

Introduction

Rodolfo Azevedo

MO601



Why Processors Evolve?

- New microarchitectural findings
 - Caches, branch predictions, renaming, ...
- Technology scaling
 - Relative speeds of gates vs wires
- Workload evolution
 - New software (desktop, mobile, server, UI, ...)

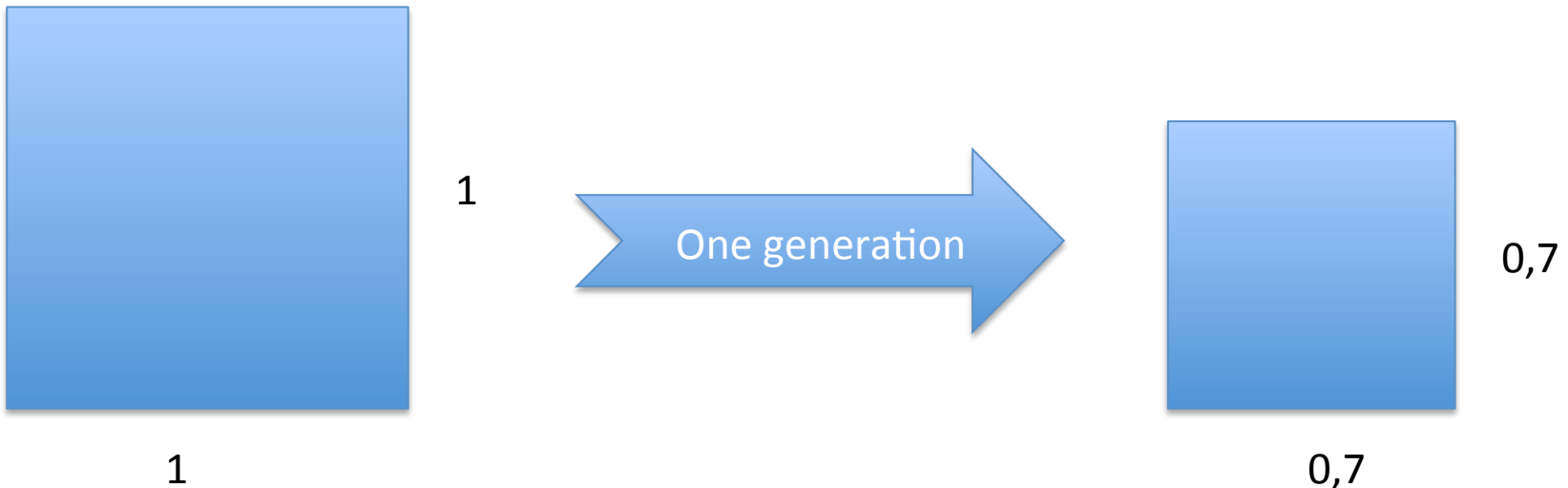


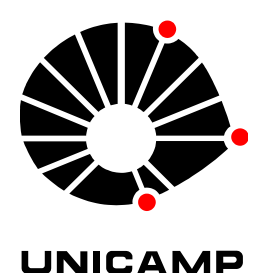
Architecture vs Microarchitecture

- Architecture is the model
 - x86, ARM, ...
- Microarchitecture is implementation
 - Intel i7, AMD K8, ...
- Instruction Set Architecture can be seen as the border
 - ISA can make it easier or more difficult to implement microarchitectures

Moore's Law

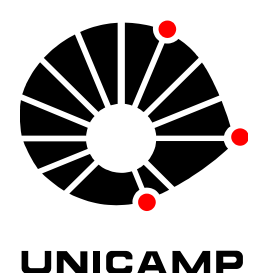
- Transistor density double every 2 years
 - 90nm, 65nm, 45nm, 32nm, 22nm, 14nm, ...





Microarchitecture Classification

- Pipeline vs Nonpipeline
- In-Order vs Out-of-Order
- Scalar vs SuperScalar
- Vector
- Multicore
- Multithreaded



Pipeline vs Nonpipelined

- Split execution into phases
- Increase Instruction Level Parallelism (ILP)
- Cost effective
- Almost all processors



In-Order vs Out-of-Order

- In-Order executes instructions in the order they appeared in the binary
- Out-of-Order executes instructions as soon as they are able to
- How can a processor execute one instruction before the previous one?
 - What is necessary?
 - What about ILP?
 - What about hardware complexity?



