

**The DIN/ISO definition  
and  
a measurement procedure  
of  
software efficiency**

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What is SW-“Perf“ ?

Comp-Perf-  
Measurement

# 1. Standards & Research

- National and international Standards:  
For instance screws, measures,...
- Work of a standardisation committee (typical):
  - x) Look for existing solutions
  - x) Decide which is the most fitting one
  - x) Propose it for Standard
- Interest of „research and development“ in standards ???

>>>>> Normally very few <<<<<<

What's about DIN66273/ ISO 14756 ?

-DIN started a (national) standardization project:  
Measurement and rating of computer performance

-Many computer manufacturers and users  
were interested

-Working group: among others:

Mainframe: IBM, Siemens, Comparex,  
Unisys, ....

Mid size: HP, Nixdorf, DEC, ...

Universities: Kassel, Neubiberg, Tübingen

Users : German Telekom, .....

>>>>>>>>> (up to 30 Persons) <<<<<<<<



- Decision: No attempt to declare an existing method for a standard but develop a complete new method
  
- Goals: x) enduser oriented,  
x) fitting for
  - all IP systems
  - all computer architectures/structures,
  - systems of any size

## Result: 2 revolutionary standards

DIN series 66273 (1991 ff.)  
Performance Measurement

ISO/IEC 14756 (1999)  
ISO took over the 66273

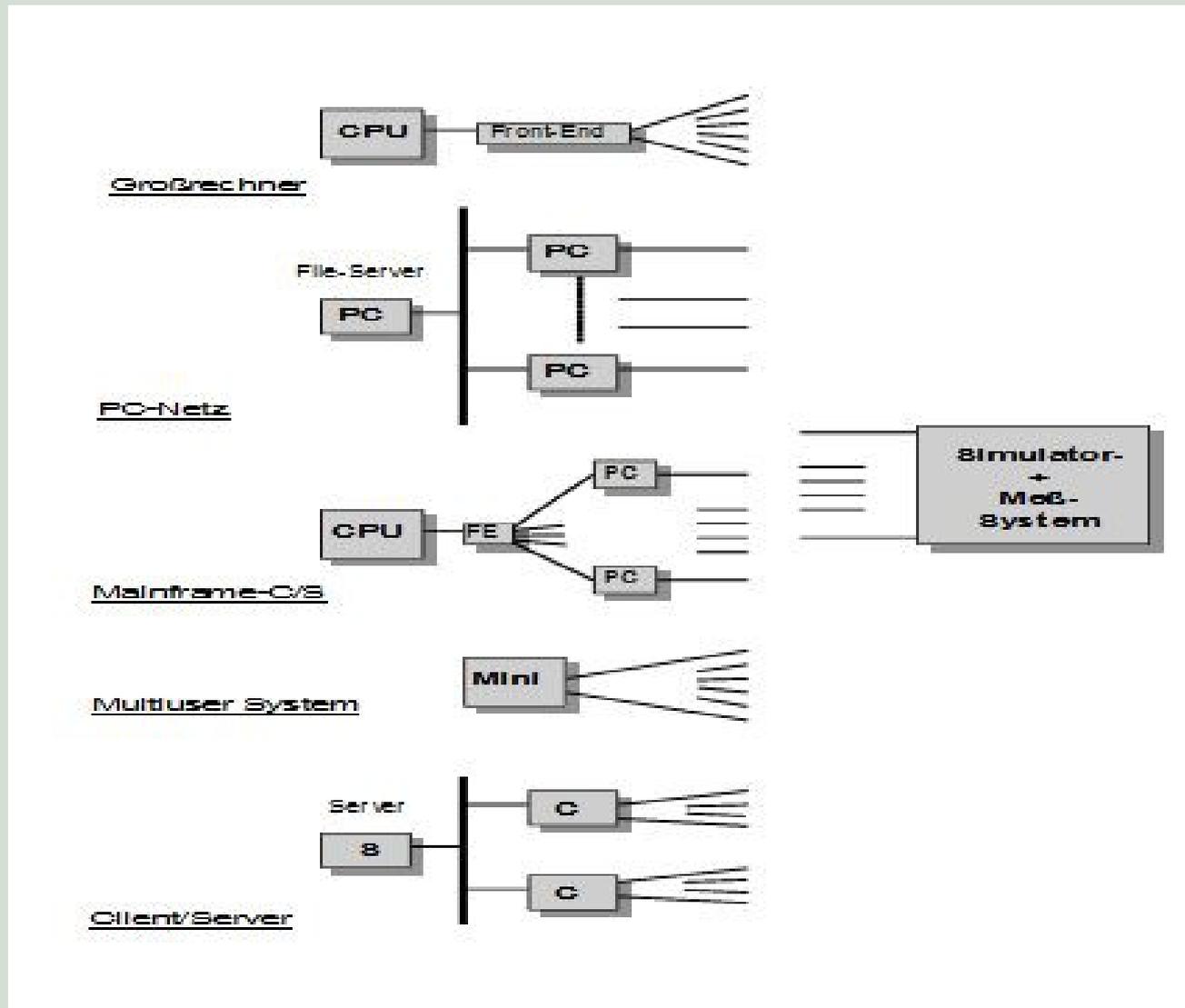
- replace the oldfashioned definitions and measurement methods.
- The new measurement method is a new basis for what colloquially is called Software Performance
- ISO added this topic and called it „SW efficiency“

