

Problem 40. (9 points):

The following problem concerns optimizing a procedure for maximum performance on an Intel Pentium III. Recall the following performance characteristics of the functional units for this machine:

Operation	Latency	Issue Time
Integer Add	1	1
Integer Multiply	4	1
Integer Divide	36	36
Floating Point Add	3	1
Floating Point Multiply	5	2
Floating Point Divide	38	38
Load or Store (Cache Hit)	1	1

Consider the following two procedures:

Loop 1	Loop 2
<pre>int loop1(int *a, int x, int n) { int y = x*x; int i; for (i = 0; i < n; i++) x = y * a[i]; return x*y; }</pre>	<pre>int loop2(int *a, int x, int n) { int y = x*x; int i; for (i = 0; i < n; i++) x = x * a[i]; return x*y; }</pre>

When compiled with GCC, we obtain the following assembly code for the inner loop:

Loop 1	Loop 2
<pre>.L21: movl %ecx,%eax imull (%esi,%edx,4),%eax incl %edx cmpl %ebx,%edx jl .L21</pre>	<pre>.L27: imull (%esi,%edx,4),%eax incl %edx cmpl %ebx,%edx jl .L27</pre>

Running on one of the Fish machines, we find that Loop 1 requires 3.0 clock cycles per iteration, while Loop 2 requires 4.0.

- Explain how it is that Loop 1 is faster than Loop 2, even though it has one more instruction
- By using the compiler flag `-funroll-loops`, we can compile the code to use 4-way loop unrolling. This speeds up Loop 1. Explain why.
- Even with loop unrolling, we find the performance of Loop 2 remains the same. Explain why.