Time
v	50%	50	500
w	30%	200	600
x	10%	250	500
y	5%	400	800
z	5%	5000	3500
Weighted Average		380 seconds	695 seconds

- Similar weighted average calculation for System C.
- System A is about 83% faster than System C for this particular workload.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left(\frac{\text{Weighted Average System C}}{\text{Weighted Average System A}} - 1 \right) \times 100 \\
 &= \left(\frac{695}{380} - 1 \right) \times 100 \\
 &= (1.8289 - 1) \times 100 \\
 &= 0.83 \times 100 \\
 &= 83\%
 \end{aligned}$$

Program	Execution Frequency	System A Execution Time	System C Execution Time
v	50%	50	500
w	30%	200	600
x	10%	250	500
y	5%	400	800
z	5%	5000	3500
Weighted Average		380 seconds	695 seconds

- System A is about 83% faster than System C for this particular workload.

- However, workloads can change over time.
- A system optimized for one workload may perform poorly when the workload changes, as illustrated below:

Example 10:

Program	System A Execution Time	Execution Frequency #1	Execution Frequency #2
v	50	50%	25%
w	200	30%	5%
x	250	10%	10%
y	400	5%	5%
z	5000	5%	55%
Weighted Average		380 seconds	2817.5 seconds

(b) The Geometric Mean

(Relative Performance)

- The previous discussion cannot use the arithmetic mean if the measurements exhibit a great deal of variability.
- The *geometric mean* gives us a consistent number with which to perform comparisons regardless of the distribution of the data.
- The geometric mean, G is defined as the n th root of the *product*, x_i of the n measurements, and represented by the following formula:

$$G = \sqrt[n]{x_1 \times x_2 \times x_3 \times \dots \times x_n}$$

- Unlike the *arithmetic means*, the *geometric mean* does not give us a real expectation of system performance. It serves only as a tool for comparison.
- The geometric mean is more helpful than the arithmetic average when **comparing** the relative performance of two systems.
- The systems under evaluation are *normalized* to the reference machine when we take the **ratio** of the run time of a program on the reference machine to the run time of the same program on the system being evaluated.

Example 11: System A and System C normalized to System B.

Given the geometric means for a sample of five programs, found by taking the 5th root of the **products** of the normalized execution times for each system.

Program	System A Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to B	System B Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to B	System C Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to B
v	50	2	100	1	500	0.2
w	200	2	400	1	600	0.6667
x	250	2	500	1	500	1
y	400	2	800	1	800	1
z	5000	0.82	4100	1	3500	1.1714
Geometric Mean	1.6733		1		0.6898	

- The *geometric means* for System A and System C **normalized** to System B are calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}G_A &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{100}{50} \times \frac{400}{200} \times \frac{500}{250} \times \frac{800}{400} \times \frac{4100}{5000}} \\&= \sqrt[5]{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 0.82} \\&= \sqrt[5]{13.12} \\&= 1.6733\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}G_C &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{100}{500} \times \frac{400}{600} \times \frac{500}{500} \times \frac{800}{800} \times \frac{4100}{3500}} \\&= \sqrt[5]{0.2 \times 0.6667 \times 1 \times 1 \times 1.1714} \\&= \sqrt[5]{0.1562} \\&= 0.6898\end{aligned}$$

Example 12: System A and System B normalized to System C.

When another system is used for a reference machine, we get a different set of numbers.

Program	System A Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to C	System B Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to C	System C Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to C
v	50	10	100	5	500	1
w	200	3	400	1.5	600	1
x	250	2	500	1	500	1
y	400	2	800	1	800	1
z	5000	0.7	4100	0.8537	3500	1
Geometric Mean	2.4258		1.4497		1	

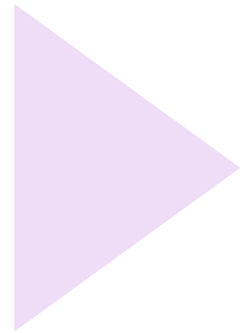
- The *geometric means* for System A and System B **normalized** to System C are calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}G_A &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{500}{50} \times \frac{600}{200} \times \frac{500}{250} \times \frac{800}{400} \times \frac{3500}{5000}} \\&= \sqrt[5]{10 \times 3 \times 2 \times 2 \times 0.7} \\&= \sqrt[5]{84} \\&= 2.4258\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}G_B &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{500}{100} \times \frac{600}{400} \times \frac{500}{500} \times \frac{800}{800} \times \frac{3500}{4100}} \\&= \sqrt[5]{5 \times 1.5 \times 1 \times 1 \times 0.8537} \\&= \sqrt[5]{6.4028} \\&= 1.4497\end{aligned}$$

