Complex Pipelining

Daniel Sanchez
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
M.I.T.

Complex Pipelining: Motivation

Instruction pipelining becomes complex when we want high performance in the presence of

- Multi-cycle operations, for example:
  - Full or partially pipelined floating-point units, or
  - Long-latency operations, e.g., divides

- Variable-latency operations, for example:
  - Memory systems with variable access time

- Replicated function units, for example:
 - Multiple floating-point or memory units

CDC 6600
Seymour Cray, 1963

- A fast pipelined machine with 60-bit words
  - 128 Kword main memory capacity, 32 banks
- Ten functional units (parallel, unpipelined)
  - Floating Point: adder, 2 multipliers, divider
  - Integer: adder, 2 incrementers, ...
- Hardwired control
- Dynamic scheduling of instructions using a scoreboard
- Ten Peripheral Processors for Input/Output
  - A fast multi-threaded 12-bit integer ALU
- Very fast clock, 10 MHz (FP add in 4 clocks)
- >400,000 transistors, 750 sq. ft., 5 tons, 150 kW, new freon-based cooling technology
- Fastest machine in world for 5 years (until CDC 7600)
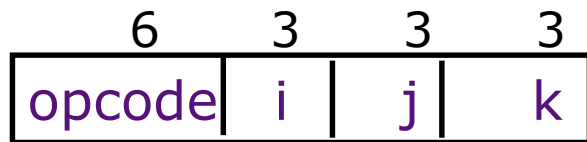 - Over 100 sold ($7-10M each)

CDC 6600: Datapath
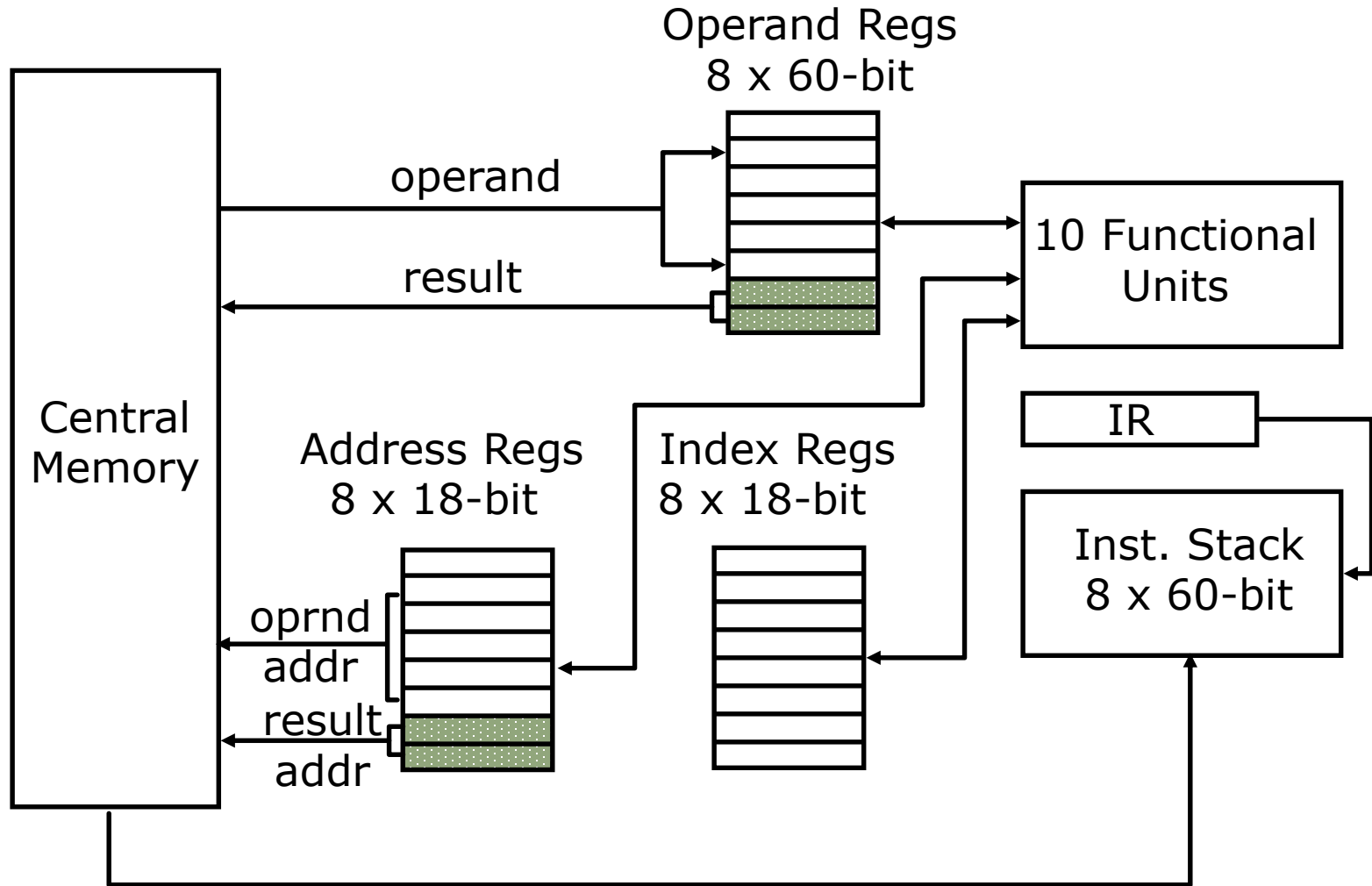
CDC 6600:
A Load/Store Architecture

- Separate instructions to manipulate three types of reg.
  - 8 60-bit data registers (X)
  - 8 18-bit address registers (A)
  - 8 18-bit index registers (B)

- All arithmetic and logic instructions are reg-to-reg

6	3	3	3
opcode	i	j	k

Ri ← (Rj) op (Rk)

- Only Load and Store instructions refer to memory!

