Chapter 4

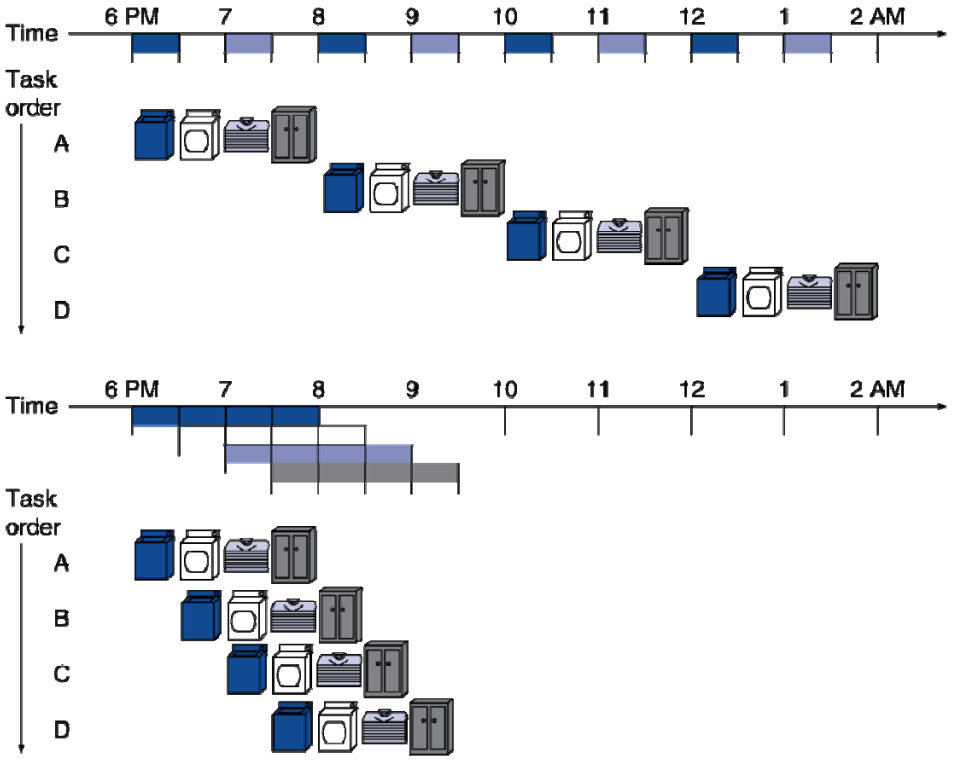
The Processor

Performance Issues

- Longest delay determines clock period
  - Critical path: load instruction
  - Instruction memory → register file → ALU → data memory → register file
- Not feasible to vary period for different instructions
- Violates design principle
  - Making the common case fast
- We will improve performance by pipelining

Pipelining Analogy

- Pipelined laundry: overlapping execution
  - Parallelism improves performance

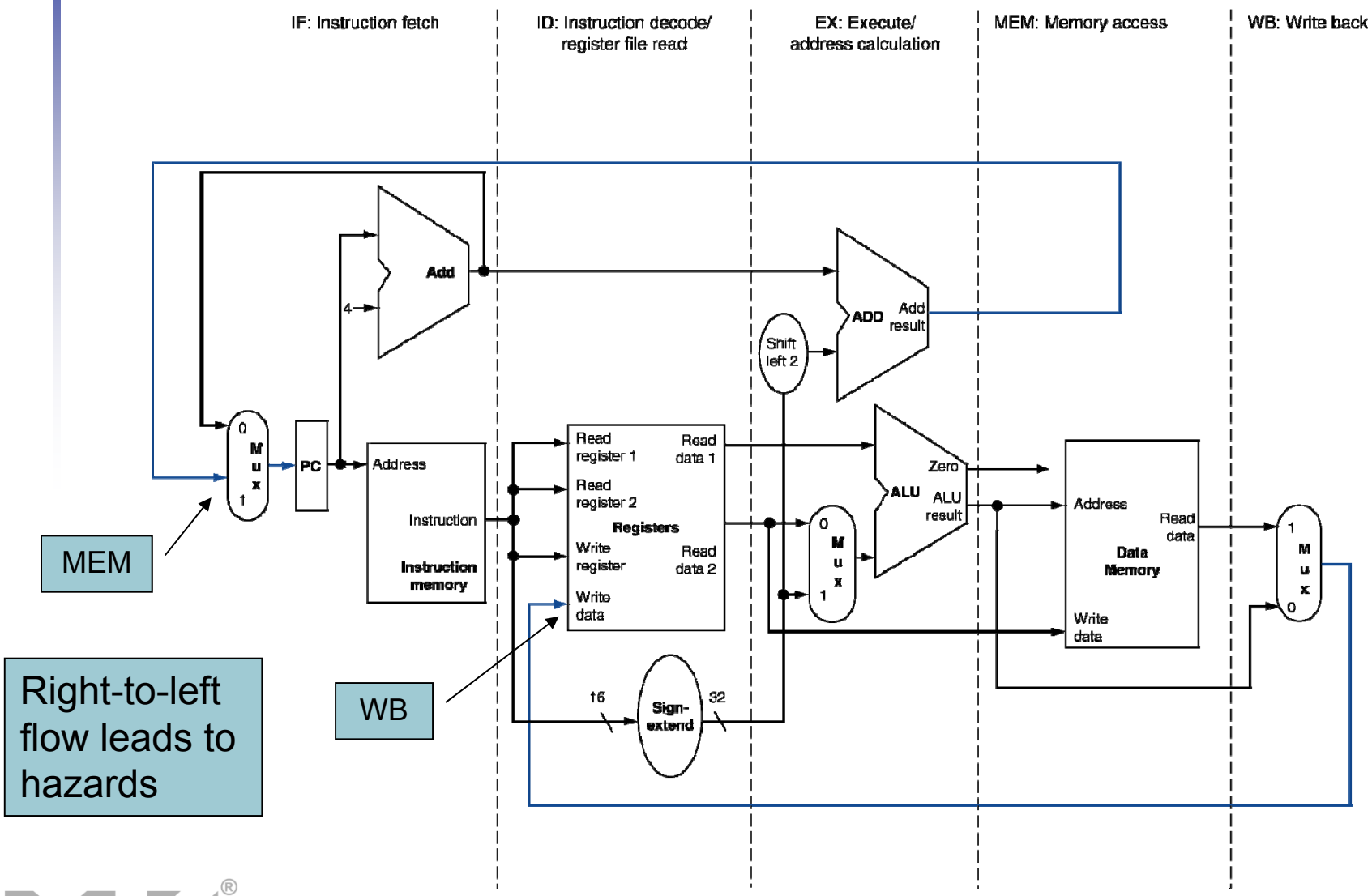


- Four loads:
  - Speedup = 8/3.5 = 2.3
- Non-stop:
  - Speedup = 2n/0.5n + 1.5 ≈ 4 = number of stages

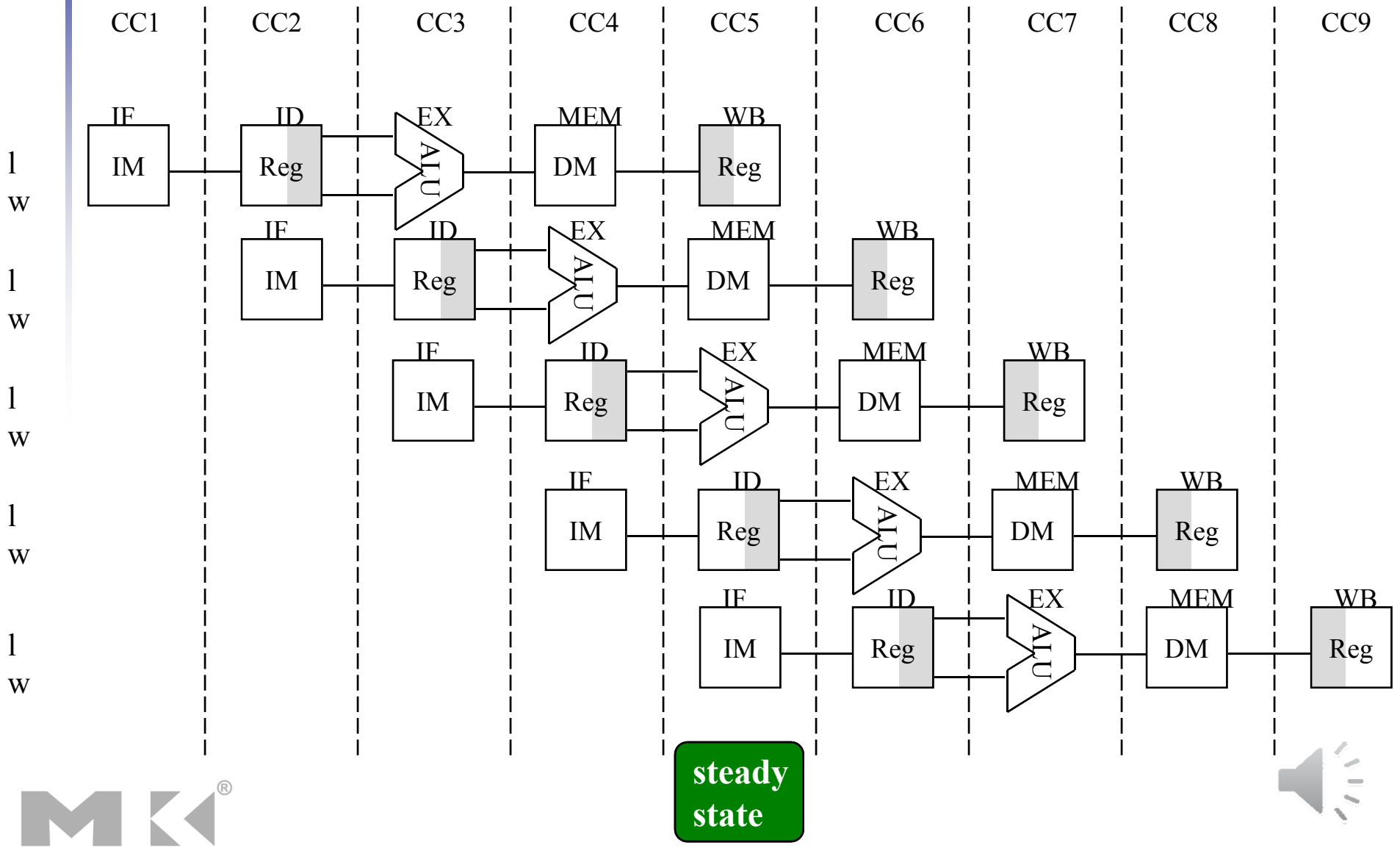
MIPS Pipeline

- Five stages, one step per stage
  1. IF: Instruction fetch from memory
  2. ID: Instruction decode & register read
  3. EX: Execute operation or calculate address
  4. MEM: Access memory operand
  5. WB: Write result back to register

