Chapter 8

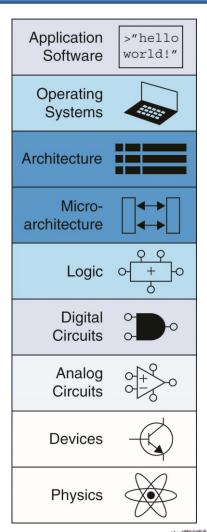
Digital Design and Computer Architecture, 2nd Edition

David Money Harris and Sarah L. Harris



Chapter 8 :: Topics

- Introduction
- Memory System Performance Analysis
- Caches
- Virtual Memory
- Memory-Mapped I/O
- Summary

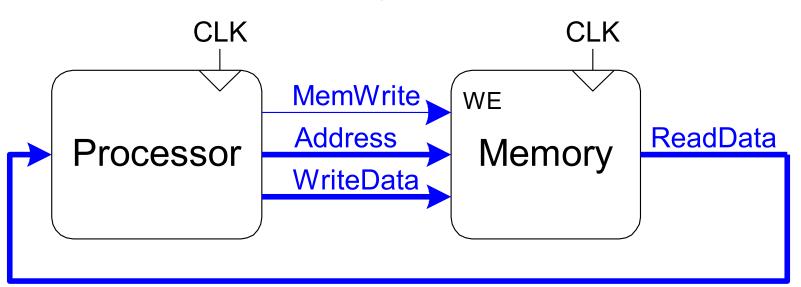




Introduction

- Computer performance depends on:
 - Processor performance
 - Memory system performance

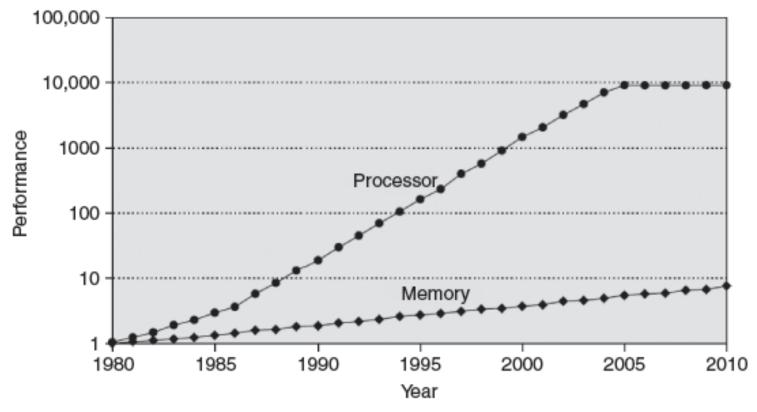
Memory Interface





Processor-Memory Gap

In prior chapters, assumed access memory in 1 clock cycle – but hasn't been true since the 1980's





Memory System Challenge

Make memory system appear as fast as processor

Use hierarchy of memories

Ideal memory:

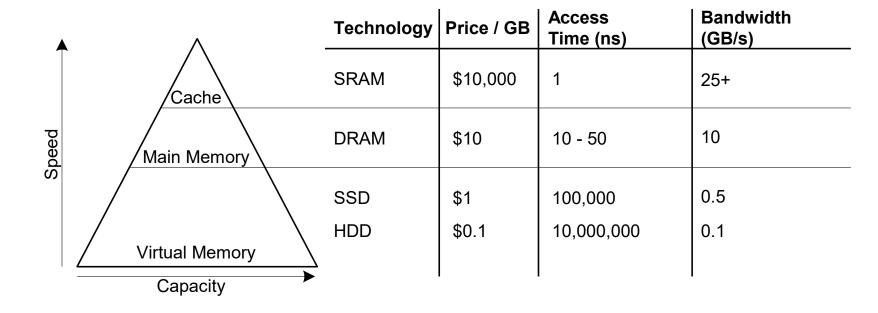
- Fast
- Cheap (inexpensive)
- Large (capacity)

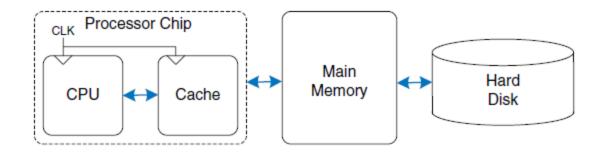
But can only choose two!





Memory Hierarchy







Locality

Exploit locality to make memory accesses fast

Temporal Locality:

- Locality in time
- If data used recently, likely to use it again soon
- How to exploit: keep recently accessed data in higher levels of memory hierarchy

Spatial Locality:

- Locality in space
- If data used recently, likely to use nearby data soon
- How to exploit: when access data, bring nearby data into higher levels of memory hierarchy too

Memory Performance

- **Hit:** data found in that level of memory hierarchy
- Miss: data not found (must go to next level)

```
Hit Rate = # hits / # memory accesses
```

= 1 - Miss Rate

Miss Rate = # misses / # memory accesses

= 1 - Hit Rate

• Average memory access time (AMAT): average time for processor to access data (load or store instructions)

$$\mathbf{AMAT} = t_{\text{cache}} + MR_{\text{cache}}[t_{MM} + MR_{MM}(t_{VM})]$$



- A program has 2,000 loads and stores
- 1,250 of these data values in cache
- Rest supplied by other levels of memory hierarchy
- What are the hit and miss rates for the cache?



- A program has 2,000 loads and stores
- 1,250 of these data values in cache
- Rest supplied by other levels of memory hierarchy
- What are the hit and miss rates for the cache?

Hit Rate = 1250/2000 = 0.625

Miss Rate = 750/2000 = 0.375 = 1 – Hit Rate



- Suppose processor has 2 levels of hierarchy: cache and main memory
- $t_{\text{cache}} = 1$ cycle, $t_{MM} = 100$ cycles
- What is the AMAT of the program from Example 1?



- Suppose processor has 2 levels of hierarchy: cache and main memory
- $t_{\text{cache}} = 1$ cycle, $t_{MM} = 100$ cycles
- What is the AMAT of the program from Example 1?

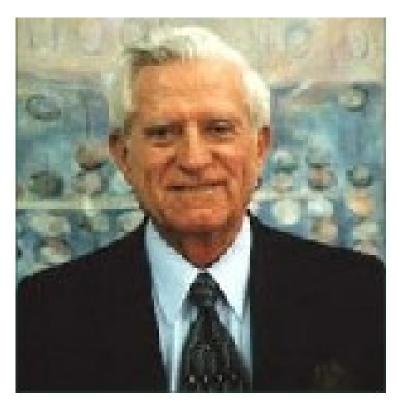
AMAT =
$$t_{\text{cache}} + MR_{\text{cache}}(t_{MM})$$

= $[1 + 0.375(100)]$ cycles
= **38.5** cycles



Gene Amdahl, 1922-

- Amdahl's Law: the effort spent increasing the performance of a subsystem is wasted unless the subsystem affects a large percentage of overall performance
- Co-founded 3 companies, including one called Amdahl Corporation in 1970





Cache

- Highest level in memory hierarchy
- Fast (typically ~ 1 cycle access time)
- Ideally supplies most data to processor
- Usually holds most recently accessed data



Cache Design Questions

- What data is held in the cache?
- How is data found?
- What data is replaced?