... (Properties)

- One of the nice properties of the *geometric mean* is that we get the same results regardless of which system we pick for a reference.
- Based on previous 2 examples, we can notice that the *ratio* of the *geometric means* is consistent no matter which system we choose for the reference machine:



... (Properties)

Geometric mean tells us that “average improvement per program for system A when compared to system C is 2.43” NOT that “system A is 2.43 faster than system C”

System →	A	B	C
Program	Execution Time Normalized to B	Execution Time Normalized to B	Execution Time Normalized to B
Geometric Mean	1.6733	1	0.6898

Program	Execution Time Normalized to C	Execution Time Normalized to C	Execution Time Normalized to C
Geometric Mean	2.4258	1.4497	1

Reference machine: **B**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean A}}{\text{Geometric mean B}} \approx \frac{1.6733}{1}$$

Reference machine: **C**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean A}}{\text{Geometric mean B}} \approx \frac{2.4258}{1.4497}$$

Reference machine: **B**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } C}{\text{Geometric mean } B} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } C}{\text{Geometric mean } B}$$
$$\frac{0.6898}{1} \approx \frac{1}{1.4497}$$

Reference machine: **C**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } C}{\text{Geometric mean } B} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } C}{\text{Geometric mean } B}$$
$$\frac{1}{1.4497}$$

Reference machine: **B**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } A}{\text{Geometric mean } C} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } A}{\text{Geometric mean } C}$$
$$\frac{1.6733}{0.6898} \approx \frac{2.4258}{1}$$

Reference machine: **C**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } A}{\text{Geometric mean } C} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } A}{\text{Geometric mean } C}$$
$$\frac{2.4258}{1}$$

Reference machine: **B**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } B}{\text{Geometric mean } C} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } B}{\text{Geometric mean } C}$$
$$\frac{1}{0.6898} \approx \frac{1.4497}{1}$$

Reference machine: **C**

$$\frac{\text{Geometric mean } B}{\text{Geometric mean } C} \approx \frac{\text{Geometric mean } B}{\text{Geometric mean } C}$$
$$\frac{1.4497}{1}$$

Exercise 8.5:

Consider a sample of five programs execute on 3 different systems as shown in the table. If the System *B* and System *C* are normalized to System *A*:

- Fill in the execution time for each program in each system.
- Calculate the geometric means for all systems. Show your working.

Program	System A Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A	System B Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A	System C Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A
v	50		100		500	
w	200		400		600	
x	250		500		500	
y	400		800		800	
z	5000		4100		3500	

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_B &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{50}{100} \times \frac{200}{400} \times \frac{250}{500} \times \frac{400}{800} \times \frac{5000}{4100}} \\
 &= \sqrt[5]{0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 1.2195} \\
 &= \sqrt[5]{0.0762} \\
 &= 0.5976
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_C &= \sqrt[5]{\frac{50}{500} \times \frac{200}{600} \times \frac{250}{500} \times \frac{400}{800} \times \frac{5000}{3500}} \\
 &= \sqrt[5]{0.1 \times 0.3333 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 1.4286} \\
 &= \sqrt[5]{0.0119} \\
 &= 0.4122
 \end{aligned}$$

Program	System A Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A	System B Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A	System C Execution Time	Execution Time Normalized to A
v	50	1	100	0.5	500	0.1
w	200	1	400	0.5	600	0.3333
x	250	1	500	0.5	500	0.5
y	400	1	800	0.5	800	0.5
z	5000	1	4100	1.2195	3500	1.4286

Geometric Mean

1

0.5976

0.4122

Exercise 8.6:

Based on the previous example, If System A has been chosen as the reference machine, proof that the ratio of the geometric means are always consistent for System B and System C .

