

Sean Atangan
May 8, 2020
Professor Rao
ECE 366

Cache Simulator

PART A) Reflection

Group Members: Sean Atangan

Activity Log:

April 28th	Fix Project 2, Clean code, Clean output, Develop Plan for Cache Simulator
April 29th	Write program intro, obtain user input, create bit configuration variables to match needed cache info (offset bits, setID bits, block#, tag, block age)
May 2nd	Build function cacheSend() to be called from LW and SW sub-functions, passing variables to be used for cache. Calls a cacheConfiguration function depending on user input.
May 4th	Added needed functions for test programs: Ori, Addu Debugged the following functions: Slt, Beq,
May 5th	Built cacheConfig1 and cacheConfig2 functions, debugged cacheConfig2
May 6th	Built cacheConfig3 and cacheconfig4 functions, Inserted print statements for user specified Detailed display view
May 7th	Debugging cacheConfig3, cacheConfig4, LRU functionality
May 8th	Write report

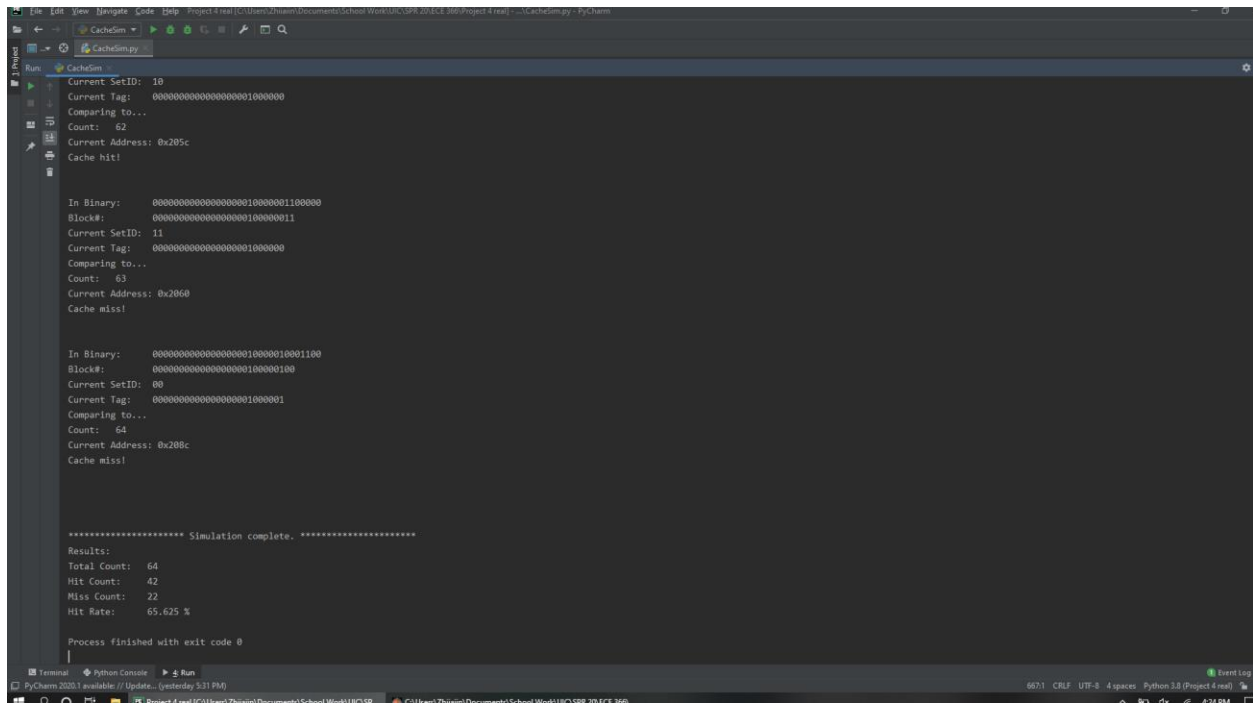
What are some features that were useful?

