HO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

HND COMPUTER SCIENCE LEVEL 300

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1. In a 6-state pipeline with stage delays of 35, 40, 28, 42, 30, and 38, each stage represents a sequential logic circuit that processes data in a pipelined fashion. The stage delays represent the number of clock cycles required for each stage to complete its processing and forward the data to the next stage.

   Assuming that the pipeline is running at a clock frequency of 1 GHz, we can calculate the total latency of the pipeline as follows:

   Total latency = (35 + 40 + 28 + 42 + 30 + 38) / clock frequency = (213) / 1 GHz = 0.213 microseconds.

   The throughput of the pipeline is calculated as the inverse of the total latency:

   Throughput = 1 / total latency = 1 / 0.213 microseconds = 4.695 Gbps

   This means that the pipeline can process data at a rate of 4.695 gigabits per second. However, it's important to note that the actual throughput may be lower due to factors such as pipeline stalls, data dependencies, and other overhead.

2. **a**. For this scenario, the most suitable type of device would be a microcontroller. The application requires low power consumption, and the devices will be battery-powered with solar cells to keep the batteries charged. Microcontrollers have low power consumption, which makes them ideal for battery-powered applications. They can be programmed to turn off the sensors when they are not in use, and wake them up when a vibration sensor is triggered.

In addition, microcontrollers are easy to program, and they can be integrated with other system components such as wireless communication modules and sensors. They are also cost-effective, which is important when deploying 1000 or more sensors.

The application requires simple tasks such as taking a reading of the vibration sensor and transmitting the data wirelessly. Microcontrollers have limited processing power and memory, which is sufficient for these tasks.

Overall, a microcontroller is the most suitable type of device for this scenario because it meets the requirements of low power consumption, cost-effectiveness, and simple tasks.

b. An FPGA would be the most appropriate sort of device for this application. The application necessitates high-speed data processing and the handling of a wide range of non-standard sensors, which can be accomplished by programming unique logic functions into the FPGA.

FPGAs are extremely flexible and can be designed to construct custom logic functions capable of processing data in parallel. They are useful for real-time processing applications due to their low latency and high throughput. Furthermore, FPGAs can be programmed to communicate with a wide range of sensors and output devices, such as the motor and servo controllers in this scenario.

FPGAs are also well-suited for interfacing with USB connections, which can be achieved using FPGA-integrated USB controllers. They are capable of handling the high-speed data rates required for the 100KB per second and three SPI streams.

Overall, an FPGA is the best device for this scenario since it can handle high-speed data processing, interfacing with non-standard sensors, and interfacing with a wide range of output devices and USB connections.