MIPS Pipelined Datapath



Execution in a Pipelined Datapath



Chapter 4

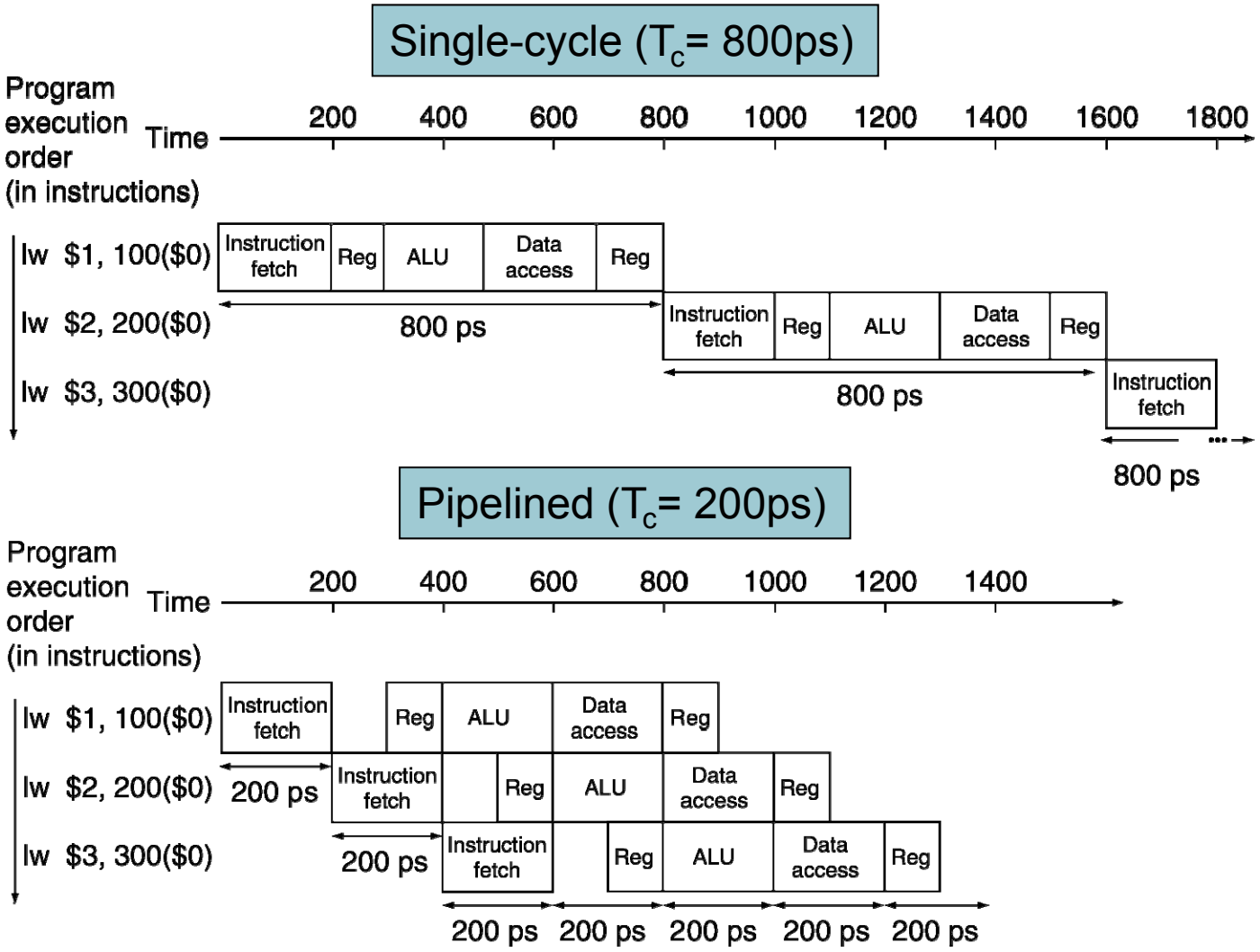
The Processor

Pipeline Performance

- Assume time for stages is
  - 100ps for register read or write
  - 200ps for other stages
- Compare pipelined datapath with single-cycle datapath

Instr	Instr fetch	Register read	ALU op	Memory access	Register write	Total time
lw	200ps	100 ps	200ps	200ps	100 ps	800ps
sw	200ps	100 ps	200ps	200ps		700ps
R-format	200ps	100 ps	200ps		100 ps	600ps
beq	200ps	100 ps	200ps			500ps

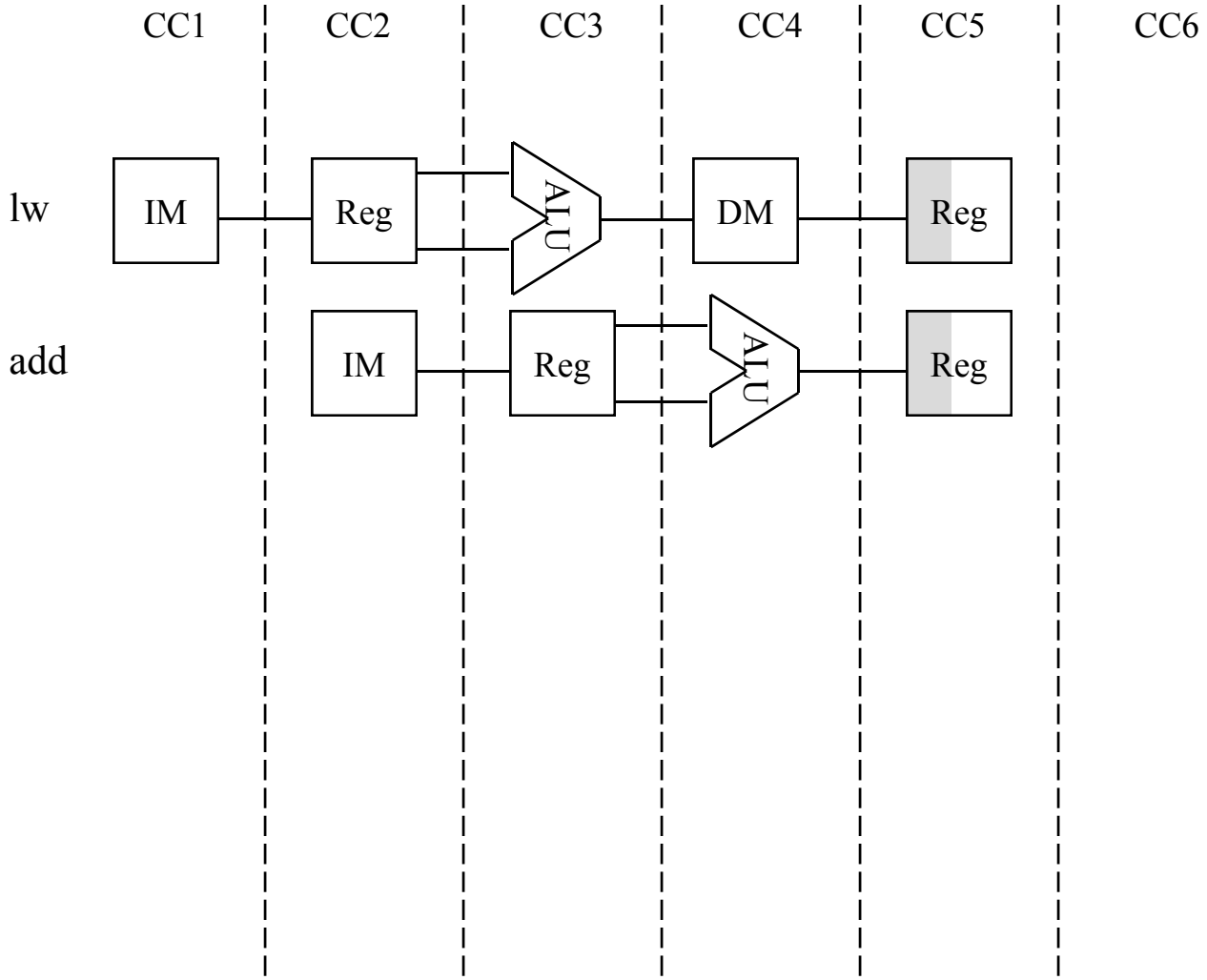
Pipeline Performance



Pipeline Speedup

- If all stages are balanced
  - i.e., all take the same time
  - Time between instructions$_{pipelined}$ = $\frac{\text{Time between instructions}_{nonpipelined}}{\text{Number of stages}}$
- If not balanced, speedup is less
- Speedup due to increased throughput
  - Latency (time for each instruction) does not decrease

Mixed Instructions in the Pipeline

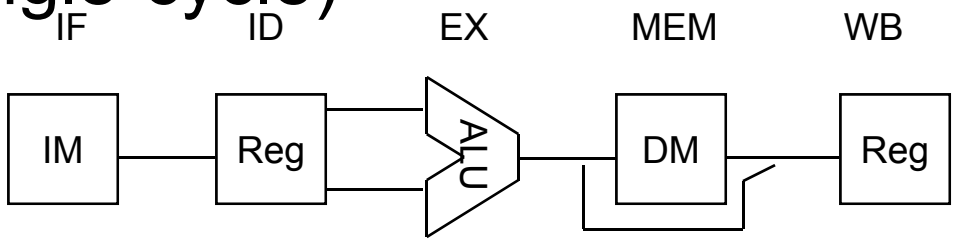


Pipelining and ISA Design

- MIPS ISA designed for pipelining
  - All instructions are 32-bits
    - Easier to fetch and decode in one cycle
    - c.f. x86: 1- to 17-byte instructions
  - Few and regular instruction formats
    - Can decode and read registers in one step
  - Load/store addressing
    - Can calculate address in 3rd stage, access memory in 4th stage
  - Alignment of memory operands
    - Memory access takes only one cycle

