

WINTER - 2015 EXAMINATION

Model Answer

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Subject Code: 17627

Important Instructions to examiners:

1) The answers should be examined by key words and not as word-to-word as given in the model answer scheme.

2) The model answer and the answer written by candidate may vary but the examiner may try to assess the understanding level of the candidate.

3) The language errors such as grammatical, spelling errors should not be given more Importance (Not applicable for subject English and Communication Skills.

4) While assessing figures, examiner may give credit for principal components indicated in the figure. The figures drawn by candidate and model answer may vary. The examiner may give credit for any equivalent figure drawn.

5) Credits may be given step wise for numerical problems. In some cases, the assumed constant values may vary and there may be some difference in the candidate's answers and model answer. 6) In case of some questions credit may be given by judgement on part of examiner of relevant answer based on candidate's understanding.

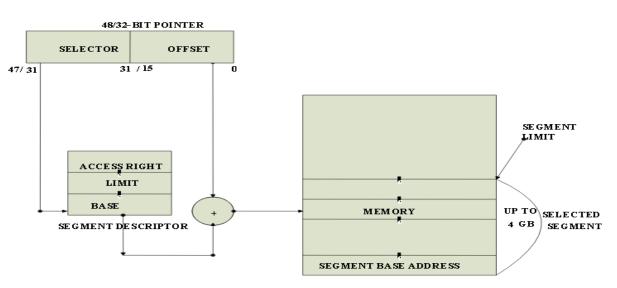
7) For programming language papers, credit may be given to any other program based on equivalent concept.

Q.1) a) Attempt any THREE of the following:

12 i) With neat diagram describe how physical address is generated in protected mode in 80386 microprocessor.

(Diagram – 2 Marks, Explanation – 2 marks)

Ans.



Protected Mode Addressing Without Paging Unit



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Address calculation in protected mode:

The contents of segment registers are used as selectors to address descriptors which contain the segment limit, base address and access right byte of segment. The effective address (offset) is added with the segment base address to calculate linear address. This linear address is used as physical address if the paging unit is disabled.

ii) List any four salient features of pentium processor. (Any 4 features: 1 mark each)

Ans. Following are the features of Pentium:

- 1) It is based on net burst micro architecture.
- 2) Superscalar architecture
- 3) Dynamic branch prediction
- 4) Pipelined Floating-Point Unit
- 5) Separate code and data caches
- 6) 64-bit data bus
- 7) Address parity
- 8) Support for Intel MMX technology
- 9) Dual power supplies—separate VCC2 (core) and VCC3 (I/O) voltage inputs
- 10) Separate 16-Kbyte, 4-way set-associative code and data caches, each with improved fully associative TLBs
- 11) Pool of four write buffers used by both execution pipelines
- 12) Enhanced branch prediction algorithm
- 13) New Fetch pipeline stage between Prefetch and Instruction Decode

iii) List and describe any four features of RISC processor. (Any 4 features: 1 mark each)

Ans.

1.Simple instruction set: in a RISC machine the instruction set is simple, basic instructions from which more complex instructions can be composed. Thus instructions with less latency preferred.

2.Same length Instruction: each instruction is same length so that it may be fetched in single operation.

3.Single machine cycle instructions: most instruction complete in one machine cycle so processor handle several instruction at same time. RISC processors have unity CPI (Clock per Instruction), which is due to the optimization of each instruction on the CPU and massive pipelining embedded in a RISC processor.

4.Pipelining: Usually massive pipeline is embedded in RISC processor. The pipelining is key to speed up RISC machine.



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5.Very few addressing modes and formats: the addressing modes are less and having few formats.

6.Large no of registers: large number of register to prevent large amount of interaction with memory.

7. Micro coding not required: the instruction micro coding is not required. This is because of the availability of a set of simple instructions, which can be easily built into hardware.

8.Load and store architecture: the RISC architecture is primarily load and store architecture, implying that all the memory accesses take place using Load and Store type operations.

iv) Differentiate between .COM and .EXE programs. (any four points) (Any four points - 1 marks each)

Ans.

Sr.	.COM programs	.EXE Programs
No		
1.	.COM file does not contain any header	.EXE file contains header
2.	.COM file cannot contain relocation	.EXE file may contain relocation items.
	items.	
3.	Maximum size is 64k minus 256 bytes.	No limit on size; Can be of any size
	For PSP and 2 bytes for stack.	
4.	Entry point is PSP:0100	Entry point is defined by END
		directive.
5.	Stack size is 64K minus 256 bytes for	Stack size is defined in a program with
	PSP and size of executable data and	STACK directive.
	code.	
6.	Size of file is exact size of program.	Size of file is size of program plus
		header (Multiple of 256 bytes)

Q.1) b) Attempt any <u>ONE</u> of the following:

6

i) Describe the fields in Control registers of 80386 microprocessor with the help of neat diagram.

(Diagram: 2 Marks, Explanation of CR0 – 2 Marks, Explanation of CR2 and CR3 – 1 Mark each)

Ans.

Control Registers: The 80386 has three 32 bit control registers CR0, CR2 and CR3 to hold global machine status independent of the executed task.

CR0 contains system control flags, which control or indicate conditions that apply to the system as a whole, not to an individual task.

EM (Emulation, bit 2): EM indicates whether coprocessor functions are to be emulated. ET (Extension Type, bit 4): ET indicates the type of coprocessor present in the system.



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MP (Math Present, bit 1): MP controls the function of the WAIT instruction, which is used to coordinate a coprocessor.

