

Carleton University  
Department of Systems and Computer Engineering  
SYSC-2003 Midterm 2, Winter 2010

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Mark : \_\_\_\_\_ / 45

Student Number : \_\_\_\_\_

**Interpretation of the exam text is a part of the evaluation. Do not ask questions unless you believe there is an error.** Anything you need: make an assumption and write it clearly.

**Tip: in all programming exercises, you can earn part marks by writing the skeleton of the program even if you can't write all the logic.**

**Tip 2: the points given to each exercise should be used as a hint on how much time to spend on them; do not spend long time for exercises with few marks (your answers there are supposed to be brief).**

**Question 1** [14 marks] Arrays, Subroutines, C programming, Recoup exercise for Midterm 1

Consider the following C program, which reads two vectors ( $v1$  and  $v2$ ) of a given  $SIZE$ , and computes the dot product of the two of them, storing the results in the *result* vector (reminder: Dot Product definition: if  $a = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]$  and  $b = [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n]$ , then  $a \cdot b = a_1 \cdot b_1 + a_2 \cdot b_2 + \dots + a_n \cdot b_n$ ).

```
#define SIZE 10

void main(void) {

    char v1[SIZE], v2[SIZE]; // elements are 8-bit long
    int i=0, OK, result;

    // Fill in v1 and v2 with data using the read_data() function
    for (i=0; i<SIZE-1; i++) {
        v1[i] = read_data(); // reads an integer value from a file
    }

    for (i=0; i<SIZE-1; i++) // a different way to fill in v2;
        v2[i] = read_data();

    OK = dot_product(v1, v2, result, SIZE);
    // execute the dot product of the two vectors
}
```

a) [4 marks] The function

```
unsigned char dot_product (char &array1, char &array2, int &result,  
                           char SizeOfArrays);
```

takes two input arrays (each containing 8-bit elements), computes the dot product, and stores the result into the `result` variable. The function also returns a Boolean value (1 if there was an overflow, 0 if the computation was completed without problems). The argument `SizeOfArrays` defines the size of the arrays. The function uses 2 local variables (*int mul* for intermediate multiplications, and *unsigned char count*, used as a counter). **Draw the C Stack Frame for this subroutine.**

b) [10 marks] Write the code of the subroutine in part a) into Assembly (based on the Stack Frame you wrote in part a). Be very careful in using the C policies for the subroutine. Hint: you will obtain partial marks even if you do not remember all the details of the C Policies (2 marks for C Policies).

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b) [3 mark] What is a non-maskable interrupt? How it is detected? What is the difference with a maskable interrupt?

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c) [6 marks] Complete the steps of the interrupt service cycle (if you do not remember exactly, the idea is for you to explain the important concepts of this hardware mechanism):

1. Save CPU status in the stack. The following registers **MUST** be saved:

\_\_\_\_\_ (order is NOT important)

2. Globally disable other maskable interrupts (Set the I mask)

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Execute the ISR

If you need, use this space to draw a diagram on how this works, using the numbers to identify the different steps (non-mandatory; if you need to draw a picture to explain yourself better, do it here).



b) [5 marks] Complete the following code for a RTI (Real-Time Interrupt):

```
_____ ; Install Timer ISR on an Axiom Board
; That uses NOICE (HARDWARE
; Interrupt Address: $FFF0)
FDB _____

org $1000 ; On the Axiom board

numInterrupts db $01
dummy db $00

org $4000
main:
lds #$3f80 ; setup stack pointer
bset CRGINT, $80 ; _____
bset RTICTL, $7F ; Prescale Factor = 16 x 216
_____ ; globally enable interrupts

// HERE YOU HAVE TO COMPLETE EXERCISE E) (*)
bra main

Timer_ISR:
inc dummy
ldaa #8
cmpa dummy
bne return
movb #0, dummy
inc numInterrupts

return:
bset CRGFLG, $80 ; Acknowledge interrupt
_____
```

c) [2 marks] Explain why we use a dummy counter, and what is it used for. Why do we need this counter?

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d) [3 marks] How often is *numInterrupts* incremented? Explain TWO ways to do this TWICE AS FAST.

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e) [6 marks total] The program in part b) contains a line with a comment marked as (\*). We want to call a function called *display\_time*. This function will receive *numInterrupts* (passed as an argument), and will compute and display the number of Minutes and Seconds from the start of the program (ignore Hours; every hour, the Minutes are reset to 0).

i) [2 marks] Write the Assembly Code to call this subroutine. The Subroutine will be written in C.

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ii) [4 marks] Write the C code for *display\_time*.

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