Memory Hierarchy Inside Out: (3) Cache misses and their remedies

Hung-Wei Tseng

von Neumman Architecture

509cbd23

00c2e800

Processor

Instructions	Data
0f00bb27	00c2e800
509cbd23	00000008
00005d24	00c2f000
0000bd24	00000008
2ca422a0	00c2f800
130020e4	00000008
00003d24	00c30000
2ca4e2b3	00000008

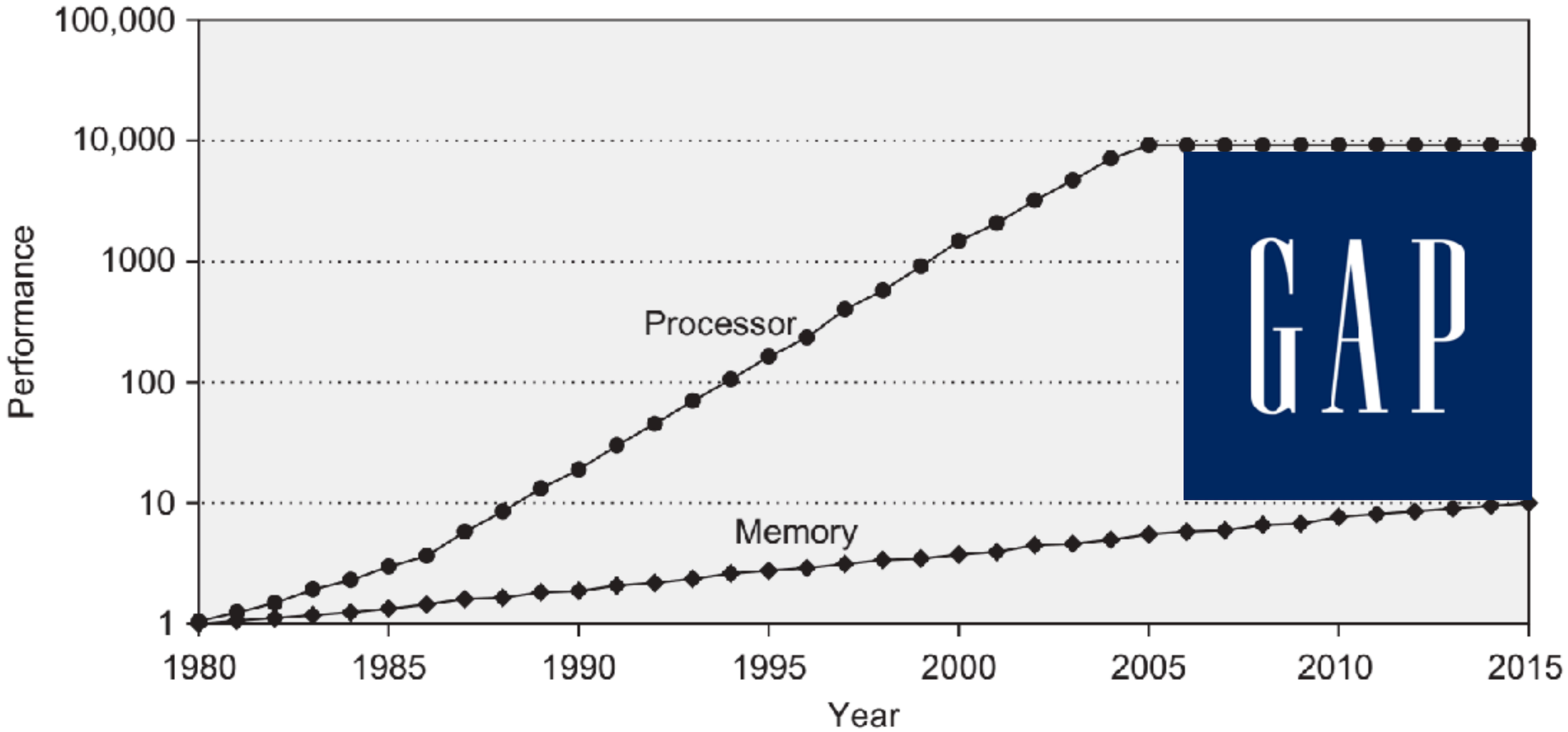
Memory

Program

Instructions	Data
0f00bb27	00c2e800
509cbd23	00000008
00005d24	00c2f000
0000bd24	00000008
2ca422a0	00c2f800
130020e4	00000008
00003d24	00c30000
2ca4e2b3	00000008

