TOWARDS GREEN COMPUTING, IMPORTANCE, IMPACT AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS-A REVIEW

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Abstract: Fresh environment is the key to human life, according to Business today report 25 lakh people died only in India till 2015 due to the polluted atmosphere. Major causes of air pollution are burning of fossil fuels, agricultural activities, exhaust from factories and industries, mining operations, and indoor air pollution. Unfortunately, our beloved computer is one of the among. Datacenters discharge massive amount of CO₂ in the air as in datacenters thousands of servers, and other computer components are continuously working 24x7. It occurs to researchers that they must search some new ways to control this problem. That's why green computing is a trending topic today. In this paper, we have discussed the importance of green computing or green cloud computing, the impact of greenhouse gases on nature, also we will suggest some ideas that could be implemented in datacenters.


1. INTRODUCTION

From the past a decade or two cloud computing is the backbone for all the institutions, organizations and government departments, whether big or small. The cloud provides tremendous features and facilities like easy to access, pay and use model, security, scalability, anywhere any time availability and much more. To see the growing demand of cloud computing it was necessary that we make such places where we install high tech computers and unimaginable amount of storage to provide cloud services in much cheaper rates than owning computers and high expenditure, these places known as the Datacenters, with time thousands of datacentres came into existence. When the number of datacentre increased, naturally electrical consumption came into limelight, so heating issue was obvious in datacentres due to the large amount of electricity consumption, ultimately emission of CO₂ lead to the consequences of high electricity consumption. These processes had direct affect on the environment and human body, according to report [1] approximately 4.5 million people are dead all over world in 2016 by cause of air pollution. Now we needed such technologies that protect our environment. These technologies are known as a green cloud computing or green computing. We use green computing technology to reduce the energy consumption and CO2 emission [2]. Green cloud computing is work efficiently and effectively [3]. In recent year internet access have increased, as a result carbon emission also increased, here are some examples: watching videos on YouTube for 10 minutes can emit 1g of CO₂, Google search emits 0.2g of CO₂, and using Gmail account for a year emits 1200g of CO₂. Many companies have already moved on towards green cloud computing, namely: Google, Facebook, SAP, IBM, and Apple etc. Be clear that Google is declared 100% green company in 2017 using renewable resources [4].

Figure 1: World air pollution weight [5].

Figure 2: Energy consumption at different level [6].
II. IMPACT OF GREEN HOUSE GASES ON NATURE

- Electricity usage: Here we take three parameters of online activities: (1) Video Streaming, (2) Internet Surfing, and (3) Generation of Spam. These three activities produce 38 million tons of CO₂ every year, according to an article [7] published in 2014 by Max Smolaks. He predicts the number of datacentres in the world will reach at 8.6 million in 2017, if this prediction is correct still one can’t imagine the amount of electricity consumption and CO₂ emission by 8.6 million datacenter, keeping in mind that all datacentres are running around the clock whole year. A datacentre consumes 6% -12% energy for computing purposes and rest of the energy goes towards maintaining datacentre temperature to keep it cool[8].

- Manufacturing process: the constructions of computing devices are using various types of toxic materials like mercury, lead, and cadmium. It is not problematic unless external harm on device is caused, which can produce harmful gases. These gases are very dangerous for ecosystem[9].

- Fossil Fuel: everyday pollution is increasing and destroying our ecosystem massively. Almost every country is burning fossil fuel such as coal, natural gases, and petroleum. These things produces CO₂ in atmosphere. It is directly affected the environment and human beings. [10].

III. IMPORTANCE AND NEED OF GREEN COMPUTING

As the time passes by, our environment is getting more polluted causing direct effect on our health. One of the major reasons of polluted environment is datacentre, already we have discussed above how datacentres are harmful for the environment and for the human health. Here we will talk about Electronic Waste, because E-Waste also responsible for pollution, so the question is what is E-Waste? All those machineries that are not in use anymore are called E-Waste, for example, our old computers, mobiles, laptops, and other electronic gear. When we crush and throw out our gadgets outside of our houses, it causes leak of some toxic gases and metal into the groundwater and the atmosphere, especially when E-Wastes are warm, they discharge toxic chemicals, these chemicals spare with the air, become the reason of the impairment in the atmosphere. Electronic Waste is growing exceedingly every year. You can get the idea how much E-Waste has destroyed in the US only, according to a report, in the United States about 24 million computers have become antiquated yearly, only 3.3 million computers goes for recycling, approximately more than 20 million computers declare as waste material [12] [13]. Here the biggest question is what will be the consequences of these E-Waste on human health and this environment? That’s why green computing and green technologies are very important to our society, to our nation, to our health and last but not the least to our environment.

