

Fiscal Year 2023

Ver. 2024-01-15a

Course number: CSC.T433
School of Computing,
Graduate major in Computer Science

Advanced Computer Architecture

8. Instruction Level Parallelism: Exploiting ILP Using Multiple Issue and Speculation

www.arch.cs.titech.ac.jp/lecture/ACA/
Room No.W834, Lecture (Face-to-face)
Mon 13:30-15:10, Thr 13:30-15:10

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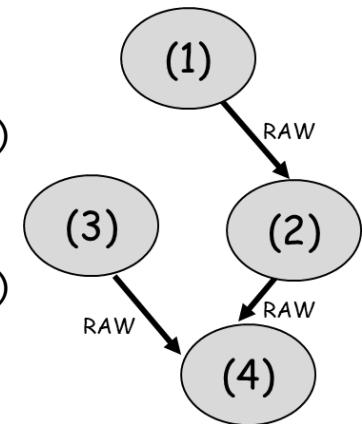
Exploiting Instruction Level parallelism (ILP)



- A superscalar has to handle some flows efficiently to exploit ILP
 - Control flow (control dependence)
 - To execute n instructions per clock cycle, the processor has to fetch at least n instructions per cycle.
 - The main obstacles are branch instruction (BNE)
 - Prediction
 - Another obstacle is instruction cache
 - Register data flow (data dependence)
 - **Out-of-order execution**
 - Register renaming
 - **Dynamic scheduling**
 - Memory data flow
 - Out-of-order execution
 - Another obstacle is data cache

(1) add $x5, x1, x2$
(2) add $x9, x5, x3$
(3) lw $x4, 4(x7)$
(4) add $x8, x9, x4$

(3) lw $x4, 4(x7)$
(1) add $x5, x1, x2$
(2) add $x9, x5, x3$
(4) add $x8, x9, x4$



Hardware register renaming (last lecture)

- Logical registers (architectural registers) which are ones defined by ISA
 - $x0, x1, \dots x31$
- Physical registers
 - Assuming plenty of registers are available, $p0, p1, p2, \dots$
- A processor renames (converts) each **logical register** to a unique **physical register** dynamically in the **renaming stage**

Typical instruction pipeline of scalar processor



Typical instruction pipeline of high-performance superscalar processor



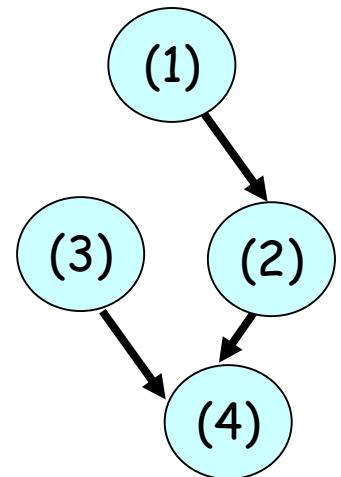
dequeue & allocate

collect & enqueue

Out-of-order execution (OoO execution)



- In **in-order execution model**, all instructions are executed in the order that they appear as (1), (2), (3), (4) ...
This can lead to unnecessary stalls.
 - Instruction (3) stalls waiting for insn (2) to go first, even though it does not have a data dependence.
- With **out-of-order execution**,
 - Using register renaming to eliminate output dependence and antidependence, just having true data dependence
 - insn (3) is allowed to be executed before the insn (2)
 - A key design philosophy behind OoO execution to extract ILP by executing instructions as quickly as possible.
 - **Scoreboarding** (CDC6600 in 1964)
 - **Tomasulo algorithm**
(IBM System/360 Model 91 in 1967)



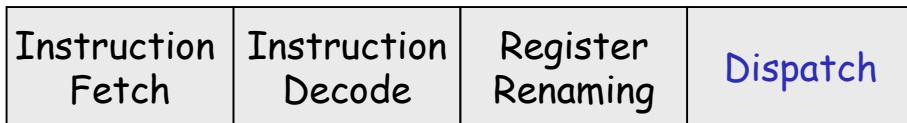
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Data flow graph



Instruction pipeline of OoO execution processor

- Allocating instructions to **instruction window** is called **dispatch**
- Issue** or **fire** wakes up instructions and their executions begin
- In **commit** stage, the computed values are written back to **ROB (reorder buffer)**
- The last stage is called **retire** or **graduate**. The completed **consecutive** instructions can be retired.
The result is written back to **register file** (architectural register file) using a logical register number.



