MIPS Implementation

Material from Chapter 3 of H&P (for DLX).

Material from Chapter 6 of P&H (for MIPS).

Outline: (In this set.)

Unpipelined DLX Implementation. (Diagram only.)

Pipelined DLX and MIPS Implementations: Hardware, notation, hazards.

Dependency Definitions.

Data Hazards: Definitions, stalling, bypassing.

Control Hazards: Squashing, one-cycle implementation.

Outline: (Covered in class but not yet in set.)

Operation of nonpipelined implementation, elegance and power of pipelined implementation.
(See text.)

Computation of CPI for program executing a loop.
FIGURE 3.1 The implementation of the DLX datapath allows every instruction to be executed in four or five clock cycles.
Pipelined MIPS Implementation

Note: diagram omits connections for some instructions.
Pipeline Details

**Pipeline Segments** a.k.a. **Pipeline Stages**

Divide pipeline into *segments*.

Each segment occupied by at most one instruction.

At any time, different segments can be occupied by different instructions.

Segments given names: **IF, ID, EX, MEM, WB**

Sometimes **MEM** shortened to **ME**.
Pipeline Registers a.k.a. Pipeline Latches

Registers separating pipeline segments.

Written at end of each cycle.

To emphasize role, drawn as part of dividing bars.

Registers named using pair of segment names and register name.

For example, IF/ID.IR, ID/EX.IR, ID/EX.A (used in text, notes).

if_id_ir, id_ex_ir, id_ex_rs_val (used in Verilog code).
Pipeline Execution Diagram

Diagram showing the pipeline segments that instructions occupy as they execute.

Time on horizontal axis, instructions on vertical axis.

Diagram shows where instruction is at a particular time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and r4, r5, r6</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lw r7, 8(r9)</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A vertical slice (e.g., at cycle 3) shows processor activity at that time.

In such a slice a segment should appear at most once . . .

. . . if it appears more than once execution not correct . . .

. . . since a segment can only execute one instruction at a time.
Pipeline Control

Setting control inputs to devices including ... 

... multiplexor inputs ...

... function for ALU ...

... operation for memory ...

... whether to clock each register ...

... et cetera.
Options for controlling pipeline:

- Decode in ID
  Determine settings in ID, pass settings along in pipeline latches.

- Decode in Each Stage
  Pass opcode portions of instruction along.
  Decoding performed as needed.

Real systems decode in ID.

For clarity, diagrams misleadingly imply decoding in stage needed . . .
. . . by passing entire instruction along.

Example given later in this set.
Dependencies and Hazards

Remember

Operands **read from** registers in ID...

... and results **written to** registers in WB.

Consider the following **incorrect execution**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Execution incorrect because ...

... **sub** reads r1 before **add** writes (or even finishes computing) r1, ...

... **and** reads r1 before **add** writes r1, and ...

... **xor** reads r4 before **sub** writes r4.
Dependencies and Hazards

Incorrect execution due to...

... *dependencies* in program...

... and *hazards* in hardware (pipeline).

Incorrect execution above is the “fault” of the hardware...

... because the ISA does not forbid dependencies.

**Dependency:**

A relationship between two instructions ...

... indicating that their execution should be (or appear to be) in program order.

**Hazard:**

A potential execution problem in an implementation due to overlapping instruction execution.

There are several kinds of dependencies and hazards.

For each kind of dependence there is a corresponding kind of hazard.
Dependencies

Dependency:
A relationship between two instructions ... ... indicating that their execution should be, or appear to be, in program order.

If $B$ is dependent on $A$ then $B$ should appear to execute after $A$.

Dependency Types:

- True, Data, or Flow Dependence (Three different terms used for the same concept.)
- Name Dependence
- Control Dependence
Data Dependence: (a.k.a., True and Flow Dependence)
A dependence between two instructions ...
... indicating data needed by the second is produced by the first.