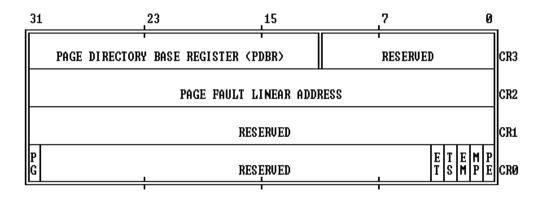
PE (Protection Enable, bit 0): Setting PE causes the processor to begin executing in protected mode. Resetting PE returns to real-address mode.

PG (Paging, bit 31): PG indicates whether the processor uses page tables to translate linear addresses into physical addresses.

TS (Task Switched, bit 3): The processor sets TS with every task switch and tests TS when interpreting coprocessor instructions.

CR2 is used for handling page faults when PG is set. The processor stores in CR2 the linear address that triggers the fault.

CR3 is used when PG is set. CR3 enables the processor to locate the page table directory for the current task.



ii) With the help of neat diagram, describe the interrupt vector table entries. (3 Marks for description and 3 Marks for diagram)

Ans.

Figure shows the 256 interrupt vectors are arranged in the table in memory. Note that the instruction pointer value is put in as the low word of the vector, and the code segment register is put in as the high word of the vector. Each double word interrupt vector is identified by number from 0 to 255. Intel calls this number the type of interrupt. The lowest five types are dedicated to specific interrupts, such as the divide - by - zero interrupt, the single step interrupt, and the non maskable interrupt.

Interrupts types 5 to 31 are reserved by intel for using more complex microprocessor, such as the 80286, 80386, and 80486.

The upper 224 interrupts types, from 32 to 255, are available for use of hardware and software interrupts,

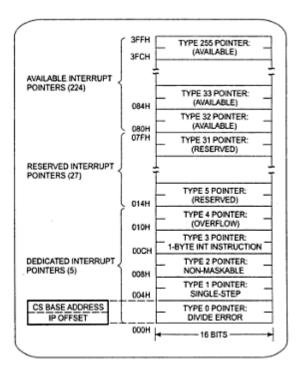


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In the figure the vector for each interrupt types requires four memory location. Therefore, when the 8086 represent to a particular type interrupt, it automatically multiplies the type by 4 to produce the desired address in vector table. It then goes to the address in the table to get the starting address of the interrupt – service procedure.



Q.2) Attempt any <u>TWO</u> of the following:

- 16
- a) With the help of neat diagram describe the function of internal block of Pentium System Architecture.

(Diagram: 4 marks, explanation: 4 marks)

Ans. Pentium Architecture

• Pentium processor uses Superscalar architecture and hence can issue multiple instructions per cycle.

• Multiple Instruction Issue (MII) capability.

• Pentium processor executes instructions in five stages. This staging, or pipelining, allows the processor to overlap multiple instructions so that it takes less time to execute two instructions in a row.

1. **Pre-fetch/Fetch:** Instructions are fetched from the instruction cache and aligned in pre-fetch buffers for decoding.

2. **Decode1:** Instructions are decoded into the Pentium's internal instruction format. Branch prediction also takes place at this stage.



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3. **Decode2:** Same as above, and microcode ROM kicks in here, if necessary. Also, address computations take place at this stage.

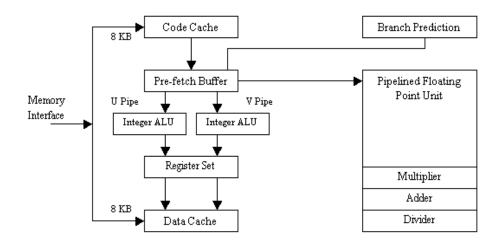
- 4. Execute: The integer hardware executes the instruction.
- 5. Write-back: The results of the computation are written back to the register file.

• **Branch Prediction Unit**: The Pentium processor fetches the branch target instruction before it executes the branch instruction. The branch prediction algorithm speeds up the instruction execution. When a branching occurs, a branch instruction address and target address is saved in Branch target Buffer (BTB). And these BTB records are used after decoding the branching instruction. And CPU predicts whether the branch will be taken or not. If the prediction is correct, the process continues and if prediction is incorrect, the CPU flushes the pipeline and fetches from the correct target address.

• The Pentium processor has **two separate 8-kilobyte (KB) caches** on chip, one for instruction and one for data. It allows the Pentium processor to fetch data and instructions from the cache simultaneously. When data is modified, only the data in the cache is changed. Memory data is changed only when the Pentium processor replaces the modified data in the cache with a different set of data.

• The Pentium processor has been optimized to run critical instructions in fewer clock cycles than the 80486 processor.

• Floating Point Unit: There are 8 general-purpose 80-bit Floating point registers. Floating point unit has 8 stages of pipelining. First five are similar to integer unit. Since the possibility of error is more in Floating Point unit (FPU) than in integer unit, additional error checking stage is there in FPU.

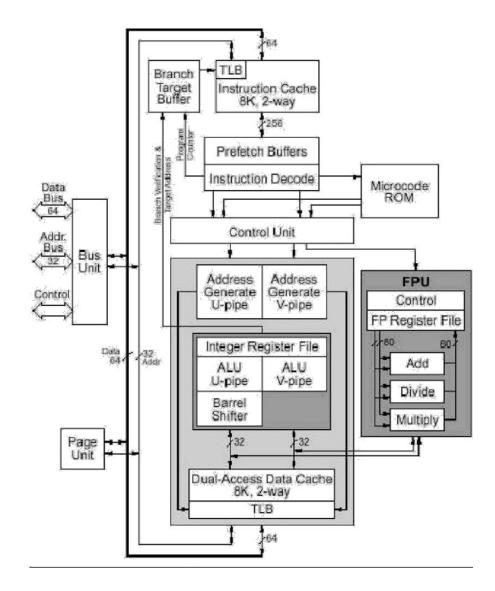




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b) List any four file handling functions of INT 21H. Describe the functions with their syntax and usages.

