

PRINCE OF SONGKLA UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

**Midterm Examination:** Semester 2

**Academic Year:** 2003-2004

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> December 2003

**Time:** 9.00-12.00 (3 hours)

**Subject Number:** 240-572

**Room:** R300

**Subject Title:** Parallel and Distributed Simulation Systems

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**Exam Duration:** 3 hours

**This paper has 13 pages, 14 questions and 150 marks ( 50%).**

**Authorised Materials:**

- Writing instruments (e.g. pens, pencils).
- Only a notebooks, handouts, and dictionaries are permitted.

**Instructions to Students:**

- Scan all the questions before answering so that you can manage your time better.
- Attempt all questions.
- Write your answers in the exam sheets.
- Write your name and ID on each page.
- Any unreadable parts will be considered wrong.

When drawing diagrams or coding, use good layout, and short comments; marks will not be deducted for minor syntax errors.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 1**

(15 marks; 15 minutes)

1.1 Why are parallel and distributed simulations important? (5 marks)

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1.2 Given a physical system,

1.2.1 Describe the fundamental concepts of Discrete Event Simulation. (3 marks)

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1.2.2 Describe how to build a simulation model in terms of Discrete Event Simulation. (3 marks)

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1.3 Tell the advantages and disadvantages of *publication and subscription* mechanisms in distributed environments. (4 marks)

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**Question 2**

(6 marks; 6 minutes)

Amongst the given applications below (a-f),

2.1 Which are considered *system analysis*?2.2 Which are considered *virtual environments*?

- a) war gaming simulations
- b) simulation for training air traffic controllers
- c) multi-user home entertainment
- d) simulation of large networks such as millions of mobile subscribers
- e) simulation of digital electronics circuits
- f) simulations of adding a new runway to Bangkok airport

**Question 3**

(4 marks; 4 minutes)

If simulation time =  $W2S(W) = T0 + S*(W-W0)$ , where  $W$  = wallclock time,  $S$  = scale factor,  $W0(T0)$  = wallclock (simulation time at start of simulation), assuming that simulation and wallclock time use the same time units,

a) what happen if the scale factor,  $S$ , is greater than 1? (2 marks)b) what happen if the scale factor,  $S$ , is smaller than 1? (2 marks)**Question 4**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

From the example *process-oriented* simulation of a network of airports, complete the following process by taking into account of the runway usage of the departure. Define new variables and constants if necessary.

/\* simulate aircraft arrival, circling, and landing \*/

Integer: InTheAir;

Integer: OnTheGround;

Boolean: RunwayFree;

InTheAir := InTheAir + 1;

WaitUntil (RunwayFree);

/\* circle \*/

RunwayFree := FALSE;

/\* land \*/

AdvanceTime(R);

RunwayFree := TRUE;

