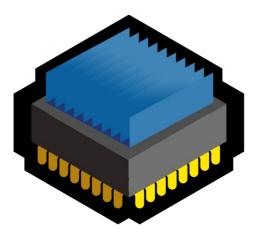
CS 261 Fall 2022

Mike Lam, Professor



CPU Architecture

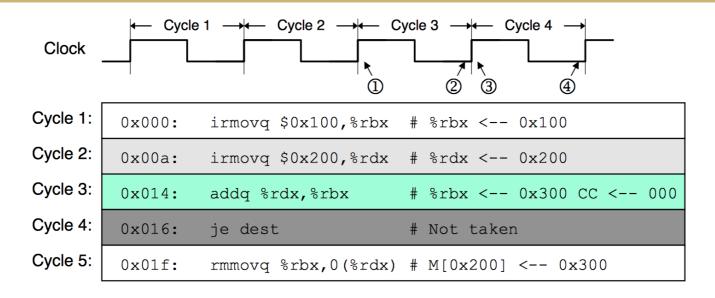
Topics

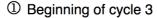
- CPU stages and design
- Pipelining

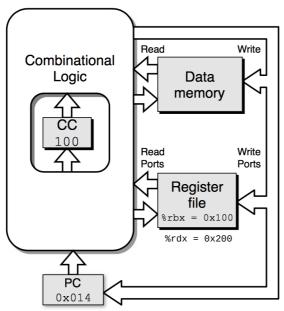
CPU overview

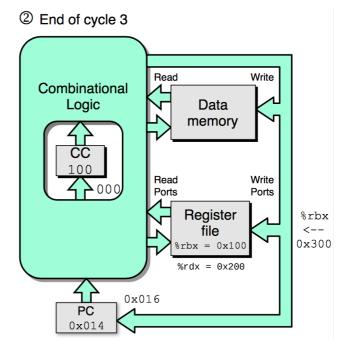
- A CPU consists of
 - Combinational circuits for computation
 - Sequential circuits for memory
 - Wires/buses for connectivity and intermediate results
 - A clocked register PC for synchronization



