

1. Our favorite program runs in 10 seconds on computer A, which has a 2 GHz clock. We are trying to help a computer designer build a computer, B, which will run this program in 6 seconds. The designer has determined that a substantial increase in the clock rate is possible, but this increase will affect the rest of the CPU design, causing computer B to require 1.2 times as many clock cycles as computer A for this program. What clock rate should we tell the designer to target?

Let's first find the number of clock cycles required for the program on A:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \text{_____} \\
 &= \frac{\text{_____}}{\text{_____}} \\
 &= 10 \text{ seconds} \times 2 \text{ _____} = 20 \text{ _____ cycles}
 \end{aligned}$$

CPU time for B can be found using this equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \text{_____} \\
 &6 \text{ seconds} = \text{_____} \\
 &= \text{_____} = \text{_____} = \text{_____} = 4\text{GHz}
 \end{aligned}$$

To run the program in 6 seconds, B must have twice the clock rate of A.

2. Suppose we have two implementations of the same instruction set architecture. Computer A has a clock cycle time of 250 ps and a CPI of 2.0 for some program, and computer B has a clock cycle time of 500 ps and a CPI of 1.2 for the same program. Which computer is faster for this program and by how much?

We know that each computer executes the same number of instructions for the program; let's call this number  $I$ . First, find the number of processor clock cycles for each computer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= I \\
 &= I
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we can compute the CPU time for each computer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \text{_____} \\
 &= I \text{ _____ ps} = 500
 \end{aligned}$$

Likewise, for B:

$$= I = 600$$

Clearly, computer A is faster. The amount faster is given by the ratio of the execution times:

$$\frac{\text{Execution time of B}}{\text{Execution time of A}} = \frac{720}{600} = 1.2$$

We can conclude that computer A is 1.2 times as fast as computer B for this program.

3. A compiler designer is trying to decide between two code sequences for a particular computer. The hardware designers have supplied the following facts.

	CPI for each instruction class		
	A	B	C
CPI	1	2	3

For a particular high level language statement, the compiler writer is considering two code sequences that require the following instruction counts:

Code Sequence	Instruction counts for each instruction class		
	A	B	C
1	2	1	2
2	4	1	1

Which code sequence executes the most instructions? Which will be faster? What is the CPI of each sequence?

Sequence 1 executes  $2 + 1 + 2 = 5$  instructions. Sequence 2 executes  $4 + 1 + 1 = 6$  instructions. Therefore, sequence 1 executes fewer instructions.

We can use the equation for CPU clock cycles based on instruction count and CPI to find the total number of clock cycles for each sequence:

$$\Sigma$$

This yields

$$= (2 \times 1) + (1 \times 2) + (2 \times 3) = 2 + 2 + 6 = 10 \text{ cycles}$$

$$= (4 \times 1) + (1 \times 2) + (1 \times 3) = 4 + 2 + 3 = 9 \text{ cycles}$$

So code sequence 2 is faster, even though it executes one extra instruction. Since code sequence 2 takes fewer overall clock cycles but has more instructions, it must have a lower CPI. The CPI values can be computed by

$$= \frac{\text{Total Clock Cycles}}{\text{Total Instructions}}$$

$$= \frac{10}{5} = 2.0$$

$$= \frac{7.5}{5} = 1.5$$

4. Represent -8.125 in the IEEE 754 Single Precision Floating Point Format.

31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

5. Consider three different processors P1, P2 and P3 executing the same instruction set. P1 has a 3GHz clock rate and a CPI of 1.5. P2 has a 2.5 GHz clock rate and CPI of 1.0. P3 has a 4.0 GHz clock rate and has a CPI of 2.2 (a) Which processor has the highest performance expressed in instructions per second? (b) If the processors each execute a program in 10 seconds, find the number of cycles and then the number of instructions. (c) we are trying to reduce the execution time by 30% but this leads to an increase of 20% in the CPI. What clock rate should we have to get this time reduction?

Solution

(a) Processor P2 has the highest performance (instructions/second):  
 • Performance of P1 (instructions/sec) =  $3 \times 10^9 / 1.5 = 2 \times 10^9$

• Performance of P2 (instructions/sec) =  $2.5 \times 10^9 / 1.0 = 2.5 \times 10^9$   
 • Performance of P3 (instructions/sec) =  $4 \times 10^9 / 2.2 = 1.8 \times 10^9$

(b) The number of cycles:

• Cycles (P1) =  $10 \times 2 \times 10^9 = 20 \times 10^9$   
 • Cycles (P2) =  $10 \times 2.5 \times 10^9 = 25 \times 10^9$   
 • Cycles (P3) =  $10 \times 1.8 \times 10^9 = 18 \times 10^9$