Storage

Recap: Performance gap between Processor/Memory



Memory Hierarchy

fastest

< 1ns

a few ns

tens of ns

us/ms

Processor

Processor Core

Registers

SRAM $

DRAM

Storage

TBs

larger

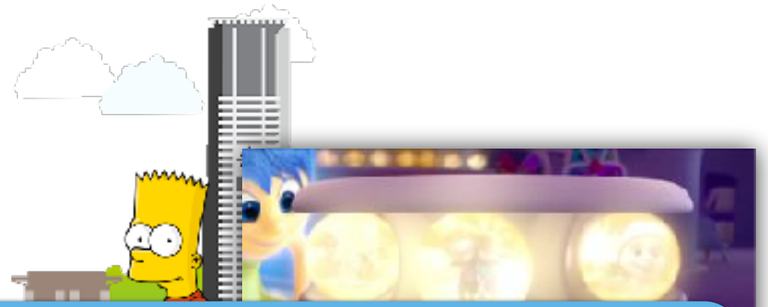
fastest

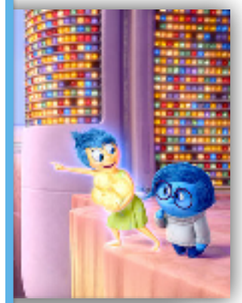
L1 $

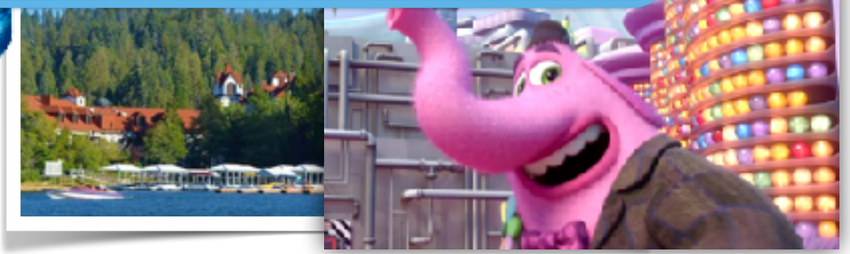
L2 $

L3 $

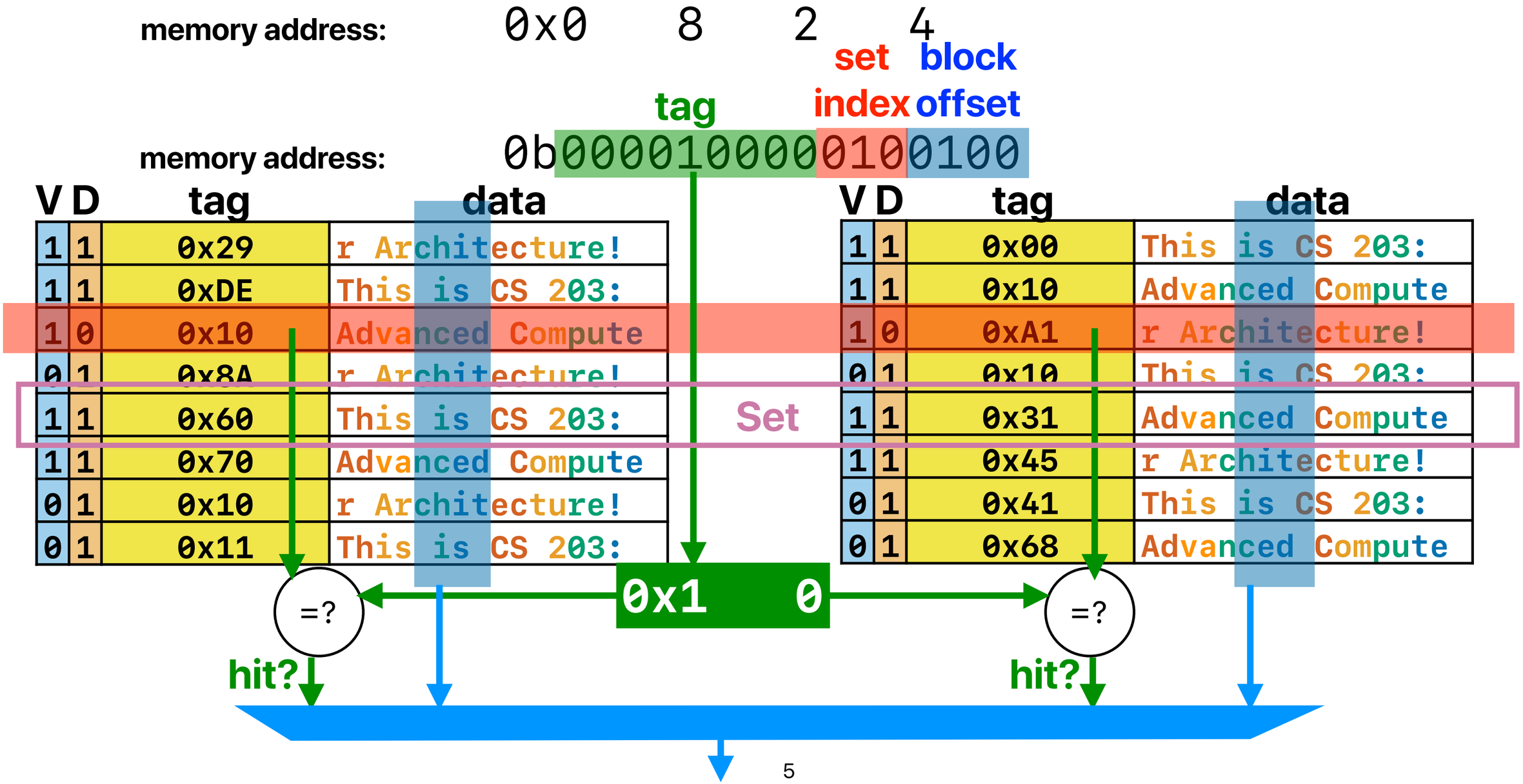
larger



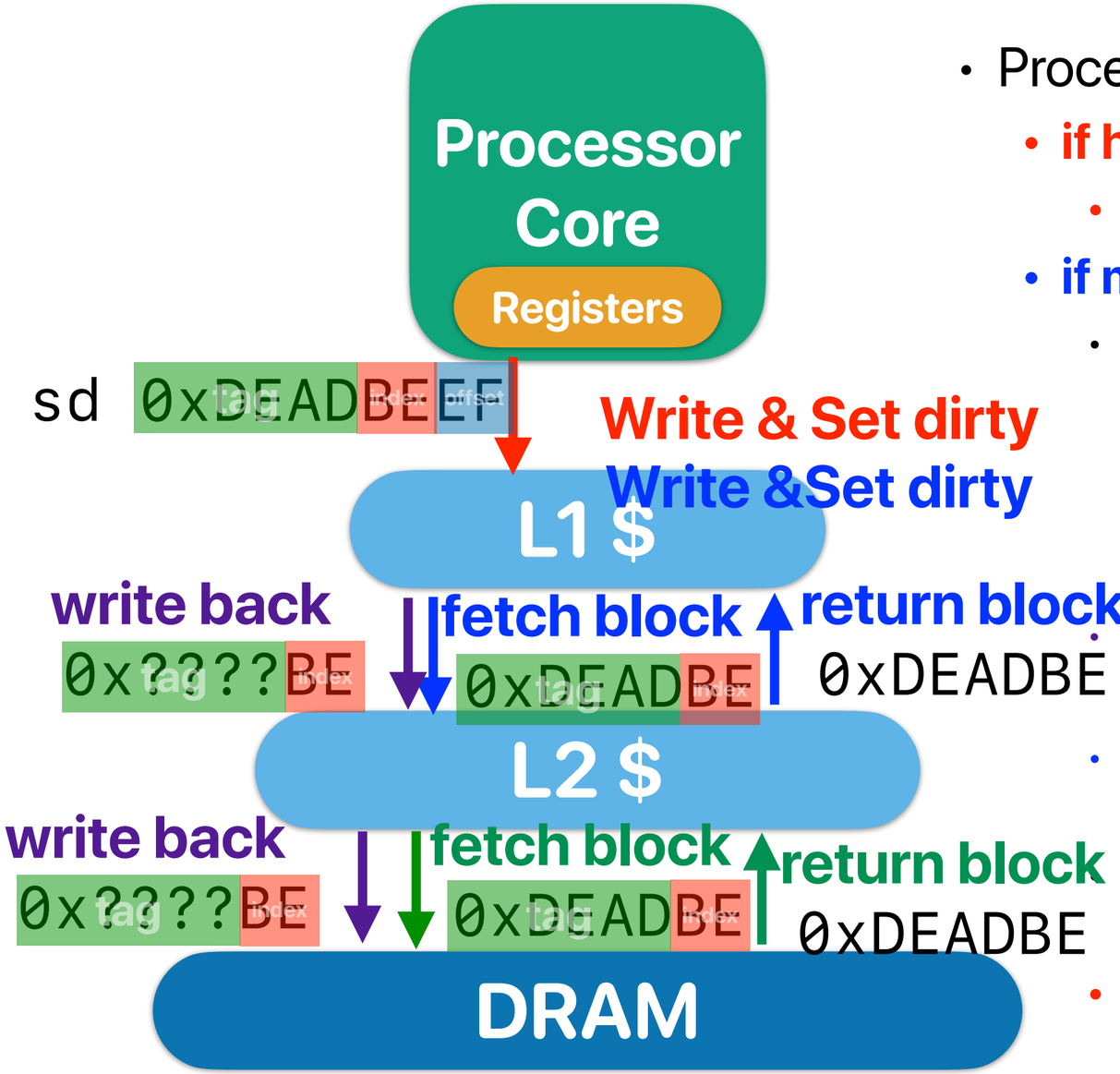




Way-associative cache

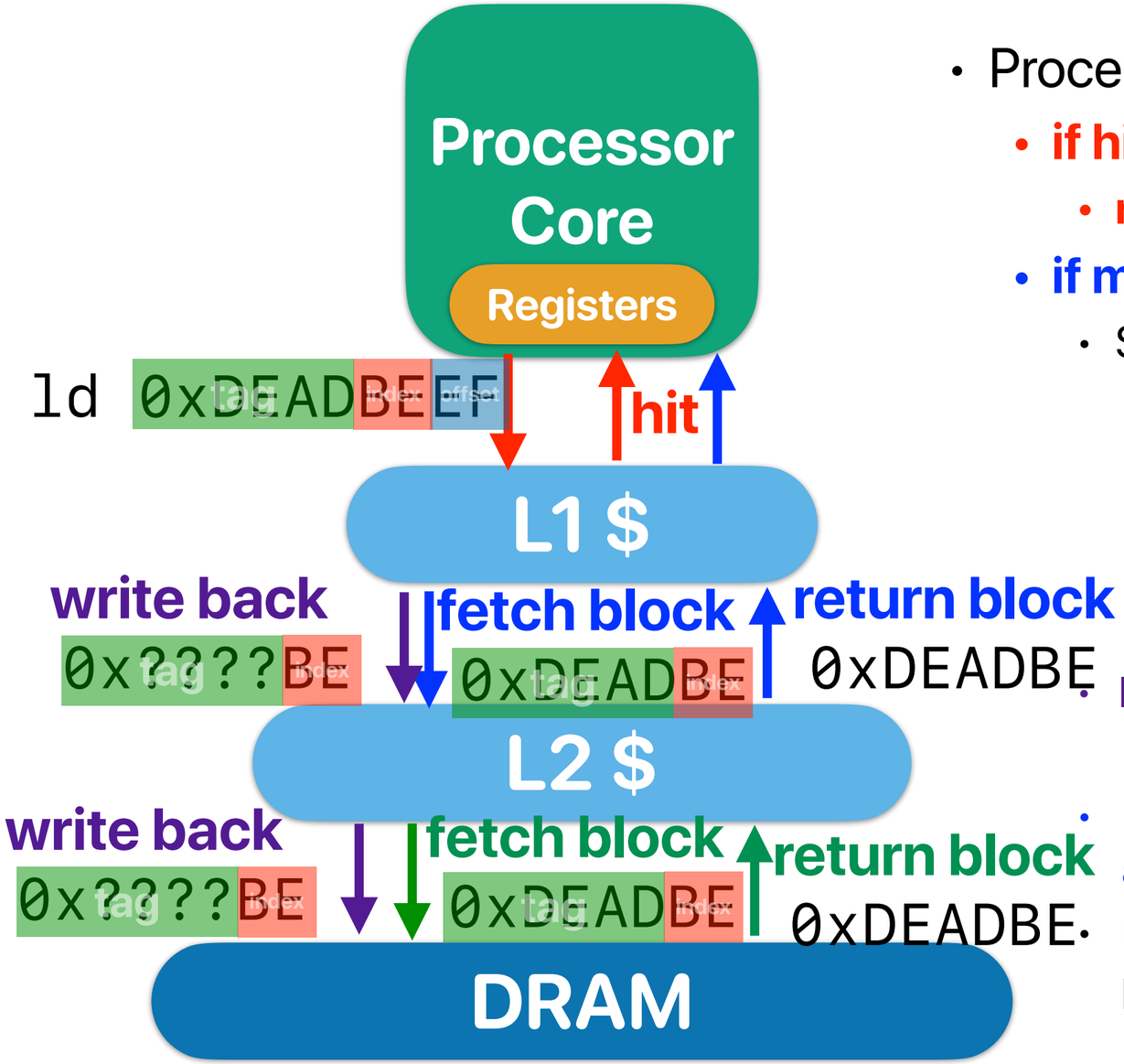


What happens when we write data



- Processor sends load request to L1-$
  - **if hit**
    - **return data — set DIRTY**
  - **if miss**
    - Select a victim block
      - If the target "set" is not full — select an empty/invalidated block as the victim block
      - If the target "set is full — select a victim block using some policy
      - LRU is preferred — to exploit temporal locality!
    - If the victim block is "dirty" & "valid"
      - **Write back** the block to lower-level memory hierarchy
    - Fetch the requesting block from lower-level memory hierarchy and place in the victim block
    - If write-back or fetching causes any miss, repeat the same process
  - **Present the write "ONLY" in L1 and set DIRTY**

What happens when we read data

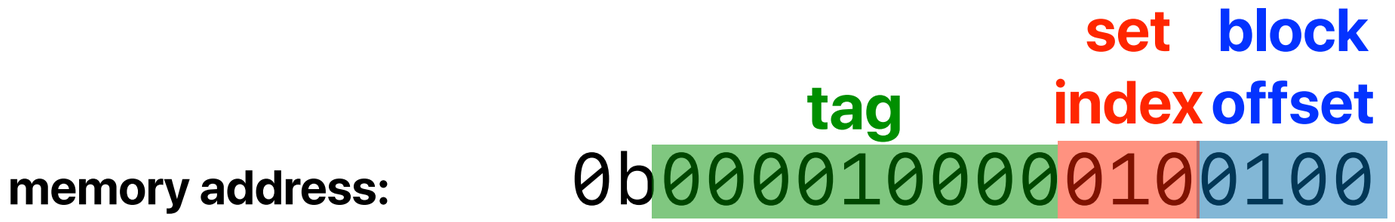


- Processor sends load request to L1-$
  - **if hit**
    - **return data**
  - **if miss**
    - Select a victim block
      - If the target "set" is not full — select an empty/invalidated block as the victim block
      - If the target "set is full — select a victim block using some policy
      - LRU is preferred — to exploit temporal locality!
    - If the victim block is "dirty" & "valid"
      - **Write back** the block to lower-level memory hierarchy
    - Fetch the requesting block from lower-level memory hierarchy and place in the victim block
    - If write-back or fetching causes any miss, repeat the same process

C = ABS

- **C**: **C**apacity in data arrays
- **A**: Way-**A**ssociativity — how many blocks within a set
  - N-way: N blocks in a set, A = N
  - 1 for direct-mapped cache
- **B**: **B**lock Size (Cacheline)
  - How many bytes in a block
- **S**: Number of **S**ets:
  - A set contains blocks sharing the same index
  - 1 for fully associate cache

Corollary of C = ABS



- number of bits in **b**lock offset — lg(**B**)
- number of bits in **s**et index: lg(**S**)
- tag bits: address_length - lg(S) - lg(B)
  - address_length is 64 bits for 64-bit machine
- $\frac{address}{block\_size} \pmod{S}$ = set index

NVIDIA Tegra X1

100% miss rate!

