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# A Service-Oriented Co-Simulation: Holistic Data Center Modelling Using Thermal, Power and Computational Simulations

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## ABSTRACT

Holistic modelling of a data center to include both thermodynamics and computational processes has the potential to revolutionize how data centers are designed and managed. Such a model is inherently multi-disciplinary, bringing together the computational elements studied by computer scientists; thermodynamics studied by mechanical engineers; and other aspects in the domain of electrical engineering. This paper proposes the use of the Internet of Simulation to allow engineers to build models of individual complex elements and deploy them as simulation services. These services can then be integrated as simulation system workflows. A proof of concept server simulation is presented, incorporating simulations of Central Processing Units (CPUs), heat sinks, and fans exposed using the Simulation as a Service (SIMaaS) paradigm. The integrated workflow of the server is then exposed as a service (WFaaS) to facilitate the building of an entire virtual data center. Unlike other data center simulations, this approach requires no direct characterisation of the hardware being simulated. Preliminary results are presented showing the effectiveness of the simulation technique and representative behaviour under various simulated cloud workloads. The benefits and future applications of this rapid prototyping approach extend to data center design and data center efficiency research.

## CCS CONCEPTS

• **Computing methodologies** → **Modeling and simulation; Distributed simulation**; • **Computer systems organization** → **Cloud computing**; *Distributed architectures*; • **Hardware** → **Power and energy**;

## KEYWORDS

Cloud; SOA; Services; Simulation; WFaaS; SIMaaS; IoS; Thermodynamics; Data-center

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Data centers globally consume in the region of 3% of the world's electricity up from 1.3% in 2010 and 0.8% in 2005 [13, 21]. Fully understanding their workings in terms of computational processes, system architectures, cooling performance, as well as energy and power efficiencies is therefore of paramount importance as part of the digital economy [22]. However there has been no successful holistic simulation of a data center's computation and cooling. Such a simulation brings together the worlds of mechanical, electrical, and computational engineering. In this paper we present a proof of concept holistic model of server operation, encompassing computation through utilisation, power and thermal performance.

Previous authors have utilised complex simulation methods such as Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations and trained models from empirical measurements [8]. However, this characterisation and modelling can be time consuming and requires access and measurement of specific exemplar hardware. Additionally the complexity of the models employed in these applications preclude rapid simulation of the computational, power and thermal performance. Instead we present an initial proof of concept showing that holistic server behaviour can be realistically characterised using readily available, public data from manufacturer datasheets and datasets. This data is used as parameters in the model allowing for rapid generation of simulations.

In this paper we adopt the Internet of Simulation (IoS) paradigm [18] using service orientation to construct such a multidisciplinary simulation of a server. The methods utilised in this paper could be used by the research community to develop energy aware data center systems or allow for rapid prototyping of virtual data centers. As a proof of concept simulations of CPUs, heat sinks, and fans are all exposed as services and integrated into a server system model which is then published as a workflow to be used in a virtual rack.

In the remainder of this paper section 2 presents some of the background for this work; section 3 details the models and methodology used with results presented in section 4. Conclusions and details of further work are discussed in Section 5.

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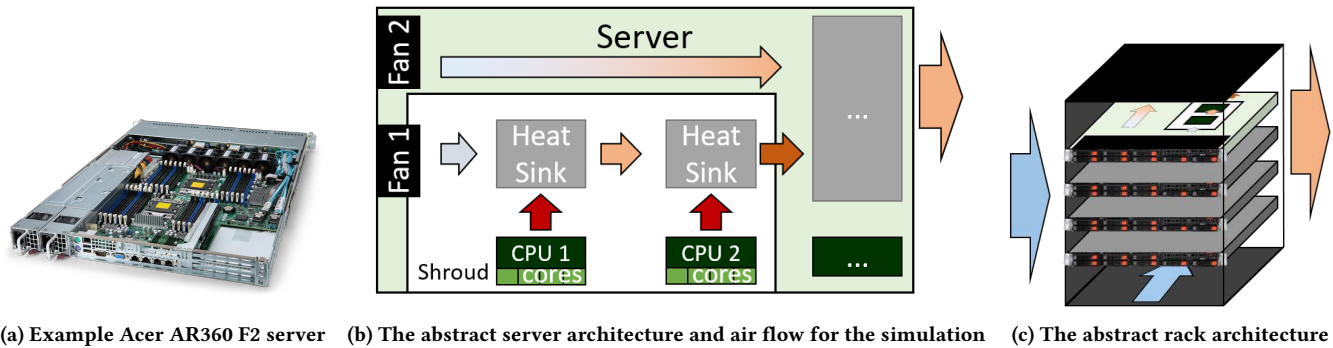


Figure 1: The simulated system architecture of a rack with four servers and the corresponding airflows

## 2 BACKGROUND

Simulation of data centers is critical to understanding their global impact and providing a means to explore new approaches to improve their energy efficiency. For example globally data centers used 416 terrawatt hours of electricity in 2015 whilst the UK as a nation only consumed in the region of 300 terrawatt hours [21]. There has therefore been a push in recent years to provide *holistic models* of data centers power usage, however there remain significant limitations. One of the main limitations is the integration of the electrical and thermodynamic simulations with computational models of server utilisation. This integration and the resulting trade-offs that can be explored are critical to managing the costs associated with running a data center. It is therefore essential that improvements to energy efficiency also enable the utilisation of said data centers to be maximised as they are currently severely under-utilised, in some cases as low as 10% [10].