## 2. Special qualities of the ISO 14756 method

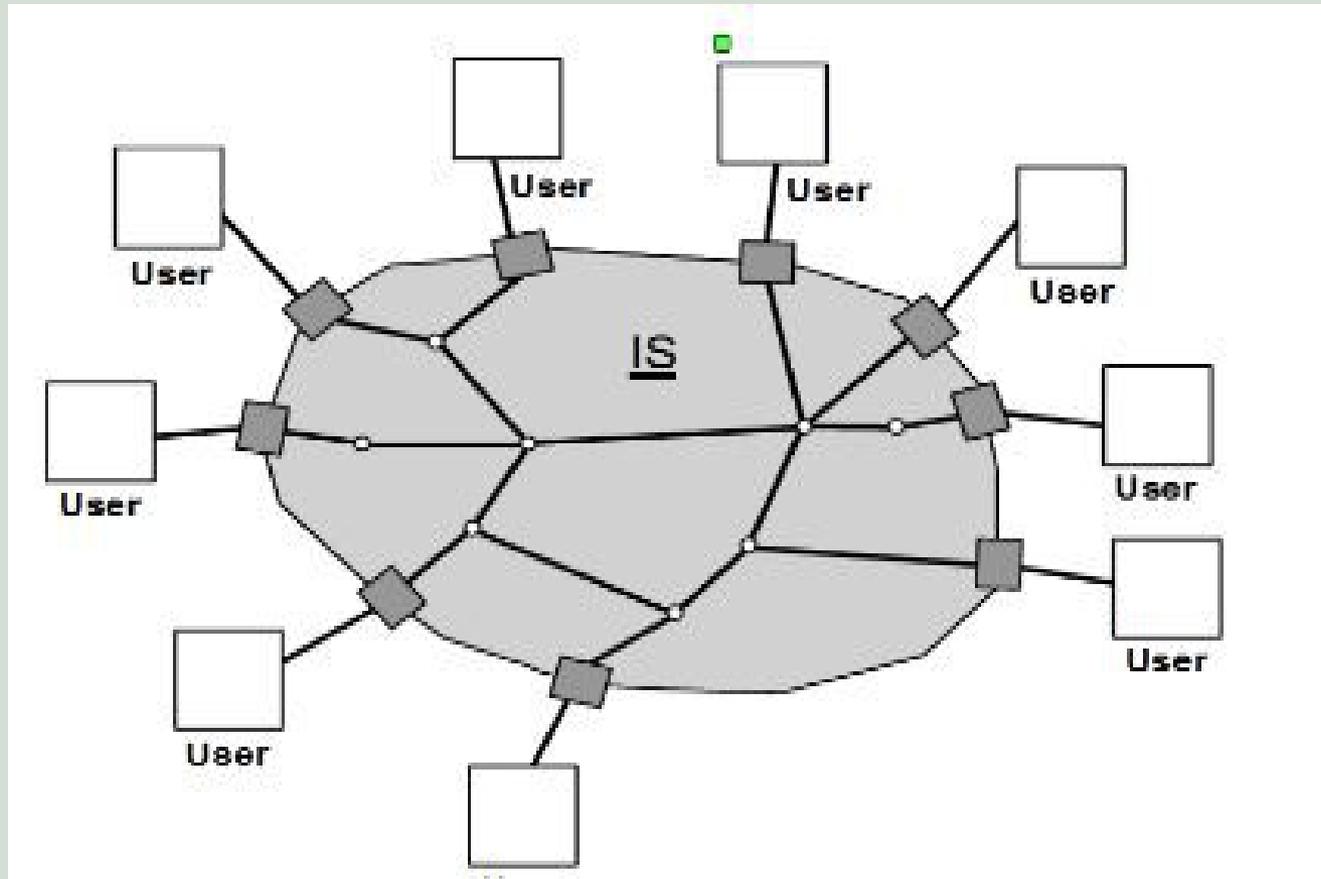
- Arbitrary system for a SUT
- Independence of RTE's manufacturer
- Control of correct work
- Nearly every benchmark can be represented in ISO form
- Also component tests can be rewritten in ISO form
- Emulated users can be human beings or machines
- Forgery proof by random task stream  
(microscopic: random, macroscopic: deterministic)
- Reproducibility of measurement results
- Applicable also to simulated SW
- High precision of measurement results

### 3. The ISO measurement method

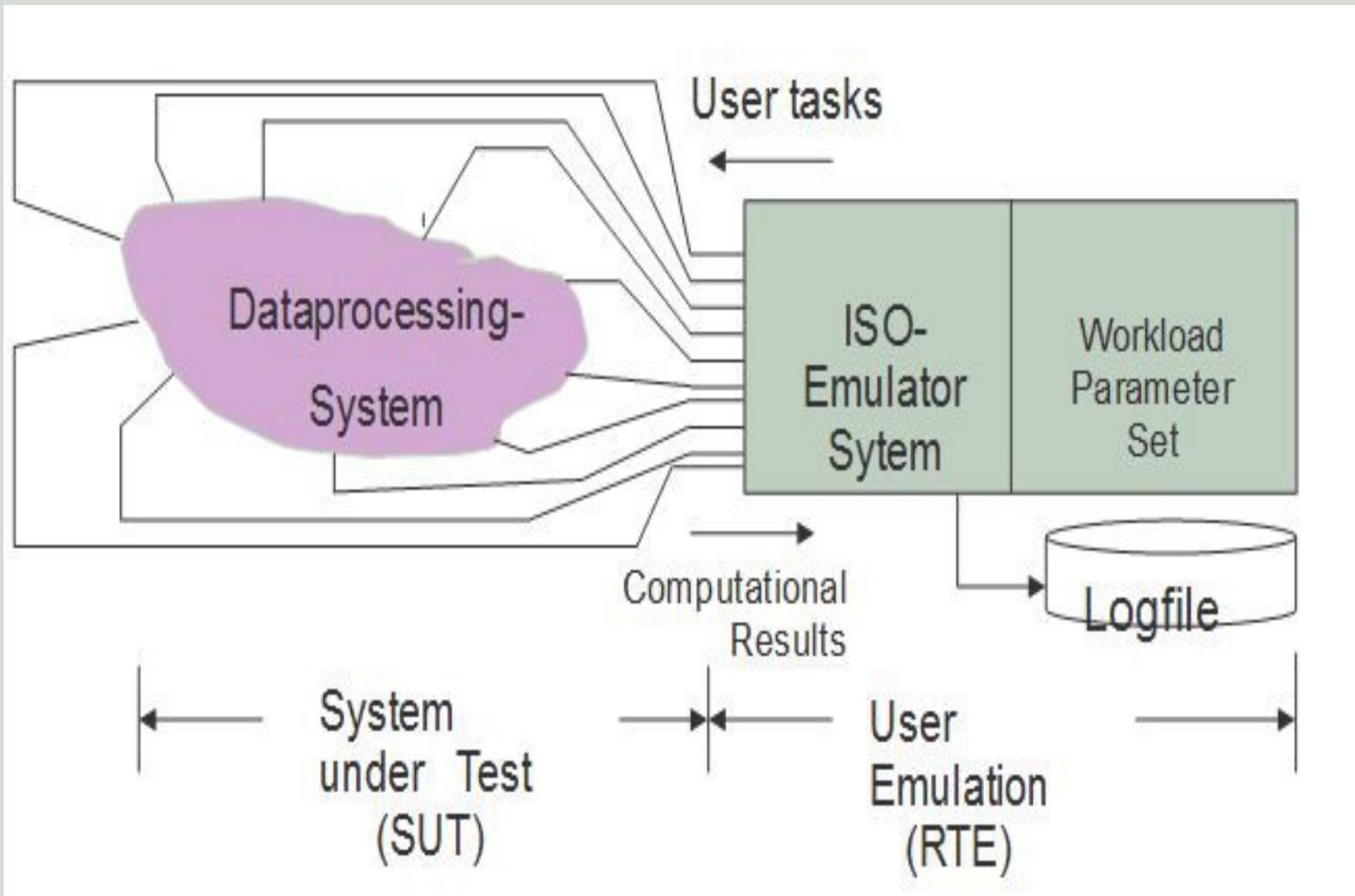
Any type of DP System :