Focus on data loads, but stores follow same principles



What data is held in the cache?

- Ideally, cache anticipates needed data and puts it in cache
- But impossible to predict future
- Use past to predict future temporal and spatial locality:
 - Temporal locality: copy newly accessed data into cache
 - Spatial locality: copy neighboring data into cache too



Cache Terminology

- Capacity (C):
 - number of data bytes in cache
- Block size (*b*):
 - bytes of data brought into cache at once
- Number of blocks (B = C/b):
 - number of blocks in cache: B = C/b
- Degree of associativity (M):
 - number of blocks in a set
- Number of sets (S = B/N):
 - each memory address maps to exactly one cache set



How is data found?

- Cache organized into S sets
- Each memory address maps to exactly one set
- Caches categorized by # of blocks in a set:
 - Direct mapped: 1 block per set
 - N-way set associative: N blocks per set
 - -Fully associative: all cache blocks in 1 set
- Examine each organization for a cache with:
 - Capacity (C = 8 words)
 - Block size (b = 1 word)



Example Cache Parameters

- C = 8 words (capacity)
- **b** = **1** word (block size)
- So, B = 8 (# of blocks)

Ridiculously small, but will illustrate organizations



MEMORY & I/O SYSTEMS

Direct Mapped Cache



11...111**111**00 11...111**110**00 11...111**101**00

11...111**100**00

11...111**011**00

11...111**010**00

11...111**001**00

11...111**000**00

•

00...001**001**00

00...00100000

00...000**111**00

00...000**110**00

00...000**101**00

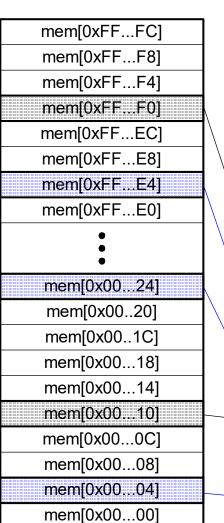
00...000**100**00

00...000**011**00

00...000**010**00

00...000**001**00

00...0000000



Set Number

7 (111)

6 **(110**)

5 (101)

4 (100)

3 (011)

2 (010)

1 (001)

0 (000)

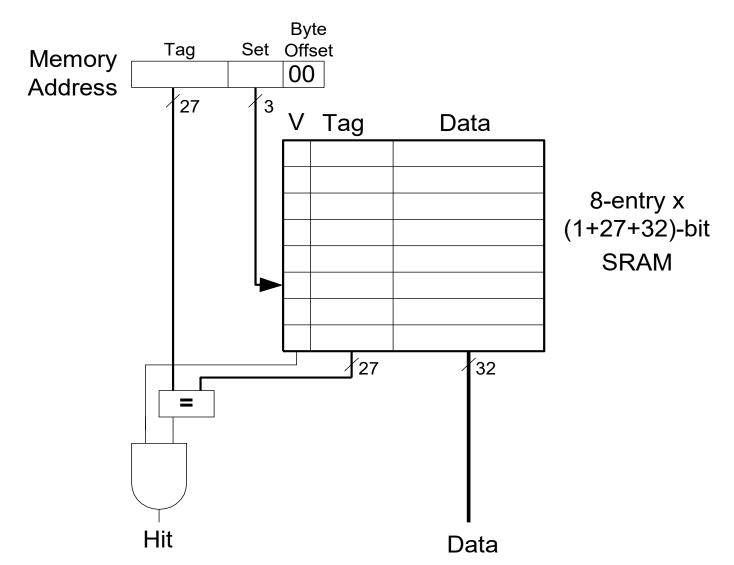
2³⁰ Word Main Memory

2³ Word Cache

Chapter 8 < 20>



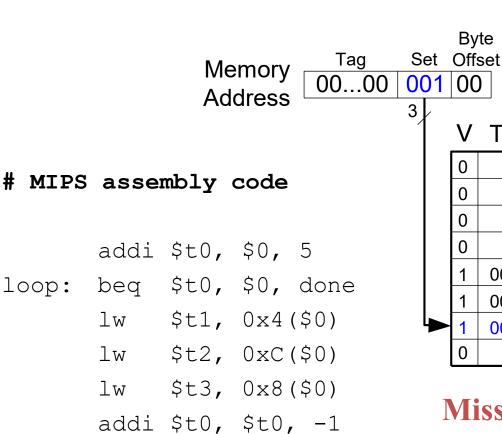
Direct Mapped Cache Hardware





Direct Mapped Cache Performance

Byte



done:

loop:

lw

lw

1	00)		
•	٧	Tag	Data	
	0			Set 7 (111)
	0			Set 6 (110)
	0			Set 5 (101)
	0			Set 4 (100)
	1	0000	mem[0x000C]	Set 3 (011)
	1	0000	mem[0x0008]	Set 2 (010)
>	1	0000	mem[0x0004]	Set 1 (001)
	0			Set 0 (000)

Miss Rate = ?



loop

Direct Mapped Cache Performance

MIPS assembly code

	addi	\$t0,	\$0, 5
loop:	beq	\$t0,	\$0, done
	lw	\$t1,	0x4(\$0)
	lw	\$t2,	0xC(\$0)
	lw	\$t3,	0x8(\$0)
	addi	\$t0,	\$t0, -1
	ή	gool	

done:

,	٧	Tag	Data	_
	0			,
	0			;
	0			;
	0			,
	1	0000	mem[0x000C]	,
	1	0000	mem[0x0008]	,
	1	0000	mem[0x0004]	
	0			,

Set 7 (111) Set 6 (110) Set 5 (101) Set 4 (100) Set 3 (011) Set 2 (010) Set 1 (001) Set 0 (000)

Miss Rate = 3/15= 20%

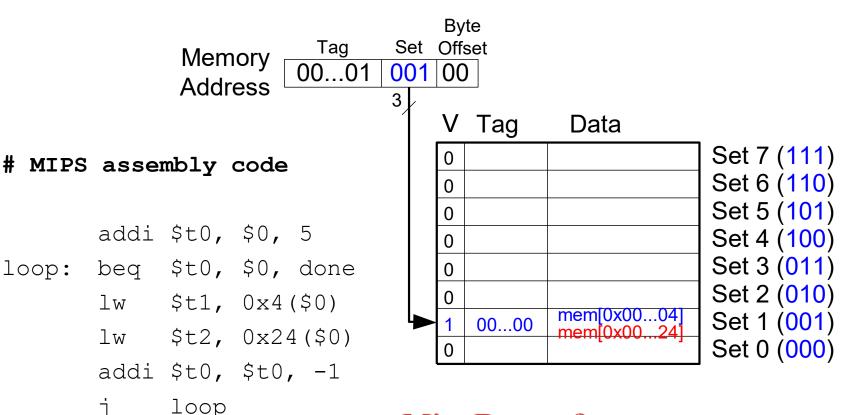
Temporal Locality Compulsory Misses



loop:

done:

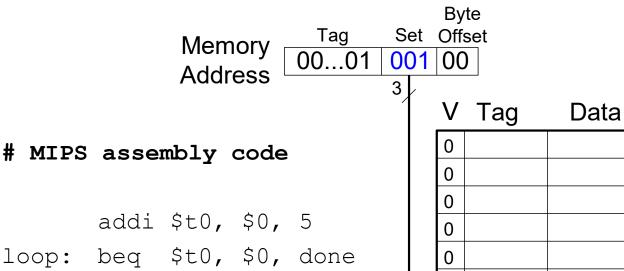
Direct Mapped Cache: Conflict



Miss Rate = ?