Currently, the efficiency of a data center is measured by the Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) or Data Center Infrastructure Efficiency (DCiE) value. Both of these metrics compare the amount of energy used by the data center for computation against the total energy used by the data center [3]. Therefore while reducing total energy consumption of the data center is important, it is equally important to ensure that as much energy as possible is used for useful computation. Since cooling systems consume much of the non-IT equipment energy [17], understanding the relationships between data center operation and its heat generation can help to maximise efficiency. Therefore models that encompass computation, power consumption and heat generation can provide a tool to understand these relationships.

### 2.1 Modelling Power Consumption

Some of the existing simulations of data centers include power models but these are usually simple and generally focus on compute energy rather than the combination of compute and cooling. The CloudSim [4] provides a number of possible power models for servers, however these are based on a linear relationship between power consumption and CPU utilisation [16]. Other authors [2, 14] have presented power consumption models based on Virtual Machine (VM) utilisation and activity.

Garraghan et al. [8] provide a model of power usage in data center servers aiming to bring together the domains of software, server

hardware, and cooling. The authors experimentally measured the power consumption by the server and fans under various workload utilisations. Subsequent work by Li et al. [15, 27] looked at simulating the cloud workload using CloudSim [4] and matched the resulting data with CFD results to estimate the server temperature for a given workload.

Additionally, there has been recent work in detailed simulation of processor power consumption. Walker et al. [24, 25] develop a thermally aware CPU power model which accounts for differences in power consumption due to the temperature of the processor. This model is achieved through experimental measurement and characterisation of an ARM CPUs.

These approaches are however not fully integrated and require the simulation designer to be an expert across all aspects of the system model. It is therefore vital that a new paradigm for simulating cyber-physical systems is developed allowing engineers and researchers to build highly detailed and complex models of individual components, such as heat sinks or software systems, and bring them together in an integrated System of Systems simulation.

### 2.2 Internet of Simulation

In order to facilitate an ecosystem of model sharing and simulation integration McKee et al. [18] propose the concept of Internet of Simulation (IoS). By using the infrastructure of Cloud computing massive-scale simulations can be run rapidly and at speed [9]. IoS therefore aims to facilitate the deployment of simulations as services (SIMaaS) which can then be integrated into other simulations as part of a more typical service-oriented workflow.

The workflows, which would be in essence system simulations, can then themselves be exposed as services (WFaaS). This provides a mechanism to iteratively build massively complex system models and simulations using the relevant expertise to accurately capture the nuances from each domain [5].

The remainder of this paper takes these IoS concepts and applies them to holistic server simulation.

## 3 MODELLING METHODOLOGY

An approximation of performance and power consumption of a server under static load can be made using available benchmarks [6] and manufacturer figures. However, this does not allow for the modelling of thermal performance and the load of any given server

in a cloud data center depends on the utilisation of all VMs hosted on the machine. The future load of the server is also unknown as this is dependant on demand and the decisions of the scheduler.

Previous approaches to modelling the dynamic behaviour of servers or data centers require characterisation through experimentation on the specific hardware to be used or historical data collected from data centers with that same hardware. Both of these methods are resource intensive and do not allow characterisation without investment in hardware. Therefore we take a modelling approach that aims to characterise data center dynamics without experimental data collection by using readily available benchmark data, manufacturer’s specifications and physics modelling. This lowers the cost of data center simulation and allows for research developing scalable, energy efficient data center technologies such as schedulers, cooling systems or new servers.

In order to capture these behaviours a dynamic model is required and each power consuming component is modelled independently and then co-simulated. In the case of this model we choose to model the processors, cooling components (fans and heatsinks) and residual components (power supply, motherboard, memory etc.). In this instance the server we are modelling does not include a GPU.

Based on the IoS paradigm each individual component of the system can be modelled independently. Each model therefore has defined interface expressing the inputs and outputs as well as all assumptions that are being made. For example the interface must capture the units of measurement as well as the metric prefix, such kilowatts. The individual models can then be exposed as services, using the SIMaaS paradigm, to be integrated. This integrated simulation (Workflow as a Service (WFaaS)) can be made available as a service to be used to test different data center configuration, experimental schedulers or novel cooling techniques.

The remainder of this section focusses on the construction of the individual models that are used to construct the simulation using iterative WFaaS design.

### 3.1 Abstract Server

An Acer AR360 F2 Server was chosen as a representative 1U server; its power ratings are available in the results of the SPECpower benchmark [6]. The server can be seen in Figure 1a and the abstract representation used in this paper’s proof of concept is shown in Figure 1b. For the purposes of this paper the server is considered to utilise of two Intel Xeon E5-2660 CPUs as defined in the benchmark results [1]. Figure 1 shows the server has fans located at the front pushing air through the server towards the rear. On the one side are the CPUs located longitudinally with the warm air from CPU1 passing over CPU2 before leaving out the rear of the server, each CPU has a passive heat sink and is assumed to be shrouded. The output air from the second heat sink is mixed uniformly with the ambient air from fan 2 before passing out of the back of the server. This architecture allows us to characterise the remaining power consumption and heat generation of the server as a third heat sink, though this characterisation is not performed in this paper.

