KIG: a tool for Carbon footprint monitoring in physics research

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*research area: Green Computing for High Energy Physics*
Outline

- Motivation
- Energy and Carbon footprint formula
- Design of KIG
- KIG Test-bed
- Results
- Conclusions & Next Steps
In the last few years, the scientific progress driven by High-Performance Computing (HPC) technologies was noticeable. Hardware/software improvements have granted advances throughout a wide variety of disciplines by allowing the implementation algorithms of higher and higher computational intensiveness.

- **AI/HPC implementations in particle physics** [*] have been successful in a wide number of processes (i.e. Simulation, Event Selection, Event Reconstruction, Jet classification, BG rejection).

- Also other branches of physics have benefitted from HPC, for instance meteorology, where numerical weather forecasting has produced simulations of unprecedented detail and reliability.

- Also businesses are starting to heavily rely on AI and HPC. Several reports [**] show that a majority of companies are adopting AI tools to improve and/or consolidate their position on the market.


[2] https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms5308
So far, the constant evolution of technology (in terms of power and energy-efficiency) has allowed us to keep up with computing requirements and “naturally” curb the energy consumption.

Moore’s law: The number of transistors in an integrated circuit doubles approx. every 2 years.

Dennard Scaling: As transistors get smaller, the power density stays constant = power use stays in proportion with area of chip.

Koomey’s law: The number of computations per joule doubles every 1.57 years.

Meanwhile, the HPC paradigm is gaining momentum not only in the scientific environment, but also in sectors that historically had moderate interest in high-performance computing. As a result, the demand for HPC resources will increase in the near future => energy consumption (and Carbon Footprint) will spike, making computing less “cost-effective” w.r.t. today (energy is already becoming a problem worldwide).

The slowdown of hardware progress clashes with the spike of interest in HPC. Understanding the footprint of modern computing today in order to set up energy curbing strategies in time to ensure future research and their overall accessibility [1,2].
Lannelongue et al. [3] propose a formula to calculate the **energy footprint of some computing activity A** launched on a generic resource \( X \):

\[
E_{(A\rightarrow X)} = T \times (n_c \times P_c \times u_c + n_m \times P_m) \times PUE
\]

- \( T \) = Elapsed computing time (h)
- \( n_c \) = number of used cores
- \( P_c \) = power draw normalized of computing cores (kW)
- \( u_c \) = CPU usage factor - physically bound in \([0,1]\)-
- \( n_m \) = allocated RAM memory (GB)
- \( P_m \) = Power draw of RAM (kW)
- \( PUE \) = Power Usage Efficiency of the machine/cluster

The **Carbon footprint of the computation is**:

\[
F = E_{(A\rightarrow X)} \times CI
\]

\( CI \) = country-wise Carbon Intensity coefficient (gCO2e* footprint of power-grid electricity).

In the following, Italy’s \( CI \) will be used for calculations.

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an up-and-running computing node has a non-negligible computational clutter. The monitoring should not include that.

Furthermore, some available tools for detailed CPU-monitoring are proprietary (i.e. Intel Power Gadget, AMD system monitor). This might lead to a “vendor lock-in” on the long run.

Finally, the monitoring should not require, at any step, to alter the user’s set of privileges. This is coherent with the best-practice of keeping user privilege as limited as contextually possible.

Technical approach:

\[ E_{(A\rightarrow X)} = T \times (n_c \times P_c \times u_c + n_m \times P_m) \times PUE \]

- \( u_c \) and \( n_m \) can be calculated by leveraging the uniqueness of PIDs on Linux and appropriately parsing `/proc/<PID>/stat` and `/status` files.
- \( P_c, P_m \) and \( PUE \) are “bare metal” data and can be gathered in an appropriate external configuration file. This way, if hardware is changed (or requirements change), we just need to update a simple file.
- \( T \), the elapsed computing time, can be easily measured with simple commands. Many programming languages can do that accurately.
we can build a small node-level monitoring library+executable whose duty is to monitor PIDs we are interested in by gathering data involved in the equation (A). To do that, we parse \(/proc/PID/stat\) and \(status\) files and integrate this info with bare metal data.

The language chosen for this \(PoC\) was \texttt{C++}. \textbf{The repo of the project will be public and MIT licensed:}

- https://github.com/fminarini/KIG

\texttt{https://fminarini.github.io/KIG/html/index.html}

\textbf{(Recommended) For ease of use and compliance with security standards at computing facilities, a Docker image (Ubuntu flavoured) was also published on Docker Hub. (Docker-Apptainer compatibility was tested)}

- https://l.infn.it/sr

\textbf{Service Mock-up:} Users interact with docker to obtain the container. Once the container is up and running with an appropriate configuration file bound to it, users only need to start the monitoring program. At the end of the process, users obtain:

1) A report of consumed \(W\), Elapsed computing time (h) and the carbon footprint of the activity (g\(\text{CO}_2\)).

