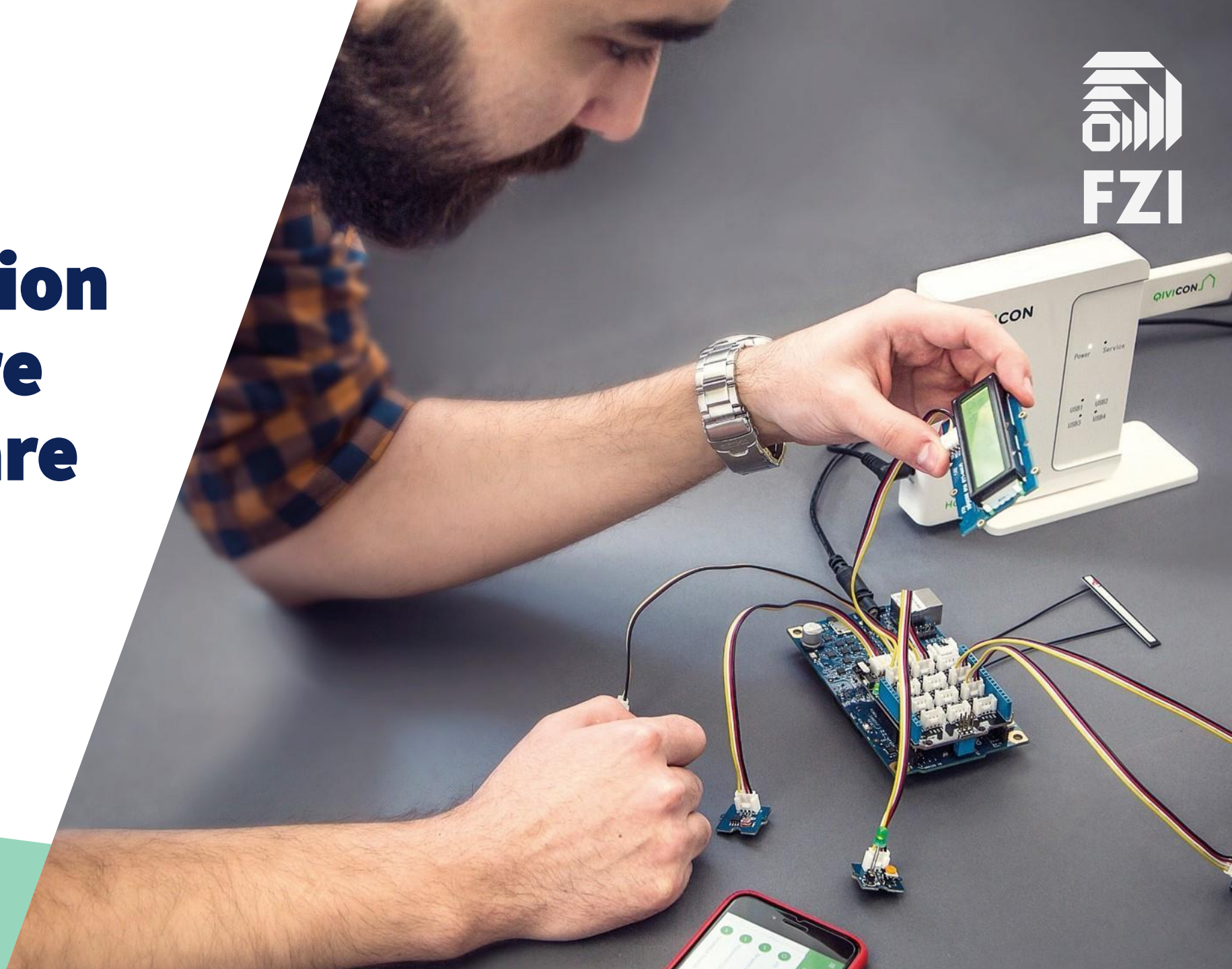


FZI Research Center for
Information Technology

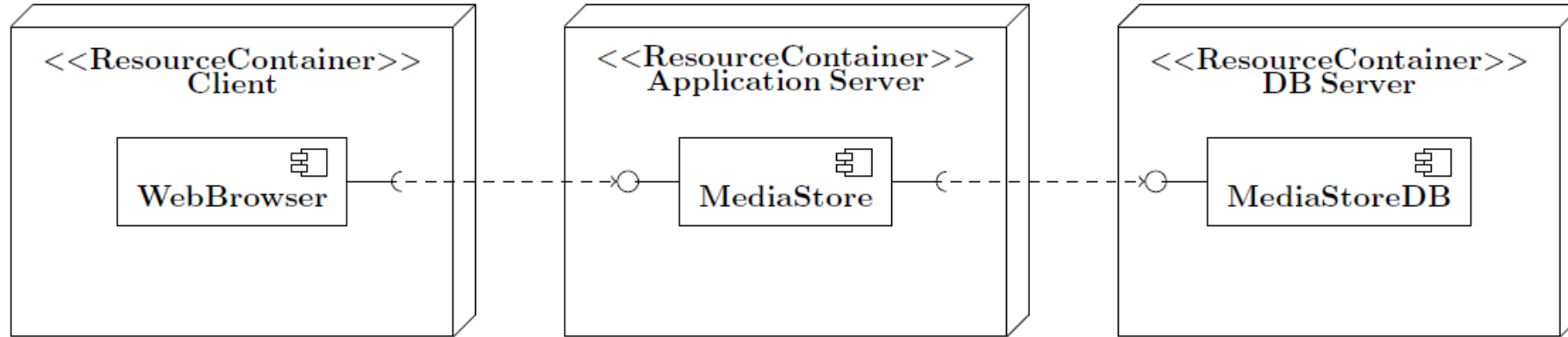
Co-Simulation of Hardware and Software in Palladio

Sebastian Weber (FZI),
Jörg Henß (FZI),
Ralf Reussner (KIT)



