Chapter 5

Large and Fast: Exploiting Memory Hierarchy

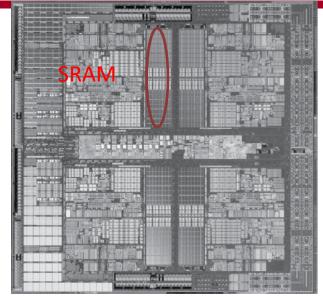


Memory Technology

- Static RAM (SRAM)
 - 0.5ns 2.5ns, \$2000 \$5000 per GB
- Dynamic RAM (DRAM)
 - 50ns 70ns, \$20 \$75 per GB
- Magnetic disk
 - 5ms 20ms, \$0.20 \$2 per GB



- Access time of SRAM
- Capacity and cost/GB of disk



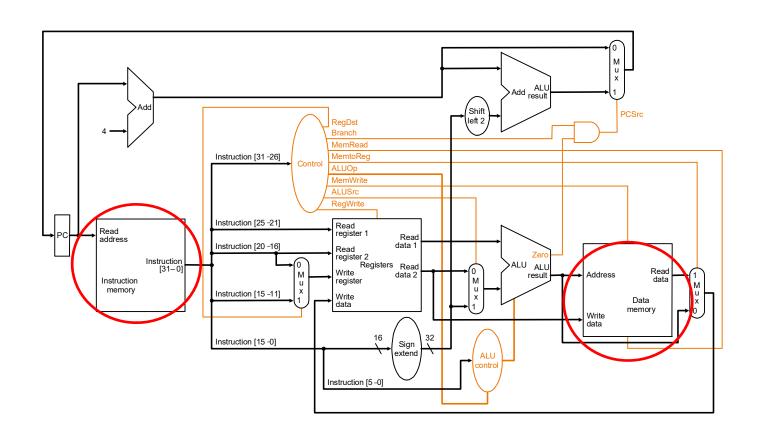








Recap: Single-Cycle MIPS



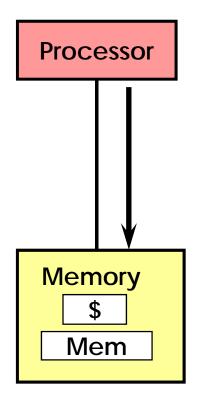
Two memory are used: Instruction and data memory





Memory References Workload

programs



Memory reference stream are instructions that will access memory

```
<op,addr>,
<op,addr>,
<op,addr>,
<op,addr>,
```

op: instruction fetch, read (1w), and write (sw)

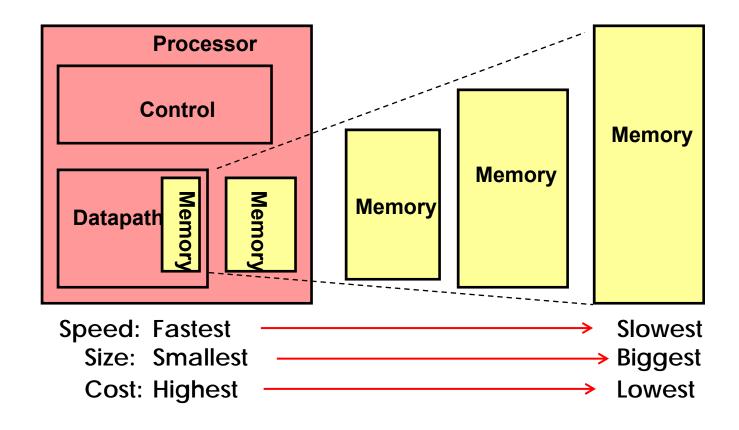
Goal:

Optimize the memory system organization to minimize the average memory access time for typical workloads





Memory Hierarchy: Concept







Why Hierarchy Works?

Principle of Locality:

- Program access a relatively small portion of the address space at any instant of time
- 90/10 rule or 80/20 rule: 10% (20%) of code executes 90% (80%) of time

Types of locality:

- Temporal locality: if an item is referenced, it will tend to be referenced again soon
 - E.g., some counter variable in a loop
- Spatial locality: if an item is referenced, items whose addresses are close by tend to be referenced soon
 - E.g., nearby array data A[i] and A[i+1]

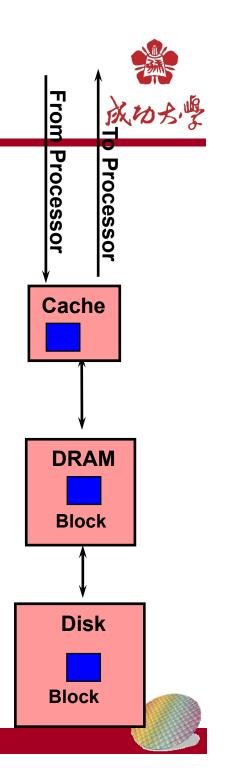
```
for (i=0; i<1000; i++) {
    A[i+1]=A[i]+1
}
```