## A SUT in real operation



# ISO measurement: RTE replaces the users



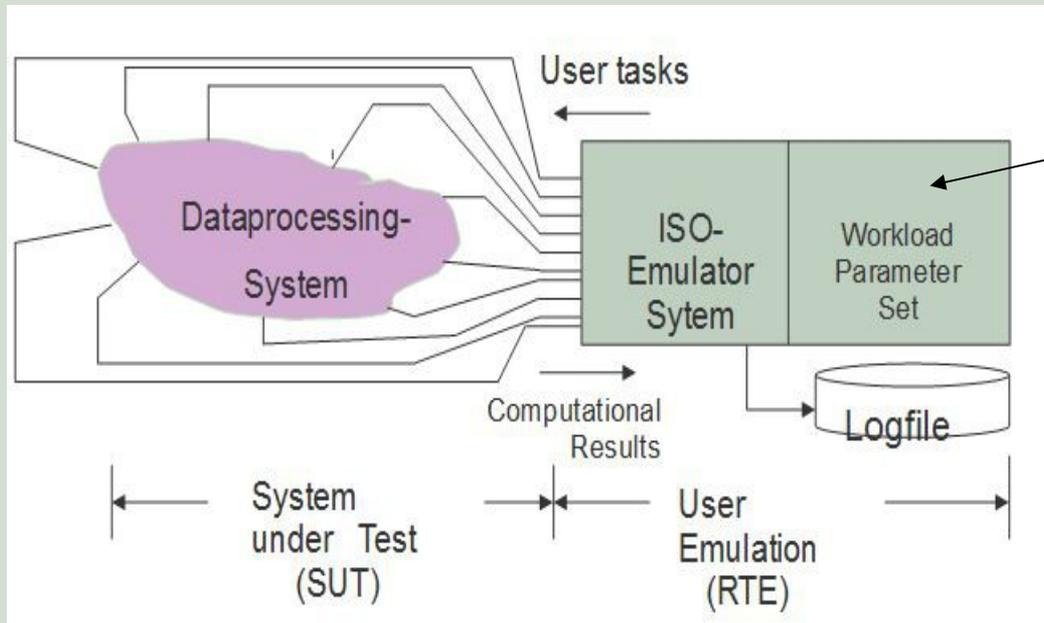
The ISO workload:

1. Application programs
2. OS command procedures
3. User data stored in the SUT
4. All computational results
5. Parameters for controlling
  - a) correct work of the RTE
  - b) correct work of the SUT
  - c) statistical significance of measurement results

- and -

6. - last not least – the WPS

# Measurement configuration



WPS

Workload  
Parameter  
Set

RTE replaces  
the real users.

- RTE table driven by the WPS (workload parameter set)

### 1. Basic parameters:

Number  $n$  of user types

Number of users of each type  $N_{\text{user}}(1), \dots, N_{\text{user}}(n)$

Number  $w$  of activity types

Number  $p$  of timeliness functions

Number  $m$  of task types

Number  $u$  of task chain types

### 2. Definitions of the $w$ activity types (i.e. the elementary end user actions)

each described by :

Input string or mouse pointer action, rules for input variation if there is so.

### 3. Definitions of the $m$ task types, each defined by a triple: (Activity type + WAITmode + TF)

- wait mode WAIT/NOWAIT for the  
result of the actual task and

- Timeliness function:  
Enduser's requirements for completing the task

- Example

- At least 80% within 2 sec
  - Maximal 15% within 6 sec
  - maximal 5% within 15 sec
  - none longer than 15 sec
  - A upper limit is mandatory

## 4. Task chains

- a) Definitions of the  $u$  task chain types:  
Chain length (number of tasks) and task type sequence
- b) Definition of each of the user types by the  $n \times u$  matrix of relative chain frequencies  $q(i,l)$  where  $i$  is the current number of the user type and  $l$  is the current number of the Chain type.

## 5. Statistic parameters of the (random to be created) think times

of the users

Firstly: matrix of  $n \times m$  think time mean values

(Remark: Think time is task preparation time. )

Secondly: matrix of  $n \times m$  think time standard deviation values

## 6. Criteria of statistical significance of the measurement result

- a) ALPHA (confidence coefficient)
- b)  $D_{rel}$  (half width confidence interval)

# Surprising:

Assume a SUT which executes all tasks so fast that all timeliness functions are just fulfilled and none faster:

Throughput  $B(j)$  and Mean responsetimes  $T_M(j)$

$j=1, 2, \dots, m$

computed directly from WPS without any measurement:

$B_{\text{Ref}}(j)$

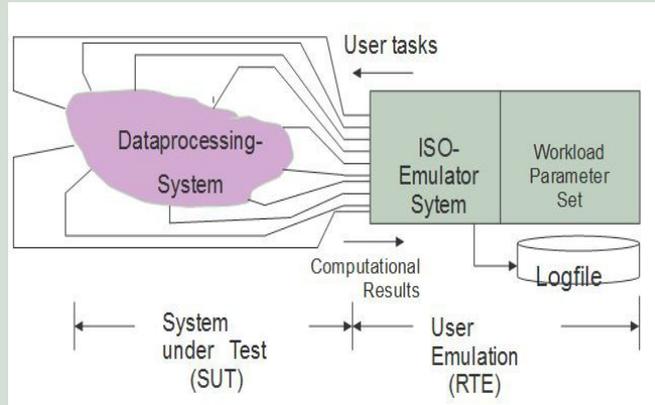
throughput reference value(s)

