COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part IB – 2017 – Paper 5

2 Computer Design (SWM)

Consider the following statements about processors. Why are they fallacies?

(a) A benchmark is a typical program that accurately predicts performance.

[4 marks]

(b) Instructions per second is an accurate measure to compare performance among computers. [4 marks]
(c) Peak performance tracks observed performance. [4 marks]
(d) You can design an ideal processor suitable for all applications. [4 marks]
(e) Adding more pipeline stages always improves performance. [4 marks]