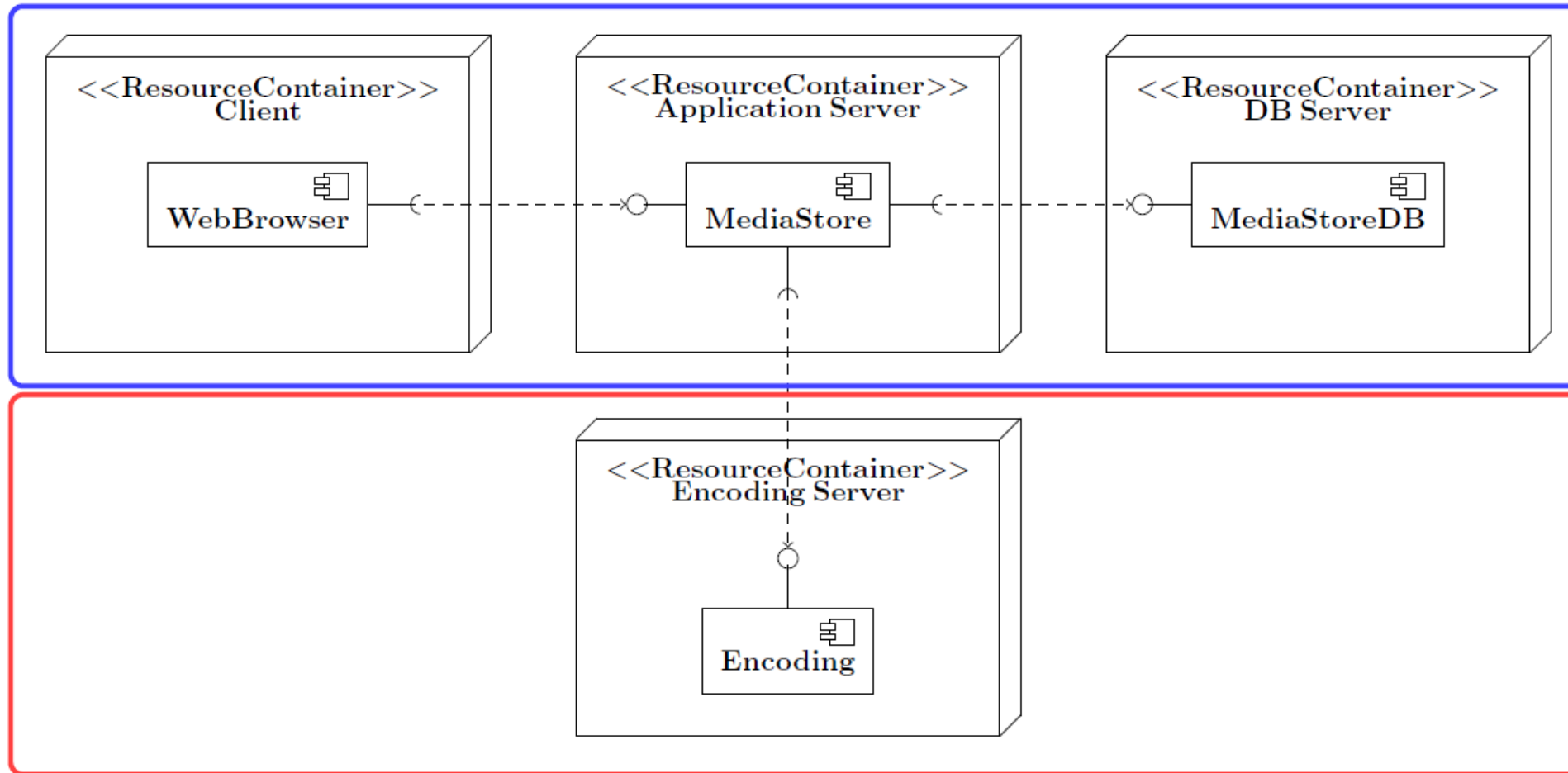
Motivation: How to parameterize a PCM?

Starting point: modeling system and estimating resource demands



Motivation: How to parameterize a PCM?

COTS: accurate measurements instead of estimations



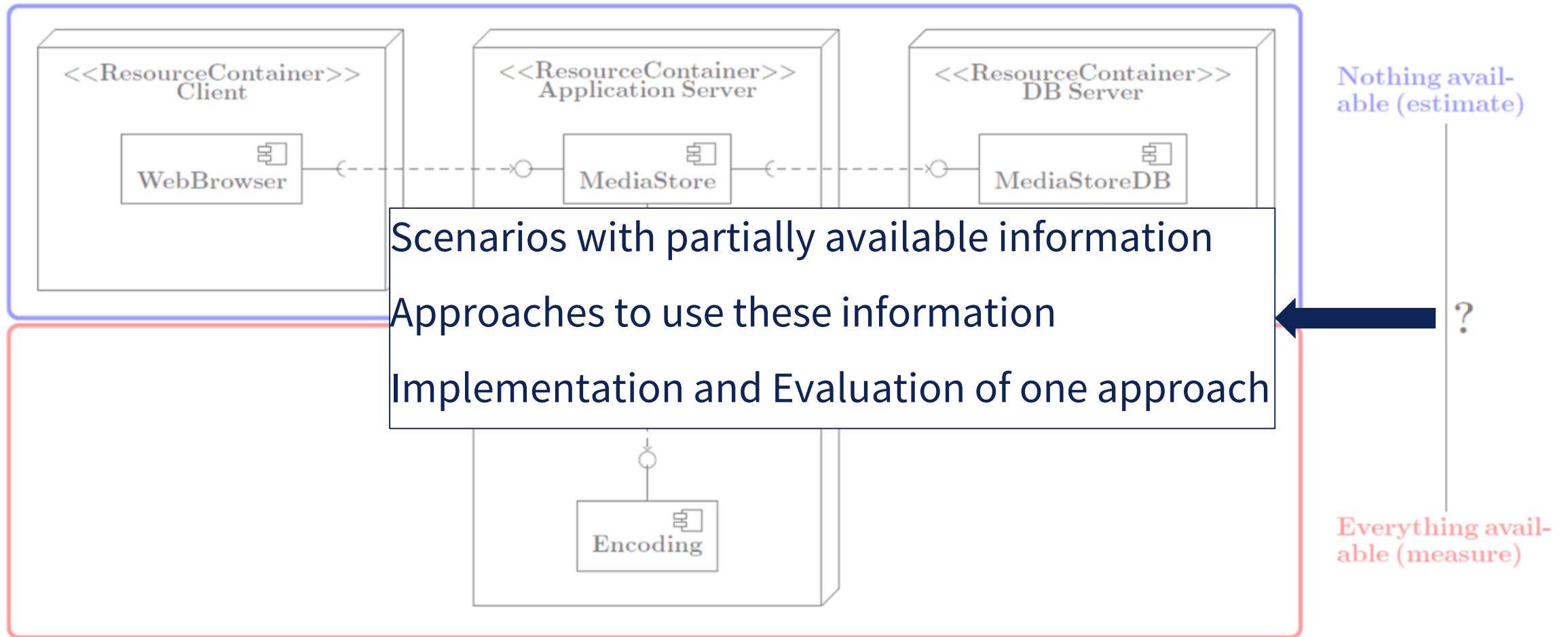
Nothing avail-
able (estimate)