$T_{\text{Ref}}(j)$

response time reference value(s)

- This is the so-called theoretical reference machine

# Measurement



## Steps:

- Install applications in the SUT
- Load workload parameter set (WPS) into RTE
- Run and record logfile. 3 Phases:
  - Stabilisation phase -- Rating interval -- Supplementary run
- Store computational results
- Checking correctness
  - (RTE: correct work and statistical significance of random variables;  
SUT: correct and complete computational results)
- Testing statistical significance of the results
- Analysis of recorded data and computation of performance values and rating values

## 4. Results of a measurement

### 4.1) Measured performance values

P is a triple of vectors

$$P = ( B, T_{ME}, E )$$

3 x m values

### 4.2) Ratings

Compare measured values to those of the “theoretical reference machine”:

R is a triple of vectors:

$$R = ( R_{TH}, R_{ME}, R_{TI} )$$

3 x m values

m is the number of task types

Only if all of the 3 x m rating values are not less 1 the SUT satisfies the timeliness requirements of the user entity.

## 4.1.(cont.) Formulae

### Performance **P** computed from the recorded logfile

P triple of vectors:

$$P = ( B, T_{ME}, E )$$

(total) throughput vector  $B = (B(1), \dots, B(m))$  .

$B(j)$  is the mean number of tasks of the  $j$ -th task type sent from the RTE to the SUT per time unit.

execution time vector  $T_{ME} = (T_{ME}(1), \dots, T_{ME}(m))$  .

$T_{ME}(j)$  is the mean execution time of tasks of the  $j$ -th task type.

timely throughput vector.  $E = (E(1), \dots, E(m))$

$E(j)$  is the mean number of tasks of the  $j$ -th task type which were timely executed by the SUT per time unit.

## 4.2 (cont.) Rating of the measured performance

Compare measured values to those of the “theoretical reference machine”:

$B(j)$  to  $B_{\text{Ref}}(j)$  throughput mean values

$T_M(j)$  to  $T_{\text{Ref}}(j)$  mean response times

$E(j)$  to  $B(j)$  timeliness

$j = 1, 2, \dots, m$

# Formulea (rating values)

Throughput rating vector

$$R_{TH} = (R_{TH}(1), \dots, R_{TH}(m))$$

with

$$R_{TH}(j) = B(j) / B_{Ref}(j)$$

$B_{Ref}(j)$  is the throughput of the j-th task type of the so called theoretical reference machine.

Execution time rating vector

$$R_{ME} = (R_{ME}(1), \dots, R_{ME}(m))$$

with

$$R_{ME}(j) = T_{Ref}(j) / T_{ME}(j)$$

$T_{Ref}(j)$  is the mean execution time of tasks of the j-th task type of the so called theoretical reference machine.