Example:

```
add  r1, r2, r3
sub  r4, r1, r5
and  r6, r4, r7
```

The `sub` is dependent on `add` (via `r1`).

The `and` is dependent on `sub` (via `r4`).

The `and` is dependent `add` (via `sub`).

Execution may be incorrect if ...
... a program having a data dependence ...
... is run on a processor having an uncorrected RAW hazard.
Name Dependencies

There are two kinds: antidependence and output dependence.

**Antidependence:**
A dependence between two instructions ...
... indicating a value written by the second ...
... that the first instruction reads.

**Antidependence Example**

```
add  r1, r2, r3
sub  r2, r4, r5
```

```
sub  is antidependent on the add.
```

Execution may be incorrect if ...
... a program having an antidependence ...
... is run on a processor having an uncorrected WAR hazard.
Output Dependence:
A dependence between two instructions ...
... indicating that both instructions write the same location ...
... (register or memory address).

Output Dependence Example

```
add  r1, r2, r3
sub  r1, r4, r5
```

The `sub` is output dependent on `add`.

Execution may be incorrect if ...
... a program having an output dependence ...
... is run on a processor having an uncorrected WAW hazard.
Control Dependence:
A dependence between a branch instruction and a second instruction ...
... indicating that whether the second instruction executes ...
... depends on the outcome of the branch.

```
beq  $1, $0 SKIP  # Delayed branch
nop
add  $2, $3, $4
SKIP:
sub  $5, $6, $7
```

The **add** is control dependent on the **beq**.

The **sub** is not control dependent on the **beq**.
Pipeline Hazards

Hazard:
A potential execution problem in an implementation due to overlapping instruction execution.

Interlock:
Hardware that avoids hazards by stalling certain instructions when necessary.

Hazard Types:

Structural Hazard:
Needed resource currently busy.

Data Hazard:
Needed value not yet available or overwritten.

Control Hazard:
Needed instruction not yet available or wrong instruction executing.
Data Hazards

Identified by acronym indicating correct operation.

- **RAW**: Read after write, akin to data dependency.
- **WAR**: Write after read, akin to anti dependency.
- **WAW**: Write after write, akin to output dependency.

DLX and MIPS implementations above only subject to RAW hazards.

RAR not a hazard since read order irrelevant (without an intervening write).
Interlocks

When threatened by a hazard:

- **Stall** (Pause a part of the pipeline.)
  Stalling avoids overlap that would cause error.
  
  This does slow things down.

- Add hardware to avoid the hazards.
  Details of hardware depend on hazard and pipeline.
  
  Several will be covered.
Structural Hazards

Cause: two instructions simultaneously need one resource.

Solutions:

Stall.

Duplicate resource.

Pipelines in this section do not have structural hazards.

Covered in more detail with floating-point instructions.
Data Hazards

HP Chapter-3 DLX and MIPS Subject to RAW Hazards.

Consider the following **incorrect execution** of code containing data dependencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Execution incorrect because ...

... **sub** reads **r1** before **add** writes (or even finishes computing) **r1**, ...  
... **and** reads **r1** before **add** writes **r1**, and ...  
... **xor** reads **r4** before **sub** writes **r4**.

Problem fixed by **stalling** the pipeline.
Stall:
To pause execution in a pipeline from IF up to a certain stage.

With stalls, code can execute correctly:

For code on previous slide, stall until data in register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>! Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>----&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>----&gt;</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>-&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arrow shows that instructions stalled.

Stall creates a bubble, segments without valid instructions, in the pipeline.

With bubbles present, CPI is greater than its ideal value of 1.
Stall Implementation

Stall implemented by asserting a *hold* signal . . . … which inserts a *nop* (or equivalent) after the stalling instruction and … … disables clocking of pipeline latches before the stalling instruction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>----&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>----&gt;</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>-&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During cycle 3, a *nop* is in EX.

During cycle 4, a *nop* is in EX and MEM.