6	3	3	18
opcode	i	j	disp

Ri ← M[(Rj) + disp]

  - Touching address registers 1 to 5 initiates a load
    6 to 7 initiates a store
    - *very useful for vector operations*

CDC6600: Vector Addition

$$B1 \leftarrow -n$$

loop: JZE   B1, exit

$$A1 \leftarrow B1 + a1 \qquad \textit{load into X1}$$

$$A2 \leftarrow B1 + b1 \qquad \textit{load into X2}$$

$$X6 \leftarrow X1 + X2$$

$$A6 \leftarrow B1 + c1 \qquad \textit{store X6}$$

$$B1 \leftarrow B1 + 1$$

jump loop

Ai = address register
Bi = index register
Xi = data register

more on vector processing later…

We will present complex pipelining issues more abstractly ...

Floating Point ISA

Interaction between the Floating point datapath and the Integer datapath is determined largely by the ISA

MIPS ISA

- separate register files for FP and Integer instructions
    the only interaction is via a set of move instructions (some ISAs don't even permit this)
- separate load/store for FPR's and GPR's but both use GPR's for address calculation
- separate conditions for branches
    FP branches are defined in terms of condition codes

Floating Point Unit

Much more hardware than an integer unit

Single-cycle floating point unit is a bad idea - *why?*

- it is common to have several floating point units

- it is common to have different types of FPUs
  Fadd, Fmul, Fdiv, ...

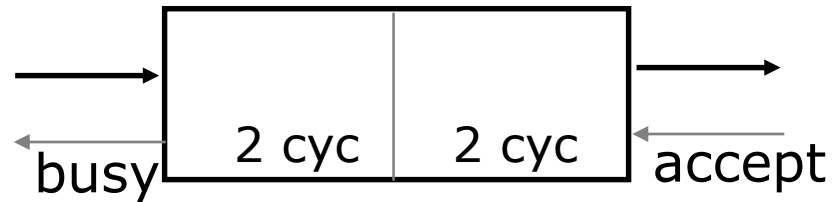- an FPU may be pipelined, partially pipelined or not pipelined

To operate several FPUs concurrently the register file needs to have more read and write ports

Functional Unit Characteristics

*fully
pipelined*

busy → [1cyc | 1cyc | 1cyc] → accept

*partially
pipelined*

busy → [2 cyc | 2 cyc] → accept
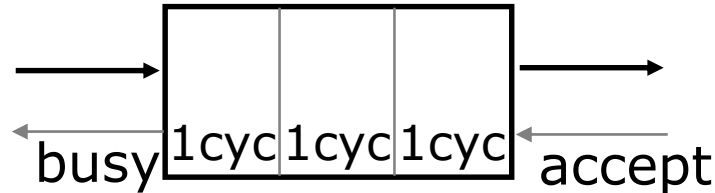
Functional units have internal pipeline registers

⇒ operands are latched when an instruction
    enters a functional unit
⇒ inputs to a functional unit (e.g., register file)
   can change during a long latency operation

Realistic Memory Systems

Latency of access to the main memory is usually much higher than one cycle and often unpredictable

Solving this problem is a central issue in computer architecture

Common approaches to improving memory performance

- separate instruction and data memory ports
  ⇒ no self-modifying code
- caches
  single cycle except in case of a miss ⇒ stall
- interleaved memory
  multiple memory accesses ⇒ bank conflicts
- split-phase memory operations
 *⇒ out-of-order responses*

Complex Pipeline Structure
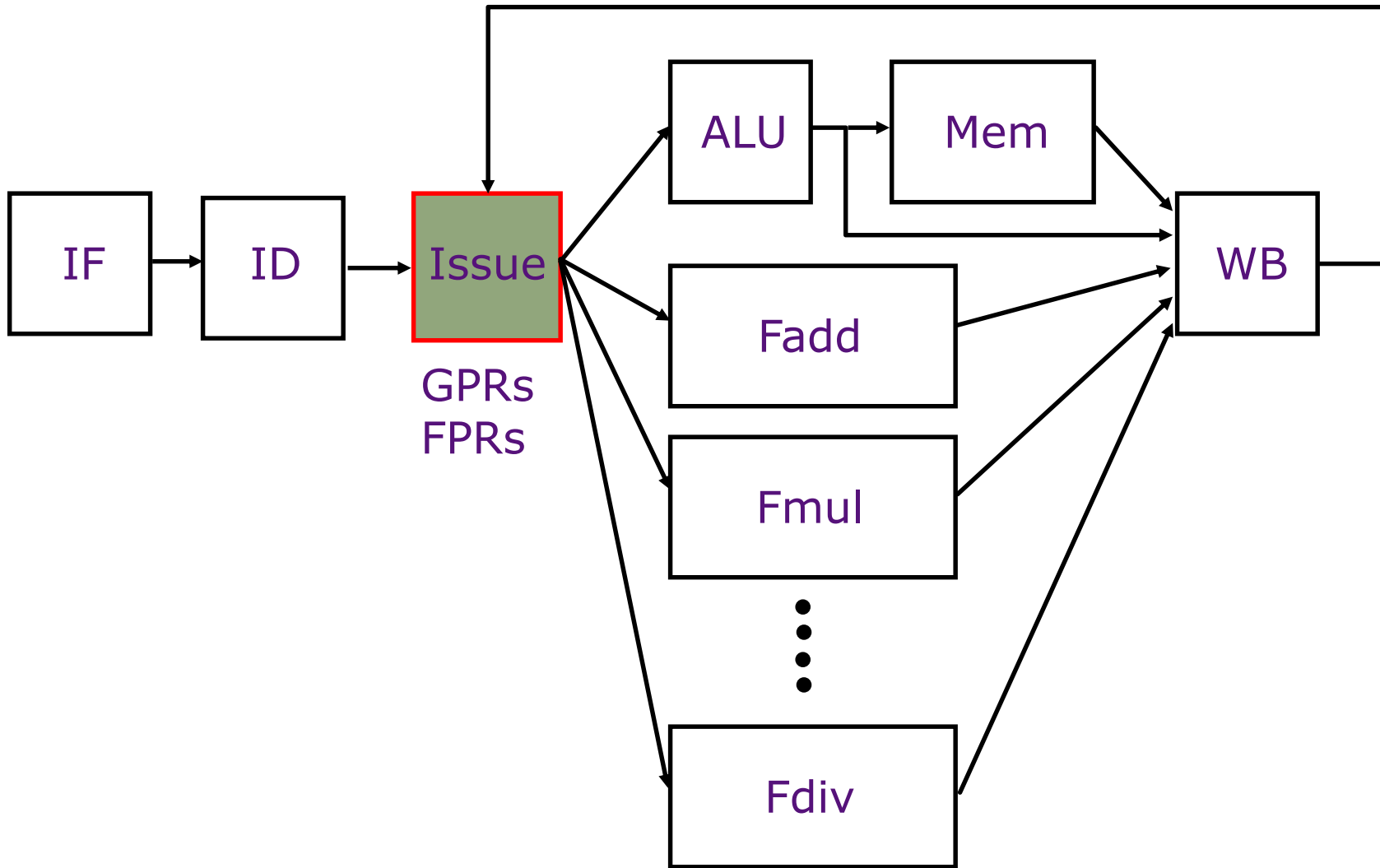
Complex Pipeline Control Issues

