

QuestionnaireGroup1

Thank you for taking part in this study which aims to understand the influence that visualization can have on the understanding of software behavior. You are kindly requested to answer 12 questions whose answers range from automatic completions to some calculations that you can do mentally. You can also use a calculator or an Excel spreadsheet. If you wish, you can answer this questionnaire anonymously by providing a pseudonym instead of your name. This study has received ethical certification from the Ethics Committee for Research with Human Beings of TELUQ University (CER-TELUQ) number 2022-08 of April 12, 2022.

A- Personal information, start date and start time of filling out the questionnaire

Q1- Name or pseudonym

Alexander

Q2-Date :

2022-05-28

Q3-Start time:

11:51 PM

C- Understanding the behavior of the vector instructions _mm512_mask_add_ps and _mm_shuffle_epi32

1- Vector instruction _mm512_mask_add_ps

Carefully read the explanation of this instruction on the figure below. You can also find this explanation on [Intel © web site](#). Make sure you read and understand the explanation before answering questions Q7 and Q8. You can also watch [this short video](#) where the instruction is explained; the video is an explanation made by an expert in the field of vector programming. You should only use the explanations provided (you can of course consult the [Intel © web site](#)), but do not use other resources (for example search on Google, other documents, etc.).

```
__m512 __mm512_mask_add_ps (__m512 src, __mmask16 k, __m512 a, __m512 b)
```

vaddps

Synopsis

```
__m512 __mm512_mask_add_ps (__m512 src, __mmask16 k, __m512 a, __m512 b)
#include <immintrin.h>
Instruction: vaddps zmm {k}, zmm, zmm
CPUID Flags: AVX512F
```

Description

Add packed single-precision (32-bit) floating-point elements in `a` and `b`, and store the results in `dst` using writemask `k` (elements are copied from `src` when the corresponding mask bit is not set).

Operation

```
FOR j := 0 to 15
  i := j*32
  IF k[j]
    dst[i+31:i] := a[i+31:i] + b[i+31:i]
  ELSE
    dst[i+31:i] := src[i+31:i]
  FI
ENDFOR
dst[MAX:512] := 0
```

Performance

Architecture	Latency	Throughput (CPI)
Icelake	4	1
Skylake	4	0.5

**Q7- After reading the description and the explanation above, say what the `_mm512_mask_add_ps` instruction does by performing the following calculation: given `src=(1, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 1, 3, 4, 1)`; `k=(1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0)`; `a=(6, 1, 2, 3, 1, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1)`; `b=(6, 1, 2, 3, 1, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1)` . Calculate `r = _mm512_mask_add_ps(src, k, a, b)`
`r = (12, 3, 4, 6, 2, 5, 4, 2, 2, 6, 8, 1, 1, 3, 4, 1)`**

**Q8- Using the description and the explanation above again, give a general formula for calculating the coordinates of `r(ri)` as function of those of `src(srci)`, `k(ki)`, `a(ai)` and `b(bi)`). `ri=?`
`ri=(1-ki) x srci+ki x (ai+bi)`**

2-Vector instruction `_mm_shuffle_epi32`

Carefully read the explanation of this instruction on the figure below. You can find this explanation on [Intel © web site](#). Make sure you read and understand the explanation before answering questions Q9 and Q10. You can also watch [this short video](#) where the instruction is explained; the video is an explanation made by an expert in the field of vector programming. You should only use the explanations provided (you can naturally consult the Intel © site by following the link given above), but do not use other resources (for example search on Google, other documents, etc.).

```
__m128i _mm_shuffle_epi32 (__m128i a, int imm8)
```

psrshufd

Synopsis

```
__m128i _mm_shuffle_epi32 (__m128i a, int imm8)
#include <emmintrin.h>
Instruction: psrshufd xmm, xmm, imm8
CPUID Flags: SSE2
```

Description

Shuffle 32-bit integers in `a` using the control in `imm8`, and store the results in `dst`.

Operation

```
DEFINE SELECT4(src, control) {
    CASE(control[1:0]) OF
        0:    tmp[31:0] := src[31:0]
        1:    tmp[31:0] := src[63:32]
        2:    tmp[31:0] := src[95:64]
        3:    tmp[31:0] := src[127:96]
    ESAC
    RETURN tmp[31:0]
}

dst[31:0] := SELECT4(a[127:0], imm8[1:0])
dst[63:32] := SELECT4(a[127:0], imm8[3:2])
dst[95:64] := SELECT4(a[127:0], imm8[5:4])
dst[127:96] := SELECT4(a[127:0], imm8[7:6])
```

Performance

Architecture	Latency	Throughput (CPI)
Skylake	1	1
Broadwell	1	1
Haswell	1	1
Ivy Bridge	1	0.5

Q9- After reading the description and the explanation above, say what the `_mm_shuffle_epi32` instruction does by performing the following calculation: given `a=(6, 7, 4, 3)`; `imm8=(0, 1, 2, 3)`. Calculate `r = _mm_shuffle_epi32(a, imm8)`
`r = (3, 4, 7, 6)`

Q10- Using the description and the explanation above again, give a general formula for calculating the coordinates of `r(ri)` as function of those of `a(ai)` and `imm8(imm8i)`. `ri=?`
`ri=aj`, where `j=imm8i`

B- Preliminary knowledge

I- Knowledge of algebra and vector space

Consider the real vector space R^3 . For $A, B, C, Res1, Res2$, five vectors of R^3 such that $A=(a_1, a_2, a_3)$, $B=(b_1, b_2, b_3)$, $C=(c_1, c_2, c_3)$, $Res1=(x_1, x_2, x_3)$, $Res2=(y_1, y_2, y_3)$ we define $vectSum(A,B,C)=Res1$ and $vectProd(A,B,C)=Res2$ by

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = a_1 - b_1 + c_1 \\ x_2 = a_2 - b_2 + c_2 \\ x_3 = a_3 - b_3 + c_3 \end{cases} \text{ and } \begin{cases} y_1 = b_1 \times (a_1 - c_1) + c_1 \\ y_2 = b_2 \times (a_2 - c_2) + c_2 \\ y_3 = b_3 \times (a_3 - c_3) + c_3 \end{cases}$$

Now let's assume that $A=(1, 0, 1)$; $B=(1, 1, 0)$; $C=(0, 1, 1)$.

**Q4- Calculate each of the Res1 and Res2 vectors: Res1= ?
Res2=?**

Res1=(0,0,2); Res2=(1,0,1).

Q5- Give a general formula for calculating the coordinates of Res1(xi) and Res2(yi) as a function of those of A (ai), B (bi) and C (ci). xi=? yi=?

$x_i = a_i - b_i + c_i$; $y_i = b_i \times (a_i - c_i) + c_i$.

II- Knowledge of the C language

Consider the following function f in C: `int f (int x, int y) {return x-y;}`.

Q6- Choose the two instructions in C (that is, instruction1 and instruction2) which allow you to declare three integer variables a, b, c and to place in c the difference between a and b using the function f. instruction1: ? instruction2: ?

Instruction1: `int c, a, b;` Instruction2: `c=f(a,b);`

D- End time of the questionnaire completion and comments

Q11- End time:

12:00 AM

Q12- Other comments and remarks:

Interesting questionnaire! It finally explained SIMD in an approachable way to me, in that it exposed how to think about vectors lanes as array elements! Very useful! (That said, I leaned heavily on my college education in Computer Engineering to understand the math side.)