Multiple Instruction Issue: CPI < 1

- To improve a pipeline’s CPI to be better [less] than one, and to utilize ILP better, a number of independent instructions have to be *issued* in the same pipeline cycle.

- Multiple instruction issue processors are of two types:
  - **Superscalar**: A number of instructions (2-8) is issued in the same cycle, scheduled statically by the compiler or dynamically (Tomasulo).
    - PowerPC, Sun UltraSparc, Alpha, HP 8000 ...
  - **VLIW** (Very Long Instruction Word):
    A fixed number of instructions (3-6) are formatted as one long instruction word or packet (statically scheduled by the compiler).
    - Joint HP/Intel agreement (Itanium, Q4 2000).
    - Intel Architecture-64 (IA-64) 64-bit address:
      - Explicitly Parallel Instruction Computer (EPIC).

- Both types are limited by:
  - Available ILP in the program.
  - Specific hardware implementation difficulties.
Multiple Instruction Issue:

Superscalar Vs. VLIW

- Smaller code size.
- Binary compatibility across generations of hardware.
- Simplified Hardware for decoding, issuing instructions.
- No Interlock Hardware (compiler checks?)
- More registers, but simplified hardware for register ports.
Superscalar Pipeline Operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction type</th>
<th>Pipe stages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Integer instruction</td>
<td>IF</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ID</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EX</td>
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<td>FP instruction</td>
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<td>EX</td>
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<td>MEM</td>
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<td>WB</td>
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<td>Integer instruction</td>
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<td>FP instruction</td>
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<td>EX</td>
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<td>MEM</td>
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<td>EX</td>
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<td>MEM</td>
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<td>WB</td>
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<td>FP instruction</td>
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<td>ID</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FIGURE 4.26  Superscalar pipeline in operation.
Intel/HP VLIW “Explicitly Parallel Instruction Computing (EPIC)”

- Three instructions in 128 bit “Groups”; instruction template fields determines if instructions are dependent or independent
  - Smaller code size than old VLIW, larger than x86/RISC
  - Groups can be linked to show dependencies of more than three instructions.

- 128 integer registers + 128 floating point registers
  - No separate register files per functional unit as in old VLIW.

- Hardware checks dependencies
  (interlocks ⇒ binary compatibility over time)

- Predicated execution: An implementation of conditional instructions used to reduce the number of conditional branches used in the generated code ⇒ larger basic block size

- IA-64: Name given to instruction set architecture (ISA);
- Itanium: Name of the first implementation (2000/2001??)
Intel/HP EPIC VLIW Approach

original source code

compiler

Instruction Dependency Analysis

Expose Instruction Parallelism

Optimize

Exploit Parallelism: Generate VLIWs

128-bit bundle

Instruction 0

Instruction 1

Instruction 2

Template
Unrolled Loop Example for Scalar Pipeline

1. Loop: 
   1. LD F0, 0(R1)
   2. LD F6, -8(R1)
   3. LD F10, -16(R1)
   4. LD F14, -24(R1)
   5. ADDD F4, F0, F2
   6. ADDD F8, F6, F2
   7. ADDD F12, F10, F2
   8. ADDD F16, F14, F2
   9. SD 0(R1), F4
   10. SD -8(R1), F8
   11. SD -16(R1), F12
   12. SUBI R1, R1, #32
   13. BNEZ R1, LOOP
   14. SD 8(R1), F16 ; 8-32 = -24

LD to ADDD: 1 Cycle
ADDD to SD: 2 Cycles

14 clock cycles, or 3.5 per iteration
## Loop Unrolling in Superscalar Pipeline:
### (1 Integer, 1 FP/Cycle)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integer instruction</th>
<th>FP instruction</th>
<th>Clock cycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LD F0,0(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F4,F0,F2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F6,-8(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F8,F6,F2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F10,-16(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F12,F10,F2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F14,-24(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F16,F14,F2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F18,-32(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F20,F18,F2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD 0(R1),F4</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -8(R1),F8</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -16(R1),F12</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -24(R1),F16</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBI R1,R1,#40</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BNEZ R1,LOOP</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -32(R1),F20</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Unrolled 5 times to avoid delays (+1 due to SS)
- 12 clocks, or 2.4 clocks per iteration (1.5X)
## Loop Unrolling in VLIW Pipeline (2 Memory, 2 FP, 1 Integer / Cycle)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Memory reference 1</th>
<th>Memory reference 2</th>
<th>FP operation 1</th>
<th>FP op. 2</th>
<th>Int. op/ branch</th>
<th>Clock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LD F0,0(R1)</td>
<td>LD F6,-8(R1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F10,-16(R1)</td>
<td>LD F14,-24(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F4,F0,F2</td>
<td>ADDD F8,F6,F2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F18,-32(R1)</td>
<td>LD F22,-40(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F12,F10,F2</td>
<td>ADDD F16,F14,F2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LD F26,-48(R1)</td>
<td>ADDD F20,F18,F2</td>
<td>ADDD F24,F22,F2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD 0(R1),F4</td>
<td>SD -8(R1),F8</td>
<td>ADDD F28,F26,F2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -16(R1),F12</td>
<td>SD -24(R1),F16</td>
<td>SUBI R1,R1,#48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -32(R1),F20</td>
<td>SD -40(R1),F24</td>
<td>BNEZ R1,LOOP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD -0(R1),F28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unrolled 7 times to avoid delays
7 results in 9 clocks, or 1.3 clocks per iteration (1.8X)
Average: 2.5 ops per clock, 50% efficiency
Note: Needs more registers in VLIW (15 vs. 6 in Superscalar)
Superscalar Dynamic Scheduling