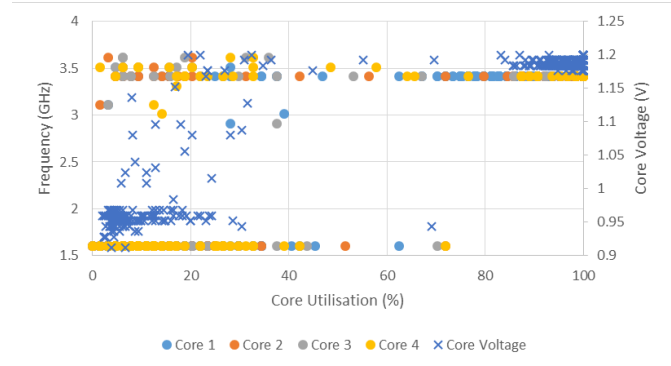


Figure 2: Dynamic voltage and frequency scaling against utilisation

### 3.2 CPU

In this server the single component responsible for most of the power consumption in a server is the CPU. The total power consumption of the CPU is a sum of dynamic and short-circuit power consumptions and losses due to leakage currents[23]:

$$P_{CPU} = P_{dyn} + P_{sc} + P_{leak}$$

Most of the power consumed by the CPU is then dissipated as heat which must be removed from the system via cooling.

Modern CPUs have multiple cores, with a multi-threaded workload each will have a different utilisation and therefore each will draw a different amount of power and dissipate a different amount of heat. The processor package includes a case which functions as a heat spreader. Thermal interface compound provides good thermal conductivity between the processor case and a cooler.

To characterise the power and cooling requirements of a given CPU manufacturers define a Thermal Design Power (TDP) in Watts. This describes the maximum power consumption of the processor and therefore the maximum heat power that the cooling system must be able to dissipate. These values are defined based on propriety workloads that are promised to be realistically complex. TDP does not represent the absolute maximum thermal output, it can be exceeded for short periods [12].

In a modern CPU there are a number of mechanisms that allow for more optimal power consumption and changes in performance. The primary method is Dynamic Voltage and Frequency Scaling (DVFS) which allows the clock frequency of the processor and correspondingly the voltage to be adjusted to reduce power consumption or increase processor performance on demand [25]. Portions of the processor can also be disconnected from the clock signal to reduce switching power consumption, known as clock gating [26], or turned off completely (power gating) [11].

Data center workloads are often defined by a processor utilisation figure [7]. Figure 2 shows the changing frequency and voltage as the overall utilisation of the processor increases. This data was recorded from values reported by an Intel i5-2500K under a varying benchmark load. It is apparent that there is no strong correlation between the voltage and frequency states chosen by the processor and the reported utilisation or power consumption. As such it

is difficult to directly model CPU performance state and power. Instead we use a function of overall utilisation to model CPU power consumption. Figure 3b shows power consumption under the same benchmark load collected from three separate Intel CPUs: i5-2500K, i5-4300U and Xeon E3-1270. While there are different core counts, TDPs and cache sizes, figure 3b shows that the power consumption relative to TDP is similar across all of our tests.

Therefore, since the TDP  $P_{TDP}$  of the chosen server's CPU is known we fit the bounded exponential function:

$$R_{TDP} = \frac{a - be^{-cu}}{100} \quad (1)$$

to our data in figure 3b and model power consumption as a factor of TDP  $R_{TDP}$  based on the overall CPU utilisation  $u$  (0% to 100%). Where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are fitting terms found to be 90, 80 and -0.03 respectively. Actual power consumption  $P_{CPU}(W)$  is then:

$$P_{CPU} = P_{TDP} * R_{TDP}$$

In this abstract server architecture we ignore the effects of thermal resistance in the interface compound and assume that heat is transferred directly into the heat sink.

To realistically model a modern CPU we must model multiple cores, this is especially important in cloud workloads where VMs with varying loads execute on different CPU cores. Since our models are based on overall utilisation we take the mean of all core utilisation to give an overall utilisation.

### 3.3 Heat Sink

In our abstract server model the CPU cooler is a passive heat sink, modelled as a heat exchanger using the NTU method as presented by Moffat [19]. Since this is an abstract model, we model the heat as completely uniform across the whole heat sink rather than modelling the heat transmission from the base to the fins. Additionally, we assume that that heat generated by the CPU is transmitted into the heat sink without losses. We only model the convective cooling as this is a much larger factor than radiative cooling since the heat sink is tightly enclosed in the 1U case so any energy lost from radiation will transfer to other components.