- i is referenced frequently
- A[i+1], A[i] are nearby



Taking Advantage of Locality

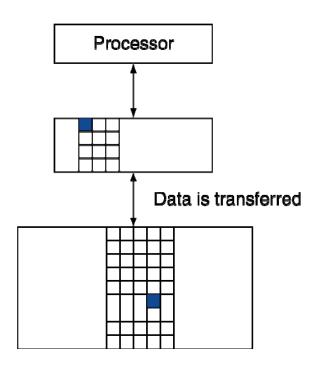
- Memory hierarchy
- Store everything on disk
- Copy recently accessed (and nearby) items from disk to smaller DRAM memory
 - Main memory
- Copy more recently accessed (and nearby) items from DRAM to smaller SRAM memory
 - Cache memory attached to CPU



Memory Hierarchy Levels



- Block (aka line): unit of copying, may be multiple words
- Hit: data is present in upper level
 - Access satisfied by upper level
- Miss: data is absent in upper level
 - data needs to be retrieved from a block in the lower level (Block Y)
 - Then accessed data are supplied from upper level





Memory Hierarchy Levels: Terminology

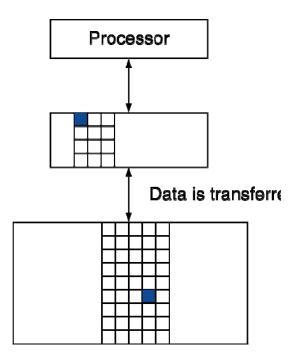


 Hit rate (ratio): fraction of memory access found in the upper level

Hit Rate= hits / accesses

- Hit time: time to access the upper level
- Miss rate = 1 (Hit rate)
- Miss penalty:
 - Time to place (replace) a block (with a block) in the upper level + time to deliver the block to the processor

=Time to determine hit/miss + Mem access time





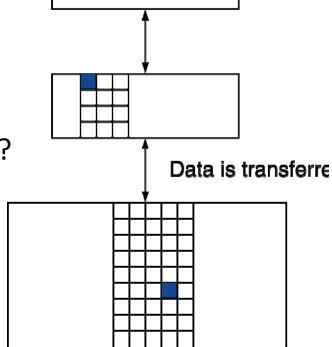
Exercise



- Suppose 20 misses per 1000 access. The total number of accesses is 10,000, and miss penalty is 100 cycles
- 1. What is the miss rate?

2. What are the extra cycles caused by miss?

3. What are the total cycles for the 10,000 access?



Processor

10000+10000*2%*100=30000



Cache Memory

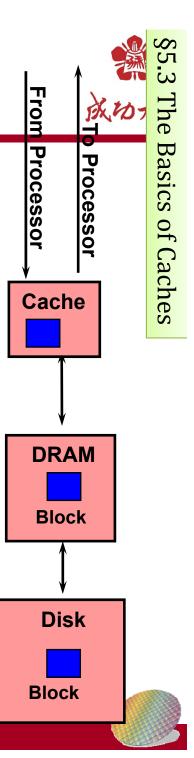
- Cache memory
 - The level of the memory hierarchy closest to the CPU
- Given accesses X_1 , ..., X_{n-1} , X_{n_n} how do we know if the data is present? Where do we look?
 - First technique: directed mapped

X ₄
X ₁
X _{n-2}
\mathbf{X}_{n-1}
X ₂
X ₃

X ₄
X ₄
X _{n-2}
X _{n-1}
X ₂
X_n
X ₃

a. Before the reference to X_n

b. After the reference to X_n

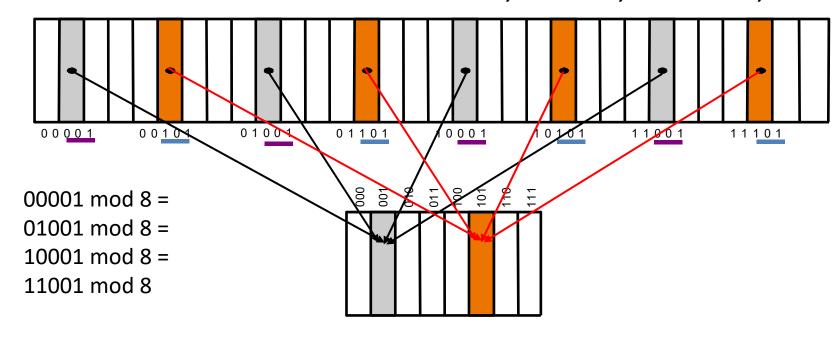




Basics of Cache – Direct-mapped cache

- Location determined by address
- tag index offset
 tag index W.O. B.O.

