Pipelined Processor Design

Instructor: Huzefa Rangwala, PhD

CS 465

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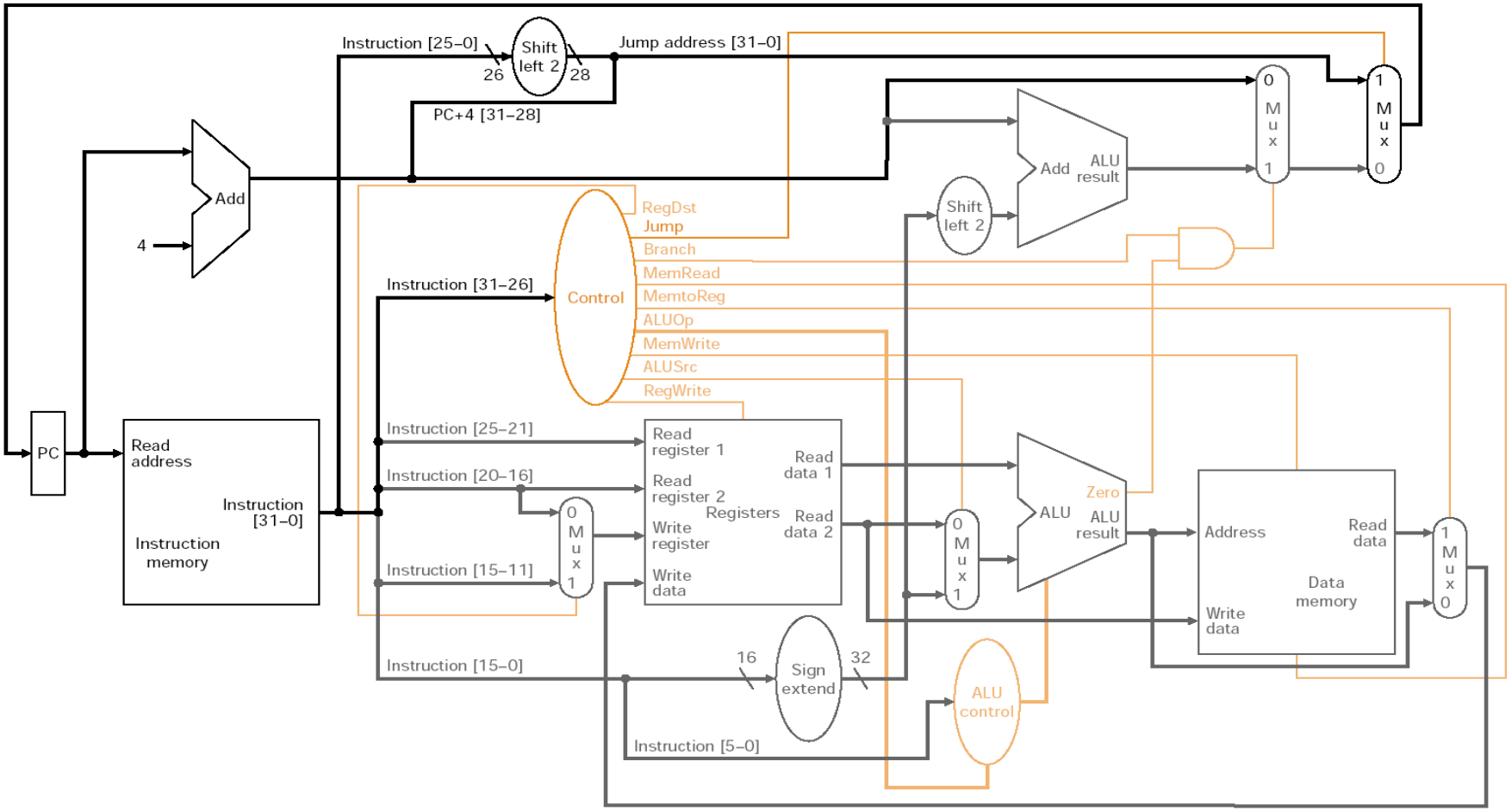
Review on Single Cycle Datapath

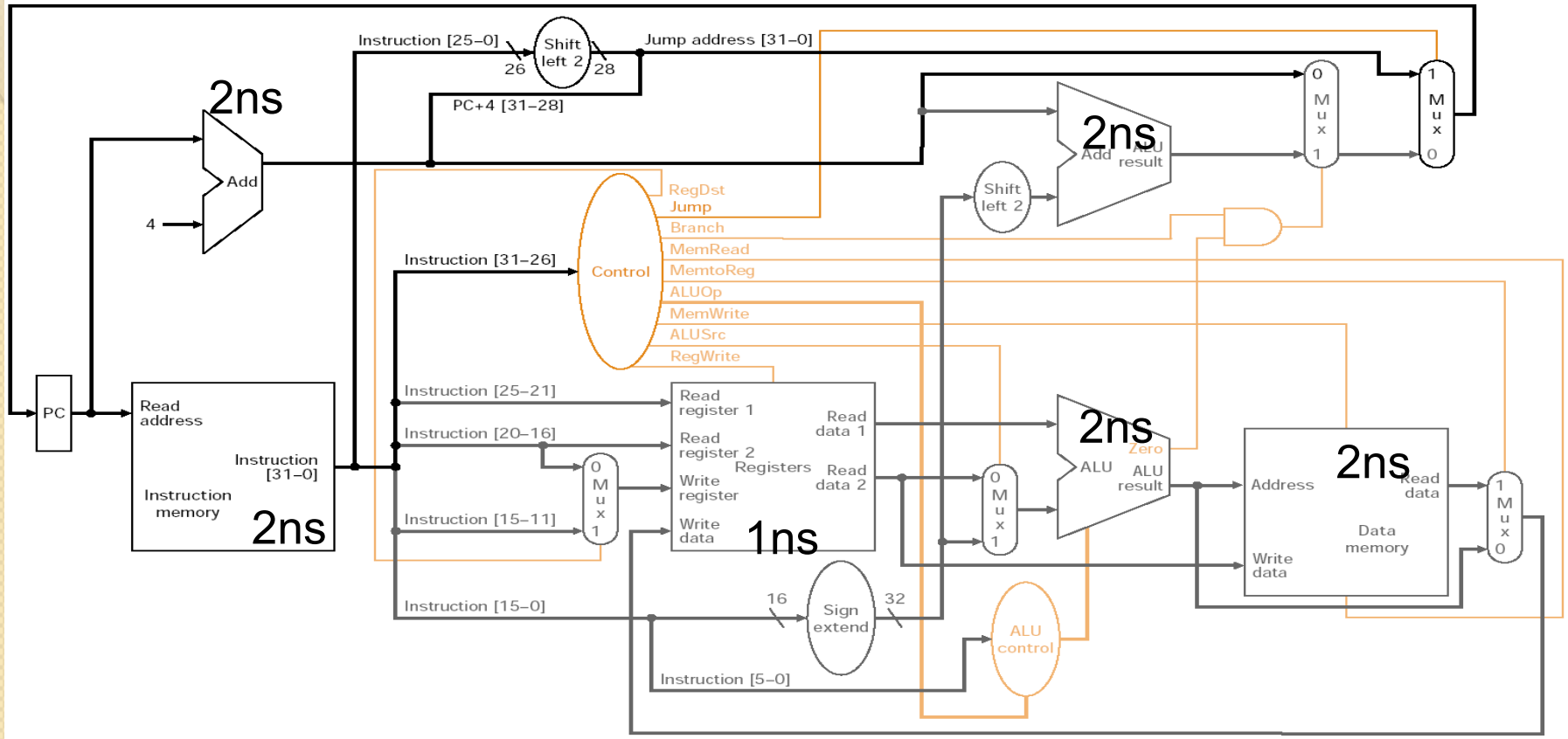
- Subset of the core MIPS ISA
  - Arithmetic/Logic instructions: AND, OR, ADD, SUB, SLT
  - Data flow instructions: LW, SW
  - Branch instructions: BEQ, J
- Five steps in processor design
  - Analyze the instruction
  - Determine the datapath components
  - Assemble the components
  - Determine the control
  - Design the control unit

Complete Single Cycle Datapath



How lw, sw, R-Type, beq, j instructions work?

Delays in Single Cycle Datapath



What are the delays for lw, sw, R-Type, beq, j instructions?

Single Cycle Implementation

- Calculate cycle time assuming negligible delays except:
  - memory (2ns), ALU and adders (2ns), register file access (1ns)

Instruction class	Instruction Fetch	Register Access	ALU	Register/ Memory Access	Register Access	
R-Type	X	X	X	R		6
Load	X	X	X	M	X	8
Store	X	X	X	M		7
Branch	X	X	X			5
Jump	X					2

Remarks on Single Cycle Datapath

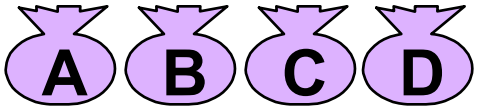
- Single cycle datapath ensures the execution of any instruction within one clock cycle
  - Functional units must be duplicated if used multiple times by one instruction, e.g. ALU Why?
  - Functional units can be shared if used by different instructions
- Single cycle datapath is not efficient in time
  - Clock cycle time is determined by the instruction taking the longest time, eg. lw in MIPS
  - Variable clock cycle time is too complicated
- Alternative design/implementation approaches
  - Multiple clock cycles per instruction –

Outline

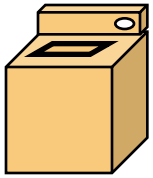
- Today's topic
  - Pipelining is an implementation technique in which multiple instructions are overlapped in execution
  - Subset of MIPS instructions
    - lw, sw, and, or, add, sub, slt, beq
- Outline
  - Pipeline high-level introduction
    - Stages, hazards
  - Pipelined datapath and control design

Pipelining is Natural!

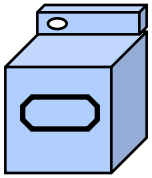
- Laundry example



  - Ann, Brian, Cathy, Dave each has one load of clothes to wash, dry, and fold



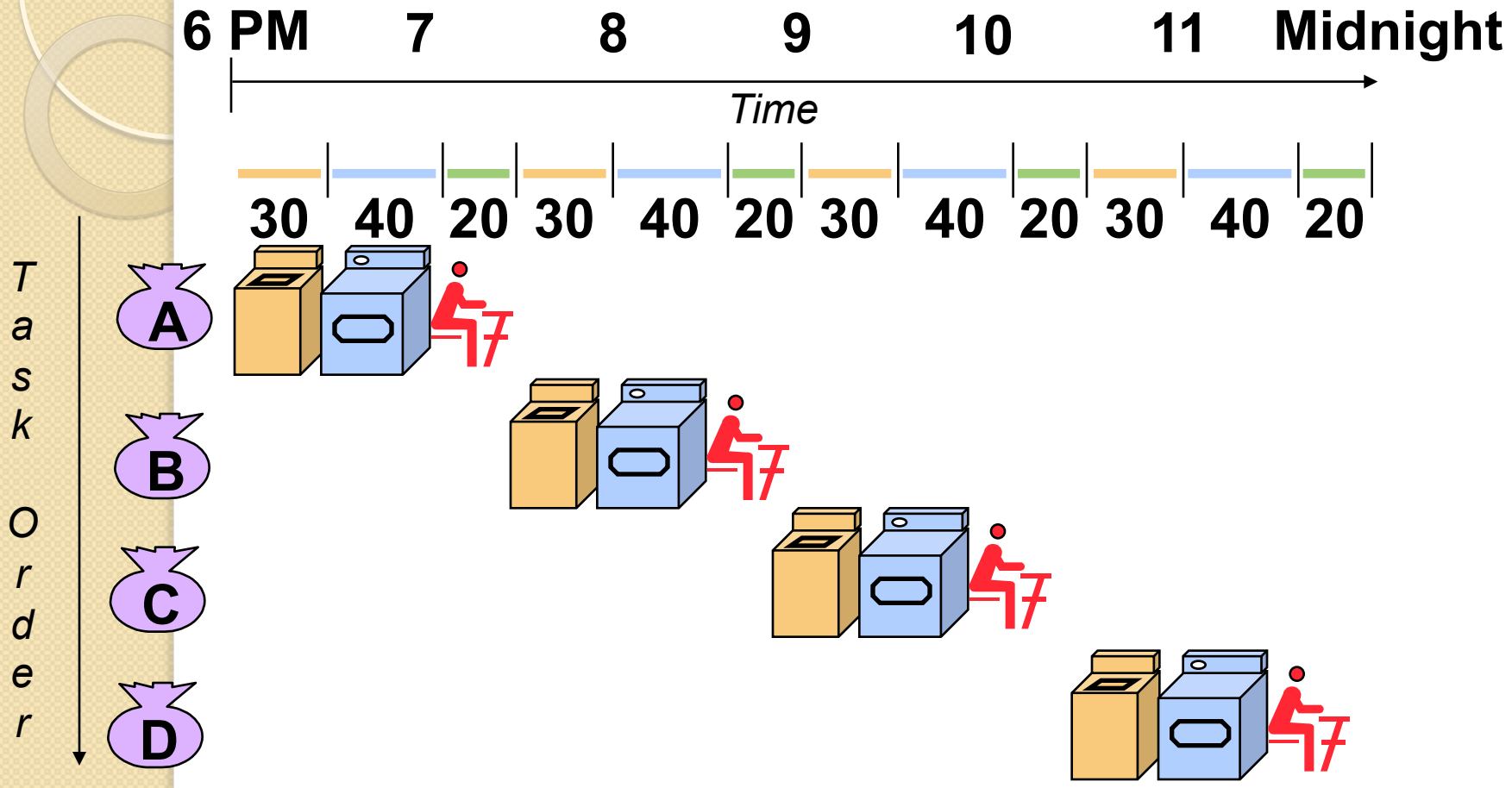
  - Washer takes 30 minutes



  - Dryer takes 40 minutes

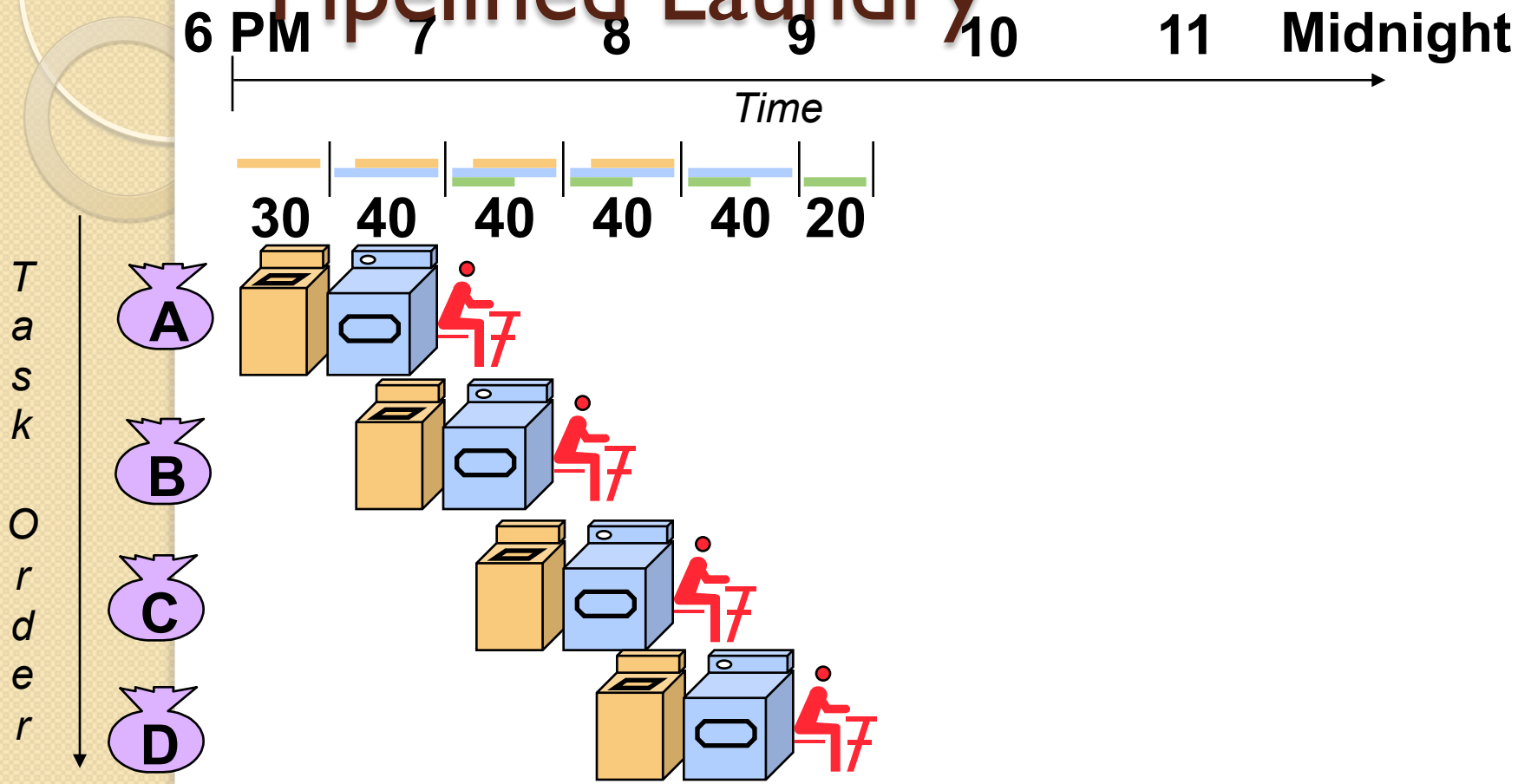
  - "Folder" takes 20 minutes

Sequential Laundry



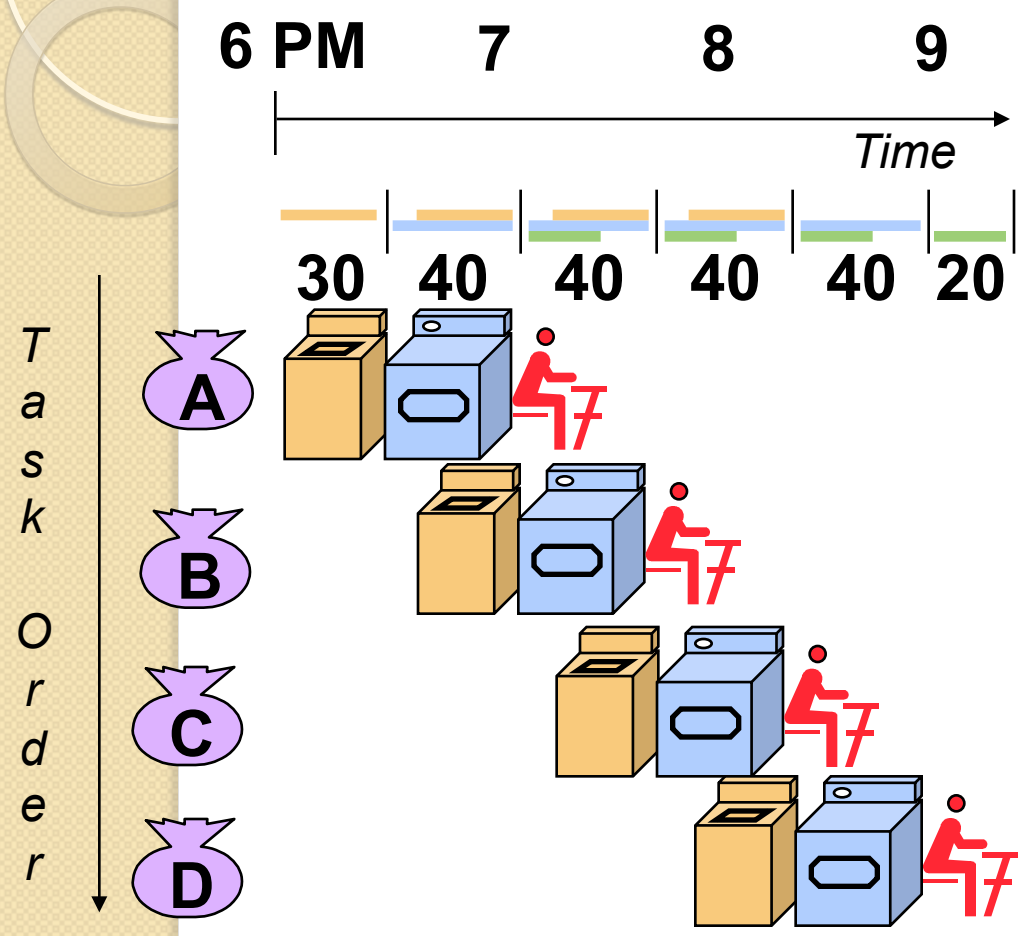
- Sequential laundry takes 6 hours for 4 loads
- If they learned pipelining, how long would laundry take?