Timely throughput rating

$$R_{TI} = (R_{TI}(1), \dots, R_{TI}(m))$$

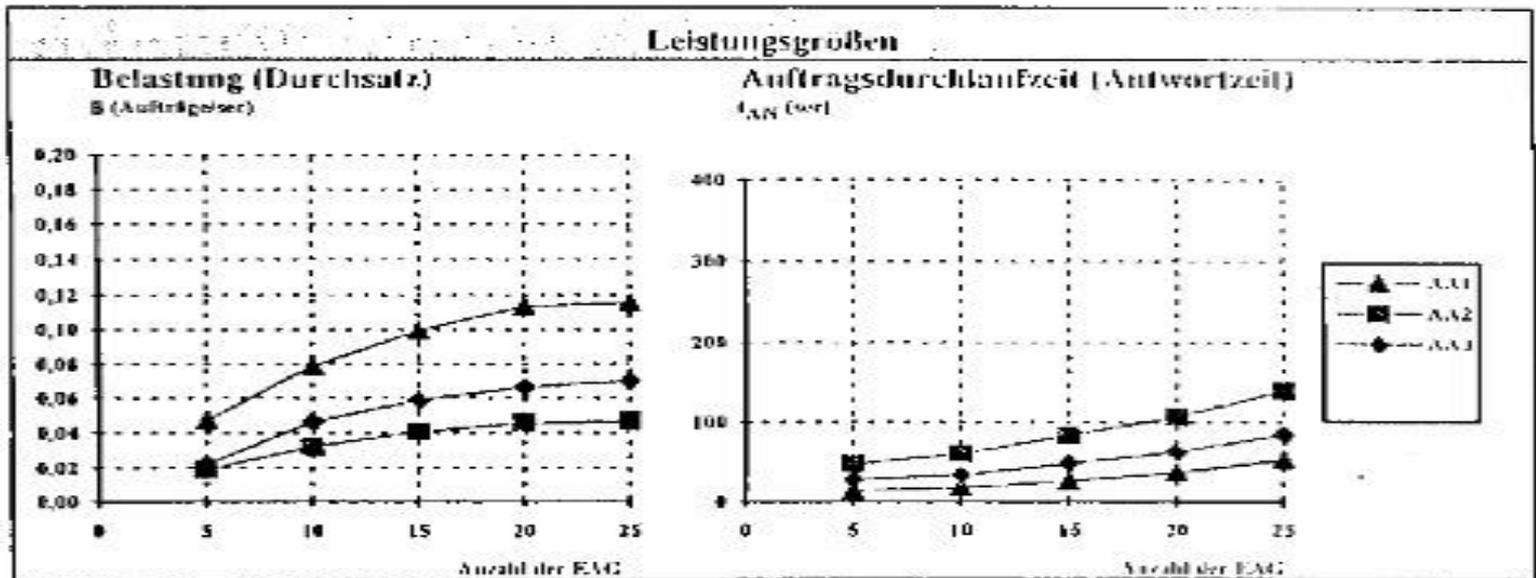
is the timely throughput rating vector

with

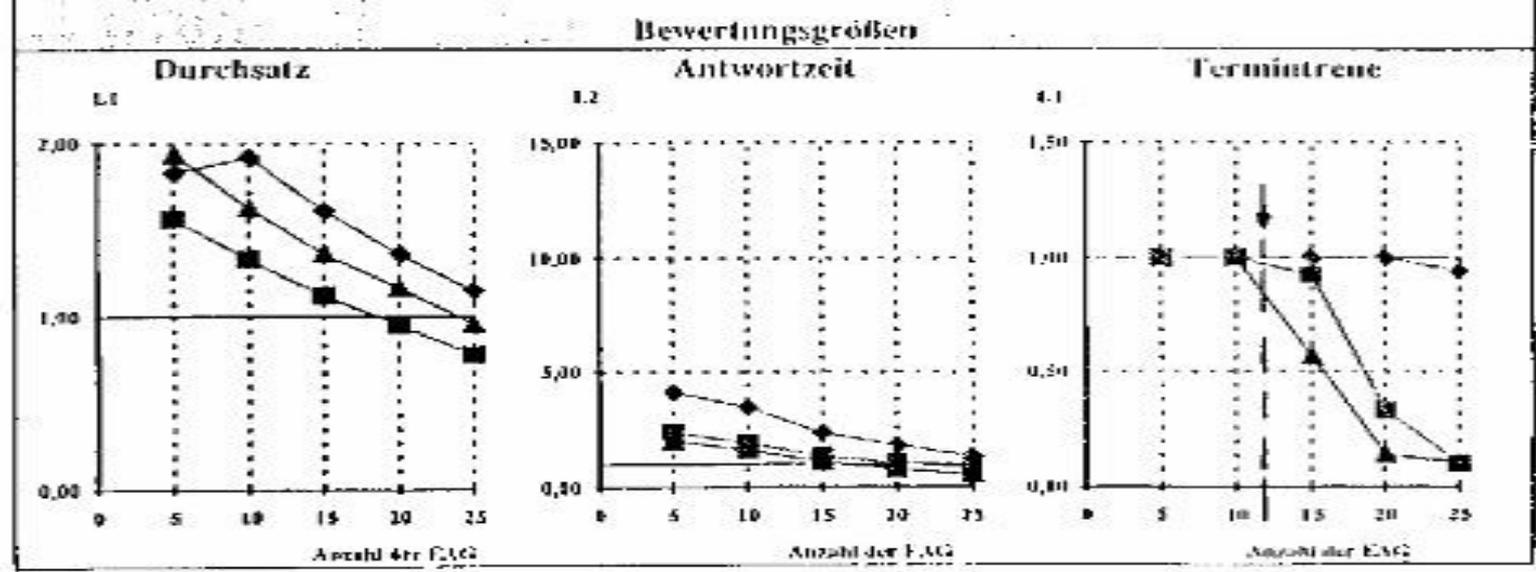
$$R_{TI}(j) = E(j) / B(j)$$

Example 0.A ISO measurement and rating of a mainframe (measurement series, 5 to 25 users)

Per-  
For-  
mance



Rating



Only if all of the 3 x m rating values are not less 1  
the SUT satisfies the timeliness requirements of the user entity.

Elsewhere the system has to be rejected due to insufficient response times.

## 5. SW performance ? (Finding a term)

SW qualities: storage usage,  
Changeability,  
maintainability,...  
- and -  
runtime qualities

SW has not a property „speed“ or „performance“

SW consists of sequences of (machine- or HLL-) instructions  
to be performed by a CPU.

Fast CPU >> short time for a user task | Slow CPU >> Long time

Finding a term describing „performance of SW:

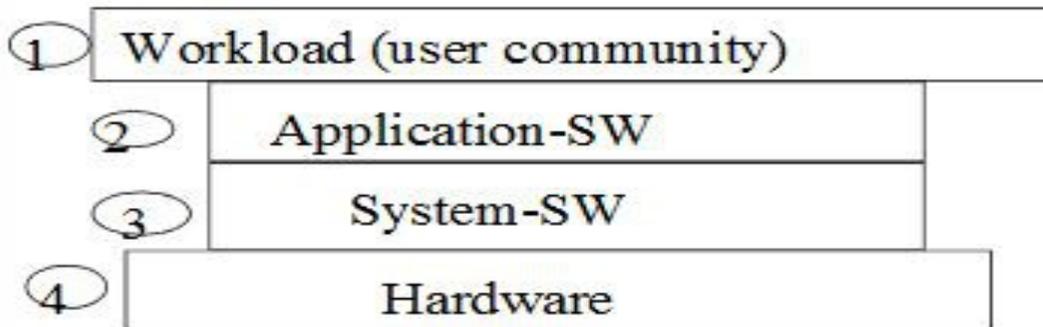
- Take two Implementations.
- Install in the same Reference Environment
- Measure performance P1, P2

Compare P1 to P2 >>> SW efficiency

## SW Reference Environment

for Appl-SW-Efficiency :  $1 + 3 + 4$

for System-SW-Efficiency:  $1 + 2 + 4$



4.2.1):

## Throughput efficiency values

$$I_{TH}(x) = B_2(x) / B_1(x) \quad x = \text{current number of task type}$$

Values in example 0.A (below):

x=1

(for n=10 users)

$$0.130 / 0.080 = 1.63$$

(for n=15 users)

$$0.125 / 0.100 = 1.25$$

x= 2

(for n=10 users)

$$0.058 / 0.035 = 1,66$$

(for n=15 users)

$$0.080 / 0.410 = 1.95$$

x = 3

(for n=10 users)

$$0.058 / 0.450 = 1,29$$

(for n=15 users)

$$0.081 / 0.060 = 1,35$$

## 4.2.2)

Mean execution time efficiency values

Values in on example 0.A (below):

x=1

$$I_{ME}(x) = T_{ME^1}(x) / T_{ME^2}(x) \quad x = \text{current number of task type}$$

(for n= 10 users)

$$14.5 / 2.10 = 6.90$$

(for n=15 users)

$$20 / 4.5 = 4.44$$

x=2

(for n= 10 users)

$$61.0 / 21.9 = 2.78$$

(for n=15 users)

$$80 / 20.5 = 3.90$$

x=3

(for n= 10 users)

$$39.0 / 13.5 = 2.89$$

(for n=15 users)

$$50 / 26 = 1.87$$

### 4.2.3)

## Timely throughput efficiency values

Values in on example 0.A (below):

$$I_{TI}(x) = E2(1) / E1(x) \quad x = \text{current number of task type}$$

$x = 1$

(for  $n = 10$  users)

$$0.130 / 0.080 = 1.51$$

(for  $n = 15$  users)

$$0.125 / 0.060 = 2.08$$

$x = 2$

(for  $n = 10$  users)

$$0.058 / 0.035 = 1.66$$

(for  $n = 15$  users)

