

Homework 1

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Due: January 25, 23:55 hrs

NOTE: Answer submissions must be made either in word document or pdfs. No hand-written assignments would be accepted. All assignment submissions will be checked for plagiarism.

Problem 1:

Consider an SMP with a distributed shared-address-space consisting of 4 processing units running at 1 GHz. Each processing unit has a cache and is connected to a shared-memory. It takes negligible time (consider 1ns) to access a word from local cache and 100ns from shared memory. Consider following producer-consumer program:

```

prod = tid % 2;
i = tid;
thread begin:
    if (i < buffersize)
        if (prod == 1)
            produceItem(i);
            prod = 0;
        else
            consumeItem(i);
            prod = 1;
    i = i+4
end

```

The `produceItem()` and `consumeItem()` takes 20 and 25 instruction cycles respectively with one memory read/write operation each. Assume that this program is running with buffersize of 40K words, spread equally over memory of all 4 machine (each machine has 10K consecutive words in its memory) with 99% cache hit ratio. Compute the peak achievable performance of system for SIMD and MIMD architecture. Assume that all instructions other than `produceItem()` and `consumeItem()` takes no cycles.

Problem 2:

Let R^i denote a read on a *register* that returns v^i , the unique value written by W^i (where i is the index of totally ordered writes to the register). A register is said to be *regular* if it allows multiple readers and single writer and the following conditions hold true:

- It is never the case that $R^i \rightarrow W^i$
- It is never the case that for some j , $W^i \rightarrow W^j \rightarrow R^i$

Explain whether the Peterson's two-thread ME algorithm would work when the atomic flag registers are replaced by *regular* registers.

Problem 3:

Consider the following generalization of Peterson's ME algorithm for n threads:

```

1  class n-thread-Peterson implements Lock{
2      private int turn;
3      private boolean busy = false;
4      public void lock() {
5          int me = TID.get();
6          do {
7              do {
8                  turn = me;
9                  } while (busy);
10             busy = true;
11             } while (turn != me);
12         }
13     public void unlock() {
14         busy = false;
15     }
16 }

```

Show a proof or counterexample for each of the following: Does the protocol satisfy mutual exclusion, deadlock-freedom and starvation-freedom?

Problem 4:

Prove that sequential consistency is non-blocking.

Problem 5:

Consider the following implementation of a Queue:

```

1  class Q<T> {
2      AtomicInteger head = 0; AtomicInteger tail = 0;
3      Atomic<T> items[];
4      void enq(T x) {
5          if (tail - head == items.length){
6              throw FullException();
7          }
8          items[tail % items.length] = x;
9          tail++;
10     }
11     T deq() {
12         if (tail - head == 0){
13             throw EmptyException();
14         }
15         T x = items[head % items.length];
16         head++;
17         return x;
18     }
19 }

```

Assume that each instruction of enq() and deq() methods executes atomically (*i.e.* without thread interference) but methods themselves are not atomic. Consider the specification of queue object as: (a) If queue is nonempty and not full then a subsequent deq() must return the element at location head; (b) If the queue is empty then a subsequent deq() must throw empty exception; (c) If the queue is full then a subsequent enq() must throw full exception. Assume that the linearization point for enq() is at line 9. For a 2-threaded system, is the queue object linearizable? Explain your answer.

Problem 6:

Consider the two correct lock implementations below:

```

1  public class Lock1 implements Lock{
2      AtomicBoolean state = new AtomicBoolean(false);
3      public void lock() {
4          while(state.getAndSet(true)){}
5      }
6      public void unlock() {
7          state.set(false);
8      }
9  }
10
11 public class Lock2 implements Lock{
12     AtomicBoolean state = new AtomicBoolean(false);
13     public void lock() {
14         while(true){
15             while(state.get()){}
16             if (!state.getAndSet(true)) return;
17         }
18     }
19     public void unlock() {
20         state.set(false);
21     }
22 }

```

The `getAndSet(true)` atomically replaces the current value with `true` and returns the previous value. Compare the Lock1 and Lock2 functions in terms of performance. Explain your answer.