?

Everything avail-
able (measure)

Motivation: How to parameterize a PCM?

COTS: accurate measurements instead of estimations



— Scenarios and Approaches

01

- Hardware
- Software

Hardware

Not (yet) available

- Hardware not available to conduct measurements
- Hardware specification already available

Demand Evaluation

- Use hardware simulation to evaluate demands
- Co-Simulation to embed hardware simulation based resource demand evaluation in Palladio

Hardware resource usage

- Hardware simulation as resource usage evaluation in Palladio
- Co-Simulation of hardware simulation and remaining Palladio (usage and software)

Partially proprietary

- Hardware cannot be modelled in Palladio due to its structure
- Hardware cannot be modelled in Palladio at all

Modelling capabilities

- Improve modelling capabilities (beyond CPU, HDD and network)
- Encoding or encryption hardware

Hardware-in-the-loop

- Co-simulation of Palladio and the proprietary part
- Synchronization and data exchange

Not completely available

- Parts of the software are not available yet
- Measurement of the complete system not possible

Enhance prototype

- Prototype to simulate system
- Enhance with available software components
- Couples prototype and code

With adaptive algorithms

- Algorithm adapts to system state
- Disable tracing, decrease sampling rate, reducing calculation accuracy, dynamic load balancing

Extend demand evaluation

- System state parameters accessible to demand evaluation
- Modelling of dependencies to those parameters in resource demands

Not completely available

- Parts of the software are not available yet
- Measurement of the complexity of the system not possible

Enhance prototype

- Prototype to simulate system
- Enhance with available software

With adaptive algorithm

- Algorithm adapts to system
- Disable tracing, decrease sampling rate, reducing calculation accuracy, dynamic load balancing

Hardware simulation based resource demand evaluation

- ✓ Wide applicability
- ✓ Low usage overhead
- ✓ Model compatibility
- ✓ Feasible for master's theses

- Modelling of dependencies to those parameters in resource demands

— Hardware simulation based resource demand estimation

02

- Tools and inputs
- Prototype
- Evaluation

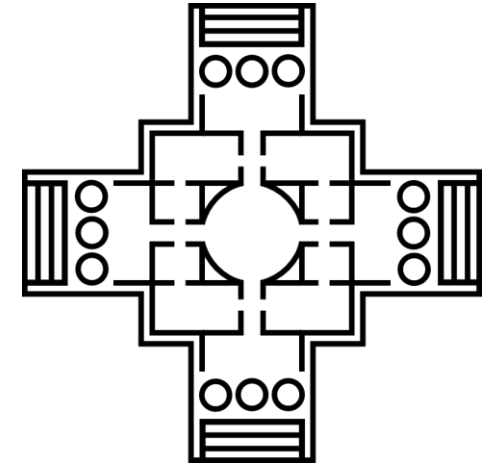
Tools and inputs

Palladio

- Modelling and analysis of component based software systems
 - Performance and other quality attributes
-
- Components and system
 - Resource environment and deployment
 - Usage profile