$$0.080 / 0.038 = 2.34$$

$x = 3$

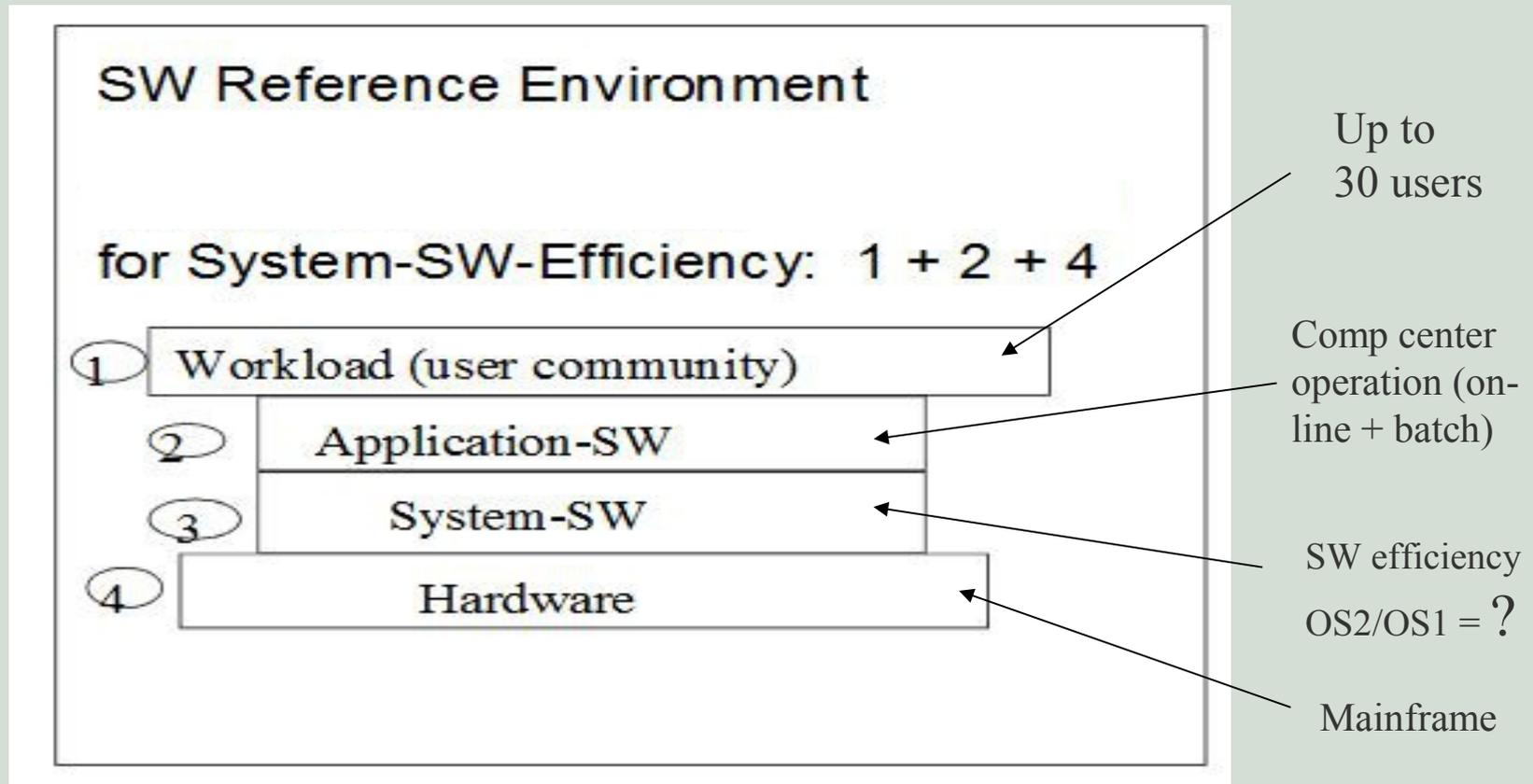
(for  $n = 10$  users)

$$0.058 / 0.045 = 1.23$$

(for  $n = 15$  users)