... (Problem with Geometric Mean)

- The inherent problem with using the geometric mean to demonstrate machine performance is that **all execution times contribute equally to the result**.
- So shortening the execution time of a small program by 10% has the same effect as shortening the execution time of a large program by 10%.
 - Shorter programs are generally easier to optimize, but in the real world, we want to shorten the execution time of longer programs.
- Also, the geometric mean is **not proportionate** → A system giving a geometric mean 50% smaller than another is not necessarily twice as fast!

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8.6 Summary

- ❑ Overview
- ❑ Clock Rate, MIPS and FLOPS
- ❑ Synthetic Benchmarks
- ❑ SPEC Benchmarks
- ❑ TPC Benchmarks
- ❑ System Simulation

- **Benchmarking* is the most common approach to assessing processor and computer system performance.
 - *Performance benchmarking* is the science of making objective assessments of the performance of one system over another.
 - Benchmarks are also useful for assessing performance improvements obtained by upgrading a computer or its components.
- Good benchmarks:
 - enable to cut through advertising hype and statistical tricks.
 - identify the systems that provide good performance at the most reasonable cost.

(a) Clock Rate, MIPS, and FLOPS

- CPU speed is a misleading metric that is most often used by computer vendors touting their systems' alleged superiority to all others.
- A widely metric related to clock rate is the *MIPS*.

Example 13:

- Saying that System *A* (1.4 GHz) is faster than System *B* (900 MHz) is valid only when the ISAs of System *A* and *B* are identical.
- With different ISAs, it is possible that both of these systems could obtain identical results within the same amount of wall clock time.

- There is a similar problem with the *FLOPS* metric.
- The FLOPS metric is even more difficult than the MIPS metric because there is no agreement as to what constitutes a floating-point operation.
- Despite their shortcomings, clock speed, MIPS, and FLOPS can be useful metrics in comparing relative performance across a line of similar computers offered by the same vendor.

(b) Synthetic Benchmarks

(*Whetstone*, *Linpack*, *Dhrystone*)

- The resulting execution time would lead to a single performance metric across all of the systems tested → *synthetic benchmarks*, because they don't necessarily represent any particular workload or application.
- Three of the better-known synthetic benchmarks are the *Whetstone*, *Linpack*, and *Dhrystone* metrics.



These programs are much **too small** to be useful in evaluating the performance of today's systems.

(c) SPEC Benchmarks

(Standard Performance Evaluation Corporation)

- The science of computer performance measurement benefited greatly by the contributions of the *Whetstone*, *Linpack*, and *Dhrystone* benchmarks.
 - For one thing, these programs gave merit to the idea of having a common standard benchmark suite by which all systems could be compared → *SPEC benchmarks*.
- Their most widely known benchmark suite is the *CPU Suite*.
 - The latest version of this benchmark is CPU2000 → consists of two parts, CINT2000, which measures integer arithmetic operations, and CFP2000, which measures floating-point processing.

SPEC Benchmark - CPU2017

from <https://www.spec.org/cpu2017/results/cpu2017.html>



spec

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CPU2017 Floating Point Rates (6378):

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Test Sponsor	System Name	Base Copies	Processor			Results		Energy	
			Enabled Cores	Enabled Chips	Threads/Core	Base	Peak	Base	Peak
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS700-E9(Z11PP-D24) Server System (2.70 GHz, Intel Xeon Gold 6150) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	72	36	2	2	199	201	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS700-E9(Z11PP-D24) Server System (2.10 GHz, Intel Xeon Platinum 8176) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	112	56	2	2	233	237	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS700-E9(Z11PP-D24) Server System (2.70 GHz, Intel Xeon Gold 6150) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	72	36	2	2	199	202	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS700-E9(Z11PP-D24) Server System (2.10 GHz, Intel Xeon Platinum 8176) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	112	56	2	2	233	236	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS WS C621E SAGE Server System (2.50 GHz, Intel Xeon Platinum 8180) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	112	56	2	2	252	257	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS720Q-E9(Z11PH-D12) Server System (2.70 GHz, Intel Xeon Gold 6150) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	72	36	2	2	205	209	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS720Q-E9(Z11PH-D12) Server System (2.10 GHz, Intel Xeon Platinum 8176) HTML CSV Text PDF PS Config	112	56	2	2	241	244	--	--
ASUSTeK Computer Inc.	ASUS RS720Q-E9(Z11PH-D12) Server System (3.50 GHz, Intel Xeon Gold 6144)								

(d) TPC Benchmarks







(Transaction Performance Council)

- SPEC's benchmarks are helpful to computer buyers whose principal concern is CPU performance.
 - When the performance of the entire system under high transaction loads is a greater concern, the *TPC benchmarks* are more suitable.
- The current version of this suite is the *TPC-C benchmark*.
 - TPC-C models the transactions typical of a **warehousing** and **distribution business using terminal emulation software**.