(Any four functions – Name and function (usage) - 1 Marks each, their respective syntax – 1 Mark for each function)

Ans.

1) 3CH : to create file

This function creates a file with indicated attributes and opens the file



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Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: CX=File Attribute DS: DX - full file path (zero terminated) – an ASCIIZ String file descriptor; a start variable in data segment loaded to DX

Syntax: mov ah,3Ch;	function 3Ch - create a file
int 21h ;	transfer to DOS

2) **3DH: to open file**

This function opens the indicated file Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: DS: DX - an ASCIIZ String file descriptor AL=Access Code and sharing modes are as follows 00H- Open for reading mode 01H- open for writing mode 02H – open for read/write mode

Syntax: mov ah,3Dh; int 21h; function 3Dh - open the file transfer to DOS

3) 3EH: to close the file

This function closes the indicated file

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H : BX = file handle

Syntax: mov ah, 3Eh;
int 21h;function 3Eh - close a file
transfer to DOS

4) **3FH: to read the file**

This function reads up to CX bytes from the Indicated file into the specified memory buffer. On successful return, the AX Register contains the number of bytes actually read.

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: BX = file handle CX = number of bytes to read DS:DX -> buffer for data

<i>Syntax:</i> mov ah,3Fh;	function 3Fh – read the file
int 21h;	transfer to DOS



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5) 40H: to write to the file

This function writes the specified number of bytes from a buffer to a file or device.

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H:

- BX = file handle
- CX = number of bytes to write
- DS:DX -> data to write

Syntax: mov ah,40h;function 40h - write to fileint 21h;transfer to DOS

6) 41H: to delete the file

This function deletes the specified file

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: ASCIIZ filename DS: DX - zero terminated full paths.

Syntax:	mov ah, 41h;	delete file
	int 21h;	transfer to DOS

7) **56H: to rename the file**

This functions renames the given file with new name specified by ES: DI

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H : DS: DX address of ASCIIZ filename of existing file ES : DI - ASCIZ new filename

Syntax: mov ah, 56h; delete file int 21h; transfer to DOS

8) 43H: Set/Get file attribute

This function gets or sets the file attributes

Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: AL = 00H to get attributes 01H to set attributes CX = file attributes, if AL=01H. Bits can be combined DS: DX = segment: offset of ASCIIZ pathname



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Syntax: mov ah, 43h; set/get file attributes int 21h; transfer to DOS

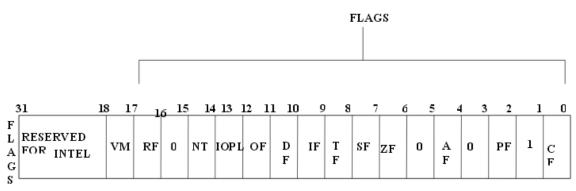
9) 57H: Set/Get file time & date This function gets or sets the file date and time. Registers to be used before calling the function using INT 21H: AL = 00h 0r 01H (0 - get 1 - set) BX = file handle DS: DX = segment: offset of ASCIIZ pathname

Syntax: mov ah, 57h; set/get file date and time int 21h; transfer to DOS

c) Draw the format of flag register of Intel 80386 microprocessor and describe any four salient flags of 80386 microprocessor.

(Format – 4 Marks, Any four flag description – 1 mark each)

Ans.





Status flags: these reflect the result of the operations performed by the ALU.

CF (D0): Carry Flag – this flag is set when there is a carry out of MSB in case of addition or borrow in case of subtraction. Few other instructions also affect the carry flag.

PF (D2): Parity Flag – this flag is set when lower byte of the result contains even no. of 1's or all zeros.

AF (D4): Auxiliary Carry Flag – this flag is set if there is a carry from lowest nibble i.e. bit three during addition or borrow from the lowest nibble i.e. bit three during subtraction. (Remember we always start with the bit0. So the lower byte will be bit7-bit0 and lower nibble will be bit3-bit0).



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ZF (D6): Zero Flag – this flag is set when the result of any computation is zero.

SF (**D7**): **Sign Flag** – this flag is set when the result of any computation is negative. For signed computations, the sign flag equals the MSB of the result.

OF (**D11**): **Overflow Flag** – this flag is set when an overflow occurs i.e. if the result of the signed operation is large enough to be accommodated in a destination register.

Control flags: there are three control flags and they are used for controlling machine operation.

TF (**D8**): **Trap Flag** – when this flag is set the processor enters single step execution mode. So a trap interrupt is generated after execution of each instruction. The processor executes the current instruction and the control is transferred to the Trap interrupt service routine (ISR).

IF (**D9**): **Interrupt Flag** – when this flag is set all the maskable interrupts are recognized. When this flag is zero then all the maskable interrupts are ignored.

DF (**D10**): **Direction Flag** – this is used by string manipulation instructions. When this flag is zero, the string is processed starting with the lowest address to the highest address i.e. auto-incrementing mode. Otherwise the string is processed from the highest address towards the lowest address i.e. auto-decrementing mode.

IOPL (D11&D12): I/O Privilege Level –It specifies one of four different privilege levels necessary to perform I/O operations. These two bits generally contain 00b when operating in real mode on the 80386.

NT (D13): Nested Task- controls the operation of an interrupt return (IRET) instruction. NT is normally zero for real-mode programs.

RF (**D16**): **Resume flag**: this flag is used with debug registers breakpoints. It is checked at the starting of every machine cycle. If it is set, any debug fault is ignored during instruction cycle. This flag is automatically reset after successful execution of every instruction, except for IRET and POPF.