- Size 32KB, 4-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 4 * 64 * S
S = 128
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(128) = 7 bits
tag = the rest bits

tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?
a[0]	0x10000	0b0001000000000000000000	0x8	0x0	Miss	
b[0]	0x20000	0b0010000000000000000000	0x10	0x0	Miss	
c[0]	0x30000	0b0011000000000000000000	0x18	0x0	Miss	
d[0]	0x40000	0b0100000000000000000000	0x20	0x0	Miss	
e[0]	0x50000	0b0101000000000000000000	0x28	0x0	Miss	a[0–7]
a[1]	0x10008	0b0001000000000000001000	0x8	0x0	Miss	b[0–7]
b[1]	0x20008	0b0010000000000000001000	0x10	0x0	Miss	c[0–7]
c[1]	0x30008	0b0011000000000000001000	0x18	0x0	Miss	d[0–7]
d[1]	0x40008	0b0100000000000000001000	0x20	0x0	Miss	e[0–7]
e[1]	0x50008	0b0101000000000000001000	0x28	0x0	Miss	a[0–7]
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

NVIDIA Tegra X1

- D-L1 Cache configuration of NVIDIA Tegra X1
  - Size 32KB, 4-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

What's the data cache miss rate for this code?

A. 12.5%
B. 56.25%
C. 66.67%
D. 68.75%
E. 100%

Outline

- The A, B, Cs of the cache
- The causes of cache misses
- The remedies of cache misses — the hardware version

intel Core i7

- D-L1 Cache configuration of intel Core i7
  - Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

What's the data cache miss rate for this code?

A. 12.5%
B. 56.25%
C. 66.67%
D. 68.75%
E. 100%

intel Core i7

- D-L1 Cache configuration of intel Core i7
  - Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

What's the data cache miss rate for this code?

A. 12.5%
B. 56.25%
C. 66.67%
D. 68.75%
E. 100%

C = ABS

32KB = 8 * 64 * S

S = 64

offset = lg(64) = 6 bits

index = lg(64) = 6 bits

tag = 64 - lg(64) - lg(64) = 52 bits

intel Core i7

- Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 8 * 64 * S
S = 64
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(64) = 6 bits
tag = the rest bits

tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?
a[0]	0x10000	0b0001000000000000000000	0x10	0x0	Miss	
b[0]	0x20000	0b0010000000000000000000	0x20	0x0	Miss	
c[0]	0x30000	0b0011000000000000000000	0x30	0x0	Miss	
d[0]	0x40000	0b0100000000000000000000	0x40	0x0	Miss	
e[0]	0x50000	0b0101000000000000000000	0x50	0x0	Miss	
a[1]	0x10008	0b0001000000000000001000	0x10	0x0	Hit	
b[1]	0x20008	0b0010000000000000001000	0x20	0x0	Hit	
c[1]	0x30008	0b0011000000000000001000	0x30	0x0	Hit	
d[1]	0x40008	0b0100000000000000001000	0x40	0x0	Hit	
e[1]	0x50008	0b0101000000000000001000	0x50	0x0	Hit	
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

intel Core i7 (cont.)

- Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 8 * 64 * S
S = 64
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(64) = 6 bits
tag = the rest bits

tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?
a[7]	0x10038	0b0001000000000111000	0x10	0x0	Hit	
b[7]	0x20038	0b0010000000000111000	0x20	0x0	Hit	
c[7]	0x30038	0b0011000000000111000	0x30	0x0	Hit	
d[7]	0x40038	0b0100000000000111000	0x40	0x0	Hit	
e[7]	0x50038	0b0101000000000111000	0x50	0x0	Hit	
a[8]	0x10040	0b0001000000001000000	0x10	0x1	Miss	
b[8]	0x20040	0b0010000000001000000	0x20	0x1	Miss	
c[8]	0x30040	0b0011000000001000000	0x30	0x1	Miss	
d[8]	0x40040	0b0100000000001000000	0x40	0x1	Miss	
e[8]	0x50040	0b0101000000001000000	0x50	0x1	Miss	
a[9]	0x10048	0b0001000000001001000	0x10	0x1	Hit	
b[9]	0x20048	0b0010000000001001000	0x20	0x1	Hit	
c[9]	0x30048	0b0011000000001001000	0x30	0x1	Hit	
d[9]	0x40048	0b0100000000001001000	0x40	0x1	Hit	

$$\frac{5 \times \frac{512}{8}}{5 \times 512} = \frac{1}{8} = 12.5\,\%$$

Miss when the array index is a multiply of 8!

intel Core i7

- D-L1 Cache configuration of intel Core i7
  - Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

What's the data cache miss rate for this code?

A. 12.5%
B. 56.25%
C. 66.67%
D. 68.75%
E. 100%

C = ABS

32KB = 8 * 64 * S

S = 64

offset = lg(64) = 6 bits

index = lg(64) = 6 bits

tag = 64 - lg(64) - lg(64) = 52 bits

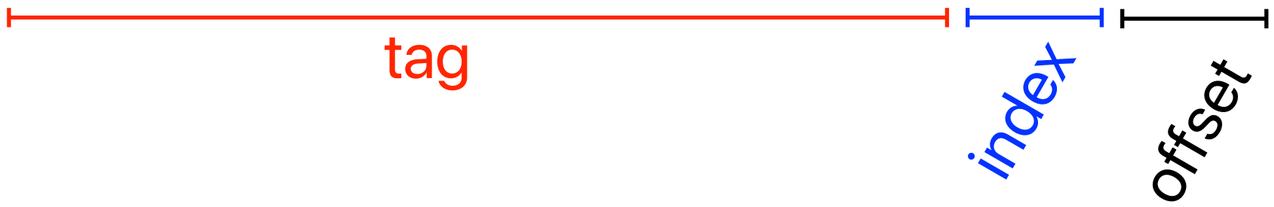
Cause of cache misses

3Cs of misses

- Compulsory miss
  - Cold start miss. First-time access to a block
- Capacity miss
  - The working set size of an application is bigger than cache size
- Conflict miss
  - Required data replaced by block(s) mapping to the same set
  - Similar collision in hash

Simulate a direct-mapped cache

- Consider a direct mapped (1-way) cache with 256 bytes total capacity, a block size of 16 bytes, and the application repeatedly reading the following memory addresses:
  - 0b1000000000, 0b1000001000, 0b1000010000, 0b1000010100, 0b1100010000
    - C = A B S
    - S=256/(16*1) = 16
    - lg(16) = 4 : 4 bits are used for the index
    - lg(16) = 4 : 4 bits are used for the byte offset
    - The tag is 48 - (4 + 4) = 40 bits
    - For example: `0b1000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1000 0000`