• How to issue two instructions and keep in-order instruction issue for Tomasulo?
  – Assume: 1 integer + 1 floating-point operations.
  – 1 Tomasulo control for integer, 1 for floating point.

• Issue at 2X Clock Rate, so that issue remains in order.

• Only FP loads might cause a dependency between integer and FP issue:
  – Replace load reservation station with a load queue; operands must be read in the order they are fetched.
  – Load checks addresses in Store Queue to avoid RAW violation
  – Store checks addresses in Load Queue to avoid WAR, WAW.

• Called “Decoupled Architecture”
Multiple Instruction Issue Challenges

• While a two-issue single Integer/FP split is simple in hardware, we get a CPI of 0.5 only for programs with:
  – Exactly 50% FP operations
  – No hazards of any type.

• If more instructions issue at the same time, greater difficulty of decode and issue operations arise:
  – Even for a 2-issue superscalar machine, we have to examine 2 opcodes, 6 register specifiers, and decide if 1 or 2 instructions can issue.

• VLIW: tradeoff instruction space for simple decoding
  – The long instruction word has room for many operations.
  – By definition, all the operations the compiler puts in the long instruction word are independent => execute in parallel
  – E.g. 2 integer operations, 2 FP ops, 2 Memory refs, 1 branch
    • 16 to 24 bits per field => 7*16 or 112 bits to 7*24 or 168 bits wide
  – Need compiling technique that schedules across several branches.
Limits to Multiple Instruction Issue Machines

• Inherent limitations of ILP:
  – If 1 branch exist for every 5 instruction: How to keep a 5-way VLIW busy?
  – Latencies of unit adds complexity to the many operations that must be scheduled every cycle.
  – For maximum performance multiple instruction issue requires about:
    
    Pipeline Depth \times \text{No. Functional Units}

    independent instructions per cycle.

• Hardware implementation complexities:
  – Duplicate FUs for parallel execution are needed.
  – More instruction bandwidth is essential.
  – Increased number of ports to Register File (datapath bandwidth):
    • VLIW example needs 7 read and 3 write for Int. Reg.
    & 5 read and 3 write for FP reg
  – Increased ports to memory (to improve memory bandwidth).
  – Superscalar decoding complexity may impact pipeline clock rate.
Hardware Support for Extracting More Parallelism

- Compiler ILP techniques (loop-unrolling, software Pipelining etc.) are not effective to uncover maximum ILP when branch behavior is not well known at compile time.

- Hardware ILP techniques:
  - **Conditional or Predicted Instructions:** An extension to the instruction set with instructions that turn into no-ops if a condition is not valid at run time.
  - **Speculation:** An instruction is executed before the processor knows that the instruction should execute to avoid control dependence stalls:
    - **Static Speculation** by the compiler with hardware support:
      - The compiler labels an instruction as speculative and the hardware helps by ignoring the outcome of incorrectly speculated instructions.
      - Conditional instructions provide limited speculation.
    - **Dynamic Hardware-based Speculation:**
      - Uses dynamic branch-prediction to guide the speculation process.
      - Dynamic scheduling and execution continued passed a conditional branch in the predicted branch direction.
Conditional or Predicted Instructions

• Avoid branch prediction by turning branches into conditionally-executed instructions:
  
  \[
  \text{if (x) then (A = B op C) else NOP}
  \]

  – If false, then neither store result nor cause exception: instruction is annulled (turned into NOP).
  – Expanded ISA of Alpha, MIPS, PowerPC, SPARC have conditional move.
  – HP PA-RISC can annul any following instruction.
  – IA-64: 64 1-bit condition fields selected so conditional execution of any instruction.

• Drawbacks of conditional instructions
  – Still takes a clock cycle even if “annulled”.
  – Must stall if condition is evaluated late.
  – Complex conditions reduce effectiveness; condition becomes known late in pipeline.
Dynamic Hardware-Based Speculation

• Combines:
  – Dynamic hardware-based branch prediction
  – Dynamic Scheduling: of multiple instructions to issue and execute out of order.