- Structural hazards at the execution stage if some FPU or memory unit is not pipelined and takes more than one cycle

- Structural hazards at the write-back stage due to variable latencies of different function units

- Out-of-order write hazards due to variable latencies of different function units

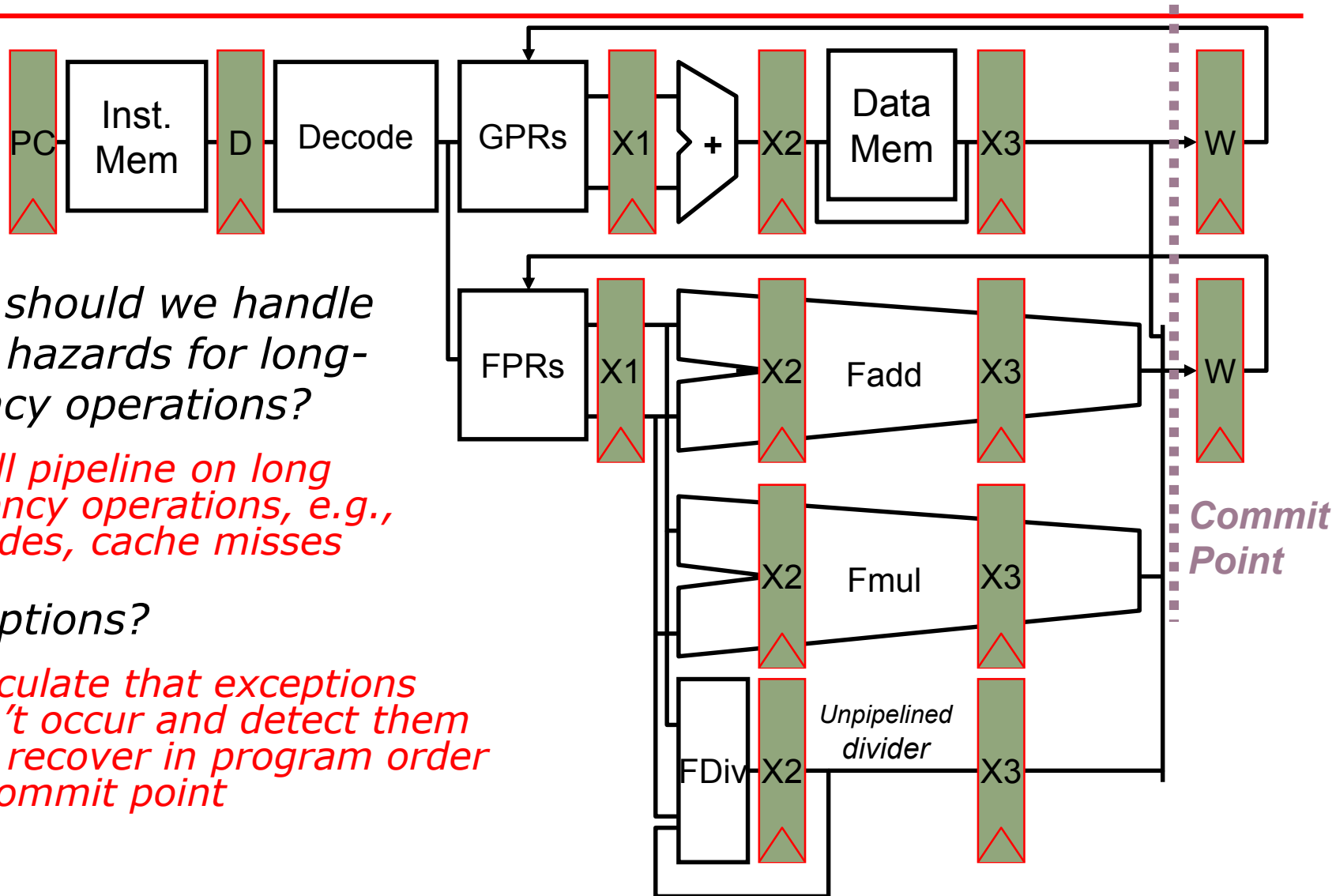- How to handle exceptions?