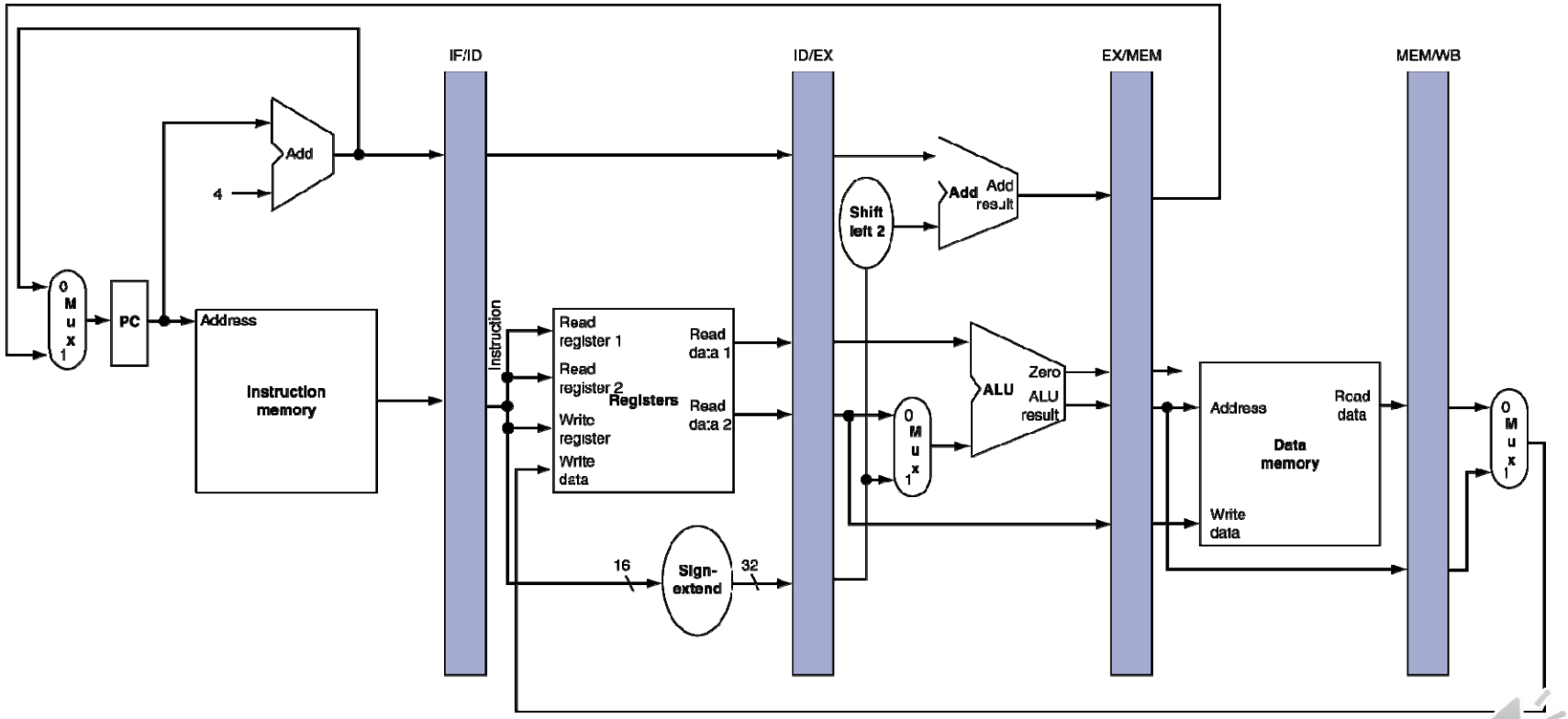
Pipeline Principles

- All instructions that share a pipeline must have the same stages in the same order.
  - therefore, add does nothing during Mem stage
  - sw does nothing during WB stage
- All intermediate values must be latched each cycle.
- There is no functional block reuse
  - example: we need 2 adders and ALU (like in single-cycle)



Pipeline registers

- Need registers between stages
  - To hold information produced in previous cycle