VM (D17): Virtual Mode flag- if this flag is set, the 80386 enters the virtual 8086 mode within the protected mode.

Q.3) Attempt any <u>FOUR</u> of the following:

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a) Describe the general purpose registers and their functions in pentium processor with neat diagram.

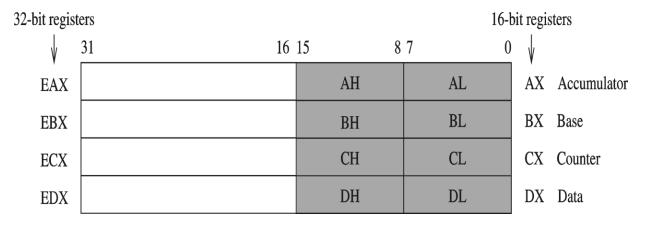
(Diagram: 2 marks, description 2 marks)

- Ans. General purpose registers:
 - Four 32-bit registers can be used as
 - * Four 32-bit register (EAX, EBX, ECX, EDX)
 - * Four 16-bit register (AX, BX, CX, DX)
 - * Eight 8-bit register (AH, AL, BH, BL, CH, CL, DH, DL)
 - Some registers have special use
 - * ECX for count in loop instructions



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• Two index registers

- * 16- or 32-bit registers
- * Used in string instructions
- » Source (SI) and destination (DI)
- * Can be used as general purpose data registers

Instruction pointer 31 16 15 0 EIP IP

b) List and describe any four design issues of RISC processor.

(Four design issues: 1mark each)

Ans.

1. Register Window :

2. The reduced hardware requirements of RISC processors leave additional space available on the chip for the system designer. RISC CPUs generally use this space to include a large number of registers (> 100 occasionally).

3. The CPU can access data in registers more quickly than data in memory so having more registers makes more data available faster. Having more registers also helps reduce the number of memory references especially when calling and returning from subroutines.

4. The RISC processor may not be able to access all the registers it has at any given time provided that it has many of it.

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5. Most RISC CPUs have some <u>global registers</u> which are always accessible. The remaining registers are <u>windowed</u> so that only a subset of the registers are accessible at any specific time.

6. To understand how <u>register windows</u> work, we consider the windowing scheme used by the Sun SPARC processor.

7. The processor can access any of the 32 different registers at a given time. (The instruction formats for SPARC always use 5 bits to select a source/destination register which can take any 32 different values.

8. Of these 32 registers, 8 are global registers that are always accessible. The remaining 24 registers are contained in the register window.

9. The register window overlap. The overlap consists of 8 registers in SPARC CPU. Notice that the organization of the windows are supposed to be circular and not linear; meaning that the last window overlaps with the first window.

10. Example: the last 8 registers of window 1 are *also* the first 8 registers of window 2. Similarly, the last 8 registers of window 2 are also the first 8 registers of window 3. The middle 8 registers of window 2 are local; they are not shared with any other window.

2. Memory speed issue

Memory speed issues are commonly solved using caches. A cache is a section of fast memory placed between the processor and slower memory. When the processor wants to read a location in main memory, that location is also copied into the cache. Subsequent references to that location can come from the cache, which will return a result much more quickly than the main memory.

Caches present one major problem to system designers and programmers, and that is the problem of coherency. When the processor writes a value to memory, the result goes into the cache instead of going directly to main memory. Therefore, special hardware (usually implemented as part of the processor) needs to write the information out to main memory before something else tries to read that location or before re-using that part of the cache for some different information.

3. Instruction Latency issue

A poorly designed instruction set can cause a pipelined processor to stall frequently. Some of the more common problem areas are:

Highly encoded instructions---such as those used on CISC machines---that require complex decoders. Those should be avoided.



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Variable-length instructions which require multiple references to memory to fetch in the entire instruction. Instructions which access main memory (instead of registers), since main memory can be slow.

Complex instructions which require multiple clocks for execution (many floating-point operations, for example.)Instructions which need to read and write the same register. For example "ADD 5 to register 3" had to read register 3, add 5 to that value, then write 5 back to the same register (which may still be "busy" from the earlier read operation, causing the processor to stall until the register becomes available.)

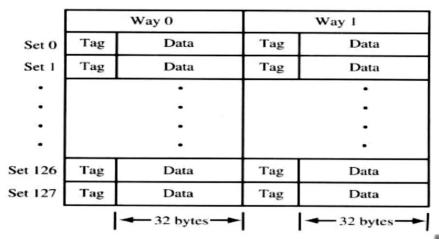
Dependence on single-point resources such as a condition code register. If one instruction sets the conditions in the condition code register and the following instruction tries to read those bits, the second instruction may have to stall until the first instruction's write completes.

4. Dependencies issues:

One problem that RISC programmers face is that the processor can be slowed down by a poor choice of instructions. Since each instruction takes some amount of time to store its result, and several instructions are being handled at the same time, later instructions may have to wait for the results of earlier instructions to be stored. However, a simple rearrangement of the instructions in a program (called Instruction Scheduling) can remove these performance limitations from RISC programs.

c) State and describe the significance of separate code and data cache in Pentium processor.

(Significance of separate code and data cache: 4 marks) Ans. Separate 8K B instruction and Data Cache:



The figure shows the organization of instruction and data cache.



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The Pentium processor has 2 separate 8KB data and code Caches. But they need more bandwidth than the unified cache.

Both the caches have TLB's associated with them. The TLBs are used to covert the linear addresses to the respective physical addresses.

