EASY-Assignment #2: Energy Models

In this exercise we implement different energy models. These energy models can be provided with different inputs and are based on energy measurements as conducted in the last exercise. We also examine the differences in precision and accuracy for different input values.

Goals of this assignment

- Create energy models for hardware and software
- Determine the influence of hardware states on software energy demand

2.1 Software Energy Model

Create an energy model for the julia program. Vary the number of pixels in the result image and estimate the amount of energy needed to execute the program with these parameters. Use linear regression to form an energy model. Plot the energy measurements and the estimations of your model to visualise its precision and calculate the *mean squared error* (MSE).¹

For assignments 2.1 to 2.4 you should fix the processor speed to 2.80 GHz using the cpupower² tool for the model creation process to allow for reproducible energy demand values. As baseline for your energy model use RAPL or physical energy measurements to determine the energy demand.

2.2 Simple Hardware Energy Model

Refine the per-pixel energy model: Use perf stat to count the number of instructions executed by a julia run. Estimate the amount of energy needed for each instruction, and create another energy model. Plot your results and calculate the MSE.

2.3 Model Comparison

Vary the number of iterations of the julia program and evaluate both the per-pixel and the per-instruction energy model. Which model gives better results? Why? Plot your results and calculate the MSEs.

2.4 Complex Hardware Energy Model

Similar to the per-instruction energy model, use perf stat with multiple performance monitoring counters (PMCs) to create a more precise energy model. Which PMCs do you consider suitable for an energy model? Why?

Plot your results and calculate the MSE.

The binary implementing your energy model should provide the same interface as the julia program and be named julia_energy. You can include the julia program in your binary to determine the PMCs for a given set of parameters. The result of the energy model (i.e., the energy demand estimation) should be printed on stderr. The submission of this assignment will be used for the competition (see below).

Example output:

```
$> ./julia_energy -W4 -H4 -X0 -Y0 -R512 -I1000 > /dev/null
12.34 J
```

2.5 Hardware State Models

Use cpupower to vary the processor speed. Use the default julia parameters (i.e., image width and height, center coordinates, resolution, and number of iterations) and create an energy model that describes how the processor frequency affects the energy demand. Plot your results and calculate the MSE.

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mean_squared_error

²cpupower frequency-set --governor performance --min 2.80GHz --max 2.80GHz

Competition

Who creates the best (\rightarrow accuracy, precision) energy model? For the competition we use your submission of the complex hardware energy model as described in assignment 2.4. The best model of each semester will be displayed in a Hall of Fame on the website. You can utilize any information you want, except information provided by RAPL as the baseline measurements will be based on RAPL.

We compare all submissions using the following test environment:

- The program under test is the julia program, where the output is redirected to /dev/null to minimize the interference of I/O operations.
- The model is tested with different parameters for the julia program. The values are in same the order of magnitude as the default values are.
- The processor speed is fixed at 2.80 GHz.
- The metric to evaluate the model is the mean squared error (MSE).
- The baseline measurements are conducted with RAPL.

Notes

Material: The julia programDeadline: 2019-01-07 12:00