 Block address
 2-bit
- Direct mapped: only one choice
 - (Block address) modulo (#Blocks in cache)
- 32-block main memory mapped into a 8-block cache block address are 00000, 00001, 00010...,





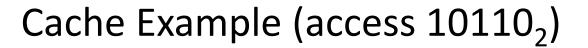


- Cache 8-blocks, direct mapped
- Accessed Block Address are: 10110, 11010, 10110, 11010, 10000, 00011, 10000, 10010, 10000
- Initial state

Valid bit: 1=present, 0 = not present

Index	V	Tag	Data
000	N		
001	N		
010	N		
011	N		
100	N		
101	N		
110	N		
111	N		



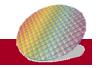




	Decimal addr	Binary addr	Hit/miss	Assigned cache block (Index)
(1)	22	10110	Miss	110

(1) Address referred 10110 (miss):

Index	V	Tag	Data
000	N		
001	N		
010	N		
011	N		
100	N		
101	N		
110	Y	10	Mem[10110]
111	N		

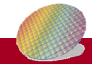




Cache Example (access 11010₂)

	Decimal addr	Binary addr	Hit/miss	Assigned cache block (Index)
(1)	22	10110	Miss	110
(2)	26	11010	Miss	010

Index	V	Tag	Data
000	N		
001	N		
010	Y	11	Mem[11010]
011	N		
100	N		
101	N		
110	Υ	10	Mem[10110]
111	N		





(3)

(4)

Decimal addr	Binary addr	Hit/miss	Cache block
22	10 110	Hit	110
26	11 010	Hit	010

Nothing is changed in cache

Index	V	Tag	Data
000	N		
001	N		
010	Υ	11	Mem[11010]
011	N		
100	N		
101	N		
110	Υ	10	Mem[10110]
111	N		





(5)

(6)

(7)

Decimal addr	Binary addr	Hit/miss	Cache block
16	10 000	Miss	000
3	00 011	Miss	011
16	10 000	Hit	000

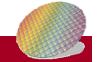
Index	V	Tag	Data
000	Y	10	Mem[10000]
001	N		
010	Υ	11	Mem[11010]
011	Y	00	Mem[00011]
100	N		
101	N		
110	Υ	10	Mem[10110]
111	N		





Decimal addr Binary addr Hit/miss Cache block
(8) 18 10 010 Miss 010

Index	V	Tag	Data
000	Υ	10	Mem[10000]
001	N		
010	Y	10	Mem[10010]
011	Υ	00	Mem[00011]
100	N		
101	N		
110	Υ	10	Mem[10110]
111	N		





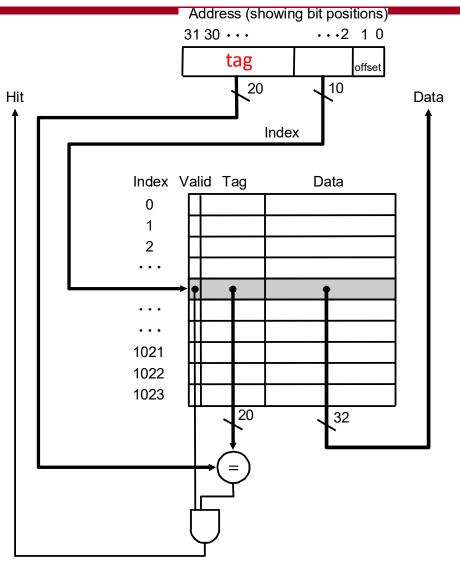
Direct-Mapped Cache Organization

How do we know where a block is stored in a cache?

- Use Tag and valid bit
- Example, cache has 1024 blocks, each block is 1-word (4bytes)
 - Offset : 2 bits $(2^2=4)$
 - Cache index: lower 10 bits $(2^{10}=1024)$
 - Cache tag: upper 20 bits (32-2-10)
 - Valid bit (when start up, valid is 0)

tag	index	off	set	
tag	index	W.O.	B.O.	

Block address



Example



Address has 32 bits. A direct-mapped cache has 4096 blocks, each block is 2-word.

1) What is the width for byte offset?

2 words =
$$8 \text{ bytes} = 2^3 \text{ Width} = 3$$

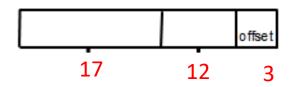
2) What is the bit width for cache index?

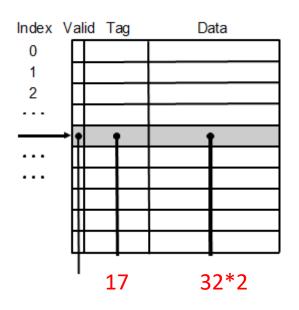
3) What is the bit length for tag?