Pipelined Laundry



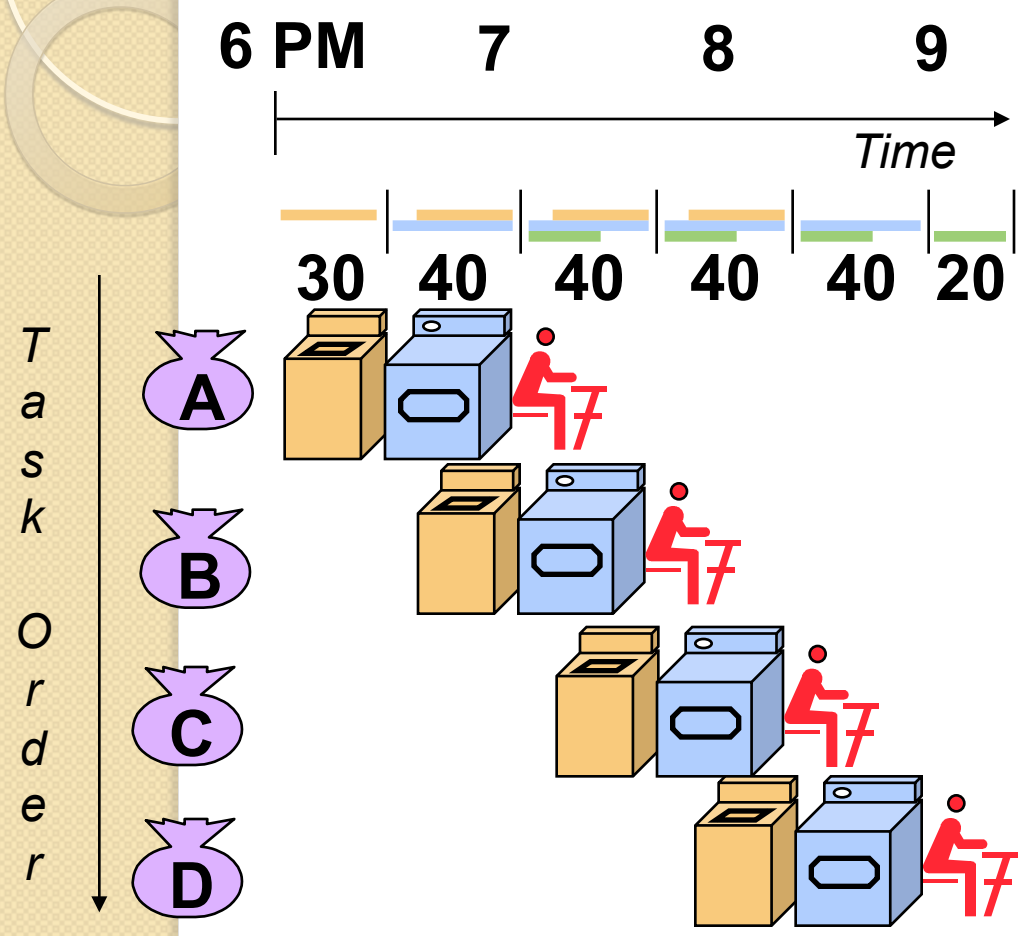
- Start work ASAP
- Pipelined laundry takes 3.5 hours for 4 loads

Pipelining Lessons (I)



- Multiple tasks operating simultaneously using different resources
- Pipelining doesn't help latency of single task, it helps throughput of entire workload
- Pipeline rate is limited by slowest pipeline stage
  - Unbalanced lengths of pipeline stages reduces speedup

Pipelining Lessons (II)



- Potential speedup = Number pipeline stages
- Time to "fill" pipeline and time to "drain" it reduces speedup- startup and wind down
- Stall for dependencies

MIPS Pipeline

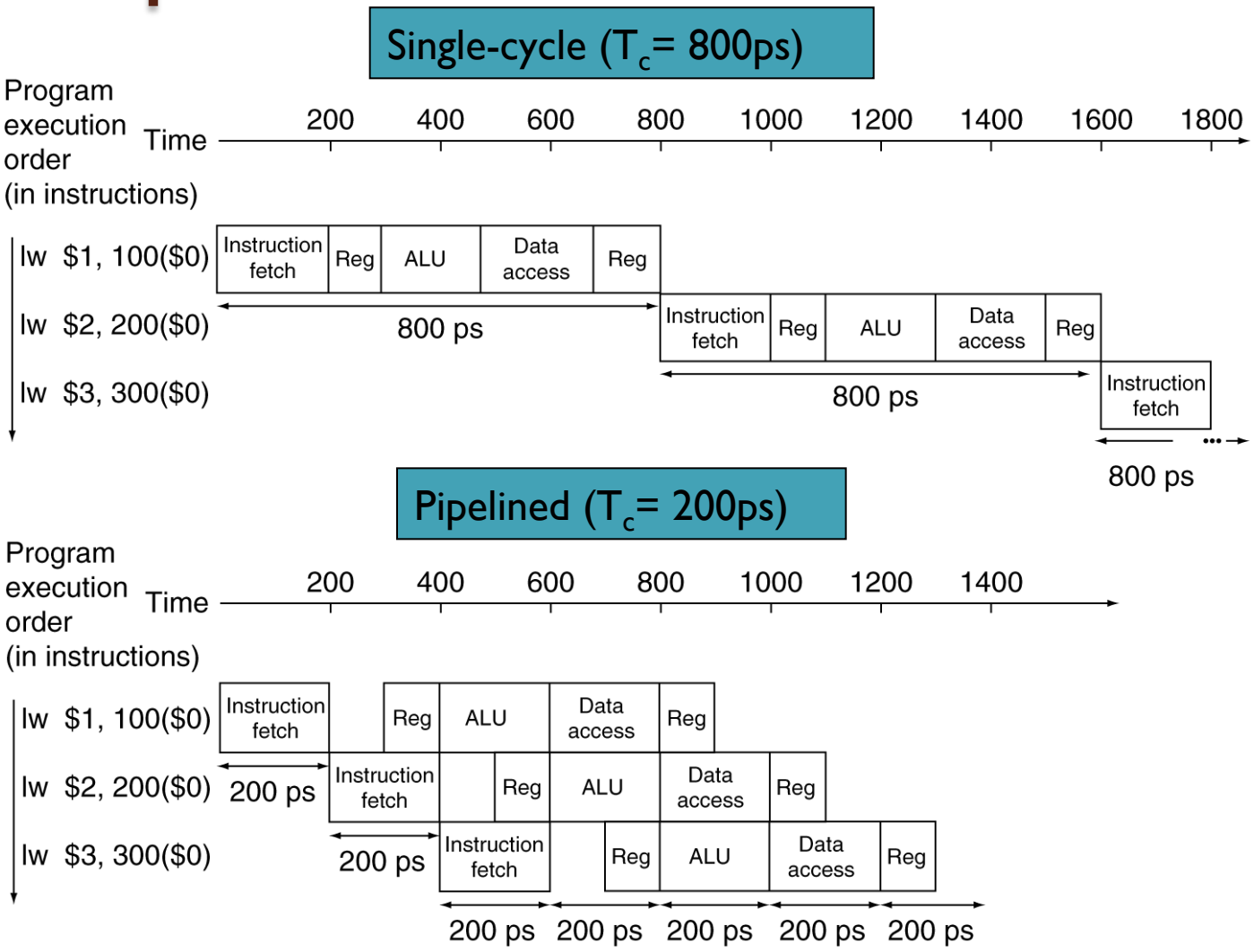
- Five stages, one step per stage
  1. IF: Instruction fetch from memory
  2. ID: Instruction decode & register read
  3. EX: Execute operation or calculate address
  4. MEM: Access memory operand
  5. WB: Write result back to register

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$_{\text{pipelined}}$ = $\dfrac{\text{Time between instructions}_{\text{nonpipelined}}}{\text{Number of stages}}$
- If not balanced, speedup is less
- Speedup due to increased throughput
  - Latency (time for each instruction) does not decrease

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

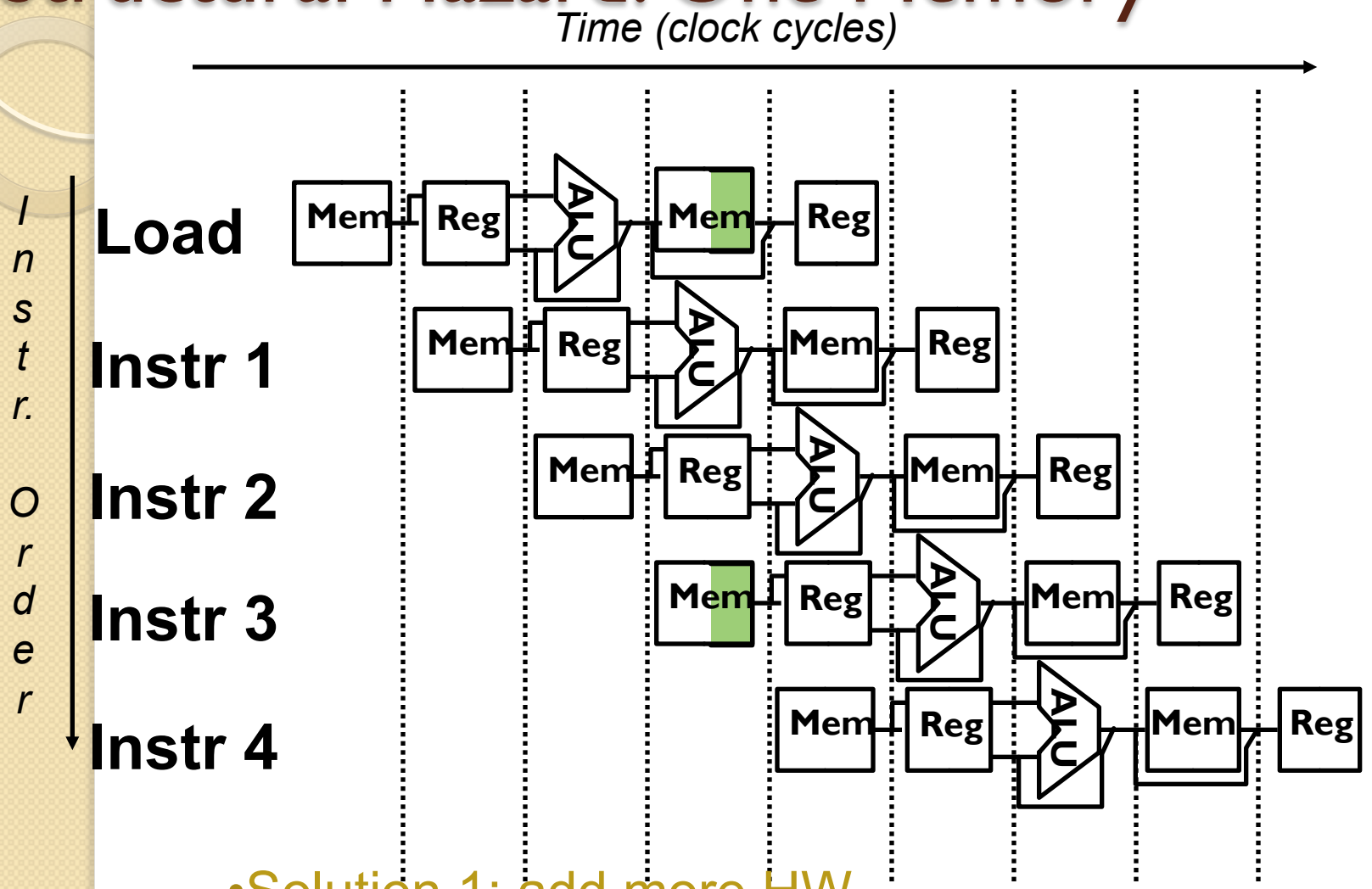
Hazards

- Situations that prevent starting the next instruction in the next cycle
- Structure hazards
  - A required resource is busy
- Data hazard
  - Need to wait for previous instruction to complete its data read/write
- Control hazard
  - Deciding on control action depends on previous instruction

Structure Hazards

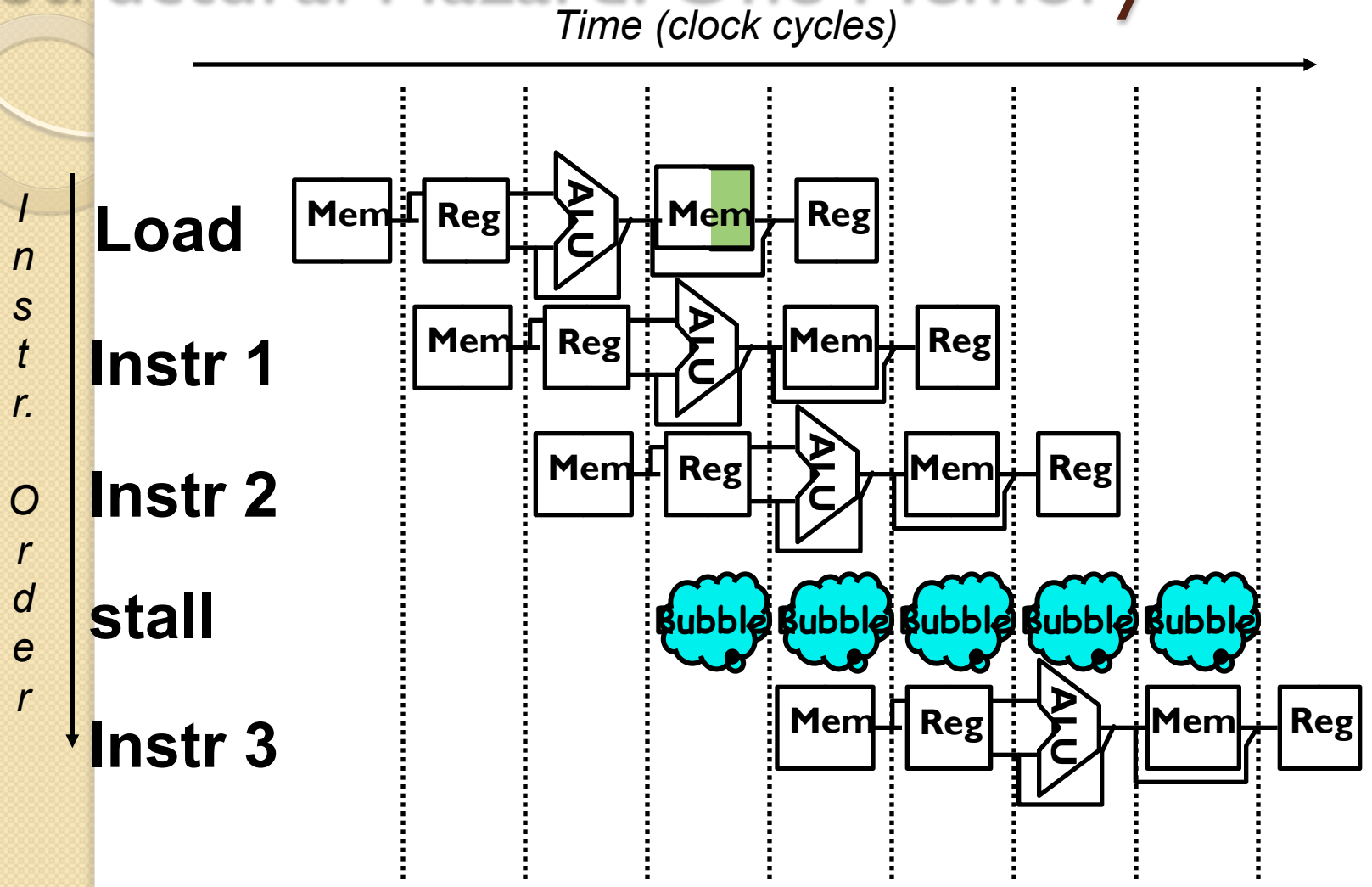
- Conflict for use of a resource
- In MIPS pipeline with a single memory
  - Load/store requires data access
  - Instruction fetch would have to *stall* for that cycle
    - Would cause a pipeline "bubble"
- Hence, pipelined datapaths require separate instruction/data memories
  - Or separate instruction/data caches

Structural Hazard: One Memory



- Solution 1: add more HW
- Hazards can always be resolved by waiting

Structural Hazard: One Memory



- Hazards can always be resolved by waiting

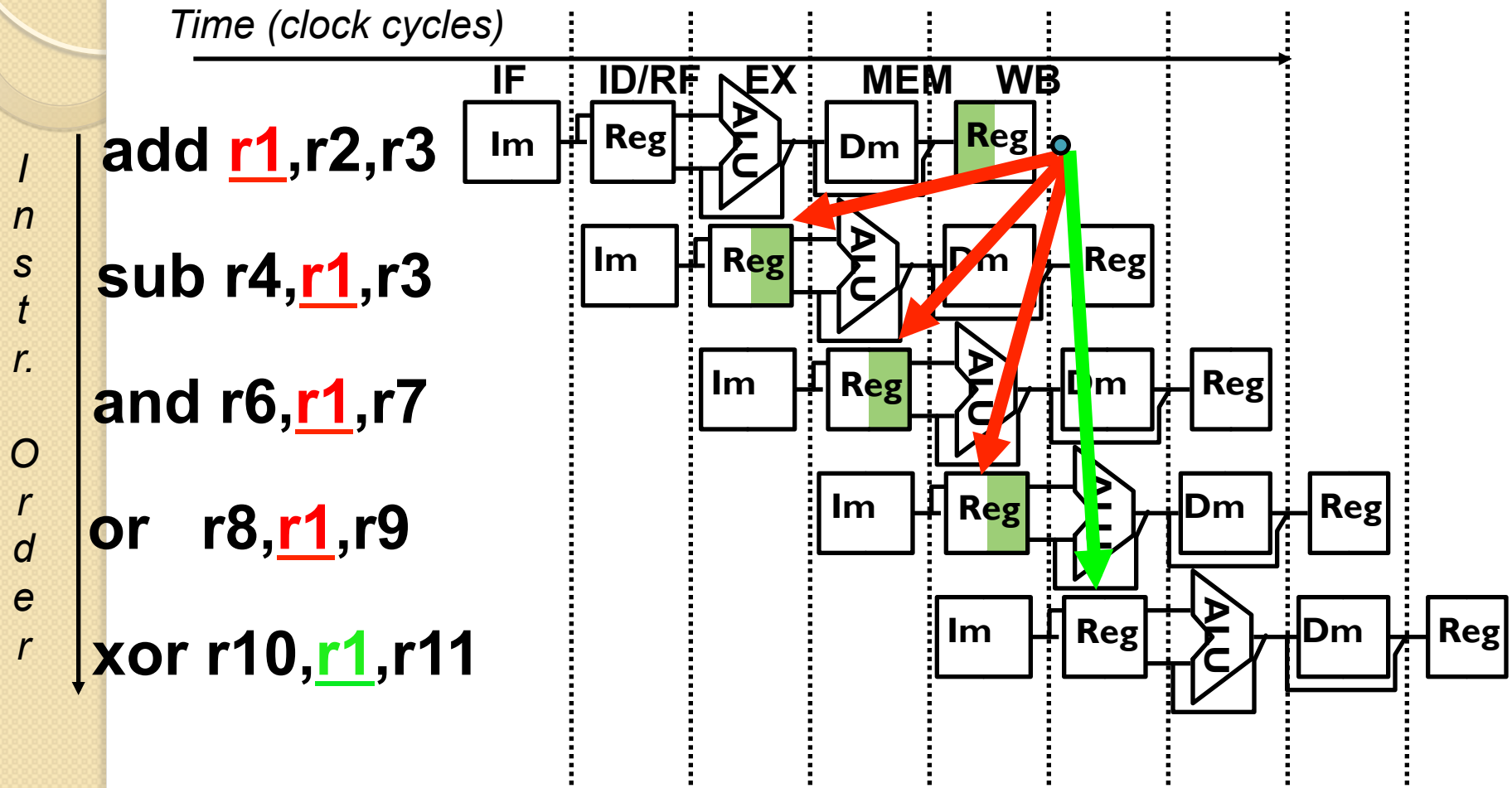
Data Hazard Example

- Data hazard: an instruction depends on the result of a previous instruction still in the pipeline

```
add r1 ,r2,r3
sub r4, r1 ,r3
and r6, r1 ,r7
or  r8, r1 ,r9
xor r10, r1 ,r11
```