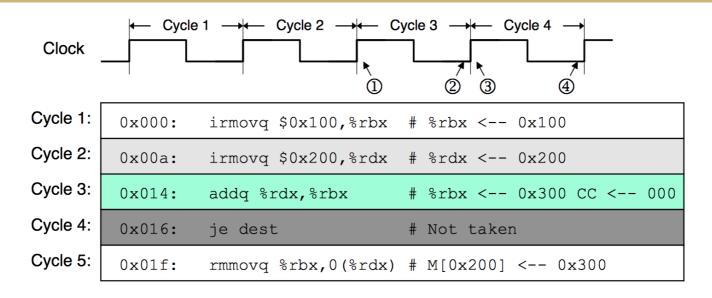




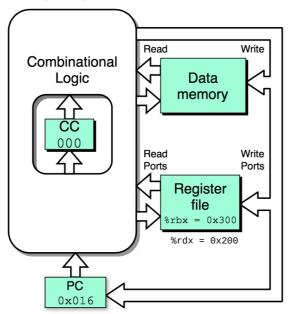




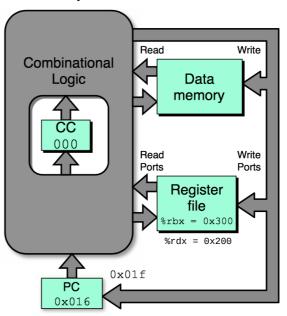




③ Beginning of cycle 4

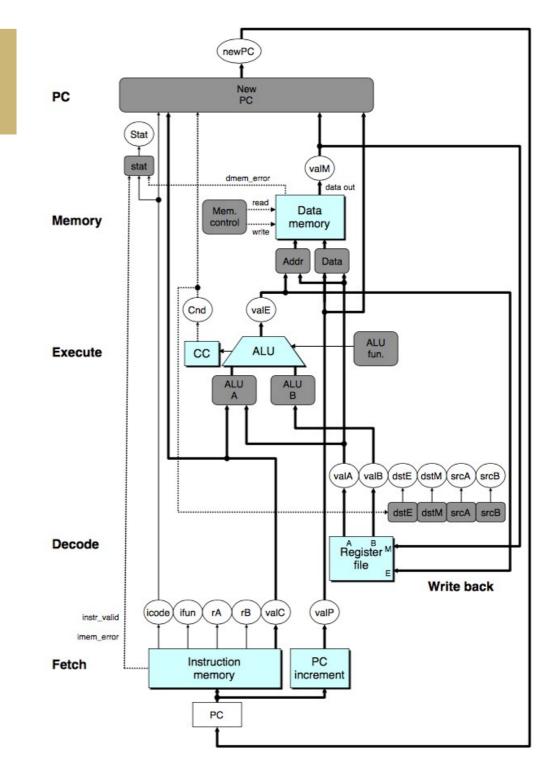


④ End of cycle 4



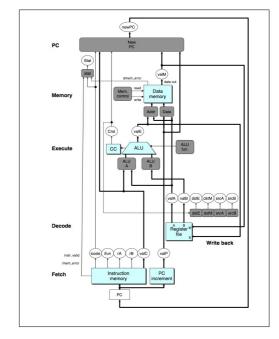
CPU design

- SEQ: sequential Y86 CPU
 - Runs one instruction at a time
 - ysim: simulator
- Components:
 - Clocked register (PC)
 - Hardware units (blue boxes)
 - Combinational/sequential circuits
 - ALU, register file, memory
 - Control logic (grey rectangles)
 - Combinational circuits
 - Details in textbook
 - Wires (white circles)
 - Word (thick lines)
 - Byte (thin lines)
 - Bit (dotted lines)



- CPU measurement
 - Throughput: instructions executed per second
 - GIPS: billions of ("giga-") instructions per second
 - 1 GIPS \rightarrow each instruction takes 1 nanosecond (a billionth of a second)
 - Latency: time required per instruction (or sequence)
 - Picosecond: 10⁻¹² seconds Nanosecond: 10⁻⁹ seconds
 - 1,000 ps = 1 nanosecond
 - Relationship: *throughput* = # *instructions / latency*
 - Example: 1 / 320ps * (1000ps/ns) = 0.003125 * 1000 ≈ 3.1 GIPS

- Current CPU design is serial
 - One instruction executes at a time
 - Only way to improve is to run faster!
 - Limited by speed of light / electricity
- One approach: make it smaller
 - Shorter circuit = faster circuit
 - Limited by manufacturing technology

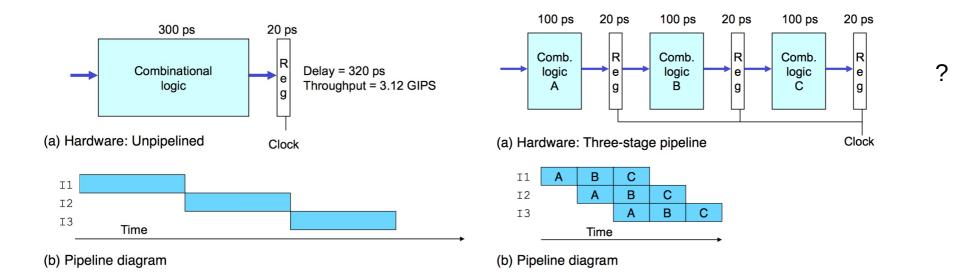




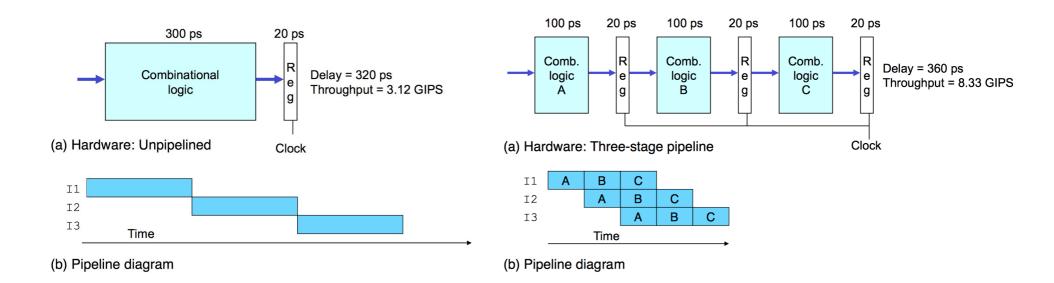


What else could we do?