Direct Mapped Cache: Conflict



Set 7	(111)
Set 6	(110)
Set 5	(101)
Set 4	(100)
Set 3	(011)
Set 2	(010)
Set 1	(001)
Set 0	(000)

loop: beq \$t0, \$0, done
lw \$t1, 0x4(\$0)
lw \$t2, 0x24(\$0)
addi \$t0, \$t0, -1
j loop
done:

Miss Rate = 10/10 = 100%

Conflict Misses

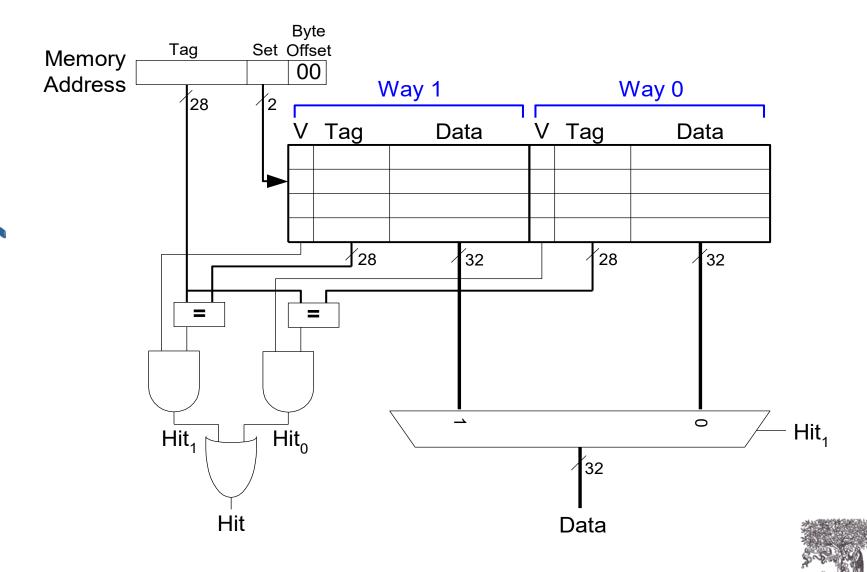
00...00



mem 0x00...04

memI0x00

N-Way Set Associative Cache



N-Way Set Associative Performance

MIPS assembly code

```
addi $t0, $0, 5

loop: beq $t0, $0, done

lw $t1, 0x4($0)

lw $t2, 0x24($0)

addi $t0, $t0, -1

j loop
```

Miss Rate = ?

done:

Way 1		Way 0			
Data	V Tag	Data			

V	lag	Data	V	lag	Data
0			0		
0			0		
0			0		
0			0		

FISEVIER

Set 3

Set 2

Set 1

Set 0

N-Way Set Associative Performance

MIPS assembly code

addi \$t0, \$0, 5

loop: beq \$t0, \$0, done

lw \$t1, 0x4(\$0)

lw \$t2, 0x24(\$0)

addi \$t0, \$t0, -1

j loop

Miss Rate = 2/10 = 20%

Associativity reduces conflict misses

done:

Way 1 Way 0 Tag Tag Data Data Set 3 0 0 Set 2 0 0 Set 1 mem[0x00...24] mem[0x00...04] 00...00 00...10 Set 0 0 0



Fully Associative Cache

V Tag	Data \	V Tag	Data	V	Tag	Data	٧	Tag	Data	_												
																						l

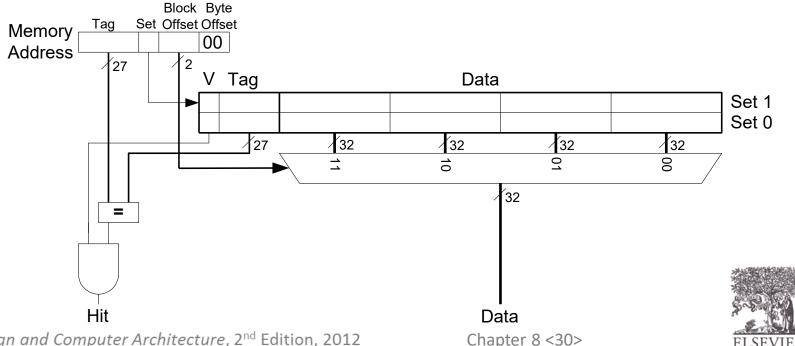
Reduces conflict misses

Expensive to build

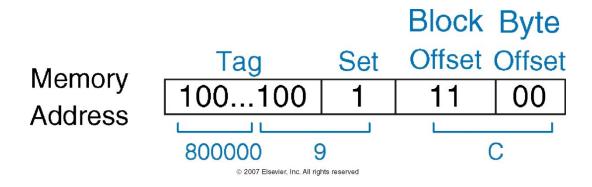


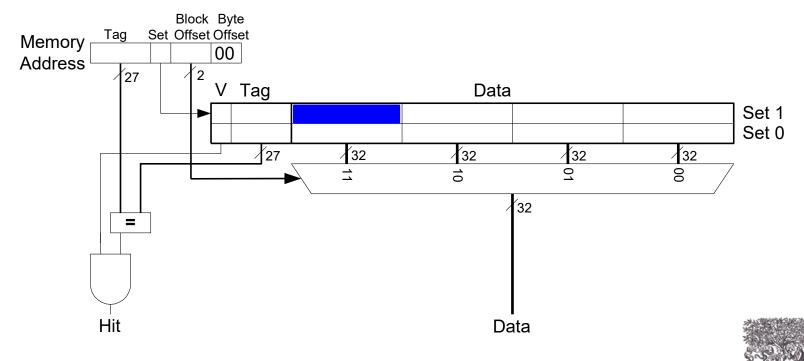
Spatial Locality?

- Increase block size:
 - Block size, b = 4 words
 - -C=8 words
 - Direct mapped (1 block per set)
 - Number of blocks, B = 2 (C/b = 8/4 = 2)



Cache with Larger Block Size





Direct Mapped Cache Performance

done:



Direct Mapped Cache Performance

```
addi $t0, $0, 5

loop: beq $t0, $0, done

lw $t1, 0x4($0)

lw $t2, 0xC($0)

lw $t3, 0x8($0)

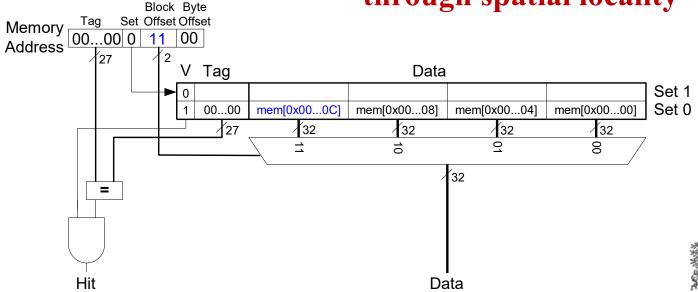
addi $t0, $t0, -1

j loop
```