I found that the python debugger `pdb.set_trace()` was extremely useful for finding where my code was breaking or when cache information did not match the data cache simulator in MARS. I also really like how python utilizes indentations to determine scopes, which makes coding easier and cleaner than writing in C or C++.

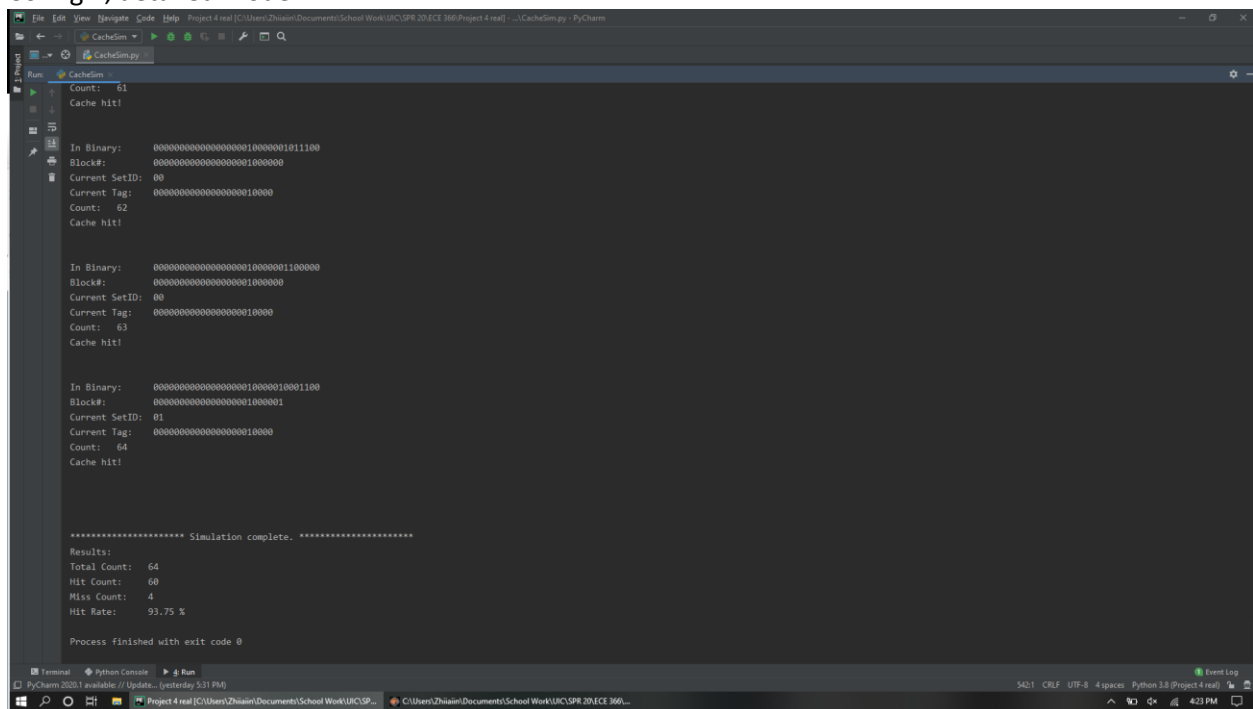
What would I advise other students about the projects in this course?

I would recommend students to dig really deeply into the course material especially on days of which the content is relevant to the project. This may be already obvious to some, but really understanding how the machine you are building works, down to the smallest details, will help with the efficiency of your code as well as allow for other on the spot learning that may arise from coding in a new programming language. Otherwise, these projects are as fun as they are challenging, and they do a great service of teaching one how to think like an engineer. They also stress how crucial it is in the real world to be able to work in a team, and can uncover how difficult it can be to work on a real life problem all on your own.

