

1.
 - (a) An audio CD lasts for about 75 minutes. The sound is stored as two 16 bit samples taken 44100 times a second. Estimate the amount of data on a CD in MB and the rate at which data must be read in kB/s.
 - (b) Explain three of the following terms: ‘page table’, ‘TLB’, ‘physical address’, ‘page fault’, ‘cache miss’.
 - (c) Either describe the useful features provided by a virtual memory system, or give an example of how address translation takes place using the page table.
2.
 - (a) Why would someone want to profile code? Describe some tools available for profiling.
 - (b) Comment briefly on what tools like `make` and RCS can do to make a programmers life easier.
 - (c) Figure 1 shows the graph of the performance of a 4 processor SMP machine, calculating large dot products of various sizes. The tests were done first running one process at a time and then running 4 processes at a time and plotting the performance of one of them. What can you say about the caches and memory system of the computer in question?
3.
 - (a) Briefly describe what is commonly referred to as the Memory Hierarchy. Why are varying speeds of memory used?
 - (b) Give a description of direct-mapped, fully-associative and set-associative caches. What is thrashing (in the context of caches)?
 - (c) Give an example of code which would cause a 16kB, 2 way set associative cache to thrash.
4.
 - (a) Explain three of the following unix system calls: `fork()`, `exec()`, `pipe()`, `wait()`.
 - (b) Explain the terms preemptive multitasking and cooperative multitasking. Why is one necessary for a interactive multiuser system?
 - (c) Explain how memory is usually allocated in C in terms of the stack and the heap. Be sure to mention how function calls, a function’s local variables and `malloc` change the stack and heap.

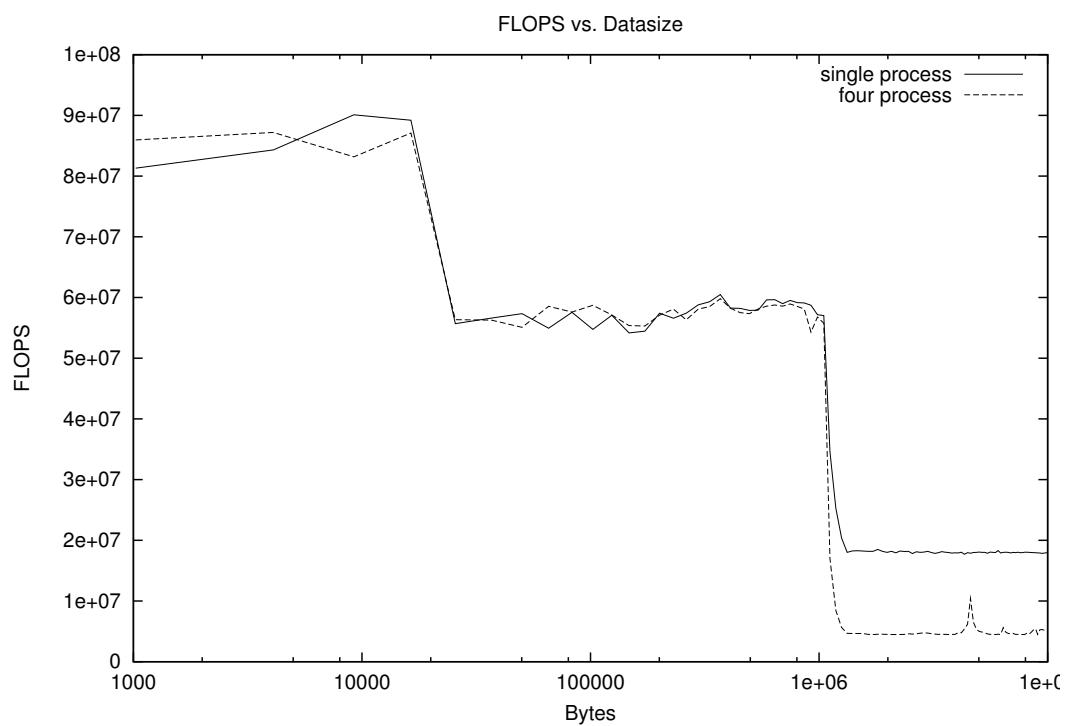


Figure 1: Performance on Large Dot Products