

In-Class Exercise 8

Submit your work to the moodle before the deadline

1. Write a function that updates an array of 1024 bytes **repeatedly** (i.e., read, add one in the value of every byte and write the modified values) using four parameters, **int arrSize**, **int stepSize**, **int repCount** and **int loopSize**. Use the MIPS conventions to pass the parameters.

The signature of this procedure in C would look like this:

```
void myMemoryUpdate (int repCount, int loopSize, int arrSize, int stepSize){  
    // an array type could be different (e.g., char array[arrSize]; )  
  
    for (int repIdx=0; repIdx < repCount ; repIdx ++){  
        for (int index = 0; index < arrSize; index += stepSize) {  
            // do read, add one in every byte and write  
            //e.g., array[index] = array[index] + 1; // for char type, stepSize =1  
        }  
    }  
  
    // Another way  
    for (int index = 0; index < arrSize/loopSize; index ++){  
        for (int repIdx=0; repIdx < repCount ; repIdx ++){  
            for (int loopIdx = 0; loopIdx < loopSize ; loopIdx += stepSize){  
                // read, add one in every byte and write  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Example of array declaration:

array: .space 1024

Example of Read Data of the array (for 1024 bytes) :

Address	value(+0)	value(+4)	value(+8)	value(+c)
0x1000 :	0x00000000	0x00000000	0x00000000	0x00000000

Example of Write Data of the array (for 1024 bytes) :

Address	value(+0)	value(+4)	value(+8)	value(+c)
0x1000 :	0x04040404	0x04040404	0x04040404	0x04040404

2. **(Optional)** And then, try to improve cache performance with optimizing (actually better) your **assembly source code** and **cache organization parameters** in the **Data Cache Simulator Tool**. We assume that the memory performance metric is like below and **lower value is better**. (The Miss Penalty was not considered currently).

Cache performance metric:

Memory Access Count X Cache Miss Rate

= Memory Access Count X (100 – Cache Hit Rate + 1(offset for 100% hit rate))

Note 1: How to activate the Cache and Memory related Tools

Run **Tools-->Data Cache Simulator**.

Enable the Runtime Log and then click "Connect to MIPS".

Run **Tools-->Memory Reference Visualization**

Click "Connect to MIPS".