As the data cache stores only 8KB data and code cache stores only instructions, the lookup process speed for Pentium increases.

Advantages of separate instruction and data caches:

1. Separate code and data cache memories effectively and efficiently executes the branch prediction.

2. Simultaneous cache look up is achieved by Pentium processor due to the separate data and code cache.

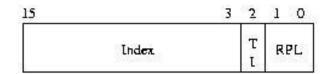
3. The separate cache memories raise the system performance i.e. an internal read request is performed more quickly than a bus cycle to memory.

4. They reduce the use of processor's external bus when the same locations are accessed multiple times.

d) With the neat diagram, describe the selector fields in 80386 microprocessor. (Diagram: 2 marks, description; 2marks)

Ans.

A protected-mode segment register holds a 16-bit segment selector (see the figure below). Unlike in real mode, the selector has nothing to do with the segment's location in memory. Instead, the value in the register is an index into a table of segment descriptors. Each descriptor defines one segment and determines where the segment resides, the segment type, and other important parameters such as the access rights.



RPL = Requestor Privilege Level TL = Table Indicator (0 = GDT, 1 = LDT) Index = Index into table

Protected Mode segment selector

TI Table indicator: 0 means selector indexes into GDT 1 means selector indexes into LDT



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RPL Privelege level. Linux uses only two privilege levels. 0 means kernel 3 means user

e) Write the stepwise procedure, that an interrupt handler must follow while servicing an interrupt.

(Steps in sequence: 4 marks)

Ans. Interrupt processing sequence is as given below:

When INT n instruction is executed

- 1. The processor pushes flag register on stack then the contents of CS And IP register on stack
- 2. It clears two flags TF (trap flag) and IE (Interrupt enable flag).
- 3. Number of interrupt is used to find correct address of ISR in the IVT.
- 4. Interrupt number (is called as interrupt type) is used to find out the correct address of ISR in the IVT.
- 5. The interrupt number is multiplied by 4 to get the address with the IVT that contains the addresses of ISR.

ISR ADDRESS = Interrupt type x 4

- 6. All addresses are 4 bytes long. The Interrupt vector address is then filled in CS and IP register.
- 7. Finally CPU control is transferred to new address.
- 8. Same process is followed by for NMI, which automatically generates type 2. No INTA# cycle is required for NMI.
- 9. When INTR is made high processor starts first INTA# to indicate acknowledgement and second is issued to ask for interrupt number to be placed on lower byte of processor data bus.
- 10. A special peripheral is designed to respond to the 8086's interrupt acknowledgment cycle is the 8259, programmable interrupt controller.



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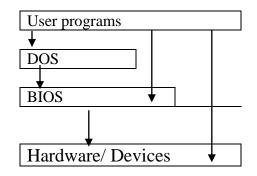
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Q.4) a) Attempt any <u>THREE</u> of the following:

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i) Describe the DOS-BIOS interface with the help of neat diagram. (DOS-BIOS interface diagram: 2 marks, description: 2 marks)

Ans. DOS-BIOS interface is as shown in the following diagram:



BIOS contains a set of routines in a ROM to provide the device supports. The BIOS tests and initializes attached devices and provide services that are used for reading to and writing from the devices.

One task of DOS is to interface with BIOS when there is a need to access its facilities. When the user program requests a service of DOS, it may transfer the request to BIOS which in turn accesses the requested device.

Sometimes, a program makes a direct request to BIOS, especially for keyboard and screen services.

ii) Describe pipelining concept of RISC processor. (Pipelining concept of RISC processor: 4 marks)

Ans.

A RISC processor pipeline operates in much the same way, although the stages in the pipeline are different. While different processors have different numbers of steps, they are basically variations of these five, used in the MIPS R3000 processor:

- 1. fetch instructions from memory
- 2. read registers and decode the instruction
- 3. execute the instruction or calculate an address
- 4. access an operand in data memory
- 5. write the result into a register

The length of the pipeline is dependent on the length of the longest step. Because RISC instructions are simpler than those used in pre-RISC processors (now called CISC, or Complex Instruction Set Computer), they are more conducive to pipelining. While CISC instructions varied in length, RISC instructions are all the same length and can be fetched



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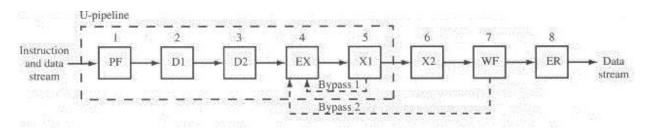
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in a single operation. Ideally, each of the stages in a RISC processor pipeline should take 1 clock cycle so that the processor finishes an execution of every instruction in same time.

iii) Draw the pipeline stages of floating point unit. Also write the names of stages in pipelining in Pentium processor.

(Diagram: the pipeline stages of floating point unit: 3 marks, listing of the names of the pipeline stages of floating point unit: 1mark)

Ans. Diagram of Pipeline stages of floating point unit:



The pipelining stages in the floating point unit of Pentium are:

- PF Prefetch
- D1 Instruction decode
- D2 Address generation
- EX Memory and register read, floating-point data converted into memory format, memory write
- X1 Floating-point execute, stage one. Memory data converted into floating-point format, write operand to floating-point register file, bypass 1 (send data back to EX stage)
- X2 Floating-point execute stage two
- WF Round floating-point result and write to floating-point register file, bypass 2 (send data back to EX stage)
- ER Error reporting, update status word
- iv) What is the purpose of MMX architecture designing? Write any four main features of this technology to fulfill its goals.

