

CS 143A

Fall 2018

Midterm

11/15/2018

Time Limit: 2:00pm - 3:20pm

Name (Print):

- Don't forget to write your name on this exam.
- This is an open book, open notes exam. But no online or in-class chatting.
- Ask us if something is confusing in the questions.
- **Organize your work**, in a reasonably neat and coherent way, in the space provided. Work scattered all over the page without a clear ordering will receive very little credit.
- **Mysterious or unsupported answers will not receive full credit.** A correct answer, unsupported by explanation will receive no credit; an incorrect answer supported by substantially correct explanations might still receive partial credit.
- If you need more space, use the back of the pages; clearly indicate when you have done this.

Problem	Points	Score
1	15	
2	5	
3	10	
4	16	
5	5	
6	5	
7	5	
8	5	
9	3	
Total:	69	



1. OS Interfaces

- (a) (5 points) Here's a program that uses the UNIX system call API, as described in Chapter 0 of the xv6 book:

```
#include "param.h"
#include "types.h"
#include "user.h"
#include "syscall.h"

int main() {
    char * message = "aaa\n";
    int pid = fork();

    if(pid != 0){

        char *echoargv[] = { "echo", "Hello\n", 0 };

        message = "bbb\n";
        exec("echo", echoargv);
        write(1, message, 4);

    }

    write(1, message, 4);
    exit();
}
```

Assume that `fork()` succeeds, that file descriptor 1 is connected to the terminal when the program starts, and `echo` program exists. What possible outputs this program can produce (explain your answer)?

Answer: The process forks() and execs() the "echo" program that prints "Hello" inside the parent. Since exec() overloads the address space of the parent the `write(1, message, 4)` line never gets executed (we assume that "echo" exists and exec() succeeds). The child prints "aaa". Two possible outputs depending on the order in which parent and child execute are

```
aaa
Hello
or
Hello
aaa
```



- (b) (10 points) Write a program that uses the UNIX system call API, as described in Chapter 0 of the xv6 book. The program forks and creates a pipeline of 10 stages. I.e., each stage is a separate process. Each two consecutive stages are connected with a pipe, i.e., the standard output of each stage is connected to the standard input of the next stage. Each stage reads a character from its standard input and sends it to the standard output. The last stage outputs the character it reads from the pipe to the standard output.



2. Basic page tables.

- (a) (5 points) Alice wants to construct a page table that maps virtual addresses 0x0, 0x1000 and 0x2000 into physical addresses 0x1000, 0x2000, and 0x3000. Assume that the Page Directory Page is at physical address 0x0, and the Page Table Page is at physical address 0x00001000 (which is PPN 0x00001).

Draw a picture of the page table Alice will construct (or alternatively simply write it down in the format similar to the one below): :

Page Directory Page:

PDE 0: PPN=0x1, PTE_P, PTE_U, PTE_W

... all other PDEs are zero

The Page Table Page:

PTE 0: PPN=0x1, PTE_P, PTE_U, PTE_W

PTE 1: PPN=0x2, PTE_P, PTE_U, PTE_W

PTE 2: PPN=0x3, PTE_P, PTE_U, PTE_W

... all other PTEs are zero

3. Stack and calling conventions.

Alice developed a program that has a function `foo()` that is called from two other functions `bar()` and `baz()`:

```
int foo(int a) {
    ...
}

int bar(int a, int b) {
    ...
    foo(x);
    printf("bar:%d\n", x);
    ...
}

int baz(int a, int b, int c) {
    ...
    foo(x);
    printf("baz:%d\n", x);
    ...
}
```

While debugging her program Alice observes the following state when she hits a breakpoint of the program inside `foo()` (assume that the compiler does not inline invocations of `foo()`, `bar()`, and `baz()`, and follows the calling conventions that we've covered in the class):

The bottom of the stack:

```
0x8010b5b4: ...
0x8010b5b0: 0x00000003
0x8010b5ac: 0x00000002
0x8010b5a8 0x80102e80
0x8010b5a4: 0x8010b5b4
0x8010b5a0: 0x80112780
0x8010b59c: 0x00000001
0x8010b598: 0x80102e32
0x8010b594: 0x8010b5a4    <-- ebp
0x8010b590: 0x00000000    <-- esp
```

- (a) (5 points) Provide a short explanation for each line of the stack dump above (you can annotate the printout above).