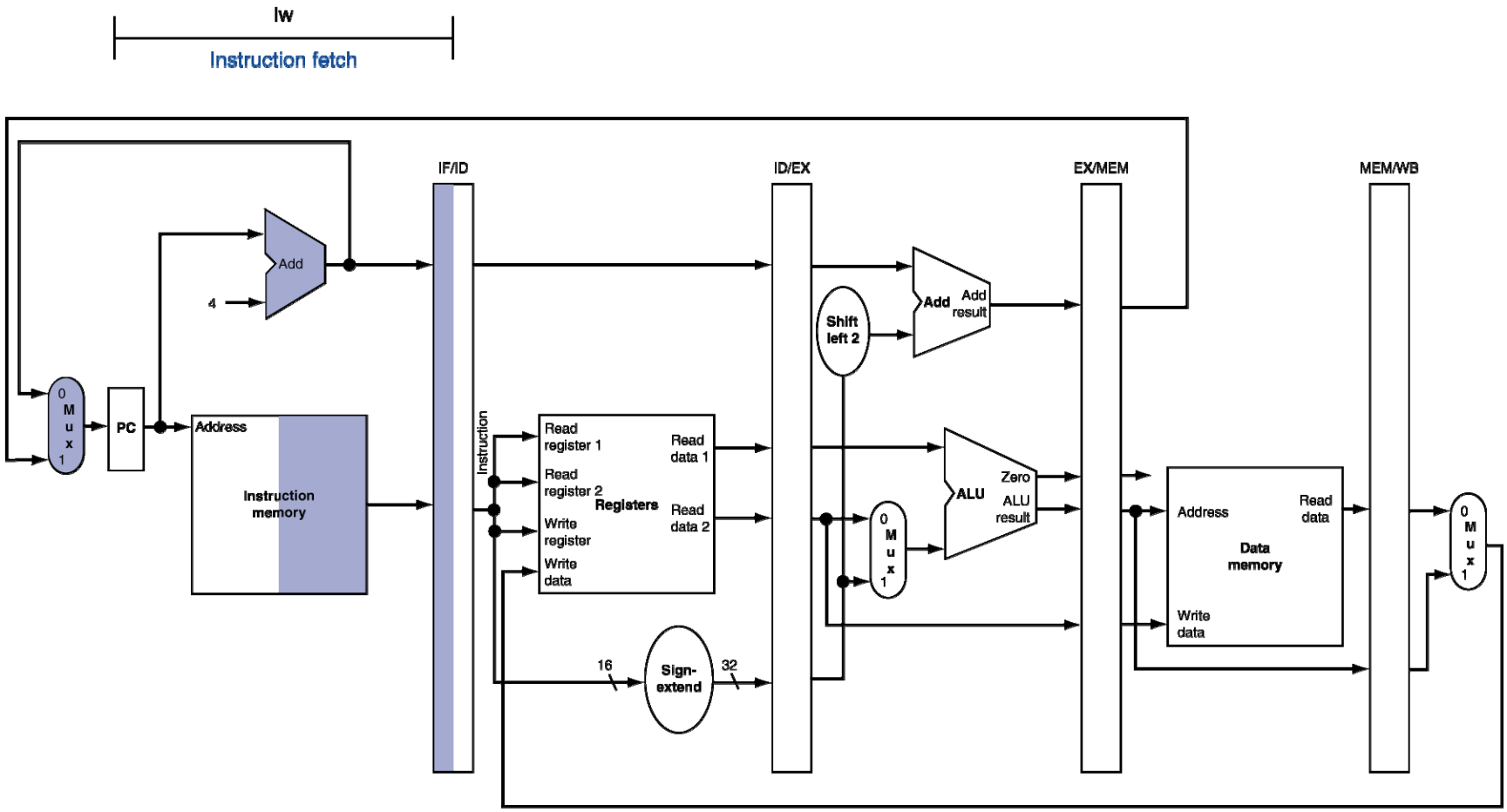
Chapter 4

The Processor

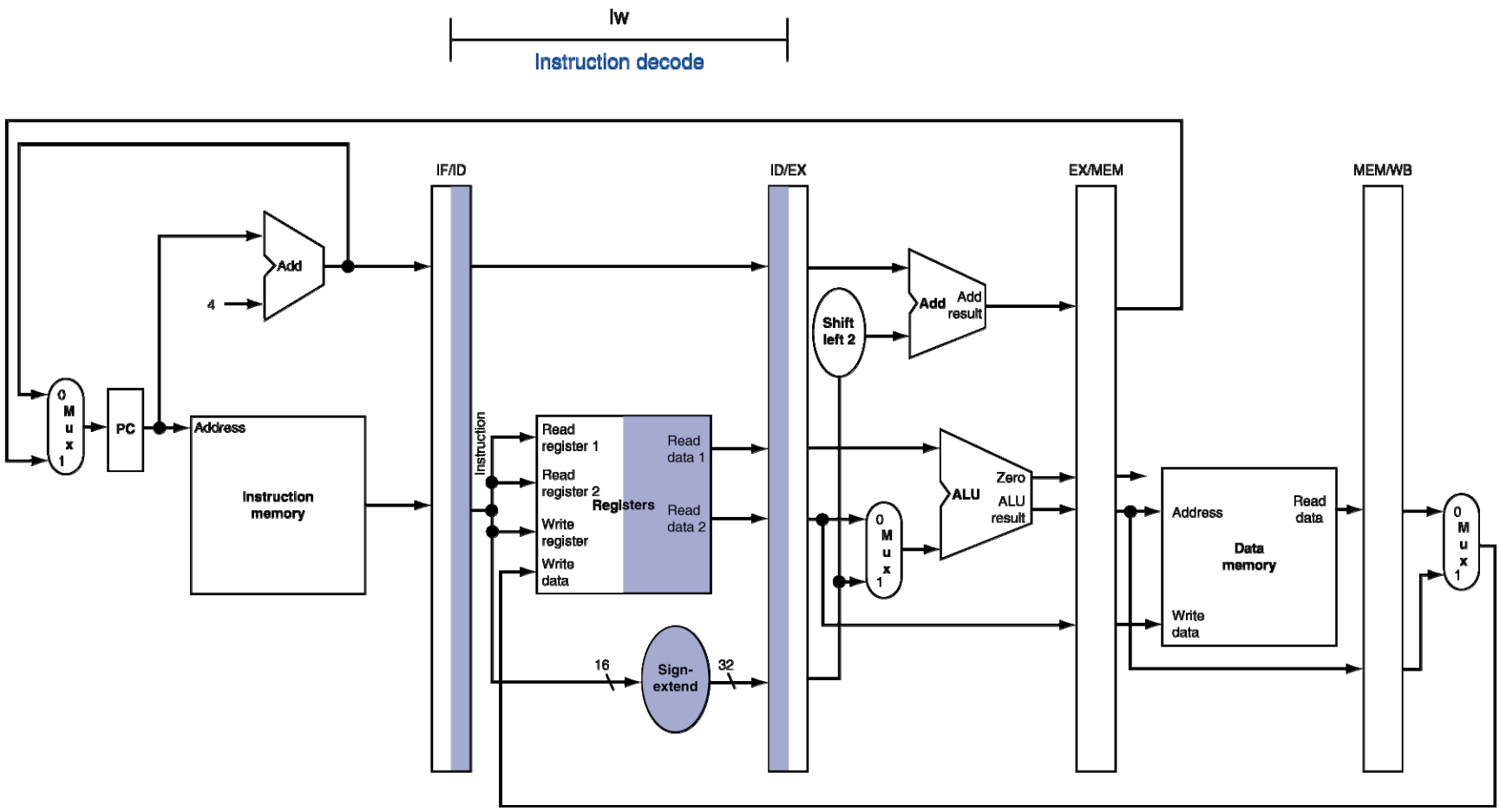
Pipeline Operation

- Cycle-by-cycle flow of instructions through the pipelined datapath
  - “Single-clock-cycle” pipeline diagram
    - Shows pipeline usage in a single cycle
    - Highlight resources used
  - c.f. “multi-clock-cycle” diagram
    - Graph of operation over time
- We’ll look at “single-clock-cycle” diagrams for load & store