In-order front-end

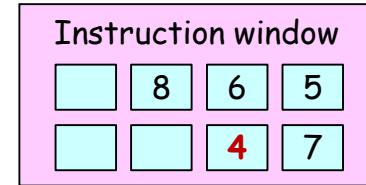
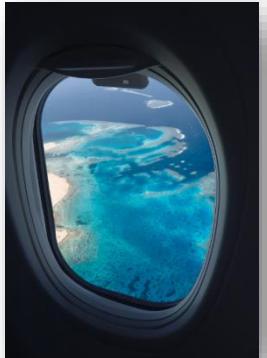
Out-of-order back-end



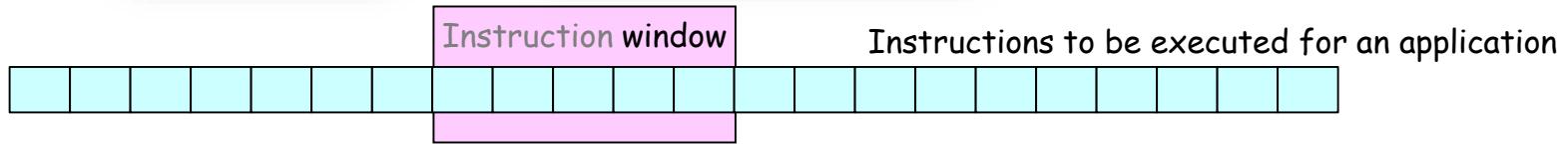
In-order retirement

Aside: What is a window?

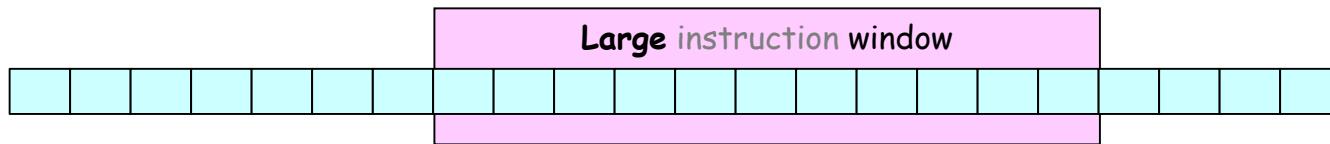
- A window is a space in the wall of a building or in the side of a vehicle, which has glass in it so that light can come in and you can see out. (Collins)



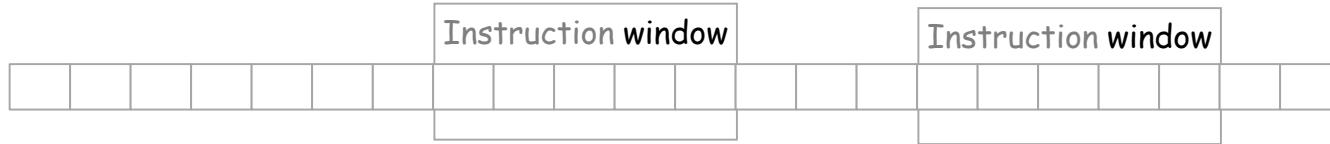
(a)



(b)