TPC-C Benchmark

from http://tpc.org/tpcc/results/tpcc_perf_results5.asp?resulttype=all



TPC-C Top Performance Results										
Version 5 Results As of 13-Jun-2021 at 5:33 PM [GMT]										
										
Note 1: The TPC believes it is not valid to compare prices or price/performance of results in different currencies.										
<input checked="" type="radio"/> All Active Results <input type="radio"/> Active Clustered Results <input type="radio"/> Active Non-Clustered Results Currency: All <input type="checkbox"/> Include Historical Results										
Rank	Company	System	Performance (tpmC)	Price/tpmC	Watts/KtpmC	System Availability	Database	Operating System	TP Monitor	Date Submitted
1		Alibaba Cloud Elastic Compute Service Cluster	707,351,007	3.98 CNY	NR	06/08/20	OceanBase v2.2 Enterprise Edition with Partitioning, Horizontal Scalability and Advanced Compression	Alibaba Aliyun Linux 2	Nginx 1.15.8	05/18/20
2		Alibaba Cloud Elastic Compute Service Cluster	60,880,800	6.25 CNY	NR	10/02/19	OceanBase v2.2 Enterprise Edition with Partitioning, Horizontal Scalability and Advanced Compression	Alibaba Aliyun Linux 2	Nginx 1.15.8	10/01/19
3		AS-1124US-TNRP	380,475	654.00 KRW	NR	09/01/20	TTA Goldilocks v3.1 Standard Edition	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.7	JBoss Web Server 3.1	08/16/20
4		KTNF KR580S1	152,330	1,680.00 KRW	NR	11/20/18	TTA Goldilocks v3.1 Standard Edition	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.5	JBoss Web Server 3.1	11/19/18
5		KTNF KR570S1	152,328	1,592.00 KRW	NR	11/12/19	TTA Goldilocks v3.1 Standard Edition	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.7	JBoss Web Server 3.1	10/27/19

(e) System Simulation

- The **TPC benchmarks** differ from the SPEC benchmarks in that they try to **simulate a complete computing environment**.
 - Although the purpose of the TPC benchmarks is to measure performance, their simulated environment may also be useful to predict, and hence optimize, performance under various conditions.
- In general, *simulations* give us tools that we can use to model and predict aspects of system behaviour without the use of the exact live environment that the simulator is *modeling*.

8.6 Summary

8

- Computer performance assessment relies upon **measures of central tendency** that include the *arithmetic mean*, *weighted arithmetic mean*, the *geometric mean*, and the *harmonic mean*.
- Each of these is applicable under different circumstances.
- **Benchmark suites** have been designed to provide objective performance assessment.
 - The most well respected of these are the *SPEC* and *TPC* benchmarks.

- *CPU performance* depends upon many factors.
 - These include pipelining, parallel execution units, integrated floating-point units, and effective branch prediction.
 - User code optimization affords the greatest opportunity for performance improvement.
 - Code optimization methods include loop manipulation and good algorithm design.

Review Questions

8

- 8.1 Which of the means is useful for comparing rates?
- 8.2 The execution times for three systems running five benchmarks are shown in the table below. Compare the relative performance of each of these systems (i.e., A to B, B to C, and A to C) using the arithmetic and geometric means. Are there any surprises? Explain.

Program	System A Execution Time	System B Execution Time	System C Execution Time
v	150	200	75
w	200	250	150
x	250	175	200
y	400	800	500
z	1000	1200	1100

Review Questions

8

8.3 The execution times for three systems running five benchmarks are shown in the table below. Compare the relative performance of each of these systems (i.e., A to B, B to C, and A to C) using the arithmetic and geometric means. Are there any surprises? Explain.

Program	System A Execution Time	System B Execution Time	System C Execution Time
v	45	125	75
w	300	275	350
x	250	100	200
y	400	300	500
z	800	1200	700