

1. Assume that a particular device transfers data at an average of 32 kB/s on a continuous basis. Determine what fraction of the processor time is consumed by this I/O device using interrupt-driven I/O in each of the following cases.

- (a) First assume that the device interrupts for every byte and that interrupt processing takes 20 μ s. This includes the overhead of setting up the interrupt service procedure (ISP) and returning from the ISP, as well as the 4 μ s it takes to transfer one byte from the controller of the device.

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- (b) Next assume that the controller of the device has two 16-byte buffers and it interrupts the processor whenever one of the buffers is full.

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- (c) Assume, in addition to the buffers, that the processor is equipped with a block transfer I/O instruction which speeds up the transfer of a byte to 2 μ s.

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2. A 2 GHz processor provides an instruction for loading a string of bytes from memory to an internal cache. The fetching and decoding of the instruction takes 10 clock cycles. Thereafter, it takes 5 clock cycles to transfer each byte.

- (a) Determine the length (in seconds) of the instruction cycle for the case of a string of 64 bytes.

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- (b) What is the worst-case delay for acknowledging an interrupt if the instruction is non-interruptable?

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- (c) Repeat the previous item assuming that the instruction can be interrupted at the beginning of each byte transfer.

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