Complex In-Order Pipeline
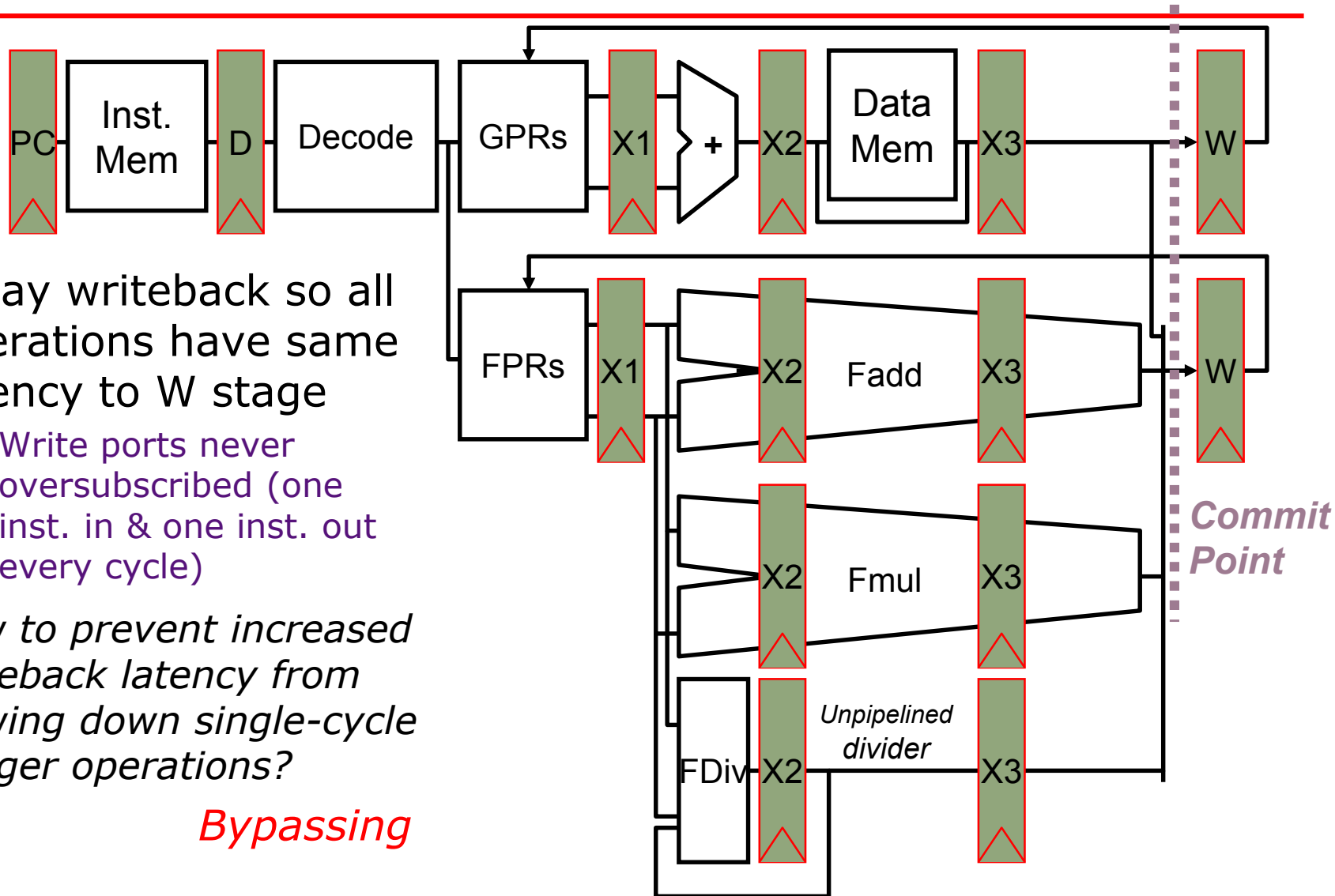
- Delay writeback so all operations have same latency to W stage
  - Write ports never oversubscribed (one inst. in & one inst. out every cycle)

