Instructor: Karim Ali



Question 1: (20 points)

The main competitor of TinyProc Inc. is Sneak Inc. The latter is trying to increase their market share by offering their latest processor \$75. Despite using the same Instruction Set Architecture, \$75 is an improvement over TP500 from TinyProc Inc. The most important application in this market is ControLux, an application that controls the dashboard of a luxury car. After getting access to \$75, TinyProc Inc. was able to design TinyComp, a compiler that generates code that runs on both TP500 and \$75. Trying to preserve their market share, Sneak Inc. developed their own compiler SneakComp, which also generates code that runs on both processors. An independent performance comparison between TP500 and \$75 reveals that \$75 is twice as fast as TP500 when running ControLux. The TinyProc Inc. management is panicking and has asked you, as an Industrial Internship Program (IIP) student with a placement at TinyProc Inc., to investigate what Sneak Inc. has done to deliver this performance gain. Here is the information that you have to work with:

- Controlux compiled with *SneakComp* runs twice as fast in S75 compared with Controlux compiled with *TinyComp* running on TP500.
- S75 runs at 750 MHz, while TP500 runs at 500 MHz.
- The instructions in the ISA of TP500 can be divided into three classes according to the number of cycles that each instruction needs to execute: ALU instructions, load/store instructions and branch instructions. When Controlux is compiled with TinyComp, its instruction mix is 40% ALU, 25% load/stores, and 35% branches.
- In TP500, an ALU instruction requires 1 cycle to execute, a load/store instruction requires 5 cycles, and a branch requires 3 cycles.
- In S75, you were able to measure the number of cycles per instruction for ALU and branch instructions, but not for load/store instructions. On average, it takes 1 cycle to execute an ALU instruction and 3 cycles to execute a branch. To measure the number of cycles per load/store instruction, you ran the Controlux code generated by TinyComp on the S75. You found out that S75 is 2.025 times faster than TP500 when executing this code.
- **a.** (5 points) What is the CPI of ControLux, compiled with *TinyComp*, when it runs on TP500?
- **b.** (5 points) What is the CPI of ControLux, compiled with TinyComp, when it runs on S75?
- c. (5 points) What is the average number of cycles required to execute load/store instructions when executing the ControLux code generated with *TinyComp* on the S75?
- d. (5 points) TinyProc Inc. managed to obtain an executable for ControLux that was generated by SneakComp. Using hardware event counters, you managed to determine that, in the SneakComp code, the number of branch instructions and the number of load/store instructions is 20% less than in that generated with Tiny-Comp. What is the percentage change in the number of ALU instructions executed

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by the SneakComp version of ${\tt ControLux}$ in comparison with the code generated with TinyComp?