Using the NTU method, a normal heat exchanger with two fluids can be characterised by its effectiveness  $\epsilon$ . This is a ratio of the actual heat transferred and the maximum possible heat transferral between the two fluids. Using the fluid with the lowest heat capacity  $C_{min}$  this is:

$$\epsilon = \frac{T_{cold\_out} - T_{cold\_in}}{T_{hot\_in} - T_{cold\_in}} \quad (2)$$

For a heat sink where there is no hot fluid,  $C_{hot} = \infty$ , and therefore the ratio is 0. It can be shown that in this special case the effectiveness  $\epsilon$  is given by:

$$\epsilon = 1 - e^{-NTU} \quad (3)$$

where the number of transfer units  $NTU$  is a characterisation of the heat exchanger based on the heat exchanger geometry and the cooling fluid mass flow. This defined as:

$$NTU = \frac{UA}{C_{min}} = \frac{hA}{\dot{m}C_p} \quad (4)$$

where  $C_{min}$  is the smaller of the two fluid's heat capacities, in the case of a heat sink this is the air and is given by the product of the mass flow  $\dot{m}$  and the specific heat capacity  $C_p$  of air.  $UA$  is product of the effective exchange area  $A$  and the overall heat transfer coefficient  $U$  of the cooler arrangement. Since we ignore the effects of the thermal compound and heat spreader we only need to characterise the heat sink transfer coefficient  $h$  measured in  $W/m^2 K$ . Which characterises the heat sink performance as a proportion of heat transfer to temperature difference. This parameter is often difficult to find and usually requires extensive measurement of the heat sink in operation. However, it is possible to characterise in our model based on a manufacturer's quoted TDP rating. For a given heat sink TDP  $P_{TDP}$  the worst case is given by the maximum temperatures allowable by the CPU manufacturer in the server case  $T_{amb}$  and on the heat spreader  $T_{CMax}$ :

$$h = \frac{P_{TDP}}{A(T_{CMax} - T_{amb})} \quad (5)$$

Given this characterisation of  $h$ ,  $NTU$  is:

$$NTU = \frac{P_{TDP}}{\dot{m}C_p(T_{CMax} - T_{amb})} \quad (6)$$

To calculate the energy transfer rate  $\dot{Q}$  to the cooling air flow from the heat sink, we use:

$$\dot{Q} = \dot{m}C_p\epsilon(T_{Base} - T_{Inlet}) \quad (7)$$

The rate of change in temperature of the cooling air  $\Delta T$ :

$$\Delta T = \frac{\dot{Q}}{\dot{m}C_p} \quad (8)$$

The change in temperature of the heat sink is calculated in a similar manner using the net energy transfer rate based on the input from the CPU and heat lost to the air.

### 3.4 Fan

Garraghan et al.[8] propose modelling the energy used by cooling equipment in addition to that used for computation. We utilise their presented model for fan power draw and model the generated air flow based on manufacturers specifications. Most fan data sheets specify a maximum volumetric flow  $G_{max}$  and speed  $N_{max}$ , these properties are linearly related. The volumetric flow  $G$  in  $m^3/s$  can be modelled based on fan speed  $N$  as:

$$G = \frac{NG_{max}}{N_{max}}$$

The mass flow  $\dot{m}$  in  $kg/s$  of the cooling air from the fans is given by:

$$\dot{m} = \rho G$$

where  $\rho$  is the density of the air in  $kg/m^3$ . To avoid adding active controllers to the model, the speed of the fan is controlled using a logistic function based on CPU temperature. We set  $N_{min}$  to 7500RPM, the minimum speed measured by Garraghan [8].

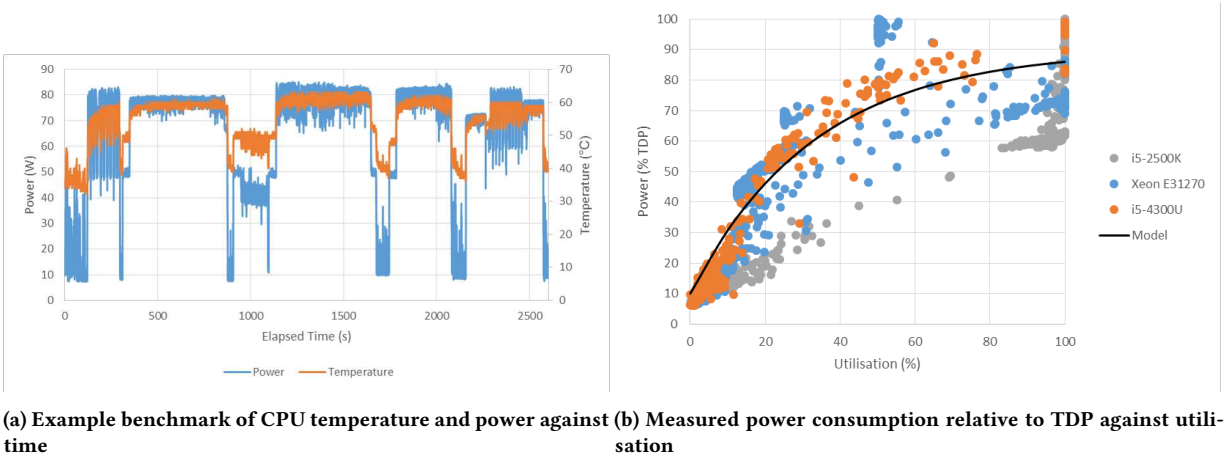


Figure 3: CPU characterisation using experimental benchmarks

$$N_{scale} = \frac{1}{1 + 100e^{-0.125(T_{Base} - T_{Amb})}},$$

$$N = N_{min} + N_{scale}(N_{max} - N_{min})$$

Air density changes with respect to altitude (pressure) and temperature, however, as only a single rack is being simulated and we do not yet model the room cooling system, we hold the pressure constant at sea level and ambient temperature constant at 20 °C.

