

Perfect Branch Prediction vs. Perfect Data Cache

Assumptions

- Single issue out-of-order processor, unlimited window size
- 10 cycle branch delay
- Single cycle access, nonblocking cache, 1 word block size
- Memory accesses have 10% miss rate
- 100 cycle main memory access
- No structural hazards

```
for (p=head; p!=NIL;)  
    if (p->value == 0)  
        p = p->link1;  
    else  
        p = p->link2;
```

```
loop:  J      test      $s0, 0($s1)      ; 50% misprediction  
      lw      $s0, link2  
      bnez     $s0, link2  
      lw      $s1, 4($s1)  
      J      test  
link2: lw      $s1, 8($s1)  
test:  bnez     $s1, loop      ; 0% misprediction
```

Assume 100,000 iterations

Which performs better perfect branch prediction or perfect cache?