4) Cache entry size

$$(1+32*2+17)$$
 bits

5)Total cache size (in bits)



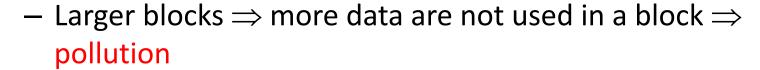




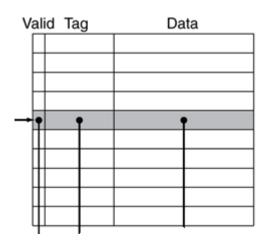
Block Size Considerations

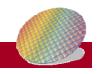


- Larger blocks should reduce miss rate
 - Due to spatial locality
- But in a fixed-sized cache
 - Larger blocks ⇒ less number of blocks
 - More address compete for a block
 - ⇒ increased miss rate



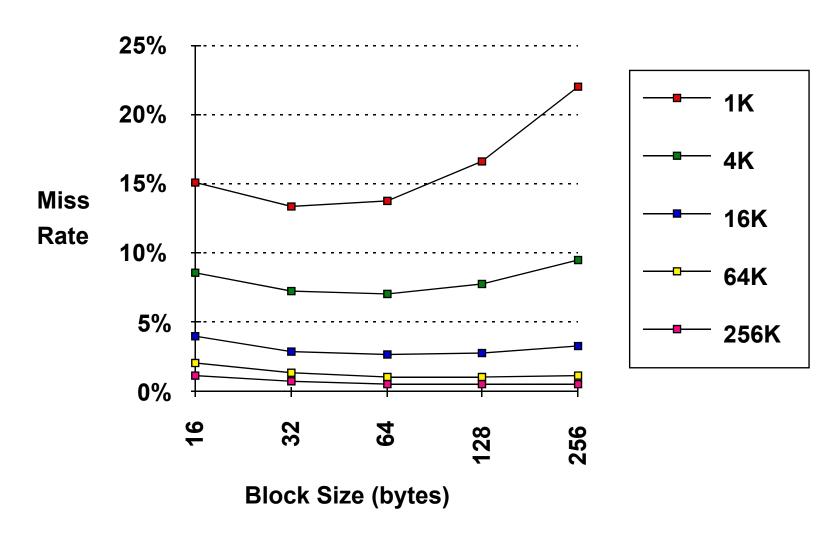
- Larger blocks ⇒ Larger miss penalty
 - Take more time to move a block
 - Can override benefit of reduced miss rate







Miss Rate vs. Block Size

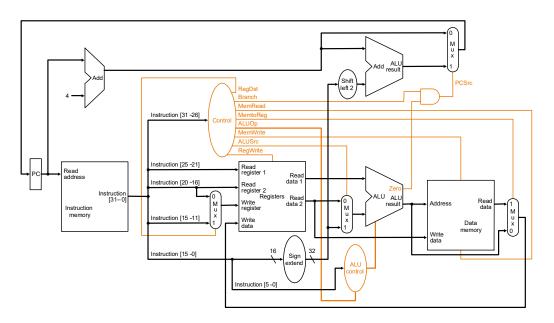




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Cache Misses

- On cache hit, CPU proceeds normally
- On cache miss
 - Stall the CPU pipeline, Fetch block from next level of hierarchy
 - Instruction cache miss
 - Restart instruction fetch
 - Data cache miss
 - Complete data access





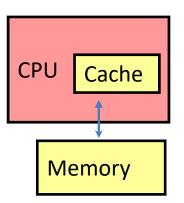


Handling Writes

- On data-write hit, if only block in cache is updated
 - cache and memory would be inconsistent
- Two policies: Write Through and Write back
- Write through: update both cache and memory
 - makes writes take longer because needs to wait for MEM operation

e.g. if base CPI = 1, write to memory takes 100 cycles (miss penalty), miss rate is 10%, find new CPI

New CPI= 1+10%x 100 = 11

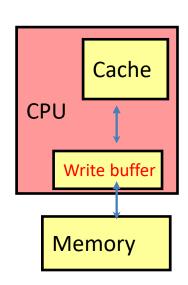




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Handling Writes – Write through

- Write through: update both cache and memory
- Improve the performance of write through using write buffer
 - Holds data waiting to be written to memory
 - CPU continues immediately
 - Only stalls on write if write buffer is already full

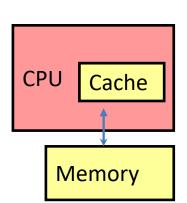




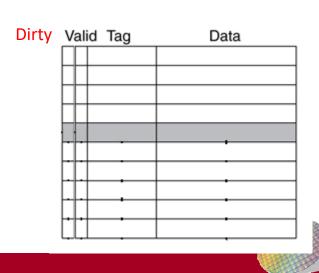
Handling Writes -- Write-Back



- Alternative: On data-write hit, just update the block in cache
 - Keep track of whether each block is dirty (need a dirty bit)
 - When Dirty is 1, mean it is already modified (cache and memory data are different)



- When a dirty block is replaced
 - Write it back to memory
 - Can use a write back buffer to allow replacing block to be read first



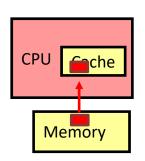
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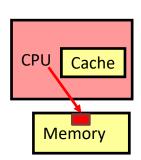
Two options on write miss

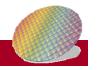
- What should happen on a write miss (write a block that is not in cache)?
 - Write allocate and No-write allocate



- Allocate block in cache (both cache and memory has the block), and write cache and memory
- Write miss is like read miss.
- Simple
- No-write allocate
 - Do not allocate block in cache. Write block in memory only
 - Block stay in memory until it is read (Only reads are cached)
 - More cache space for read (reduce miss rate)
 - Useful for initialization (initialize data before use it)