### 3.5 Residual Power Consumption

The components modelled so far are not the only sources of power consumption (or heat generation) within the server. The other computational components: motherboard, memory, chip set and drives all consume power. In addition, there are power losses in the power supply leading to higher power consumption. Unlike the CPU, these components do not self-report their power consumption. The actual power consumption is not easily derived without extensive measurement and benchmarking of the desired server. Instead we chose to compare the sum of the already modelled power consumptions against the recorded SPECPower results, see figure 4. We fit the polynomial:

$$P_{Res} = a + bu^c \tag{9}$$

to this data and use this function to model the residual power draw of the remaining system components. Where  $a = 28$ ,  $b = 127.5$  and  $c = 3.2$ .

### 3.6 Workflow

As a proof of concept towards simulating a data center we simulate multiple servers in a rack under a virtual cloud workload. The simulation is constructed by composing the component simulation services as a workflow, shown in figure 5. Presently, we only model the thermal effects of the CPUs and the airflow through the server. We do not model radiant heating between servers, this is analogous to having the servers well spread out in the rack.

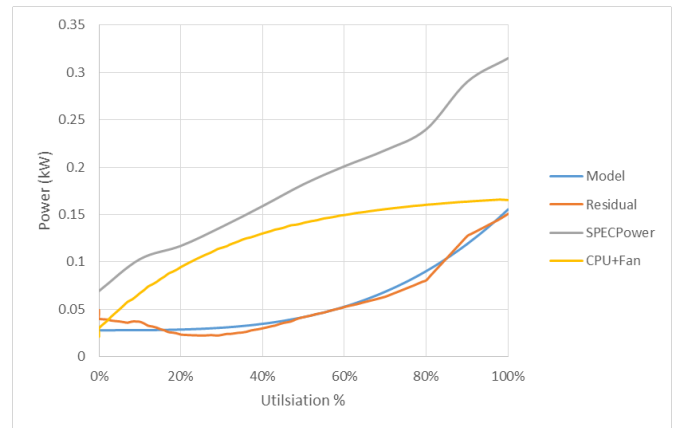


Figure 4: Modelled residual power consumption

The server assigns a workload to a VM, each operating on a single core so there is no over commitment. Each CPU has 4 cores so each server can host 8 VMs. The server controls fan speeds based on the temperature of CPU1. The integrated server is then exposed as a simulation using the WFaaS concept further combined into a rack containing 4 servers.

## 4 EVALUATION

For an evaluation of this proof of concept simulation, we simulate the rack operating in a constant ambient air temperature. There will be no external cooling accounted for and no recirculation of air once it leaves the server. A number of theoretical workloads will be presented to the servers and the resulting power draw and temperature changes of the CPU's will be modelled. The models were implemented as individual simulation services in SEED [9], a distributed discrete time-step simulator, for this evaluation. For this proof of concept, we will evaluate whether the static behaviour of the server matches that in the benchmark and whether the dynamic

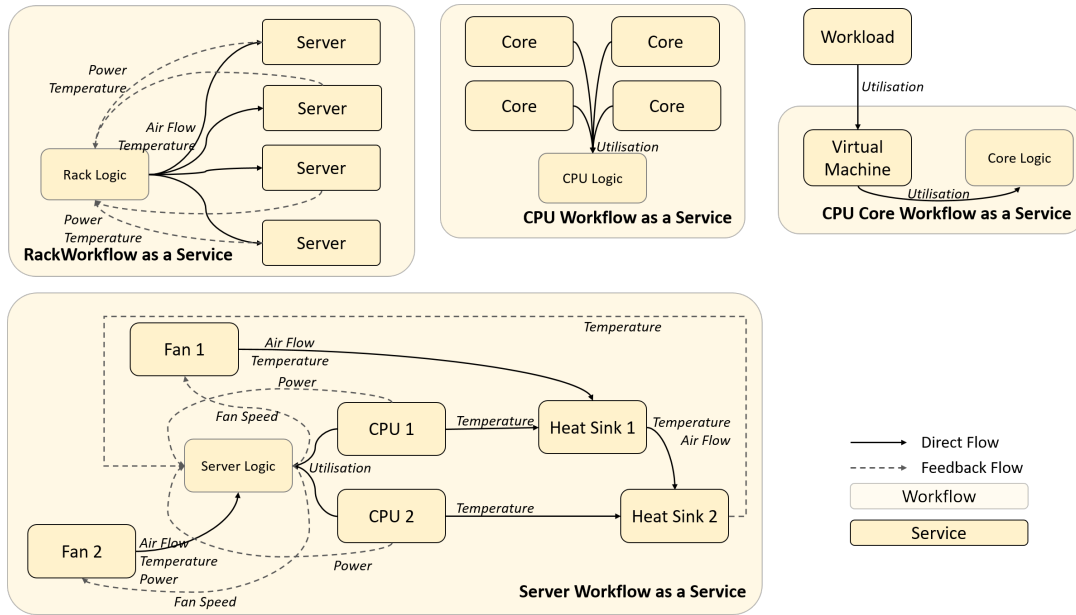


Figure 5: Component and system simulations as services

behaviour of the system at CPU, server and rack levels reasonably reflects that seen in real systems.

