

# Operating Systems Final ECE344, Winter 2021

Duration: 3 hours

Examiner: D. Yuan

## Instructions

Examination Aids: This is an open book exam.

All questions have been provided in this exam booklet. You need to provide your answers in Quercus. Copy the answers of all sub-questions into the text box of each question.

If any of the questions appear unclear or ambiguous to you, then make any assumptions you need, state them and answer the question that way. If you believe there is an error, state what the error is, fix it, and respond as if fixed.

Please be brief and specific as possible. Clear, concise answers will be given higher marks than vague, wordy answers. Marks will be deducted for incorrect statements in an answer.

The questions are not necessarily ordered by the difficulty.

All the names in this exam are made-up -- don't read too much into them.

**Work independently.**

## MARKING GUIDE

Q1: 9

Q2: 13

Q3: 7

Q4: 5

Q5: 34

TOTAL: (68)

**Question 1 (9 marks):** Memory Management (I)

When you clean up your room, you found a laptop from more than 10 years ago. You want to make it useful and install the latest TensorFlow on it. However, TensorFlow won't run on it. You try to understand why and perhaps solve the problem. Here are some specs on this laptop:

**Operating system:** Doors 7 32-bit with full virtual memory support and the page size of 4KB

**CPU:** Intel Core 7 x344: it has a 32-bit processor with hardware-managed TLB

**Physical Memory (RAM):** 2 GB

**Hard drive:** 128GB

Answer the following questions:

- a. (1 mark) How large is the virtual address space in Bytes of your laptop?

$2^{32} = 4\text{GB}$

Marking: binary

- b. (1 mark) What's the number of bits of the Virtual Page Number of your laptop?

20

Marking: binary

According to TensorFlow's website, it requires at least 5GB of RAM to run. Your roommate Dijkstra thinks that it's the reason why it won't run and suggested you upgrade the RAM to 6GB.

- c. (1 mark) Do you think upgrading the RAM will work? Why?

No. B/c a single process cannot use more than 4GB of memory (limited by the size of address space, 4GB).

Marking: binary.

- d. (1 mark) However, you found that an alternative to TensorFlow, Matlab, which requires 3GB of memory, can run on your laptop without any problem, even with only 2GB of RAM. Why?

Because the VM subsystem can swap data back-and-forth between memory and disk.  
Marking: binary. -.5 for mistakes made on top of the right answer.

When you browse Heapoverflow, some people suggest that enlarging the page size will allow your laptop to support larger memory. And you found that your laptop's hardware and OS allows you to change the size of page size to 2MB. Dijkstra thinks that by changing the page size to 2MB will allow you to run TensorFlow.

e. (2 mark) Do you think it's true? Why?  
No. still limited by the 4GB address space size limit.  
Marking: binary, -.5 for each mistake.

f. (3 marks) What other benefits will the larger page size bring?

- + Larger TLB reach -> less TLB misses
- + Less page faults
- + Smaller page tables

Marking: 1 mark each correct answer, -.5 each wrong answer.

### Question 2 (13 marks): Memory Management (II)

You need to port the virtual memory system for 344OS to a new architecture. The processor has a 16-bit virtual address space. A two-level page table is used, with 16 entries in the page directory (first-level) and 64 entries in the second-level page table. Each page table is page aligned, i.e., its beginning address is at the start of a page. Each page table entry is two bytes wide and has the following format

1 bit	1 bit	1 bit	1 bit	12 bits
Valid (V)	Readable (R)	Writeable (W)	Executable (X)	Frame number

Note that for both levels of page tables, the last 12 bits of the page table entry are **the page frame (i.e., physical page) number** instead of being the complete physical address.

For page directories, the R, W, and X bits are unused and should be set to zero. For second-level page tables, the R bit indicates whether the page can be read by the thread; the W bit indicates whether the page can be written by the thread; and the X bit indicates whether the page can be used to fetch instructions for execution.

A partial listing of the machine's physical memory is shown below. (For convenience we are showing the contents of memory four bytes at a time. For example, the value at the physical address 0x01 in memory is 0xf7.)