(Purpose: 2 marks, four features: 2 marks)

Ans : Purpose of MMX architecture:

Intel's MMX media enhancement technology is a major extension of the Intel Architecture that makes PCs into richer multimedia and communications platforms. This technology introduces 57 instructions oriented to highly parallel operations with multimedia and communications data types. These instructions use a technique known as



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SIMD (Single Instruction, Multiple Data) to deliver better performance for multimedia and communications computation. Intel processors that provide MMX technology support are fully compatible with previous generations of the Intel Architecture and the installed base of software. To further improve performance, the Pentium II processor, like the Pentium processor with MMX technology, can execute 2 Intel MMX instructions at a time.

Features:

- 1. 57 new microprocessor instructions have been added that are designed to handle video, audio, and graphical data more efficiently. Programs can use MMX instructions without changing to a new mode or operating-system visible state.
- 2. New 64-bit integer data type (Quadword). (4 new MMX data types)
- 3. A new process, Single Instruction Multiple Data (SIMD), makes it possible for one instruction to perform the same operation on multiple data items.
- 4. The memory cache on the microprocessor has increased to 32 KB, meaning fewer accesses to memory that is off the microprocessor.
- 5. Eight 64 bits wide MMX technology registers have are added to support the Multimedia.
- 5. Write Combining: ⇒ The Write Combining technology of the P6 architecture can be used to achieve very high graphics I/O performance. This feature combines multiple writes to a region of memory (for example, a video controller's frame buffer) declared as WC type into a single-burst write operation. This is well suited for the bus, which is optimized for burst transfers. The combining also leads to burst writes of cache line sizes. These writes are further combined by the chipset, leading to high throughput for graphics I/O. The result is enhanced multimedia performance, more realistic fullmotion video, and realistic, fast graphics performance.

Q.4) b) Attempt any <u>ONE</u> of the following:

6

i) List any three specific processor extension interface signals of 80386. Also describe the functions of these signals.

(Any 3 specific processor extension interface signals and their description: 2 marks each)

Ans. The specific processor extension interface signals of 80386 are:

1. PEREQ: processor extension request active high input signal: It is an input signal for 80386 from the processor extension i.e. coprocessor. When the processor extension requires the data operand transfer it requests the processor by asserting this signal high



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and issuing it to the processor. It indicates the request to the 80386 to perform a data operand transfer for a processor extension.

2. PEACK#: processor extension acknowledgement: It is an active low output signal issued by the processor to the processor extension as an acknowledgement for the request issued by the coprocessor. If the processor makes this signal low and issues it to the coprocessor it indicates that the processor is ready to serve the data transfer request for coprocessor.

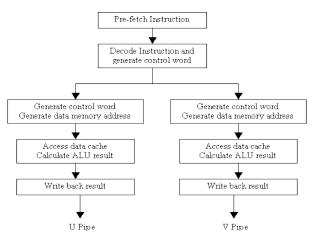
3. BUSY#: It is an active low input signal for the 80386. It is issued by the coprocessor to the processor to indicate that the coprocessor is busy with its allotted job. When this signal is made low by coprocessor it indicates the 80386 that it is currently busy with the operation allotted by processor.

4. ERROR#: It is an active low input signal for the 80386. It is issued by the coprocessor to the processor to indicate that the coprocessor has encountered some error while performing the operation allotted by CPU and hence it is retrying for the similar operation, and hence the CPU cannot allot a new task to the coprocessor. Both busy# and error# indicate the status of operation of processor extension to the CPU.

- ii) What do you understand by superscalar execution in Pentium processor? Describe with neat diagram.
 - (Superscalar execution: 3 marks, diagram: 3 marks)

Ans : Superscalar executions means which has

- Three execution units
- One execution unit executes floating point instructions
- The other two (U pipe and V pipe) execute integer instructions
- Parallel execution of several instructions superscalar processor Diagram of superscalar execution in Pentium is as given below





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The first stage of the pipe-line is Prefetch (PF) stage in which instructions are prefetched from the on chip instruction cache or memory. Because the Pentium processor has separate caches for instructions and data, prefetches no longer conflict with data references for access to the cache. If the requested line is not in the code cache, a memory reference is made. In the PF stage, two independent pairs of line-size (32-byte) prefetch buffers operate in conjunction with the branch target buffer. This allows one prefetch buffer to prefetch instructions sequentially, while the other prefetches according to the branch target buffer predictions. The prefetch buffers alternate their prefetch paths.

The next pipe-line stage is Decode1 (D1) in which two parallel decoders attempt to decode and issue the next two sequential instructions. The decoders determine whether one or two instructions can be issued contingent upon the instruction pairing rules. The Pentium processor will decode near conditional jumps (long displacement) in the second opcode map in a single clock in either pipe-line.

The D1 stage is followed by Decode 2 (D2) in which the address of memory resident operands is calculated.

The Execute (EX) stage of the pipe line for both ALU operations and for data cache access; therefore those instructions specifying both an ALU operation and a data cache access will require more than one clock in this stage. In EX all u-pipe instructions and all v-pipe instructions except conditional branches are verified for correct branch prediction. Microcode is designed to utilize both pipe-lines and thus those instructions requiring microcode execute.

The final stage is Write-back (WB) where instructions are enabled to modify processor state and complete execution. In this stage v-pipe conditional branches are verified for correct branch prediction. All the registers and memory locations are updated in this stage.

Q.5) Attempt any <u>TWO</u> of the following:

16

- a) Describe any four the floating point exceptions in Pentium (Any four floating point exceptions -2 marks each)
- Ans. The Pentium provides six floating point exceptions
 - 1. Invalid operation (#I) Stack overflow or underflow (#IS) Invalid arithmetic operation (#IA)
 - 2. Divide-by-zero (#Z).
 - 3. Demoralized operand (#D)



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- 4. Numeric overflow (#O)
- 5. Numeric underflow (#U)
- 6. Inexact result (precision)(#P).

