

Programming Techniques for Supercomputers Tutorial

Erlangen National High Performance Computing Center

Department of Computer Science

FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Sommersemester 2025



Assignment 5 – Task 1

Multicore power envelope a) Overclocking

- Assumptions
 - No static power consumption $W(0) = 0$
 - W_d Dynamic power consumption at $f = f_0$
 - Δf Clock frequency change ($\Delta f = f - f_0$)
 - Power consumption of one chip: $W = W_d(1 + \Delta f/f_0)^2$
- What is W when $\Delta f/f_0 = 0.4$?

$$W = W_d(1 + 0.4)^2 = W_d \cdot 1.96$$

Assignment 5 – Task 1

Multicore power envelope b) Multicore

- Denote $\Delta v = \Delta f / f_0$

$$W(m) = m \cdot W_d(1 + \Delta v)^2 = W_d$$

$$\Rightarrow m = (1 + \Delta v)^{-2}$$

$$m = (1 - 0.5)^{-2} = 4$$

We want to keep W_d fixed!

c) Performance extrema

- Assume $m = 4$ cores
- Minimum performance gain?
 - Speedup: 1.** **Memory bound codes** would not benefit from additional cores
- Maximum performance gain?
 - Speedup:** $m \cdot (-\Delta v) = 4 \cdot 0.5 = 2$. **Compute bound codes** benefit here

Assignment 5 – Task 2

Optimal energy to solution

- W_d Dynamic power consumption of a running core
- n cores used (of n_{max} available)
- W_0 Baseline power consumption of the chip (all cores idle): $W(n = 0) = W_0$

$$\text{Power : } \mathbf{W(n, f) = W_0 + nW_d}$$

- $P(1)$ Performance of serial program
- P_{limit} Maximum performance of parallel program
- $P(n)$ Performance of parallel program on n cores
- $T(n)$ Time to solution on n cores

$$\text{Time to solution : } \mathbf{T(n) = 1/(\min(nP(1), P_{limit}))}$$

$$\text{Energy to solution : } \mathbf{E(n) = W(n, f)T(n) = (W_0 + nW_d)/(\min(nP(1), P_{limit}))}$$