0x00	6b f7 30 7b	0xa0	8a be 9b 09	0x140	7c a7 00 80
0x04	da 0b 6a ff	0xa4	53 f0 13 31	0x144	e6 30 d2 71
0x08	9f 07 7a 8e	0xa8	b4 38 60 85	0x148	0f 1e 21 9e
0x0c	42 47 b8 2e	0xac	e3 8e 2b 36	0x14c	f1 98 97 6e
0x10	c6 17 d2 41	0xb0	34 bc e0 07	0x150	c0 12 d0 04
0x14	50 11 f0 00	0xb4	0b 3f 30 1a	0x154	11 81 d0 72
0x18	b6 ff f2 4c	0xb8	16 31 61 7c	0x158	96 7b d6 5b
0x1c	f3 ce a4 28	0xbc	38 ab 42 06	0x15c	e3 bb ef e6
0x20	c0 5a 18 25	0xc0	64 0f aa ac	0x160	0b a1 c6 d4
0x24	95 95 b9 be	0xc4	72 d2 07 b6	0x164	c7 1a a3 ca
0x28	0b c2 01 f1	0xc8	cc 12 c2 50	0x168	6b f7 30 7b
0x2c	c9 f7 f8 88	0xcc	05 ca 78 2b	0x16c	ad 6c 01 22
0x30	44 16 6e 48	0xd0	02 ce 70 3e	0x170	5b fd ab 63
0x34	3a d1 2b ca	0xd4	d0 df 45 e6	0x174	b0 d7 14 06
0x38	2d 15 31 1a	0xd8	6b d5 1f 4c	0x178	93 12 4c 1f
0x3c	72 be bc b4	0xdc	00 a7 80 02	0x17c	8b 42 47 f3
0x40	f2 bc 4e 89	0xe0	80 03 00 41	0x180	ac 3e e7 89
0x44	58 19 a0 2d	0xe4	00 16 80 06	0x184	78 49 5d ba
0x48	7f f2 ab 03	0xe8	00 03 80 00	0x188	34 43 4d 8e
0x4c	1a 01 d2 e1	0xec	80 05 00 09	0x18c	c8 96 d8 40
0x50	84 01 4b 80	0xf0	89 2d c6 d5	0x190	56 78 69 ea
0x54	19 ba 67 3f	0xf4	b2 d3 53 58	0x194	90 37 16 89
0x58	78 82 75 95	0xf8	8a be 9b 09	0x198	f2 89 34 f1
0x5c	84 52 00 08	0xfc	e1 7a d9 12	0x19c	19 e4 26 16
0x60	30 b5 17 dd	0x100	22 9c 18 67	0x1a0	17 90 91 a0
0x64	f2 ba 51 0a	0x104	b5 37 23 8f	0x1a4	1d ad 95 de
0x68	bc 04 ed 19	0x108	b6 94 c6 d8	0x1a8	af 87 3d d7
0x6c	57 84 dd 3f	0x10c	cc f7 3f e8	0x1ac	fe 42 dd 41

<b>0x70</b>	5a 2a 3d 4e	<b>0x110</b>	13 ef 40 4e	<b>0x1b0</b>	52 d2 0b 3a
<b>0x74</b>	b9 a7 89 d8	<b>0x114</b>	f4 a1 2c 6a	<b>0x1b4</b>	44 06 28 55
<b>0x78</b>	6c d2 d8 65	<b>0x118</b>	ed 6e 6e 5c	<b>0x1b8</b>	31 f3 b4 ee
<b>0x7c</b>	3a b3 87 81	<b>0x11c</b>	ce a2 8b 8f	<b>0x1bc</b>	31 56 3d 23
<b>0x80</b>	00 10 00 00	<b>0x120</b>	58 ae fe b5	<b>0x1c0</b>	8c d1 19 c6
<b>0x84</b>	00 03 80 08	<b>0x124</b>	1f a3 0d 82	<b>0x1c4</b>	fa 69 8b 2f
<b>0x88</b>	80 f4 80 cc	<b>0x128</b>	1a af 41 78	<b>0x1c8</b>	75 16 cb f7
<b>0x8c</b>	00 a7 80 0a	<b>0x12c</b>	e5 9e cb 97	<b>0x1cc</b>	32 5a 6d 2c
<b>0x90</b>	80 04 00 41	<b>0x130</b>	fd cd ee f6	<b>0x1d0</b>	73 23 20 04
<b>0x94</b>	00 03 80 00	<b>0x134</b>	1d e0 0e 18	<b>0x1d4</b>	02 55 bb 8d
<b>0x98</b>	80 07 00 09	<b>0x138</b>	da 4c 36 a2	<b>0x1d8</b>	62 ee 09 20
<b>0x9c</b>	00 03 80 0c	<b>0x13c</b>	49 0c 20 9d	<b>0x1dc</b>	62 db d1 5c