Simulate a direct-mapped cache

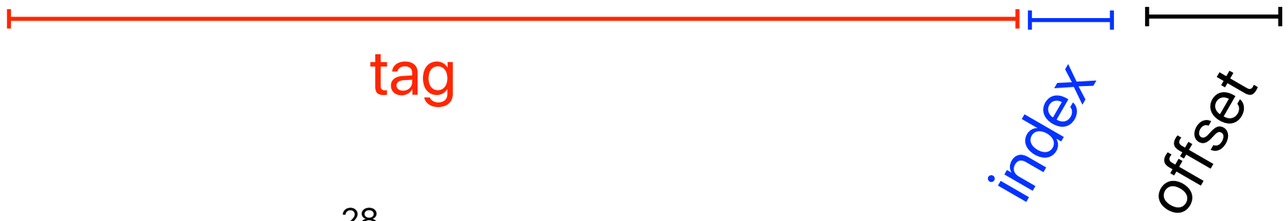
	V	D	Tag	Data
0	0	0		
1	0	0		
2	0	0		
3	1	0	0x558FE0A1DC	b[0], b[1]
4	1	0	0x558FE0A1DC	b[2], b[3]
5	0	0		
6	0	0		
7	0	0		
8	0	0		
9	0	0		
10	0	0		
11	0	0		
12	0	0		
13	0	0		
14	0	0		
15	0	0		

tag index

	Address (Hex)	
&a[0][0]	0x558FE0A1D330	compulsory miss
&b[0]	0x558FE0A1DC30	compulsory miss
&a[0][1]	0x558FE0A1D338	conflict miss
&b[1]	0x558FE0A1DC38	conflict miss
&a[0][2]	0x558FE0A1D340	compulsory miss
&b[2]	0x558FE0A1DC40	compulsory miss
&a[0][3]	0x558FE0A1D348	conflict miss
&b[3]	0x558FE0A1DC48	conflict miss
&a[0][4]	0x558FE0A1D350	compulsory miss
&b[4]	0x558FE0A1DC50	compulsory miss
&a[0][5]	0x558FE0A1D358	conflict miss
&b[5]	0x558FE0A1DC58	conflict miss
&a[0][6]	0x558FE0A1D360	compulsory miss
&b[6]	0x558FE0A1DC60	compulsory miss
&a[0][7]	0x558FE0A1D368	conflict miss
&b[7]	0x558FE0A1DC68	conflict miss
&a[0][8]	0x558FE0A1D370	compulsory miss
&b[8]	0x558FE0A1DC70	compulsory miss
&a[0][9]	0x558FE0A1D378	conflict miss
&b[9]	0x558FE0A1DC78	conflict miss

Simulate a 2-way cache

- Consider a 2-way cache with 256 bytes total capacity, a block size of 16 bytes, and the application repeatedly reading the following memory addresses:
  - 0b1000000000, 0b1000001000, 0b1000010000, 0b1000010100, 0b1100010000
    - C = A B S
    - S=256/(16*2) = 8
    - 8 = 2^3 : 3 bits are used for the index
    - 16 = 2^4 : 4 bits are used for the byte offset
    - The tag is 32 - (3 + 4) = 25 bits
    - For example: `0b1000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0001 0000`



Simulate a 2-way cache

V	D	Tag	Data	V	D	Tag	Data
0	0			0	0		
0	0			0	0		
0	0			0	0		
1	0	0xAB1FC143A6	a[0][0], a[0][1]	1	0	0xAB1FC143B8	b[0], b[1]
1	0	0xAB1FC143A6	a[0][2], a[0][3]	1	0	0xAB1FC143B8	b[2], b[3]
0	0			0	0		
0	0			0	0		
0	0			0	0		

	Address (Hex)		Tag	Index
compulsory miss	&a[0][0]	0x558FE0A1D330	0xAB1FC143A6	0x3
compulsory miss	&b[0]	0x558FE0A1DC30	0xAB1FC143B8	0x3
hit	&a[0][1]	0x558FE0A1D338	0xAB1FC143A6	0x3
hit	&b[1]	0x558FE0A1DC38	0xAB1FC143B8	0x3
compulsory miss	&a[0][2]	0x558FE0A1D340	0xAB1FC143A6	0x4
compulsory miss	&b[2]	0x558FE0A1DC40	0xAB1FC143B8	0x4
hit	&a[0][3]	0x558FE0A1D348	0xAB1FC143A6	0x4
hit	&b[3]	0x558FE0A1DC48	0xAB1FC143B8	0x4
compulsory miss	&a[0][4]	0x558FE0A1D350	0xAB1FC143A6	0x5
compulsory miss	&b[4]	0x558FE0A1DC50	0xAB1FC143B8	0x5
hit	&a[0][5]	0x558FE0A1D358	0xAB1FC143A6	0x5
hit	&b[5]	0x558FE0A1DC58	0xAB1FC143B8	0x5
compulsory miss	&a[0][6]	0x558FE0A1D360	0xAB1FC143A6	0x6
compulsory miss	&b[6]	0x558FE0A1DC60	0xAB1FC143B8	0x6
hit	&a[0][7]	0x558FE0A1D368	0xAB1FC143A6	0x6
hit	&b[7]	0x558FE0A1DC68	0xAB1FC143B8	0x6
compulsory miss	&a[0][8]	0x558FE0A1D370	0xAB1FC143A6	0x7
compulsory miss	&b[8]	0x558FE0A1DC70	0xAB1FC143B8	0x7
hit	&a[0][9]	0x558FE0A1D378	0xAB1FC143A6	0x7
hit	&b[9]	0x558FE0A1DC78	0xAB1FC143B8	0x7

NVIDIA Tegra X1

- D-L1 Cache configuration of NVIDIA Tegra X1
  - Size 32KB, 4-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

How many of the cache misses are **conflict** misses?

A. 12.5%

B. 66.67%

C. 68.75%

D. 87.5%

E. 100%

intel Core i7

- D-L1 Cache configuration of intel Core i7
  - Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

How many of the cache misses are **compulsory** misses?

A. 12.5%
B. 66.67%
C. 68.75%
D. 87.5%
E. 100%

intel Core i7

- Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
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/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 8 * 64 * S
S = 64
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(64) = 6 bits
tag = the rest bits

tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?
a[0]	0x10000	0b0001000000000000000000	0x10	0x0	Compulsory Miss	
b[0]	0x20000	0b0010000000000000000000	0x20	0x0	Compulsory Miss	
c[0]	0x30000	0b0011000000000000000000	0x30	0x0	Compulsory Miss	
d[0]	0x40000	0b0100000000000000000000	0x40	0x0	Compulsory Miss	
e[0]	0x50000	0b0101000000000000000000	0x50	0x0	Compulsory Miss	
a[1]	0x10008	0b0001000000000000001000	0x10	0x0	Hit	
b[1]	0x20008	0b0010000000000000001000	0x20	0x0	Hit	
c[1]	0x30008	0b0011000000000000001000	0x30	0x0	Hit	
d[1]	0x40008	0b0100000000000000001000	0x40	0x0	Hit	
e[1]	0x50008	0b0101000000000000001000	0x50	0x0	Hit	
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

intel Core i7 (cont.)

- Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 8 * 64 * S
S = 64
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(64) = 6 bits
tag = the rest bits

tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?
a[7]	0x10038	0b0001000000000111000	0x10	0x0	Hit	
b[7]	0x20038	0b0010000000000111000	0x20	0x0	Hit	
c[7]	0x30038	0b0011000000000111000	0x30	0x0	Hit	
d[7]	0x40038	0b0100000000000111000	0x40	0x0	Hit	
e[7]	0x50038	0b0101000000000111000	0x50	0x0	Hit	
a[8]	0x10040	0b0001000000001000000	0x10	0x1	Compulsory Miss	
b[8]	0x20040	0b0010000000001000000	0x20	0x1	Compulsory Miss	
c[8]	0x30040	0b0011000000001000000	0x30	0x1	Compulsory Miss	
d[8]	0x40040	0b0100000000001000000	0x40	0x1	Compulsory Miss	
e[8]	0x50040	0b0101000000001000000	0x50	0x1	Compulsory Miss	
a[9]	0x10048	0b0001000000001001000	0x10	0x1	Hit	
b[9]	0x20048	0b0010000000001001000	0x20	0x1	Hit	
c[9]	0x30048	0b0011000000001001000	0x30	0x1	Hit	
d[9]	0x40048	0b0100000000001001000	0x40	0x1	Hit	

intel Core i7

- D-L1 Cache configuration of intel Core i7
  - Size 32KB, 8-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

How many of the cache misses are **compulsory** misses?

A. 12.5%
B. 66.67%
C. 68.75%
D. 87.5%
E. 100%

C = ABS

32KB = 8 * 64 * S

S = 64

offset = lg(64) = 6 bits

index = lg(64) = 6 bits

tag = 64 - lg(64) - lg(64) = 52 bits

Basic Hardware Optimization in Improving 3Cs

3Cs and A, B, C

- Regarding 3Cs: compulsory, conflict and capacity misses and A, B, C: associativity, block size, capacity
  How many of the following are correct?
  - ① Increasing associativity can reduce conflict misses
  - ② Increasing associativity can reduce hit time
  - ③ Increasing block size can increase the miss penalty
  - ④ Increasing block size can reduce compulsory misses
  - A. 0
  - B. 1
  - C. 2
  - D. 3
  - E. 4

3Cs and A, B, C

- Regarding 3Cs: compulsory, conflict and capacity misses and A, B, C: associativity, block size, capacity
  How many of the following are correct?
  - ① Increasing associativity can reduce conflict misses
  - ② Increasing associativity can reduce hit time
  - ③ Increasing block size can increase the miss penalty
  - ④ Increasing block size can reduce compulsory misses

  A. 0
  B. 1
  C. 2
  D. 3
  E. 4

Increases hit time because your data array is larger (longer time to fully charge your bit-lines)

You need to fetch more data for each miss

You bring more into the cache when a miss occurs

NVIDIA Tegra X1

- D-L1 Cache configuration of NVIDIA Tegra X1
  - Size 32KB, 4-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

What's the data cache miss rate for this code?

A. 12.5%
B. 56.25%
C. 66.67%
D. 68.75%
E. 100%

Improving Direct-Mapped Cache Performance by the Addition of a Small Fully-Associative Cache and Prefetch Buffers

Norman P. Jouppi

Which of the following schemes can help NVIDIA Tegra?

- How many of the following schemes mentioned in “improving direct-mapped cache performance by the addition of a small fully-associative cache and prefetch buffers” would help NVIDIA’s Tegra for the code in the previous slide?
  - ① Missing cache
  - ② Victim cache
  - ③ Prefetch
  - ④ Stream buffer