### 4.1 Workload Modelling

In the context of Cloud computing Fehling et al. [7] identified five core workload patterns:

- (1) **Static** workloads where the resource utilisation over time is constant. This can be extended to consider the workload as static within a variance and can therefore be guaranteed to not exceed a given threshold.
- (2) **Continuously Changing** workload is where the utilisation is either continuously growing or else continuously shrinking.
- (3) **Periodic** where the resource utilisation peaks at reoccurring time intervals.
- (4) **Unpredictable** refers to a random utilisation and can be considered as a generalisation of periodic workloads.
- (5) **Once-in-a-lifetime** workload refers to general workload that is predictable disturbed by a peak utilisation which only occurs once. This is a particular case of the periodic workload pattern where the time-frame is particularly long.

To test the simulation the continuously changing ramped, and periodic type workloads are used. Additionally, features of the static, unpredictable and once-in-a-lifetime workloads are combined into a single step utilisation parametrised by a constant load, duration and start time. Where a single utilisation pattern is required at the server level, identical workloads are simulated on each of the 8 VMs hosted on the machine resulting in this load being applied at the server level. For rack level simulation each VM is given a different workload, either a periodic or a step load with random parameters of phase.

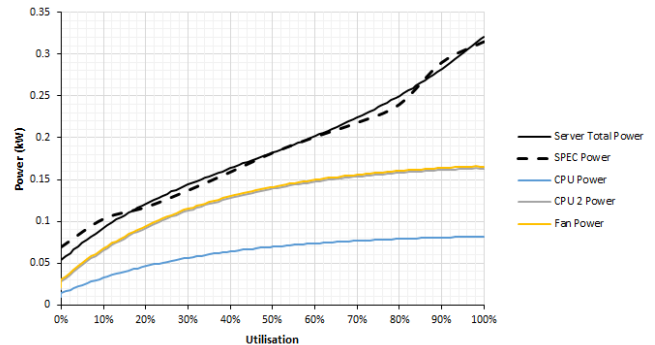


Figure 6: Modelled cumulative power consumption compared to results of SPEC Power Benchmark for this server

### 4.2 Individual Server Behaviour

A single server instance was tested in isolation with a uniform VM utilisation across all cores to ensure that the server behaviour is realistic and matches existing data. To capture the behaviour at varying utilisations a ramped load from 0% to 100% utilisation is used. We also tested the server using step loads to verify the modelled thermal behaviour.

Figure 6 shows the cumulative modelled power consumption of the server at differing total utilisations. The total power consumption in the model shows a large degree of agreement with the measured results of the SPEC Power benchmark [6] with an R-Squared value of 0.99. The CPU power model is easily identified as it is defined based on mean utilisation, additionally we can see that the overall effect of the fans on power consumption is very small. So although Garrahan et al. [8] note that the cooling equipment

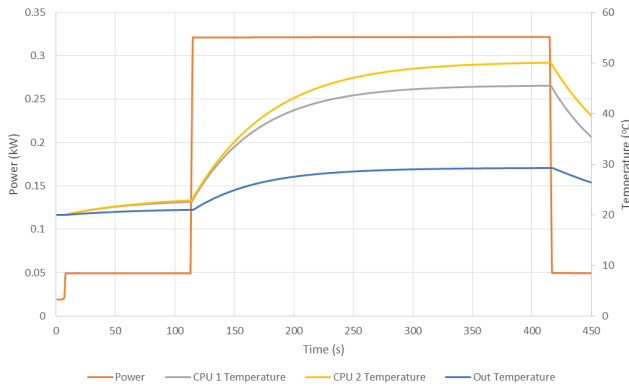


Figure 7: Thermal response of step load

is not constant and therefore should be, we note that the overall effect is small.

The thermal behaviour of the server is shown in figure 7. To most clearly show the temperature modelling of the system a step load of 100% utilisation is applied to the CPUs for a short period and the temperature of each heatsink is recorded. The servers start cold at an ambient room temperature of 20°C. The figure shows the expected heating and cooling curves for temperature, a large degree of heat begins as soon as the load is initiated. Once the load is reduced, the temperature immediately falls following the expected cooling curve. This matches the observed behaviour in the benchmark, figure 3a, though slower as the heatsinks have more mass than the CPU packages. The linear arrangement of the CPU means that the cooling air flow reaching the second CPU’s heat sink is warmer and therefore less effective than the first CPU. This is clearly shown in the graph, the temperature of CPU 2 is 5°C higher than CPU 1. We also model the final air temperature exiting the server which has been heated by heat sink 1 and heat sink 2. The temperatures reached by the system are reasonable given the specifications of the CPU and the characteristics of the cooler with neither CPU exceeding its stated maximum case temperature.

