

Introduction

Rodolfo Azevedo MO801



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

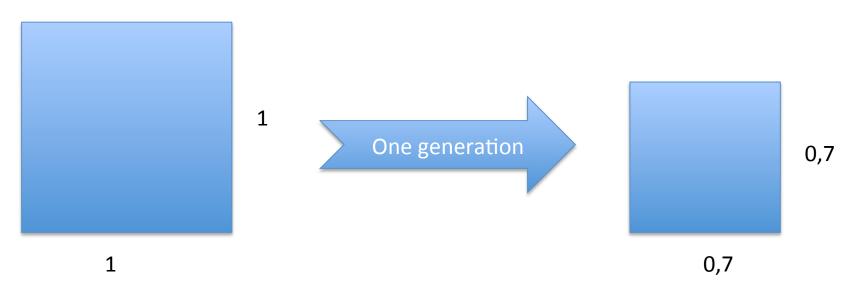
- Architecture is the model
 - x86, ARM, ...
- Microarchitecture is implementation
 - Intel i7, AMD K8, ...
- Instruction Set Architecture can be seen as the border
 - ISA can make it easier or more difficult do implement microarchitectures



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 <= 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

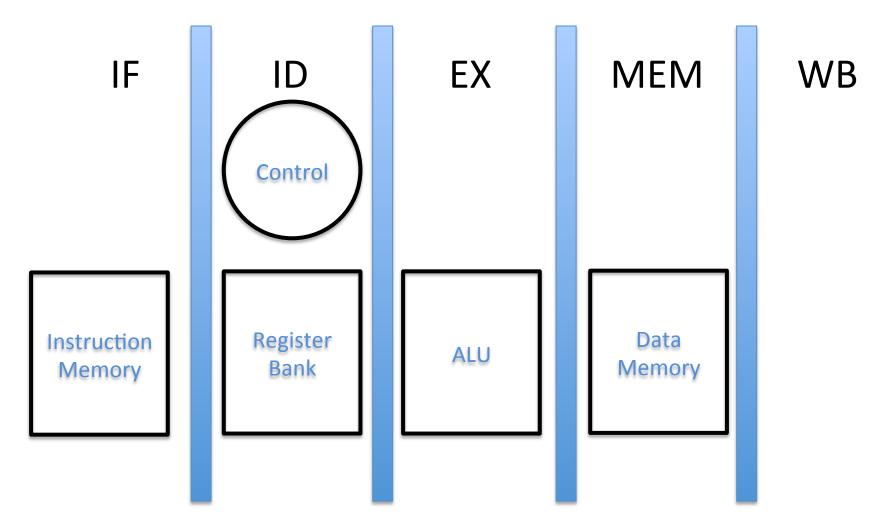


Market Segments

- 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

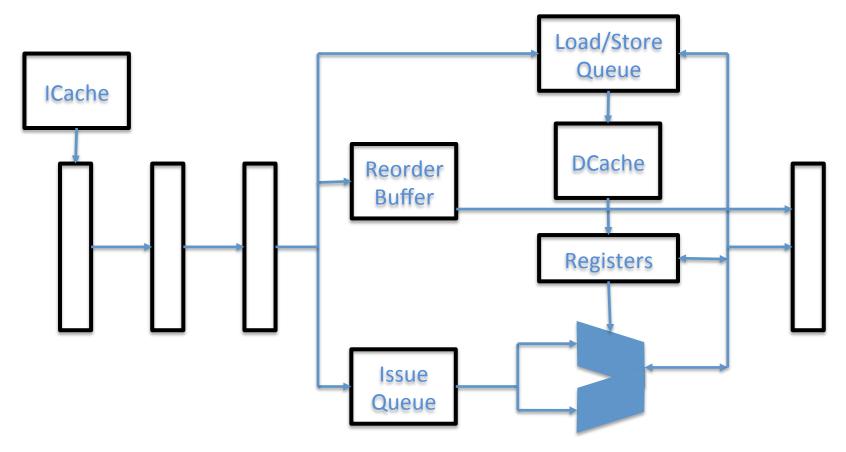


Conventional 5-stage Pipeline





Detailed View



Fetch Decode Rename Issue Execution Write-back Commit



Short Presentations

- 3 minutes
- Topics discussed in last class
- Any question?