16.317: Microprocessor Systems Design ISpring 2012

Lecture 25: Key Questions March 30, 2012

1.	Describe the role of the additional memory/IO signals.
2.	Describe the role of the signals in the interrupt interface.
3.	Describe the role of the signals in the DMA interface. What is a DMA?
4.	Describe the role of the signals in the coprocessor interface. Why might a processor need a coprocessor?

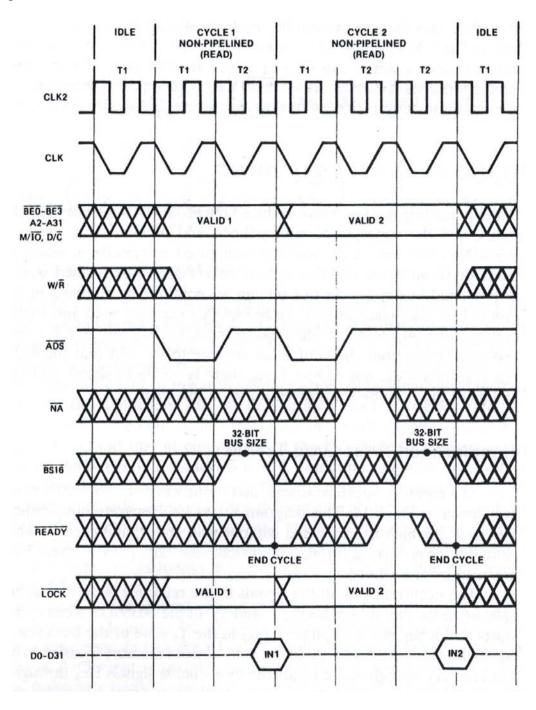
5. Describe the basic characteristics and functionality of the system clock.

6. Describe the basic functionality of a bus cycle, including the difference between pipelined and non-pipelined bus cycles.

7. What is the difference between an idle state and a wait state?

8. How does a processor know when a wait state has occurred? How do most processors handle wait states?

9. Explain the basic characteristics of a read cycle, using the 80386 read cycle timing diagram shown below:



10. Explain the basic characteristics of a write cycle, using the 80386 write cycle timing diagram shown below. What signals have different timing than the read cycle? Why?