Figure 3: Burning fossil fuels [11].

IV. MEASUREMENT OF ELECTRICITY IN A DATA CENTER

The measurement techniques are listed below which help compute the electricity consumption in datacenter, such as: a) Energy Reuse Factor (ERF), b) Power usage Effectiveness (PUE), c) DataCenter infrastructure Efficiency (DCiE), d) Water usage Effectiveness (WUE), e) Carbon usage Effectiveness (CUE), f) DataCenter Productivity (DCP), g) Green Energy coefficient (GEC), h) Thermal Design Power (TDP), i) Compute Power Efficiency (CPE), j) Performance per Watt (PpW) [2].

A. Energy Reuse Factor (ERF)

Energy Reuse Efficiency (ERE) is a reusable form of the energy from a datacenter to Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE). The amount of energy reused from outside of the data center to effect ERE. The ERF must be used to calculate ERE from the site PUE. The ERE and ERF are defined as:[2][15].

\[ ERE = Total\ Energy - Reusable\ Energy \]

\[ ERF = \frac{Energy\ Reused}{Total\ Facility\ Power} \]

\[ ERE = (1- ERF)*PUE \]

B. Power usage Effectiveness (PUE)

Effectiveness (PUE) is a calculation metric, used for measuring the energy efficiency of data center and physical infrastructure such as power and cooling equipment. The PUE described as the ratio of overall...
consumed power from the data center to the total consumed electricity by IT devices. Elaborately as:

\[ PUE = \frac{\text{Total Data center Power}}{\text{IT Devices Power}} \quad (4) \]

When the efficiency of data center PUE lies between 1.3 to 3.0 approximately for all data center, if the measuring of PUE is 1.0 it is measured as excellent.[2][16].

E. Carbon Usage Effectiveness (CUE)

CUE is measured CO2 emission. CUE defined as:

\[ CUE = \frac{\text{Eco2}}{\text{EIT}} \quad (8) \]

Where 
Eco2 = Total CO2 emission from total energy consumed by the data center. 
EIT = Total energy consumed by IT Devices.[2]

F. Data Center Productivity (DCP)

DCP is helping to calculate the valuable amount of a work done by the data center. It is defined as:

\[ DCP = \frac{\text{Valuable Work Done}}{\text{Tresource}} \quad (9) \]

Where 
Tresource = Total resource which was taken to done this valuable work. [2]

G. Green Energy coefficient (GEC)

GEC is a main focus to use renewable energy like wind energy, hydroelectric energy or solar energy. It makes data centers Eco friendly. GEC defined as:[2]

\[ GEC = \frac{\text{Green Power}}{\text{Total Facility Power}} \quad (10) \]

H. Thermal Design Power (TDP)

The Thermal Design Point, is the maximum power consumption by a CPU or GPU in a real-time applications, the maximum power wasted by the device is called as TDP.[2]

I. Compute Power Efficiency (CPE)

The Computing Efficiency (CPE), is used to measure the efficiency during the idle state of devices. The CPE can be formulated as: [2]

\[ CPE = \frac{\text{IT Devices Utilization}}{\text{PUE}} \quad (11) \]

\[ CPE = \frac{\text{IT Devices Utilization} \times \text{IT Devices Power}}{\text{Total Data center Power}} \quad (12) \]

J. Performance per Watt (PpW)

It computes the energy efficiency of an individual and computer hardware or computer architecture. According to Wikipedia” it measures the rate of computation that can be delivered by a computer for every watt of power consumed” [20]. Usually, it is measured in Floating-point operations per second (FLOPS) and Million instructions per second (MIPS).[2]
V. SOME METHOD OF ENERGY SAVING FROM CLOUD COMPUTING

1) Hardware energy saving
   a) The datacentre is a place where different type of computers are kept and placed, every computer needs a multiprocessor and its own memory, these equipment consumed lots of energy, that’s why this issue has been a focal point between researchers from the last few years, they have suggested few ideas to improve the efficiency of energy saving. Computer architecture is helping to describe the performances, grouping, and implementation of computer system effectively such as Power Consumption Ratio (PCR) using the general purpose processor in the main control unit and the dedicated processor are increasing the performance and its help to reduce the energy consumption of the structure. Here, David Andersen, Suggested the FAWN (Fast Array of Wimpy Nodes) concept, this concept helps in low power consumption cluster system structure for large-scale data-intensive applications. It is increases the performance of the system also consumed low energy [21].