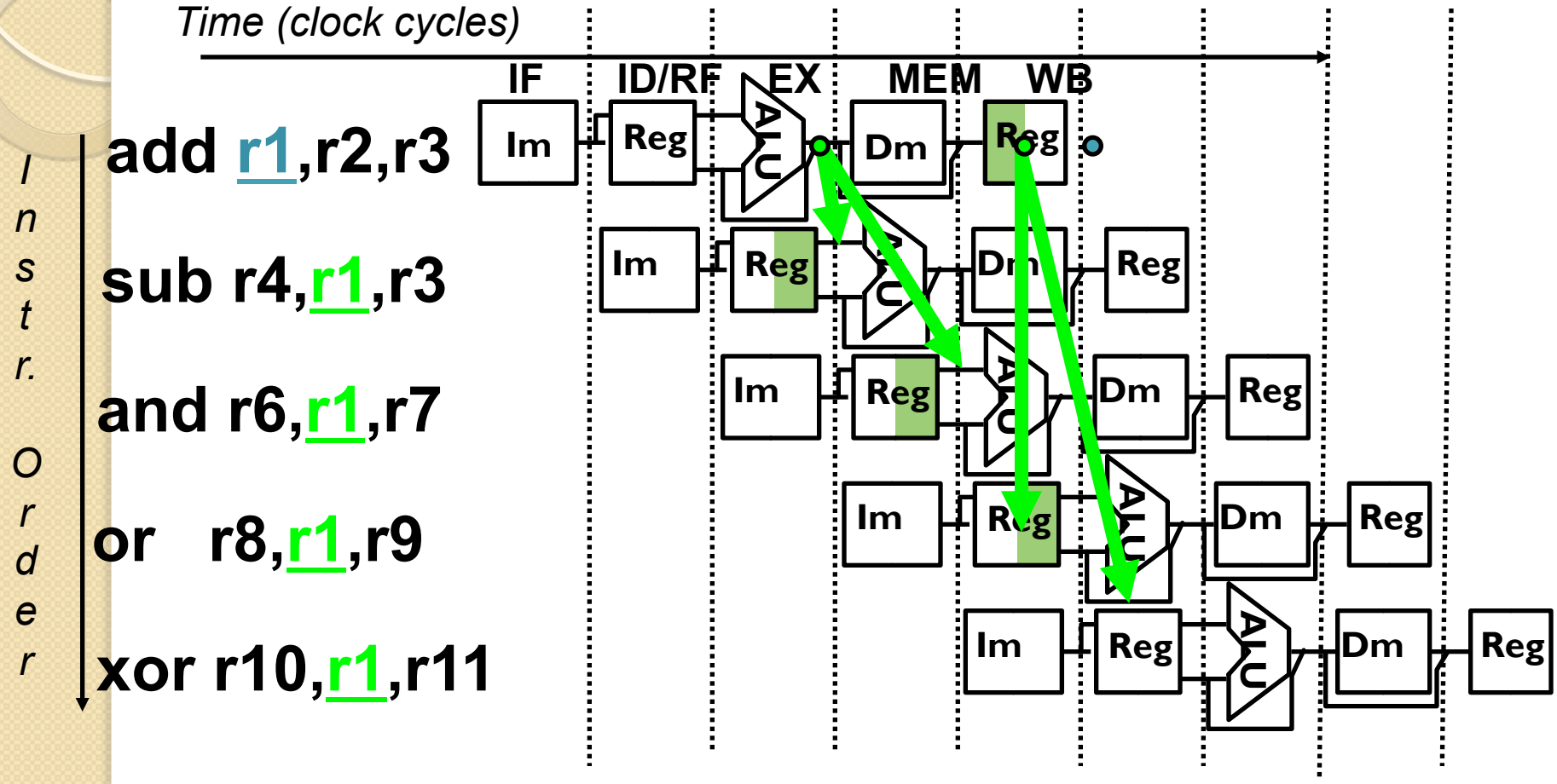
Data Hazard Example

- Dependences backward in time are hazards



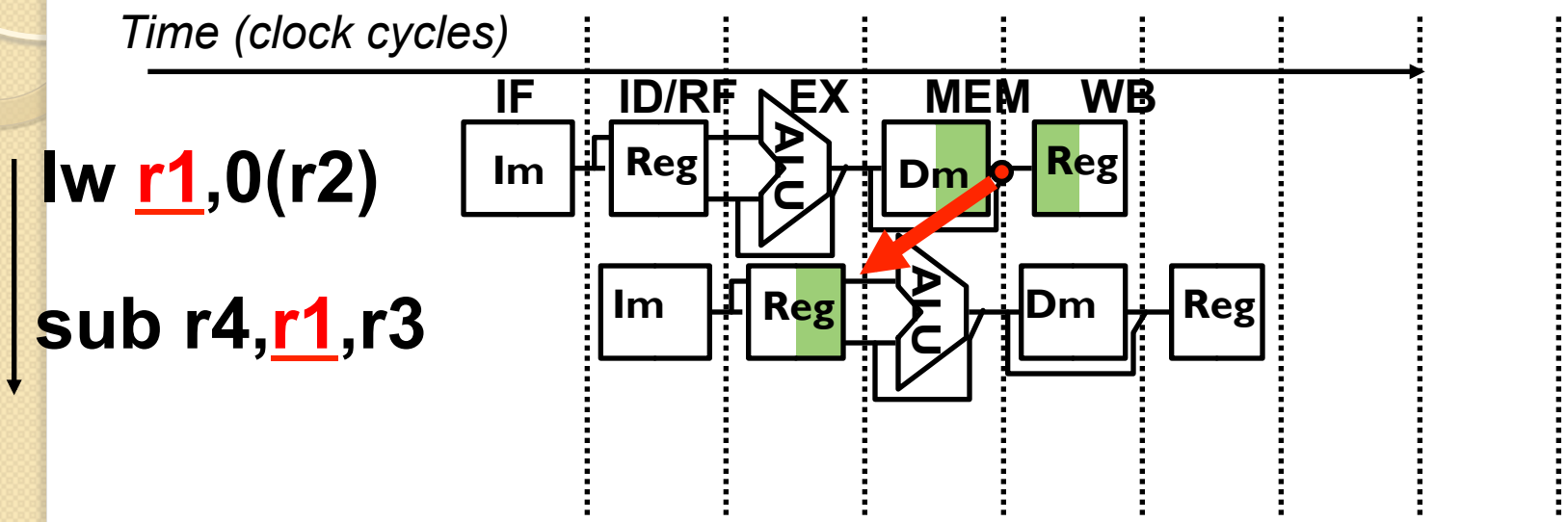
- Compilers can help, but it gets messy and difficult

Data Hazard Solution



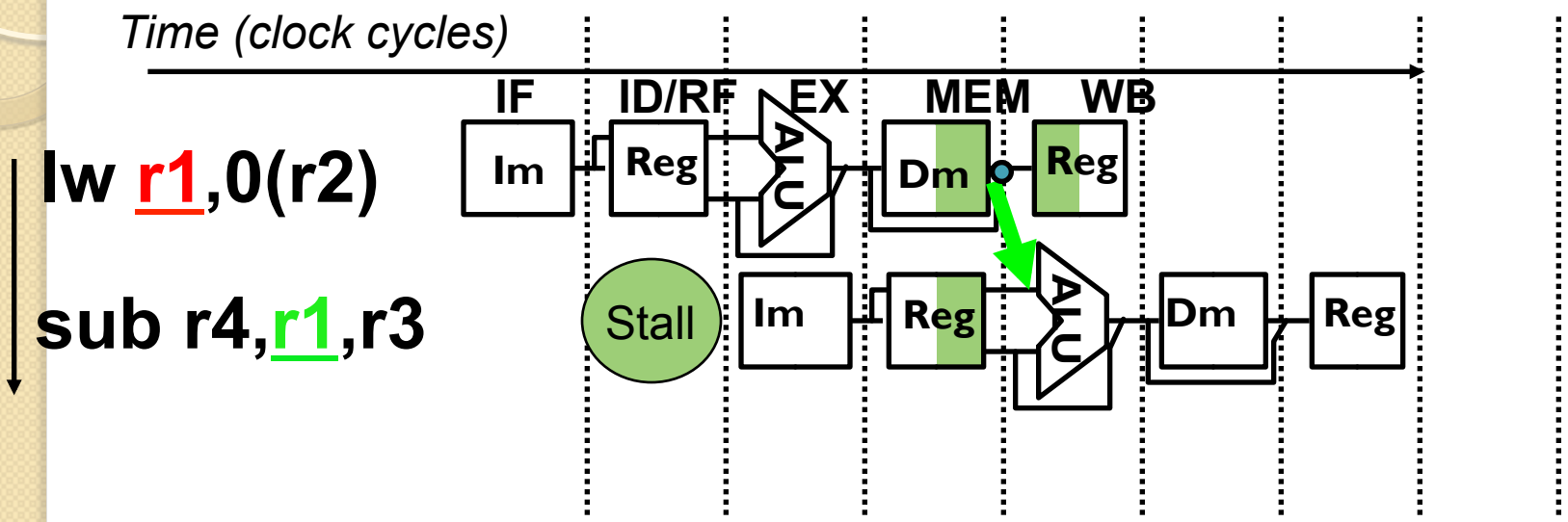
- Solution :"forward" result from one stage to another

Data Hazard Even with Forwarding



- Can't go back in time! Must delay/stall instruction dependent on loads

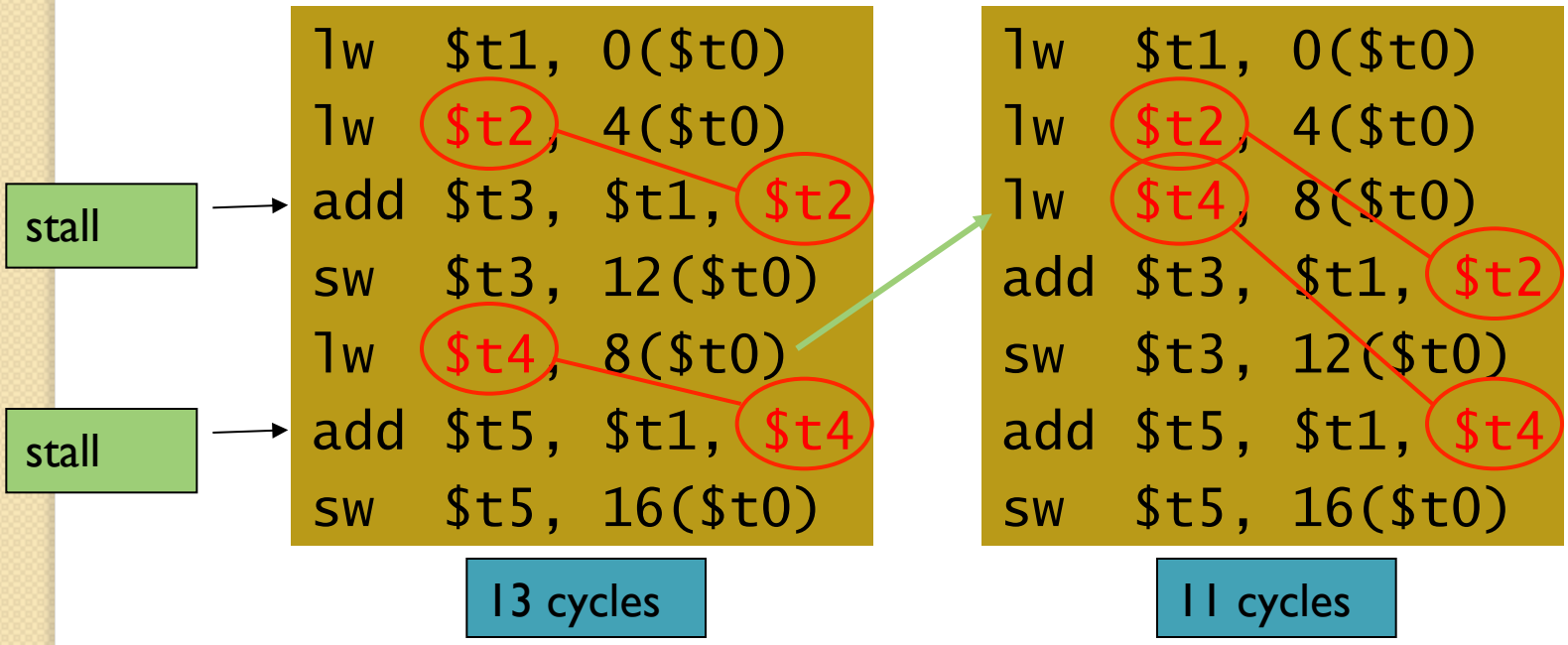
Data Hazard Even with Forwarding



- Must delay/stall instruction dependent on loads
- Sometimes the instruction sequence can be reordered to avoid pipeline stalls

Code Scheduling to Avoid Stalls

- Reorder code to avoid use of load result in the next instruction
- C code for A = B + E; C = B + F;

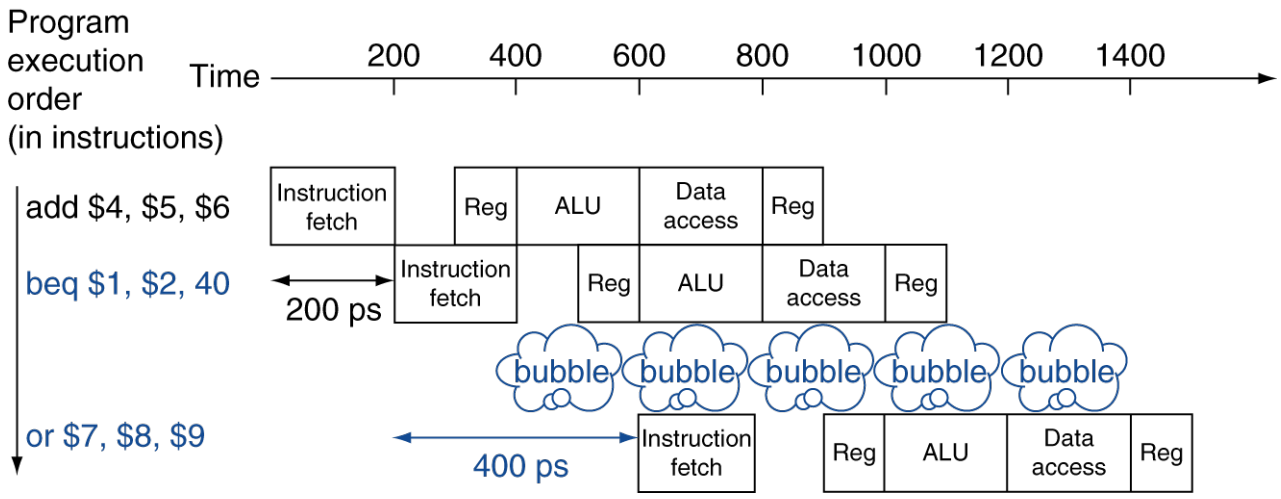


Control Hazards

- Branch determines flow of control
  - Fetching next instruction depends on branch outcome
  - Pipeline can't always fetch correct instruction
    - Still working on ID stage of branch
- In MIPS pipeline
  - Need to compare registers and compute target early in the pipeline
  - Add hardware to do it in ID stage

Stall on Branch

- Wait until branch outcome determined before fetching next instruction



Branch Prediction

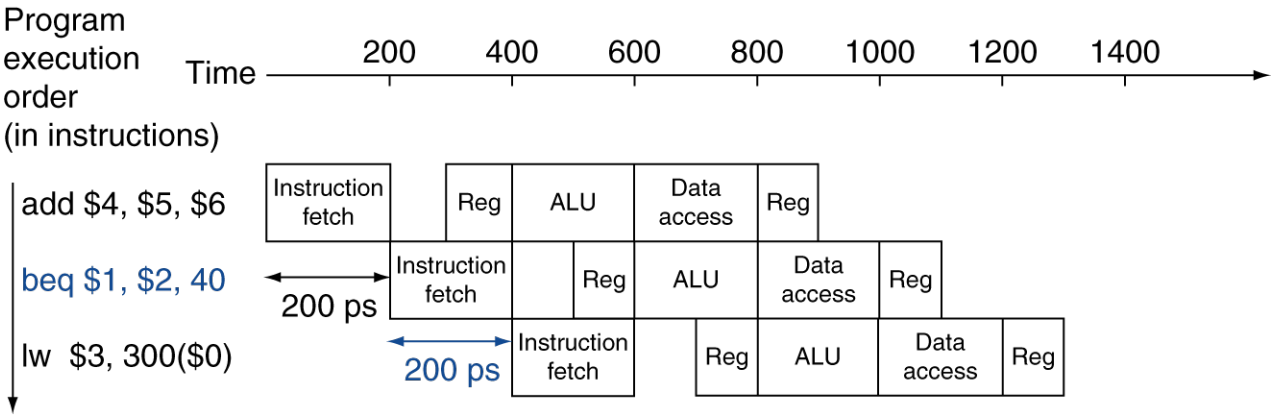
- Longer pipelines can't readily determine branch outcome early
  - Stall penalty becomes unacceptable
- Predict outcome of branch
  - Only stall if prediction is wrong
- In MIPS pipeline
  - Can predict branches not taken
  - Fetch instruction after branch, with no delay

Control Hazard Solution: Predict

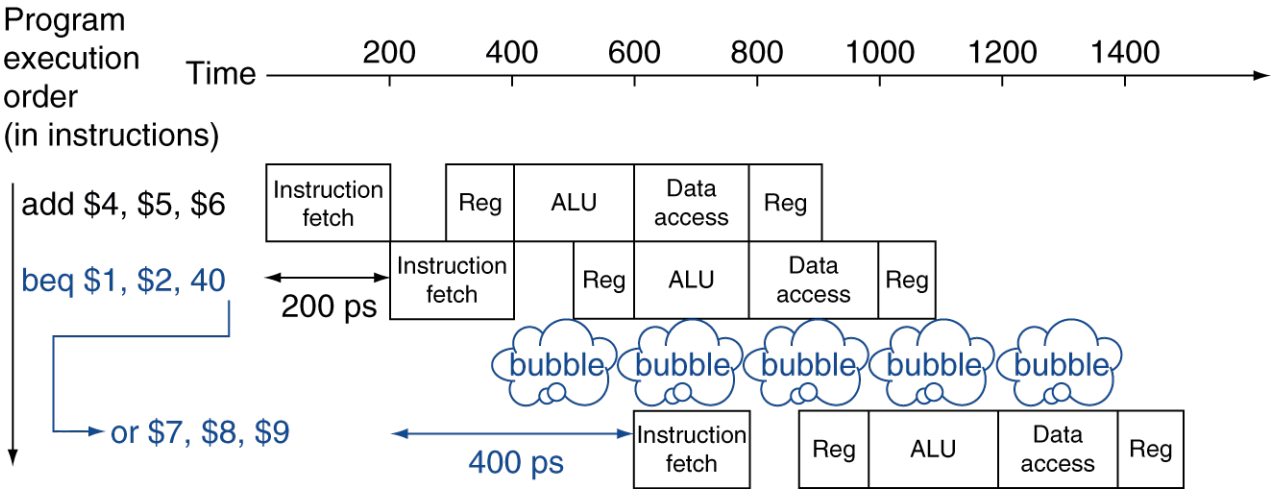
- Predict: guess one direction then back up if wrong
- Impact: 0 lost cycles per branch instruction if right, 1 if wrong
  - Need to "Squash" and restart following instruction if wrong
- Prediction scheme
  - Random prediction: correct - 50% of time
  - History-based prediction: correct- 90% of time