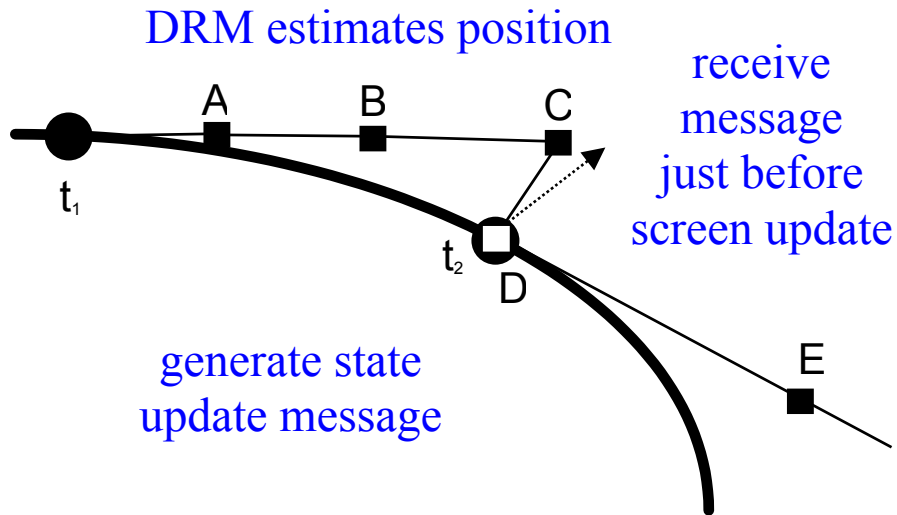
/\* simulate aircraft on the ground \*/

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InTheAir := InTheAir - 1;  
OnTheGround := OnTheGround + 1;  
AdvanceTime(G);  
/* simulate aircraft departure TO BE ADDED*/  
OnTheGround := OnTheGround - 1;
```

**Question 5**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

About *dead reckoning*, show how to solve the following potential problems by modifying the following picture and giving some explanation:



5.1 Discontinuity may occur when position update arrives; may produce "jumps" in display (5 marks)

5.2 Message latency

(5 marks)

**Question 6**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

Suppose that A, B and C are logical processes (LPs) that connect to each other as below.

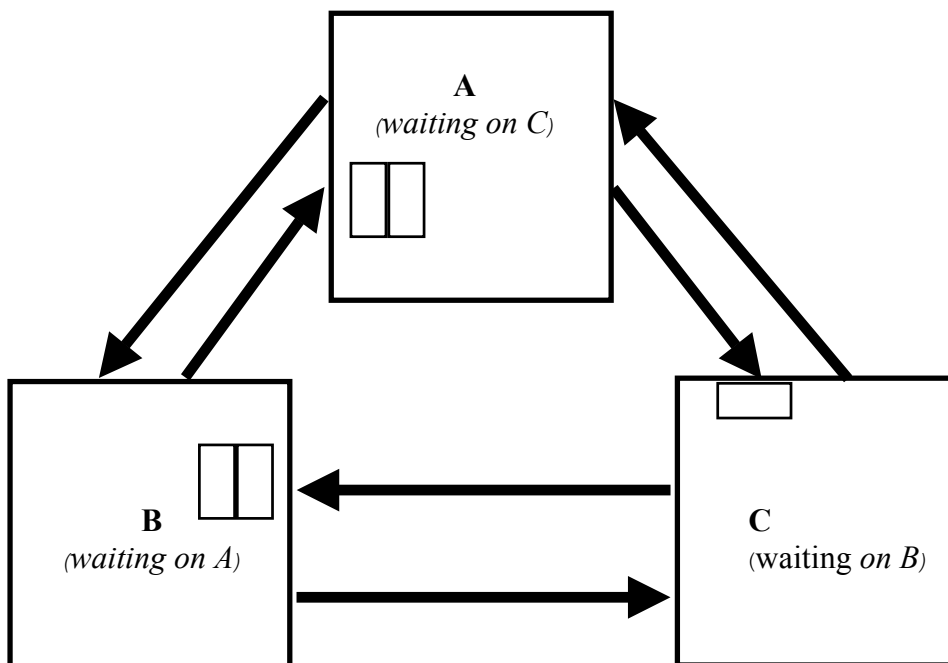
- Qa is a message queue received from logical process A.
- Qb is a message queue received from logical process B.
- Qc is a message queue received from logical process C.

- At LP A, Qb has two messages with time stamp 5 and 7.
