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ECE 466 Advance Computer Architecture Project 1

# 1. What is the performance of running the program, equake, under the default system setup (without changing any simulation parameters) using command: ./sim-outorder equake.ss < equake.in?

To run the Simplescalar software on a Windows machine, I have used Cygwin software to carry out all the executions. To simplify things, I have created a configuration file which can be later modified as per the needs. The configuration file was created by —

## ./sim-outorder -dumpconfig my.cfg -fastfwd 500000000 -max:inst 300000000

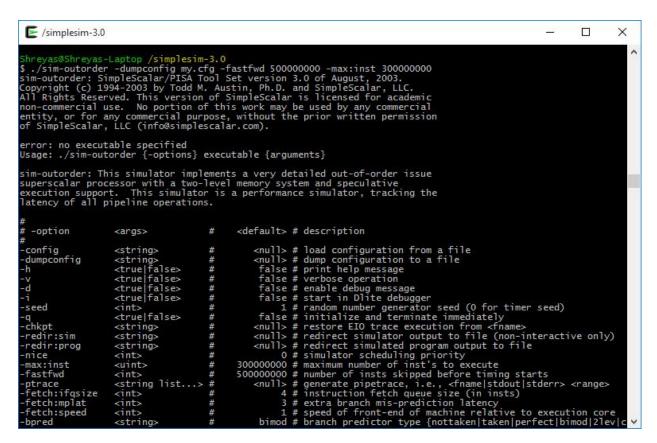


Figure 1: Creating configuration file name my.cfg

Here, the configuration file is saved under the name 'my' is saved under the same folder. Configuration file can be access and modified with any standard text editor and is pretty self-explanatory. Instruction fastfwd 500000000 is used to fast forward 500M instructions and max:inst: 300000000 is used to execute the next 300M instructions. The program can be then run by the following command —

#### ./sim-outorder -config my.cfg equake.ss<equake.in

```
sim: ** simulation statistics **
sim_num_insn
                               300000001 # total number of instructions committed
                                97642664 # total number of loads and stores committed
sim_num_refs
                         67983535 # total number of loads committed 29659129.0000 # total number of stores committed
sim_num_loads
sim_num_stores
                               79161917 # total number of branches committed
sim_num_branches
                         169 # total simulation time in seconds
1775147.9349 # simulation speed (in insts/sec)
sim_elapsed_time
sim_inst_rate
sim_total_insn
                               318884757 # total number of instructions executed
                               103448882 # total number of loads and stores executed 72286691 # total number of loads executed
sim_total_refs
sim_total_loads
sim_total_stores
                          31162191.0000 # total number of stores executed
```

```
sim_total_branches 83300410 # total number of branches executed 180472212 # total simulation time in cycles sim_IPC 1.6623 # instructions per cycle 0.6016 # cycles per instruction
```

Above is a brief part of the simulation results and we can observe several important results like number of instructions, elapsed time and most importantly, the IPC(Instructions per cycle) and CPI(Cycles per Instructions) values.