Write back or through vs. write allocate or no- write allocate

 Both write-through and write-back policies can use either of these write-miss policies, but usually they are paired in this way

	Write back	Write through
Write allocate	Subsequent writes (or even reads) to the same location, which is now cached.	
No write allocate		Subsequent writes still need to be written to the lower mem. => no advantage But cache space is saved for read

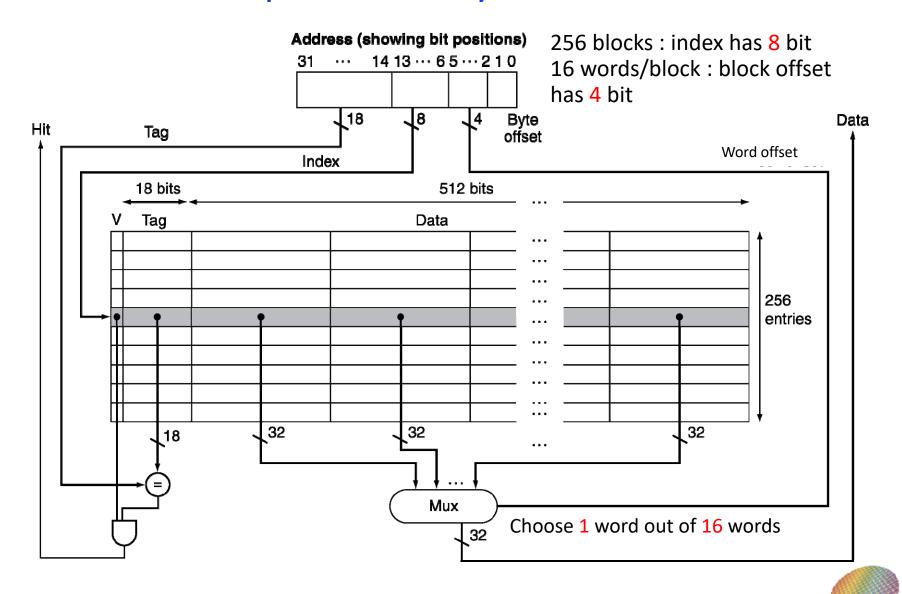


Example: Intrinsity FastMATH

- Embedded MIPS processor (See next slides)
 - 12-stage pipeline
 - Instruction and data access on each cycle
- Split cache: separate I-cache and D-cache
 - Each 16KB: 256 blocks × 16 words/block
 - D-cache: write-through or write-back
- SPEC2000 miss rates
 - I-cache: 0.4%
 - D-cache: 11.4%
 - Weighted average: 3.2%



Example: Intrinsity FastMATH



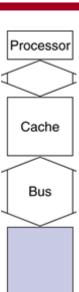
Main Memory Supporting Caches

- Use DRAMs for main memory
 - Fixed width (e.g., 1 word)
 - Connected by fixed-width clocked bus
 - Bus clock is typically slower than CPU clock
- e.g. cache block read
 - 1 bus cycle for address transfer
 - 15 bus cycles per DRAM access(read)
 - 1 bus cycle per data transfer

E.g. What is the miss penalty and bandwidth when transferring a 4-word block on 1-word-wide DRAM

Miss penalty =
$$1 + 4 \times 15 + 4 \times 1 = 65$$
 bus cycles

Note: address transfer is 1 cycle because of sequential access



Memory

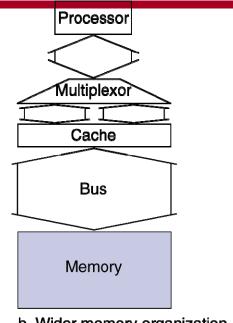


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Increasing Memory Bandwidth

- Method1: Wider memory and bus width
 - Access 4-word and transfer 4-word at a one time

E.g. What is the miss penalty and Bandwidth when transferring a 4-word block on 4-word-wide DRAM?



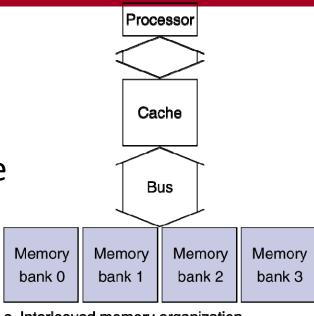
b. Wider memory organization

- Miss penalty = 1 + 15 + 1 = 17 bus cycles
- Bandwidth = 16 bytes / 17 cycles = 0.94 B/cycle

Increase bandwidth, but memory and bus cost is high



- Increasing Memory Bandwidth
- Method 2: Interleaved memory organize
 - Bus width is the same
 - Sending address to 4 banks at the time
 - => Four memory bank can be accessed at the same time
 - => overlap the access time



c. Interleaved memory organization

E.g. What is the miss penalty and Bandwidth when transferring a 4-word block on an interleaved DRAM?

