

UNIVERSIDAD CARLOS III DE MADRID
Computer Structure
Exam

You have **1:30 hrs** for this exam.

You may **NOT** use any handouts, lecture notes, books, calculators, nor any other external help.

Exercise 1. We want to develop a controller for a microwave oven. The controller includes a 32 bit processor, with a shared I/O and memory space address. The processor executes the MIPS32 assembly language. This processor is connected to an I/O module that controls the microwave behavior. This module has five 32-bit registers:

- Register with address 1000. This register is used to load a value that represents the countdown timer in seconds.
- Register with address 1004. When the value stored is “1”, the countdown is started.
- Register with address 1008. When the countdown finishes, the value of this register changes from “0” to “1”.
- Register with address 1012. This register is used to load the value corresponding to the power.
- Register with address 1016. The oven is turn on when the value stored is “1”. The microwave stops when the value stored is “0”.

Write a function, called `Microwave_Controller` to control the behavior. This function receives two arguments: an integer value that represents the number of seconds, and a second integer value that represents the power. The function must control the oven. The function returns the following values:

- 0, when any error has been detected, and the microwave finishes.
 - -1, when the power passed to the function is less than 100 or greater than 1000. In this case, then function returns immediatly.
- a) Describe the registers used to pass the arguments.
 - b) Invoke the function passing two parameters: 800 W and 90 seconds.
 - c) Implement the function.

Solution

a) Parameters are passed in `$a0` and `$a1`. The result is returned in `$v0`.

b)

```
li    $a0, 800
li    $a1, 90
jal   Microwave_Controller
move  $a0, $v0
li    $a1, 1
syscall
```

c)

`Microwave_Controller:`

```
li    $t0, 100
blt   $a0, $t0, end_error
li    $t0, 1000
```

```

                                bgt  $a0, $t0, end_error
                                sw   $a1, 1000      ; countdown
                                sw   $a0, 1012      ; power
                                li   $t0, 1
                                sw   $t0, 1016     ; motor on
                                sw   $t0, 1004     ; init countdown
loop:                            lw   $t1, 1008     ; read status
                                beq  $t1, $0, loop
                                sw   $0, 1016     ; motor off
                                move $v0, $0
                                jr   $ra
end_error:                       li   $v0, -1
                                jr   $ra

```

Exercise 2. We want to represent integer numbers in the range -8191...8191. Reply justifying your answer:

- What is the number of bits needed if we use one's complement?
- What is the number of bits needed if we use sign-magnitude?

Solution

We need 14 bits. Using 14 bits the representation range in both cases is:
 $-(2^{13}-1) \dots 2^{13}-1 = -8191 \dots 8191$

Exercise 3. Represent the value -24.50 using the IEEE 754 single precision format. Give the result in binary and hexadecimal.

Solution

$$24,5_{(10)} = 11000,1_{(2)} = 1,10001 \times 2^4$$

Sign = 1, negative number

Exponent = 4 + 127 = 131 = 10000011

Mantissa = 1000100000 .. 00000

binary => 1100000011100010000000000

Hexadecimal => 0xC1C40000

Exercise 4. A 32 bit computer has a cache memory of 512 KB. The cache is 4-way associative and uses lines of 64 bits. In this computer the following code is executed:

```

int v[200];
int i;
int s;

for (i=0; i < 200; i++)
    s = s + v[i];

```

Reply, justifying your answer:

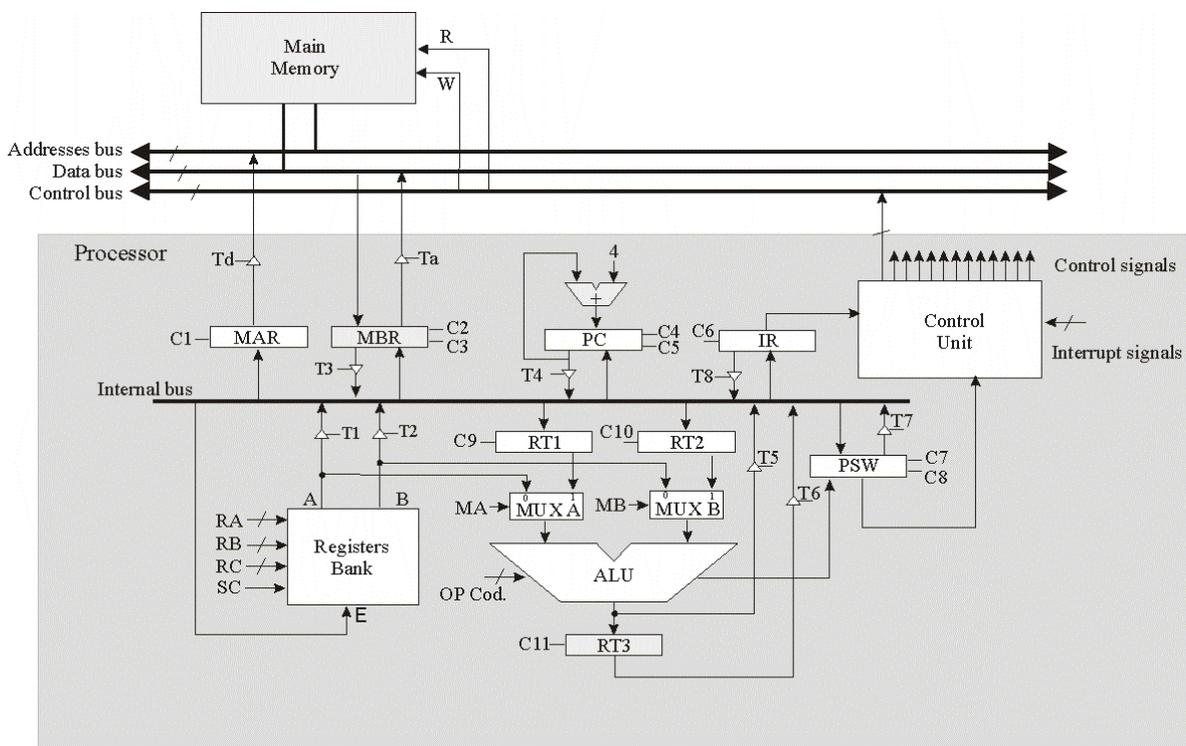
- What is the number of lines and sets of this cache?

- b) Is the cache is initially empty and the variables i and s are stored in registers, what is the number of access to the array v? What is the hit ratio obtained in the previous code?

Solution

- a) The cache memory has $512 \text{ Kb} = 2^{19}$ bytes. Each line has $64 \text{ bits} = 8 \text{ bytes} = 2^3$ bytes. The number of lines is $2^{19} \text{ bytes} / 2^3 \text{ bytes} = 2^{16}$ lines. Each set has 4 líneas, the number of sets is $= 2^{16} / 2^2 = 2^{14}$ sets.
- b) Each integer uses 4 bytes, and then, each line can store two integers. Every two access, one is a miss, and the other one is a hit. Then the hit ratio is 50 %.

Exercise 5. Consider the following 32-bit computer. The processor has 32 registers and uses one cycle for decoding instructions. The main memory needs one cycle in reading and writing memory operations.



- a) Indicate the control signals needed to execute the elemental operation: $RT2 \leftarrow PC$.
- b) Write the sequence of elemental operations and control signals (fetch included) needed to execute the instruction `lw $t1, ($t2)`.

Solution

- a) We have to activate: T4 and C10
- b)

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| cycle 0: $MAR \leftarrow PC$ | Signals: T4, C3 |
| cycle 1: $MBR \leftarrow MP$ | Signals: Td, L, C2 |
| $PC \leftarrow PC + 4$ | C4 |

cycle 2: RI ← MBR
cycle 3: Decoding
cycle 4: MAR ← \$t2
cycle 5: MBR ← MP
cycle 6: \$t1 ← MBR

Signals: T3, C6

Signals: RA= identifier of \$t2, T1, C1

Signals: Td, L, C2

T3, RC = identifier de \$t1, SC