The 2 bytes of each page table entry are stored in memory in big endian order, i.e., the lower address stores the higher-order byte. For example, the first page table entry at the address 0x88, which has content 0x80f4, has the following page table entry:

Valid	Readable	Writeable	Executable	Frame number
1	0	0	0	0x0f4

a. (2 mark) What is the size of each page in bytes?

$$2^6 = 64 \text{ bytes}$$

b. (2 mark) What is the maximum size of the physical memory it can address in bytes?

$$12 \text{ bits of frame number} + 6 \text{ bits of offset} = 18 \text{ bits}$$

$$2^{18} = 256\text{KB}$$

6 bits

- Page table
  - First level - 16 entries - 4 bits
  - Second Level - 64 entries - 6 bits
- $16 - 4 - 6 = 6$  bits of offset

- c. (3 mark) Assume that the current process's page directory starts at physical address 0x80. List the entries of the page directory here.

Index	Valid	Page Frame Number
0	0	0x010
1	0	000
2	0	003
3	1	008
4	1	0f4
5	1	0cc
6	0	0a7
7	1	00a
8	1	004
9	0	041
10	0	003
11	1	000
12	1	007
13	0	009
14	0	003
15	1	00c

Marking: -.5 each mistake?

- d. (6 mark) Translate each of the following virtual addresses from the current process as in (c) into a physical **address (not page frame number)**. The V/R/W/X bits below are the permission bits on the target physical page, not the 0s in the page directory.

Virtual address	Primary page table entry value	Secondary page table entry value	V?	R?	W?	X?	Physical address
0x808d	0x8004	0xb537	1	0	1	1	0x14dcd
0x2142	0x0003	N/A	-	-	-	-	

0xc112	0x8007	7516	0	1	1	1	N/A
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**1 mark for primary page table entry**

**1 mark for secondary + bits + phy (all or nothing)**

**Primary page table must be correct to get 0**

### **Question 3 (7 marks): OS161**

In OS161, there is a function `md_forkentry()` which you needed to implement in lab 3. What is the purpose of this function? List all the writes to the **trapframe** that you made in this function, and **describe the purpose of each**.

Answer: purpose of the function: kernel entry function for the newly created child process after fork. It needs to perform preparation work before start executing the child's userspace code, including (1) copy & activate the address space, (2) setup the trapframe, and (3) context switch to user mode.

Writes to trapframe:

- set `tf_v0` to 0: this is the return value of `fork()`, indicating it's the child
- `tf_a3=0`: indicating there is no error
- `tf_eps += 4`: point to the next instruction after the syscall

(Note there is slide online explaining this:

[https://cs.gmu.edu/~yuecheng/teaching/cs471\\_fall19/\\_static/lects/lec-os161-syscall.pdf](https://cs.gmu.edu/~yuecheng/teaching/cs471_fall19/_static/lects/lec-os161-syscall.pdf))

**Question 4 (5 marks): Scheduling**

Most of the OS schedulers prioritize interactive jobs. How can the OS tell if a process is interactive?

Answer: Interactive = frequent I/O. If the process blocks frequently, not using up its time slice, and spends much more time waiting for I/O than using CPU, it's a sign of an interactive process.