sim\_IPC 1.6623 # instructions per cycle sim\_CPI 0.6016 # cycles per instruction

```
/simplesim-3.0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    П
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               X
Shreyas@Shreyas-Laptop /simplesim-3.0

$ ./sim-outorder -config my.cfg equake.ss<equake.in

sim-outorder: SimpleScalar/PISA Tool Set version 3.0 of August, 2003.

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All Rights Reserved. This version of SimpleScalar is licensed for academic

non-commercial use. No portion of this work may be used by any commercial

entity, or for any commercial purpose, without the prior written permission

of SimpleScalar, LLC (info@simplescalar.com).
 sim: command line: ./sim-outorder -config my.cfg equake.ss
  sim: simulation started @ Wed Nov 4 10:22:01 2015, options follow:
sim-outorder: This simulator implements a very detailed out-of-order issue superscalar processor with a two-level memory system and speculative execution support. This simulator is a performance simulator, tracking the latency of all pipeline operations.
                                                                                              # load configuration from a file

# dump configuration to a file

false # print help message

false # verbose operation

false # enable debug message

false # start in Ditte debugger
       -config
-dumpconfig
# -v
# -d
                                                                   false # start in Diite debugger

1 # random number generator seed (0 for timer seed)
false # initialize and terminate immediately
<null> # restore EIO trace execution from <fname>
<null> # redirect simulator output to file (non-interactive only)
<null> # redirect simulated program output to file

0 # simulator scheduling priority
300000000 # maximum number of inst's to execute
500000000 # number of insts skipped before timing starts
<null> # generate pipetrace, i.e., <fname|stdout|stderr> <range>

4 # instruction fetch queue size (in insts)

3 # extra branch mis-prediction latency

1 # speed of front-end of machine relative to execution core
bimod # branch predictor type {nottaken|taken|perfect|bimod|2lev|comb}
2048 # bimodal predictor config ()
1 1024 8 0 # 2-level predictor config (<llsize> <l2size> <hist_size> <xor>)
    seed
      -q
-chkpt
       -redir:sim
       -redir:prog
   -nice
     max:inst
     -ptrace
fetch:ifqsize
fetch:mplat
      fetch:speed
     bpred
bpred:bimod
```

Figure 2: using configuration file for finding out-of-order execution

# 2. How much is the performance loss if the processor uses in-order execution instead of the default out-of-order execution for running the program?

Since we have created the configuration file, it makes our job much simple by changing the default configuration as per the needs. Here, we need to execute the program with in-order execution as compared to the out-of-order. This can be done by changing the following line in the configuration file –

## # run pipeline with in-order issue

-issue:inorder true

When the **-issue:inorder** is set to true, in-order execution takes places. By default, it is false, for out-of-order execution.

And we can re-run the simulation by the same command as above -

./sim-outorder -config myconfig.cfg equake.ss<equake.in

```
sim: ** simulation statistics **
                             300000000 # total number of instructions committed
sim_num_insn
                              97642663 # total number of loads and stores committed 67983534 # total number of loads committed
sim_num_refs
sim_num_loads
                        29659129.0000 # total number of stores committed
sim_num_stores
sim_num_branches
                              79161917 # total number of branches committed
sim_elapsed_time
                                    158 # total simulation time in seconds
                         1898734.1772 # simulation speed (in insts/sec)
sim_inst_rate
                             302625700 # total number of instructions executed
sim_total_insn
sim_total_refs
sim_total_loads
                              98155318 # total number of loads and stores executed 68496063 # total number of loads executed
sim_total_stores
                        29659255.0000 # total number of stores executed
sim_total_branches
                              79162118 # total number of branches executed
sim_cycle
                             387345904 # total simulation time in cycles
                                0.7745 # instructions per cycle
sim IPC
                                1.2912 # cycles per instruction
sim_CPI
```

From the above simulation we can notice that the values of IPC and CPI has been changed –

```
sim_IPC 0.7745 # instructions per cycle sim_CPI 1.2912 # cycles per instruction
```

As compared with the default out-of-order execution, we observe 2.1462 times execution time or 46.5939% execution speed in case of in-order execution.

Figure 3: Simulated results for in-order execution

3. The above experiments only perform detailed simulation on 300 million instructions. Based on the simulator running time in Question 1, estimate how long it would take to run the program on a real machine with 3GHz processor and the same IPC value as in Question 1; and then estimate how long it would take to simulate the program's execution in details from beginning to end using the default configuration. Note: Do not run the detailed simulation from beginning to end. It may take days to finish.

The value of IPC from the first question was observed to be 1.6623

Therefore, the numbers of cycles required for simulation of 300 million instructions are:

```
Number of Cycles = 30000000/1.6623
= 180310133.4
```

And for a 3GHz machine,

```
Time = No. of cycles X Processor Clock Speed
(Processor Clock Speed = 1/CPU Frequency)

Time = 180310133.4/3x10<sup>9</sup>

Time = 0.06010 Seconds
```