Miss penalty =
$$1 + 15 + 4 \times 1 = 20$$
 bus cycles

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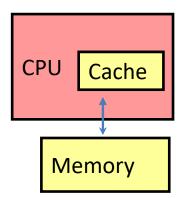


Measuring and Improving Cache Performance

Measuring Cache Performance



- Components of CPU time
 - Program execution cycles
 - Includes cache hit time
 - Memory stall cycles
 - Mainly from cache misses



CPU Time

= (CPU Clock cycle + Memory stall cycle) × Cycle Time

Memory stall cycles



Cache Performance Example



Given

- I-cache miss rate = 2%, D-cache miss rate = 4%
- Miss penalty = 100 cycles
- Base CPI (ideal cache) = 2
- Load & stores are 36% of instructions
- 1. Find new CPI
- 2. Compare performance of ideal and actual CPU performance (hint: assume instruction number is I)

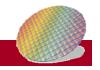
Miss cycle per instruction

- I-cache: 0.02 x 100 =2
- D-cache: $0.36 \times 0.04 \times 100 = 1.44$

New CPI =
$$2 + 2 + 1.44 = 5.44$$

New CPU is 2.72X slower than Ideal CPU

New CPI/Old CPI =
$$5.44/2 = 2.72$$



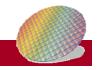


Average Memory Access Time (AMAT)

- Hit time is also important for performance
- Use AMAT to estimate average time to access data for both hit and miss
- Average memory access time (AMAT)
 - AMAT = Hit time + Miss rate × Miss penalty
- Example
 - CPU with 1ns clock, hit time = 1 cycle, miss penalty = 20 cycles, I-cache miss rate = 5%, find AMAT

$$AMAT = 1 + 0.05 \times 20 = 2ns$$

AMAT is 2 cycles per instruction



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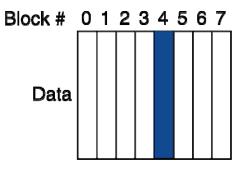
Different Cache Architectures

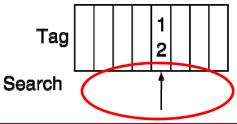
- Direct mapped (have discussed)
- Fully associative: each memory block can locate anywhere in cache
 - Allow a given block to go in any cache entry
 - All cache entries are searched (in parallel) to locate block

Direct mapped

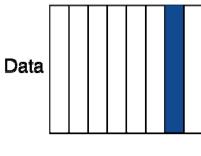
Comparator per entry (expensive)

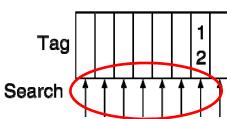
Location of a memory block with address 12 in a cache with 8 entries





Fully associative





Can be placed in any block, every block is searched



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Different Cache Architectures

- N-way Set associative:
 - Each memory block can place in a set of cache locations (any location in the set, each set contain N entries)
 - cache set number = (Block number) modulo (number of Sets in cache)
 - all cache entries in the set are searched (in parallel) to locate
 block

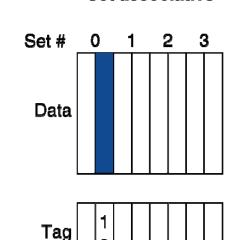
 Set associative
 - N comparators (less expensive)

E.g. What is the location of a memory block with address 12 in a 2-way cache with 8 entries?