Config 1, detailed mode



Config 2, detailed mode



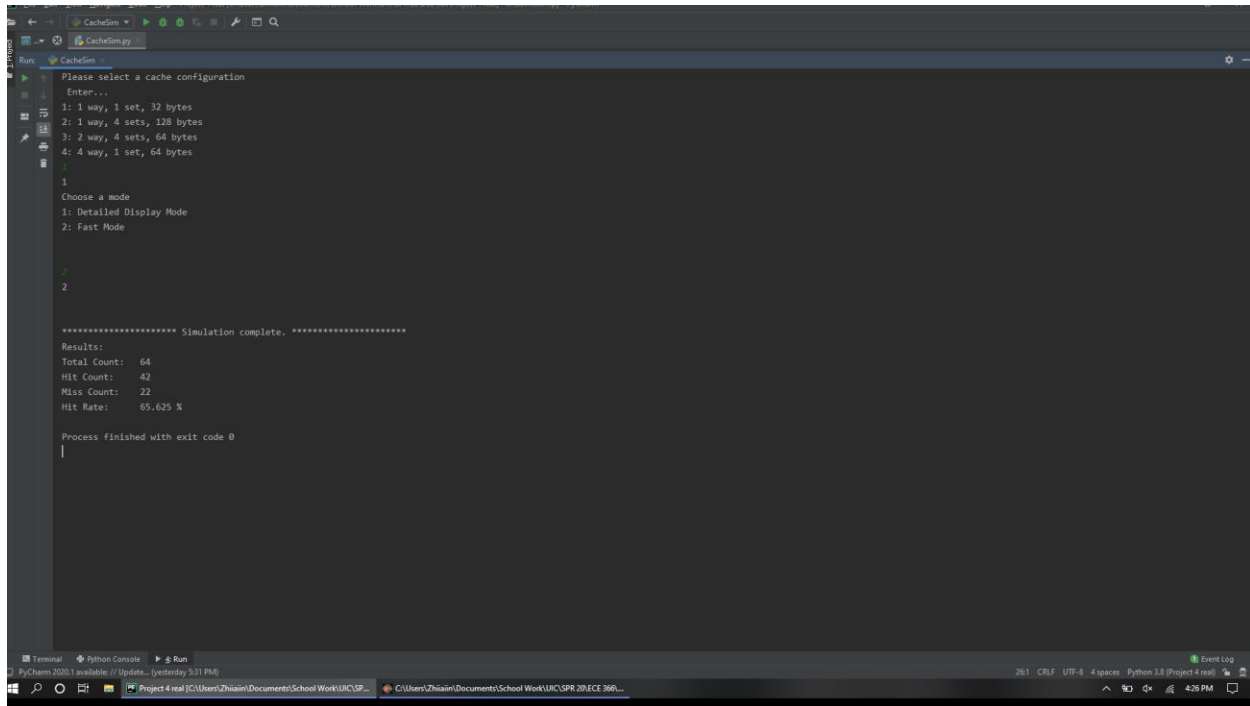
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Config 3, detailed mode

[illegible]

Config 4, detailed mode

[illegible]

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FastMode (Similar for all)