How to prevent increased writeback latency from slowing down single-cycle integer operations?
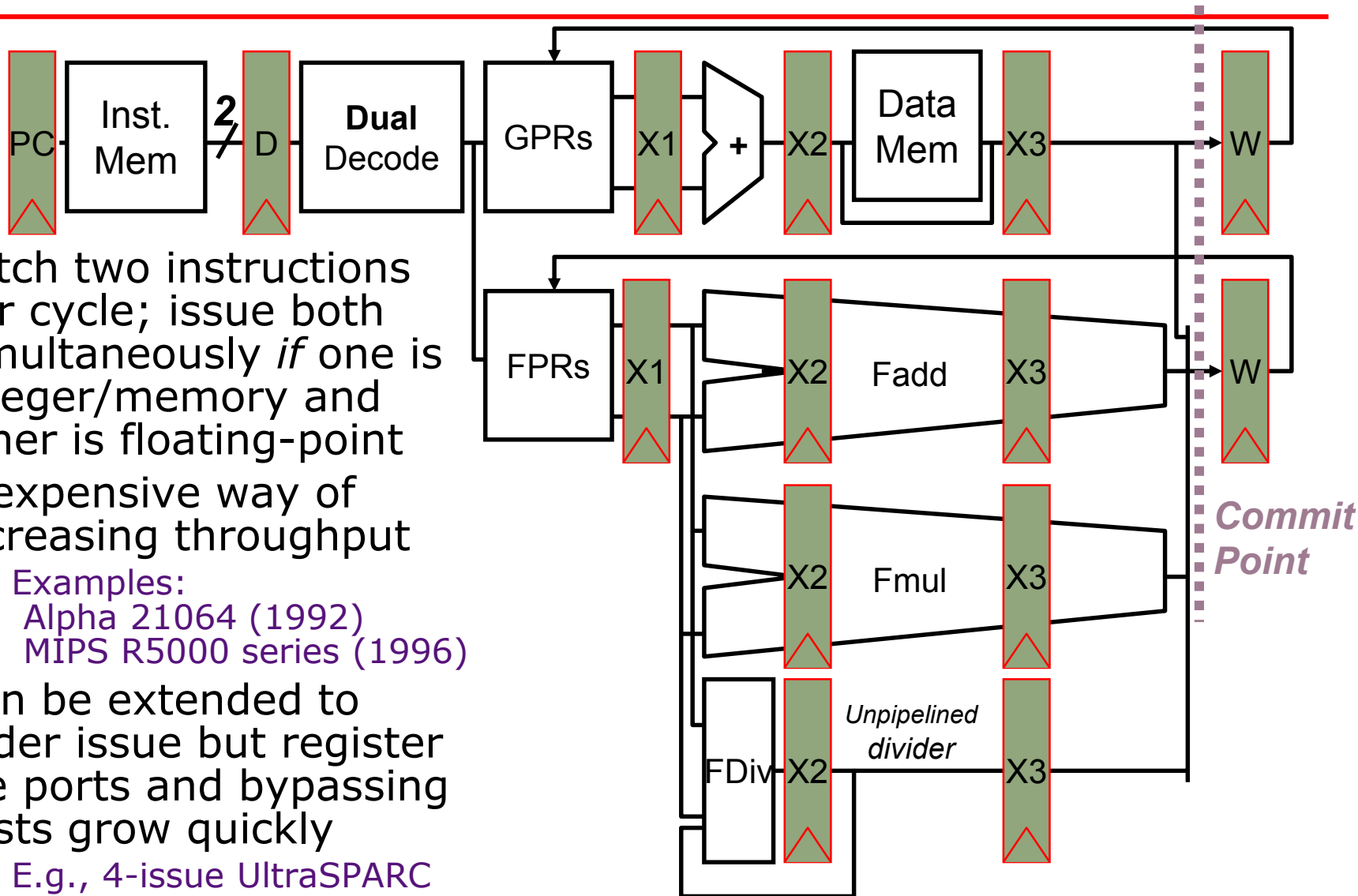
Bypassing

Complex In-Order Pipeline

How should we handle data hazards for long-latency operations?

Stall pipeline on long latency operations, e.g., divides, cache misses

Exceptions?

Speculate that exceptions won't occur and detect them and recover in program order at commit point

Superscalar In-Order Pipeline

- Fetch two instructions per cycle; issue both simultaneously *if* one is integer/memory and other is floating-point

- Inexpensive way of increasing throughput
  - Examples:
    Alpha 21064 (1992)
    MIPS R5000 series (1996)

- Can be extended to wider issue but register file ports and bypassing costs grow quickly
  - E.g., 4-issue UltraSPARC

Dependence Analysis

Needed to Exploit Instruction-level Parallelism

Types of Data Hazards

Consider executing a sequence of

$$r_k \leftarrow (r_i) \ op \ (r_j)$$

type of instructions

Data-dependence	
$r_3 \leftarrow (r_1) \ op \ (r_2)$ $r_5 \leftarrow (r_3) \ op \ (r_4)$	Read-after-Write (RAW) hazard

Anti-dependence	
$r_3 \leftarrow (r_1) \ op \ (r_2)$ $r_1 \leftarrow (r_4) \ op \ (r_5)$	Write-after-Read (WAR) hazard

Output-dependence	
$r_3 \leftarrow (r_1) \ op \ (r_2)$ $r_3 \leftarrow (r_6) \ op \ (r_7)$	Write-after-Write (WAW) hazard

Detecting Data Hazards

Range and Domain of instruction i

R(i) = Registers (or other storage) modified by
instruction i

D(i) = Registers (or other storage) read by
instruction i

Suppose instruction j follows instruction i in the program order. Executing instruction j before the effect of instruction i has taken place can cause a

RAW hazard if $R(i) \cap D(j) \neq \varnothing$
WAR hazard if $D(i) \cap R(j) \neq \varnothing$
WAW hazard if $R(i) \cap R(j) \neq \varnothing$

Register vs. Memory Data Dependences

- Data hazards due to register operands can be determined at the decode stage *but*

- Data hazards due to memory operands can be determined only after computing the effective address

store   M[(r1) + disp1] ← (r2)
load   r3 ← M[(r4) + disp2]

Does (r1) + disp1 == (r4) + disp2 ?

Data Hazards: An Example

I_1 DIVD   f6,   f6,   f4

I_2 LD   f2,   45(r3)