Total #entry=8, each set has 2 blocks => 4 Sets

Set address = $12 \mod 4 = 0$

block number 12 is put into set 0

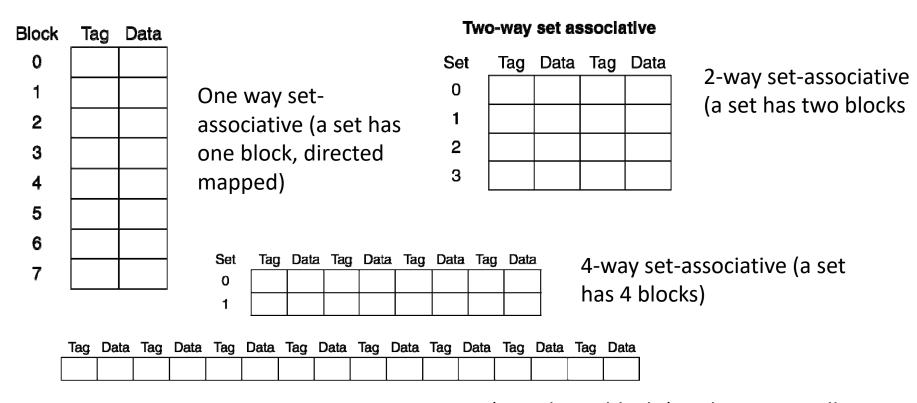


Search



Different Associativity

For a cache with 8 entries, four different cache organization



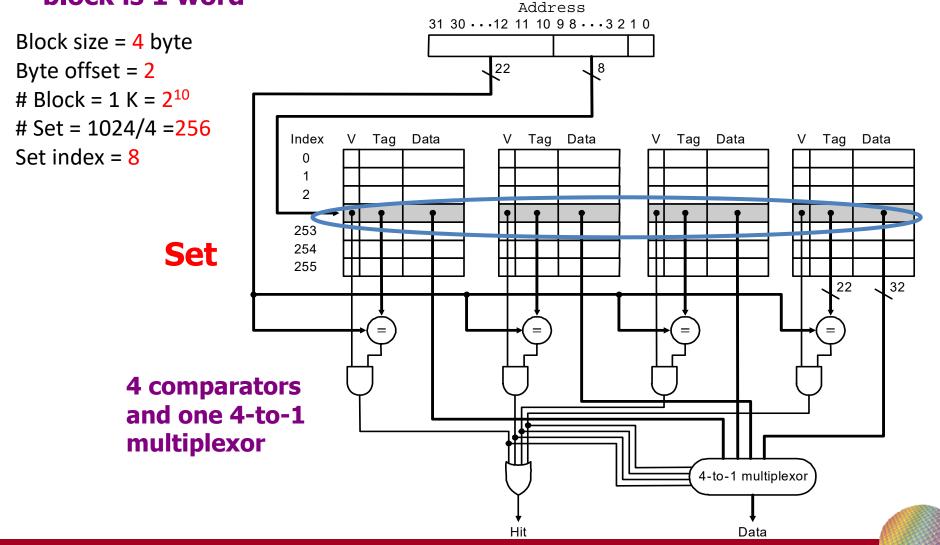
8-way set-associative (a set has 8 blocks), only one set, all blocks are search in a cache access



A 4-way set-associative Cache example



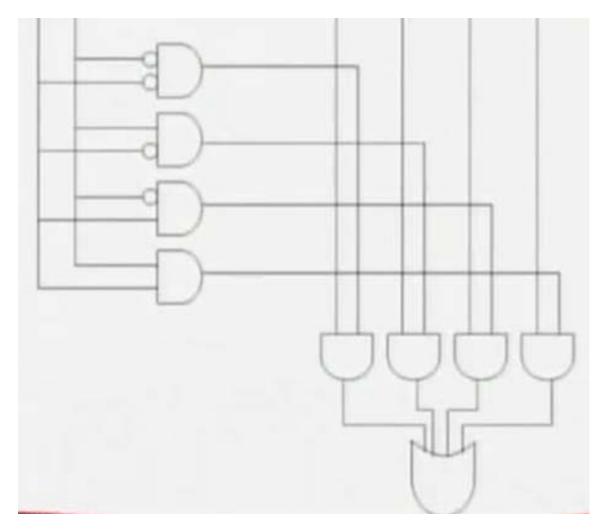
4-way set-associative cache size of cache is 1K blocks, each block is 1 word





4-to-1 multiplexer

S1 S0 D2 D3 D0 D1



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Example Problem

- Find the number of misses for a 4-block cache with (each block is 1-word) given the following sequence of word addresses of memory block accesses: 0, 8, 0, 6 and 8, for each of the following cache configurations
 - direct mapped
 - 2. 2-way set associative (use LRU replacement policy)
 - 3. fully associative





Associativity Example

- Direct mapped for four 1-word blocks
- Block addresses: 0, 8, 0, 6, 8

Block address	Cache block
0	0(=0 mod 4)
6	2(=6 mod 4)
8	0(=8 mod 4)

Block	Cache	Hit/miss	Cache content after access							
address	index		0	1	2	3				
0	0	miss	Mem[0]							
8	0	miss	Mem[8]							
0	0	miss	Mem[0]							
6	2	miss	Mem[0]		Mem[6]					
8	0	miss	Mem[8]		Mem[6]					





Associativity Example

• 2-way set associative (4 misses, 1 hit)

add ress	Set
0	0(=0 mod 2)
6	0(=6 mod 2)
8	0(=8 mod 2)

Block	Cache	Hit/miss	Cache content after access					
address	index		Se	t O	Se	et 1		
0	0	miss	Mem[0]					
8	0	miss	Mem[0]	Mem[8]				
0	0	hit	Mem[0]	Mem[8]				
6	0	miss	Mem[0]	Mem[6]				
8	0	miss	Mem[8]	/Mem[6]				

Fully associative

Use LRU (least recently used), so Mem[8] is replaced

Block	Hit/miss	Cache content after access								
address										
0	miss	Mem[0]								
8	miss	Mem[0]	Mem[8]							
0	hit	Mem[0]	Mem[8]							
6	miss	Mem[0]	Mem[8]	Mem[6]						
8	hit	Mem[0]	Mem[8]	Mem[6]						

(3 misses, 2 hit)





Why Set Associate Cache?