Miss Rate = 1/15 = 6.67%

Larger blocks reduce compulsory misses through spatial locality

done:



Cache Organization Recap

Capacity: C

Block size: b

• Number of blocks in cache: B = C/b

Number of blocks in a set: N

• Number of sets: S = B/N

Organization	Number of Ways (N)	Number of Sets $(S = B/N)$
Direct Mapped	1	B
N-Way Set Associative	1 < N < B	B/N
Fully Associative	B	1



Capacity Misses

- Cache is too small to hold all data of interest at once
- If cache full: program accesses data X & evicts data Y
- Capacity miss when access Y again
- How to choose Y to minimize chance of needing it again?
- Least recently used (LRU) replacement: the least recently used block in a set evicted



Types of Misses

- Compulsory: first time data accessed
- Capacity: cache too small to hold all data of interest
- Conflict: data of interest maps to same location in cache

Miss penalty: time it takes to retrieve a block from lower level of hierarchy



LRU Replacement

MIPS assembly

```
lw $t0, 0x04($0)
lw $t1, 0x24($0)
lw $t2, 0x54($0)
```

		Way 1			Way 0		-
٧	U	Tag	Data	V	Tag	Data	1
0	0	_		0	-		Set 3 (11)
0	0			0			Set 3 (11) Set 2 (10)
0	0			0			Set 1 (01)
0	0			0			Set 0 (00)



LRU Replacement

MIPS assembly

```
lw $t0, 0 \times 04 (\$0)
lw $t1, 0 \times 24 (\$0)
lw $t2, 0 \times 54 (\$0)
```

		Way 1			\	Nay 0	1
٧	U	Tag	Data	V	Tag	Data	l
0	0			0			Set 3 (11)
0	0			0			Set 2 (10)
1	0	00010	mem[0x0024]	1	00000	mem[0x0004]	Set 1 (01)
0	0			0			Set 0 (00)

(a) Way 1 Way 0 V U Tag Tag Data Data Set 3 (11) 0 0 Set 2 (10) 0 0 Set 1 (01) 00...010 mem[0x00...24] 00...101 mem[0x00...54] Set 0 (00) 0 0 0



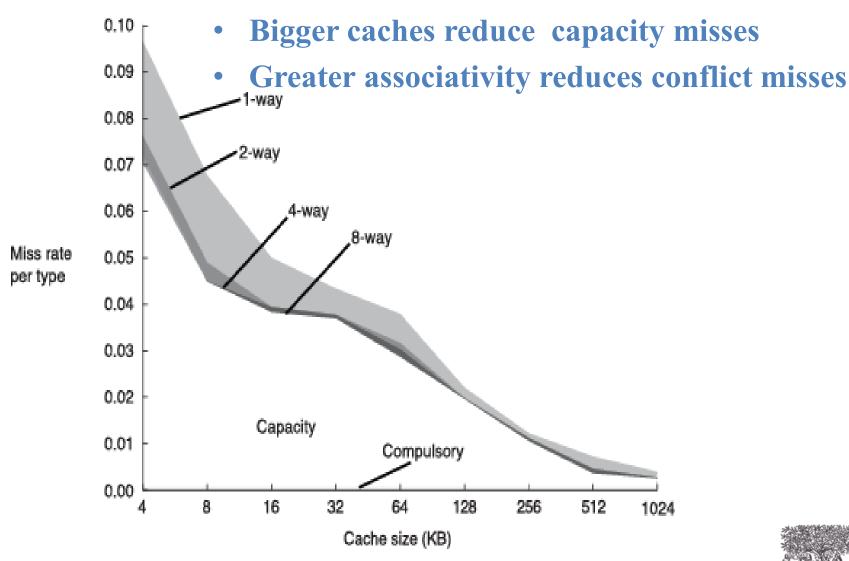


Cache Summary

- What data is held in the cache?
 - Recently used data (temporal locality)
 - Nearby data (spatial locality)
- How is data found?
 - Set is determined by address of data
 - Word within block also determined by address
 - In associative caches, data could be in one of several ways
- What data is replaced?
 - Least-recently used way in the set

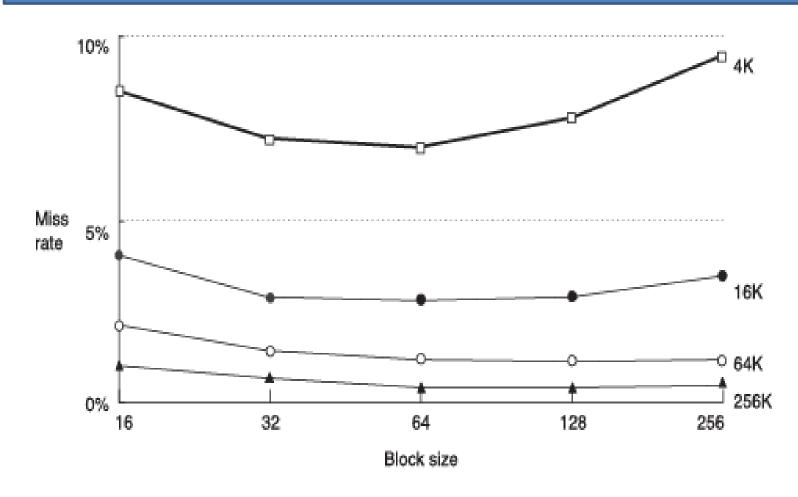


Miss Rate Trends





Miss Rate Trends



- Bigger blocks reduce compulsory misses
- Bigger blocks increase conflict misses

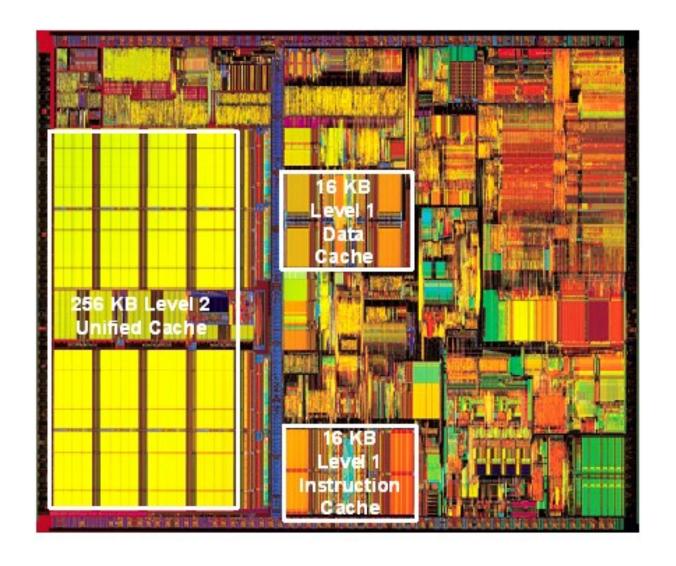


Multilevel Caches

- Larger caches have lower miss rates, longer access times
- Expand memory hierarchy to multiple levels of caches
- Level 1: small and fast (e.g. 16 KB, 1 cycle)
- Level 2: larger and slower (e.g. 256 KB, 2-6 cycles)
- Most modern PCs have L1, L2, and L3 cache