5: mention io/blocking/input and time slice/quantum

4: mentioned only 1 of the above

1: left blank

Subtract 1 mark if they say something wrong

**Question 5 (34 marks): File System and its Synchronization**



In this question, we consider the problems you'll encounter when implementing a real file system. In addition to the inode, file, and directory data structures, the file system also needs the following:

- A super block that contains the metadata of the file system
- An inode map, or imap for short, which maps an inode number to the block number of the inode
- An inode bitmap, which uses 1 bit for each inode number to indicate whether that inode free or in-use
- A free block bitmap, which uses 1 bit for each block to indicate whether the block is free or in-use

The layout of the disk is as following:

Super block (1 block)	imap (a number of blocks)	inode bitmap (a number of blocks)	free block bitmap (a number of blocks)	blocks for inodes, directories, and files
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Consider the following file system configurations:

- Block size is  $B$  Bytes
- The block number is 32-bit long.
- An inode number is also 32-bit long.
- This HDD has  $N$  available blocks in total
- Each inode occupies one block. The inode structure is the same as taught in the lecture: it has 15 block pointers, among them 12 are direct block pointers, then single, double, and triple indirect.
- Each directory **entry** is of  $D$  Bytes in size
- For each directory, it will have at least two entries: "." and ".."

Unless otherwise specified, assume the file system is a regular Unix file system instead of being log-structured.

Answer the following questions:

- (1 marks) How many blocks should you allocate for the inode map and inode bitmap? Explain your answer.

**Answer:** Since each file needs an inode block, so the most number of files is  $N/2$ . Hence there are at most  $N/2$  inodes.

**# of blocks for inode map:**  $N/2 \times 8B$  (4B inode # + 4B block #) =  $4N/B$  blocks

# of blocks for inode bitmap:  $N/2 \times 1/8 \times 1/B = N/(16B)$  blocks.  
(This is an approximation, as some of the blocks are further allocated by super blocks, imap, etc.)

Marking: 2 concepts:

- The # of inodes is limited by the number of addressable blocks:  $\min(\# \text{ of blocks}, 2^{32})$
- Half of the blocks need to be allocated for inodes

So 0.5 marks each.

- b. (1 marks) How many blocks should you allocate for the free block bitmap?

Answer:  $N/(8B)$

(I also gave them full marks if they answer  $2^{32}/8B$ , which means they assume the total # of blocks is  $2^{32}$ .)

- c. (1 marks) Is there a limit on the total number of files (here assume a directory is also a file), measured in the number of blocks, in this file system on this HDD? If so, what is it? If not, why?

Yes. It's limited by the # of blocks.

$(N - a's \text{ answer} - b's \text{ answer} - 1 \text{ (super block)} - \text{freeblockbitmap})/2$

We divide by 2 b/c there is 1 inode for each file/dir.

Shawn: unless they assume that an empty file requires only a single inode (i.e. no data blocks)

0.5 marks for correctly realizing that it's constrained by the # of blocks

0.5 marks for identifying that inodes need half of the blocks.

- d. (1 marks) Is there a limit on the maximum size of a single file in this file system? If so, what is it? If not, why?

Yes. Limited by the inode's index:

$(12 \text{ (direct)} + B/4 \text{ (single indirect)} + B/4 \times B/4 \text{ (double indirect)} + (B/4)^3) \times B \text{ bytes}$

Marking: 0.5 on realizing that it's limited by the inode index. 0.5 for the rest part of the math.

- e. (1 marks) Is there a limit to the total number of files in a single directory in this file system, other than the limit in part c (i.e. assume there is no limit in part c)? If so, what is it? If not, why?

Yes.  $d/D$ .

Binary: as long as they realize it's limited by  $D$ .

0.5 for mentioning its limited by  $D$ , and 0.5 for the formula

f. (2 marks for each subquestion) Assume this file system already has the following files and directories (and there are no other files/directories):

- a. `/ece/344/cheat_sheet`      Occupies 1 block
- b. `/covid/stay_home`      Occupies 2 blocks

Recall that you may want to update the following in a file system operation:

- Free block bitmap
- Inode map (one entry each time)
- Inode bitmap
- Inode (one field each time)
- Directory (one directory entry each time)
- Data block

You can assume that each update to the above is atomic (i.e. it's either done completely or as if it has not happened at all).

