

1. Which categories of people are concerned about performance of computers?

Answer: The customer, the vendor, and the computer designer

2. When you want to choose a courier delivery service, what performance metrics will you consider?

Answer: Delivery time, reliability, cost per unit weight, max. weight, online tracking, etc.

3. What metrics is/are of concern for a computer user?

Answer: The execution time/response time.

4. If MIPS supports the `blt` instruction, the number of instructions is 5 million and the cycle time increases by 20%. But if we don't support it, 10% instructions will have to be `blt`, which needs to be replaced by 2 instructions. Given this data, should `blt` be supported as a MIPS instruction?

(a) Yes, because it would make the program execute faster

(b) No, because it would make the program execute slower

Answer: (b)

5. Two implementations of the same instruction set are as follows:

- Implementation-1: 2 GHz, CPI = 1.5
- Implementation-2: 2.4 GHz, CPI = 2

Which implementation is faster and by how much?

(a) Implementation-1 is faster by a factor of 1.6

(b) Implementation-2 is faster by a factor of 1.6

(c) Implementation-1 is faster by a factor of $\frac{10}{9}$

(d) Implementation-2 is faster by a factor of $\frac{10}{9}$

Answer: (d)

6. The Intel instruction set supports memory as an operand in `add`:

- Option-1: implement `add` as 3 cycles
- Option-2: additional hardware support

- Implication-1: number of cycles increases from 2 million to 2.4 million
- Implication-2: cycle length increases by 10

Which option is better?

- (a) Option-1 of longer add
- (b) Option-2 of longer clock time

Answer: (b)

7. Which of the three components of the computer performance equation does the algorithm affect? Select all that apply.

- (a) number of instructions
- (b) CPI
- (c) cycle time

Answer: (a), sometimes (b)

8. Which of the three components of the computer performance equation does the choice of HLL affect? Select all that apply.

- (a) number of instructions
- (b) CPI
- (c) cycle time

Answer: (a), (b)

9. Which of the three components of the computer performance equation does the compiler affect? Select all that apply.

- (a) number of instructions
- (b) CPI
- (c) cycle time

Answer: (a), (b)

10. Which of the three components of the computer performance equation does the ISA affect? Select all that apply.

- (a) number of instructions

- (b) CPI
- (c) cycle time

Answer: (a), (b), (c)

11. Which of the three components of the computer performance equation does the hardware implementation of the ISA affect? Select all that apply.

- (a) number of instructions
- (b) CPI
- (c) cycle time

Answer: (b), (c)

12. We are given the following data and code sequences:

- CPI for branch instructions: 2
- CPI for `lw/sw`: 3
- CPI for reg-reg: 1
- Code-sequence-1: 8 branches, 8 loads, 2 stores, 8 reg-reg
- Code-sequence-2: 2 branches, 14 loads, 2 stores, 8 reg-reg

Which code sequence is better? By what factor?

- (a) The first sequence, by a factor of 10/9
- (b) The second sequence, by a factor of 10/9
- (c) The first sequence, by a factor of 1.15
- (d) The second sequence, by a factor of 1.15

Answer: (a)

13. Let us say that Intel wants to improve its CPU chip

- Option-1: memory speedup 10x
- Option-2: ALU speedup 2x

You are also given that $F_{alu} = 0.5$, $F_{mem} = 0.2$, $F_{other} = 0.3$. Which of the two options given has better speedup for the program?

- (a) Memory improvement
- (b) ALU improvement

Answer: (b)