Intel Pentium III Die



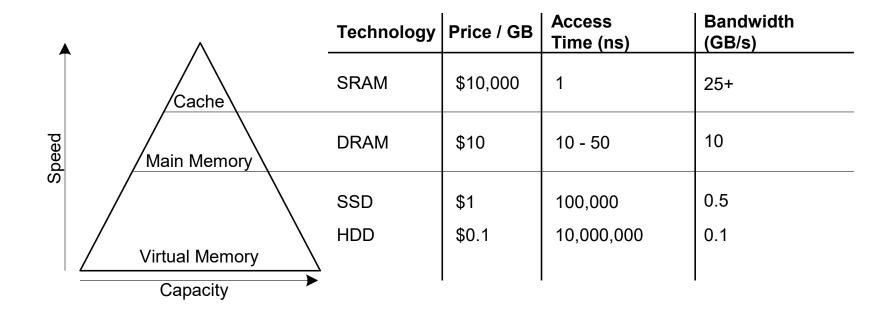


Virtual Memory

- Gives the illusion of bigger memory
- Main memory (DRAM) acts as cache for hard disk



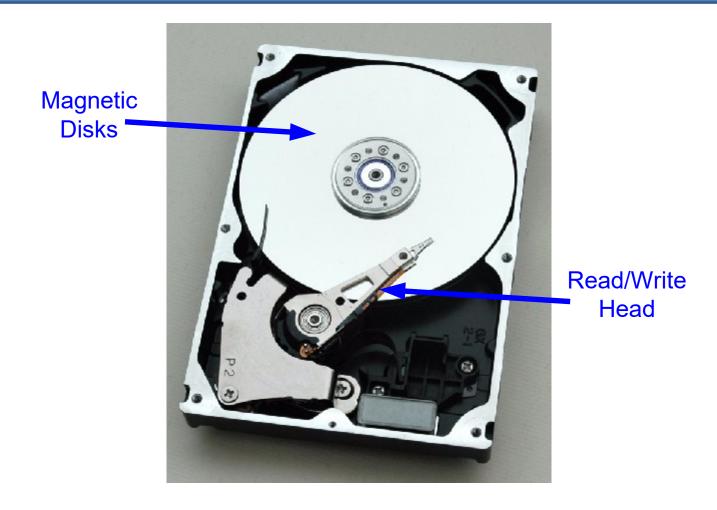
Memory Hierarchy



- Physical Memory: DRAM (Main Memory)
- Virtual Memory: Hard drive
 - Slow, Large, Cheap



Hard Disk



Takes milliseconds to seek correct location on disk



Virtual Memory

Virtual addresses

- Programs use virtual addresses
- Entire virtual address space stored on a hard drive
- Subset of virtual address data in DRAM
- CPU translates virtual addresses into *physical addresses* (DRAM addresses)
- Data not in DRAM fetched from hard drive

Memory Protection

- Each program has own virtual to physical mapping
- Two programs can use same virtual address for different data
- Programs don't need to be aware others are running
- One program (or virus) can't corrupt memory used by another



Cache/Virtual Memory Analogues

Cache	Virtual Memory
Block	Page
Block Size	Page Size
Block Offset	Page Offset
Miss	Page Fault
Tag	Virtual Page Number

Physical memory acts as cache for virtual memory

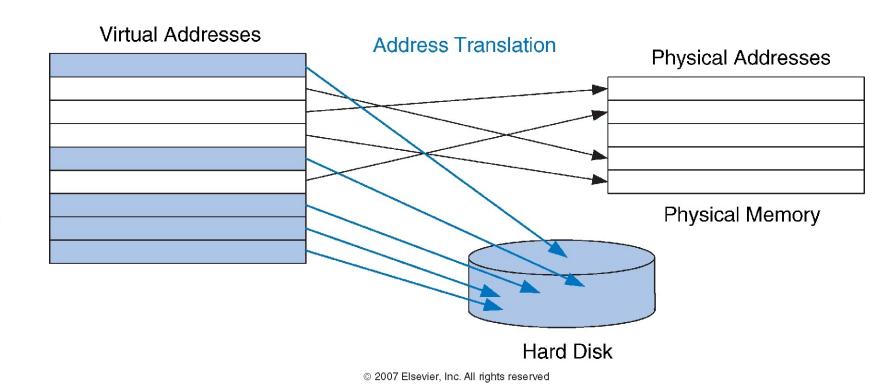


Virtual Memory Definitions

- Page size: amount of memory transferred from hard disk to DRAM at once
- Address translation: determining physical address from virtual address
- Page table: lookup table used to translate virtual addresses to physical addresses



Virtual & Physical Addresses

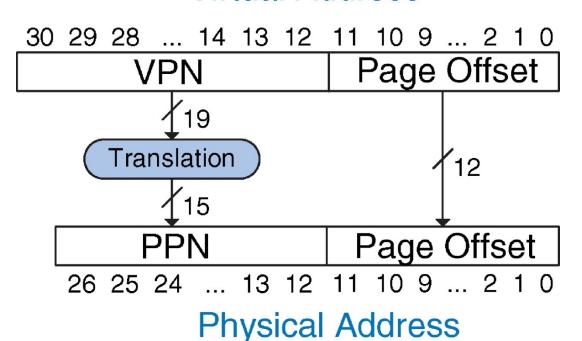


Most accesses hit in physical memory
But programs have the large capacity of virtual memory



Address Translation

Virtual Address



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Virtual Memory Example

System:

- Virtual memory size: $2 \text{ GB} = 2^{31} \text{ bytes}$
- Physical memory size: $128 \text{ MB} = 2^{27} \text{ bytes}$
- Page size: $4 \text{ KB} = 2^{12} \text{ bytes}$



Virtual Memory Example

System:

- Virtual memory size: $2 GB = 2^{31}$ bytes
- Physical memory size: $128 \text{ MB} = 2^{27} \text{ bytes}$
- Page size: $4 \text{ KB} = 2^{12} \text{ bytes}$

Organization:

- Virtual address: 31 bits
- Physical address: 27 bits
- Page offset: 12 bits
- # Virtual pages = $2^{31}/2^{12} = 2^{19}$ (VPN = 19 bits)
- # Physical pages = $2^{27}/2^{12} = 2^{15}$ (PPN = 15 bits)



SYSTEMS 0/ MEMORY &

Virtual Memory Example

- 19-bit virtual page numbers
- 15-bit physical page numbers

Physical
Page
Number Physical Addresses

7FF 0x7FFF000 - 0x7FFFFF
7FF 0x7FFE000 - 0x7FFFFF

0001 0x0001000 - 0x0001FFF
0000 0x0000000 - 0x0000FFF

Physical Memory

Virtual Addresses

 0x7FFFF000 - 0x7FFFFFF
 7FFF

 0x7FFFE000 - 0x7FFFFFF
 7FFFE

 0x7FFFD000 - 0x7FFFDFF
 7FFFD

 0x7FFFB000 - 0x7FFFBFF
 7FFFB

 0x7FFFA000 - 0x7FFFAFF
 7FFFA

 0x7FFF9000 - 0x7FFF9FF
 7FFF9

0x00005000 - 0x00005FFF 0x00004000 - 0x00004FFF 0x00003000 - 0x00003FFF 0x00002000 - 0x00002FFF

0x00006000 - 0x00006FFF

0x00001000 - 0x00001FFF 0x00000000 - 0x00000FFF

Virtual Memory

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Virtual

Page

Number

00006

00005

00004

00003

00002

00001

00000

Virtual Memory Example

What is the physical address of virtual address **0x247C**?