The bottom of the stack:

```
0x8010b5b4: ...          // ebp
0x8010b5b0: 0x00000003 // argument #2 to the function that called foo()'s caller
0x8010b5ac: 0x00000002 // argument #1 to the function that called foo()'s caller
0x8010b5a8 0x80102e80 // return address
0x8010b5a4: 0x8010b5b4 // ebp
```



```
0x8010b5a0: 0x80112780 // (local variable, argument to a function, or register spill in
0x8010b59c: 0x00000001 // arg to foo
0x8010b598: 0x80102e32 // return address for foo()
0x8010b594: 0x8010b5a4 <-- ebp
0x8010b590: 0x00000000 <-- esp (local variable, argument to a function, or register
```



- (b) (5 points) If Alice continues execution of her program what output will she see on the screen (justify your answer).

We know that `foo()` can be called from `bar()` or `baz()`, but we also know that the caller of `foo()`'s caller i.e., either `bar()` or `baz()`, got two arguments. Hence, it's `bar()`. And since we know that `foo()` got `0x1` as argument the string Alice will see on the screen should be `bar:1`

4. Xv6 process organization.

In xv6, in the address space of the process, what does the following virtual addresses contain?

- (a) (3 points) Virtual address `0x0`

The memory at virtual address `0x0` contains the text section (code) of the user process.

- (b) (3 points) Virtual address `0x80100000`

The memory at virtual address `0x80100000` contains the text section (code) of the kernel. During the boot the kernel was loaded at physical address `0x100000` (1MB) and then later this address was mapped at `2GBs + 1MB` or `(0x80000000 + 0x100000)`.

- (c) (3 points) What physical address is mapped at virtual address `0x80000000`

Physical address `0x0`.

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- (d) (7 points) Is there a way for the kernel to find out what physical address is mapped at a specific virtual address? Provide an explanation and a code sketch (pseudocode is ok, no need to worry about correct C syntax). Your code should take a virtual address as an input and resolve it into the physical address that is mapped into that virtual address by the process page table (in your code feel free to re-use functions that are already implemented in the xv6 kernel).



5. Protection and isolation

- (a) (5 points) In xv6 all segments are configured to have the base of 0 and limit of 4GBs, which means that segmentation does not prevent user programs from accessing kernel memory. Nevertheless, user programs can't read and write kernel memory. How (through what mechanisms) such isolation is achieved?

6. System calls

- (a) (5 points) How do system calls access their arguments that are passed from the user level? After all, all system calls are declared as void functions that return an integer, i.e., visibly they don't take any arguments. For example, the `read()` system call is declared as:

```
6131 int
```

```
6132 sys_read(void)
```

But user code can invoke it as

```
int read(int, void*, int);
```



7. Physical and virtual memory allocation

- (a) (5 points) What is the purpose of the V2P macro? Specifically, the `allocuvm()` function (see the listing below) uses `kalloc()` to allocate and map a region of memory into the address space of a process. Explain, why the V2P macro is used in line 1946 below?

```
1926 int
1927 allocuvm(pde_t *pgdir, uint oldsz, uint newsz)
1928 {
1929     char *mem;
1930     uint a;
1931
1932     if(newsz >= KERNBASE)
1933         return 0;
1934     if(newsz < oldsz)
1935         return oldsz;
1936
1937     a = PGROUNDUP(oldsz);
1938     for(; a < newsz; a += PGSIZE){
1939         mem = kalloc();
1940         if(mem == 0){
1941             cprintf("allocuvm out of memory\n");
1942             deallocuvm(pgdir, newsz, oldsz);
1943             return 0;
1944         }
1945         memset(mem, 0, PGSIZE);
1946         if(mappages(pgdir, (char*)a, PGSIZE, V2P(mem), PTE_W|PTE_U) < 0){
1947             cprintf("allocuvm out of memory (2)\n");
1948             deallocuvm(pgdir, newsz, oldsz);
1949             kfree(mem)
1950             return 0;
1951         }
1952     }
1953     return newsz;
1954 }
```



8. Initial page tables

Bob looks at the piece of code in `entry.S` where the initial page tables are set and thinks he doesn't need the entry that maps the 0-4MB of virtual page to 0-4MB of physical page. Accordingly he modifies the `entrypgdir` as below.

```
__attribute__((__aligned__(PGSIZE)))
pde_t entrypgdir[NPENTRIES] = {
    // Map VA's [KERNBASE, KERNBASE+4MB) to PA's [0, 4MB)
    [KERNBASE>>PDXSHIFT] = (0) | PTE_P | PTE_W | PTE_PS,
};
```

(a) (5 points) Explain what will go wrong with Bob's change?

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9. 143A organization and teaching

- (a) (3 points) If there is one single most important thing you would like to improve in the CS143A class, what would it be?

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