You also need to consider *crash consistency*. The system can crash at any given time, and after you reboot, your file system can be in an inconsistent state. For example, if the system crashes when you're creating a file `/a/b`, your file system is inconsistent if, after the reboot, you see there is an entry named `"b"` in the directory `"a"`, but it points to an invalid inode or a file block that has not been allocated. Specifically, you could get the following possible errors:

- A. Data block leak (data block is lost for any future use; occurs when the block is no longer used, but the free block bitmap still marks it as in use)
- B. Inode leak (inode is lost for any future use; occurs when the inode is not used, but the inode bitmap still marks it as in use)
- C. Inconsistent inode metadata (Some inode field does not match what is stored in data blocks)
- D. Data corruption (file system data corrupted, including the above example that `/a/b` pointing to an unallocated file)

Assume that the only metadata store in the inode is (1) the size of the file, and (2) the last-modification-time of the file.

For each of the following operations, first list all the items that are needed to be updated **in order**, as well as which file/directory it belongs to; then indicate all the possible errors that may occur if a crash happens during the operation. If none, write so. For updates to the inode, specify which fields are updated; if there are multiple fields that are updated, separate them as separate updates. Carefully think about the order of operations, since the errors that could occur depend on the order.

E.g. Modify data of file /covid/stay-home

Need to update:

- (1) Data block of stay-home
- (2) Inode of stay-home (for updating last modified time)

Errors may occur:

C. (last modified time not updated if a crash happens between the two operations)

- I. Append 1 byte to file /ece/344/cheat-sheet (no extra block needs to be allocated)

- **Data block of cheat-sheet**
- **inode of cheat-sheet (last mod time & size)**

Errors may occur: C

**Marking: 1 for blocks updated and 1 for errors. -.5 for each mistake.**  
**For blocks updates: 1 mark for all correct (don't care about bitmap).**  
**0.5 for getting at least half of the steps correct**  
**0 for the other.**

- II. Append 1 block of data to file /covid/stay-home

- Free block bitmap
- **New data block**
- **inode of stay-home (block ptr)**
- **inode of stay-home (size & last mod time)**

Errors: A, C

III. Delete file /covid/stay\_home

- /covid directory
- inode of /covid (size)
- inode of /covid (last-mod time)
- free block bitmap
- inode bitmap (mark the inode for stay-home as free)

Error C, A, B

IV. Create an empty file with the name hacking under /covid/

- inode bitmap
- free block map
- inode map
- **/covid dir**
- **inode of covid dir (size & last mod time)**

Error: ABC

V. Create an empty directory os161 under /ece/344/

- inode bitmap
- free block map (2 blocks)
- Inode map
- **Inode of os161**
- **Dirent of /ece/344**
- **Inode of /ece/344 (last modified)**

Error: ABC

VI. Rename directory /covid/ to /my-life/

- **Dirent of /**
- **Inode of / (last modified)**

Error: C

Marking: I accept the answer if they called the directory entry as “the inode of /” or “the data block of /” or “the directory listing of /” or “databloc in root”

g.(1 mark each subquestion) Now assume this file system is log structured. For the same operations, list the data structures that need to be updated **other than the ones you already listed above**. You don't need to consider the order or crash consistency issues.

VII. Append 1 byte to file /ece/344/cheat-sheet (no extra block needs to be allocated)

inode and data block of cheat-sheet will be relocated to the end of log.