- At LP B, Qc has two messages with time stamp 6 and 8.
- At LP C, Qa has one message with time stamp 9.

- LP A is waiting on LP C (Qc has no messages)
- LP B is waiting on LP A (Qa has no messages)
- LP C is waiting on LP B (Qb has no messages)

If the *lookahead* for all processes is 2 and the current simulation time at all processes is 3,

6.1 Calculate the number of null messages needed in order to avoid *deadlock*. Start from LP A sending a null message to LP B. (5 marks)



Number of null messages required \_\_\_\_\_

6.2 After using null messages which events are **safe** to process? Explain why?

(5 marks)

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**Question 7**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

According to *Diffusing computation* for deadlock detection by Dijkstra and Scholten, draw diagrams show how a deadlock can be detected if the total number of logical processes is 5.

**Question 8**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

In a simulation system, the current simulation time is 4. Show how to change the *lookahead* by drawing graphs.

8.1 From 3 to 5

(5 marks)

8.2 From 5 to 2 .

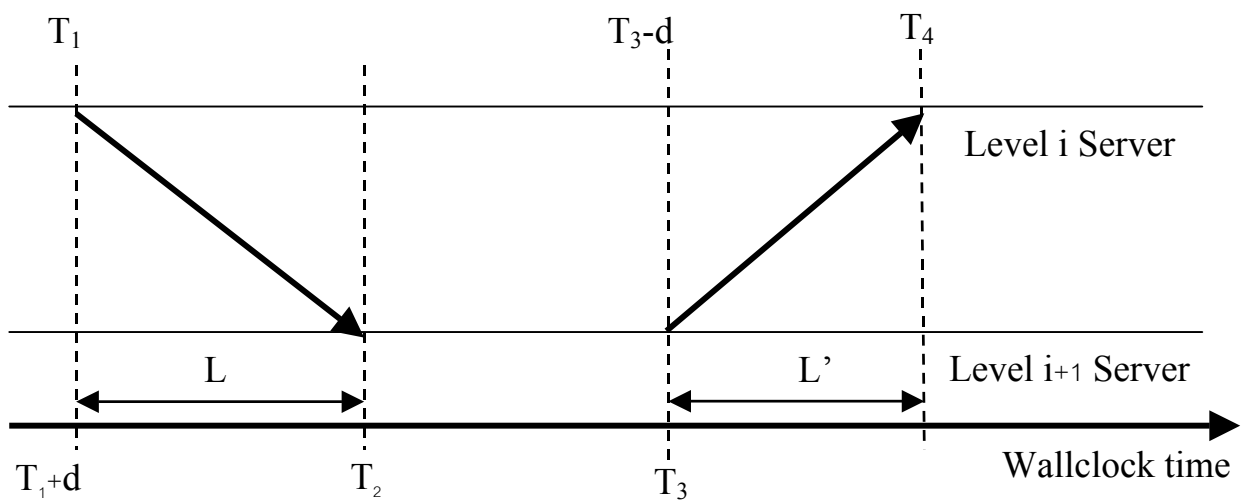
(5 marks)

**Question 9**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

From the given data, estimate the NTP latency and offset.

$$T_1 = 10.1, T_2 = 12.2, T_3 = 14.4, T_4 = 16.5$$



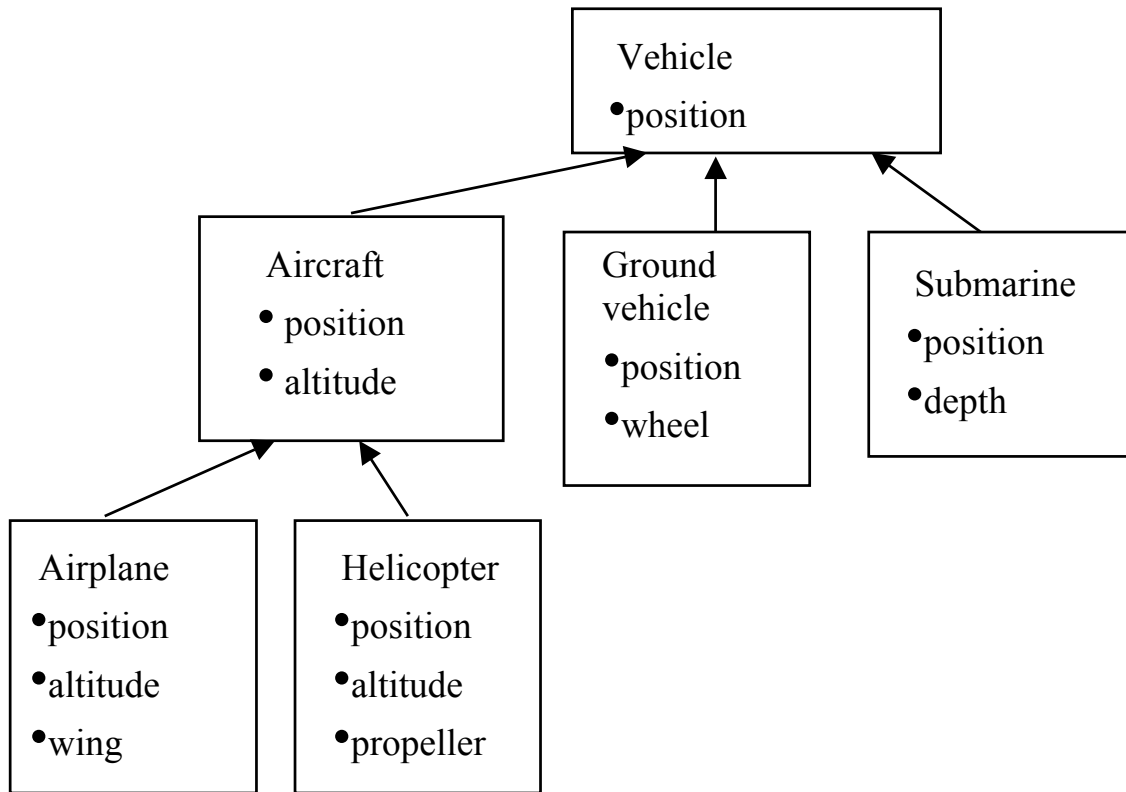
NTP latency = \_\_\_\_\_

offset = \_\_\_\_\_



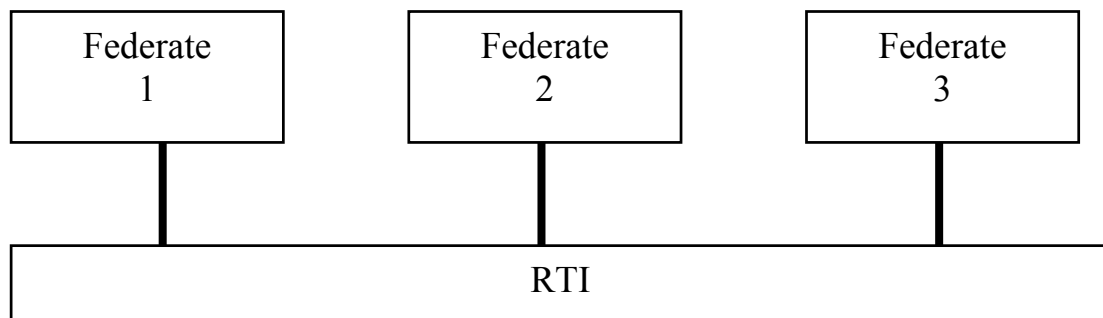
**Question 10**

(15 marks; 15 minutes)



Class hierarchy diagram

10.1 Modify the above class hierarchy diagram and the below federation diagram to show that adding a new sub class (i.e. boat, pick-up, truck) can be done at a federate without class modification at the other federates (10 marks)



Federation diagram

10.2 Give examples of using *interest expressions* and *description expressions* from the given class hierarchy diagram. Include class-based and value-based expressions. (5 marks)

*interest expressions* (3 different examples)