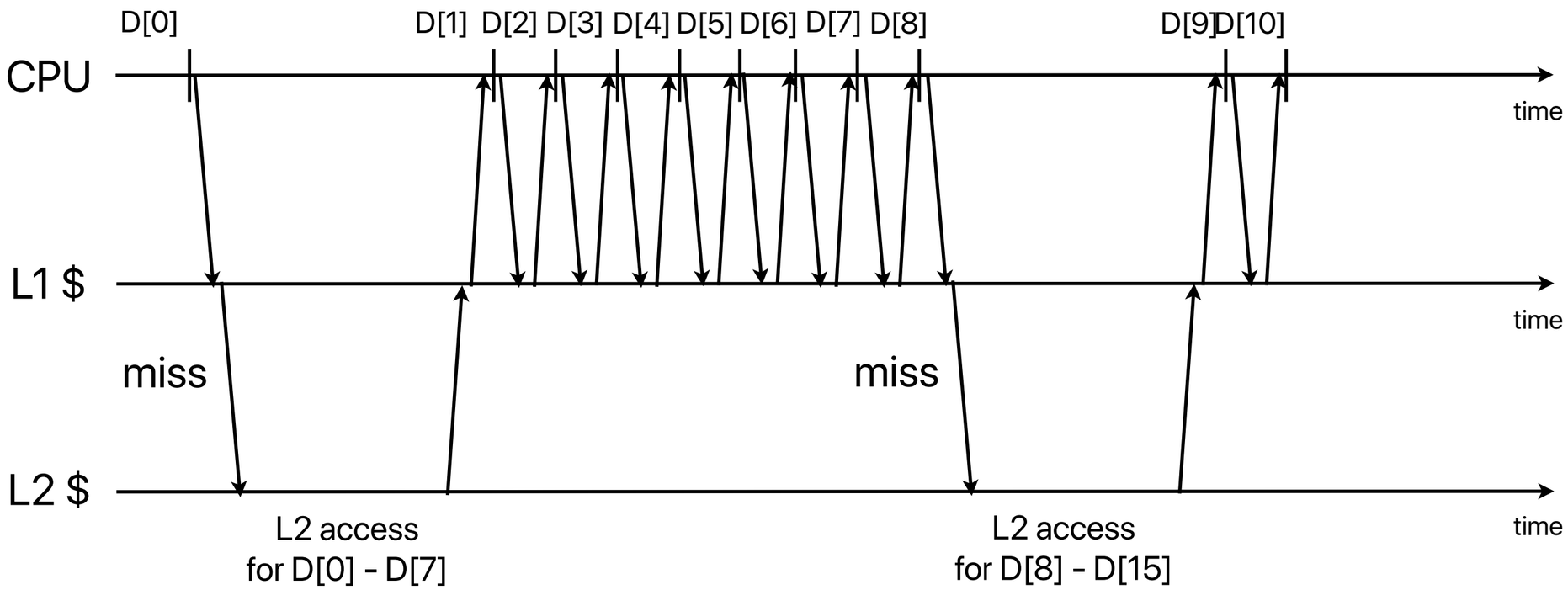
A. 0
B. 1
C. 2
D. 3
E. 4

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
}
```

Prefetching

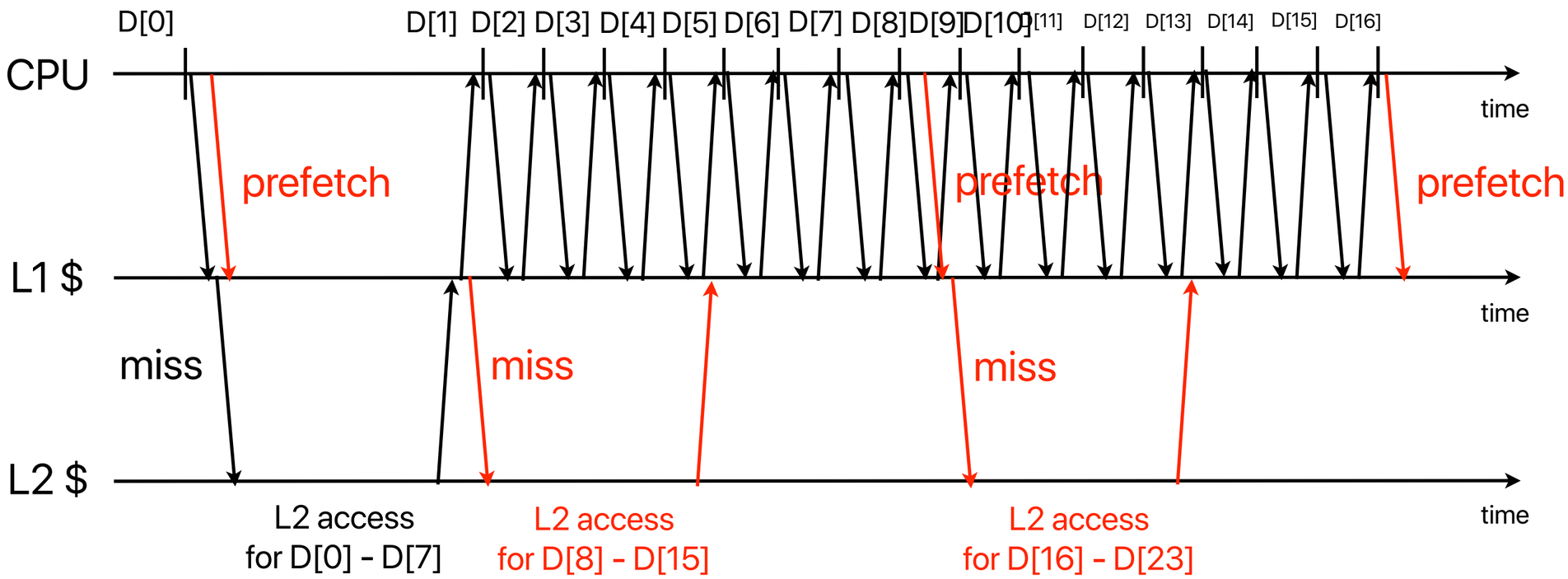
Characteristic of memory accesses

```
for(i = 0;i < 1000000; i++) {
     D[i] = rand();
}
```



Prefetching

```
for(i = 0;i < 1000000; i++) {
      D[i] = rand();
      // prefetch D[i+8] if i % 8 == 0
}
```



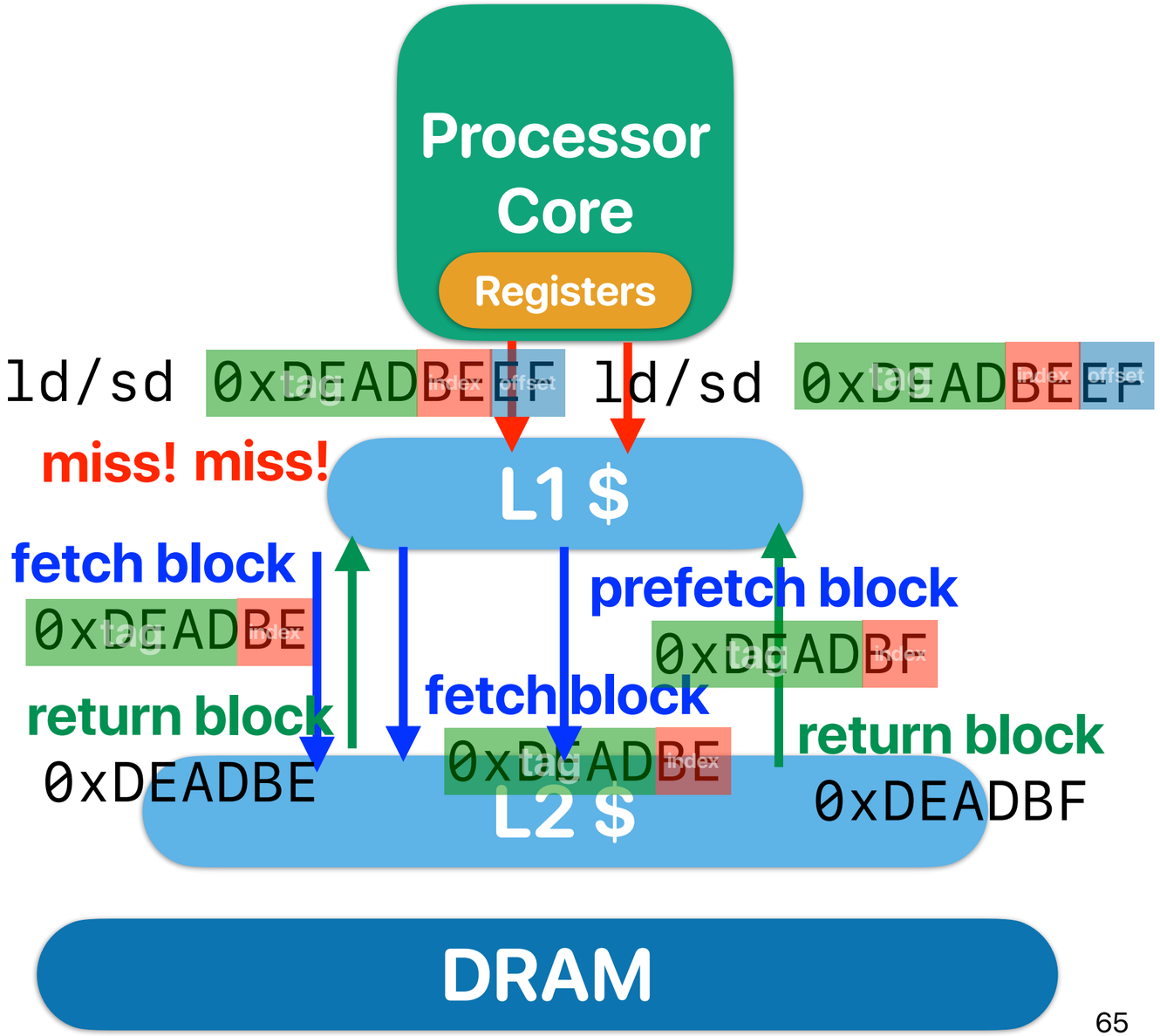
Prefetching

- Identify the access pattern and proactively fetch data/instruction before the application asks for the data/instruction
  - Trigger the cache miss earlier to eliminate the miss when the application needs the data/instruction
- Hardware prefetch
  - The processor can keep track the distance between misses. If there is a pattern, fetch miss_data_address+distance for a miss
- Software prefetch
  - Load data into X0
  - Using prefetch instructions

Demo

- x86 provide prefetch instructions
- As a programmer, you may insert `_mm_prefetch` in x86 programs to perform software prefetch for your code
- gcc also has a flag "-fprefetch-loop-arrays" to automatically insert software prefetch instructions

What's after prefetching?



NVIDIA Tegra X1 with prefetch

- Size 32KB, 4-way set associativity, 64B block, LRU policy, write-allocate, write-back, and assuming 64-bit address.