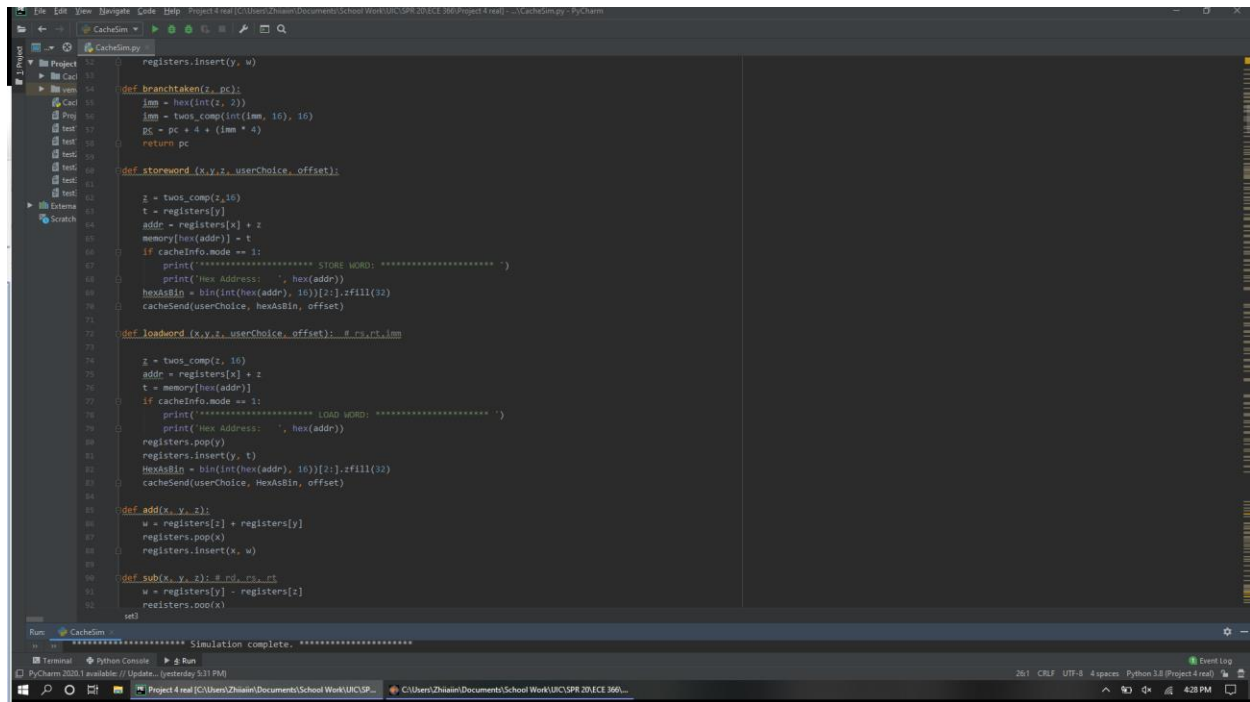


The screenshot shows the CacheSim application interface. The main window displays a configuration menu where the user has selected '2' for '1 way, 4 sets, 64 bytes' and '2' for 'Fast Mode'. Below the configuration, the simulation results are displayed:

```
***** Simulation complete. *****  
Results:  
Total Count: 64  
Hit Count: 42  
Miss Count: 22  
Hit Rate: 65.625 %  
Process finished with exit code 0
```

The bottom status bar indicates the application is running on Python 3.8 (Project 4 real) at 4:26 PM.