The final characterisation of the single server involves a step workload followed by a linearly increasing and then decreasing workload. The power and temperature modelled by the server for this workload is shown in figure 8. The shape of the workload can be inferred from the power consumption. Here we see that the thermal behaviour of the system lags behind the power consumption and utilisation as there is additional energy in the system which cannot be expelled before reaching the peak of the ramped load. This is expected, realistic behaviour.

### 4.3 Cloud Workload Behaviour

Since the server has been developed using IoS we can readily compose multiple server simulations together into a rack by adding a component which distributes workloads across the servers. To simulate a cloud workload on the server a VM is assigned to each core of the modelled CPUs. Each VM has a different workload applied to it. One half of the VMs are given periodic workloads with

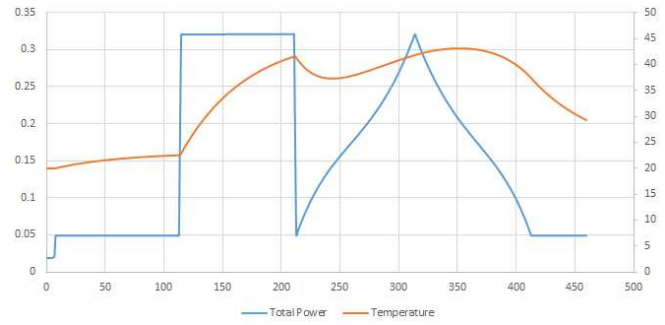


Figure 8: Single server behaviour under varying loads

variations in the phase of the period and the other half are given step workloads with a random start time and duration.

Figure 9 shows the cloud workload applied to one of the servers. The grey lines indicate the workload of each VM and the grey shaded area indicates the average workload of the server. From figure 9 the dynamic behaviour of the system is evident in the power and temperature plots. We can see that the each element in the system behaves differently under this varying load which could not be modelled without separating the components into discrete simulations

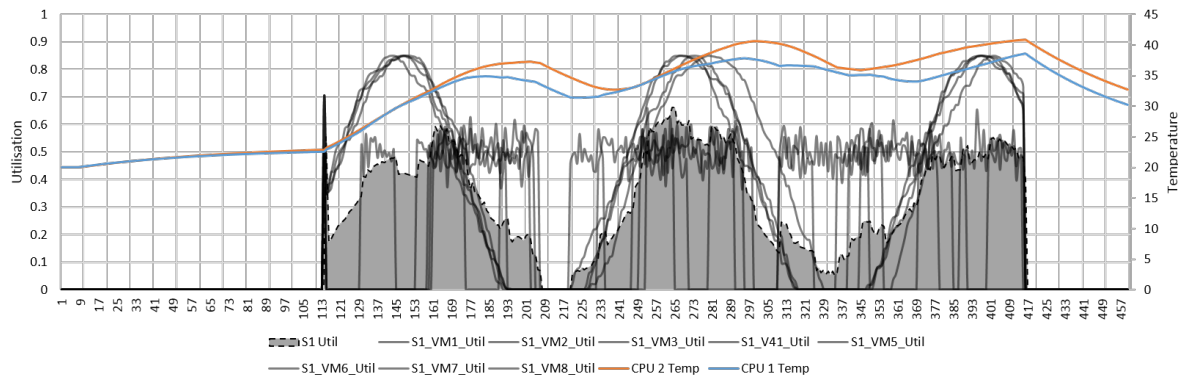
Figure 10 shows the behaviour of the four servers operating in parallel. The workloads are largely in phase so the power and temperature effects on the servers are also largely similar. The difference in overall utilisation of servers ranges between 10-20% but despite this difference, there are no large variances in the power or temperature.

### 4.4 Strengths and Limitations

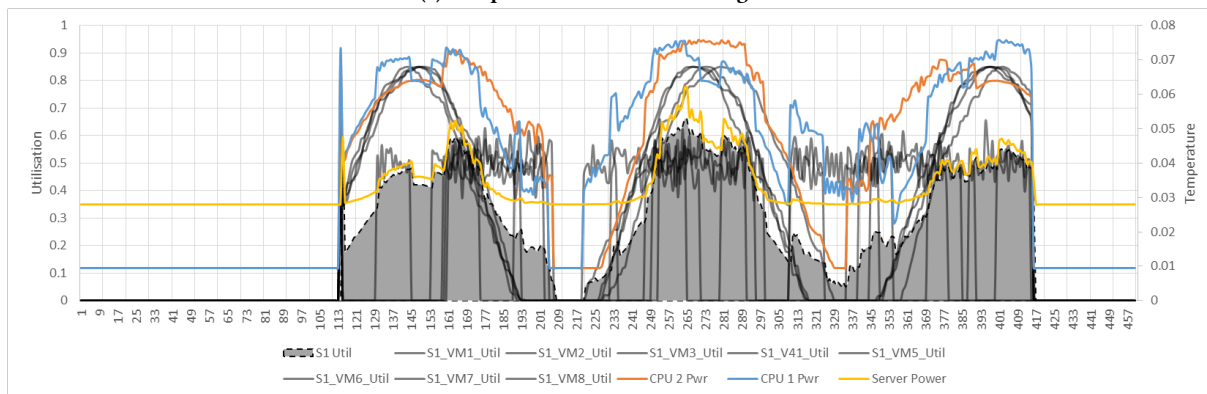
The evaluation shows that the dynamic behaviour of the servers is reasonably realistic and will be physically accurate since much of the underlying model is physics based. A major strength of this approach is the lack of any required experimentation or historical data for the server being modelled. The only experimental measurements that were required characterised a range of CPU’s which allows us to approximate any CPU behaviour based on manufacturers specifications. Additionally, the methodology adopted means that the simulation can be easily reconfigure to simulate a new server or a different rack configuration. The distributed simulator used allows for potential speed up in execution with more machines. Even on a single machine with an Intel i5 processor and 16GB of RAM execution speeds were only approximately 14x real-time.