gem5

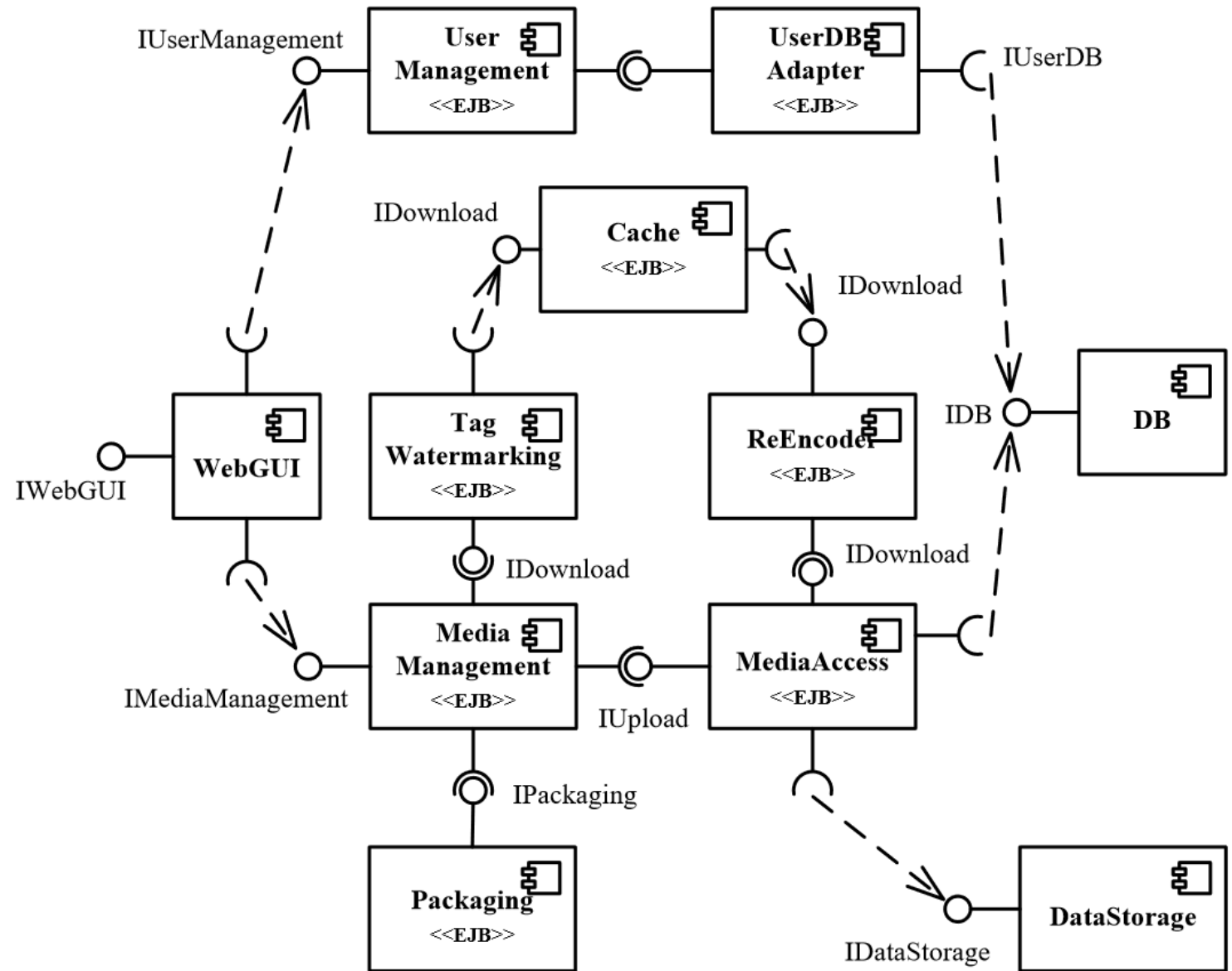
- Hardware simulation for compiled software on ISA-level
 - Different ISAs and hardware configurations
 - Hardware statistics of the execution
-
- Compiled executable
 - Hardware description (processor, cache, memory)
 - Parameters



Tools and inputs