I_3 MULTD   f0,   f2,   f4

I_4 DIVD   f8,   f6,   f2

I_5 SUBD   f10,   f0,   f6

I_6 ADDD   f6,   f8,   f2
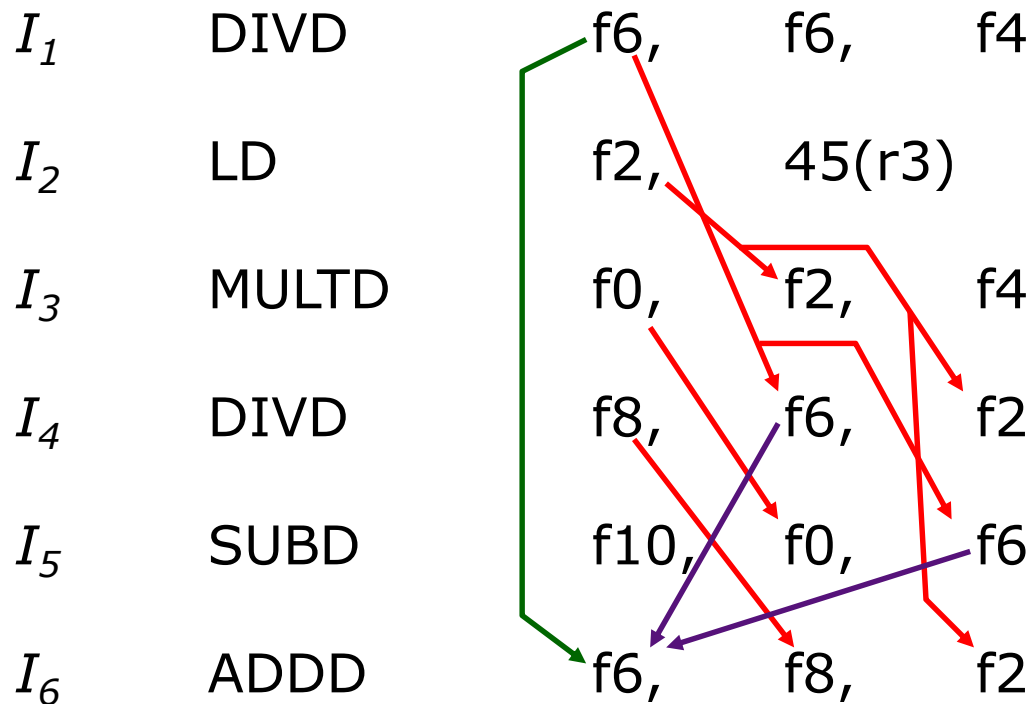
RAW Hazards
WAR Hazards
WAW Hazards

Instruction Scheduling

I_1	DIVD	f6,	f6,	f4
I_2	LD	f2,	45(r3)	
I_3	MULTD	f0,	f2,	f4
I_4	DIVD	f8,	f6,	f2
I_5	SUBD	f10,	f0,	f6
I_6	ADDD	f6,	f8,	f2
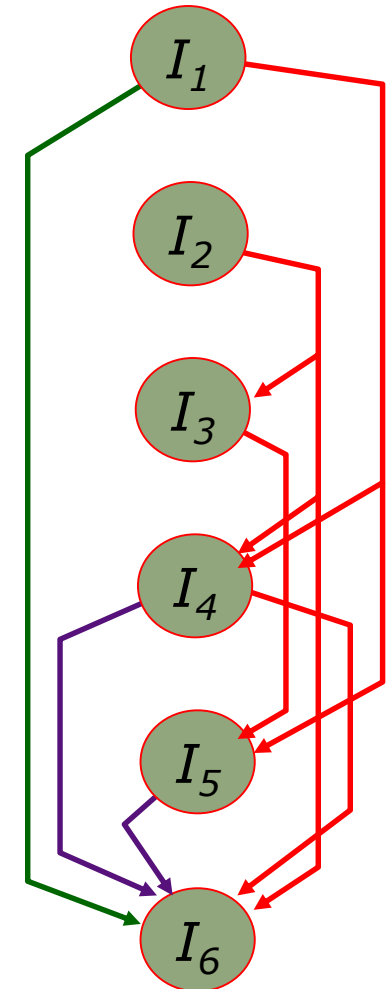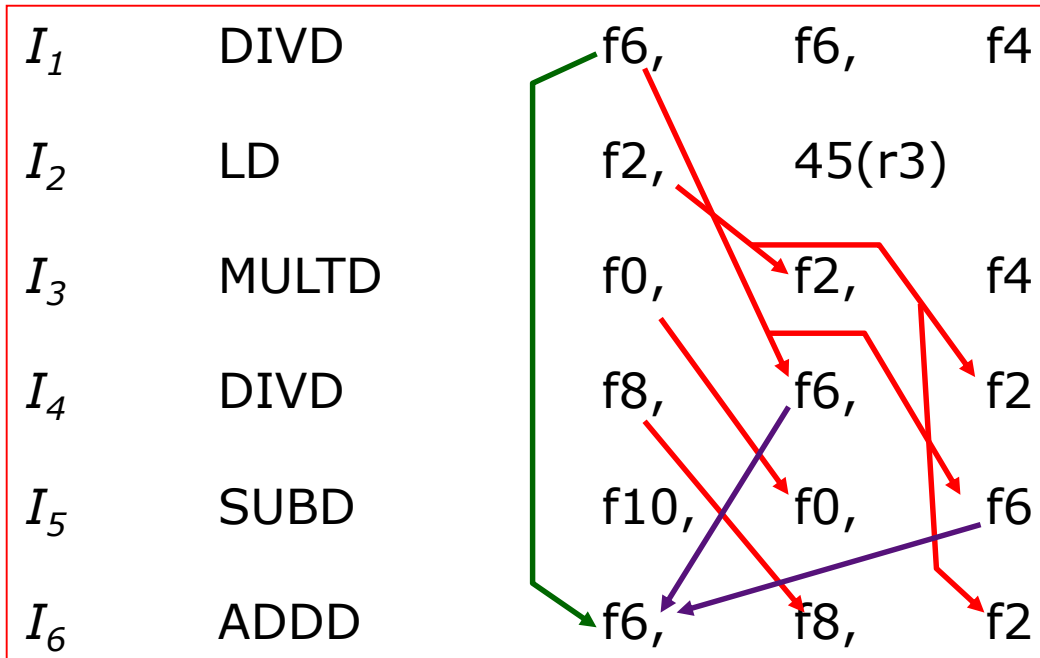
Valid orderings:

in-order	I_1	I_2	I_3	I_4	I_5	I_6
out-of-order	I_2	I_1	I_3	I_4	I_5	I_6
out-of-order	I_1	I_2	I_3	I_5	I_4	I_6

Out-of-order Completion
In-order Issue

					Latency
I_1	DIVD	f6,	f6,	f4	4
I_2	LD	f2,	45(r3)		1
I_3	MULTD	f0,	f2,	f4	3
I_4	DIVD	f8,	f6,	f2	4
I_5	SUBD	f10,	f0,	f6	1
I_6	ADDD	f6,	f8,	f2	1

cycle	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
in-order comp	1	2			1	2	3	4		3	5	4	6	5	6
out-of-order comp	1	2	2	3	1	4	3	5	5	4	6	6			