This work is an initial proof of concept and therefore there are some limitations and many opportunities for future work. Firstly, the assumptions and methodologies demonstrated in this paper must be validated against experimental measurements of an operating server. This would allow a more thorough characterisation of CPU thermal performance and power consumption with respect to utilisation. It would also allow us to more accurately model the individual server elements power draw and characterise the motherboard and power supplies as another heat exchanger with a known heat transfer coefficient. This would allow a more accurate modelling of final air temperature exiting the rear of the server.



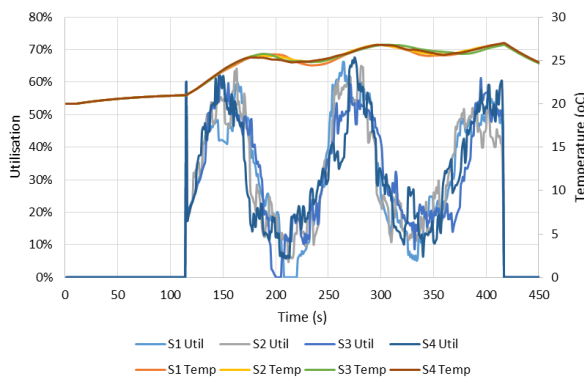


(a) Temperatures in each server against VM utilisation

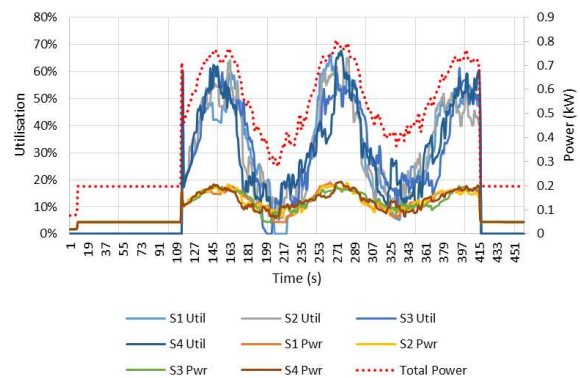


(b) Server power consumption against VM utilisation

Figure 9: Server rack power consumption and temperatures under a simulated cloud workload



(a) Temperatures in each server against VM utilisation



(b) Server power consumption against VM utilisation

Figure 10: Server rack power consumption and temperatures under a simulated cloud workload

In addition to a complete validation of model, other elements can be added due to the extensible nature of the simulation workflow. Given a characterisation of their performance, it would be possible to add additional components into the server such as power supplies or DIMM memory. A more detailed thermal simulation could also

be achieved by modelling the thermal resistance of the thermal interface compound between the CPU and heat sink, as well as the heat spread through the heat sink.

## 5 CONCLUSION

In this paper we have presented a medium fidelity model of a cloud server where we modelled the relationships between the execution and thermodynamic behaviour of the server. The parameters used in this modelled are based on publicly available datasets and manufacturer data sheets or fitted against data from three different computers, therefore this model is easily changed to simulate a different server than the one chosen here. The behaviour of the modelled server was demonstrated under different cloud workloads, with the resulting temperature and power consumptions being reasonably realistic given the lack of experimental measurements available

We followed an IoS approach to construct this simulation and therefore adding more servers or other elements is easily achieved. Each of the sub-components of the workflow shown in Figure 5 are independent and therefore can be changed to add more detail without affecting other components. Additionally, by combining multiple workflows it is possible to scale this simulation to simulate multiple servers and the cooling systems such as in a much larger data center.

Given the server is represented as a WFaaS we can combine multiple servers together with models of air conditioning units and model the total thermal performance and power consumption of a virtual data center. For this purpose the benefits of our approach are the rapid speed in which different cooling solutions could be tested without physical prototypes. With a more detailed execution model, the macro effects of software behaviours on power consumption and cooling can be investigated, for example the choice of scheduler or the cost of the long tail problem. The modular nature of the simulation due to IoS means that any of these changes are implemented as new services and easily incorporated into the new simulation workflow.

Extending the IoS techniques to their limit will allow the construction of entire virtual systems, from data centers through to cities [20]. This will facilitate a huge opening of research opportunities, studying digital systems at a scale that has never been seen before.

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