MIPS with Predict Not Taken

Prediction correct



Prediction incorrect



More-Realistic Branch Prediction

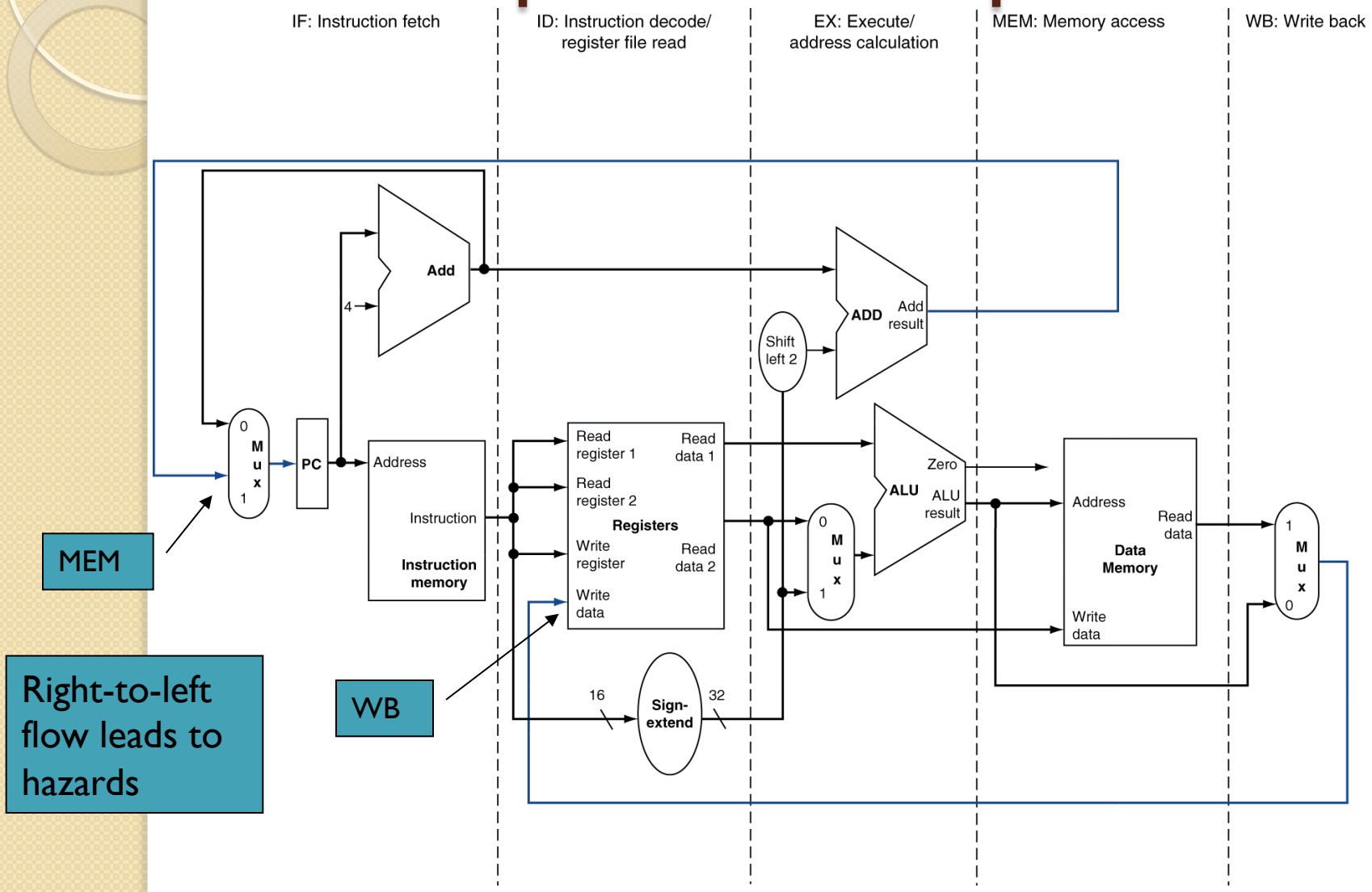
- Static branch prediction
  - Based on typical branch behavior
  - Example: loop and if-statement branches
    - Predict backward branches taken
    - Predict forward branches not taken
- Dynamic branch prediction
  - Hardware measures actual branch behavior
    - e.g., record recent history of each branch
  - Assume future behavior will continue the trend
    - When wrong, stall while re-fetching, and update history

Pipeline Summary

The BIG Picture

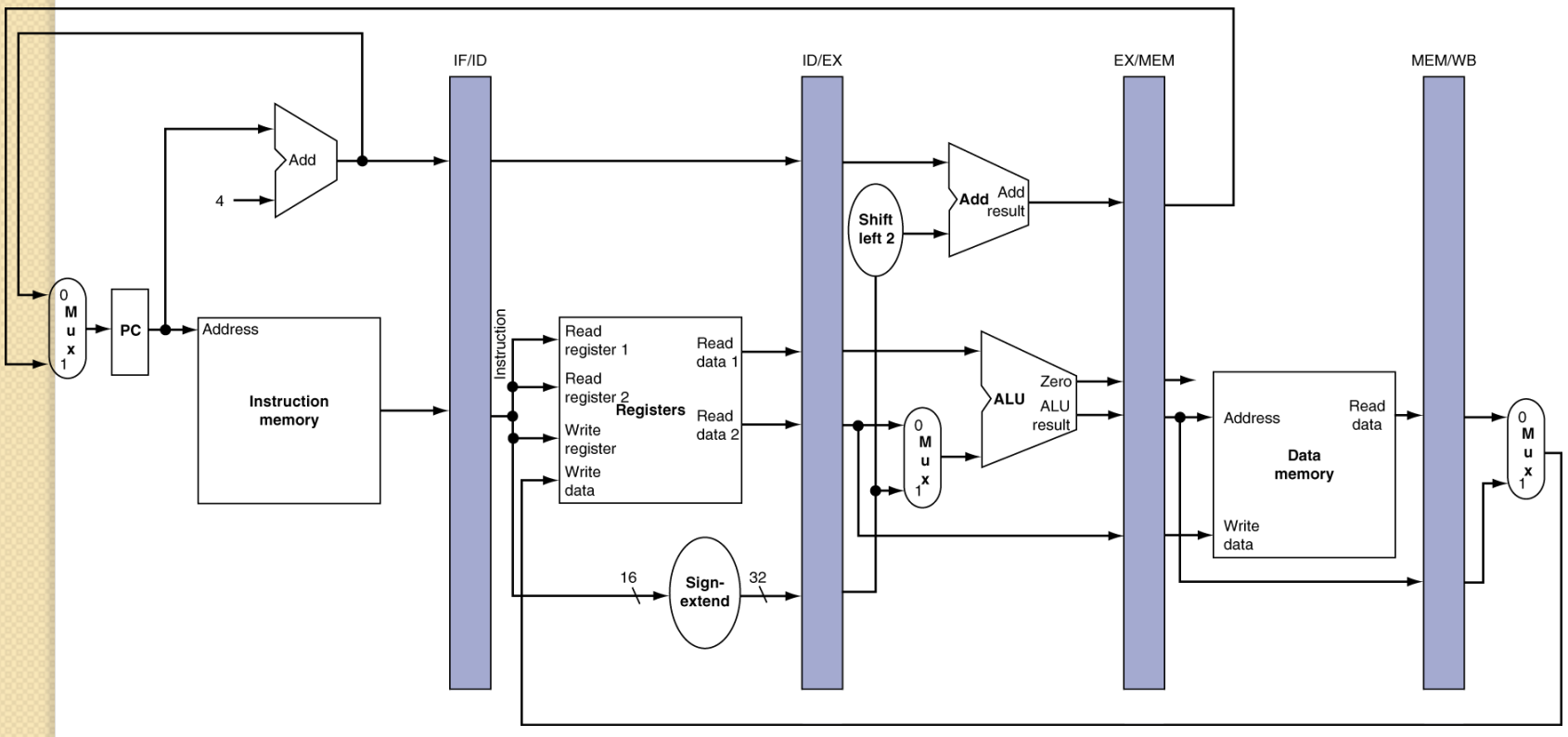
- Pipelining improves performance by increasing instruction throughput
  - Executes multiple instructions in parallel
  - Each instruction has the same latency
- Subject to hazards
  - Structure, data, control
- Instruction set design affects complexity of pipeline implementation

MIPS Pipelined Datapath



Pipeline registers

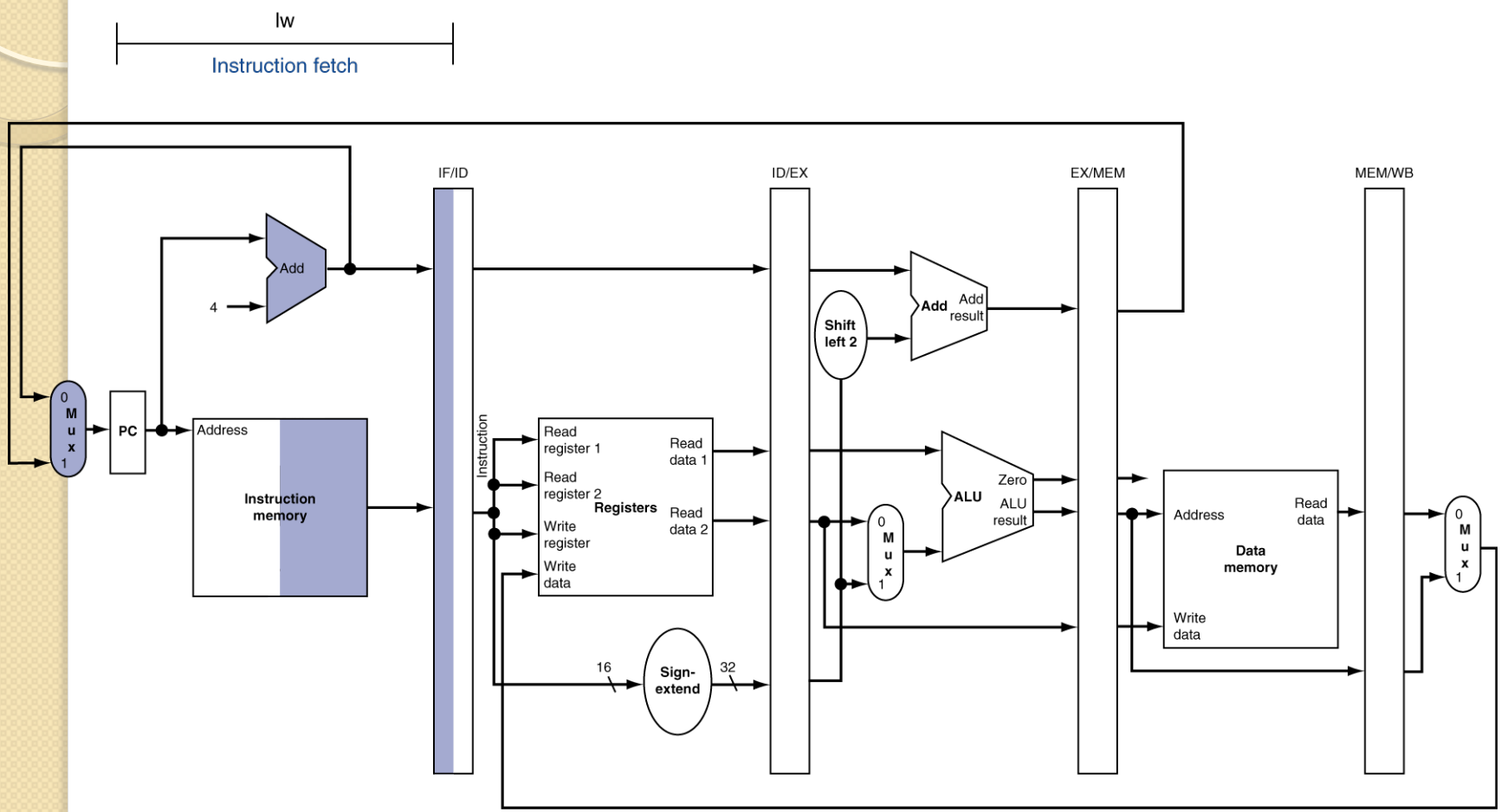
- Need registers between stages
  - To hold information produced in previous cycle