Physical Page
Number Physical Addresses

7FF 0x7FFF000 - 0x7FFFFFF
7FFE 0x7FFE000 - 0x7FFFFFF

0001 0x0001000 - 0x0001FFF
0000 0x0000000 - 0x0000FFF

Physical Memory

Virtual Addresses

0x7FFFF000 - 0x7FFFFFFF
0x7FFFE000 - 0x7FFFFFF
0x7FFFD000 - 0x7FFFDFF
0x7FFFC000 - 0x7FFFCFFF
0x7FFFB000 - 0x7FFFBFFF
0x7FFFA000 - 0x7FFFAFFF
0x7FFF9000 - 0x7FFF9FFF

0x00006000 - 0x00006FFF
0x00005000 - 0x00005FFF
0x00004000 - 0x00003FFF
0x00002000 - 0x00002FFF
0x00001000 - 0x00001FFF

Virtual Memory

0x00000000 - 0x00000FFF

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Virtual

Page Number

7FFFF

7FFFE 7FFFD

7FFFC

7FFFB

7FFFA

7FFF9

00006

00005

00004

00002

00001

00000

I/O SYSTEMS MEMORY &

Virtual Memory Example

What is the physical address of virtual address **0x247C?**

- VPN = 0x2
- VPN 0x2 maps to PPN 0x7FFF
- 12-bit page offset: **0x47C**
- Physical address = **0x7FFF47C**

Physical Page

Number

Physical Addresses

7FFF 7FFE 0x7FFF000 - 0x7FFFFF 0x7FFE000 - 0x7FFEFFF

0001 0000 0x0001000 - 0x0001FFF 0x0000000 - 0x0000FFF

Physical Memory

Virtual Addresses

0x7FFFF000 - 0x7FFFFFF 0x7FFFE000 - 0x7FF<u>FEFFF</u> 0x7FFFD000 - 0x7FFFDFFF

- 0x7FFFCFFF 0x7FFFC000

0x7FFFB000 - 0x7FFFBFFF 0x7FFFA000 - 0x7FFFAFFF

0x7FFF9000 - 0x7FFF9FFF

0x00006000 - 0x00006FFF

0x00005000 - 0x00005FFF

0x00004000 - 0x00004FFF

0x00003000 - 0x00003FFF

0x00002000 - 0x00002FFF

0x00001000 - 0x00001FFF 0x00000000 - 0x00000FFF

Virtual Memory

Virtual Page Number

7FFFF 7FFFE 7FFFD 7FFFC

7FFFB 7FFFA

7FFF9

00006 00005

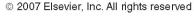
00004

00003

00002

00001

00000

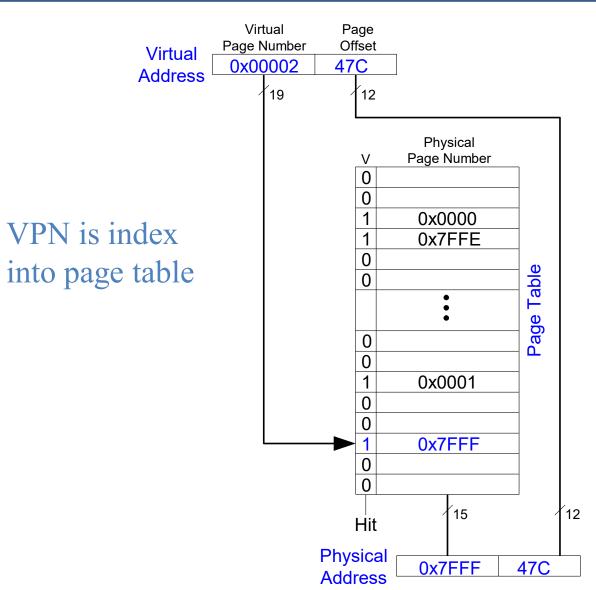


How to perform translation?

Page table

- Entry for each virtual page
- Entry fields:
 - Valid bit: 1 if page in physical memory
 - Physical page number: where the page is located







What is the physical address of virtual address **0x5F20**?

	Physical	
V	Page Number	
0		
0		
1	0x0000	
1	0x7FFE	
0		a)
0		g
	•	Page Table
	•	g
0		Jac
0		
1	0x0001	
0		
0		
1	0x7FFF	
0		
0		

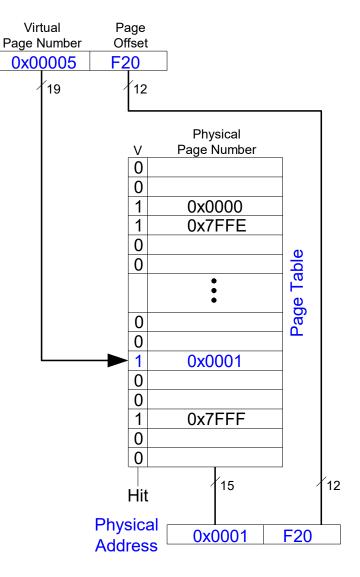


Virtual

Address

What is the physical address of virtual address **0x5F20**?

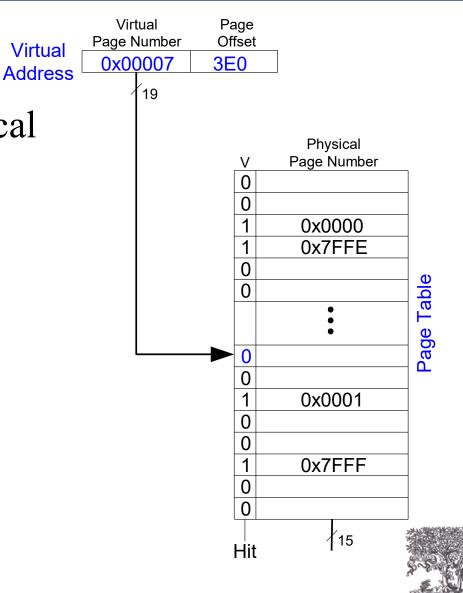
- -VPN = 5
- Entry 5 in page table
 VPN 5 => physical
 page 1
- Physical address:0x1F20





Virtual

What is the physical address of virtual address **0x73E0**?

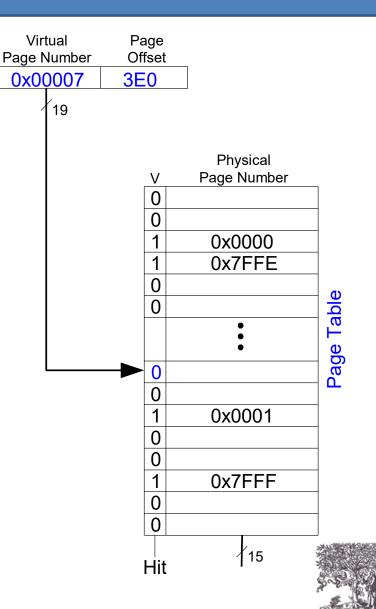


Virtual

Address

What is the physical address of virtual address **0x73E0**?