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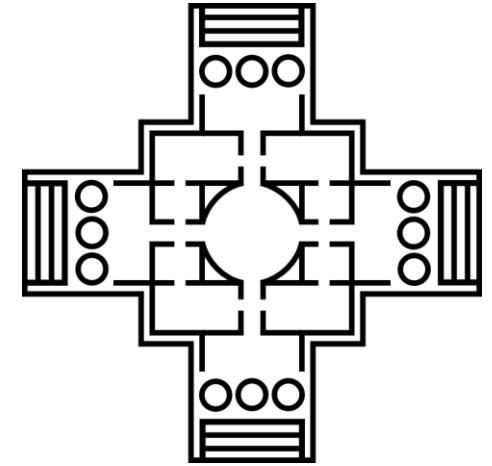
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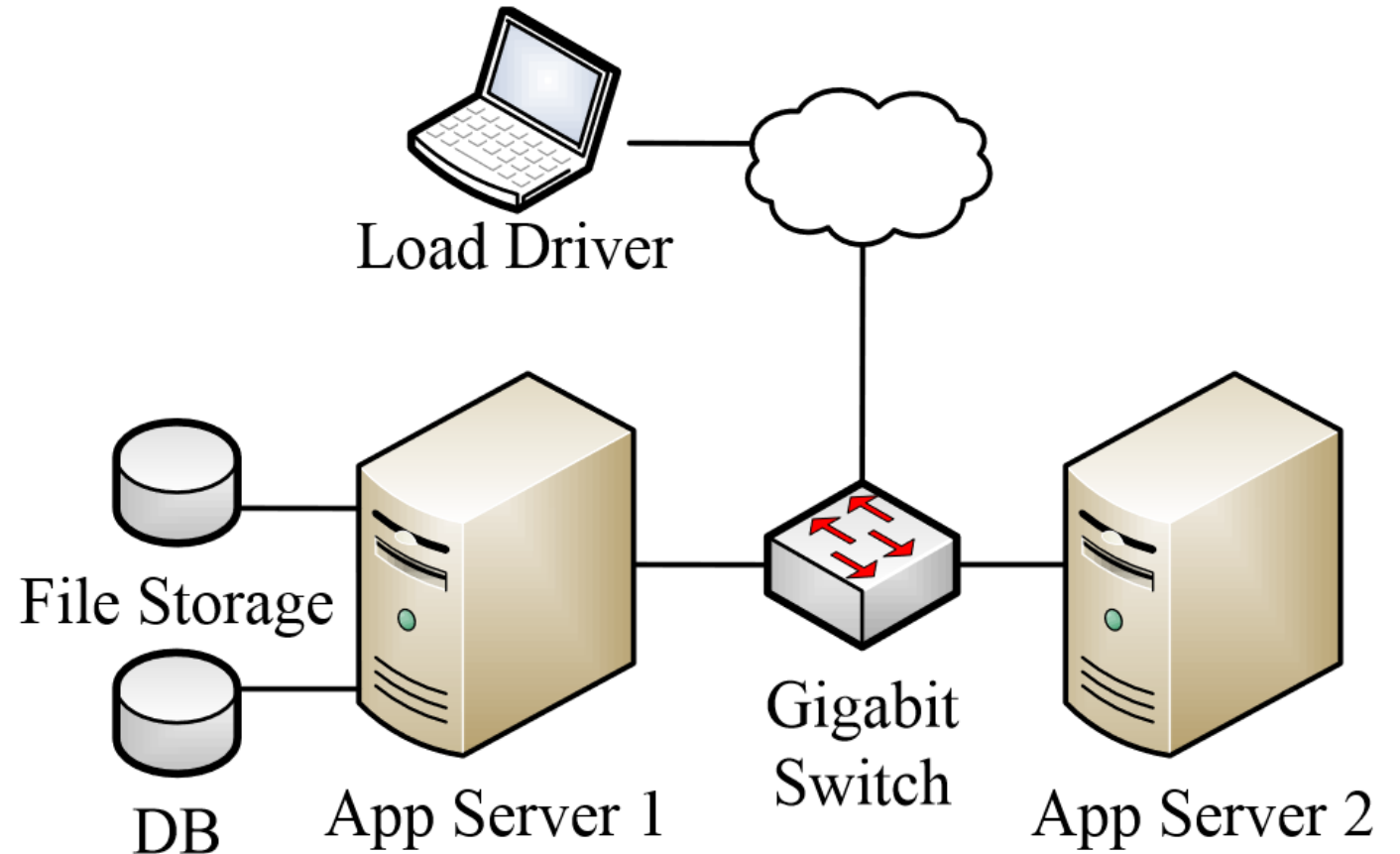
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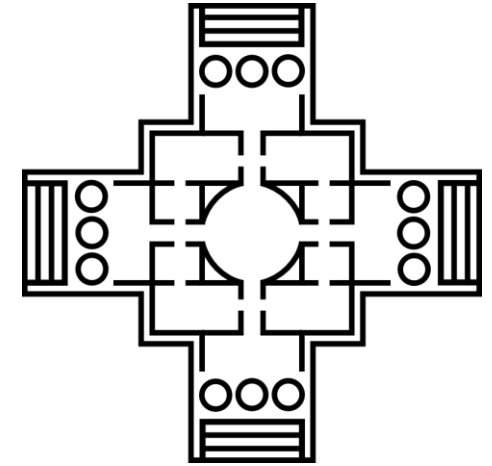
Tools and inputs