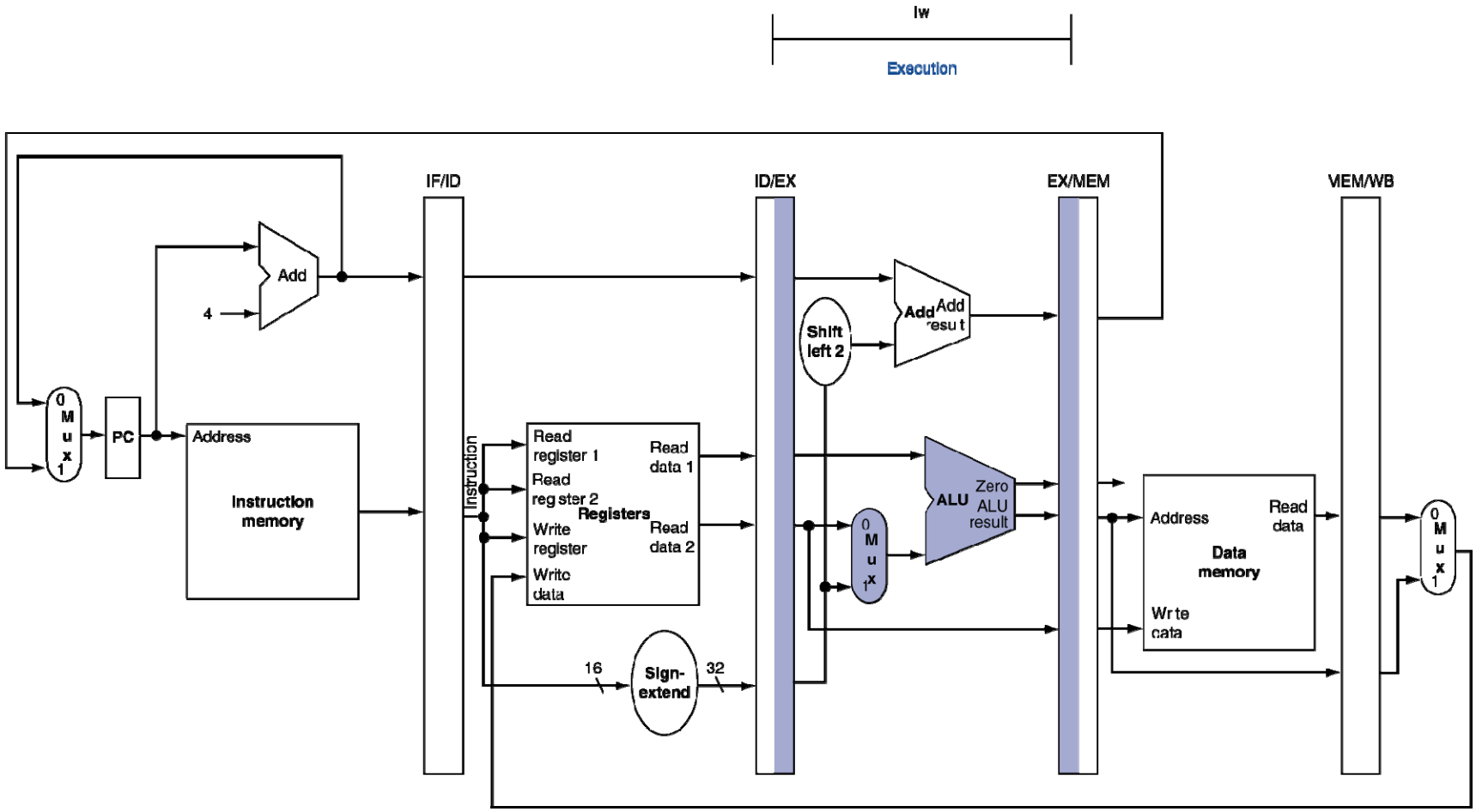
IF for Load, Store, …



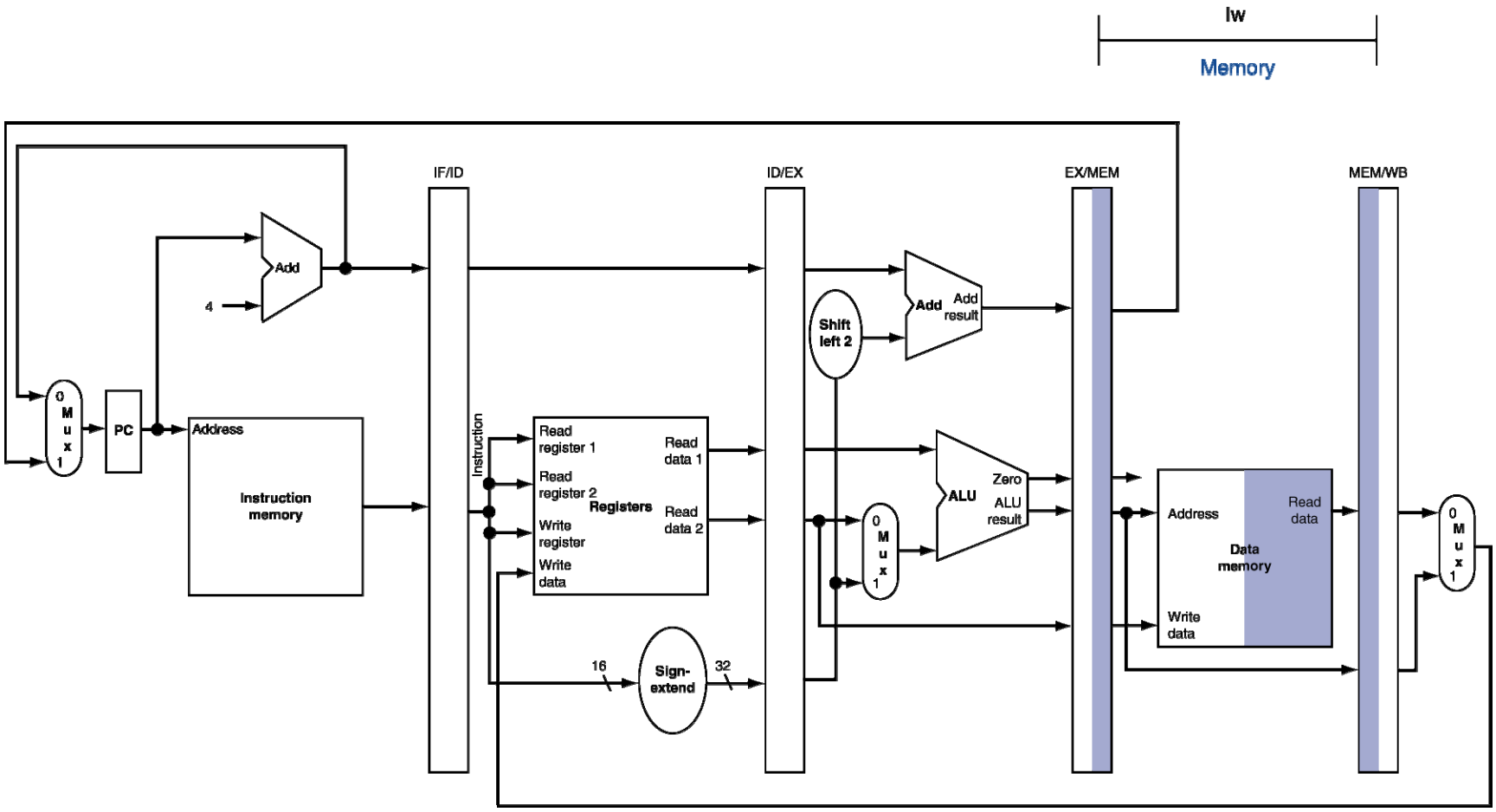
ID for Load, Store, …



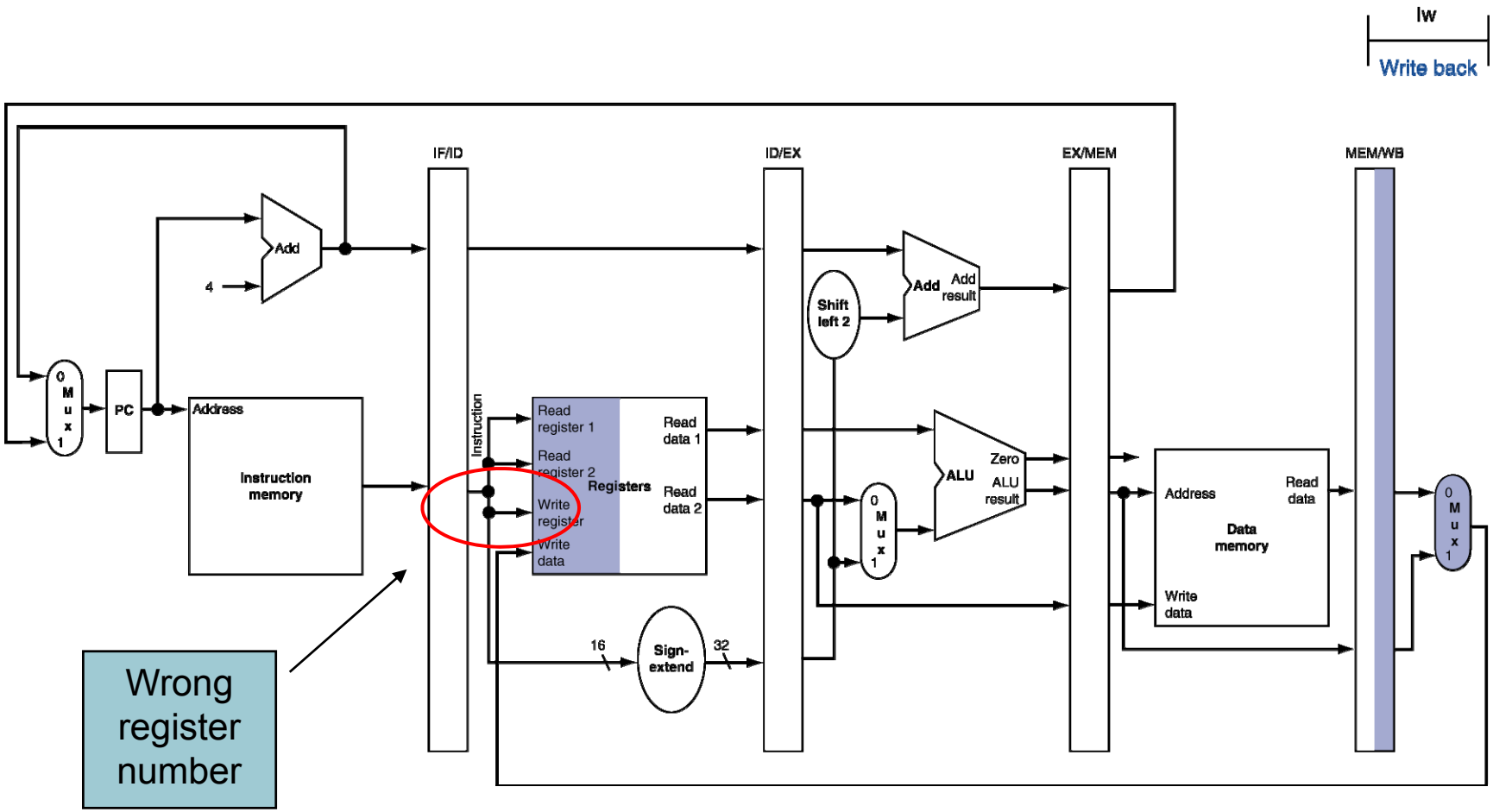
EX for Load


lw
Execution
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
M
u
x
PC
Address
Instruction memory
Instruction
Read register 1
Read register 2
Registers
Write register
Write data
Read data 1
Read data 2
Shift left 2
Add
Add result
ALU
Zero
ALU result
Address
Data memory
Read data
Write data
16
Sign-extend
32

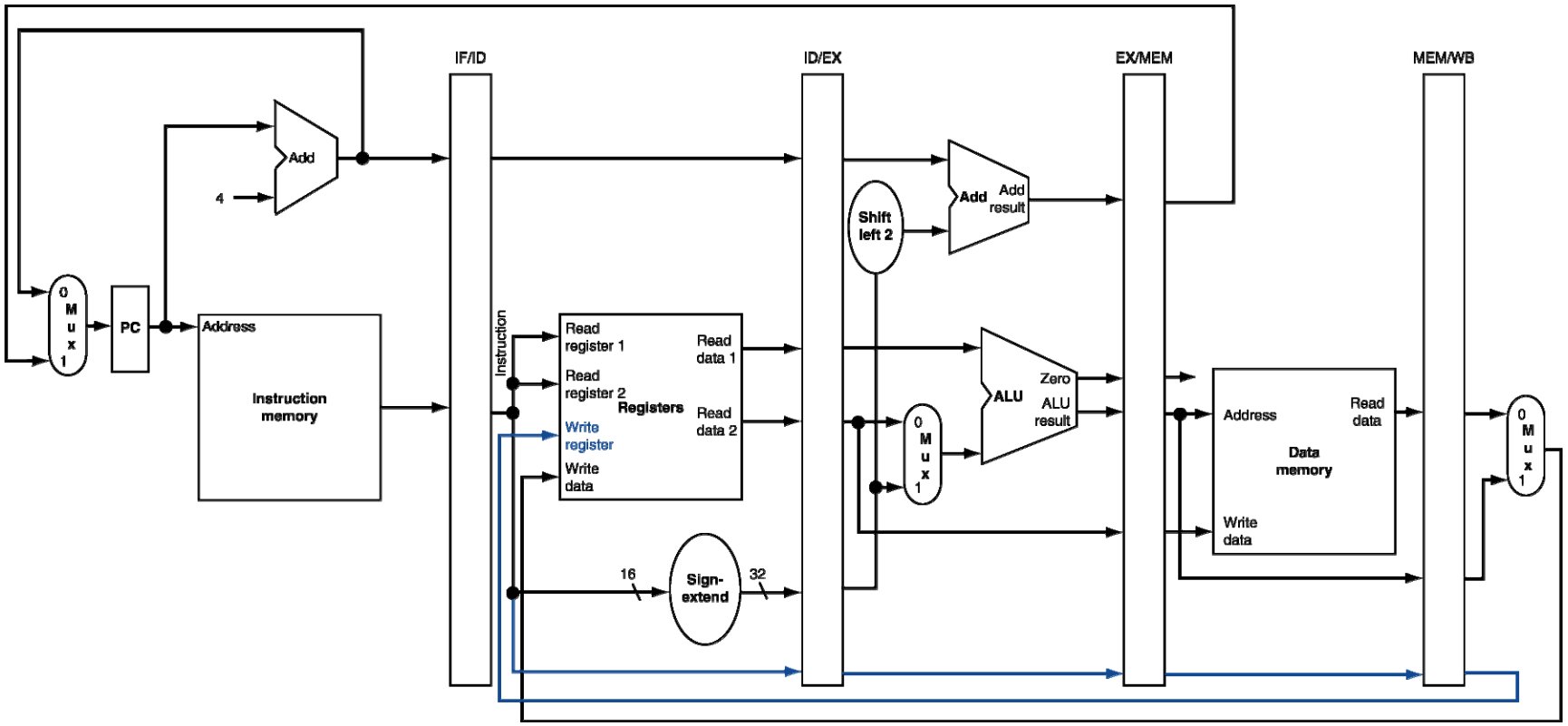
MEM for Load


lw
Memory
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
M
u
x
0
1
PC
Address
Instruction memory
Instruction
Read register 1
Read register 2
Registers
Write register
Write data
Read data 1
Read data 2
16
Sign-extend
32
Shift left 2
Add
Add result
ALU
Zero
ALU result
Address
Read data
Data memory
Write data

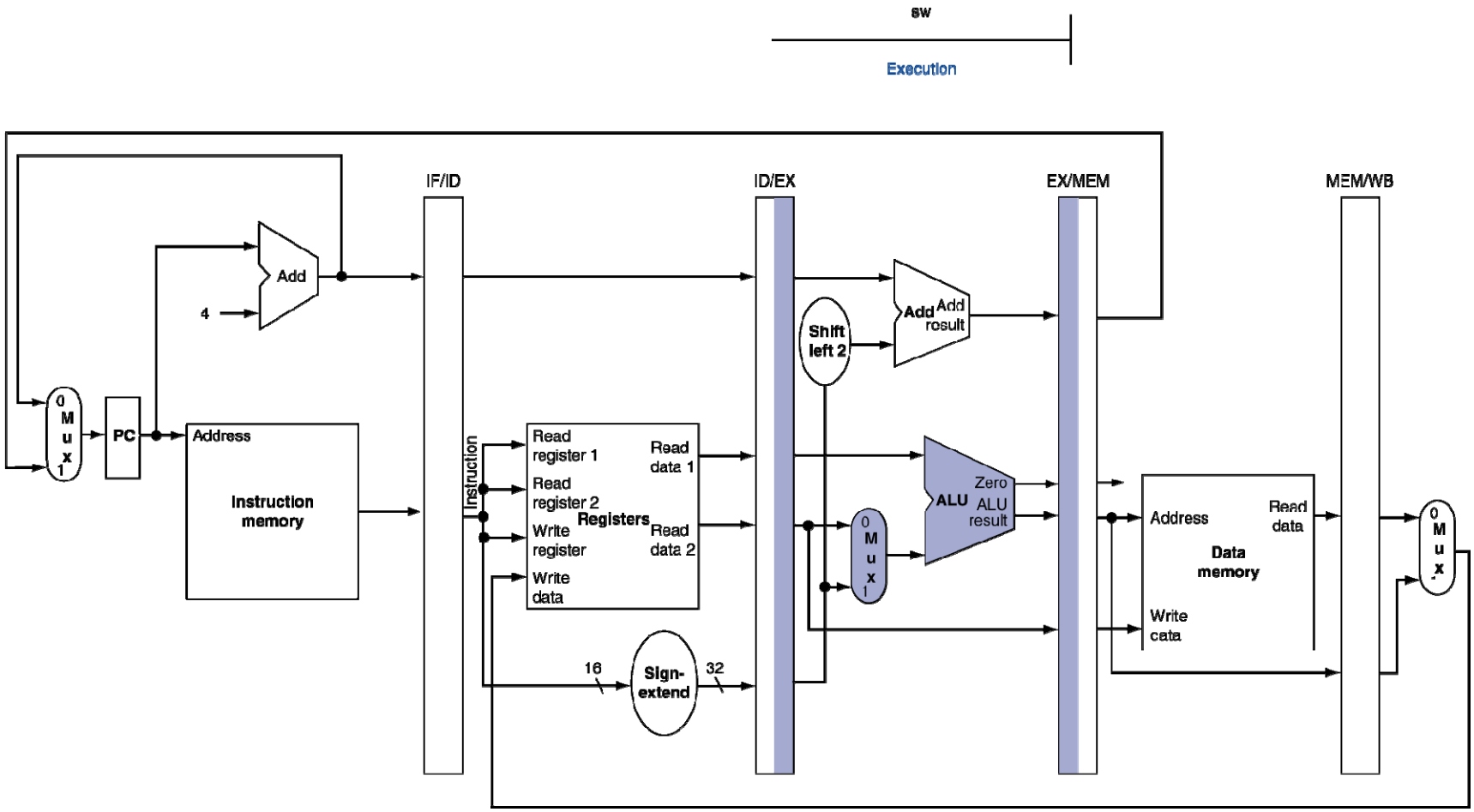
WB for Load


lw
Write back
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
M u x
0
1
PC
Address
Instruction memory
Instruction
Read register 1
Read register 2
Registers
Write register
Write data
Read data 1
Read data 2
Shift left 2
Add
Add result
ALU
Zero
ALU result
Address
Read data
Data memory
Write data
16
Sign-extend
32
Wrong register number

