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ECE 506 Project 2 – SMP Cache Coherence report

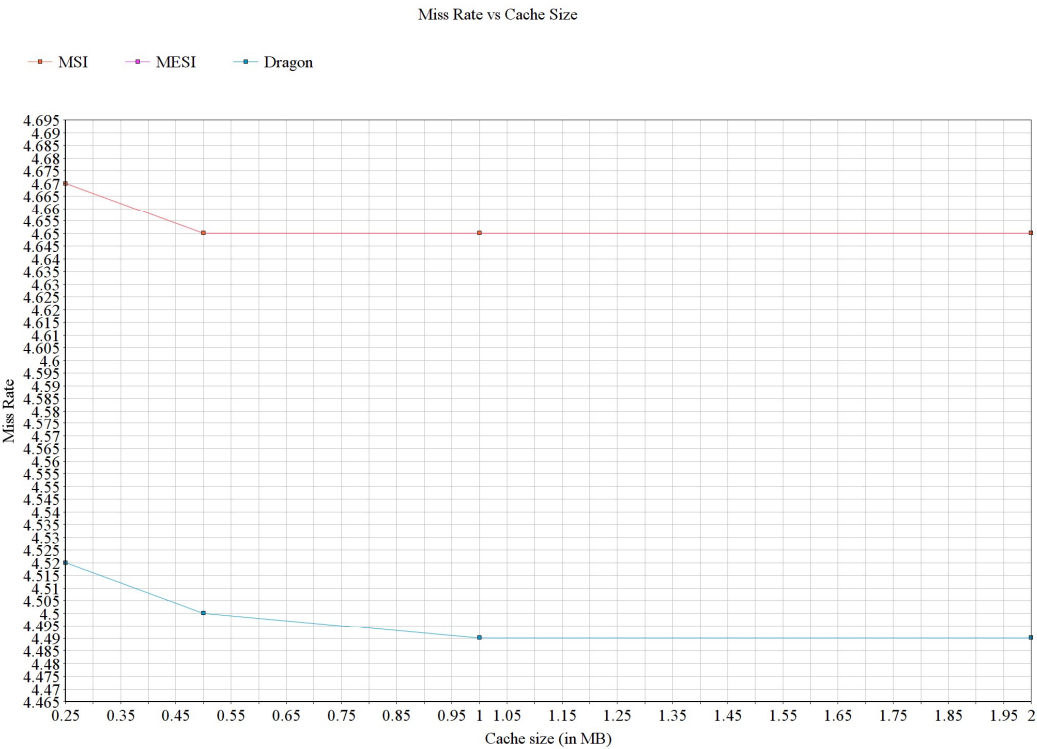
Spreadsheet for all statistics -

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1S9q1aYMTsWa7EUJRISxUQoPiKUdvLVh0hL1vnCuU5TU/edit?usp=sharing>

