

複選題，每題皆有一個或多個正確答案，未答視同放棄該題、得0分，既答題每個正確答案可得2分，每個錯誤答案倒扣1分，每題最多倒扣5分。

1. (10%) Which of the following statements are true regarding virtual memory management?
  - (a) When a process is not allocated enough frames to contain its working set, performance may drop drastically.
  - (b) OS checks the program of each process to calculate its working set for the duration of the process execution.
  - (c) Locality of memory reference is crucial to the performance of virtual memory management.
  - (d) The copy-on-write strategy can save precious time in process creation.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
2. (10%) Which of the following statements regarding serializability are true?
  - (a) A serial schedule guarantees that each transaction is executed atomically.
  - (b) A non-serial schedule does not necessarily imply an incorrect execution.
  - (c) One protocol that ensures serializability is the two-phase locking protocol.
  - (d) The timestamp-ordering protocol ensures conflict serializability since conflicting operations are processed in timestamp order.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
3. (10%) Which of the following statements about synchronization are true?
  - (a) If the wait and signal operations are not executed atomically, then mutual exclusion may be violated.
  - (b) If the conditions of mutual exclusion, hold and wait, no preemption, and circular wait hold simultaneously in a system, then a deadline situation must arise.
  - (c) Spinlocks are not appropriate for uniprocessor systems.
  - (d) Semaphores and conditional critical regions are equivalent.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
4. (10%) Which of the following statements are true?
  - (a) Cache memory is used in addition to main memory for better storage stability.
  - (b) Disks are used in the storage hierarchy for better storage stability.
  - (c) Disks are used in the storage hierarchy because they are cheaper per bit.
  - (d) The cache coherence problem adds to the complexity of control hardware in storage hierarchy.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
5. (10%) Suppose we have a benchmark that executes in 100 seconds of elapsed time, where 90 seconds are CPU time, and the rest is I/O time. If CPU time improves by 50% per year for the next years, but I/O time does not improve, then which of the following statements are true?
  - (a) By the end of the 1st year, we will be able to speed up the execution time of this benchmark by a factor of 2×.
  - (b) By the end of the 2nd year, the percentage of the execution time spent on I/O will double.
  - (c) By the end of the 3rd year, we will be able to speed up the execution time of this benchmark by a factor of 3×.
  - (d) By the end of the 5th year, more than 50% of the execution time of this benchmark will be spent on I/O.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
6. (10%) Which of the following statements are true?
  - (a) After a user program starts an I/O operation, it must always wait for the completion of the I/O operation to resume its program execution.
  - (b) On a typical computer system, interrupt vector tells us the port addresses of an I/O controller.
  - (c) DMA needs to work with device polling mechanism in order to achieve maximal efficiency.
  - (d) Data movement between I/O devices and the main memory usually are executed in CPU to enhance I/O performance.
  - (e) None of the above are true.

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7. (10%) Which of the following instructions are usually implemented as privileged instructions?
- (a) Test-and-set instructions.
  - (b) I/O instructions.
  - (c) Floating-point instructions.
  - (d) MMU manipulation instructions.
  - (e) None of the above.
8. (10%) Which of the following properties are the advantages of user threads over kernel threads?
- (a) Efficiency in context switch.
  - (b) Efficiency in thread creation.
  - (c) Efficiency in message passing.
  - (d) Responsiveness: allowing a program to continue to run even if some of its threads are blocked.
  - (e) None of the above.
9. (10%) A pipelined processor architecture consists of 5 pipeline stages: Instruction Fetch (IF), Instruction Decode and Register Read (ID), Execution or Address Calculation (EX), Data Memory Access (MEM), and Register Write-back (WB). The delay of each stage is summarized below: IF=2 ns, ID=1.5 ns, EX=4 ns, MEM=2.5 ns, WB=2 ns. Which of the following statements are true?
- (a) The maximal attainable clock rate of this processor is 250 MHz.
  - (b) All data hazards can be resolved by appropriate data forwarding in this processor design.
  - (c) To improve on the clock rate of this processor, the architect decided to add one pipeline stage by splitting the EX stage into two, EX1 and EX2, each having 2 ns delay. Then the maximal attainable clock rate of the new design is 500 MHz.
  - (d) Compared with the original 5-stage design, the new 6-stage design tend to have more data hazards.
  - (e) None of the above are true.
10. The program below divides two integers through repeated addition and was originally written for a non-pipelined architecture. The divide function takes in as its parameter a pointer to the base of an array of three elements where X is the 1st element at 0 (\$a0), Y is the 2nd element at 4 (\$a0), and the result Z is to be stored into the 3rd element at 8 (\$a0). Line numbers have been added to the left for use in answering the questions below.

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1  DIVIDE:  add    $t3,$zero,$zero
2          add    $t2,$zero,$zero
3          lw     $t1,4($a0)
4          lw     $t0,0($a0)
5  LOOP:   beq    $t2,$t0,END
6          addi   $t3,$t3,1
7          add    $t2,$t2,$t1
8          j     LOOP
9  END:    sw     $t3,8($a0)
    
```

If this program is executed on a classical 5-stage (IF-ID-EX-MEM-WB) pipelined processor, then which of the following statements are true?

- (a) If data is forwarded from the pipeline register between MEM and WB of line 4 to EXE of line 5, then data hazard stalls can be avoided for this program.
- (b) If the processor does *not* support data forwarding, then it is impossible for this program to avoid data hazard stalls no matter how we rewrite it.
- (c) If X=6 and Y=3, then the loop will execute 2 times, during which the branch beq is taken 1 time and not taken 1 time.
- (d) If X=6 and Y=3, then it takes 14 clock cycles to execute this program on a processor with data-forwarding support.
- (e) None of the above are true.

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