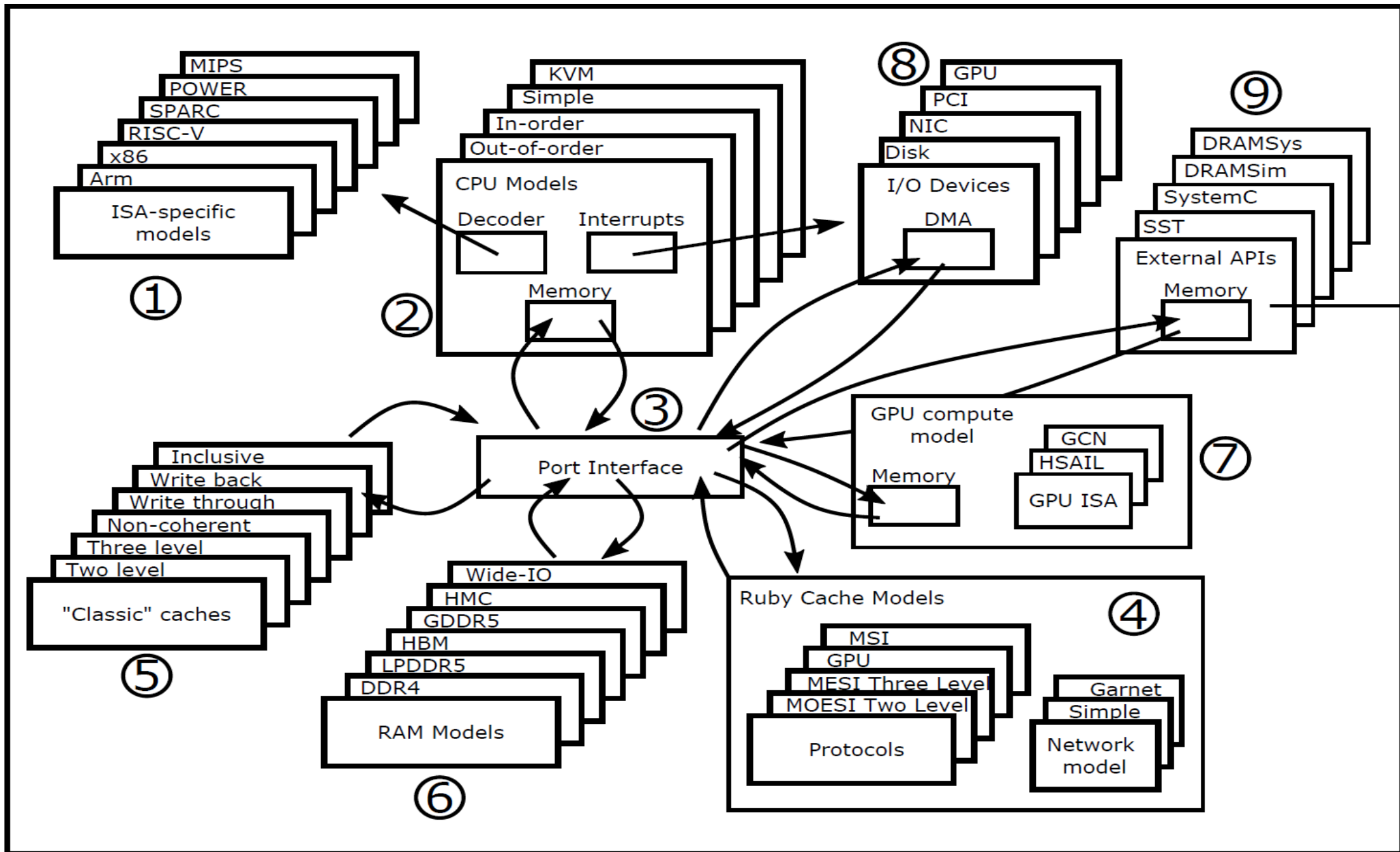
Palladio

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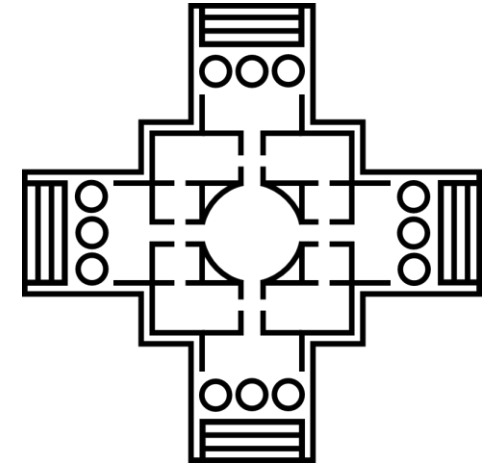
Tools and inputs

Palladio

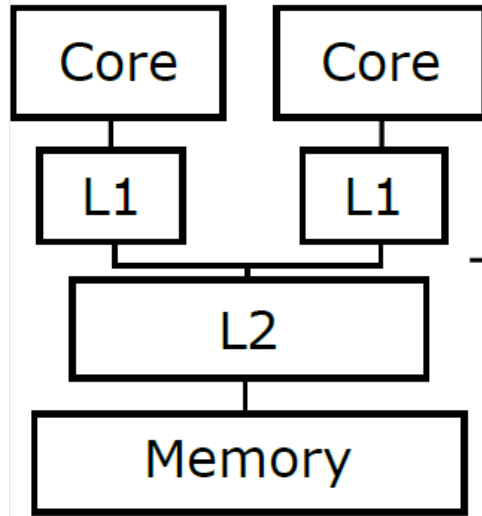
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gem5

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Tools and inputs



```
system = System()
system.cpu = OOO_CPU()
system.cpu.width = 8
system.l1 = Cache()
...
system.l1.mem_side = \
system.l2.cpu_side
...
system.workload = \
'hello.exe'
simulate()
```

→ `> ./gem5 script.py`

`hello world!`

```
l1.misses 2836
l1.hits   10374
cpu.ipc    1.3
```

- Components and system
- Resource environment and deployment
- Usage profile

- Compiled executable
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- Parameters



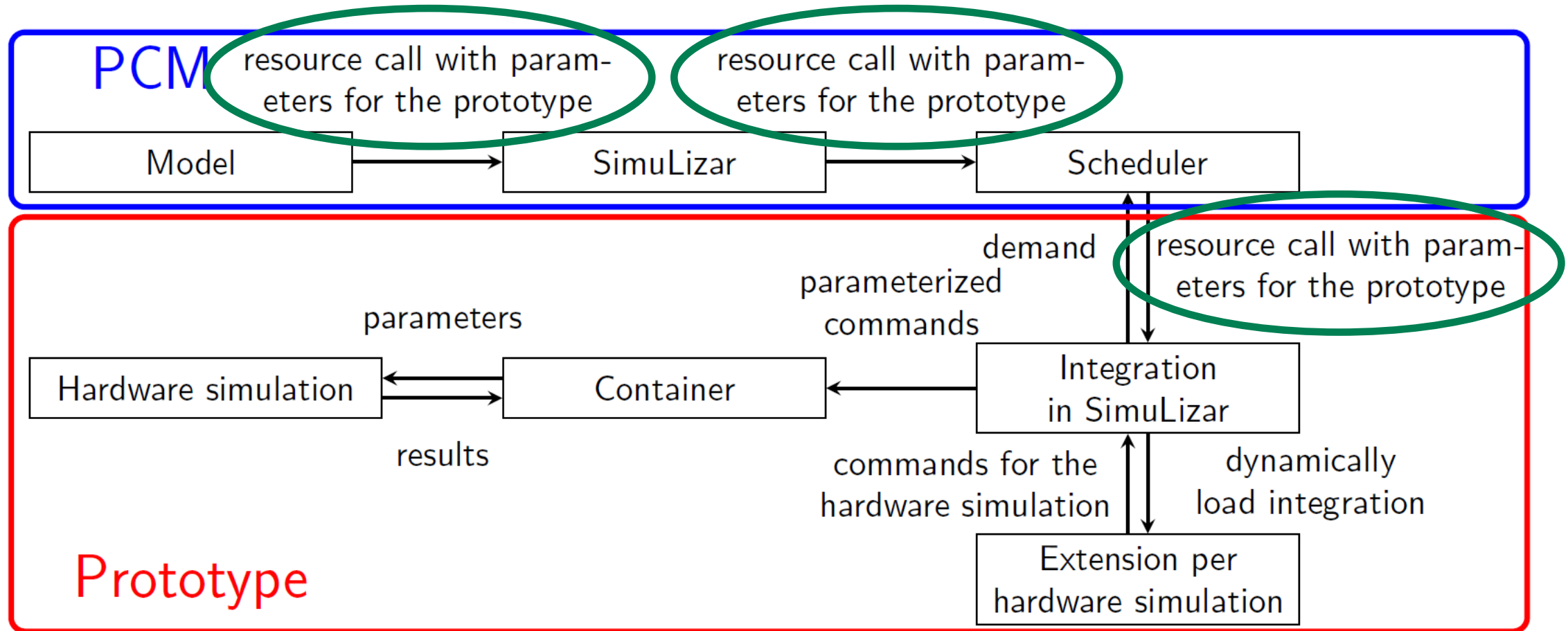
Idea

- Demand specification not as stochastic expression
- Demand evaluation with hardware simulation
- Caching for results