Assignment 5 – Task 2

Optimal energy to solution

a) $W_0 = 150[W]$, $W_d = 4[W]$,
 $P(1) = 1[s^{-1}]$, $P_{limit} = 20[s^{-1}]$

Minimum Energy:
20 cores

b) $W_0 = 150[W]$, $W_d = 4[W]$,
 $P(1) = 2.5[s^{-1}]$, $P_{limit} = 20[s^{-1}]$

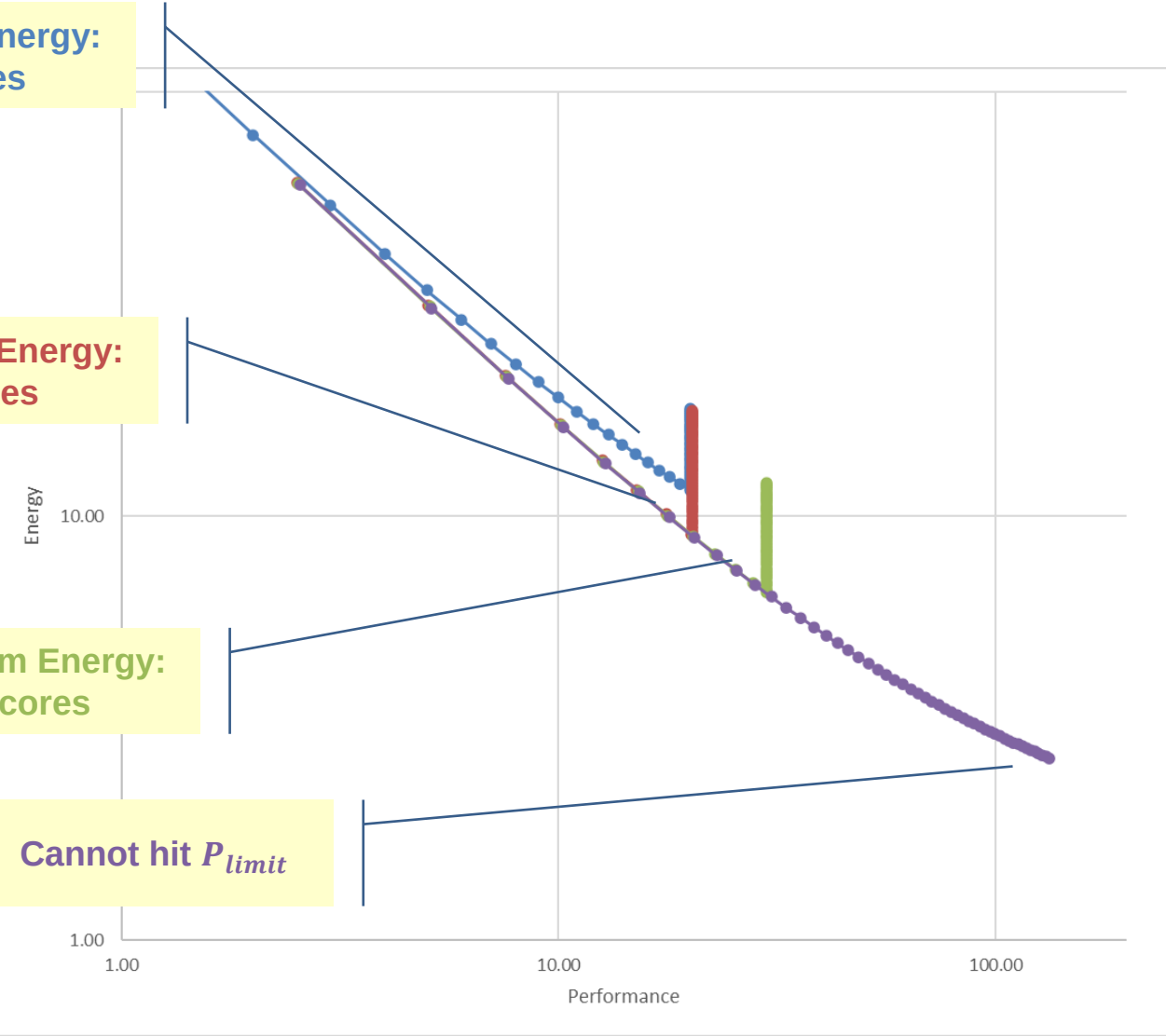
Minimum Energy:
8 cores

c) $W_0 = 150[W]$, $W_d = 4[W]$,
 $P(1) = 2.5[s^{-1}]$, $P_{limit} = 30[s^{-1}]$

Minimum Energy:
12 cores

$W_0 = 150[W]$, $W_d = 4[W]$,
 $P(1) = 2.5[s^{-1}]$, $P_{limit} = 200[s^{-1}]$

Cannot hit P_{limit}



Assignment 5 – Task 3

Balance

- a) Double Precision `s = s + a[i];` $B_c = 8 [B/F]$
- b) Double Precision `s = s + a[i]*b[i];` $B_c = 8 [B/F]$
- c) Single Precision `a[i][j] = b[i][j] + s*c[i][j];` $B_c = 8 [B/F]$
- d) Double Precision `a[i] = s*a[i];` $B_c = 16 [B/F]$
- e) Double Precision, **int64** `x[i] = x[i] + s*v[index[i]];`
- Case 1:
 - `index[i]=const`, hence no extra traffic from `v` $\Rightarrow B_c = 24[B]/2[F] = 12 [B/F]$
 - Case 2:
 - `index[i]=i`, means that `v` incurs $8 [B] \Rightarrow B_c = 32[B]/2[F] = 16 [B/F]$
 - Case 3:
 - `index[i]=rand()`, `v` incurs **one, 64 [B] CL** $\Rightarrow B_c = 88[B]/2[F] = 44 [B/F]$