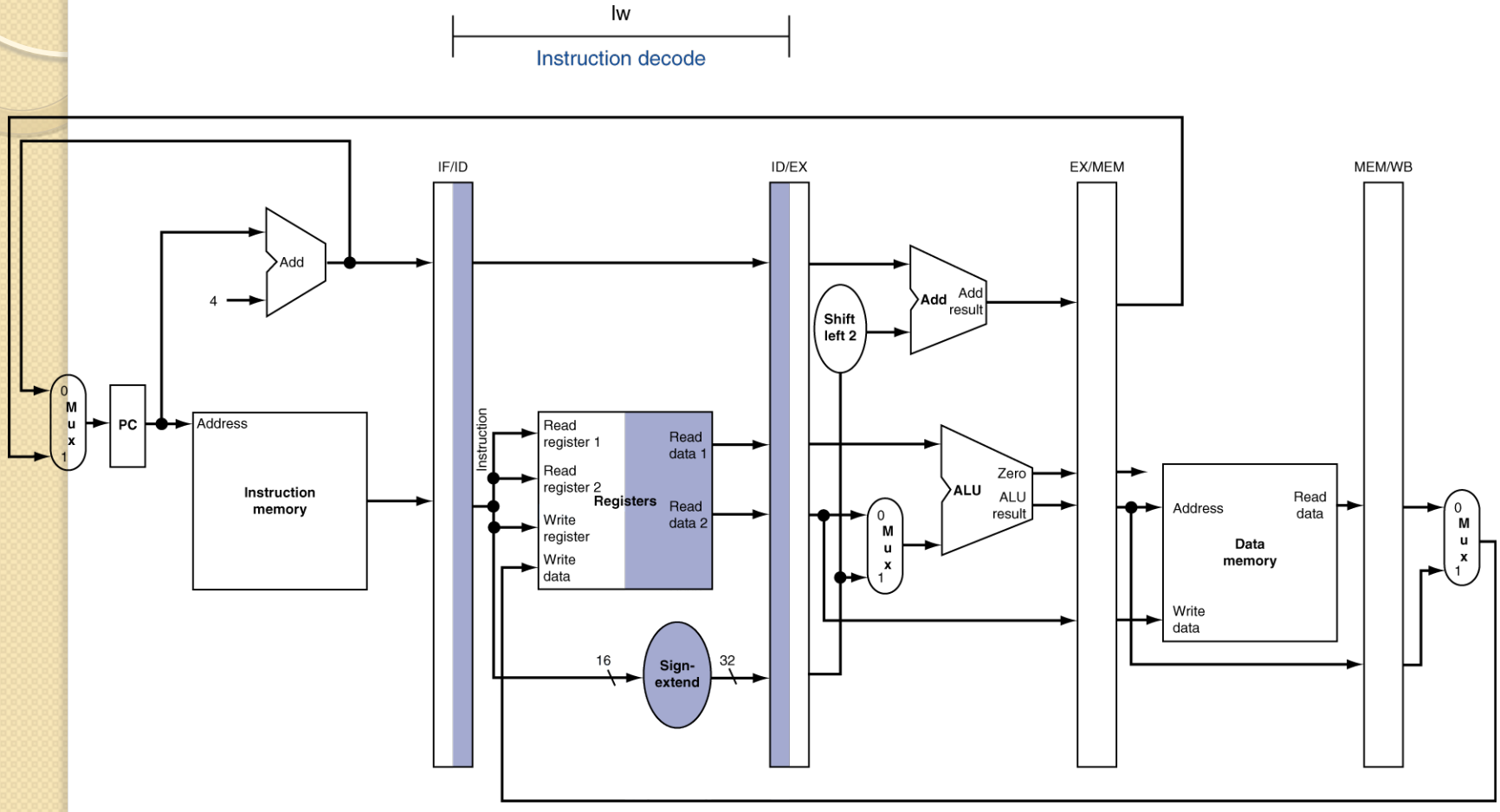
Pipeline Operation

- 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

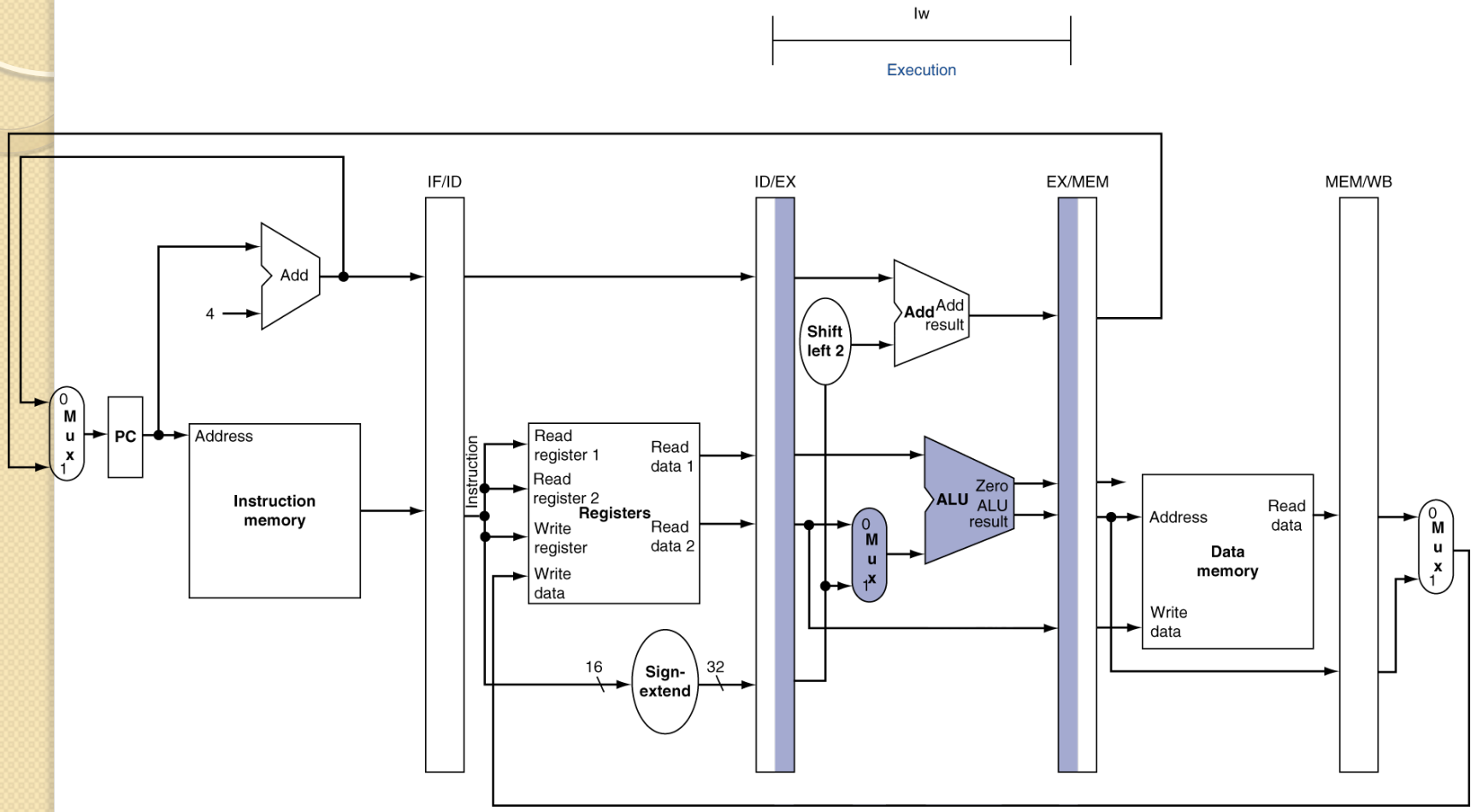
IF for Load, Store, …



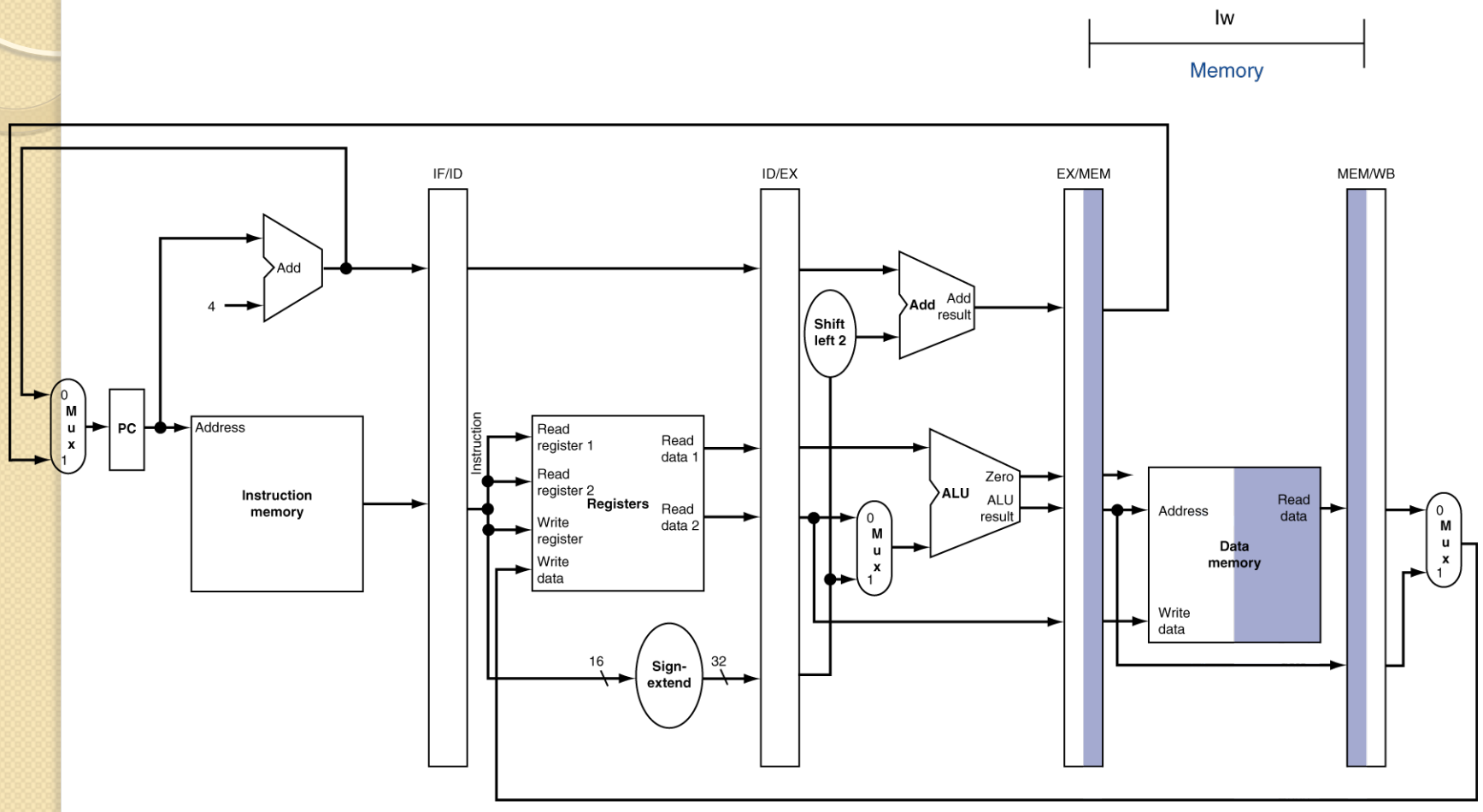
ID for Load, Store, …



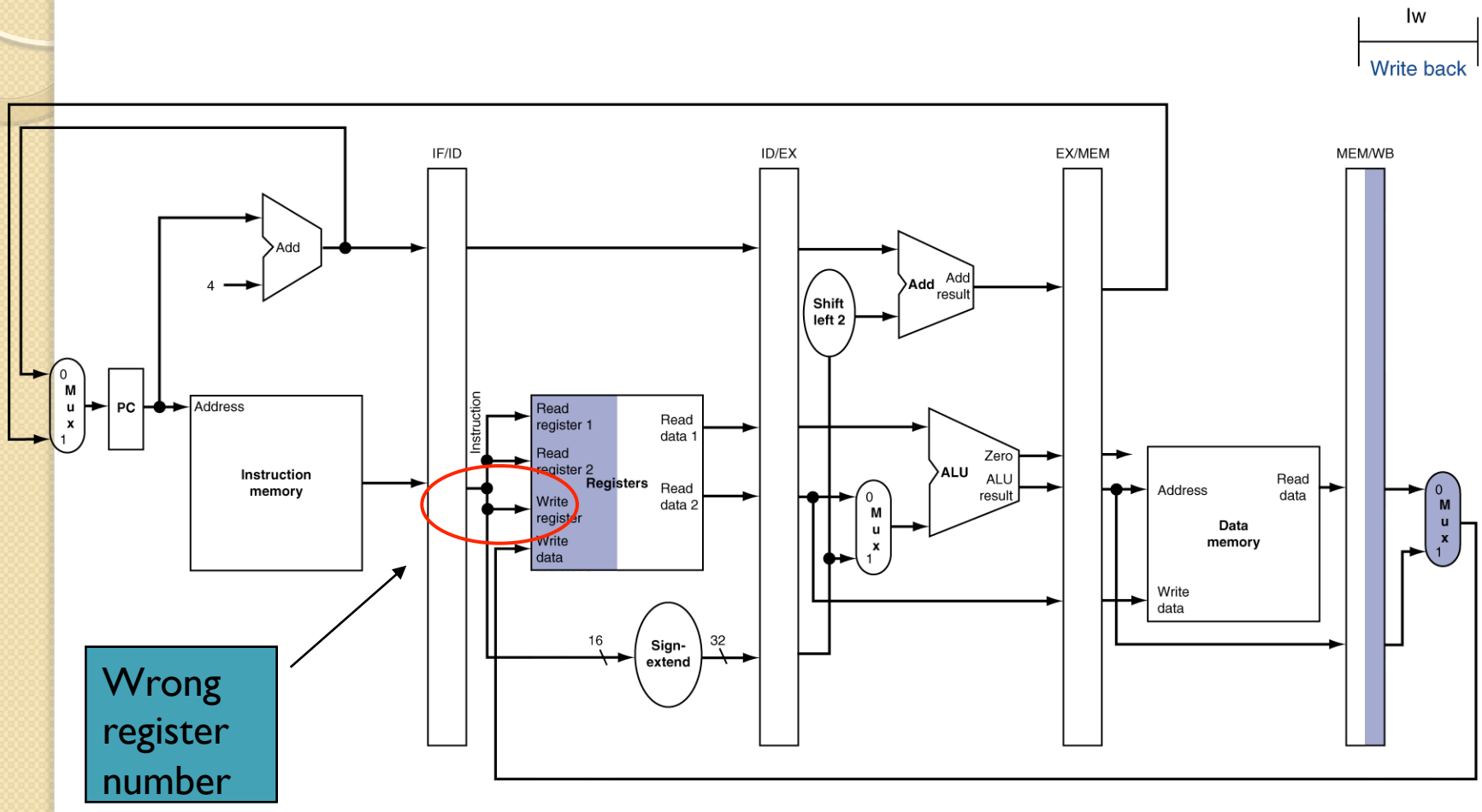
EX for Load


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

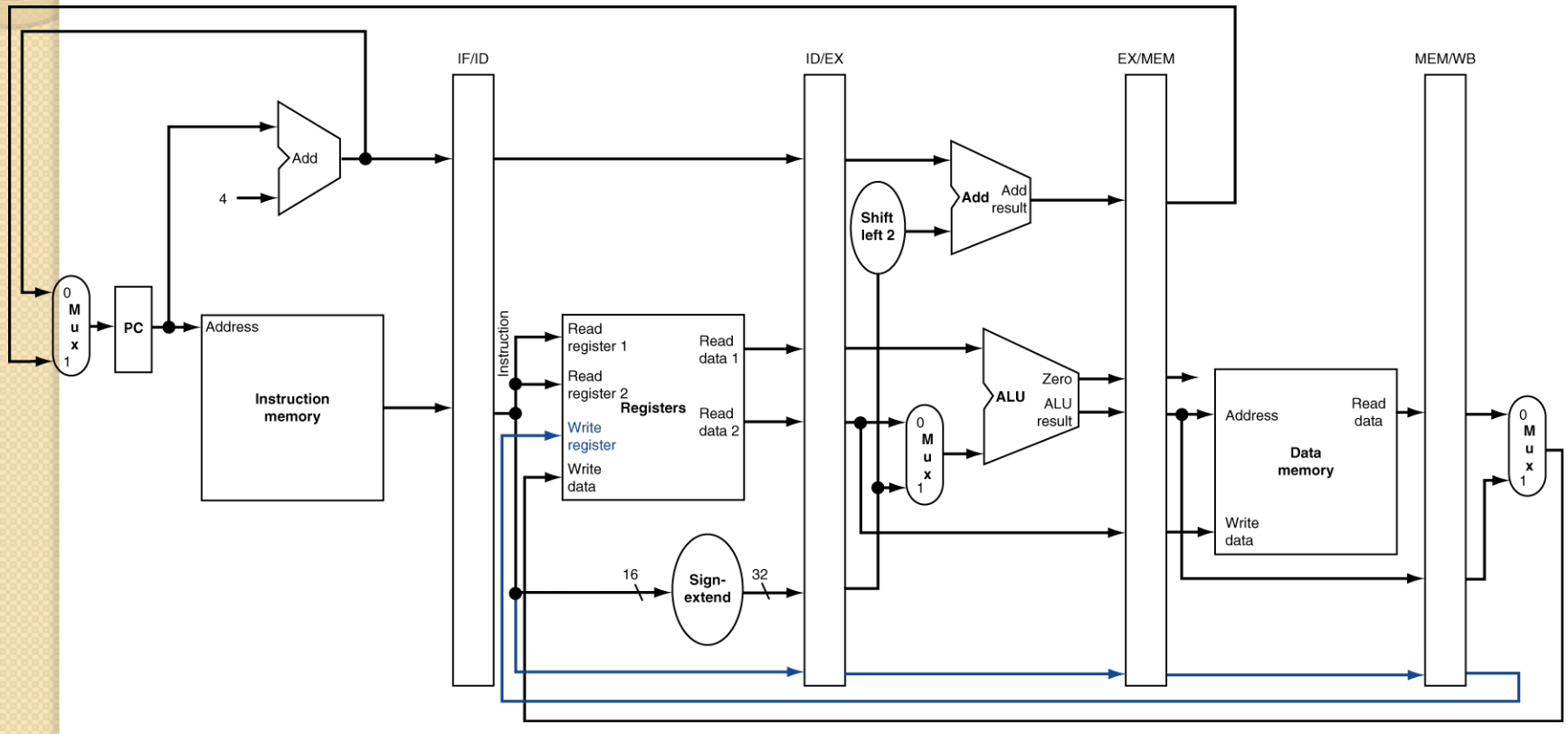
MEM for Load


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
Data memory
Read data
Write data

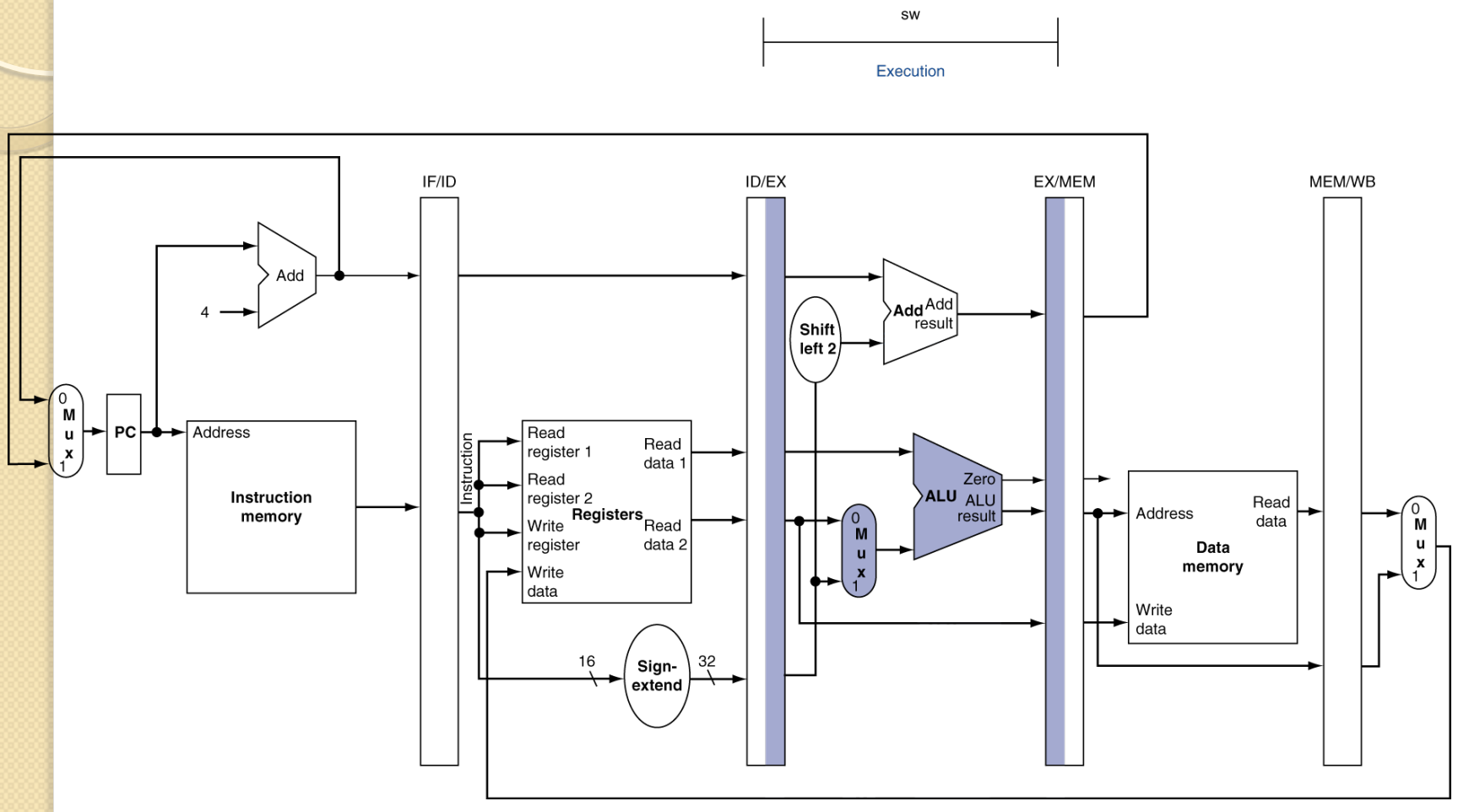
WB for Load


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

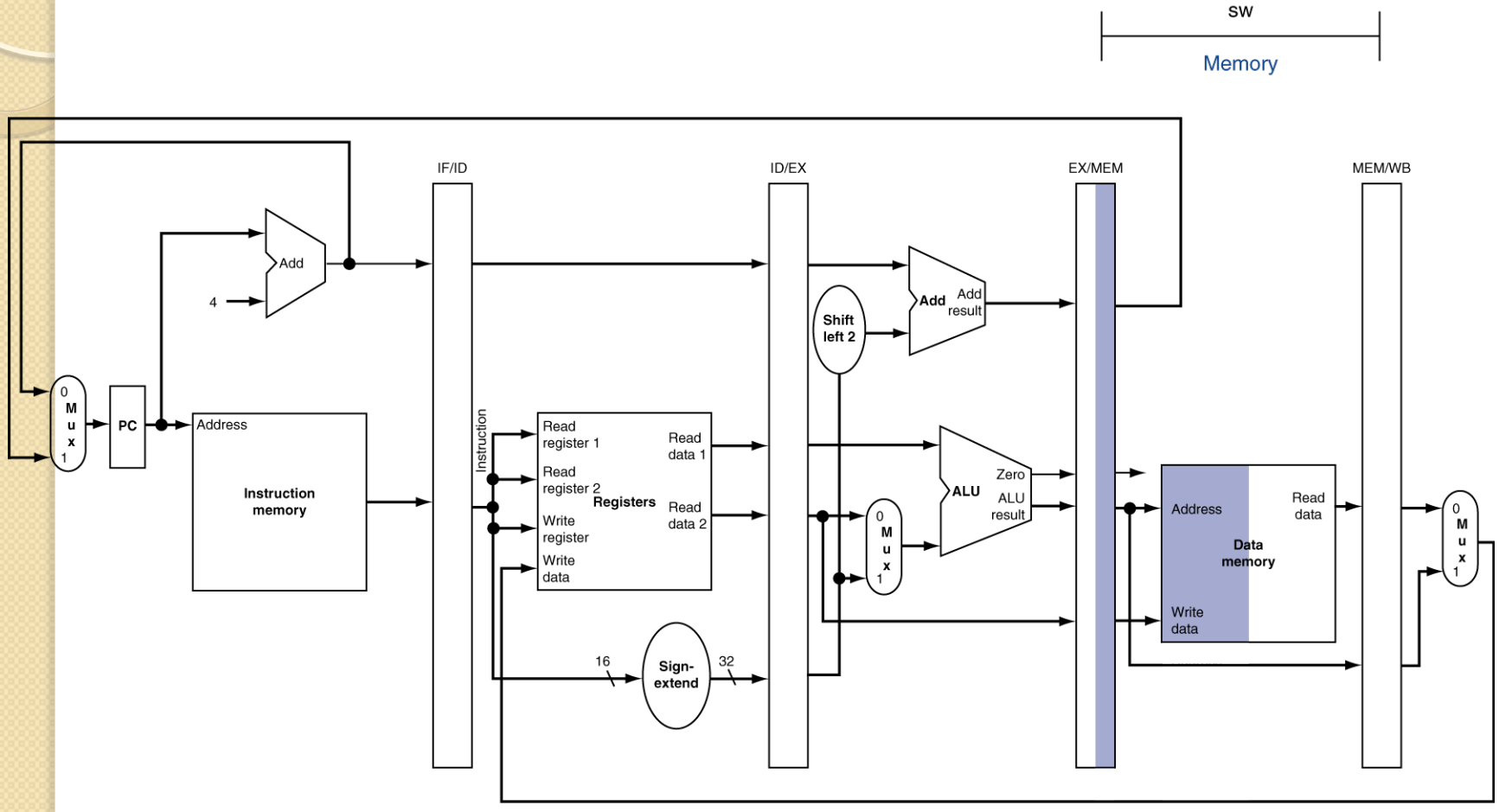
Corrected Datapath for Load



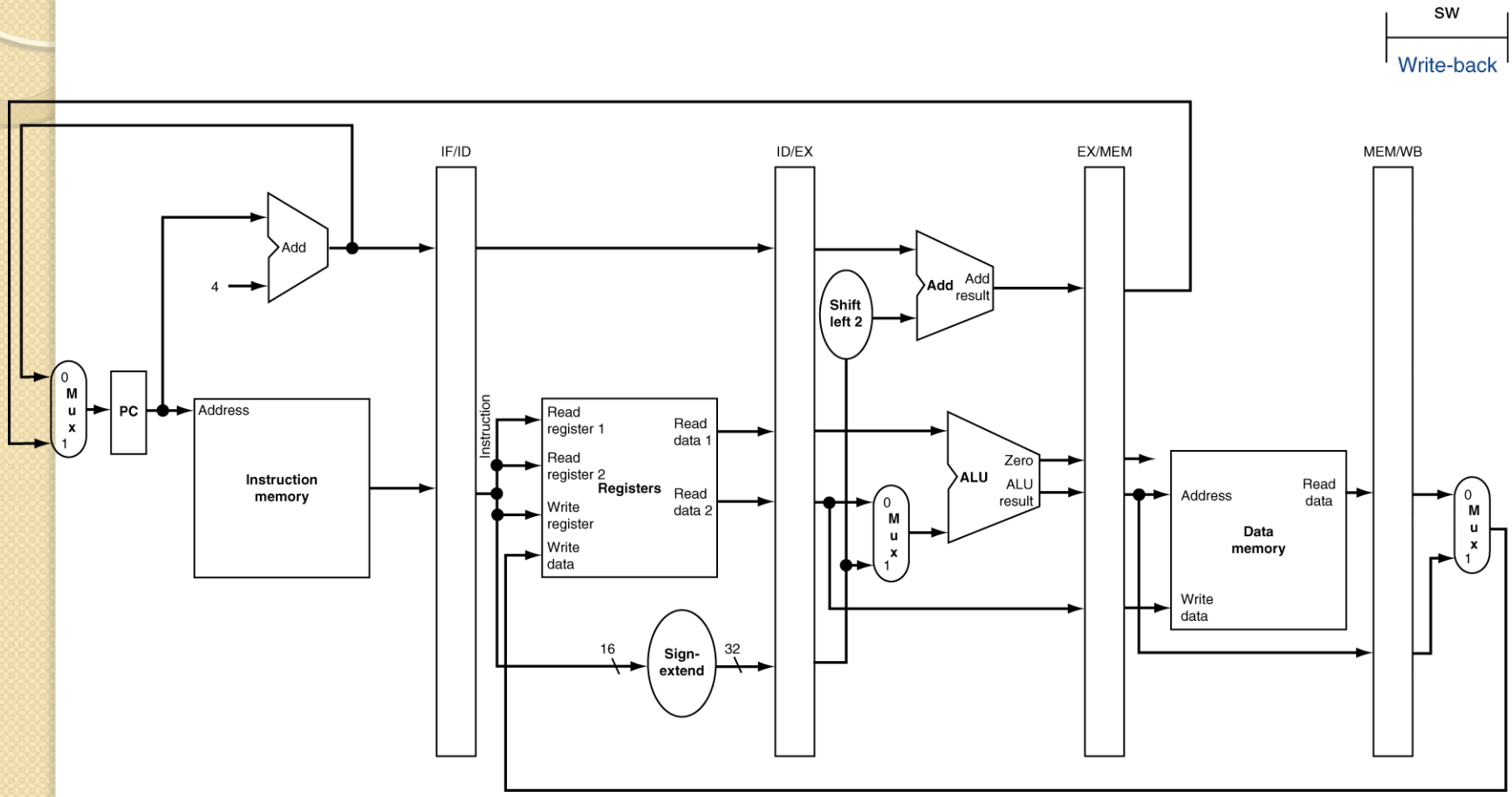
EX for Store


sw
Execution
IF/ID
ID/EX
EX/MEM
MEM/WB
Add
4
0
M
u
x
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