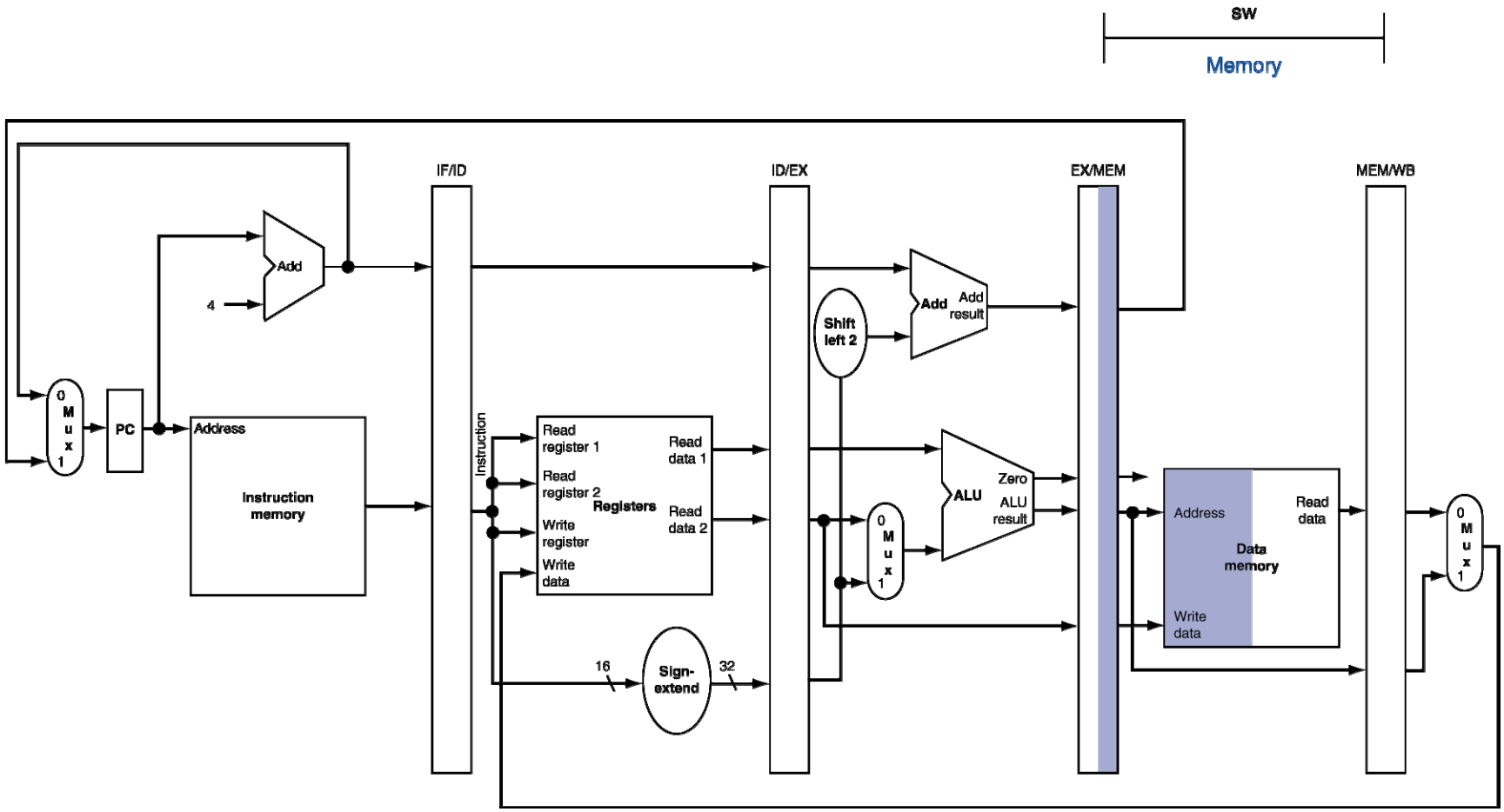
Corrected Datapath for Load



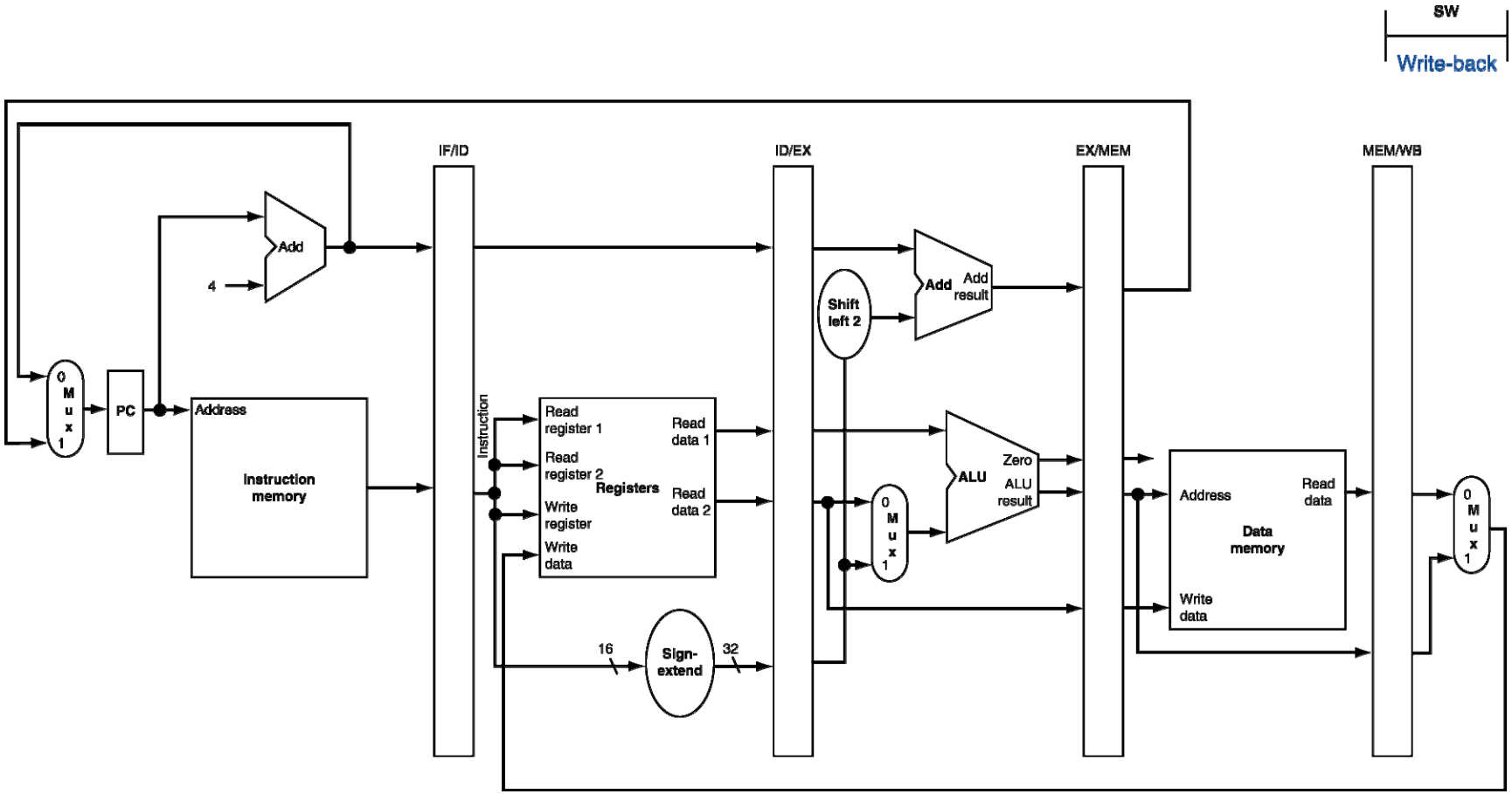
EX for Store


sw
Execution
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
M u x
PC
Address
Instruction memory
Instruction
Read register 1
Read register 2
Registers
Write register
Write data
Read data 1
Read data 2
16
Sign-extend
32
Shift left 2
Add
Add result
ALU
Zero
ALU result
Address
Read data
Data memory
Write data