Each of the six exception classes have a corresponding flag bit in the FPU status word and a mask bit in the FPU control word.

Denormal

The denormal exception occurs if one or more of the operands is a denormal number. This exception is never regarded as an error.

Divide-by-Zero Exception

A divide-by-zero exception occurs for a floating-point division operation if the divisor is zero and the dividend is finite and non-zero. It also occurs for other operations in which the operands are finite and the correct answer is infinite.

When the divide by zero exception is masked, the result is +/-infinity. The following specific cases cause a zero-divide exception:

LOG(0.0)

LOG10(0.0)

Overflow Exception

An overflow exception occurs if the rounded result of a floating-point operation contains an exponent larger than the numeric processing unit can represent. A calculation with an infinite input number is not sufficient to cause an exception.

When the overflow exception is masked, the calculated result is +/-infinity or the +/largest represent able normal number depending on rounding mode. When the exception is not masked, a result with an accurate significant and a wrapped exponent is available to an exception handler.

Underflow Exception

The underflow exception occurs if the rounded result has an exponent that is too small to be represented using the floating-point format of the result.

If the underflow exception is masked, the result is represented by the smallest normal number, a denormal number, or zero. When the exception is not masked, a result with an accurate significant and a wrapped exponent is available to an exception handler

Inexact Exception

The inexact exception occurs if the rounded result of an operation is not equal to the unrounded result.

It is important that the inexact exception remain masked at all times because many of the numeric library procedures return with an undefined inexact exception flag. If the inexact exception is masked, no special action is performed. When this exception is not masked, the rounded result is available to an exception handler.



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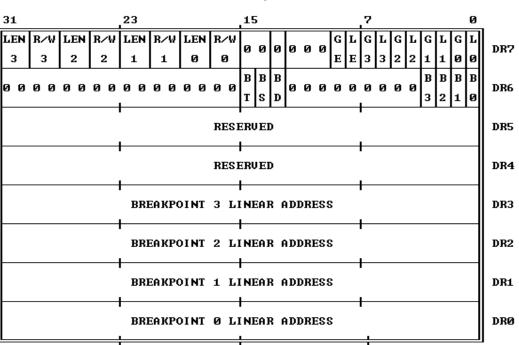
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b) With the neat diagram, describe the use of debug registers in 80386 microprocessor. (Diagram 3 marks, explanation 5 marks)

Ans.

31 0	
Linear Breakpoint Address 0	DR0
Linear Breakpoint Address 1	DR1
Linear Breakpoint Address 2	DR2
Linear Breakpoint Address 3	DR3
Intel Reserved	DR4
Intel Reserved	DR5
Breakpoint Status	DR6
Breakpoint Control	DR7



OR



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There are eight debug registers DR0 to DR7 for hardware debugging.

The DR0 to DR3 are used to store program controllable breakpoint addresses.

The DR4 and DR5 are not used and are reserved by Intel.

The DR6 and DR7 are used to hold the breakpoint status and breakpoint control information respectively.

Debug Address Registers (DR0-DR3)

Each of these registers contains the linear address associated with one of four breakpoint conditions. Each breakpoint condition is further defined by bits in DR7.

Debug Control Register (DR7)

The debug control register shown in figure both helps to define the debug conditions and selectively enables and disables those conditions.

For each address in registers DR0-DR3, the corresponding fields R/W0 through R/W3 specify the type of action that should cause a breakpoint. The processor interprets these bits as follows:

00 -- Break on instruction execution only

01 01 -- Break on data writes only

- 10 -- undefined
- 11 -- Break on data reads or writes but not instruction fetches

Fields LEN0 through LEN3 specify the length of data item to be monitored. A length of 1, 2, or 4 bytes may be specified. The values of the length fields are interpreted as follows:

- 00 -- one-byte length
- 01 -- two-byte length
- 10 -- undefined
- 11 -- four-byte length

If R/W n is 00 (instruction execution), then LENn should also be 00. Any other length is undefined.

The low-order eight bits of DR7 (L0 through L3 and G0 through G3) selectively enable the four address breakpoint conditions.

The LE and GE bits control the "exact data breakpoint match" feature.

Debug Status Register (DR6)

The debug status register shown in <u>figure</u> permits the debugger to determine which debug conditions have occurred.

When the processor detects an enabled debug exception, it sets the low-order bits of this register (B0 thru B3) before entering the debug exception handler.

The BT bit is associated with the T-bit (debug trap bit) of the TSS (refer to 7 for the location of the T-bit). The processor sets the BT bit before entering the debug handler if a task switch has occurred and the T-bit of the new TSS is set.



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The BS bit is associated with the TF (trap flag) bit of the EFLAGS register. The BD bit is set if the next instruction will read or write one of the eight debug registers and ICE-386 is also using the debug registers at the same time.

Note that the bits of DR6 are never cleared by the processor.

c) List any eight features of SUN Ultra SPARC. (List any 8 features of SUN ULTRA SPARC -1 mark each)

Ans.

Following are features of SUN ULTRA SPARC :

- 1.14 stage non stalling pipeline
- 2. Six execution units including two integers, 2 for floating, 1 for load/store and 1 for address generation unit.
- 3 It has a large number of buffers, but only load/store unit, it dispatches them one instruction at a time from the instruction stream.
- 4. It contains 32KB L1 instruction cache, 64KB L1 data cache, 2KB prefetch cache and 2KB write cache.
- 5. It contains instructions to support multimedia.
- 6. One major limitation of SPARC is its low speed compared to most of modern processor.
- 7. It stores multibyte numbers using BIG endian format.
- 8. It supports a pipelined floating point processor. The FPU has five separate functional units for performing floating point operations.