```
double a[8192], b[8192], c[8192], d[8192], e[8192];
/* a = 0x10000, b = 0x20000, c = 0x30000, d = 0x40000, e = 0x50000 */
for(i = 0; i < 512; i++) {
    e[i] = (a[i] * b[i] + c[i])/d[i];
    //load a[i], b[i], c[i], d[i] and then store to e[i]
```

C = ABS
32KB = 4 * 64 * S
S = 128
offset = lg(64) = 6 bits
index = lg(128) = 7 bits
tag = the rest bits

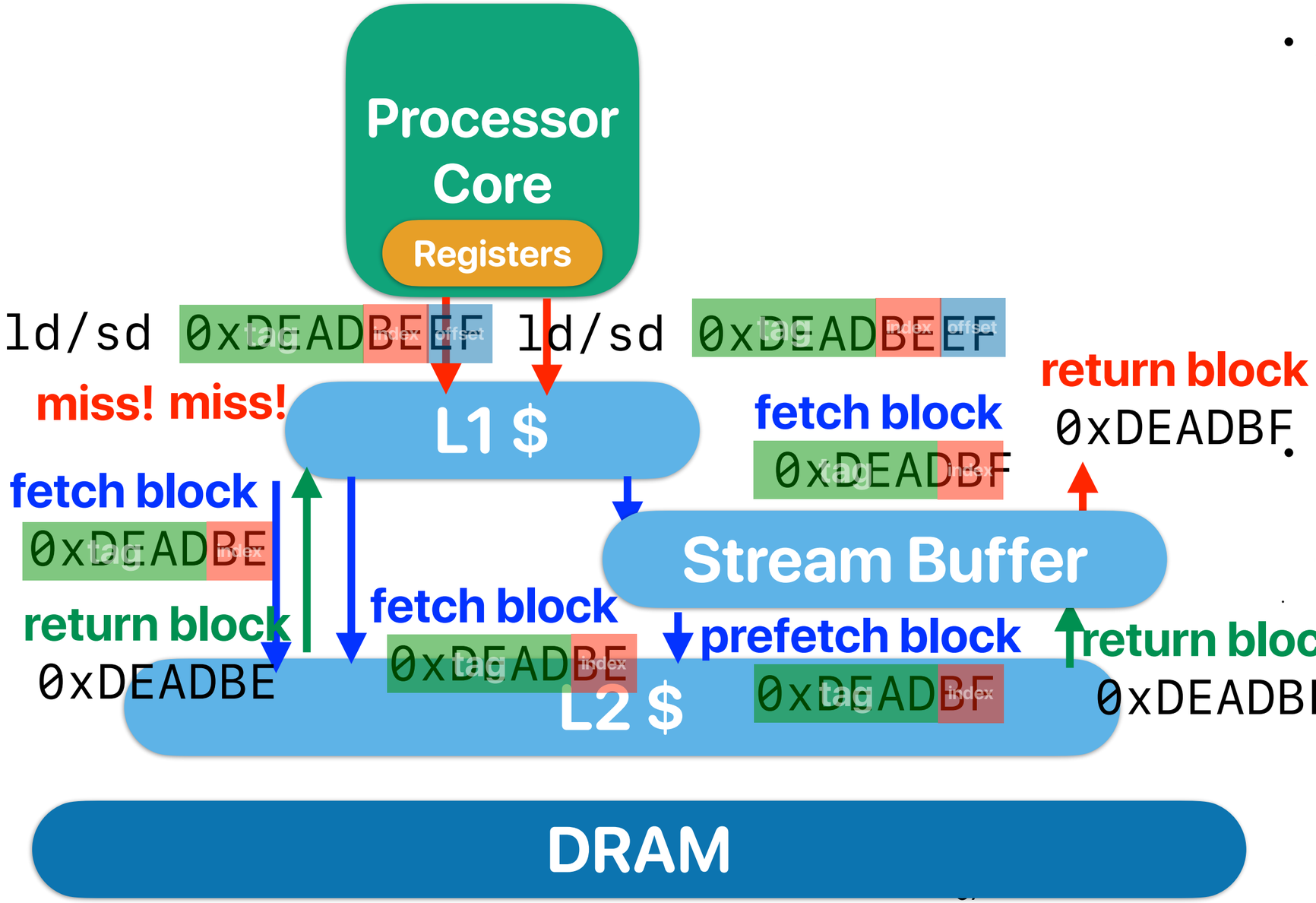
tag index offset

	Address (Hex)	Address in binary	Tag	Index	Hit? Miss?	Replace?	Prefetch
a[0]	0x10000	0b0001000000000000000000	0x8	0x0	Miss		a[8–15]
b[0]	0x20000	0b0010000000000000000000	0x10	0x0	Miss		b[8–15]
c[0]	0x30000	0b0011000000000000000000	0x18	0x0	Miss		c[8–15]
d[0]	0x40000	0b0100000000000000000000	0x20	0x0	Miss		d[8–15]
e[0]	0x50000	0b0101000000000000000000	0x28	0x0	Miss	a[0–7]	e[8–15]
a[1]	0x10008	0b0001000000000000001000	0x8	0x0	Miss	b[0–7]	
b[1]	0x20008	0b0010000000000000001000	0x10	0x0	Miss	c[0–7]	
c[1]	0x30008	0b0011000000000000001000	0x18	0x0	Miss	d[0–7]	
d[1]	0x40008	0b0100000000000000001000	0x20	0x0	Miss	e[0–7]	
e[1]	0x50008	0b0101000000000000001000	0x28	0x0	Miss	a[0–7]	
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

e[8-15] will kick out a[8-15]

100% miss rate!

Stream buffer



- A small cache that captures the prefetched blocks
  - Can be built as fully associative since it's small
  - Consult when there is a miss
  - Retrieve the block if found in the stream buffer
- Reduce compulsory misses and avoid conflict misses triggered by prefetching

Announcement

- Regarding assignments
  - Consider you're under an interview, are you going to just say yes?
  - Assignment 2 is already up and please START NOW
  - C++ programming — can't the demo regarding performance convince you to use C/C++?
  - Any kind of cheating is NOT ALLOWED
    - Gradescope has similarity check on your code, we've identified cases with 100% similarity and will directly send these cases to misconduct office if any were identified again.
    - The identified, unconfessed cases are sent to misconduct office now
- Regarding midterm
  - Midterm will be on gradescope
  - You will have a 80-minute slot when you pick within a 24-hour timeframe
  - You will be able to use LaTeX syntax
  - We will release a midterm review next Wednesday

Computer
Science &
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