- Idea: pipelined design
 - Multiple instructions execute simultaneously ("instruction-level parallelism")
 - Similar to cafeteria line or car wash
 - Split logic into stages and connect stages with clocked registers

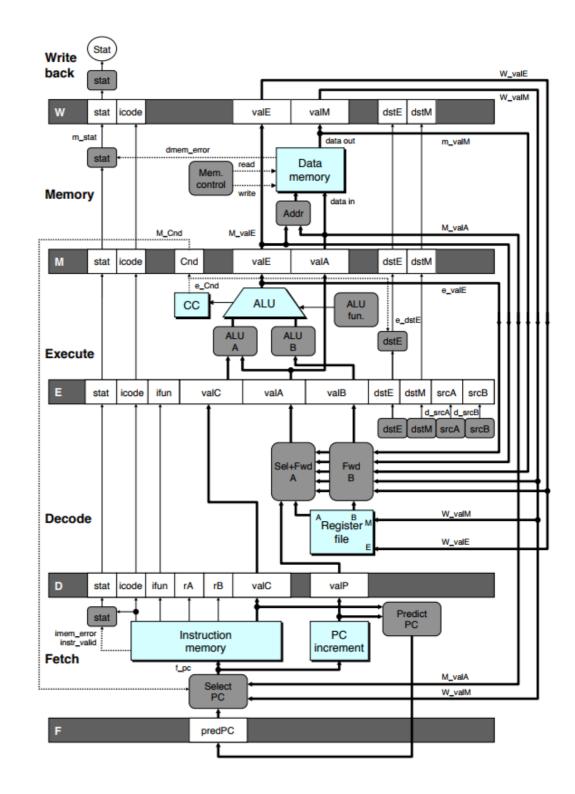


- Idea: pipelined design
 - Multiple instructions execute simultaneously ("instruction-level parallelism")
 - Similar to cafeteria line or car wash
 - Split logic into stages and connect stages with clocked registers
 - System design tradeoff: throughput vs. latency



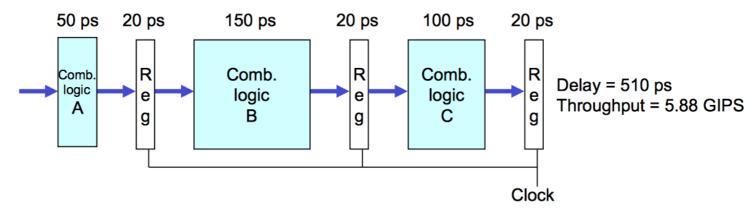
Y86 pipelining

- It's complicated!
 - Split up the stages and add more clocked registers for intermediate results

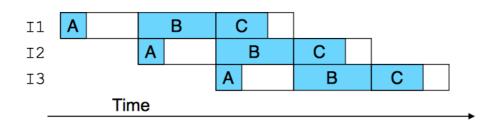


Pipelining

- Limitation: non-uniform partitioning
 - Logic segments may have significantly different lengths



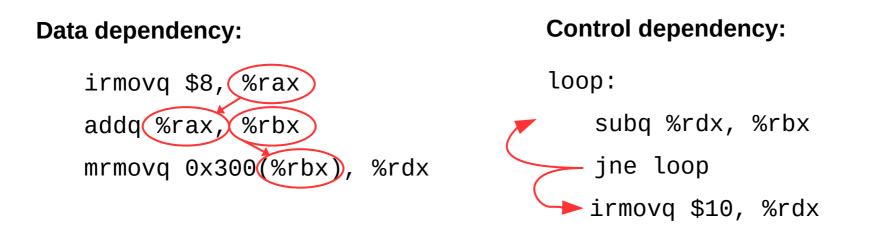
(a) Hardware: Three-stage pipeline, nonuniform stage delays



(b) Pipeline diagram

Pipelining

- Limitation: dependencies
 - The effect of one instruction depends on the result of another
 - Both data and control dependencies
 - Sometimes referred to as hazards



Pipelining

- Approaches to avoiding hazards
 - Halt execution (or throw an exception)
 - Stalling: "hold back" an instruction temporarily
 - Data forwarding: allow latter stages to feed into earlier stages, bypassing memory or registers
 - (for data dependencies)
 - Branch prediction: guess address of next instruction
 - (for control dependencies)
 - For more info, read CS:APP section 4.5

Conditional moves

- Similar to conditional jumps, but they move data if certain condition codes are set
 - Benefit: no branch prediction penalty
 - Improved performance in the presence of pipelining

if
$$(a > b) c = d;$$

subq %rbx, %rax
jle skip
rrmovq %rdx, %rcx
skip:



subq %rbx, %rax
cmovg %rdx, %rcx

Data (CCs) and control dependencies

No control dependency (only data)

Amdahl's Law

$$T_s = \text{serial time}$$
 $S = \text{speedup} = \frac{T_s}{T_P}$ should increase as p grows