Q.6) Attempt any <u>FOUR</u> of the following:

16

a) Compare real mode and protected mode of 80386 (any four points). (Any four points 1 Mark each)

Ans.

Sr. No	Real Mode	Protected Mode
1	It uses 20 address lines	It uses 32 bit address lines
2	It access only 1MB memory	It access only 4GB memory
3	Segmentation is used	Paging is used
4	Protection is not available	Protection is available
5	Selector is not required in	Selector is required in address
	address generation	



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b) What is RISC processor? How does it differ from CISC processor? (RISC PROCESSOR -1 Mark, difference 3 marks)

Ans. Reduced instruction set computer (RISC):

To execute each instruction if there is separate electronic circuitry in control unit, which produce all necessary signals, this approach of design of control section of processor is called Reduced instruction set computer(RISC)

Modern processors almost are all RISC.

Even CISC instruction sets (x86-64) are translated to RISC microcode on chip prior to execution.

But the general differences are:

CISC - larger, more feature-rich instruction set (more operations, addressing modes, etc.). slower clock speeds. fewer general purpose registers. Examples: x86 variants

RISC - smaller, simpler instruction set. faster clock speeds. more general purpose registers. Examples: MIPS, Itanium, PowerPC

Practical implications:

An equivalent program implemented in CISC will most likely be shorter than a program implemented in RISC (because RISC combines multiple simple instructions to replicate the complex instructions provided by CISC).

RISC CPUs generally run at faster clock speeds than CISC because max clock period is dictated by the slowest step of the pipeline (more complex instructions are slower).

c) Write any four practical performance issues in pipeline systems. (Any 4 issues -1 mark each)

Ans.

Pipelining increases the CPU instruction throughput - the number of instructions completed per unit of time. But it does not reduce the execution time of an individual instruction. In fact, it usually slightly increases the execution time of each instruction due to overhead in the pipeline control.

The increase in instruction throughput means that a program runs faster and has lower total execution time.



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Limitations on practical depth of a pipeline arise from:

Instruction latency:

A poorly designed set can cause a pipelined processor to stall frequently. Some of the more typical CISC instruction which have more instruction latency should avoided

Dependency Issues:

Dependence on single point resource such as a condition code register. If one instruction sets the conditions in the condition code register and the following instruction tries to read those bits, the second instruction may have to stall until the first instruction's write completes.

Cautions on the use of RISC:

The transition from CISC to RISC design strategy is, not without its problem. The software engineers should be aware of the key issues which arises when moving code from a CISC processor to a RISC:

Code quality, Scheduling, Debugging, Code expansion, On chip cache.

Imbalance among pipeline stages.

Imbalance among the pipe stages reduces performance since the clock can run no faster than the time needed for the slowest pipeline stage;

d) Write any four features of Pentium II processor. (Any four features 1 mark each)

Ans. Features of Pentium II:

- 1. It is a 32-bit processor.
- 2. It has a full 32-bit data bus.
- 3. It has an integrated math coprocessor (sometimes called a "floating point unit").
- 4. It supports MMX instructions, which are useful for video decoding and playback, as well as 3D gaming.
- 5. It has it's L2 cache integrated into the processor die itself, rather than on the motherboard. This makes it slightly faster at the same clock speed, since it does not take as long to fetch data from the cache.



Ans.

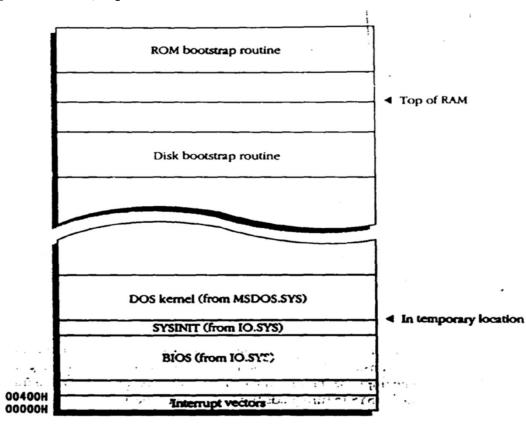
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- 6. It has more L2 cache, and is packaged (in desktop processors) in a slot cartridge, rather than a socket.
- e) Describe the structure of MS-DOS with the help of neat diagram. (Diagram 2 marks, explanation 2 marks)



BIOS:-

A BIOS is specific to individual computer system and it is provided by the manufacturer of the system. It contains device driver for the following devices.

- 1) Keyboard
- 2) Printer
- 3) Auxilary device
- 4) Date and time
- 5) Boot disk device



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DOS - Kernel :-

The Kernel is a proprietary program supplied by Microsoft corporation & provides collection of hardware independent services on system function such as : File & Record Management

Memory Management Character Device I/O Spawning of other program Access to the real time clock

Command Processor :-

Intrinsic command \rightarrow internal command

Extrinsic command \rightarrow external command

It is the user interface to the operating system. It is responsible for carrying out the commands i.e. loading or execution of program from the disk or mass storage device. The default shall command is command.com. It is a program under the control of MS - DOS. It is fetcher divided into:

A resident portion – at low portion of memory.

Initialization section – at middle portion of the memory.

Transient Module – at the high end of the memory.

The user commands are divided into three categories :

1) Internal Commands :-

Intrinsic command by command.com eg. copy, rename, delete etc.

2) External commands :-

Extrinsic command eg. check disk, back – up etc.

3) Batch file :-

There are the text files containing list of extrinsic & intrinsic commands