With a 3GHz machine, time required would be **0.0601 seconds** or 60.10 msecs

To execute the program from the start, we use the command –

## ./sim-safe equake.ss<equake.in

Here, the observed results were -

```
sim: ** simulation statistics **
sim_num_insn
                              165643162265 # total number of instructions executed
                            78602999410 # total number of loads and stores executed 5670 # total simulation time in seconds 29213961.5988 # simulation speed (in insts/sec)
sim_num_refs
sim_elapsed_time
sim_inst_rate
                                0x00400000 # program text (code) segment base
132784 # program text (code) size in bytes
0x10000000 # program initialized data segment base
ld_text_base
ld_text_size
ld_data_base
ld_data_size
                                       16384 # program init'ed `.data' and uninit'ed `.bss'
size in bytes
                                0x7fffc000 # program stack segment base (highest address in
ld_stack_base
stack)
ld_stack_size
                                       16384 # program initial stack size
                                0x00400140 # program entry point (initial PC)
0x7fff8000 # program environment base address address
ld_prog_entry
ld_environ_base
ld_target_big_endian
                                             0 # target executable endian-ness, non-zero if big
endian
                                       10410 # total number of pages allocated
mem.page_count
                                      41640k # total size of memory pages allocated
mem.page_mem
                                     3253587 # total first level page table misses
mem.ptab_misses
                              906492850614 # total page table accesses
0.0000 # first level page table miss rate
mem.ptab_accesses
mem.ptab_miss_rate
```

Total number of Instructions were – 165643162265 instructions (~165.6B) and using the value of IPC from the result of the first question, IPC = 1.6623.

Therefore.

Number of Cycles = Total Instructions/IPC = 165643162265/1.6623 = 99646972426.75

Which is also equal to the Simulation time for the simulator

But, Simulation Time = Number of Instructions / Simulation Speed = 165643162265 / 696055 = 237974.24 seconds = 3966.23 minutes = 66.10 Hours

It would take almost 66 hours to complete the entire program from start to finish when executed with default configuration.

```
/simplesim-3.0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   X
     Shreyas@Shreyas-Laptop /simplesim-3.0
$ ./sim-safe -config my1.cfg equake.ss<equake.in
$ ./sim-safe: SimpleScalar/PISA Tool Set version 3.0 of August, 2003.
Copyright (c) 1994-2003 by Todd M. Austin, Ph.D. and SimpleScalar, LLC.
All Rights Reserved. This version of SimpleScalar is licensed for academic non-commercial use. No portion of this work may be used by any commercial entity, or for any commercial purpose, without the prior written permission of SimpleScalar, LLC (info@simplescalar.com).
      sim: command line: ./sim-safe -config my1.cfg equake.ss
      sim: simulation started @ Wed Nov 4 11:19:30 2015, options follow:
     sim-safe: This simulator implements a functional simulator. This functional simulator is the simplest, most user-friendly simulator in the simplescalar tool set. Unlike sim-fast, this functional simulator checks for all instruction errors, and the implementation is crafted for clarity rather than speed.
                                                                                  # load configuration from a file
# dump configuration to a file
false # print help message
false # verbose operation
false # enable debug message
false # start in Dlite debugger
1 # random number generator seed (0 for timer seed)
false # initialize and terminate immediately
<null> # restore EIO trace execution from <fname>
<null> # redirect simulator output to file (non-interactive only)
<null> # redirect simulated program output to file
0 # simulator scheduling priority
0 # maximum number of inst's to execute
           -config
-dumpconfig
           -chkpt
          -redir:prog
        max:inst
     sim: ** starting functional simulation **
equake00: Reading nodes.
equake00: Reading elements.
equake00: Reading sparse matrix structure.
equake00: Beginning simulation.
equakevo. sugarda for entire prog
```

Figure 4: Running sim-safe command for entire program execution

Figure 5: Completion of program

4. An advantage of using simulator is that you can vary the processor parameters to see their performance impacts and find the optimal configuration. Start from the default configuration and keep halving or doubling the sizes of L1 instruction cache and data cache, respectively. Show the changes on cache miss rates and performance by varying the cache size. What would be the optimal instruction and data cache sizes for this program based on your experiments?