2) (if user has write permissions) A text file containing the LaTeX structure of a sum-up table for easy reporting in papers.
The monitoring was deployed over some containerized reference CMS workloads (GENSIM, DIGI, RECO)* in order to test the software on realistic payloads.

The choice of CMS was merely opportunistic, the monitoring is designed to be experiment-agnostic.

**GENSIM:** generation and simulation of TTbar events at 14 TeV and 2021 CMS detector for the Run3 era. The workload executes a CMSSW GENSIM job, which embeds the event generation and the Geant4 simulation event by event. CMSSW is a multithreaded application; the default number of threads is 4 and the default number of copies is the number of cores divided by 4.

**DIGI:** CMS reference workload executing digitisation of TTbar events at 14 TeV and 2021 CMS detector with a Run3 setup, using premixed events for the pileup. The workload executes a CMSSW DIGI job. CMSSW is a multithreaded application; the default number of threads is 4 and the default number of copies is the number of cores divided by 4.

**RECO:** CMS reference workload executing reconstruction of TTbar events at 14 TeV and 2021 CMS detector with a Run3 setup. The workload executes a CMSSW RECO job. CMSSW is a multithreaded application; the default number of threads is 4 and the default number of copies is the number of cores divided by 4.

KIG Test-bed (2of2)

2 machines from the INFN-CNAF High-Throughput farm were available as a test-bed.

172 HS06 was available for an extended period of time.
1293 HS06 was available for a restricted period of time.

Measurements were taken at node-level emulating the behaviour of a user submitting the payload to a single-node.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CPU</th>
<th>physical Cores (Total)</th>
<th>Hyperthreading</th>
<th>RAM(GB)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>172 HS06</td>
<td>2x AMD opteron 6320</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1293 HS06</td>
<td>2x AMD EPYC 7313</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results

- Comparison of two machines with full usage of cores against the same workload
  - Validation of the concept if linear trends emerge wrt processed events and difference of machines is highlighted

- Footprint characterization of a workload running on a varying the number of requested cores (172 HS06)
The fluctuation of measured values over repeated measures at same conditions (± 4%) was taken as an early-estimation of errors.

The intercept of fit is fairly compatible with 4% fluctuations around 0.

**Intercept(172 HS06) = 0.007**

**Intercept(1293 HS06) = -0.038**
kWs-per-event derived from the angular coefficient of best-fit line multiplied by 3600 in order to easily display it in $\text{kJ per event}$.

The fluctuation of measured values over repeated measures at same conditions ($\pm 4\%$) was taken as an early-estimation of errors.

The intercept of fit is fairly compatible with 4% fluctuations around 0.

Intercept(172 HS06) = -0.009

Intercept(1293 HS06) = -0.005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIGI</th>
<th>172 HS06</th>
<th>1293 HS06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elapsed Time(h)</td>
<td>Energy (kWh)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RECO-flow runs with different events-per-thread (EPT, tagged over points) configurations

Thread-per-core (TPC) = 4 (fixed), indip.copies (IC) = nCores/4, total events: TPC x IC x EPT

kWs-per-event derived from the angular coefficient of best-fit line multiplied by 3600 in order to easily display it in kJ per event.

The fluctuation of measured values over repeated measures at same conditions (± 4%) was taken as an early-estimation of errors.

The intercept of fit is slightly out of the fluctuation boundary.

Intercept(172 HS06) = 0.077
Intercept(1293 HS06) = -0.049
Data was gathered running 4 separate experiments, gradually saturating cores (keeping the total number of processed events constant).

_left:_ **Green-gradient lines** = Elapsed computing time while augmenting the number of working cores (normalized).

_Purple-gradient lines_ = kW absorption while requesting more cores (normalized).

_right:_ Report of **Carbon footprint** for CMS GENSIM workloads. At 8 core we see the lowest footprint.

The “8 core tradeoff point” cannot be used as a data center recommendation, obviously. The observation triggers, nonetheless, some further questions (is this working point software-bound or hardware-bound? can we use it to better manage submissions?)
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Data was gathered running 4 separate experiments, gradually saturating cores (keeping the total number of processed events constant).