The two adjacent *nops* are called a *bubble* . . . … they move through the pipeline with the other instructions.

A third *nop* is in EX in cycle 7.
Some stalls are avoidable.

Consider again:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
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<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the new value of r1 needed by sub ...

... has been computed at the end of cycle 2 ...

... and isn’t really needed until the beginning of the next cycle, 3.

Execution was incorrect because the value had to go around the pipeline to ID.

Why not provide a shortcut?

Why not call a shortcut a bypass or forwarding path?
Non-Bypassed MIPS
Bypassed MIPS

IF

ID

EX

MEM

WB

+4

PC

Addr

Mem Port

Data Out

25:21

20:16

Addr Data

Addr Data

Addr D In

format immed

Decode dest. reg

IR

IR

IR

IR

NPC

NPC

NPC

ALU

ALU

Mem Port

Addr

Data Data

In Out

rtv

E

Z

N

dst

dst

dst

dst

= 0

< 0

<0

=}
MIPS Implementation With Some Forwarding Paths:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>! Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>r1, r2, r3</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r1, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

It works!
MIPS Implementation With Some Forwarding Paths:

Not all stalls are avoidable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lw r1, 0(r2)</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>add r1, r1, r4</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>-&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sw 4(r2), r1</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>-&gt;</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>-------&gt;</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>addi r2, r2, 8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>-------&gt;</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stall due to lw could not be avoided (data not available in cycle 3).

Stall in cycles 5 and 6 could be avoided with a new forwarding path.
Start with logic for \texttt{rd}, show path of Mux logic.
Logic to determine \( rd \) for register file.
Bypass Control Logic for Lower ALU Mux

The diagram illustrates the control logic for a lower ALU multiplexer (mux) in a processor pipeline. The control signals are derived from the instruction register (IR), the program counter (PC), and other pipeline stages (IF, ID, EX, MEM, WB). The control signals include:

- **Instruction Type (ID):** Determines the type of instruction (e.g., Type I, I, II).
- **Memory Port (Mem Port):** Indicates the memory port to be used.
- **Condition Codes (CC):** Includes carry (C), zero (Z), and overflow (O) flags.
- **ALU Operation (ALU):** Specified by control signals.
- **Register to Read (RD):** Specifies the register to read.
- **Register to Write (WR):** Specifies the register to write.
- **Immediate (IMM):** Data to be used in specific operations.
- **Address (Addr):** Data address to be read from memory.
- **Data (Data):** Data to be read from memory.
- **Jump (Jump):** Indicates a jump to a new program location.
- **PC (Program Counter):** Current program counter value.

The diagram also shows the control logic for different instruction types (Type R, Type I, Link CTI), with specific conditions and logic gates (AND, OR, XOR) to select the appropriate control signals. The multiplexer (Mux) is used to select between different data sources based on the control signals.
Bypass Control Logic

Control logic not minimized (for clarity).

Control Logic Generating **ID/EX.RD**.

Present in previous implementations, just not shown.

Determines which register gets written based on instruction.

Instruction categories used in boxes such as  

- **Load**: All load instructions.
- **Store**: All store instructions.
- **Type I ALU**: All Type I ALU instructions.
- **Type R**: All Type R instructions.
- **Link CTI**: **jal** and **jalr**.
Logic Generating ID/EX.MUX.

The '=' box determines if two register numbers are equal.

Register number zero is not equal register zero, nor any other register.

(The bypassed zero value might not be zero.)
Control Hazards

Cause: on taken CTI several wrong instructions fetched.

Consider:
Example of **incorrect execution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Addr</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x100</td>
<td>bgtz</td>
<td>r4, TARGET</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x104</td>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r2, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x108</td>
<td>sw</td>
<td>0(r2), r1</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x10c</td>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x110</td>
<td>or</td>
<td>r12, r13, r14</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TARGET:** !  TARGET = 0x200

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Addr</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x200</td>
<td>xor</td>
<td>r9, r4, r11</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Branch is taken yet two instructions past delay slot (**sub**) complete execution.