MEM for Store

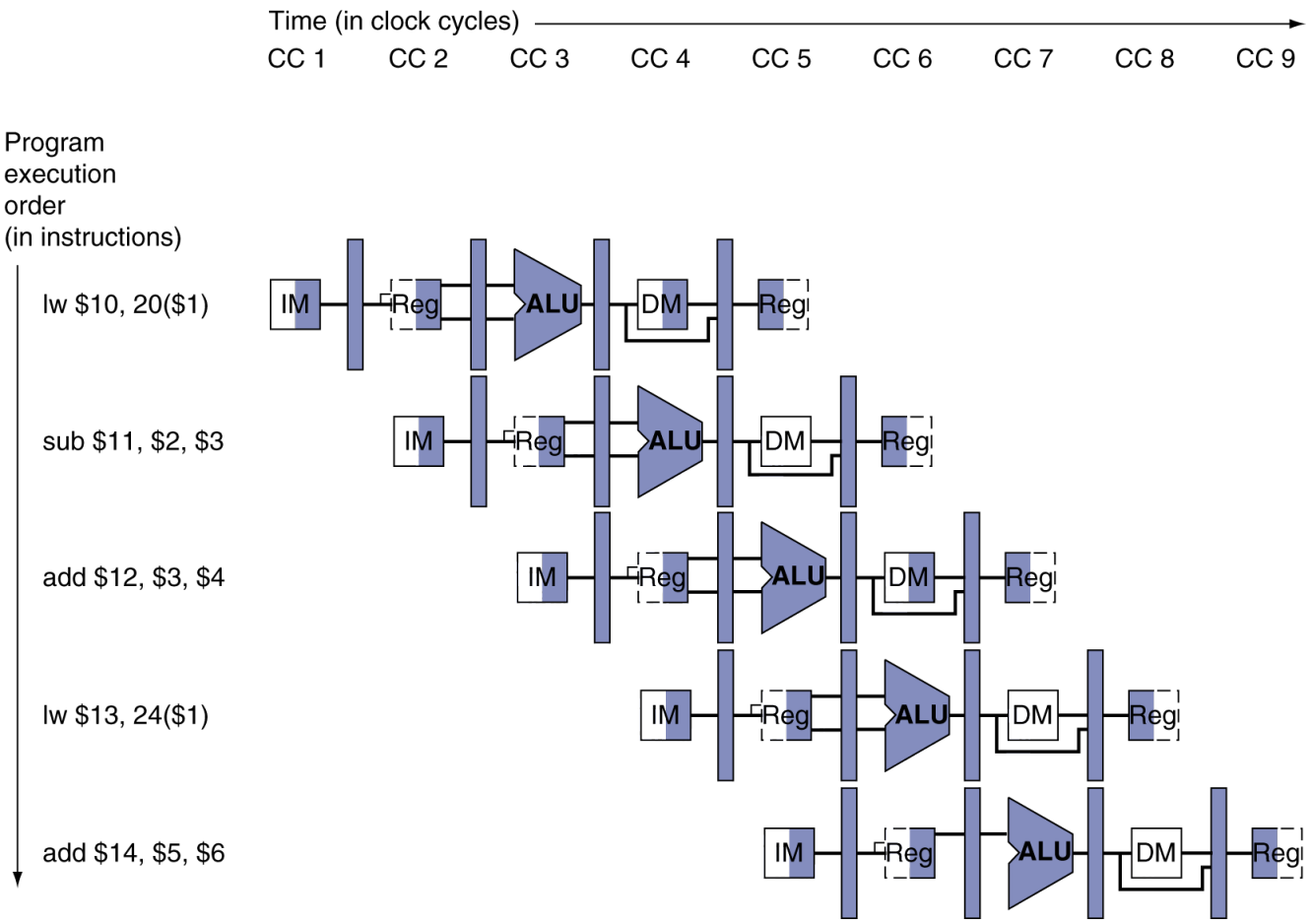


WB for Store


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

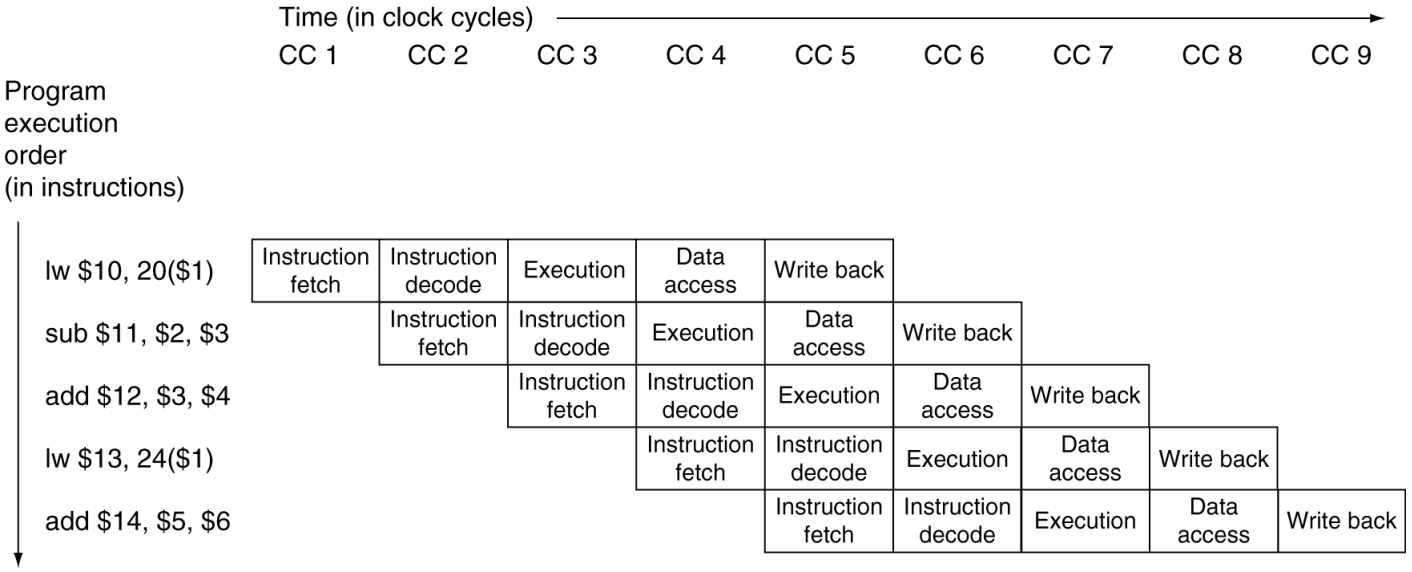
Multi-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

- Form showing resource usage



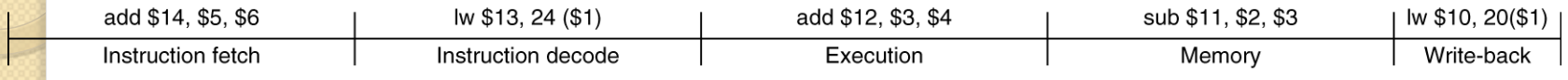
Multi-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

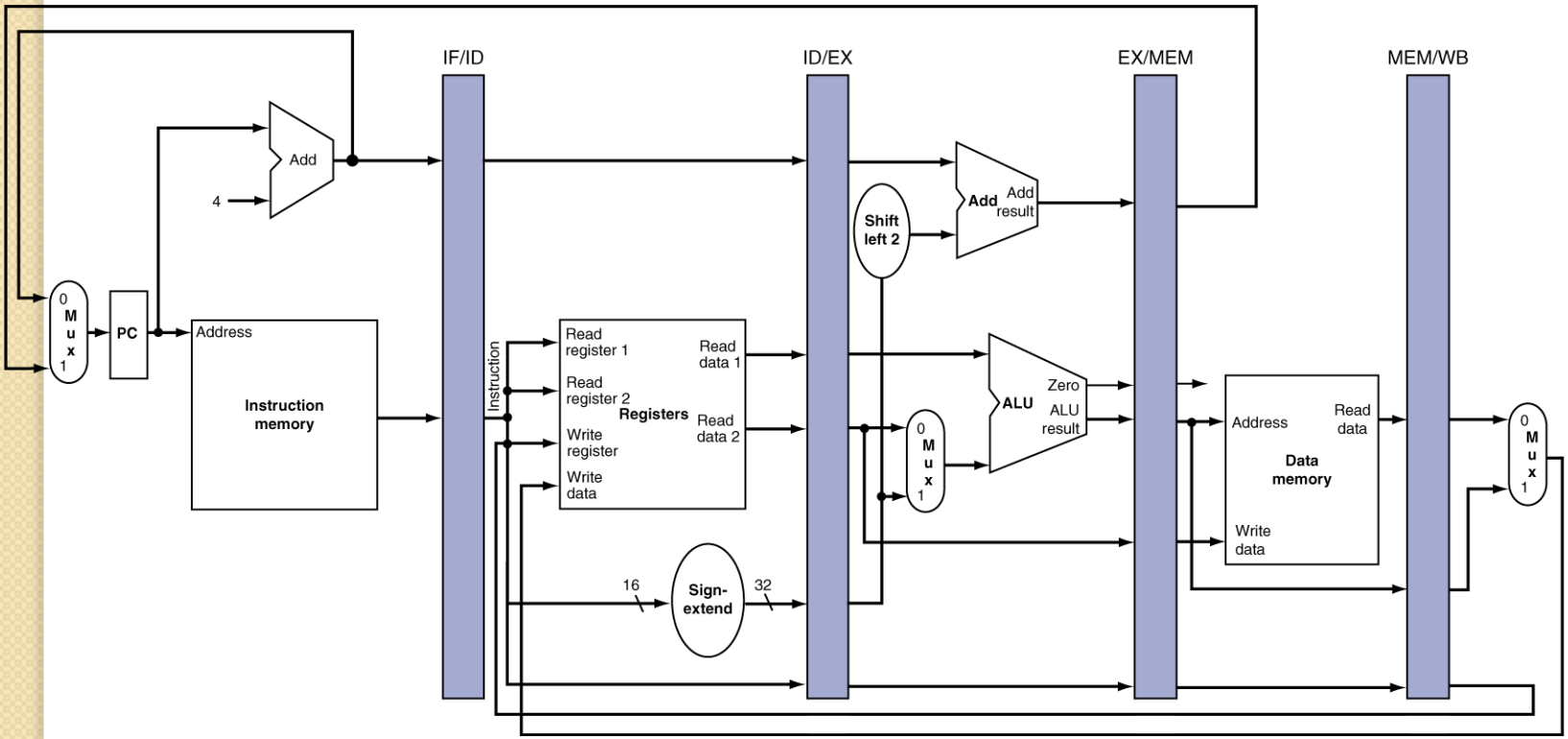
- Traditional form



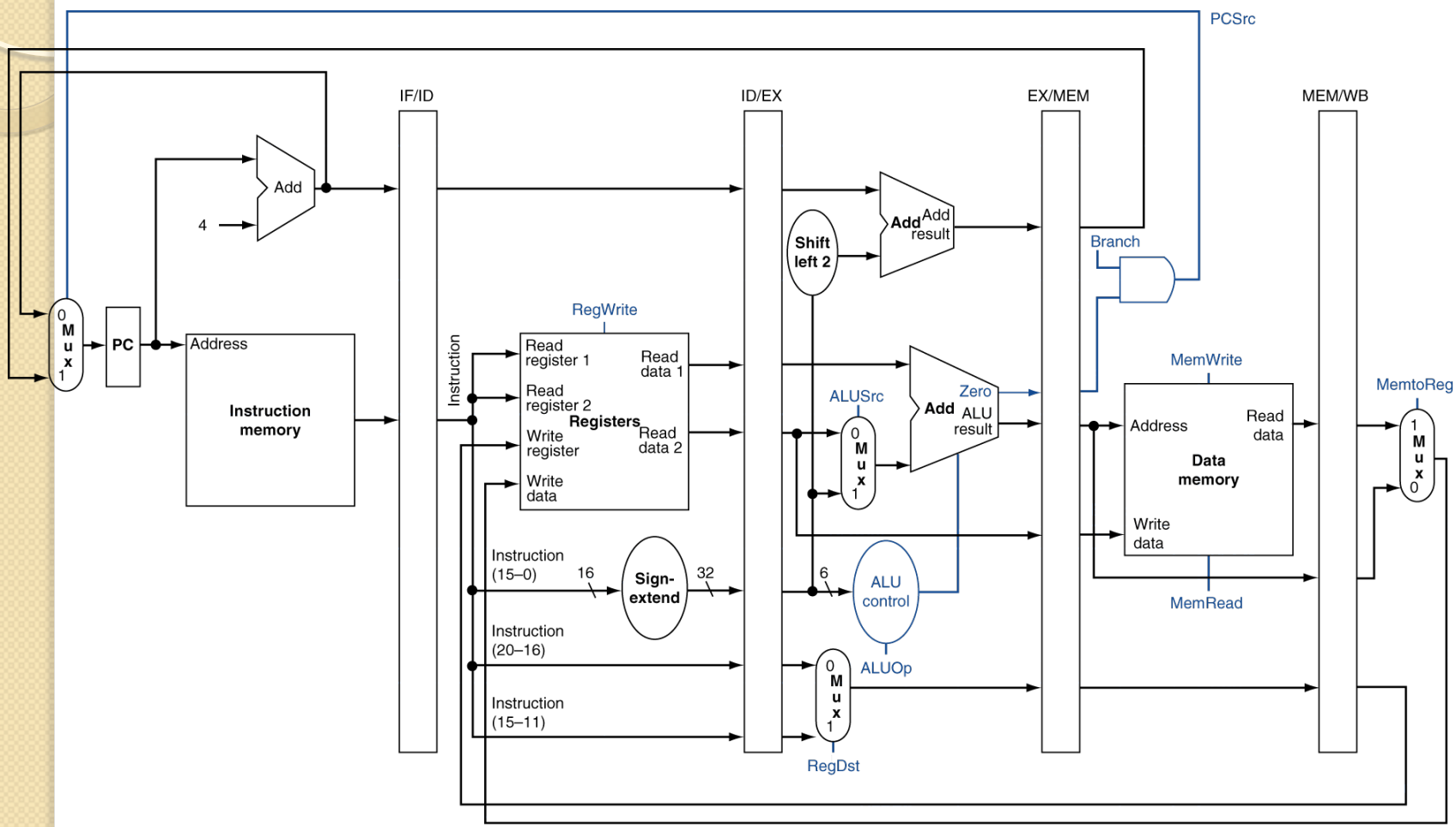
Single-Cycle Pipeline Diagram

- State of pipeline in a given cycle





Pipelined Control (Simplified)



Overview on Datapath Control

op	00 0000		10 0011	10 1011	00 0100	00 0010
	R-type		**lw**	**sw**	**beq**	**jump**
RegDst	1		0	x	x	x
ALUSrc	0		1	1	0	x
MemtoReg	0		1	x	x	x
RegWrite	1		1	0	0	0
MemWrite	0		0	1	0	0
Branch	0		0	0	1	0
Jump	0		0	0	0	1
ALUop	"R-type"		Add	Add	Subtract	xx

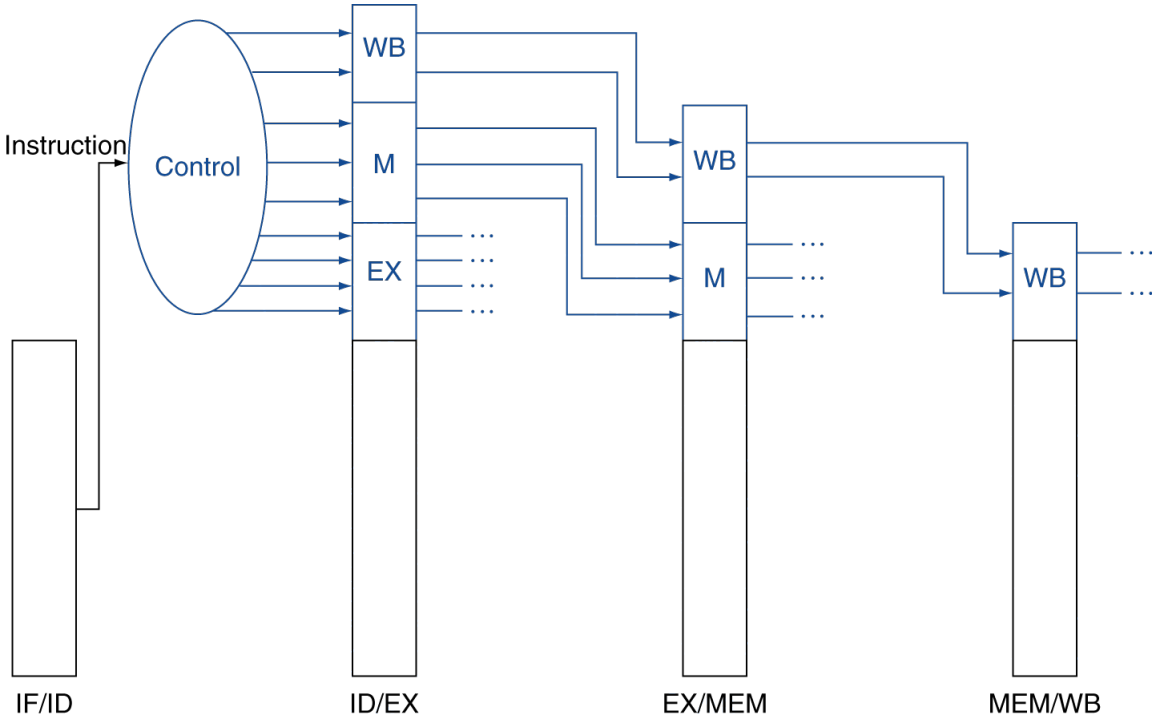
- For the subset of instructions under consideration
  - ALUOp = 00 for Add, 01 for Sub, and 10 for R-type

Observations

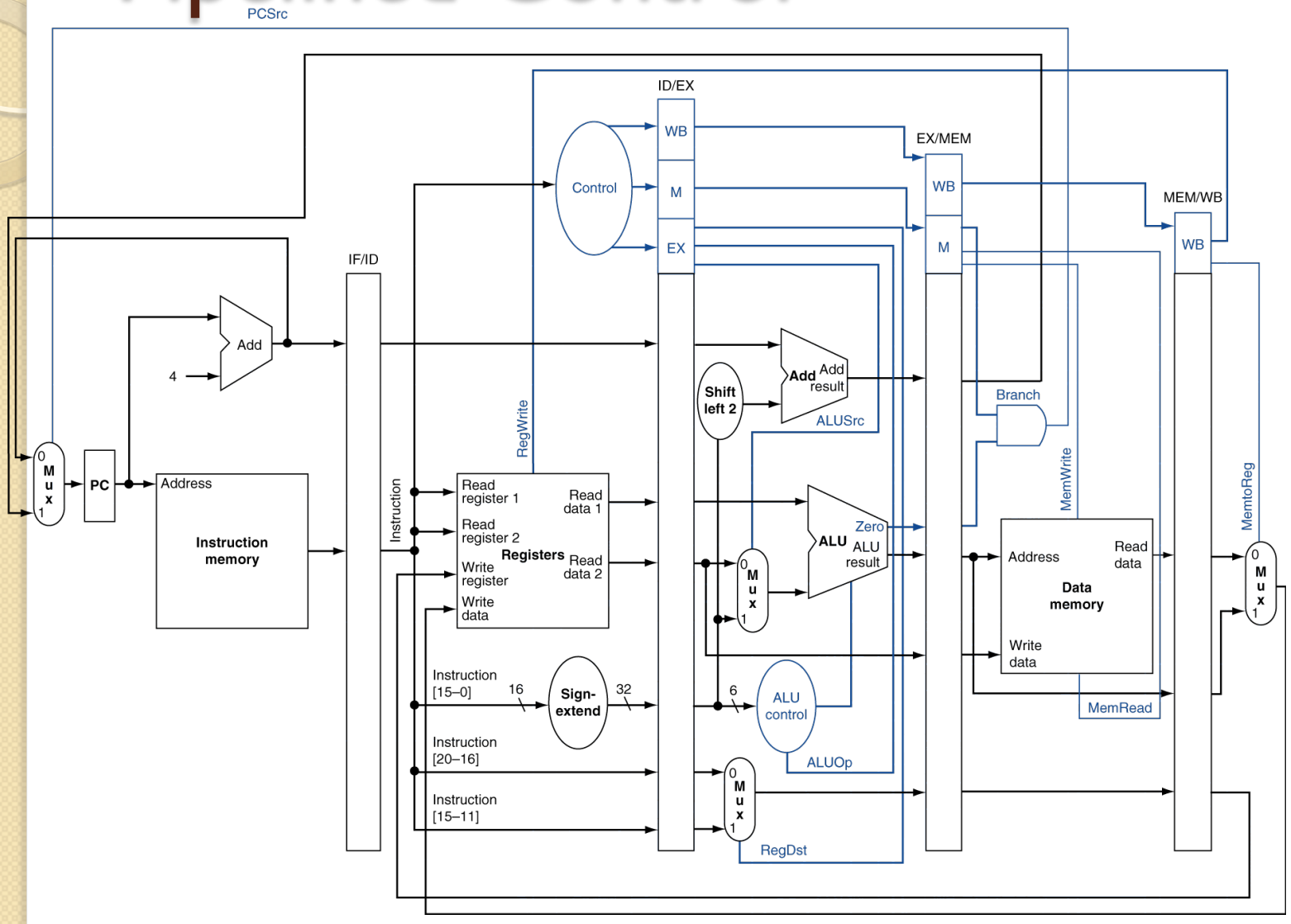
- No write control for all pipeline registers and PC since they are updated at every clock cycle
- To specify the control for the pipeline, set the control values during each pipeline stage
- Control lines can be divided into 5 groups:
  - IF – NONE
  - ID – NONE
  - ALU – RegDst, ALUOp, ALUSrc
  - MEM – Branch, MemRead, MemWrite
  - WB – MemtoReg, RegWrite
- Group these nine control lines into 3 subsets:
  - ALUControl, MEMControl, WBControl
- Control signals are generated at ID stage, how to pass them to other stages?

