

CSCI-GA.3033-009
Multicore Processors: Architecture & Programming
Homework 3

1. [2] If there are too many threads that want to use a lock, that lock becomes heavily contended and a big source of performance loss. If you are faced with such a situation, what will you do?
2. [3] If three threads, in OpenMP, execute the instruction `x++` where `x` is a shared variable initialized to 0, what are the possible values that `x` could have after the execution of the threads (assume no synchronization or precautions were taken)?
3. [2] In bulleted list state the source(s) performance loss that we may face in OpenMP.
4. [3] Assume we are multiplying an 8000x8000 matrix with vector `y`. Each element of the matrix and vector is double float (i.e. 8 bytes). Also suppose that thread 0 and thread 2 are assigned to two different cores. If a cache line contains 64 bytes. Is it possible for false sharing to occur at any time between threads 0 and 2?
5. Assume we have a dual-core processor and we are doing a matrix vector multiplication where the matrix is 8x8,000,000 and we multiply it by vector `y`. Each element is a double float (i.e. 8 bytes) and a cache line is 64 bytes. We parallelized this program using 4 threads.
 - a. [2] What is the minimum number of cache lines that are needed to store vector `y`?
 - b. [2] What is the maximum number of cache lines that are needed to store vector `y`?
6. [4] For the following instructions:

```
x++;  
a = x + 2;  
b = a + 3;  
c++;
```

 - a. Without changing the code, How many threads could be used for the computation below Explain clearly your answer.
 - b. If you are allowed to change the code, can you modify it to make it more parallelizable? If so, write the new version and state how many threads can be used.
7. [2] Can a serial program be faster than a parallel version? Explain?