- -VPN=7
- Entry 7 is invalid
- Virtual page must be paged into physical memory from disk



Page Table Challenges

- Page table is large
 - usually located in physical memory
- Load/store requires 2 main memory accesses:
 - one for translation (page table read)
 - one to access data (after translation)
- Cuts memory performance in half
 - Unless we get clever...



Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)

- Small cache of most recent translations
- Reduces # of memory accesses for most loads/stores from 2 to 1

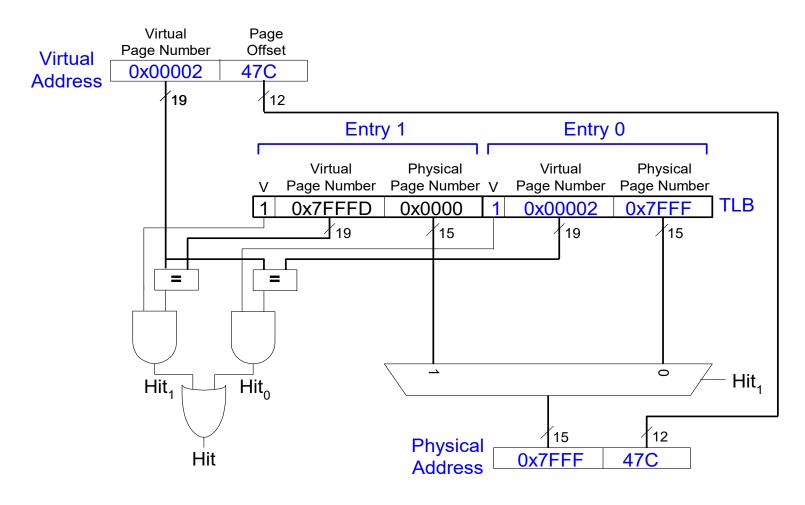


TLB

- Page table accesses: high temporal locality
 - Large page size, so consecutive loads/stores likely to access same page
- TLB
 - Small: accessed in < 1 cycle</p>
 - Typically 16 512 entries
 - Fully associative
 - > 99 % hit rates typical
 - Reduces # of memory accesses for most loads/stores from 2 to 1



Example 2-Entry TLB





Memory Protection

- Multiple processes (programs) run at once
- Each process has its own page table
- Each process can use entire virtual address space
- A process can only access physical pages mapped in its own page table



Virtual Memory Summary

- Virtual memory increases capacity
- A subset of virtual pages in physical memory
- Page table maps virtual pages to physical pages – address translation
- A TLB speeds up address translation
- Different page tables for different programs provides memory protection



Memory-Mapped I/O

- Processor accesses I/O devices just like memory (like keyboards, monitors, printers)
- Each I/O device assigned one or more address
- When that address is detected, data read/written to I/O device instead of memory
- A portion of the address space dedicated to I/O devices

Memory-Mapped I/O Hardware

Address Decoder:

 Looks at address to determine which device/memory communicates with the processor

• I/O Registers:

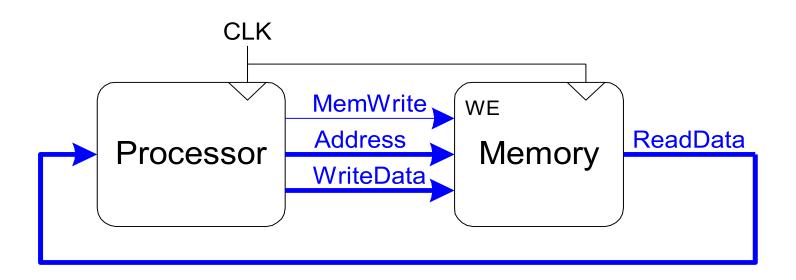
Hold values written to the I/O devices

ReadData Multiplexer:

 Selects between memory and I/O devices as source of data sent to the processor

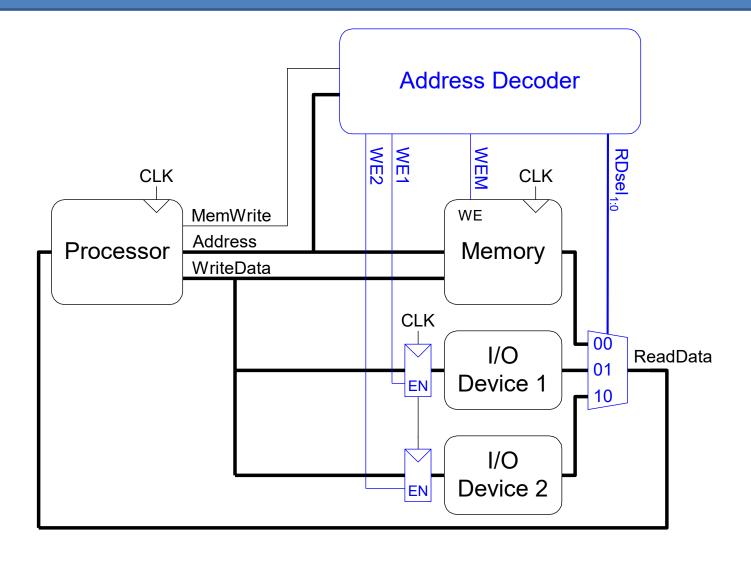


The Memory Interface





Memory-Mapped I/O Hardware





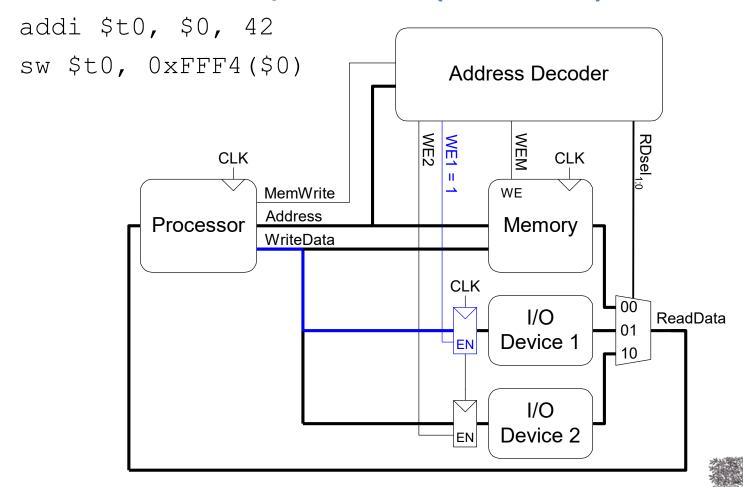
Memory-Mapped I/O Code

- Suppose I/O Device 1 is assigned the address 0xFFFFFF4
 - Write the value 42 to I/O Device 1
 - Read value from I/O Device 1 and place in \$t3