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*description expressions* (2 different examples)

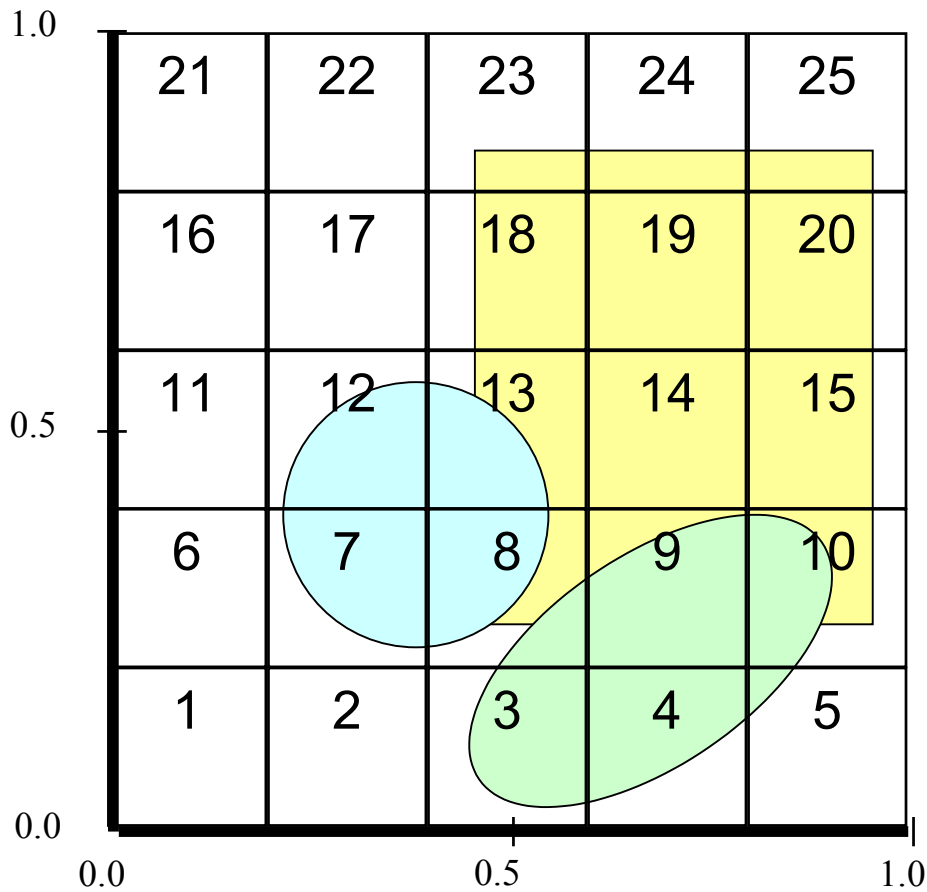
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**Question 11** (10 marks; 10 minutes)

From the *Grid-based* implementation in *Data Distribution*, find out *unwanted* and *duplicate* messages and their receivers and explain why they are unwanted and duplicated.



Update region Subscriber 1 Subscriber 2

Unwanted messages \_\_\_\_\_

Why unwanted? \_\_\_\_\_

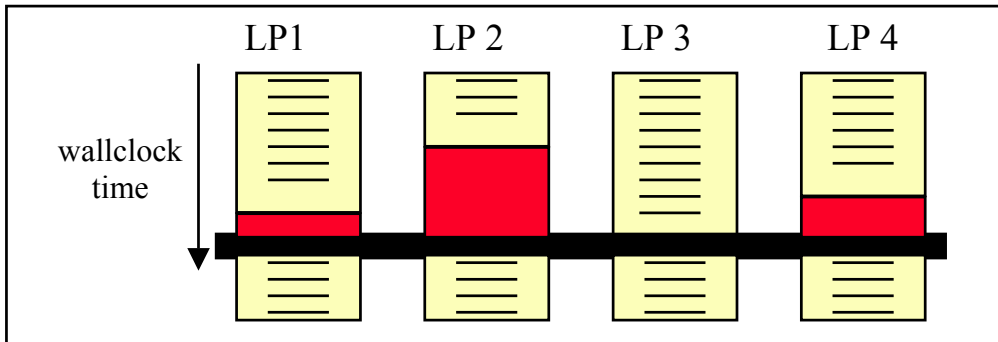
Duplicated messages \_\_\_\_\_

Why duplicated? \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 12**

(5 marks; 5 minutes)

Use the following diagram to explain the barrier mechanism.




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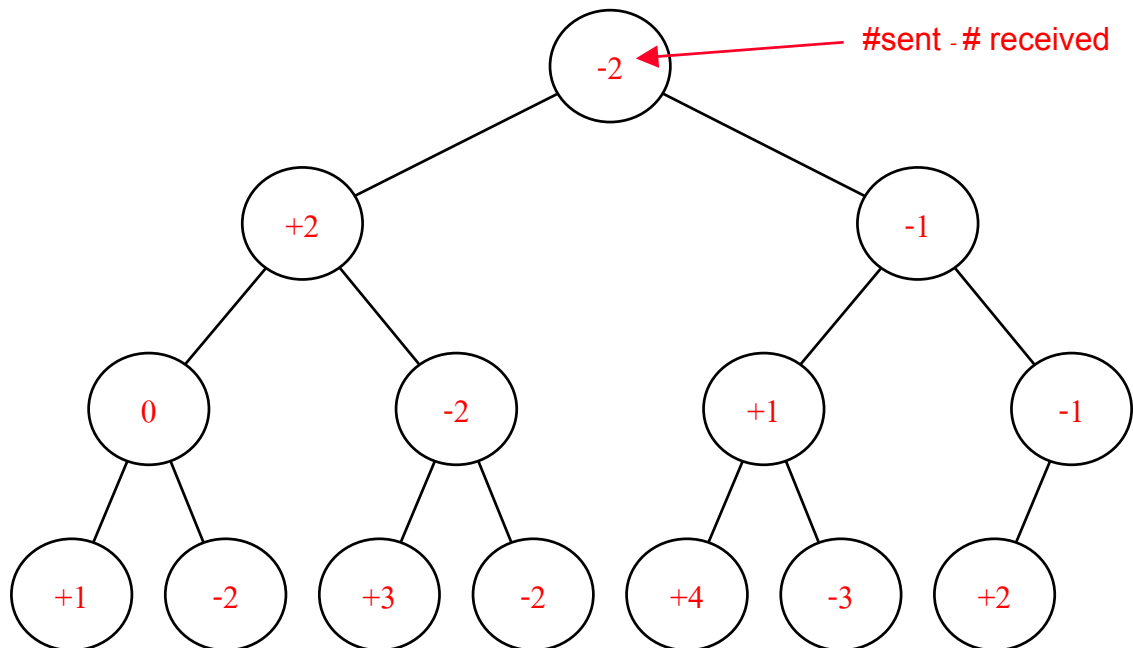


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**Question 13**

(10 marks; 10 minutes)

13.1 From the following Tree in *Flush Barrier*, check if there are still *transient messages* or not. (5 marks)