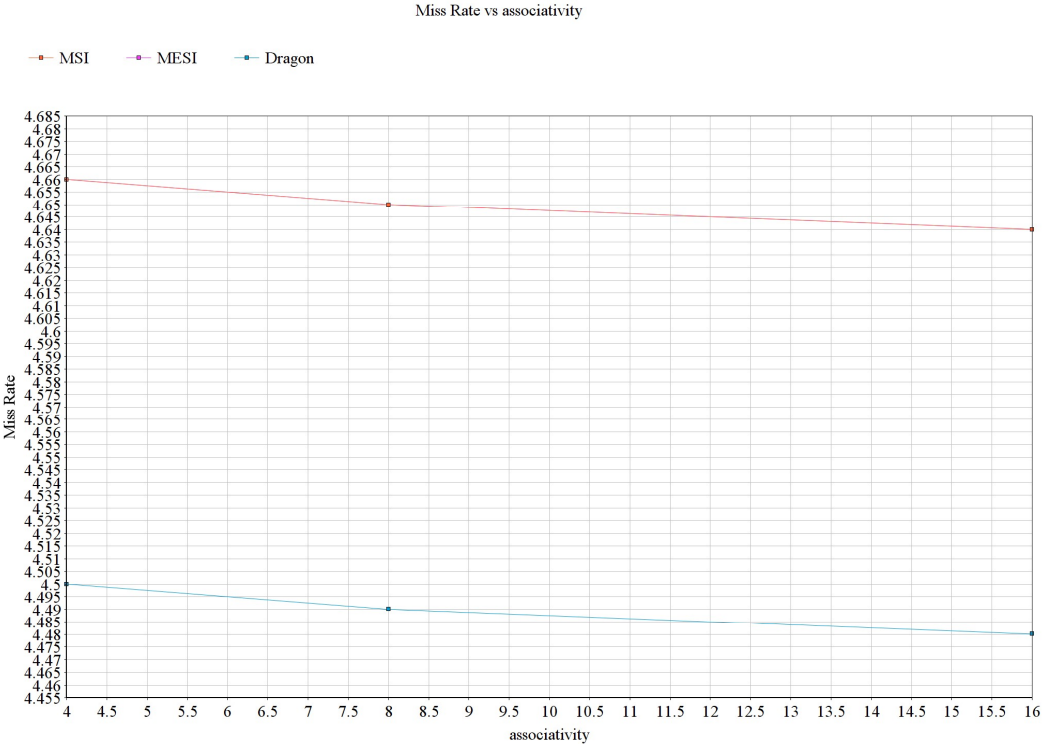
Base observations –

- Many statistics are approximately the same value for both MSI and MESI protocols with the only major difference being in number of memory transactions and number of BusRdXs issued. This is due to the inherent nature of both protocols and the fact that MESI enables us to have Cache-to-cache transactions. While Dragon protocol too allows us to have Cache-to-cache transactions, it hasn't been implemented in this project.
- For a general trend, the miss rate for dragon protocol is observed to be slightly lesser than that of MSI and MESI. This trend is observed across all corresponding caches.
- Since the trends for all the caches are observed to be the same with no deviations, graphs have been plotted only for the Cache 0 statistics of each simulation run. However, a full list of tabulated statistics can be found in the spreadsheet linked above.
- In almost all the cases, there are very few gains to be made by changing the complexity of the cache configuration since all the statistics are not too different from each other. However, given a different trace input or a different number of processors, we could observe varying trends that may clearly favour one configuration over the other.
- Attached below are the graphs for Miss rate and memory transactions vs Cache size, block size, and associativity. The trends observed in these graphs are resonated in all other graphs and it would just be redundant to attach them here.
- Note that in case of Miss rates, the values for MSI and MESI are the exact same as seen from the spreadsheet and thus only one line is shown.
- For a fixed set of cache size, associativity and block size, Dragon protocol has the least miss rate at 4.07%, the least writebacks at 145, and the least flushes at 3. MSI has the least interventions, MESI has the least BusRdX operations. Thus, we can conclusively say that for the given trace input, dragon protocol is the most optimum one if we assume that cache to cache transactions are enabled. If not, MESI would be the most optimum.