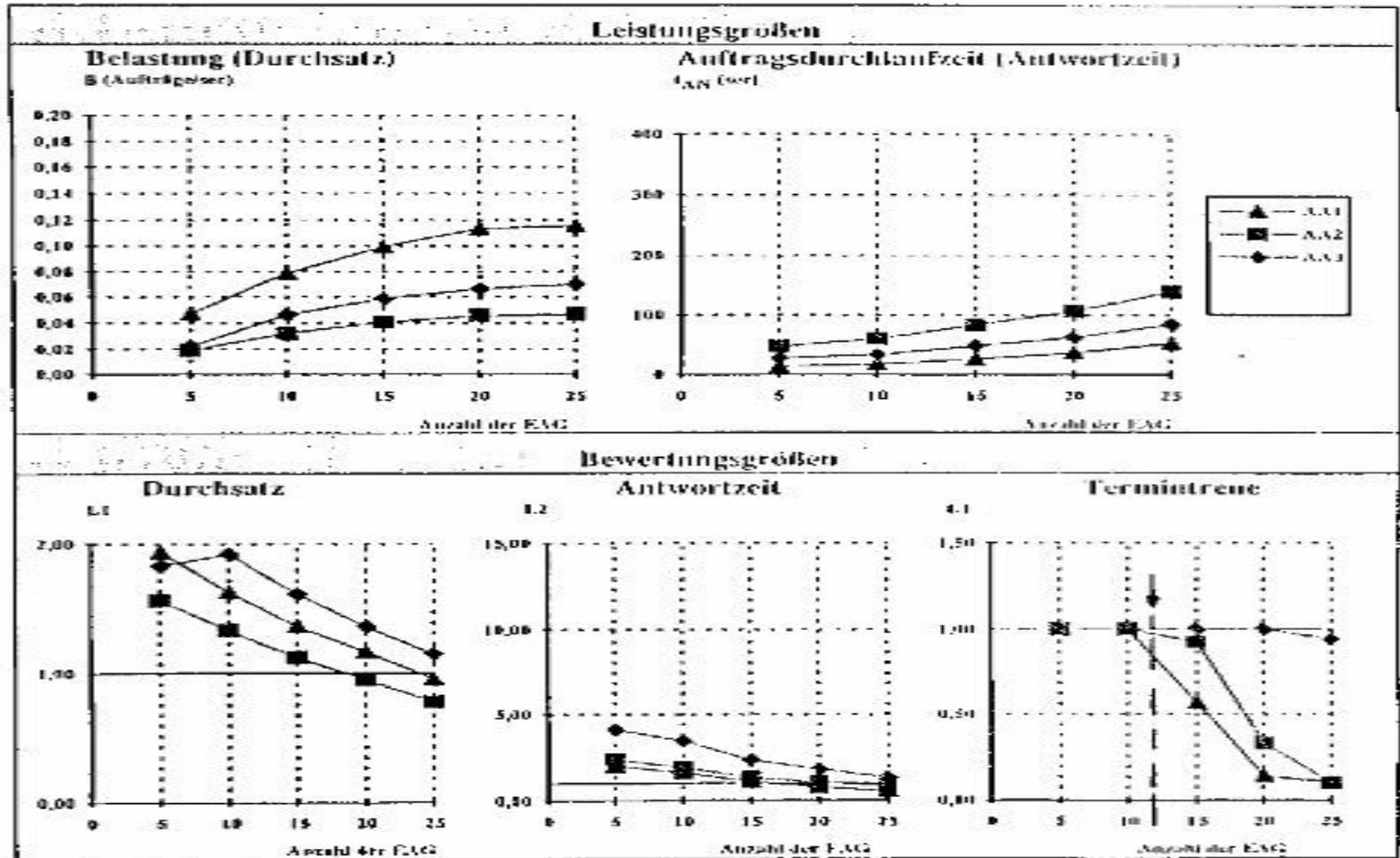
$$0.080 / 0.060 = 1.43$$

# 6. SW efficiency Example 1: System-SW efficiency in computer center operation

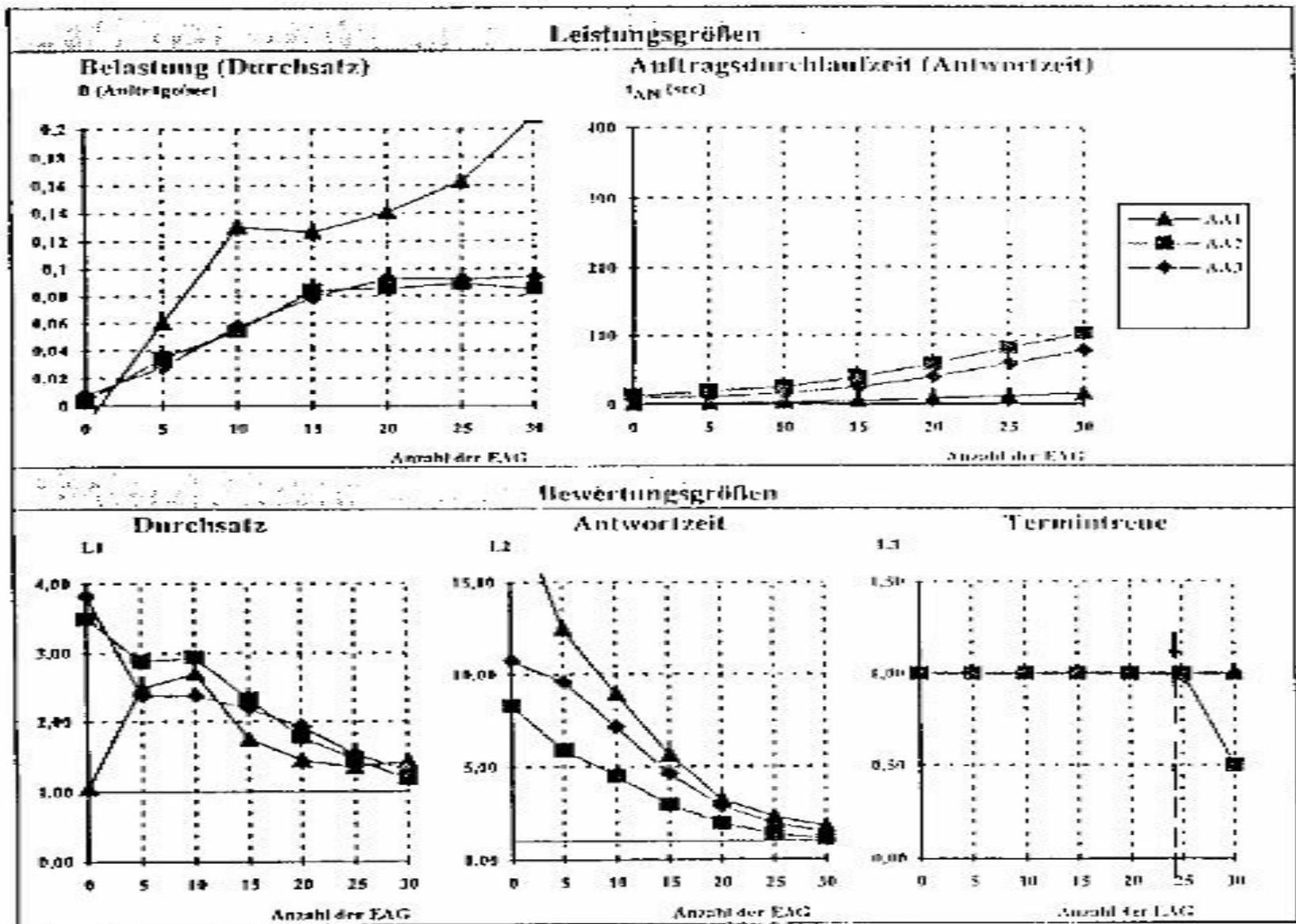


# 6. SW efficiency Example 1

## a) Mainframe using OS1



b) The same mainframe but using OS 2



## Summary:

a)  $n = 10$  users

Throughput oriented efficiency values: around 1.5

Response time oriented efficiency values: nearly at 3.0

b)  $n = 15$  users

Throughput oriented efficiency values: around 2.0

Response time oriented efficiency values: nearly at 4.0

## Remarks:

a) Those values show that  $n=10$  and  $n=15$  are different SW environments. Having a greater number of users the difference in SW efficiency of OS2 to OS1 increases.

b) But be aware that the difference in case of 15 users is meaningless. The reason: OS1 does not serve 15 users timely. The maximum number of timely served users is 12.