**left:** Green-gradient lines = Elapsed computing time while augmenting the number of working cores (*normalized*).
Purple-gradient lines = kW absorption while requesting more cores (*normalized*).

**right:** Report of Carbon footprint for CMS DIGI workloads. At 8 core we see the lowest footprint.
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**left:** Green-gradient lines = Elapsed computing time while augmenting the number of working cores (*normalized*).
Purple-gradient lines = kW absorption while requesting more cores (*normalized*).

**right:** Report of Carbon footprint for CMS RECO workloads. At 8 core we see the lowest footprint.

The “8 core tradeoff point” cannot be used as a data center recommendation, obviously.
The observation triggers, nonetheless, some further questions (is this working point software-driven or hardware-driven? can we use it to better engineer submissions?)
Conclusions

- The comparison between two different machines allowed us to have a validation of the monitoring and a quantitative perspective of the difference between old platforms and newer ones in terms of energy and throughput. Fitting data gave us back a *kWs-per-event parameter* which might be included in a more “HEP-oriented” characterization of machines.

- **Focusing** on the impact of core demand in terms of **Time-Energy tradeoff and Carbon footprint** gave us back a clearer perspective on the footprint of common HEP processes, which can trigger further analyses to improve the way we manage submissions as well as facilities.

Next Steps

- Test workloads from **different experiments or physics branches** (*Data -> Design -> new Computing*)
- **scale from node level to cluster level.**
- Explore **different computing platforms** (i.e. non x86 architectures) and accelerators (GPUs, for instance).
- Try using the output of KIG (kWs-per-event, Time-Energy working points) to **ponder on the way we model and manage submission.**
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https://github.com/fminarini/KIG

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References:
[4] Horovitz, M. “Computing’s Energy problem (and what we can do about it)” https://hal.science/hal-02549565v4
Moore’s Law: The number of transistors on microchips doubles every two years

Moore’s law describes the empirical regularity that the number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles approximately every two years. This advancement is important for other aspects of technological progress in computing – such as processing speed or the price of computers.

Transistor count

Year in which the microchip was first introduced

Data source: Wikipedia (wikipedia.org/wiki/Transistor_count)

OurWorldInData.org - Research and data to make progress against the world’s largest problems. Licensed under CC-BY by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser.
The Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) is a general-purpose detector at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). It has a broad physics programme ranging from studying the Standard Model (including the Higgs boson) to searching for extra dimensions and particles that could make up dark matter.
Goodness-of-fit
Using containerized KIG (CLI commands)

A more “in-depth” documentation is available in the Github Repository, in the following a brief representation of a quick-start with KIG.

```bash
docker pull francescominarini/kig:latest
```

"App-like" usage

```bash
docker run -dit --name <container_name> --pid host \
--mount type=bind,source="$(pwd)"/<folder_with_toml_file>,target=/conf <IMAGE_NAME> bash
docker exec -it <container_name> ./KIG_ex $(pgrep -f "<monitored_activity>" | awk 'ORS=" "')
```

"interactive" usage

```bash
docker run -it --name <container_name> --pid host \
--mount type=bind,source="$(pwd)"/<folder_with_toml_file>,target=/conf <IMAGE_NAME> bash
```
Using containerized KIG (config.toml)

```toml
# TOML document for my personal PC emulating the conf for a cluster

[owner]
name = "Francesco Minarini"
title = "prova"

[infrastructure]
root_folder = "/proc/
cpu_stat_file = "/stat"
mem_stat_file = "/status"
cpu_family = "Skylake"
cpu_tdp = 8
n_cpu = 2
clock_ticks = 100
ram_family = "DDR4"
ram_freq = 2133
ram_slots = 1

[energy]
carbon_intensity = 220
power_usage_efficiency = 1.8
```

#cpu_family (useful for comparisons)
#value in W per-cpu
#number of usable physical chips on board.
#getconf CLK_TCK, gives equivalence to seconds
#ram family (useful for comparisons)
#ideally frequency tells you the wattage required
#active ram slots

#regional impact of electricity prod and consumption
#avg italian PUE
Energy-Time cut trade-off

Watt absorption and Time consumption with increasing number of cores on GENSIM flow
Averages taken over 4 experiments with total events [400, 600, 800, 2000] against a 4 core baseline

Watt absorption and Time consumption with increasing number of cores on DIGI flow
Averages taken over 4 experiments with total events [400, 600, 800, 1000] against a 4 core baseline

Watt absorption and Time consumption with increasing number of cores on RECO flow
Averages taken over 4 experiments with total events [400, 600, 800, 1000] against a 4 core baseline