Pipelined Control

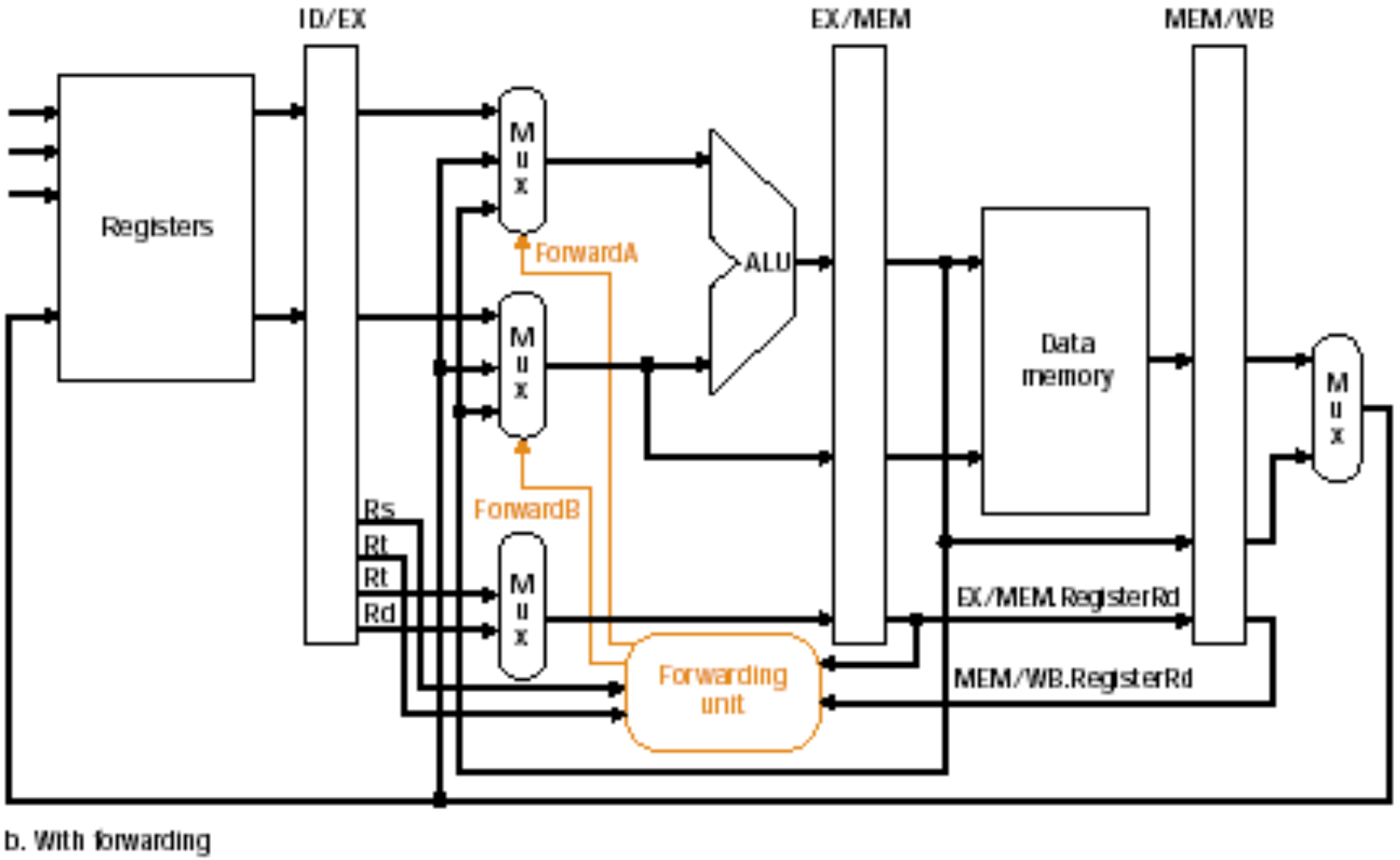
- Control signals derived from instruction
  - As in single-cycle implementation



Pipelined Control



Add Forwarding Paths



b. With forwarding

Exceptions and Interrupts

- "Unexpected" events requiring change in flow of control
  - Different ISAs use the terms differently
- Exception
  - Arises within the CPU
    - e.g., undefined opcode, overflow, syscall, …
- Interrupt
  - From an external I/O controller
- Dealing with them without sacrificing performance is hard

Handling Exceptions

- In MIPS, exceptions managed by a System Control Coprocessor (CP0)
- Save PC of offending (or interrupted) instruction
  - In MIPS: Exception Program Counter (EPC)
- Save indication of the problem
  - In MIPS: Cause register
  - We'll assume 1-bit
    - 0 for undefined opcode, 1 for overflow
- Jump to handler at 8000 00180

An Alternate Mechanism

- Vectored Interrupts
  - Handler address determined by the cause
- Example:
  - Undefined opcode: C000 0000
  - Overflow: C000 0020
  - …: C000 0040
- Instructions either
  - Deal with the interrupt, or
  - Jump to real handler

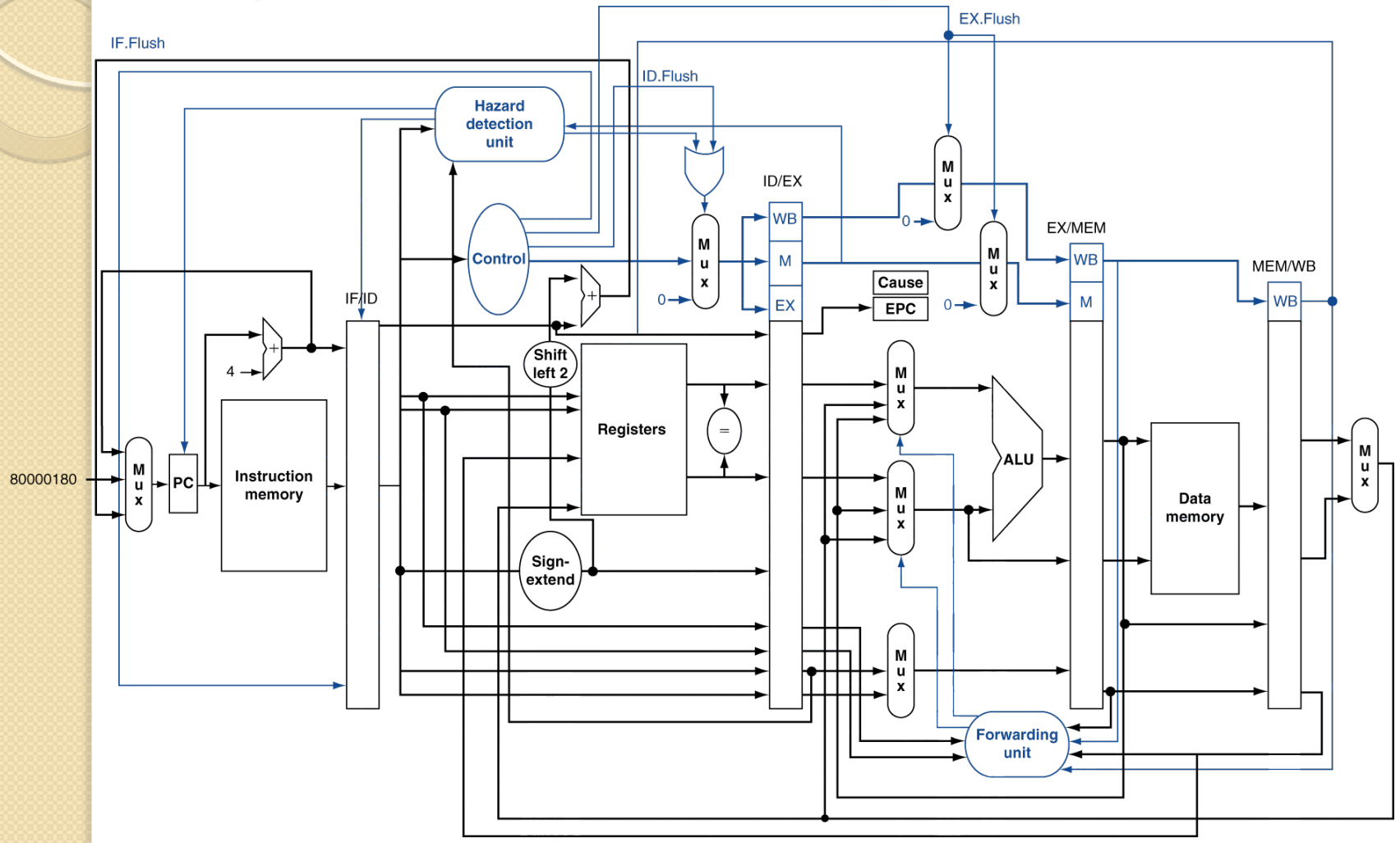
Handler Actions

- Read cause, and transfer to relevant handler
- Determine action required
- If restartable
  - Take corrective action
  - use EPC to return to program
- Otherwise
  - Terminate program
  - Report error using EPC, cause, …

Exceptions in a Pipeline

- Another form of control hazard
- Consider overflow on add in EX stage
  `add $1, $2, $1`
  - Prevent $1 from being clobbered
  - Complete previous instructions
  - Flush add and subsequent instructions
  - Set Cause and EPC register values
  - Transfer control to handler
- Similar to mispredicted branch
  - Use much of the same hardware

Pipeline with Exceptions



Exception Properties

- Restartable exceptions
  - Pipeline can flush the instruction
  - Handler executes, then returns to the instruction
    - Refetched and executed from scratch
- PC saved in EPC register
  - Identifies causing instruction
  - Actually PC + 4 is saved
    - Handler must adjust

Exception Example

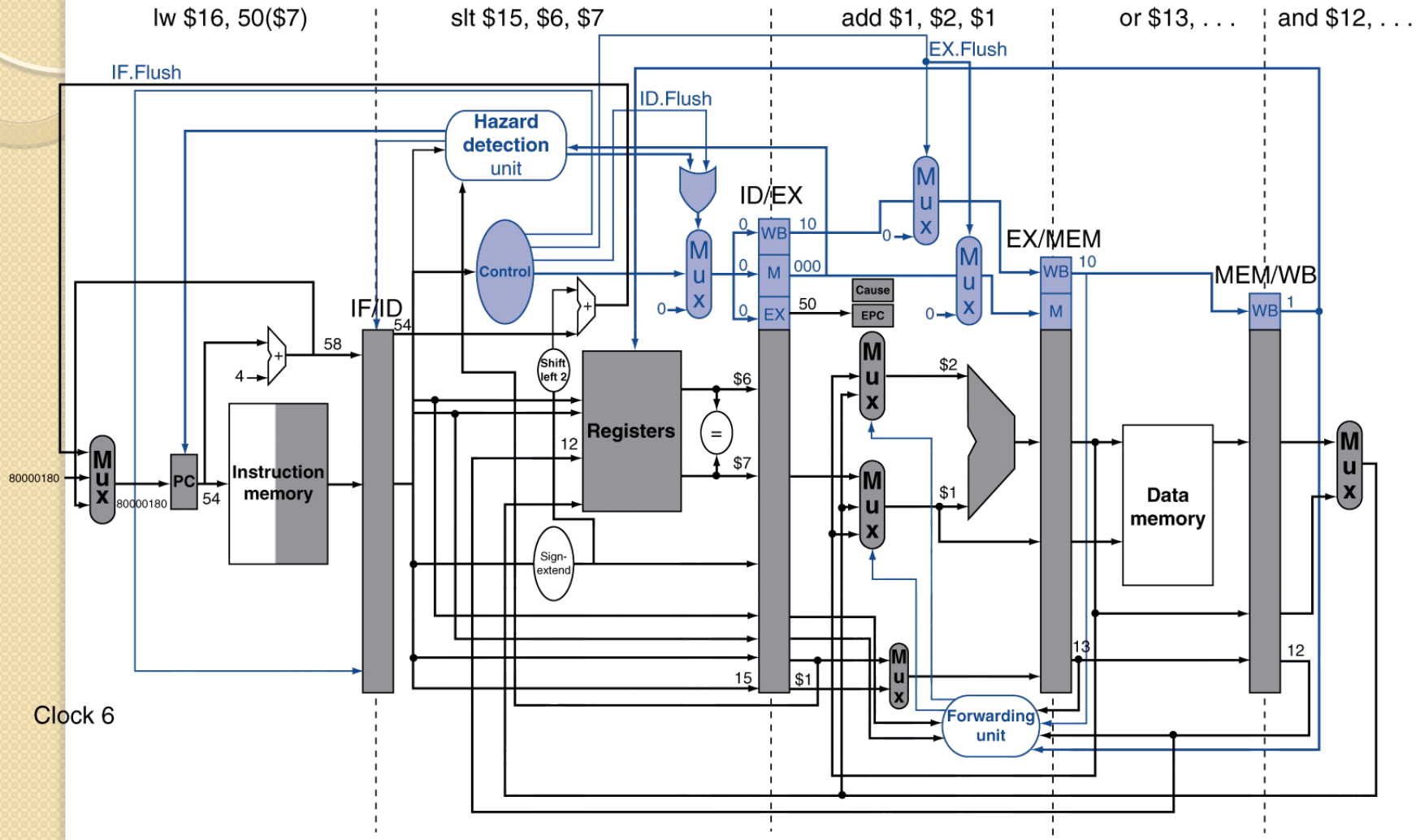
- Exception on add in

```
40      sub   $11, $2, $4
44      and   $12, $2, $5
48      or    $13, $2, $6
4C      add   $1,  $2, $1
50      slt   $15, $6, $7
54      lw    $16, 50($7)
…
```

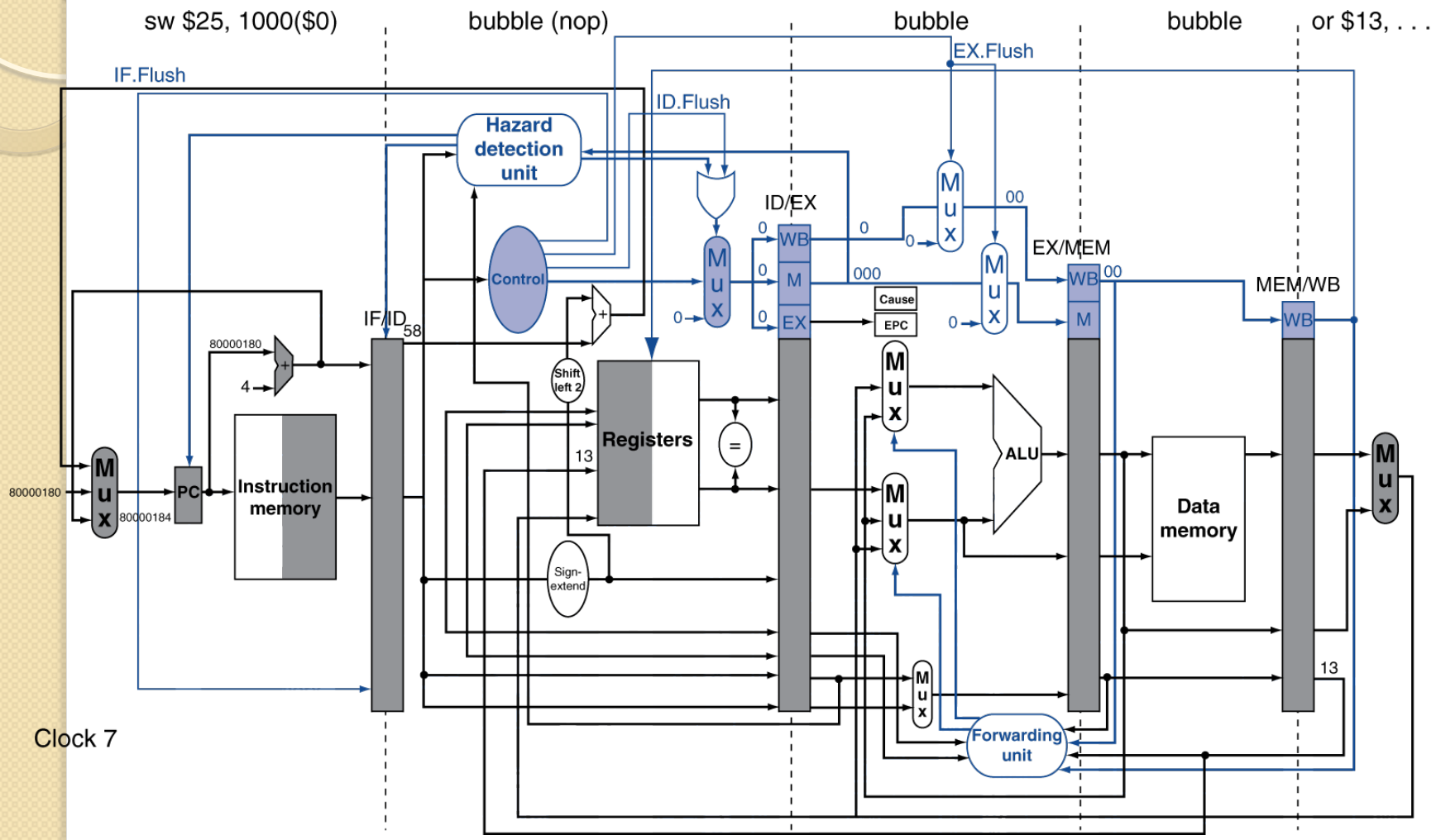
- Handler

```
80000180    sw    $25, 1000($0)
80000184    sw    $26, 1004($0)
…
```

Exception Example



Exception Example



Multiple Exceptions

- Pipelining overlaps multiple instructions
  - Could have multiple exceptions at once
- Simple approach: deal with exception from earliest instruction
  - Flush subsequent instructions
  - "Precise" exceptions
- In complex pipelines
  - Multiple instructions issued per cycle
  - Out-of-order completion
  - Maintaining precise exceptions is difficult!