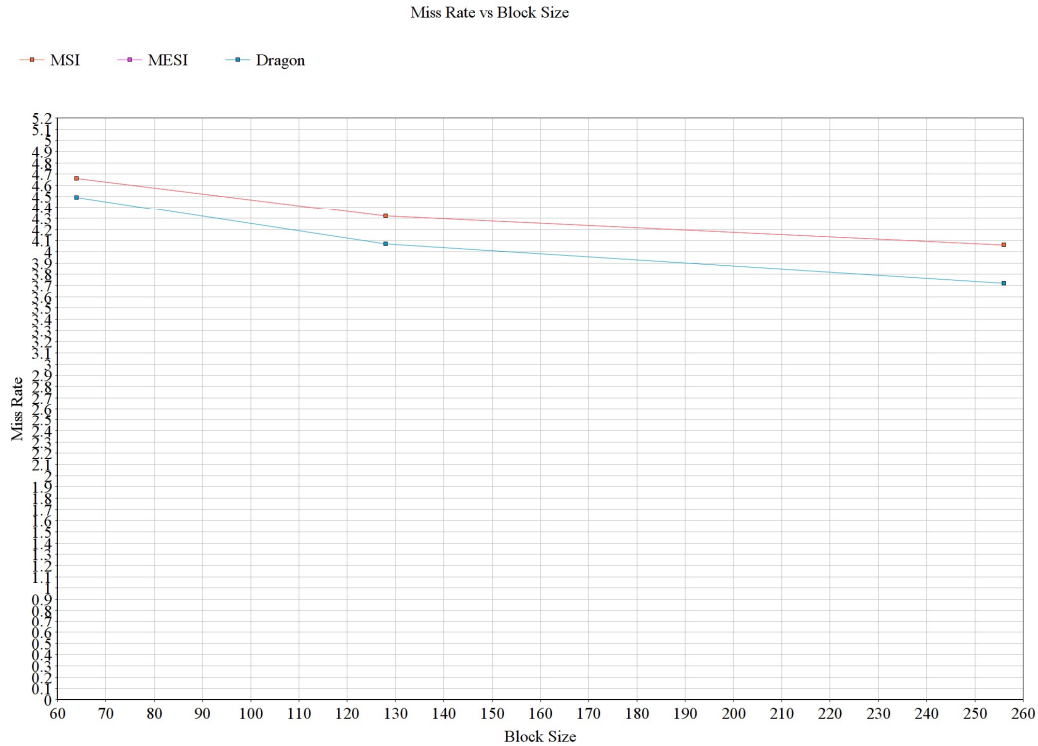
Graph 1.1



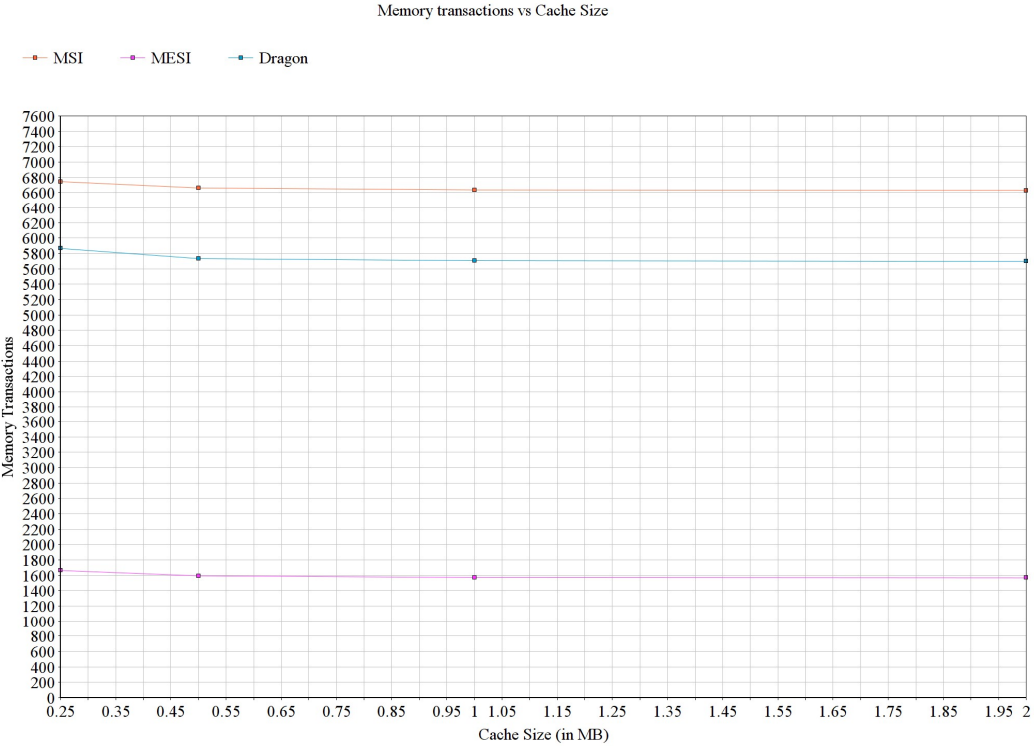
Graph 1.2



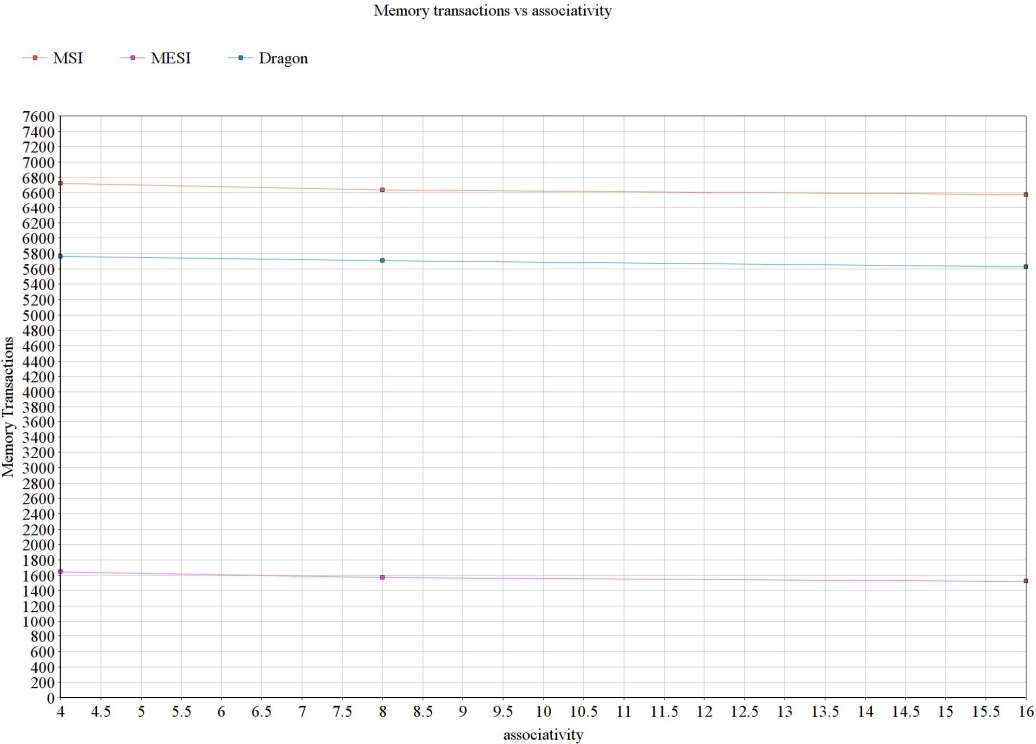
Graph 1.3



Graph 2.1



Graph 2.2



Graph 2.3