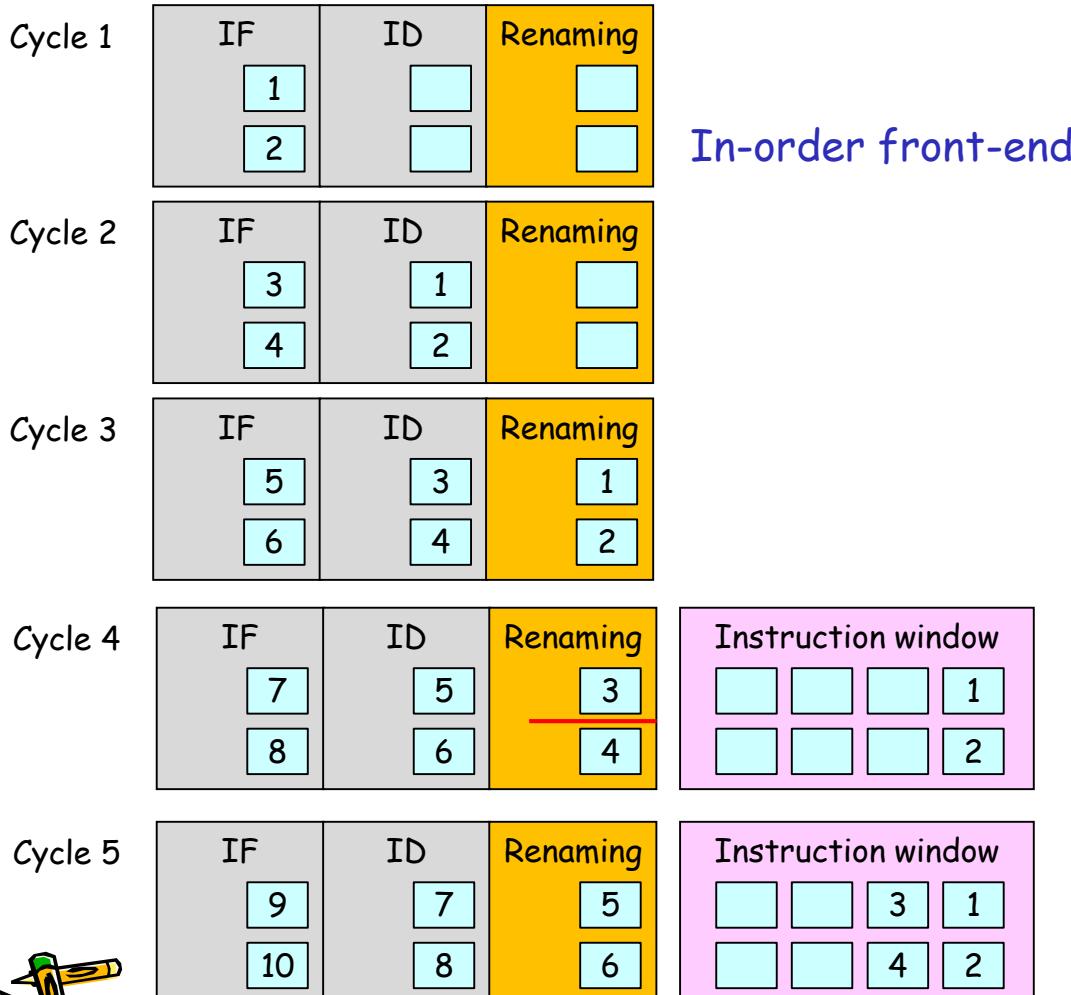


(c)

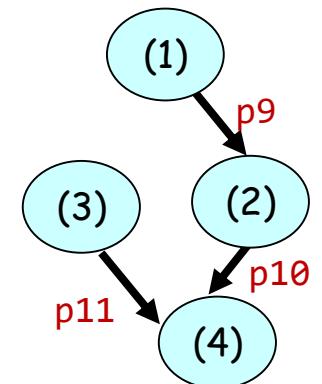


The key idea for OoO execution (1/3)

- In-order front-end, OoO execution core, in-order retirement using instruction window and reorder buffer (ROB)