MEM for Store



WB for Store

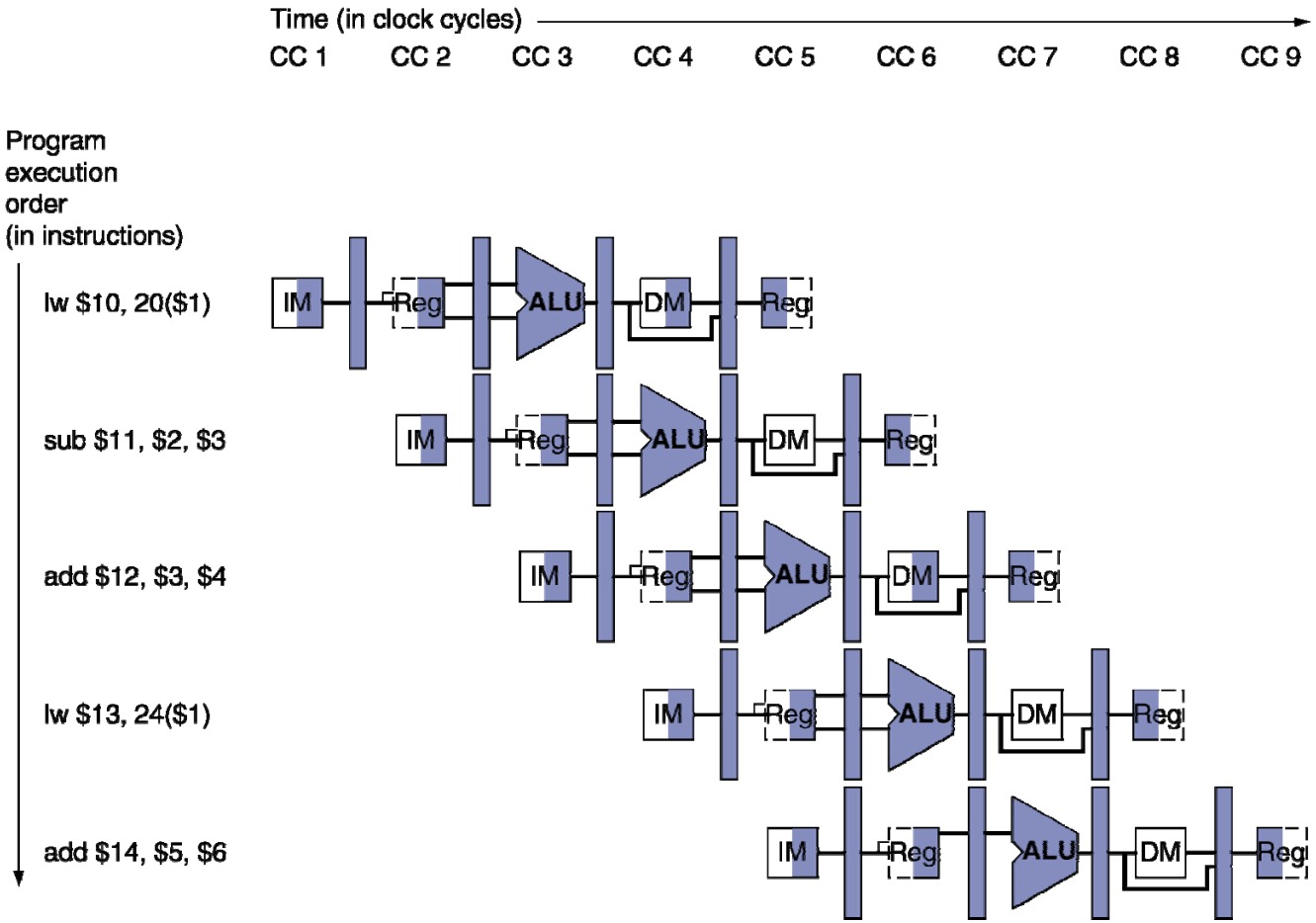

SW
Write-back
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
M
u
x
0
1
PC
Address
Instruction memory
Instruction
Read register 1
Read register 2
Registers
Write register
Write data
Read data 1
Read data 2
16
Sign-extend
32
Shift left 2
Add
Add result
ALU
Zero
ALU result
Address
Read data
Data memory
Write data

Chapter 4

The Processor

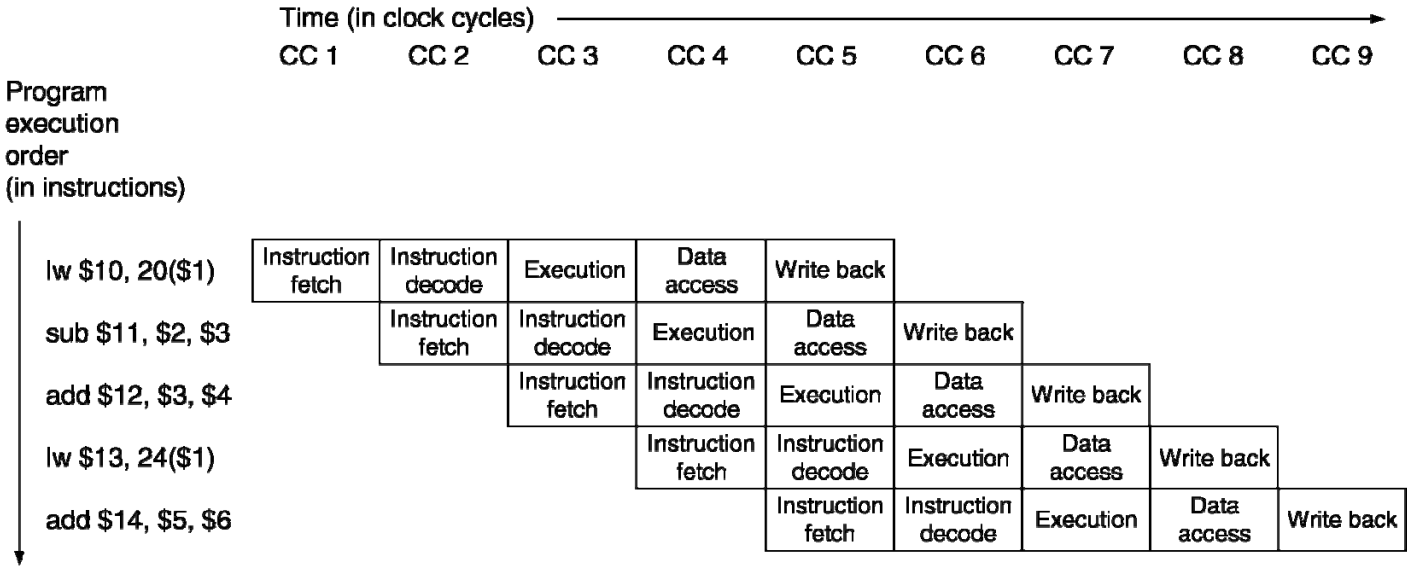
Multi-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

- Form showing resource usage



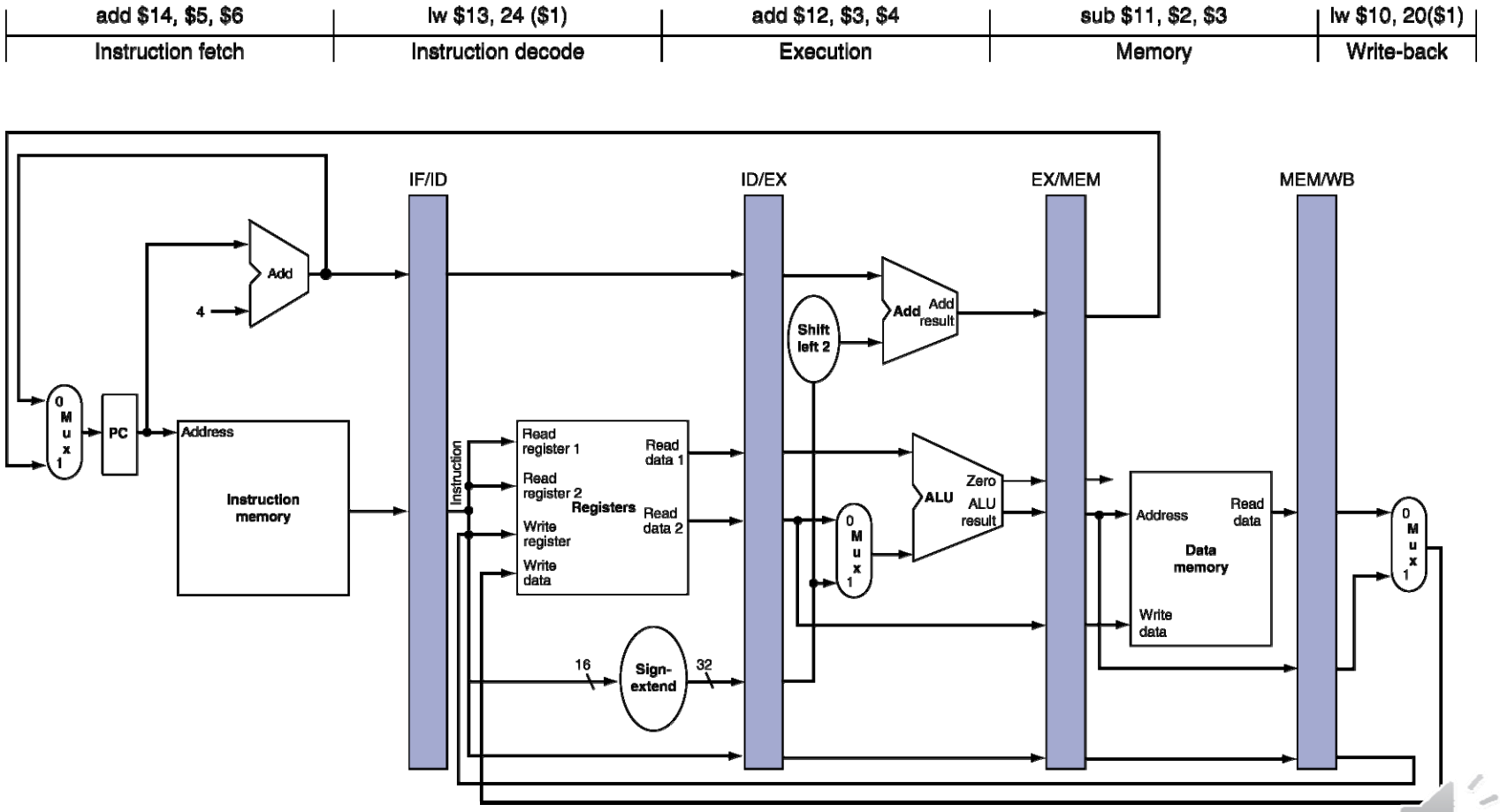
Multi-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