Other Code Snippets

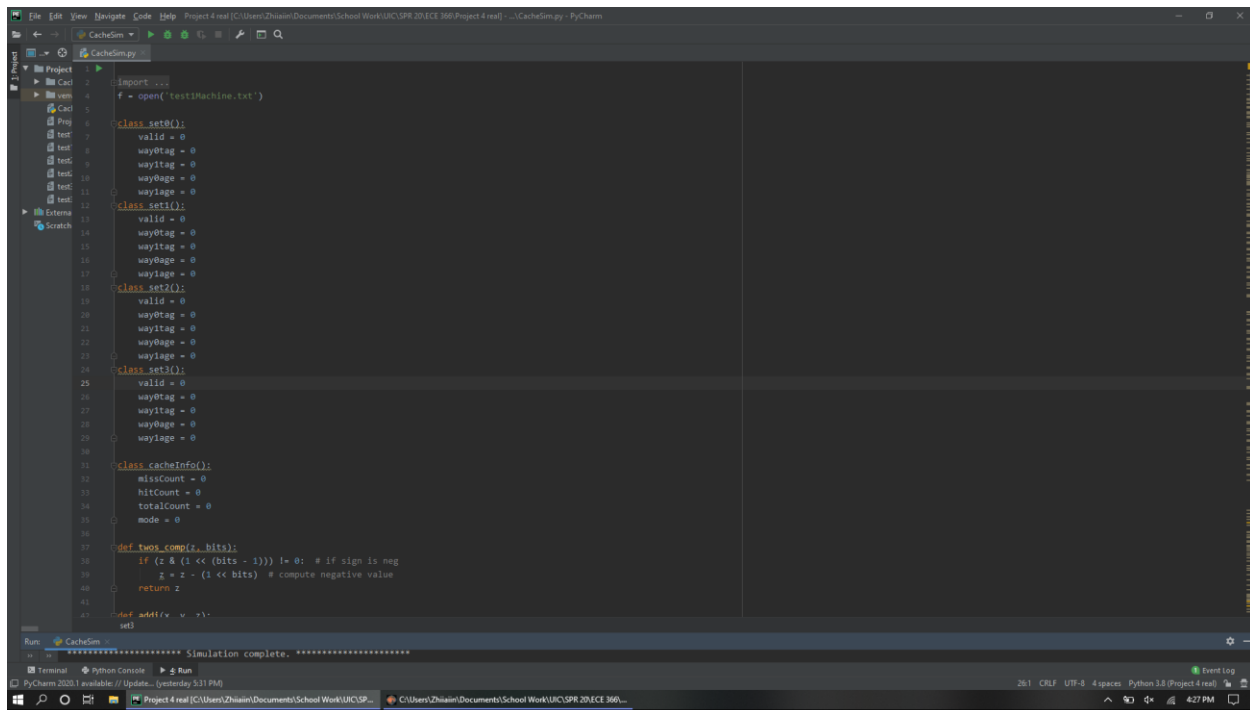


The screenshot shows the source code for the CacheSim application. The code is written in Python and defines several functions for simulating a cache. The functions include:

- `def branchtaken(x, y, z, userChoice, offset):` - Simulates a branch taken instruction.
- `def storeword(x, y, z, userChoice, offset):` - Simulates a storeword instruction.
- `def loadword(x, y, z, userChoice, offset):` - Simulates a loadword instruction.
- `def add(x, y, z):` - Simulates an add instruction.
- `def sub(x, y, z):` - Simulates a subtract instruction.

The code also includes a main loop that reads user input and calls the appropriate function based on the instruction type. The bottom status bar indicates the application is running on Python 3.8 (Project 4 real) at 4:28 PM.

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The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with a file named `CacheSim.py` open. The code defines a `CacheSim` class with methods `set0()`, `set1()`, `set2()`, `set3()`, `cacheInfo()`, `twos_comp()`, and `add4()`. The `set` method is currently selected. The `Run` button is highlighted, and the output console shows the message: `Simulation complete.`

```
import sys
f = open('testMachine.txt')

class set0():
    valid = 0
    way0tag = 0
    way1tag = 0
    way0age = 0
    way1age = 0

class set1():
    valid = 0
    way0tag = 0
    way1tag = 0
    way0age = 0
    way1age = 0

class set2():
    valid = 0
    way0tag = 0
    way1tag = 0
    way0age = 0
    way1age = 0

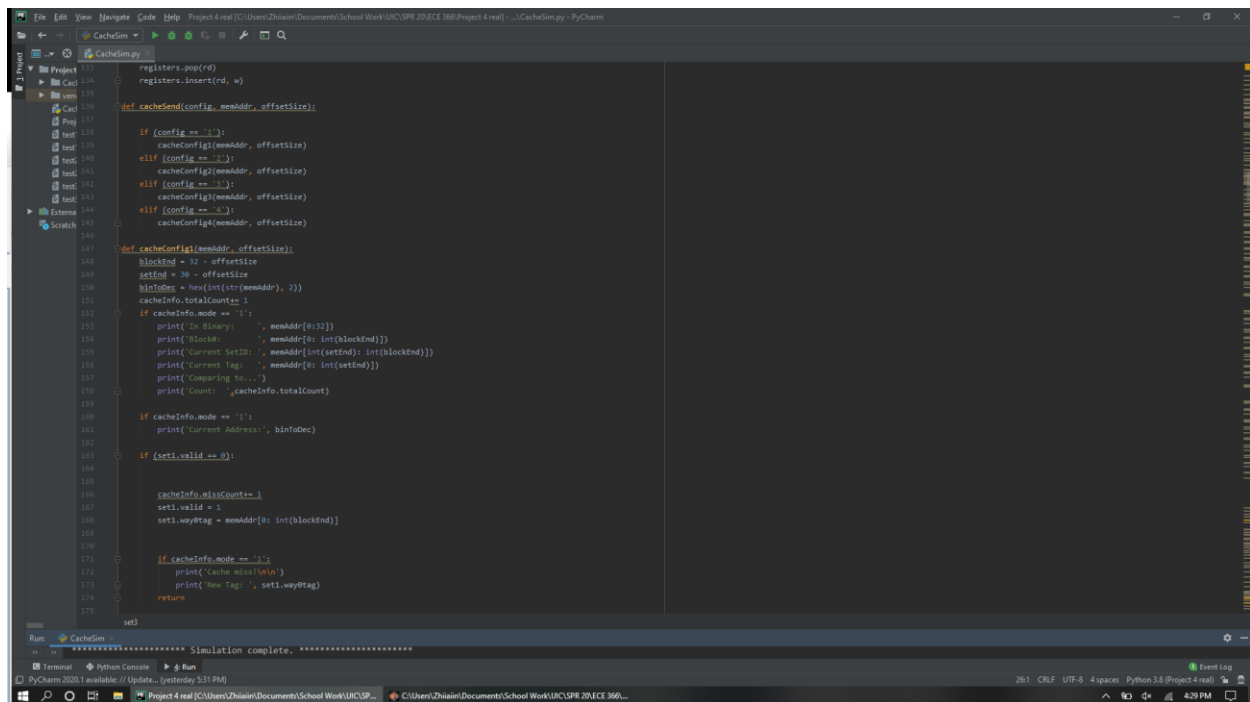
class set3():
    valid = 0
    way0tag = 0
    way1tag = 0
    way0age = 0
    way1age = 0

class cacheInfo():
    missCount = 0
    hitCount = 0
    totalCount = 0
    mode = 0

def twos_comp(z, bits):
    if (z & (1 << (bits - 1))) != 0: # if sign is neg
        z = z - (1 << bits) # compute negative value
    return z

def add4(x, y):
    return x + y

set0
```