Instruction-Level Parallelism (ILP)

- Pipelining: executing multiple instructions in parallel
- To increase ILP
  - Deeper pipeline
    - Less work per stage ⇒ shorter clock cycle
  - Multiple issue
    - Replicate pipeline stages ⇒ multiple pipelines
    - Start multiple instructions per clock cycle
    - CPI < 1, so use Instructions Per Cycle (IPC)
    - E.g., 4GHz 4-way multiple-issue
      - 16 BIPS, peak CPI = 0.25, peak IPC = 4
    - But dependencies reduce this in practice

Multiple Issue

- Static multiple issue
  - Compiler groups instructions to be issued together
  - Packages them into "issue slots"
  - Compiler detects and avoids hazards
- Dynamic multiple issue
  - CPU examines instruction stream and chooses instructions to issue each cycle
  - Compiler can help by reordering instructions
  - CPU resolves hazards using advanced techniques at runtime

Speculation

- "Guess" what to do with an instruction
  - Start operation as soon as possible
  - Check whether guess was right
    - If so, complete the operation
    - If not, roll-back and do the right thing
- Common to static and dynamic multiple issue
- Examples
  - Speculate on branch outcome
    - Roll back if path taken is different
  - Speculate on load
    - Roll back if location is updated

Compiler/Hardware Speculation

- Compiler can reorder instructions
  - e.g., move load before branch
  - Can include "fix-up" instructions to recover from incorrect guess
- Hardware can look ahead for instructions to execute
  - Buffer results until it determines they are actually needed
  - Flush buffers on incorrect speculation

Static Multiple Issue

- Compiler groups instructions into "issue packets"
  - Group of instructions that can be issued on a single cycle
  - Determined by pipeline resources required
- Think of an issue packet as a very long instruction
  - Specifies multiple concurrent operations
  - ⇒ Very Long Instruction Word (VLIW)

Scheduling Static Multiple Issue

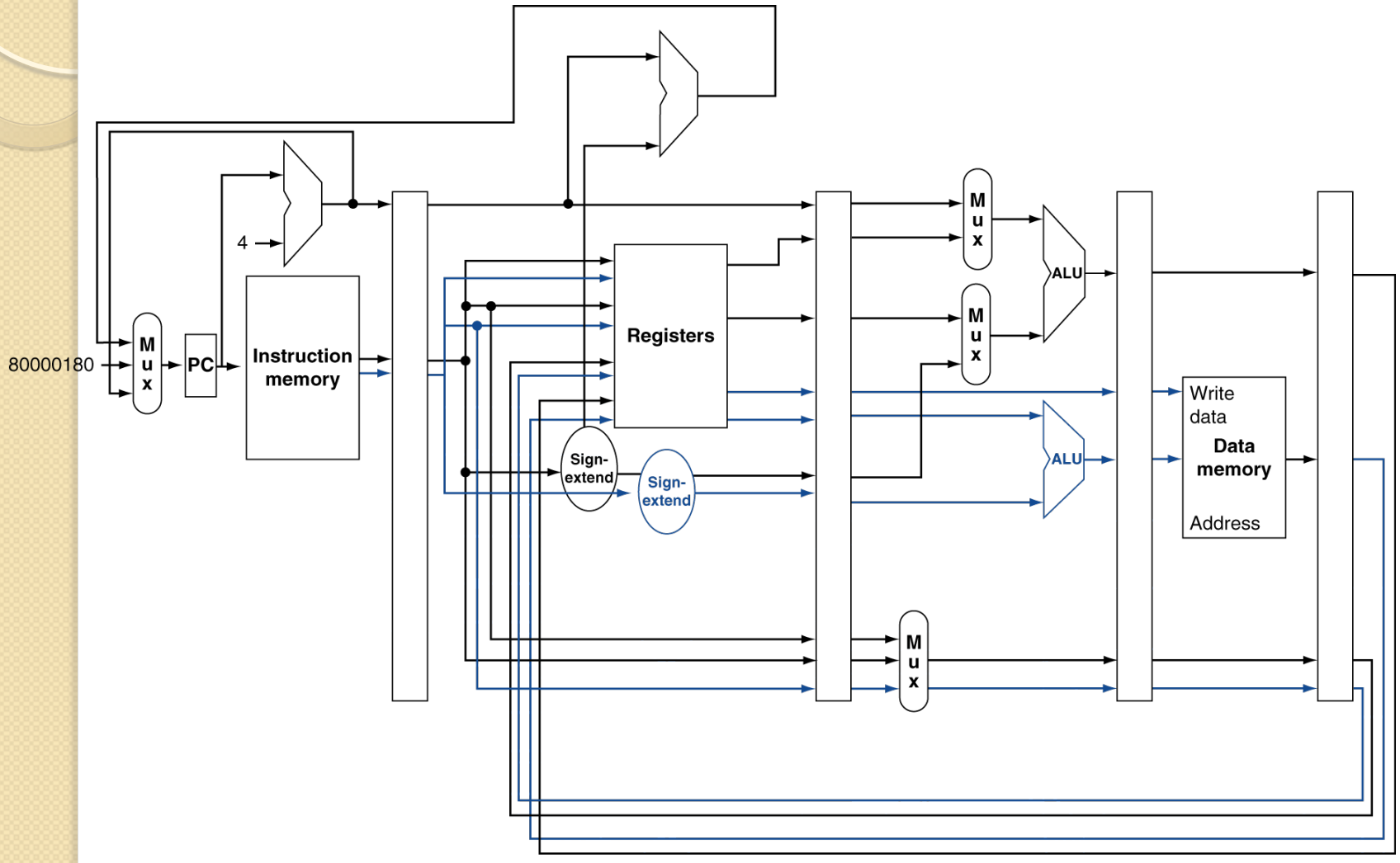
- Compiler must remove some/all hazards
  - Reorder instructions into issue packets
  - No dependencies with a packet
  - Possibly some dependencies between packets
    - Varies between ISAs; compiler must know!
  - Pad with nop if necessary

MIPS with Static Dual Issue

- Two-issue packets
  - One ALU/branch instruction
  - One load/store instruction
  - 64-bit aligned
    - ALU/branch, then load/store
    - Pad an unused instruction with nop

Address	Instruction type	Pipeline Stages						
n	ALU/branch	IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB		
n + 4	Load/store	IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB		
n + 8	ALU/branch		IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB	
n + 12	Load/store		IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB	
n + 16	ALU/branch			IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB
n + 20	Load/store			IF	ID	EX	MEM	WB

MIPS with Static Dual Issue



Hazards in the Dual-Issue MIPS

- More instructions executing in parallel
- EX data hazard
  - Forwarding avoided stalls with single-issue
  - Now can't use ALU result in load/store in same packet
    - ```
      add  $t0, $s0, $s1
      load $s2, 0($t0)
      ```
    - Split into two packets, effectively a stall
- More aggressive scheduling required
      ```

Thought Question:

- In our simple single-issue five-stage pipeline we have a use latency of one clock cycle --- prevents one instruction from using the result without stalling.
- How many extra stalls may be needed for loads or even ALU in a 2-issue 5-stage pipeline?
  - Remember we had zero stalls for ALU instructions (zero-use latency) in the single issue pipeline.

Scheduling Example

- Schedule this for dual-issue MIPS

```
Loop: lw   $t0, 0($s1)       # $t0=array element
      addu $t0, $t0, $s2     # add scalar in $s2
      sw   $t0, 0($s1)       # store result
      addi $s1, $s1,-4       # decrement pointer
      bne  $s1, $zero, Loop  # branch $s1!=0
```

	ALU/branch	Load/store	cycle
Loop:	nop	lw $t0, 0($s1)	1
	addi $s1, $s1,-4	nop	2
	addu $t0, $t0, $s2	nop	3
	bne $s1, $zero, Loop	sw $t0, 4($s1)	4

- IPC = 5/4 = 1.25 (c.f. peak IPC = 2)

Loop Unrolling

- Replicate loop body to expose more parallelism
  - Reduces loop-control overhead
- Use different registers per replication
  - Called "register renaming"
  - Avoid loop-carried "anti-dependencies"
    - Store followed by a load of the same register
    - Aka "name dependence"
      - Reuse of a register name

Loop Unrolling Example

	ALU/branch	Load/store	cycle
Loop:	addi $s1, $s1,-16	lw $t0, 0($s1)	1
	nop	lw $t1, 12($s1)	2
	addu $t0, $t0, $s2	lw $t2, 8($s1)	3
	addu $t1, $t1, $s2	lw $t3, 4($s1)	4
	addu $t2, $t2, $s2	sw $t0, 16($s1)	5
	addu $t3, $t4, $s2	sw $t1, 12($s1)	6
	nop	sw $t2, 8($s1)	7
	bne $s1, $zero, Loop	sw $t3, 4($s1)	8

- IPC = 14/8 = 1.75
  - Closer to 2, but at cost of registers and code size

Dynamic Multiple Issue

- "Superscalar" processors
- CPU decides whether to issue 0, 1, 2, … each cycle
  - Avoiding structural and data hazards
- Avoids the need for compiler scheduling
  - Though it may still help
  - Code semantics ensured by the CPU

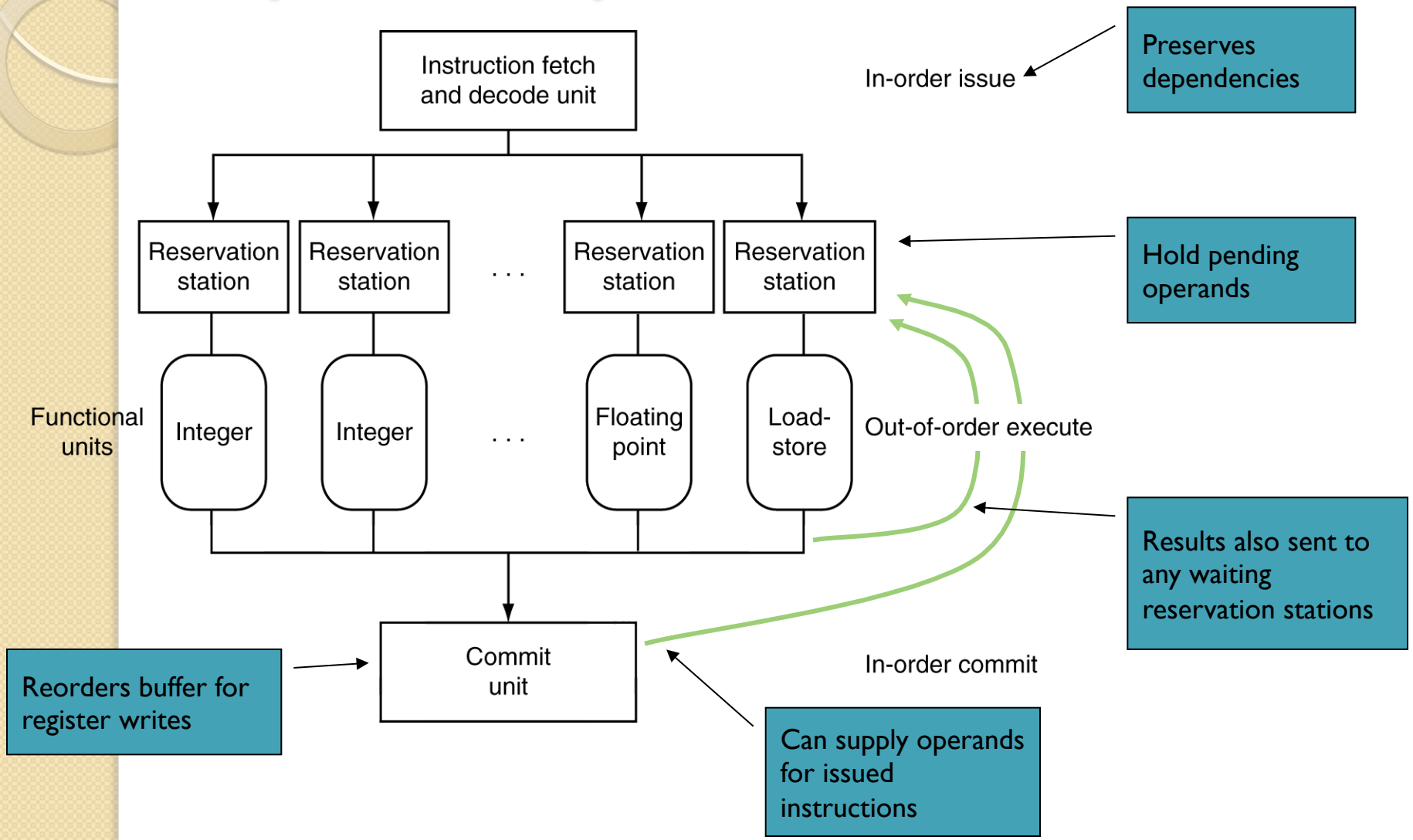
Dynamic Pipeline Scheduling

- Allow the CPU to execute instructions out of order to avoid stalls
  - But commit result to registers in order
- Example

```
lw    $t0, 20($s2)
addu  $t1, $t0, $t2
sub   $s4, $s4, $t3
slti  $t5, $s4, 20
```

  - Can start `sub` while `addu` is waiting for `lw`

Dynamically Scheduled CPU



Register Renaming

- Reservation stations and reorder buffer effectively provide register renaming
- On instruction issue to reservation station
  - If operand is available in register file or reorder buffer
    - Copied to reservation station
    - For the issuing instruction, register copy of the operand is no longer written.
  - If operand is not yet available
    - It will be provided to the reservation station by a function unit bypassing the register file.
    - Register update may not be required

Speculation

- Predict branch and continue issuing
  - Don't commit until branch outcome determined
- Load speculation
  - Avoid load and cache miss delay
    - Predict the effective address
    - Predict loaded value
    - Load before completing outstanding stores
    - Bypass stored values to load unit
  - Don't commit load until speculation cleared

Why Do Dynamic Scheduling?

- Why not just let the compiler schedule code?
- Not all stalls are predicable
  - e.g., cache misses
- Can't always schedule around branches
  - Branch outcome is dynamically determined
- Different implementations of an ISA have different latencies and hazards

Does Multiple Issue Work?

The BIG Picture

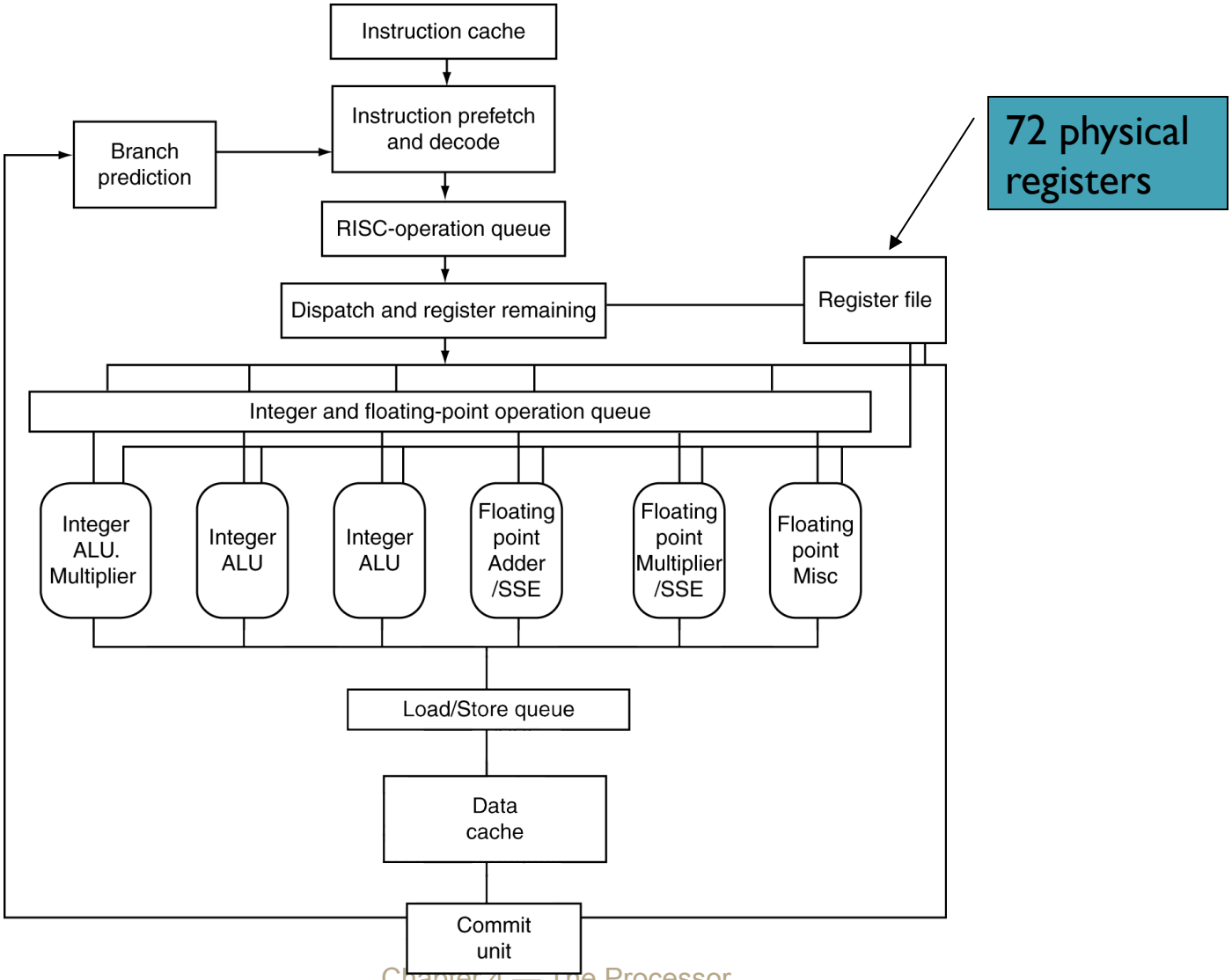
- Yes, but not as much as we'd like
- Programs have real dependencies that limit ILP
- Some dependencies are hard to eliminate
  - e.g., pointer aliasing
- Some parallelism is hard to expose
  - Limited window size during instruction issue
- Memory delays and limited bandwidth
  - Hard to keep pipelines full
- Speculation can help if done well

Power Efficiency

- Complexity of dynamic scheduling and speculations requires power
- Multiple simpler cores may be better

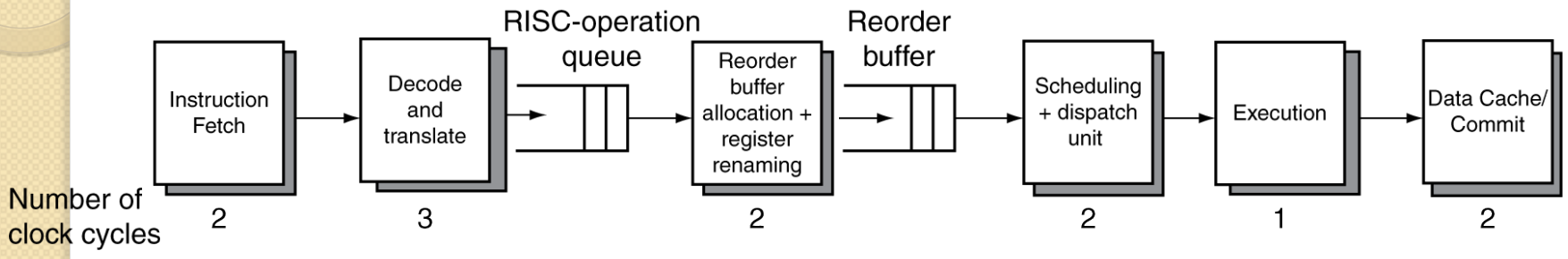
Microprocessor	Year	Clock Rate	Pipeline Stages	Issue width	Out-of-order/ Speculation	Cores	Power
i486	1989	25MHz	5	1	No	1	5W
Pentium	1993	66MHz	5	2	No	1	10W
Pentium Pro	1997	200MHz	10	3	Yes	1	29W
P4 Willamette	2001	2000MHz	22	3	Yes	1	75W
P4 Prescott	2004	3600MHz	31	3	Yes	1	103W
Core	2006	2930MHz	14	4	Yes	2	75W
UltraSparc III	2003	1950MHz	14	4	No	1	90W
UltraSparc T1	2005	1200MHz	6	1	No	8	70W

The Opteron X4 Microarchitecture



The Opteron X4 Pipeline Flow

- For integer operations



  - FP is 5 stages longer
  - Up to 106 RISC-ops in progress
- Bottlenecks
  - Complex instructions with long dependencies
  - Branch mispredictions
  - Memory access delays

Concluding Remarks

- ISA influences design of datapath and control
- Datapath and control influence design of ISA
- Pipelining improves instruction throughput using parallelism
  - More instructions completed per second
  - Latency for each instruction not reduced
- Hazards: structural, data, control
- Multiple issue and dynamic scheduling (ILP)
  - Dependencies limit achievable parallelism
  - Complexity leads to the power wall