   b) Energy Saving by Controlling the Temperature: continuous usage of 24x7 datacentre’s temperature reaches the maximum heat, to overcome this problem we have two ways: (1) The first one is Green Computing, this technique has been designed to reduce the energy consumption and heating issues of the datacentre's hardwares, green technology are also responsible to maintain the cooling system of the datacentre. (2) The other way is Intelligent Temperature Control (ITC), heating increases because of Temperature Shock, the role of ITC is to reduce this problem intelligently using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques. Researchers found some sufficient methods, for instance. They are recommending SSDs instead of HDDs for storage solution. Rack Server Systems instead of Blade Server System, because BSS generates more heat, and it is costlier than RSS [22]. IBM's "Electron Spin" storage technology, APC "Thermal Channel Sealing System", and many others. To achieve desired results, we should install the Thermal Sensor around the hardwares for real time observation and Intelligent Dynamic Cooling System that will observe the current hardware state and work accordingly[21].

2) Software energy saving
   a) Using compiling technology for energy saving: Compiler optimization is the most critical method of compiler design, mainly in high-performance compiler design. Nowadays people are using an advanced compiler optimization technique, this technique helps to improve the performance of the compiler and overcome the energy consumption, research is not focused only on optimization of the application capacity, it can also measure the behavior of application program to overcome system or processor operation energy consumption. Zhao Rongcai put forward a model and method, it gives a hand to overcome the execution frequency to cut down the power consumption in multithreading system design [21].

   b) Energy saving method for application software power: The improvement work of software system power executed in the source program structure level, already cycle structure optimization technique are related to this field, that has been executed in the compiler and achieved the best power optimization effect using some already existing algorithms, like improving data structure, compression data storage space, decrease the repeated calculation and algorithm redundancy, the greedy method, etc., if measure the power optimization algorithm level, it can overcome the space complexity and time complexity of the algorithm for software power consumption[21].

   c) Energy saving method of system software involves three facts:

      2.c.1 Dynamic energy consumption management of operating system: Dynamic energy consumption management implies that the operating system regulates system unit power consumption dynamically according to system operation state, which might offer full play to the energy-saving features of the low-power hardware. Analysis of this space includes memory allocation strategy, supported energy consumption perception, dynamic adjustment mechanism, and supported load perception model of memory chip energy consumption.

      2.c.2 Energy-efficient scheduling between nuclear: Energy-efficient scheduling between nuclear suggests energy saving scheduling strategy in the polynuclear system. Wang Jing analyzed thread scheduling strategy and resource classification mechanism for reducing resource rivalry and mentioned the possible future research direction of development.

      2.c.3 Equipment resources management: this is a management technique for dynamic resource division and the combination of variable size, will optimum the environment for every individual computing task[21]

3) Energy Saving method of Virtual Machine Manager:
   Energy saving methods of a virtual machine manager involve the following conditions, energy consumption management interface support, energy consumption management framework, desktop-class virtual machine energy saving, and much more. Stoess, proposed a framework for energy management in virtualized servers, and its help to provide resources statistics and allocation mechanism of the division of energy consumption and energy consumption perception. In a collaborative model of energy management and task scheduling strategy among the operating systems, virtual machine manager and upper-level application of hardware can be studied for green energy saving strategy of the cloud computing platform. Ye Kejiang, introduces four conditions: the energy consumption measurement, energy consumption modeling, energy consumption management and realization mechanism, energy consumption management optimization algorithm, to virtualize cloud computing platform for energy consumption management. Here also using put the forward energy consumption model of two key technologies [21].

4) Energy saving method of Network environment:
   Cloud computing is a branch of networking and completely rely on the Internet, if we implement energy preserving approaches on the network surrounding it can show us the enormous outcome in a positive manner. Currently green agent with the help of dormancy mechanism is a common energy utilization and consumption technique. This combination
works by modifying and adjusting the network topological structure. Many algorithm and protocol of the network does not fulfill the energy saving requirement, on the contrary these algorithms consume more energy, for example: Retransmission mechanism in Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), CSMA/CD and CSMA/CA in a wireless network, etc. This technique can also be used in thermal sensor network of processor, it helps to avoid unnecessary energy consumption.[21].

VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

Our main motto is to abridge the pollution from the earth, there are many reasons of the polluted environment as we have discussed above, being a computer science student it is our responsibility to defend our field, and we want our least hand to be environmentally polluted. We have explained different types of techniques that can be implemented in data centres, also we have reviewed about the importance of green computing and the impact of greenhouse gases on nature. This paper is a very small effort towards green and neat atmosphere. In future we shall use artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms in datacenters to obtain more excellent results, as Google recently started using AI techniques.

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