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How Green is Your Software?

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STARECAT.COM

Green Software Engineering

Green software engineering is a branch of software engineering focusing on energy aspects of software. Please note that software plays here the role of the process, which one's energy consumption can be expressed through the energy consumption of all hardware parts that are used in any way by the examined process. Therefore, when evaluating software greenness, we always examine the usage load on hardware parts during software execution time.

The role of hardware

Display Networking (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth), radio Processor Memory Disks Battery Sensors

The role of software

Operating system (difference between Windows, Linux, macOS, Android, iOS)
 Working software
 Computer games
 Application systems
 Databases

The role of the user

The user "drives" the software

Needs individual training (unlike HW/SW)

Does (s)he receive it? Where?

Repairing bad configuration is often done by buying a new device...

Green software, green IT

Goals: Save energy by more efficient hardware Save energy by optimised/custom software Save energy by location of hardware To make it really green: Develop new working hardware Develop energy efficient working software Teach users to save energy when using the software Make sure the used energy is also green

SW Energy Label? HW/SW system energy label?

Vehicle Information	
CO ₂ emission figure (g/km)	
≼ 120 A	A 104 g/km
120+ to 140 B	
140+ to 155 C	
155+ to 170 D	
170+ to 190 E	
190+ to 225 F	
225+ G	
Fuel Use (estimated) for 18,000 kilometres A fuel use figure is indicated to the consumer as a guide for comparison purposes. This figure is calculated by using the combined drive cycle (urban and extra urban fuel consumption cycles).	774 litres
Motor Tax for 12 months Motor Tax varies according to the CO ₂ emissions of the vehicle.	€100
Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT) Rate Percentage rate of VRT payable of the value of the vehicle is dependant on the CO ₂ emissions.	14%

Environmental Information

A guide on fuel economy and CO₂ emissions which contains data for all new passenger car models is available at any point of sale free of charge or directly from the Society of the Irish Motor Industry, 5 Upper Pembroke Street, Dublin 2, Tel: 01-6761690, web address: www.simi.e. In addition to the fuel efficiency of a car, driving behaviour as well as other non-technical factors play a role in determining a car's fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions. CO₂ is the main greenhouse gas responsible for global warming.

Make:

Model/Version:

Carbon dioxide emissions (g/km): 104 g/km This figure may be obtained from the vehicle's Certificate of Conformity.

Important note: Some specifications of this make/model may have lower CO₂ emissions than this. Check with your dealer.

Fuel Consumption:			
Drive cycle	Litres/100km		
Urban	5.0	Fuel Type:	Petrol
Extra-urban	4.2	Engine Capacity (cc):	1497
Combined	4.3	Transmission:	Automatic

Image from Wikipedia

Measuring energy consumption

Incl. improvements

System level
Application level
Component level
Code level



More details can be found in Intellectual output 1 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

System level measurement

SW-to-SW/HW solutions (servers, IoT) Uptime/availability prediction Providing a different evaluation perspective

More details can be found in Intellectual output 1 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

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Application level measurement



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Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

Component level measurement

Fig. 5. Comparing (a) no image caching image caching vs (b) image caching concerning energy consumption

Test oracles Comparing different versions The driver of energy (r)evolution

More details can be found in Intellectual output 2 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

Code level measurement

Which version of an algorithm is consuming less energy?

Is it more efficient to store objects in an array than in a list?

How significantly does the length of execution impact on the consumption measured when generating file MD5/SHA-n values?

Scaling up

Usual energy efficiency measurement focuses on software or hardware products. >But, in our case we will measure the development (host) system's energy efficiency using a black-box testing method. We start the measurement before starting the browser and the IDE and we will stop measuring after closing all used tools.

> More details can be found in Intellectual output 2 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

During development it is normal to compile and run an application many times and use other design and testing tools as well, which will have an effect on energy consumption. The goal of our measurements is to point out this energy.

Process level measurement

More details can be found in Intellectual output 2 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

- Total power [W]
- CPU [W]
- Monitor [W]
- Disk [W]
- Base system [W]
- IDE [W]

The energymeasured development game

- I. Setup the environment
- 2. Start the energy monitor
- 3. Develop (think, code, test, fix) for 15 minutes
- 4. Have a 5 minutes break (stop energy usage monitoring, set up the next one, get a coffee)
- 5. Finish (for this time) if there is no further idea
- 6. Repeat (jump to label 2)
- 7. Analyse collected data (energy efficiency of your development process) inside the team

More details can be found in Intellectual output 1 and 2 of the project 2017-1-SK01-KA203-035402: Focusing Education on Composability, Comprehensibility and Correctness of Working Software

GSE

The future of

Research:

Unification of principles
 Standardisation of representation of results

Software energy efficiency (label?)

Industry:

Scaling over the path "single developer -> team -> management (project) -> company maturity"

Academia:

Prepare this future by educating the people

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