To change the values of instruction and data cache size, simple change the respective value in the configuration file. This can be changed as following –

### # l1 data cache config, i.e., {<config>| none}

-cache:dl1 dl1:128:64:4:l (64-bit data cache)
-cache:dl1 dl1:128:32:4:l (32-bit data cache)
-cache:dl1 dl1:128:16:4:l (16-bit data cache)
-cache:dl1 dl1:128:8:4:l (8-bit data cache)

For every execution, I have changed the configuration file and executed the program. For the l1 instruction cache, we do the same thing by changing the following –

### # l1 inst cache config, i.e., {<config>|dl1|dl2|none}

-cache:il1 il1:512:64:1:l (64-bit Instruction cache)
-cache:il1 il1:512:32:1:l (32-bit Instruction cache)
-cache:il1 il1:512:16:1:l (16-bit Instruction cache)
-cache:il1 il1:512:8:1:l (8-bit Instruction cache)

In both the cases, I have changed the data and instruction cache separately; meaning that when the data cache is changed, the instruction cache is set to default and vice-versa. The summary of the changes made can be seen from the table below and is evident that when the data cache is being halved, it directly affects the IPC, CPI and the miss rate. Lower bit data cache has lesser IPC values and has higher miss rates. When the data cache is halved, the miss rate is doubled. Hence ideally, higher bit data cache would be recommended. Likewise, when the instruction cache is halved, it clearly affects the IPC value and the miss rate. The impact of halving the instruction cache is more severe than halving data cache. As clearly seen, optimum data and instruction cache would 64 bit for both cases.

## **Observed Results:**

Hardware changed	IPC	СРІ	Miss Rate
64-bit data cache only	1.6631	0.6013	0.0007
32-bit data cache only	1.6623	0.6016	0.0014
16-bit data cache only	1.6607	0.6021	0.0028
8-bit data cache only	1.6576	0.6033	0.0056
64-bit Instruction cache only	1.7672	0.5659	0.0175
32-bit Instruction cache only	1.6623	0.6016	0.0228
16-bit Instruction cache only	0.9021	1.1085	0.1001
8-bit Instruction cache only	0.3382	2.9566	0.2908

```
E /simplesim-3.0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       im: ** simulation statistics **
                                                                                                                                                                       tistics **

300000001 # total number of instructions committed
97642664 # total number of loads and stores committed
67983535 # total number of loads committed
29659129.0000 # total number of stores committed
79161917 # total number of branches committed
269 # total simulation time in seconds
1115241.6394 # simulation speed (in insts/sec)
318888303 # total number of instructions executed
103448882 # total number of loads and stores executed
72286691 # total number of loads executed
31162191.0000 # total number of stores executed
83300410 # total number of branches executed
              im num insn
      sim_num_stores
sim_num_branches
sim_elapsed_time
sim_inst_rate
sim_total_insn
sim_total_refs
   sim_total_loads
sim_total_stores
sim_total_branches
                                                                                                                                                                                                                         Journo - cocci simulaction cime in cycles
1.6631 # instructions per cycle
0.6013 # cycles per instruction
1.7678 # total instructions (mis-spec + committed) per cycle
3.7807 # instruction per basech
   sim_IPC
sim_CPI
sim_IPC
1.6831 # instructions per cycle
0.68013 # cycles per instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6838 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6838 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
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1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.6830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.8830 # total instructions (min-spec + committed) per cycle
1.8830 # total instruction per cycle * committed + cycle * cycl
    sim_exec_BW
                                                                                                                                                                                                                           0.0007 # miss rate (i.e., misses/ref)
 dl1.miss_rate
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    0.0007 # conlargement rate (i.e., wrbks/ref)
0.0002 # writeback rate (i.e., wrbks/ref)
0.0000 # invalidation rate (i.e., invs/ref)
7679110 # total number of accesses
7650762 # total number of hits
28348 # total number of misses
24252 # total number of replacements
20332 # total number of writebacks
0 # total number of invalidations
dl1.wb_rate
dl1.wb_rate
dl1.inv_rate
ul2.accesses
ul2.hits
ul2.misses
ul2.replacements
   ul2.writebacks
ul2.invalidations
```

Figure 6: Observed results for 64-bit data cache