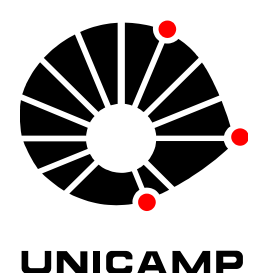
Scalar vs Superscalar

- Scalar cannot execute more than 1 instruction in at least one of the pipeline stages
 - $IPC \leq 1$
- Superscalar is able to execute more than 1 instruction in any of its stages
 - IPC can be > 1
- VLIW
 - In-order
 - Instruction order stated in the binary
 - Latencies exposed to programmer/compiler



Vector

- Instructions that operate on vectors
 - Traditionally big processors with big vectors
 - Currently instruction extensions for vector operations
- SIMD (Single Instruction, Multiple Data)
- Intel AVX is vectors can hold 8 single-precision FP elements



Multicore

- Multiple cores in the same die
- Can run multiple programs or multiple threads
 - Process vs Threads?
- Each core is, usually, completely independent
- Cache coherence



Multithreaded

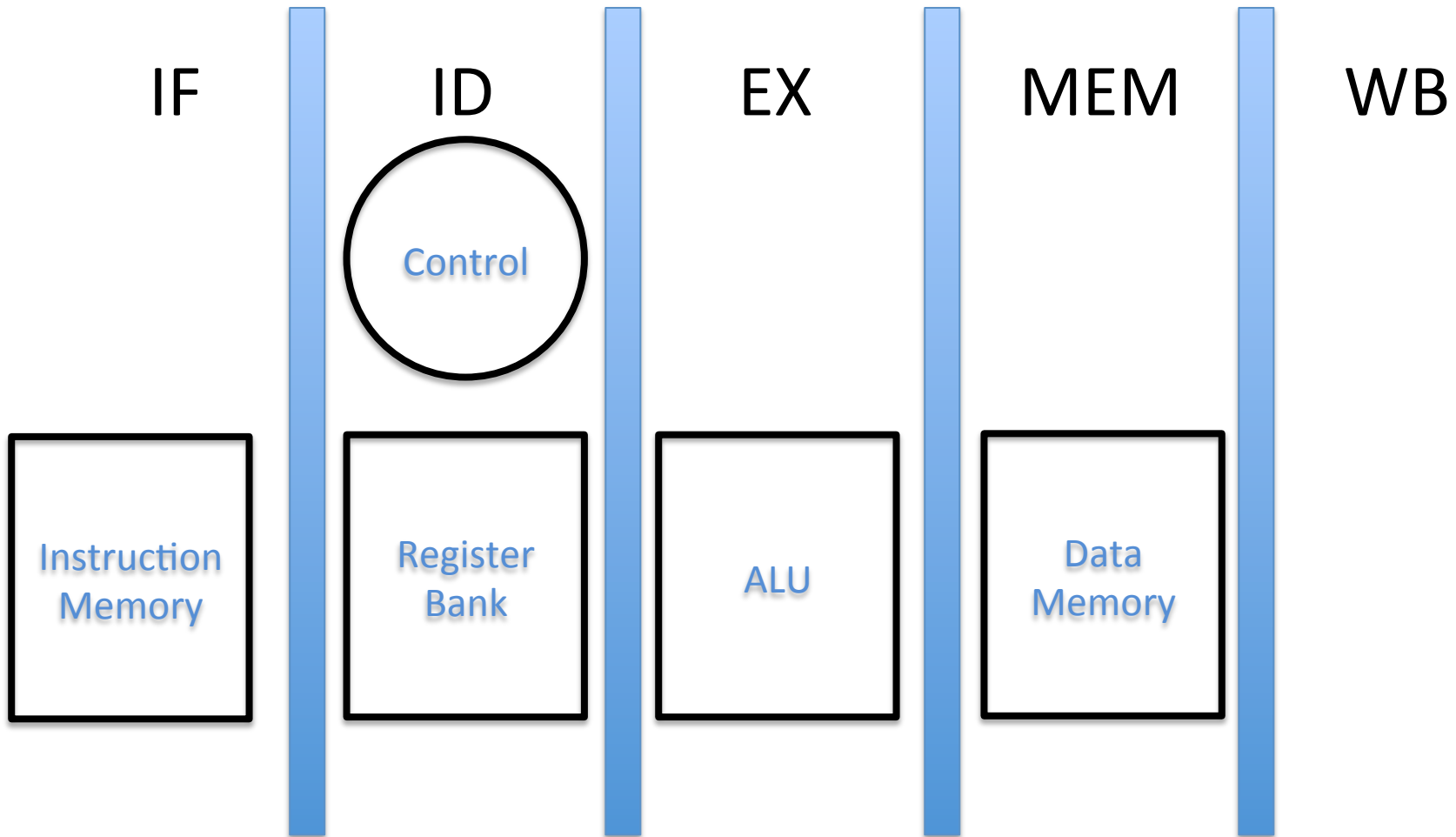
- Share physical resources among different threads on the same core
- Only need to replicate a few set of resources
 - PC
 - Register files
 - Some control registers
- Uses less resources than multicore
- A multicore processor can be multithreaded