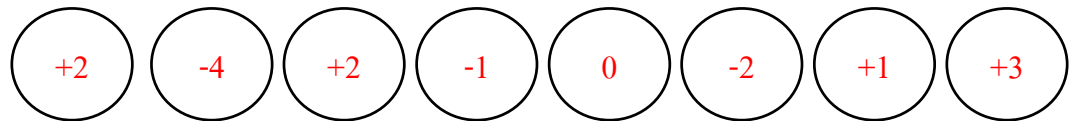
Number of transient messages \_\_\_\_\_

13.2 From the following diagram, check with *Butterfly Flush Barrier* if there are still *transient messages* or not. Also, show the computing steps. (5 marks)

Step 3

Step 2

Step 1

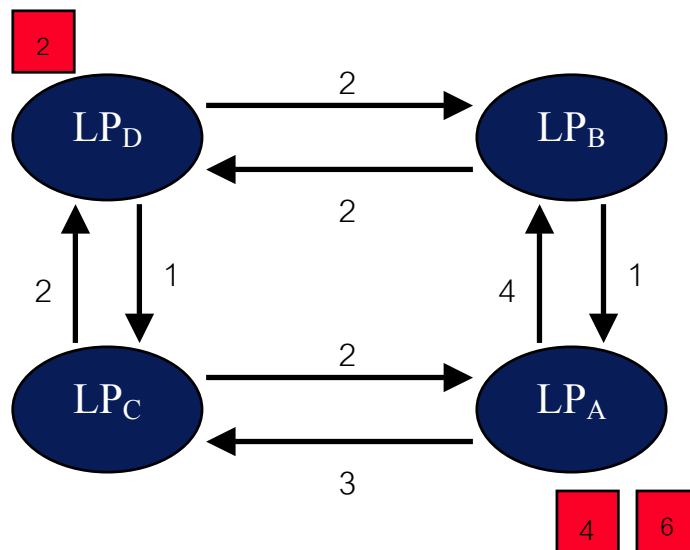


Number of transient messages \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 14**

(20 marks; 20 minutes)

From the following diagram,



14.1 Calculate the distance matrix

(10 marks)

	LP A	LP B	LP C	LP D
LP A				
LP B				
LP C				
LP D				

14.2 Calculate the Lower Bound on the Time Stamp (LBST) of each logical process.

(8 marks)

LBST A \_\_\_\_\_

LBST B \_\_\_\_\_

LBST C \_\_\_\_\_

LBST D \_\_\_\_\_

14.3 Is the event with the time stamp 4 safe to process? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 marks)

14.4 Is the event with the time stamp 6 safe to process? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 marks)

***---End of Examination---***

*Happy New Year*

Pichaya Tandayya

December 2003