An Exa-Op Data Center at <10MW by 2020? Too Many Ops and Not Enough Energy

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How much energy/op for an Exa-Op at 10MW?

What is an "operation"?

- integer operation : embedded computing
- floating point operation : high-performance computing
- server side Java operation (ssj_op) : SPECpower for server apps

$$\frac{10 \text{ MW}}{1 \text{ Exaflop/s}} = \frac{10 \times 10^{\circ} \text{ J/s}}{1 \times 10^{18} \text{ flop/s}} = 10 \text{ pJ/flop}$$

$$\frac{100 \text{ W/socket}}{10 \text{ pJ/flop}} = 10 \text{ Teraflop/s/socket} \qquad \frac{1 \text{ Exaflop/s}}{10 \text{ Teraflop/s/socket}} = 100,000 \text{ sockets}$$

$$\frac{10 \text{ Teraflop/s/socket}}{2 \text{ GHz}} = \frac{10 \times 10^{12} \text{ flop/s}}{2 \times 10^9 \text{ cycle/s}} = 5,000 \text{ FPUs/socket}$$

Assuming 4–16 FMACs/core, this requires 150–625 cores/socket

Energy per Operation Projections for HPC Systems



Is there hope?

Does applying HPC projections to the data center and cloud make sense?

- Argument For: Convergence on commercial off-the-shelf nodes and customized interconnects?
- Argument Against: Data center and cloud workloads look significantly different than HPC workloads?
- An Exaop at 10MW may be possible sometime in the next decade (after 2025?), but it will take rethinking all layers of the "computing stack"

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