- Traditional form

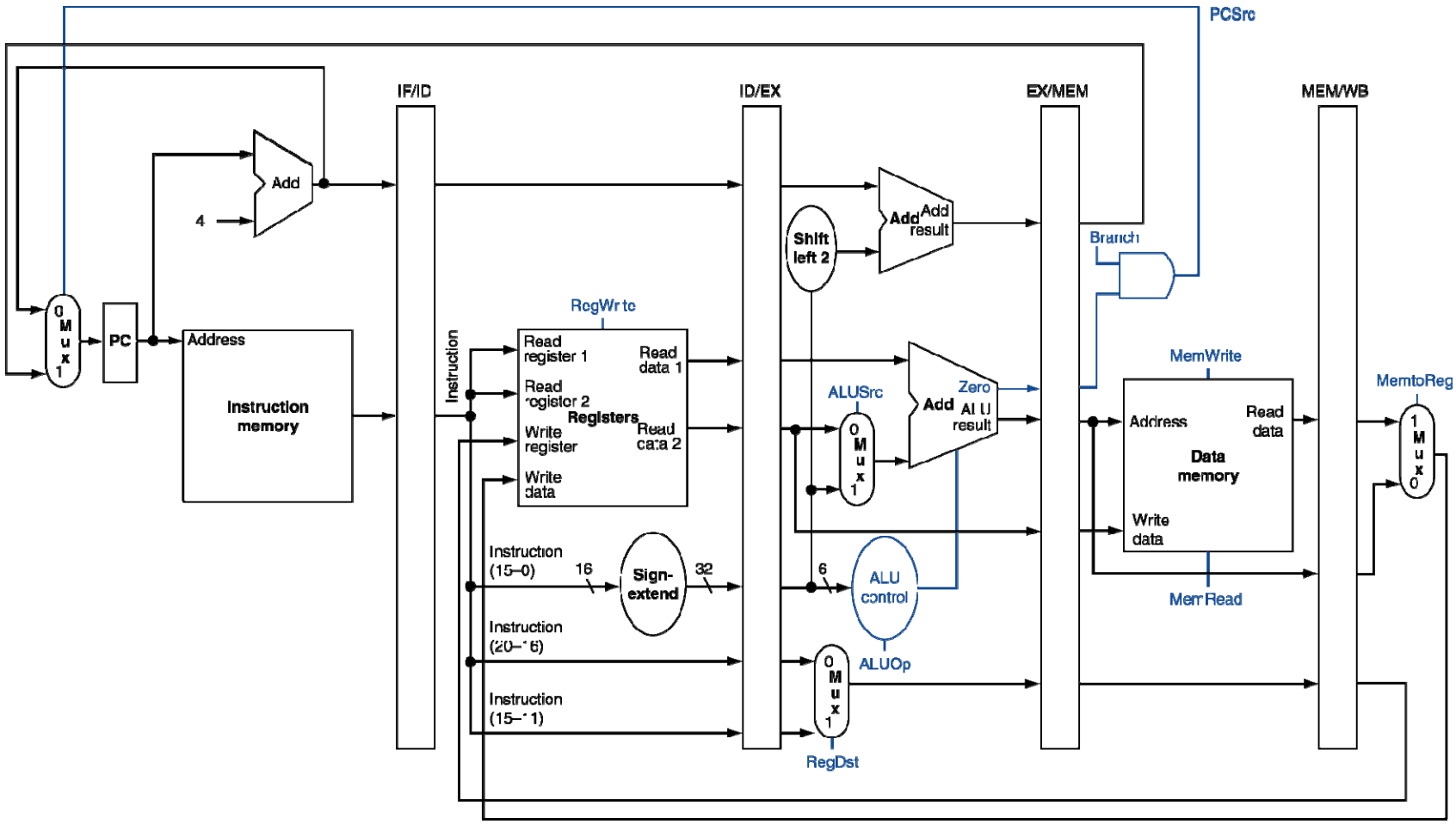


Single-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

- State of pipeline in a given cycle

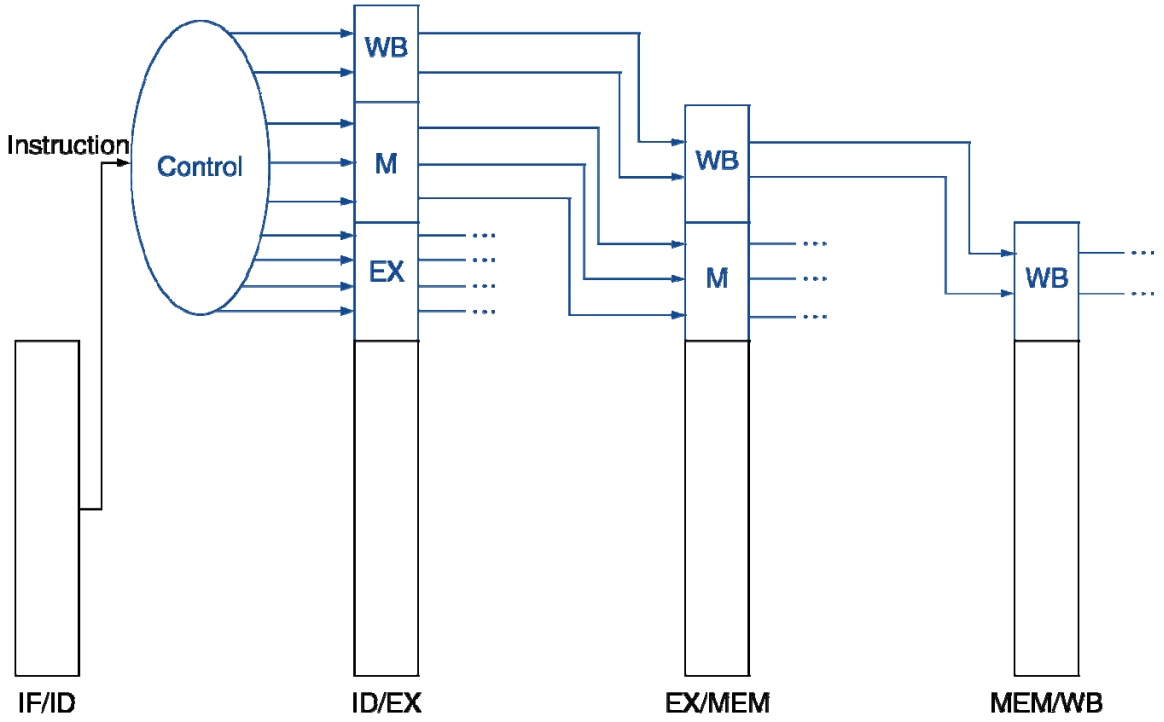


Pipelined Control (Simplified)

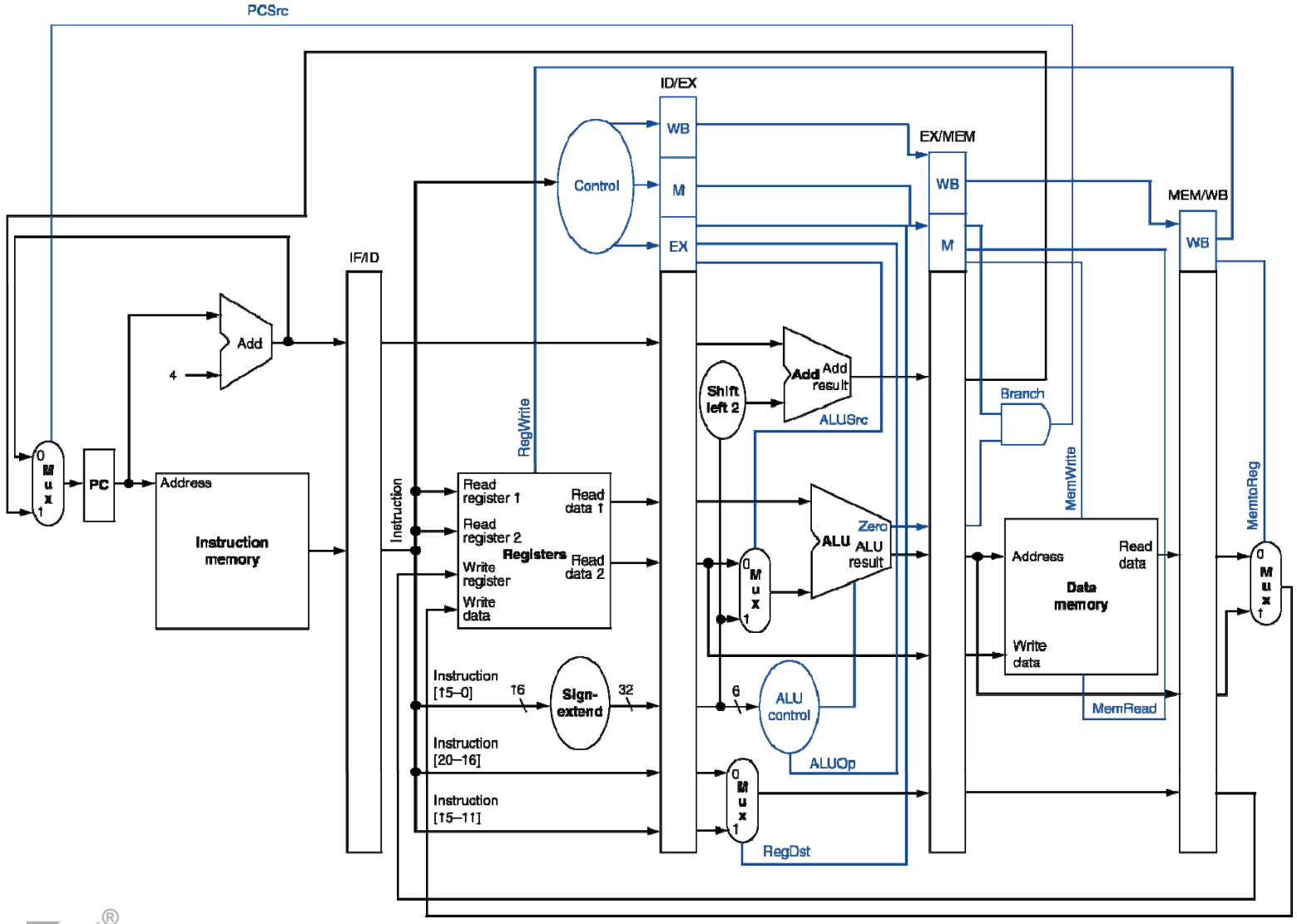


Pipelined Control

- Control signals derived from instruction
  - As in single-cycle implementation



Pipelined Control



Pipelined Control Signals

	Execution Stage Control Lines				Memory Stage Control Lines			Write Back Stage Control Lines	
Instruction	RegDst	ALU Op1	ALU Op0	ALUSrc	Branch	Mem Read	Mem Write	RegWrite	MemtoReg
R-Format	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
lw	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
sw	x	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	x
beq	x	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	x