# CS:APP Cache Lab

# Directions to Instructors

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This directory contains the files that you will need to run the CS: APP

cache lab, which develops the student's understanding of caches.

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1. Overview

## \*\*\*\*\*

In this lab, the student works on two C files called csim.c and trans.c. There are two parts: Part (a) involves implementing a cache simulator in csim.c. Part (b) involves writing a function that computes the transpose of a given matrix in trans.c, with the goal of minimizing the number misses on a simulated cache.

Each time a student with login "foo" compiles their work, the Makefile

automatically generates a handin file, called foo-handin.tar, that contains the csim.c and trans.c file. Students hand this tar file in to the instructor

The driver program (driver.py) evaluates the correctness of the cache simulator in csim.c, and the performance and correctness of the transpose functions in trans.c. See the writeup for details.

## Requirements:

- The lab must be done on a 64-bit x86-64 system.

- The driver requires a version of Valgrind (http://valgrind.org)

supports the "--tool=lackey" option.

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2. Files

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Makefile Builds the entire lab

README This file

grade/ Autograding scripts for the instructor

src/ Source code of this lab

cachelab-handout/ Handout directory that goes to the students.

This directory

is completely generated from files in the src

directory

Never put any hard state in this directory. Tar file of handout directory that goes out to

cachelab-handout.tar

the students.

writeup/

Latex writeup about the lab. Modify to reflect

your

environment.

## \*\*\*\*\*\*\* 3. Building the Lab

# \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

To build the default version of the lab, modify the Latex lab writeup in ./writeup/cachelab.tex for your environment. Then type the following

in the current directory:

unix> make clean unix> make

This will build the cachelab-handout/ directory and its cachelab-handout.tar archive that you can handout to students. The command:

unix> make dist DEST=<DIR>

will copy the tarfile and copies of the writeup to directory  $\langle {\rm DIR} \rangle,$  where the students can access it.

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4. Handing in the Lab

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Each time a student with login "foo" compiles their work, the Makefile

automatically generates a handin file called foo-handin.tar. If you want to autograde the handins, collect all of the student handin tar files in the ./grade/handin directory.

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5. Autograding the Lab \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

You can run the driver program manually on each student's handin, or you can use the autograding scripts in ./grade to automatically grade each of the .tar files in the handin/ directory.

See ./grade/README for instructions.