What problems can out-of-order comp cause? Data hazards
Exceptions

Scoreboard: A Hardware Data Structure to Detect Hazards Dynamically

Complex Pipeline
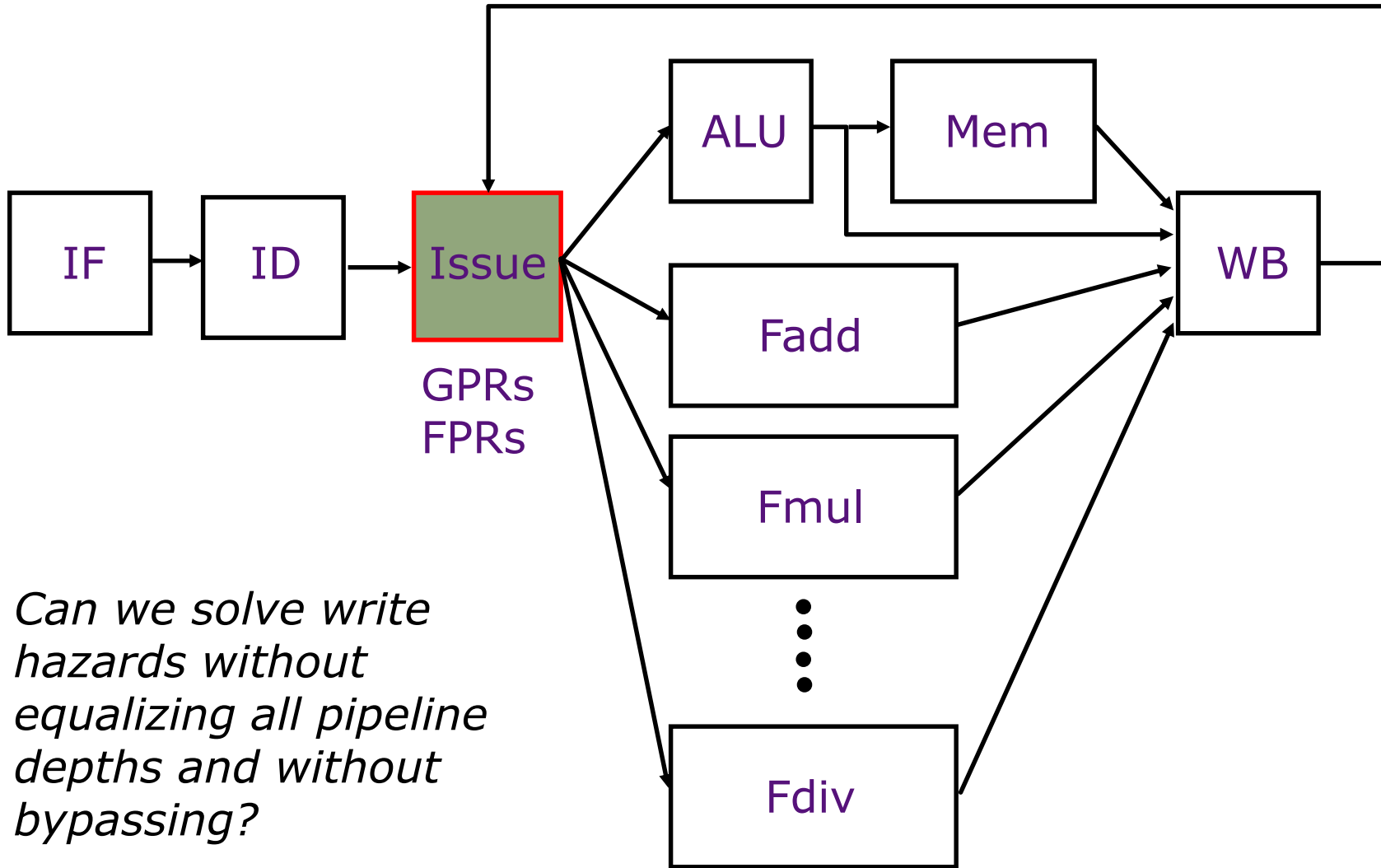
Can we solve write hazards without equalizing all pipeline depths and without bypassing?

When is it Safe to Issue an Instruction?

- Approach: Stall issue until sure that issuing will cause no dependence problems…

- Suppose a data structure keeps track of all the instructions in all the functional units

- The following checks need to be made before the Issue stage can dispatch an instruction
  – Is the required function unit available?
  – Is the input data available? $\Rightarrow$ RAW?
  – Is it safe to write the destination? $\Rightarrow$ WAR? WAW?
  – Is there a structural conflict at the WB stage?

A Data Structure for Correct Issues
Keeps track of the status of Functional Units

Name	Busy	Op	Dest	Src1	Src2
Int					
Mem					
Add1					
Add2					
Add3					
Mult1					
Mult2					
Div					

The instruction i at the Issue stage consults this table

FU available?	check the busy column
RAW?	search the dest column for i's sources
WAR?	search the source columns for i's destination
WAW?	search the dest column for i's destination

An entry is added to the table if no hazard is detected;
An entry is removed from the table after Write-Back

Simplifying the Data Structure Assuming In-order Issue

- Suppose the instruction is not dispatched by the Issue stage
  - If a RAW hazard exists
  - or if the required FU is busy

- Suppose operands are latched by the functional unit on issue

Can the dispatched instruction cause a

WAR hazard? *NO: Operands read at issue*

WAW hazard? *YES: Out-of-order completion*

Simplifying the Data Structure

- ## No WAR hazard

  ⇒ no need to keep *src1* and *src2*

- ## The Issue stage does not dispatch an instruction in case of a WAW hazard

  ⇒ a register name can occur at most once in the *dest* column

- ## WP[reg#]: a bit-vector to record the registers for which writes are pending

  – *These bits are set to true by the Issue stage and set to false by the WB stage*

  ⇒ Each pipeline stage in the FU's must carry the *dest* field and a flag to indicate if it is valid
  "*the (we, ws) pair*"

Scoreboard for In-order Issues

Busy[FU#] : a bit-vector to indicate FU's availability.
                          (FU = Int, Add, Mult, Div)

These bits are hardwired to FU's.