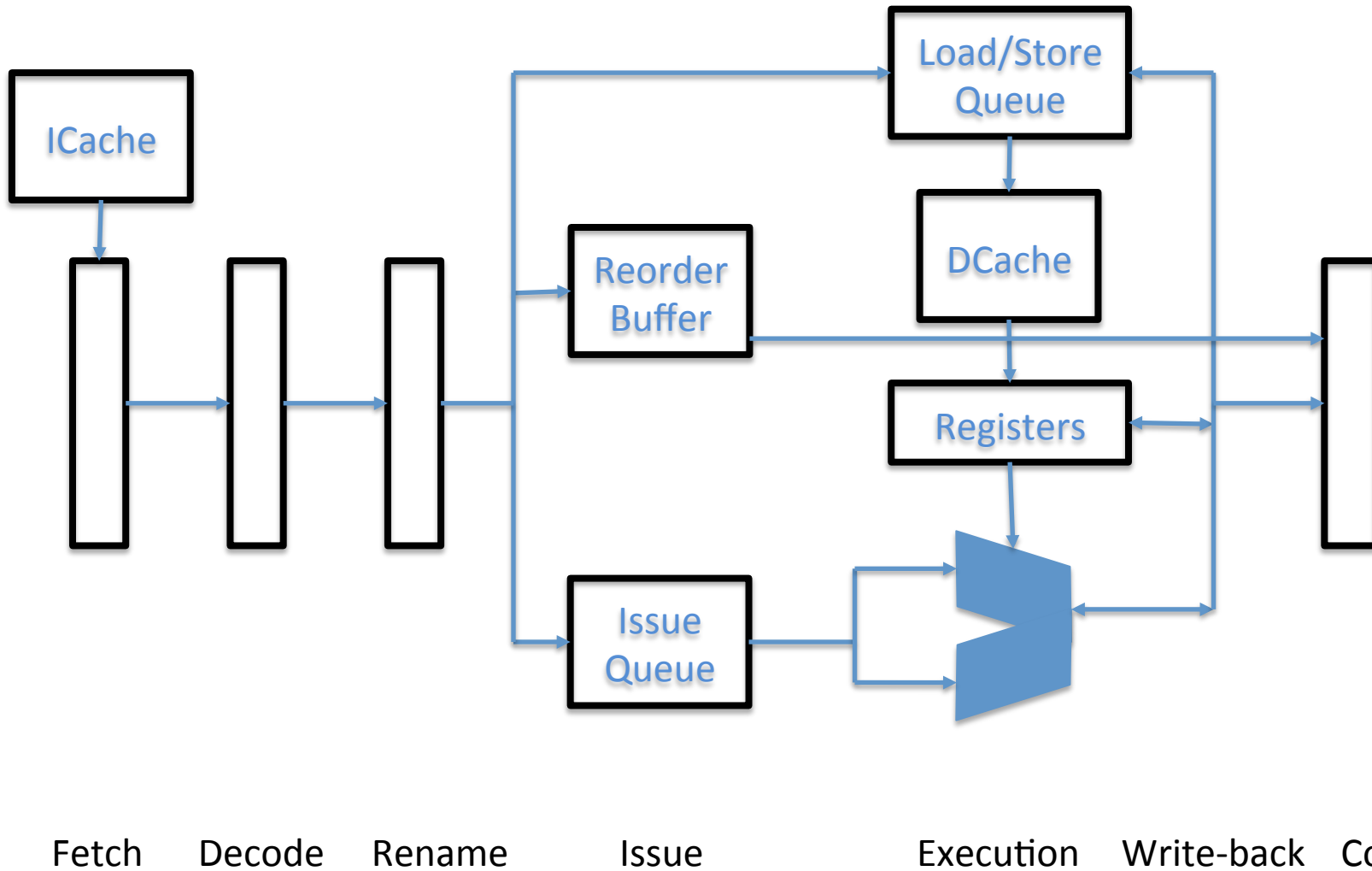
Market Segments

- Servers
 - Multiple processors, computing power and power dissipation
- Desktop
 - Computing power and noise
- Mobile
 - Energy consumption, computing power
- Ultramobile
 - Energy consumption
- Embedded
 - Multiple aspects such as performance vs power consumption

Conventional 5-stage Pipeline



Detailed View





Checkpoint Task

- Just to check your environment
- Create a folder in your repository
 - checkpoint
- Inside it, create
 - checkpoint.c
 - When executed, should output a file called checkpoint.csv
 - checkpoint.plot
 - GNUPlot script to plot checkpoint.csv and create checkpoint.pdf
 - Makefile
 - Must have three rules, **all** to compile, **run** to execute, **clean** to remove all garbage generated
- Deadline: aug/26th – 6PM



SPEC tips

- Configure and install in your computer
- In the specific config file, use the options
 - `use_submit_for_speed = 1`
 - `submit = ... "$command"`
- Look for the `specrun` command manual
- Execute for smaller inputs first to test your programs