The screenshot shows the PyCharm IDE with the same `CacheSim.py` file. The `set3` method is currently selected. The `Run` button is highlighted, and the output console shows the message: `Simulation complete.`

```
registers.pop(rd)
registers.insert(rd, w)

def cacheEnd(config, memaddr, offsetSize):
    if (config == 'L1'):
        cacheConfig(memaddr, offsetSize)
    elif (config == 'L2'):
        cacheConfig(memaddr, offsetSize)
    elif (config == 'L3'):
        cacheConfig(memaddr, offsetSize)
    elif (config == 'L4'):
        cacheConfig(memaddr, offsetSize)

def cacheConfig(memaddr, offsetSize):
    blockEnd = 32 - offsetSize
    setEnd = 30 - offsetSize
    binToDec = hex(int(str(memaddr, 2)))
    cacheInfo.totalCount += 1
    if cacheInfo.mode == 'L1':
        print('In Binary: ', memaddr[0:32])
        print('Block#: ', memaddr[0: int(blockEnd)])
        print('Current SetID: ', memaddr[int(setEnd): int(blockEnd)])
        print('Current Tag: ', memaddr[0: int(setEnd)])
        print('Comparing to...')
        print('Count: ', cacheInfo.totalCount)

    if cacheInfo.mode == 'L1':
        print('Current Address: ', binToDec)

    if (set1.valid == 0):
        cacheInfo.missCount += 1
        set1.valid = 1
        set1.waytag = memaddr[0: int(blockEnd)]

    if cacheInfo.mode == 'L1':
        print('Cache miss/look')
        print('New Tag: ', set1.waytag)

    return

set3
```

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Overall Conclusions

	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
Config 1 Hit Rate	65.63%	72.88%	80.95%
Config 2 Hit Rate	93.75%	93.22%	93.65%
Config 3 Hit Rate	95.31%	94.91%	95.24%
Config 4 Hit Rate	95.31%	94.91%	95.24%

I found that either Cache Configuration 3 or 4 yields the best performance. This data implies that more parameters are important for maximizing performance, and that different parameters for cache need to be customized depending on what hardware will use it. The main factors seem to be how much of the block number bits do you want to conserve versus how efficient do you want memory to be accessed. These are things to consider when working on CPUs and determining which configurations will optimize performance, at the same time ultimately save the company the most money during production.