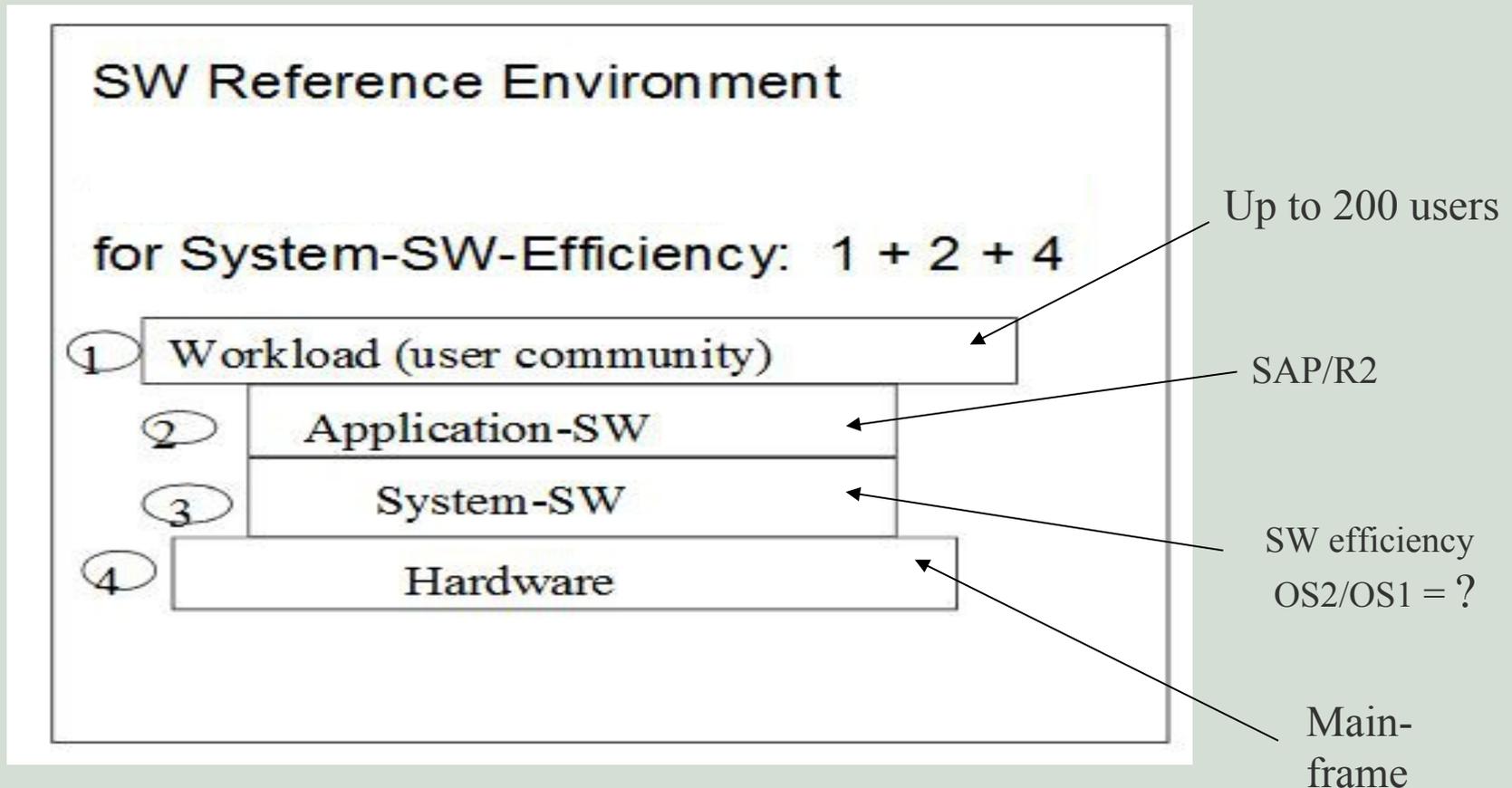
c) Additional software efficiency measure:

$$I_{\max} = N_2 / N_1 = 24 / 12 = 2 .$$

Final result :Using OS 2 instead of OS1 the computer system serves (about) 100% more users timely

I. e. 100% more SW efficiency in this environment

# 7. SW efficiency Example 2: System-SW efficiency in OLTP operation



## Example 2

The hardware and operating systems are the same as in example 1.

But the application software is SAP/R2 instead of the software contained in the (modified) ISO workload CC1 of example 1.

Used were 4 parts of the SAP software:

RF (Finances)	: 40% of the users
RM-MAT (Materials management)	: 30% of the users
RM-PPS (Production)	: 10% of the users
RV (Sales)	: 20% of the users

An ISO type workload was developed. The workload parameter set (shortened):

4 user types

110 activity types

110 task types

21 chain types

3 timeliness functions (mean values 3, 6 and 36 seconds)

Measurement results:

a)  $n = 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30$  users

Throughput oriented efficiency values: .....

Response time oriented efficiency values: .....

b) Additional software efficiency measure:

Measured  $N_{\max}$  values:

Operating system 1:  $N_{\max 1} = 110$

Operating system 2:  $N_{\max 2} = 170$

$$I_{\max} = N_{\max 2} / N_{\max 1} \quad 170 / 110 = 1.55$$

Final result :Using OS 2 instead of OS1 the computer system serves (about) 55% more users timely

I. e.: OS2 has 55% more SW efficiency in this environment

## 8. ISO 14756 and simulated SW

- Applicable also to simulated SW
- Recommendation: Use ISO 14756 from first steps to end of project (from birth to death)
- ISO workload specification is a template for the SW environment
  - >>> high SW efficiency
  - >>> saving man power
  - >>> useful for all phases of a SW project and for all members

## 9. Final remarks

- ISO 14756: Universal method
  - High precision
  - Results reproducible
- Method complex. Time is needed for understanding  
Example: Understanding backfeed „thinktimes – throughput“;  
users often „lacy“;
- ISO-RTE were implemented (by Comp-Cs, Manufactureres,....)  
(Demo in Ref [4] Professional Implementation in Ref [5] Proceedings)
- The ISO-workload description is a template for  
„Environment when measuring SW efficiency“

This was a look into the method for

Performance measurement  
and  
SW efficiency measurement

as described in the international ISO standard  
14756 and its predecessor the national German  
standard 66273

>>> If you were not familiar with it:  
Here was a short introduction

>>> If you know it but don't use it:  
Here I showed advantages

>>> In case of already using it:  
I hope I could give you some  
additional ideas

Thank you  
for listening