WP[reg#] : a bit-vector to record the registers for which
                          writes are pending.

These bits are set to true by the Issue stage and set to
false by the WB stage

Issue checks the instruction (opcode dest src1 src2)
against the scoreboard (Busy & WP) to dispatch

FU available?   Busy[FU#]
RAW?   WP[src1] or WP[src2]
WAR?   *cannot arise*
WAW?   WP[dest]

Scoreboard Dynamics

		Functional Unit Status					Registers Reserved for Writes	
		Int(1)	Add(1)	Mult(3)	Div(4)	WB		
t0	I_1			f6			f6	
t1	I_2	f2			f6		f6, f2	
t2					f6	f2	f6, f2	$\underline{I_2}$
t3	I_3		f0		f6		f6, f0	
t4				f0		f6	f6, f0	$\underline{I_1}$
t5	I_4			f0 f8			f0, f8	
t6				f8		f0	f0, f8	$\underline{I_3}$
t7	I_5		f10		f8		f8, f10	
t8					f8	f10	f8, f10	$\underline{I_5}$
t9						f8	f8	$\underline{I_4}$
t10	I_6		f6				f6	
t11						f6	f6	$\underline{I_6}$

I_1	DIVD	f6,	f6,	f4
I_2	LD	f2,	45(r3)	
I_3	MULTD	f0,	f2,	f4
I_4	DIVD	f8,	f6,	f2
I_5	SUBD	f10,	f0,	f6
I_6	ADDD	f6,	f8,	f2

Preview: Anatomy of a Modern Out-of-Order Superscalar Core
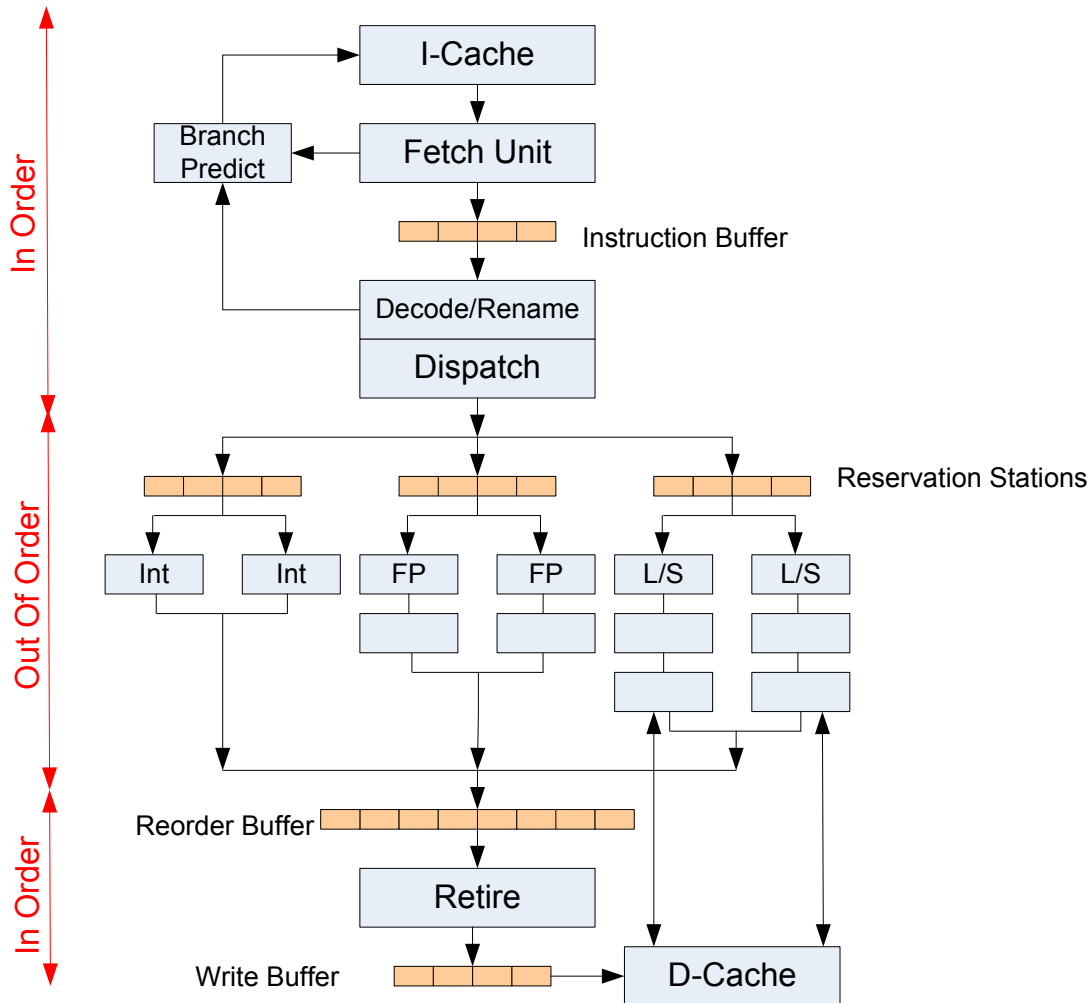
- L06 (Today): Complex pipes w/ in-order issue
- L07: Out-of-order exec & renaming
- L08: Branch prediction
- L09: Speculative execution and recovery
- L10: Advanced Memory Ops