Requirements

- Extension point in Palladio
- Specification of additional parameters in Palladio models
- Communication and synchronization between Palladio and hardware simulation
- Caching requires deterministic hardware simulation

Prototype - Overview



Prototype - Parameters

Repository

- Path to executable
- Parameters for executable
- Method in the executable to calculate used cycles

Parameter

executable

Example value

fibonacci.exe

parameter

30

method

main

Resource Environment

- Path to hardware description
- Identifier of the resource container in the PCM

Parameter

system

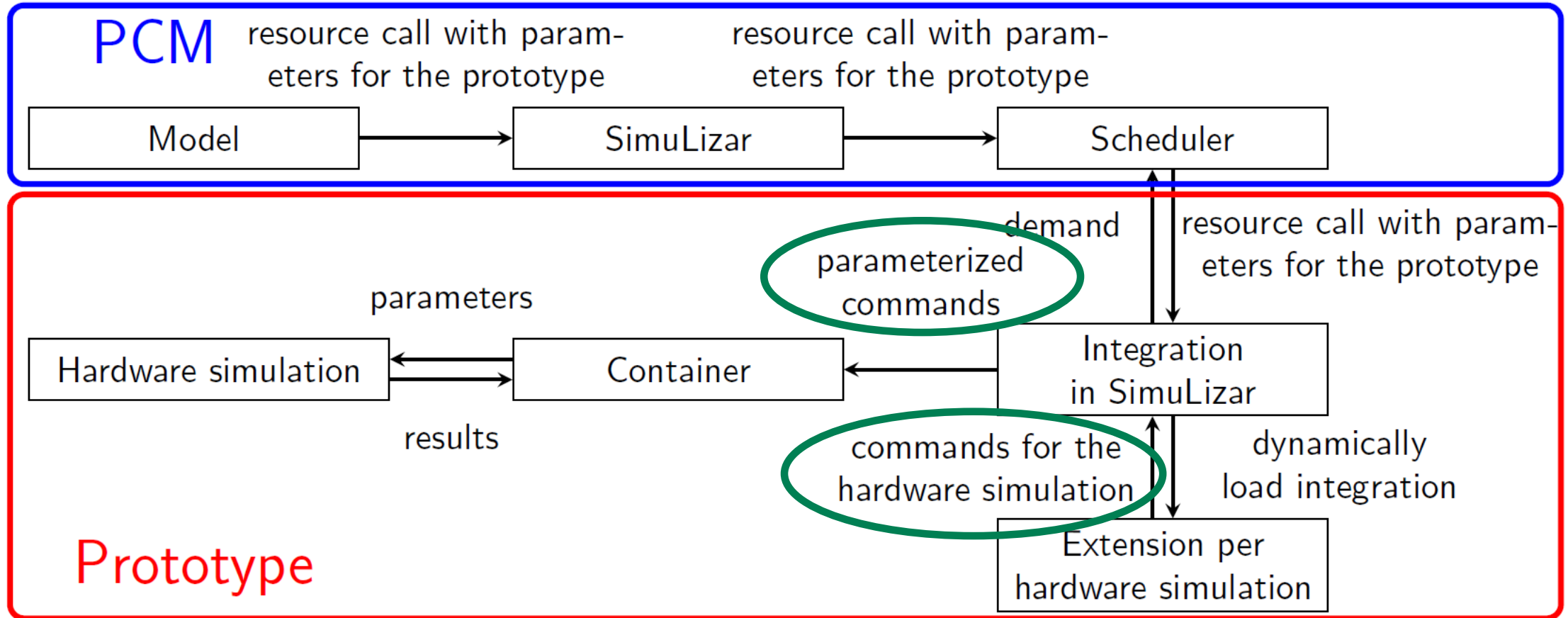
Example value

hardware.py

containerID

AppServerGem5

Prototype - Overview



Prototype - Communication

Commands

- Copy file
- Execute simulation
- Extract results and compute demand
- Specific for a hardware simulation and its wrapping

Extract results and compute demand

- Check first and last occurrence of method in function symbol trace
- Calculate resource demand in cycles

Execute simulation

- Pass the execution command through the wrapping to the hardware simulation
 - docker exec gem5
- Execute the simulation with the corresponding parameters
 - build/gem5/gem5.opt hardware.py fibonacci main 30

Parameter

Value

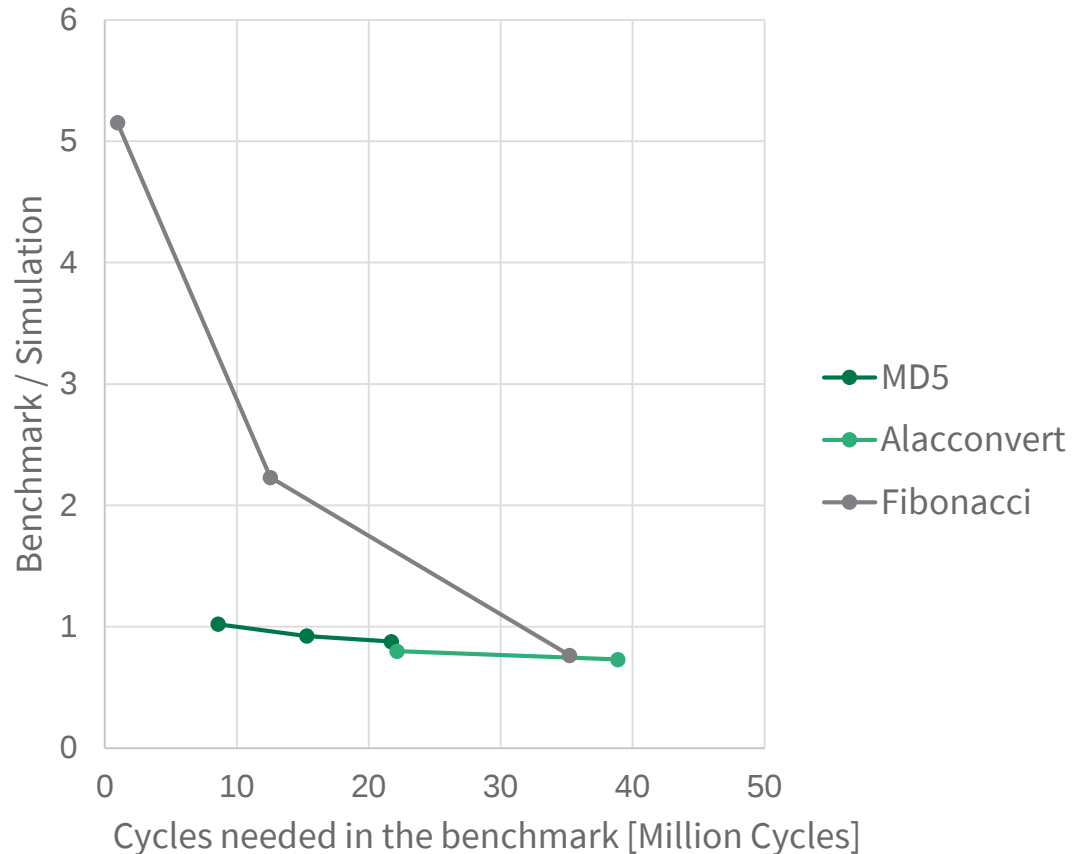
executable	fibonacci
parameter	30
method	main
system	hardware.py
containerID	AppServerGem5

