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M.Tech. Degree Examination, December 2011
Advanced Computer Architecture

Time: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks:100

Note: Answer any FIVE full questions.

- 1 a. With a diagram, explain the Flynn's classification of computer architectures. (08 Marks)
 b. Compare i) UMA and NUMA models and ii) Implicit and Explicit parallelism. (08 Marks)
 c. Determine the effective CPI and MIPs rate for the values in table Q.1(c), when clock frequency is 40MHz. (04 Marks)

Table Q.1(c)

Instn Type	Instn count	Clock cycle count
Integer arithmetic	45000	1
Data transfer	32000	2
Floating point	15000	3
Control transfer	5000	3

- 2 a. Differentiate between : i) Software and hardware parallelism ii) Control flow and demand driven computers. (08 Marks)
 b. Describe program decomposition for static multiprocessor scheduling for a 2×2 matrix multiplication case. Assume suitable values and compare sequential and parallel scheduling for fine grain program graph. (08 Marks)
 c. Explain i) control dependence and ii) Bernstein's conditions. (04 Marks)
- 3 a. Define Amdahl's law. Describe Amdahl's law for a fixed load, with equations and graphs. (08 Marks)
 b. Explain i) Arithmetic mean performance ii) Harmonic mean speed up iii) System efficiency and iv) Quality of parallelism. (08 Marks)
 c. If $O(1) = T(1) = n^3$, $O(n) = n^3 + n^2 \log_2 n$ and $T(n) = 4n^3/(n+3)$, determine speedup and efficiency when $n = 16$. (04 Marks)
- 4 a. Describe the architectural features of IBM RS/6000, a superscalar RISC processor. (08 Marks)
 b. With a block diagram and a timing diagram, describe VLIW processor architecture. (08 Marks)
 c. Compare RISC and CISC architectures. (04 Marks)
- 5 a. How does an asynchronous pipeline differ from a synchronous linear pipeline? Determine the speedup and efficiency if 4000 instructions are executed in a linear 6 stage pipelined processor working at a clock frequency of 20 MHz. (08 Marks)
 b. For the reservation table Q5(b), determine the initial collision vector, forbidden latencies, state transition diagram and MAL. (08 Marks)

Table Q5(b)

S ₁	X			X
S ₂		X		
S ₃			X	

- c. With a diagram, explain the use of prefetch buffers. (04 Marks)

- 6 a. Explain memory hierarchy and derive the equation for effective memory access time. (08 Marks)
b. Describe address translation mechanism using TLB in virtual memory organization. (08 Marks)
c. Define the terms paging, cache misses, cache coherence and inclusion property. (04 Marks)
- 7 a. With a diagram, describe MESI cache coherence protocol. How does it differ from MSI protocol? (10 Marks)
b. Describe directory based cache coherence protocol. (10 Marks)
- 8 a. Explain multithreaded computations, with a diagram. What are the two problems of asynchrony? (10 Marks)
b. With a diagram, describe dataflow graph and dataflow machine. What are the differences between static and dynamic dataflow? (10 Marks)