• Continue to dynamically issue, and execute instructions passed a conditional branch in the dynamically predicted branch direction, before control dependencies are resolved.
  – This overcomes the ILP limitations of the basic block size.
  – Creates dynamically speculated instructions at run-time with no compiler support at all.
  – If a branch turns out as mispredicted all such dynamically speculated instructions must be prevented from changing the state of the machine (registers, memory).
    • Addition of commit (retire or re-ordering) stage and forcing instructions to commit in their order in the code (i.e. to write results to registers or memory).
    • Precise exceptions are possible since instructions must commit in order.
Hardware-Based Speculation

Speculative Execution + Tomasulo’s Algorithm
Four Steps of Speculative Tomasulo Algorithm

1. Issue — Get an instruction from FP Op Queue
   
   If a reservation station and a reorder buffer slot are free, issue instruction & send operands & reorder buffer number for destination (this stage is sometimes called “dispatch”)

2. Execution — Operate on operands (EX)
   
   When both operands are ready then execute; if not ready, watch CDB for result; when both operands are in reservation station, execute; checks RAW (sometimes called “issue”)

3. Write result — Finish execution (WB)
   
   Write on Common Data Bus to all awaiting FUs & reorder buffer; mark reservation station available.

4. Commit — Update registers, memory with reorder buffer result
   
   When an instruction is at head of reorder buffer & the result is present, update register with result (or store to memory) and remove instruction from reorder buffer.

   - A mispredicted branch at the head of the reorder buffer flushes the reorder buffer (sometimes called “graduation”)

   ⇒ Instructions issue, execute (EX), write result (WB) out of order but must commit in order.
Advantages of HW (Tomasulo) vs. SW (VLIW) Speculation

- HW determines address conflicts.
- HW provides better branch prediction.
- HW maintains precise exception model.
- HW does not execute bookkeeping instructions.
- Works across multiple implementations
- SW speculation is much easier for HW design.
ILP Compiler Support: Dependence Detection/Elimination

- Compilers can increase the utilization of ILP by better detection of instruction dependencies.
- To detect loop-carried dependence in a loop, the GCD test can be used by the compiler.
- If an array element with index: \( axi + b \) is stored and element: \( cxi + d \) is loaded where index runs from \( m \) to \( n \), a dependence exist if the following two conditions hold:

  1. Two iteration indices, \( j \) and \( k \), \( m \leq j \), \( K \leq n \)
     (exist within iteration limits)
  2. The loop stores into an array element indexed by:
     \[ axj + b \]
     and later loads from the same array the element
     \[ cxk + d \]
     where:
     \[ axj + b = cxk + d \]
The Greatest Common Divisor (GCD) Test

- A loop carried dependence exists if:

\[ \text{GCD}(c, a) \text{ must divide } (d-b) \]

Example:

\[
\text{for}(i=1; \ i<=100; \ i=i+1) \ \{ \\
\quad \text{x}[2*I+3] = \text{x}[2*i] * 5.0; \\
\} \\
\]

\[
a = 2 \quad b = 3 \quad c = 2 \quad d = 0 \\
\text{GCD}(a, c) = 2 \\
\quad d - b = -3 \\
\]

2 does not divide -3  \(\Rightarrow\) No dependence possible.
ILP Compiler Support:
Software Pipelining (Symbolic Loop Unrolling)

– A compiler technique where loops are reorganized:
  • Each iteration is made from interleaved instructions selected from a number of iterations of the original loop.
  • The instructions are selected to separate dependent instructions within the original loop iterations.
  • No actual loop-unrolling is performed.
  • A software equivalent to the Tomasulo approach.

– Requires:
  • Additional start-up code to execute code left out from the first original loop iteration.
  • Additional finish code to execute instructions left out from the last original loop iteration.
Software Pipelining Example

Before: Unrolled 3 times
1. LD F0,0(R1)
2. ADDD F4,F0,F2
3. SD 0(R1),F4
4. LD F6,-8(R1)
5. ADDD F8,F6,F2
6. SD -8(R1),F8
7. LD F10,-16(R1)
8. ADDD F12,F10,F2
9. SD -16(R1),F12
10. SUBI R1,R1,#24
11. BNEZ R1,LOOP

After: Software Pipelined
1. SD 0(R1),F4 ; Stores M[i]
2. ADDD F4,F0,F2 ; Adds to M[i-1]
3. LD F0,-16(R1); Loads M[i-2]
4. SUBI R1,R1,#8
5. BNEZ R1,LOOP

• Symbolic Loop Unrolling
  – Maximize result-use distance
  – Less code space than unrolling
  – Fill & drain pipe only once per loop
    vs. once per each unrolled iteration in loop unrolling
FIGURE 4.30 A software-pipelined loop chooses instructions from different loop iterations, thus separating the dependent instructions within one iteration of the original loop.
Software Pipelining: Symbolic Loop Unrolling

(a) Software pipelining

(b) Loop unrolling

FIGURE 4.31 The execution pattern for (a) a software-pipelined loop and (b) an unrolled loop.