(c) The number of instructions:

• No. Instructions (P1) =  $20 \times 10^9 / 1.5 = 13.33 \times 10^9$   
 • No. Instructions (P2) =  $25 \times 10^9 / 1.0 = 25 \times 10^9$   
 • No. Instructions (P3) =  $18 \times 10^9 / 2.2 = 8.18 \times 10^9$

(d) The required clock rate for each processor:

Reducing execution time by 30% means that new execution time is 7 seconds.  
 •  $CP_{new} = CP_{old} \times 1.2$  .. So,  $CP_{P1} = 1.8$ ,  $CP_{P2} = 1.2$ ,  $CP_{P3} = 2.6$   
 •  $f = \text{No. Instr} \times CP / \text{Time}$ , then  $f(P1) = 20 \times 10^9 / 1.8 = 11.11 \text{ GHz}$   
 $f(P2) = 25 \times 10^9 / 1.2 = 20.83 \text{ GHz}$   
 $f(P3) = 8.18 \times 10^9 / 2.6 = 3.15 \text{ GHz}$

6. Consider two different implementations of the same instruction set architecture. The instructions can be divided into four classes according to their CPI (class A, B, C and D). P1 with a clock rate of 2.5 GHz and CPIs of 1, 2, 3, and 3. P2 with a clock rate of 3 GHz and CPIs of 2, 2, 2, and 2. Given a program with a dynamic instruction count of 1.0E6 instructions divided into classes as follows: 10% class A, 20% class B, 50% class C, and 20% class D. Which is faster Processor P1 or P2? (a) What is the global CPI for each implementation? (b) Find the clock cycles required in both cases.

Solution

(a) The global CPI for each implementation: • Since the given program with a dynamic instruction count of 1.0E6 instructions is divided into classes of 10% A, 20% B, 50% C and 20% D, then

Class A =  $10\% \times 1.0E6 = 105 \text{ instr.}$

– Class B =  $20\% \times 1.0E6 = 2 \times 10^5 \text{ instr.}$

– Class C =  $50\% \times 1.0E6 = 5 \times 10^5 \text{ instr.}$

– Class D =  $20\% \times 1.0E6 = 2 \times 10^5 \text{ instr.}$

• Time = No. Instr  $\times$  CPI / Clock Rate – Total Time P1 =  $(105 \times 1) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (5 \times 10^5 \times 3) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 3) / (2.5 \times 10^9) = 10.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}$  – Total Time P2 =  $(105 \times 2) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (5 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) / (3 \times 10^9) = 6.66 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}$

Global CPI = Total Time  $\times$  Clock Rate / Instruction Count – CPI(P1) =  $(10.4 \times 10^{-4}) \times (2.5 \times 10^9) / 10^6 = 2.6$  – CPI(P2) =  $(6.66 \times 10^{-4}) \times (3.0 \times 10^9) / 10^6 = 2.0$

(b) The clock cycles required in both bases:

• Clock Cycles = Instruction Count  $\times$  CPI – Clock Cycles(P1) =  $(105 \times 1) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (5 \times 10^5 \times 3) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 3) = 26 \times 10^5$  – Clock Cycles(P2) =  $(105 \times 2) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (5 \times 10^5 \times 2) + (2 \times 10^5 \times 2) = 20 \times 10^5$

7. Compilers can have a profound impact on the performance of an application. Assume that for a program, compiler A results in a dynamic instruction count of  $1.0 \times 10^9$  and has an execution time of 1.1 seconds, while compiler B results in a dynamic instruction count of  $1.2 \times 10^9$  and an execution time of 1.5 seconds. (a) Find the average CPI for each program given that the processor has a clock cycle time of 1 ns. (b) Assume the compiled programs run on two different processors. If the execution times on the two processors are the same, how much faster is the clock of the processor running compiler A's code versus the clock of the processor running compiler B's code? (c) A new compiler is developed that uses only  $6.0 \times 10^8$  instructions and has an average CPI of 1.1. What is the speedup of using this new compiler versus using compiler A or B on the original processor?

Solution

(a) The average CPI for each program:

- $CPI = \frac{T_{exec} \times f}{No. Instr}$

- Compiler A  $CPI = \frac{1.1 \times 10^9}{1.1} = 1.1$

- Compiler B  $CPI = \frac{1.5 \times 10^9}{1.2 \times 10^9} = 1.25$

b) Clock speed of processor running compiler A relative to processor running compiler B:

- $f_B / f_A = \frac{(No. Instr(B) \times CPI(B))}{(No. Instr(A) \times CPI(A))} = 1.37$

(c) Speedup of using new compiler:

- $TAT_{new} = 1.67$

- $TBT_{new} = 2.2$