Branch target finally fetched in cycle 4.

Problem: Two instructions following delay slot.
Handling Instructions Following a Taken Branch Delay Slot

Option 1: Don’t fetch them.

Possible (with pipelining) because...
... fetch starts (sw in cycle 2) ...
... after branch decoded.

(Would be impossible ...
... for non-delayed branch.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>!I Adr</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x100</td>
<td>bgtz r4, TARGET</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x104</td>
<td>sub r4, r2, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x108</td>
<td>sw 0(r2), r1</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x10c</td>
<td>and r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TARGET: ! TARGET = 0x200</td>
<td></td>
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<td>0x200</td>
<td>xor r9, r4, r11</td>
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<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Handling Instructions Following a Taken Branch

Option 2: Fetch them, but squash (stop) them in a later stage.

This will work if instructions squashed …
… *before* modifying architecturally visible storage (registers and memory).

Memory modified in MEM stage and registers modified in WB stage …
… so instructions must be stopped before beginning of MEM stage.

Can we do it? Depends depends where branch instruction is.

In example, need to squash *sw* before cycle 5.

During cycle 3 *bgtz* in MEM …
… it has been decoded and the branch condition is available …
… so we know whether the branch is taken …
… so *sw* can easily be squashed before cycle 5.

Option 2 will be used.
Instruction Squashing

**In-Flight Instruction:**
An instruction in the execution pipeline.

Later in the semester a more specific definition will be used.

**Squashing:** [an instruction]
preventing an in-flight instruction . . .
\[\ldots\text{from writing registers, memory or any other visible storage.}\]

Squashing also called: *nulling, abandoning, and cancelling*.

Like an insect, a squashed instruction is still there (in most cases) but can do no harm.
Two ways to squash.

- Prevent it from writing architecturally visible storage.
  Replace destination register control bits with zero. (Writing zero doesn’t change anything.)
  Set memory control bits (not shown so far) for no operation.

- Change Operation to \texttt{nop}.
  Would require changing many control bits.
  Squashing shown that way here for brevity.
  Illustrated by placing a \texttt{nop} in \texttt{IR}.

Why not replace squashed instructions with target instructions?

Because there is no straightforward and inexpensive way . . .
  . . . to get the instructions \textit{where and when} they are needed.

(Curvysideways and expensive techniques covered in Chapter 4.)
MIPS implementation used so far.
Example of correct execution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I Adr</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
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<td>bgtz</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x104</td>
<td>sub</td>
<td>r4, r2, r5</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>ID</td>
<td>EX</td>
<td>MEM</td>
<td>WB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x108</td>
<td>sw</td>
<td>0(r2), r1</td>
<td>IF</td>
<td>IDx</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x10c</td>
<td>and</td>
<td>r6, r1, r8</td>
<td>IFx</td>
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... Target: ! TARGET = 0x200

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Branch outcome known at end of cycle 2 ...
... wait for cycle 3 when doomed instructions (sw and and) in flight ...
... and squash them so in cycle 4 they act like nops.

Two cycles (1, 2, and 3), are lost.

Two cycles called a **branch penalty**.

Two cycles is alot of cycles, is there something we can do?
Compute branch target address in ID stage.
Zero-Cycle Branch Delay Implementation

Compute branch target and condition in ID stage.

Workable because register values not needed to compute branch address and ... branch condition can be computed quickly.

Now how fast will code run?

<table>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No penalty, not a cycle wasted!!
Bypassed MIPS

IF

ID

EX

MEM

WB

PC

Mem Port

Addr

Data Out

IR

NPC

Addr Data

Addr Data

Addr D In

Format immed

Decode dest. reg

25:21

20:16

NPC

_ADDR

rtv

IMM

Z

E

N

Mem Port

Addr

Data Data

In Out

ALU

rtv

MD

dst

dst

dst