- inode map (change the block address of the inode of cheat-sheet)
- inode's block address pointer (since the data block is now relocated)
- freeblock bitmap

inode map worths 0.5, and inode's block addr ptr worths another 0.5

VIII. Append 1 block of data to file /covid/stay-home

- inode map (since we need to relocate the inode of stay-home)
- freeblock bitmap
- 

inode map worths 0.5, any additional mistakes further -.5

IX. Delete file /covid/stay\_home

- inode map (since we need to relocate the inode of covid)
- freeblock bitmap

X. Create an empty file with the name hacking under /covid/

- inode map (since we relocate the inode of /covid)
- freeblock bitmap
- 

XI. Create an empty directory os161 under /ece/344/

- inode map (relocate the inode of 344), note that inode map already needed to be modified in Q5f(V), so students may answer nothing to change
- freeblock bitmap
-

XII. Rename directory /covid/ to /my-life/

- inode map (since we relocated the inode of /)
- freeblock bitmap
- 

h. (2 marks) Now we consider data races on the file system. You notice that if multiple processes are accessing the bitmap (both inode and free data block) at the same time, a race condition may occur. Which file system error (or errors) given in part f may occur if such race condition happens? Explain.

ABCD (we decided to give all students 2 marks on this question)

(C is acceptable if explained reasonably)

Marking: full marks for all correct answers;

1 for identifying (1) D or (2) D and C;

0 for not identifying D at all.

i. (3 marks each subquestion) You are working on a solution to the problem above. You already know that lock could solve this problem. However, you learnt that locks could be slow. You noticed someone mentioned “lockless programming” on Heapoverflow. You decide to try it out. You found that x344 architecture provides the following atomic instructions (uint32\_t is 32-bit unsigned integer):

- uint32\_t **atomic\_and\_fetch**(uint32\_t \*ptr, uint32\_t val)
- uint32\_t **atomic\_or\_fetch**(uint32\_t \*ptr, uint32\_t val)

In particular, **atomic\_and\_fetch** does the following **atomically** (note: it's an instruction. The code below just shows its semantics.)

```
uint32_t atomic_and_fetch(uint32_t *ptr, uint32_t val){
    *ptr = *ptr & val;
    return *ptr;
}
```

**atomic\_or\_fetch** has a similar semantic, except it performs the “|” operation instead of “&”.

Another version of these is also available:

- uint32\_t **atomic\_fetch\_and**(uint32\_t \*ptr, uint32\_t val)
- uint32\_t **atomic\_fetch\_or**(uint32\_t \*ptr, uint32\_t val)

In particular, **atomic\_fetch\_and** has the following semantic:

```
uint32_t atomic_fetch_and(uint32_t *ptr, uint32_t val){
    uint32_t ret = *ptr;
    *ptr = *ptr & val;
    return ret;
}
```

Can you write C code for the following operations **using the above atomic instructions** such that they fix the data races (properly synchronized), **without using any other synchronization primitives?** Assume the inputs of the functions are all valid (i.e. pointers are valid, location is within the boundary, etc.) The argument bitmap is always pointing to the beginning of the bitmap.

And assume the machine is 32-bit.

I. void **set\_at**(uint32\_t \* bitmap, uint32\_t n) //set the n-th bit to 1, regardless of its previous value

```
uint32_t step = n >> 5;
uint32_t pattern = 1 << (n & 31); // n & 31 is equivalent to n%32
atomic_fetch_or(bitmap + step, pattern);
```

Marking: 3 steps, 1 mark each

- Locate the correct word
- Construct the correct bit pattern
- Use the correct atomic operation

Students are most likely to get the last step correct. (except III)

II. void **unset\_at**(uint32\_t \* bitmap, uint32\_t n) //unset the n-th bit. I.e. change it to 0, regardless of its previous value

```
uint32_t step = n >> 5;
uint32_t pattern = ~(1 << (n & 31));
atomic_fetch_and(bitmap + step, pattern);
```

III. uint32\_t **allocate\_one**(uint32\_t \* bitmap) //find the first 0 bit, change it to 1, and return the location of this bit.



```
int n = 0;
uint32_t step = n >> 5;
uint32_t pattern = 1 << (n & 31);
while (atomic_fetch_or(bitmap + step, pattern)) {
    n++;
    step = n >> 5;
    pattern = 1 << (n & 31);
}
```

Must use atomic\_fetch\_or

Careful about the difference of “fetch\_or” and “or\_fetch”