Evaluation

- Three main goals
 - Accuracy of gem5
 - Performance of gem5
 - Performance of the prototype

Executable	Input
MD5-Hash	1/2/3 MB input files
Alacconvert [Convert from wav (Pulse Code Modulation) to alac (Apple Lossless Audio Codec)]	1/2 seconds white noise
Fibonacci [recursive algorithm]	10/20/30/35

Evaluation - Accuracy of gem5



Results

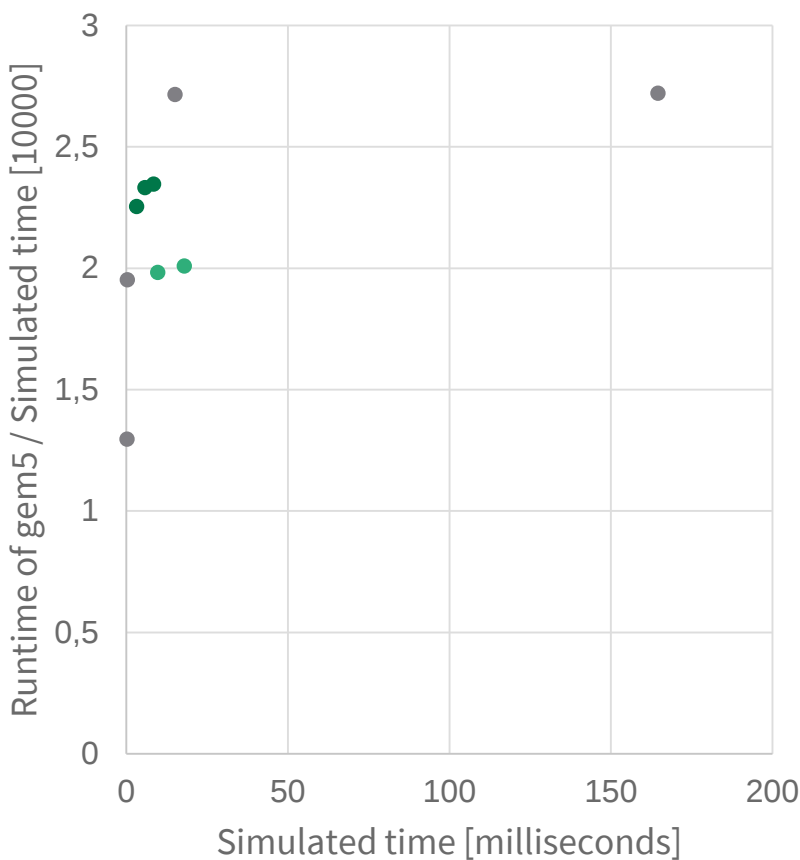
- Ratio below 1 million cycles above 5
- Ratio above 20 million cycles approximately 0.75

Possible reasons

- Startup overhead simulated not accurately due to syscall emulation
- Parameterization based on ISA does not account for different processor types and families

Evaluation - Performance

of gem5



- MD5
- Alacconvert
- Fibonacci

of the prototype

Hardware simulation			
MD5		Alacconvert	
PCM	Prototype	PCM	Prototype
3,18	454,58	3,32	557,51

Cache			
MD5		Alacconvert	
PCM	Prototype	PCM	Prototype
3,18	4,69	3,32	4,87

Conclusions

Scenarios and approaches

- Parameterization based on partially available information possible and helpful
- Future work: Explore the approach of using a hardware simulation as resource usage evaluation in Palladio

Prototype

- Accuracy vs runtime tradeoff
- Accuracy of gem5
 - Hardware specification not precise enough
 - Parameterization in gem5 code required
- Performance
 - Runtime of simulation high
 - Parameter space discrete and small
- Future work: better parameterization, other hardware simulations

Thank You

For Your Attention



Sources

Images

- Palladio logo (8-15): Palladio GitHub repository avatar, <https://avatars.githubusercontent.com/u/19326271?s=200&v=4>
- gem5 logo (8-15): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Gem5_Logo,_Veritcal_Color_Version.png
- System and Resource Environment (7): Strittmatter, Misha, and Amine Kechaou. *The Media Store 3 Case Study System*. KIT, 2016.
- gem5 big picture and usage (7): Binkert, Nathan, et al. "The gem5 simulator." *ACM SIGARCH computer architecture news* 39.2 (2011): 1-7.