- Directed mapped may introduce too many conflict misses
 - Conflict miss: >=1 memory blocks contend a cache line
- Fully associative is too expensive
 - Minimize the number of conflict misses
- Set associative intends to come up with a balance





How Much Associativity

- Increased associativity decreases miss rate
 - But with diminishing returns
- Simulation of a system with 64KB
 D-cache, 16-word blocks, SPEC2000

- 1-way: 10.3%

- 2-way: 8.6%

- 4-way: 8.3%

- 8-way: 8.1%



Replacement Policy



Two-way set	associatives .
-------------	----------------

Tag Data Tag Data

- Direct mapped: no choice
- Set associative
 - Prefer non-valid entry, if there is one
 - Otherwise, choose among entries in the set using Leastrecently used (LRU)
 - Choose the one unused for the longest time
 - Simple for 2-way, manageable for 4-way, too hard beyond that
- Full Associative: Random
 - Gives approximately the same performance as LRU for high associativity

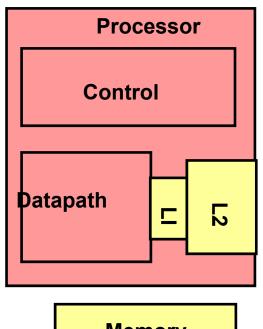
Tag	Data														



Multilevel Caches



- Use Multilevel Caches to reduce miss penalty
- Primary cache (Level-1) attached to CPU
 - Small, but fast
- Level-2 cache services misses from primary cache
 - Larger, slower, but still faster than main memory
- L-2 cache reduces the write on mem
 => reduce miss penalty
- Some high-end systems include L-3 cache





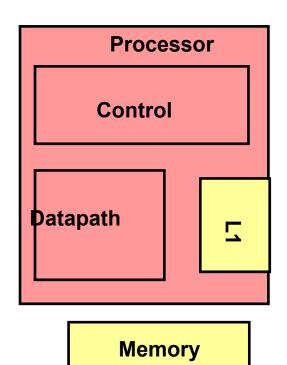


该.

Multilevel Cache Example

Given

- CPU base CPI = 1, clock rate = 4GHz
- Miss rate/instruction = 2%
- Main memory access time = 100ns
- With just primary cache
 - Miss penalty = 100ns/0.25ns = 400 cycles
 - Effective CPI = $1 + 0.02 \times 400 = 9$

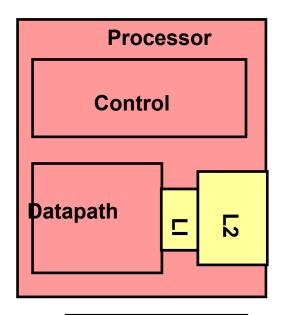




Example (cont.)



- Now CPI with L-2 Cache
- L-2 cache
 - Access time = 5ns
 - Global miss rate to main memory = 0.5%
- Primary miss with L2 hit
 - Penalty = 5ns/0.25ns = 20 cycles
- Primary miss with L2 miss
 - Extra penalty = 400 cycles
- CPI = $1 + 0.02 \times 20 + 0.005 \times 400 = 3.4$
- Performance ratio = 9/3.4 = 2.6



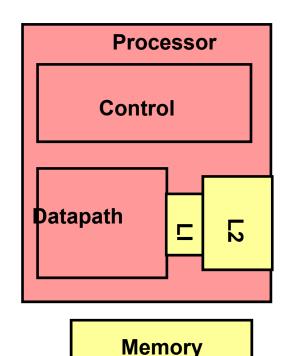
Memory



Multilevel Cache Considerations



- Primary cache
 - Focus on minimal hit time
- L-2 cache
 - Focus on low miss rate to avoid main memory access
 - Hit time has less overall impact
- Results
 - L1 cache usually smaller than a single cache
 - L1 block size smaller than L-2 block size





Recitation





Backup Slides







Exercise 5.6

In this exercise, we will look at the different ways capacity affects overall performance. In general, cache access time is proportional to capacity. Assume that main memory accesses take 70 ns and that memory accesses are 36% of all instructions. The following table shows data for L1 caches attached to each of two processors, P1 and P2.

nAssuming that the L1 hit time determines the cycle times for P1 and P2, what are their respective clock rates?

Clock rate = 1 / <cycle time> and <cycle time> = <L1 hit time>

P1: 1/0.66ns = 1.52 GHz; P2: 1/0.90ns = 1.11 GHz

Exercise 5.6

2. What is the average memory access time for P1 and P2?

P1:

Main memory access takes 70 ns, which is 70 ns / 0.66 ns/cycle = 107 clock cycles

AMAT is 1 + 8% * 107 = 9.56 cycles 9.56 * 0.66 = 6.31 ns.

P2:

Main memory access takes 70 ns, which is 70 ns / 0.90 ns/cycle = 78 clock cycles

AMAT is 1 + 6% * 78 = 5.68 cycles 5.68 * 0.90 = 5.11 ns.





Exercise 5.6

3. Assuming a base CPI of 1.0 without any memory stalls, what is the total CPI for P1 and P2? Which processor is faster?

CPtstall = <CPtideal> + <average memory-stall cycles>

P1:

 $1.0 + 0.36 * 0.08 * 107 = 4.08 \operatorname{clock} \operatorname{cycles}$

4.08 * 0.66 = 2.69 ns

P2:

1.0 + 0.36 * 0.06 * 78 = 2.68 clock cycles

2.68 * 0.90 = 2.42 ns