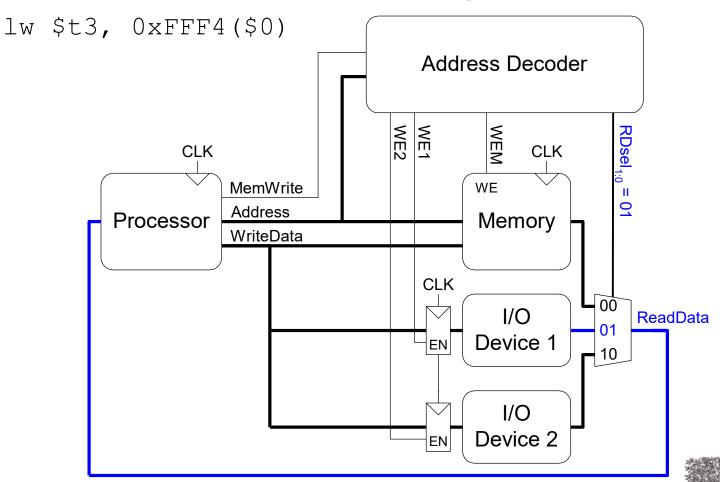
Memory-Mapped I/O Code

Write the value 42 to I/O Device 1 (0xFFFFFFF4)



Memory-Mapped I/O Code

Read the value from I/O Device 1 and place in \$t3



Input/Output (I/O) Systems

- Embedded I/O Systems
 - Toasters, LEDs, etc.
- PC I/O Systems



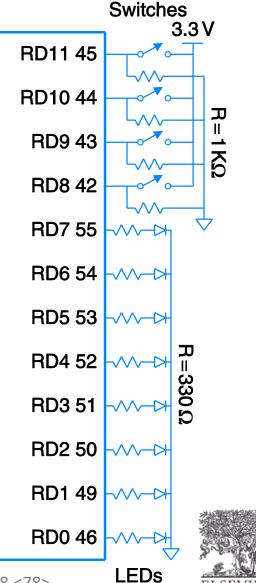
Embedded I/O Systems

- Example microcontroller: PIC32
 - microcontroller
 - 32-bit MIPS processor
 - low-level peripherals include:
 - serial ports
 - timers
 - A/D converters



Digital I/O

```
// C Code
#include <p3xxxx.h>
int main(void) {
  int switches;
  TRISD = 0xFF00;
                       // RD[7:0] outputs
                        // RD[11:8] inputs
 while (1) {
    // read & mask switches, RD[11:8]
    switches = (PORTD >> 8) \& 0xF;
    PORTD = switches; // display on LEDs
```



PIC32

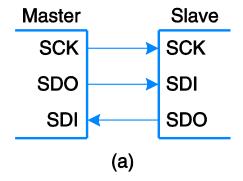
Serial I/O

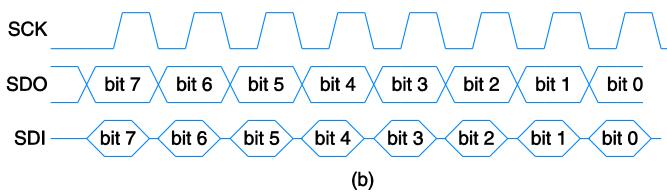
- Example serial protocols
 - SPI: Serial Peripheral Interface
 - UART: Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter
 - Also: I²C, USB, Ethernet, etc.



SPI: Serial Peripheral Interface

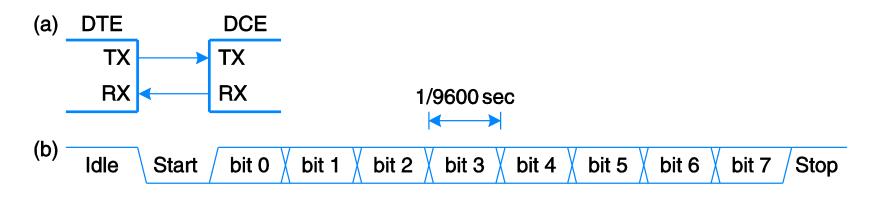
- Master initiates communication to slave by sending pulses on SCK
- Master sends SDO (Serial Data Out) to slave, msb first
- Slave may send data (SDI) to master, msb first





UART: Universal Asynchronous Rx/Tx

- Configuration:
 - start bit (0), 7-8 data bits, parity bit (optional), 1+ stop bits (1)
 - data rate: 300, 1200, 2400, 9600, ...115200 baud
- Line idles HIGH (1)
- Common configuration:
 - 8 data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit, 9600 baud





Timers

```
// Create specified ms/us of delay using built-in timer
#include <P32xxxx.h>
void delaymicros(int micros) {
  if (micros > 1000) { // avoid timer overflow
    delaymicros(1000);
    delaymicros (micros-1000);
 else if (micros > 6) {
                           // reset timer to 0
   TMR1 = 0;
   T1CONbits.ON = 1;
                            // turn timer on
   PR1 = (micros-6) *20;
                            // 20 clocks per microsecond
                             // Function has overhead of ~6 us
    IFS0bits.T1IF = 0;
                            // clear overflow flag
   while (!IFSObits.T1IF); // wait until overflow flag set
void delaymillis(int millis) {
 while (millis--) delaymicros(1000); // repeatedly delay 1 ms
                                     // until done
```

Analog I/O

- Needed to interface with outside world
- Analog input: Analog-to-digital (A/D) conversion
 - Often included in microcontroller
 - *N*-bit: converts analog input from V_{ref} V_{ref} to 0-2^{N-1}

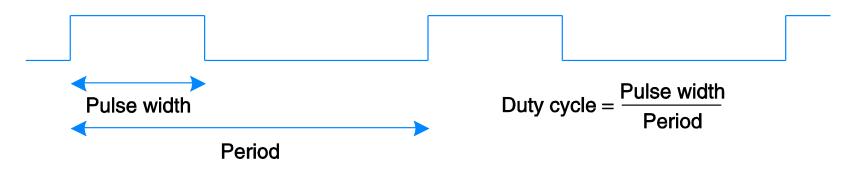
Analog output:

- Digital-to-analog (D/A) conversion
 - Typically need external chip (e.g., AD558 or LTC1257)
 - *N*-bit: converts digital signal from 0-2^{N-1} to V_{ref} V_{ref}
- Pulse-width modulation

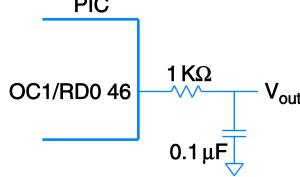


Pulse-Width Modulation (PWM)

Average value proportional to duty cycle



Add high-pass filter on output to deliver average value





Other Microcontroller Peripherals

- Examples
 - Character LCD
 - VGA monitor
 - Bluetooth wireless
 - Motors



Personal Computer (PC) I/O Systems

- USB: Universal Serial Bus
 - USB 1.0 released in 1996
 - standardized cables/software for peripherals
- PCI/PCIe: Peripheral Component Interconnect/PCI Express
 - developed by Intel, widespread around 1994
 - 32-bit parallel bus
 - used for expansion cards (i.e., sound cards, video cards, etc.)
- DDR: double-data rate memory



Personal Computer (PC) I/O Systems

- TCP/IP: Transmission Control Protocol and Internet Protocol
 - physical connection: Ethernet cable or Wi-Fi
- SATA: hard drive interface
- Input/Output (sensors, actuators, microcontrollers, etc.)
 - Data Acquisition Systems (DAQs)
 - USB Links