 T_{P} = parallel time

p = # of parallel stages

r = % of logic not amenable to pipelining

$$T_{p} = \frac{(1-r)T_{s}}{p} + rT_{s} \qquad S = \text{speedup} = \frac{T_{s}}{\frac{(1-r)T_{s}}{p} + rT_{s}}$$

$$\text{Amdahl's Law: } S \leq \frac{1}{r} \text{ as } p \text{ increases}$$

Amdahl's Law

p = # of parallel stages r = % of logic not

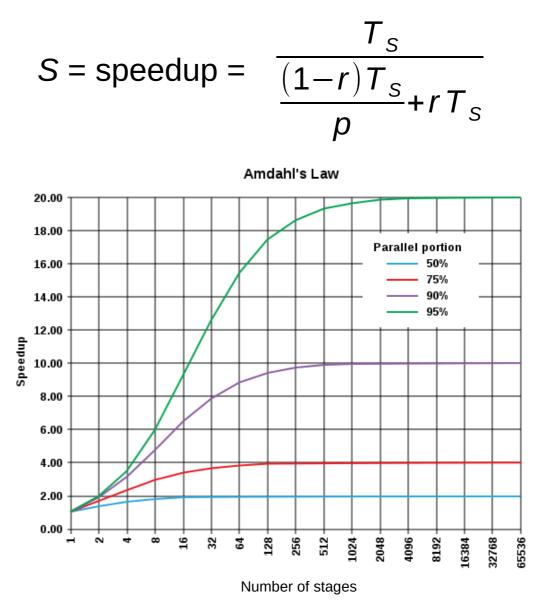
amenable to pipelining

Amdahl's Law:

$$S \leq \frac{1}{r}$$
 as *p* increases

 $r = 50\% \rightarrow$ speedup limited to 2x $r = 25\% \rightarrow$ speedup limited to 4x $r = 10\% \rightarrow$ speedup limited to 10x $r = 5\% \rightarrow$ speedup limited to 20x

Speedup limited inversely proportionally by serial %



Summary

- We've now learned how a CPU is constructed
 - Transistors \rightarrow logic gates \rightarrow circuits \rightarrow CPU
 - Pipelining provides instruction-level parallelism
 - Although there are some limitations
- This is not a CPU architecture class
 - We won't be closely studying the specifics of SEQ
 - If you're interested, the details are in section 4.3
 - Same for PIPE (the pipelined version), in section 4.5
 - If you're REALLY interested, plan to take CS 456

CS 456: Architecture

- Course objectives:
 - Summarize the construction of a pipelined processor from low-level building blocks
 - Describe and categorize hardware techniques for parallel implementation at the instruction, data, and thread levels
 - Summarize storage and I/O interfacing techniques
 - Apply address decoding and memory hierarchy strategies
 - Evaluate the performance impact of various hardware designs, including caches
 - Describe how hardware implementations can improve overall system performance
 - Justify the use of hardware-based optimizations that fail occasionally
 - Compare and contrast the actual execution of code with software designs
 - Analyze how a person's logical flow of thinking (sequential) differs from the processor implementation
 - Demonstrate the ability to communicate hardware and software design trade-offs to both professional colleagues and laypeople

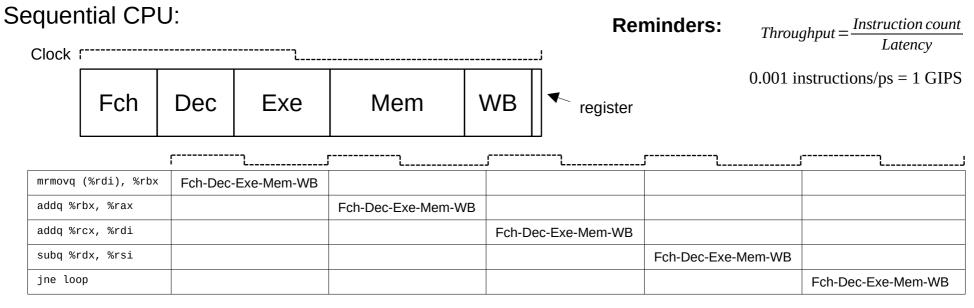
Lessons learned

- Computers are not human; they're complex machines
 - Machines require extremely precise inputs
 - Machine output can be difficult to interpret
- Abstraction helps to manage complexity
 - Use simpler components to build more complex ones
- System design involves tradeoffs
 - Simpler ISA vs. ease of coding
 - Throughput vs. latency
- The details matter (A LOT!)
 - There are many ways to fail
 - Skill and dedication are required to succeed

Next up

- Y86 architecture and semantics
- Memory architecture and caching
- Final module: operating systems

Lab Diagram



Pipelined CPU:

Time →