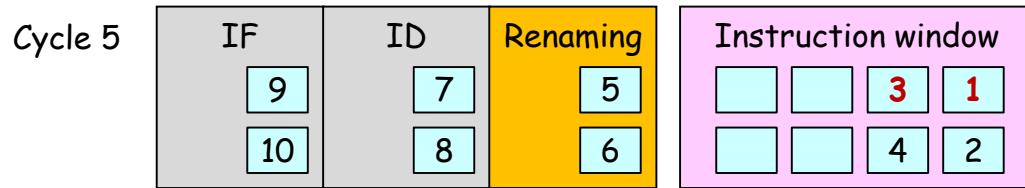


I1: sub p9, p1, p2
I2: add p10, p9, p3
I3: or p11, p4, p5
I4: and p12, p10, p11

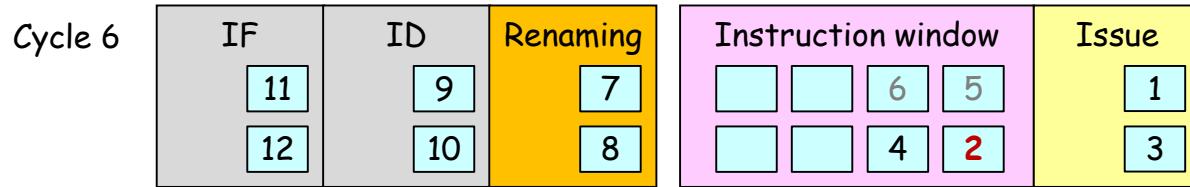


The key idea for OoO execution (2/3)

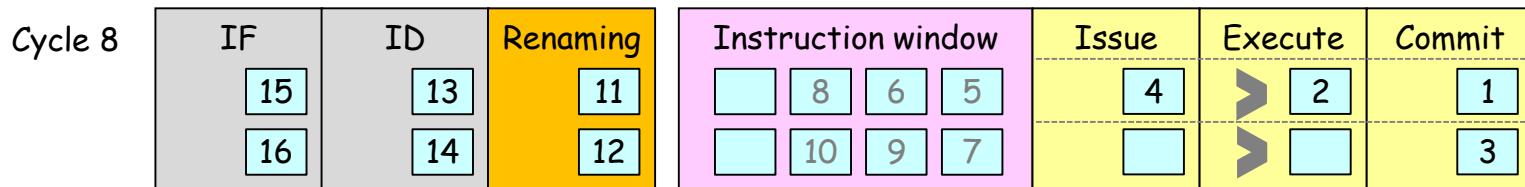
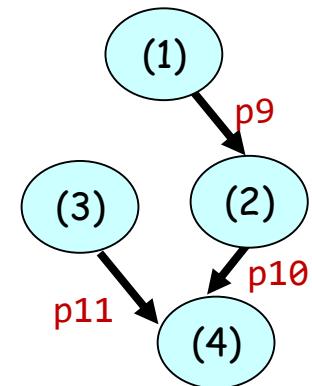
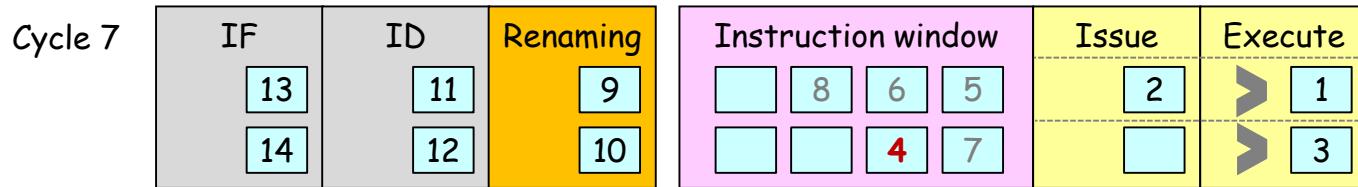
- In-order front-end, OoO execution core, in-order retirement using **instruction window** and reorder buffer (ROB)



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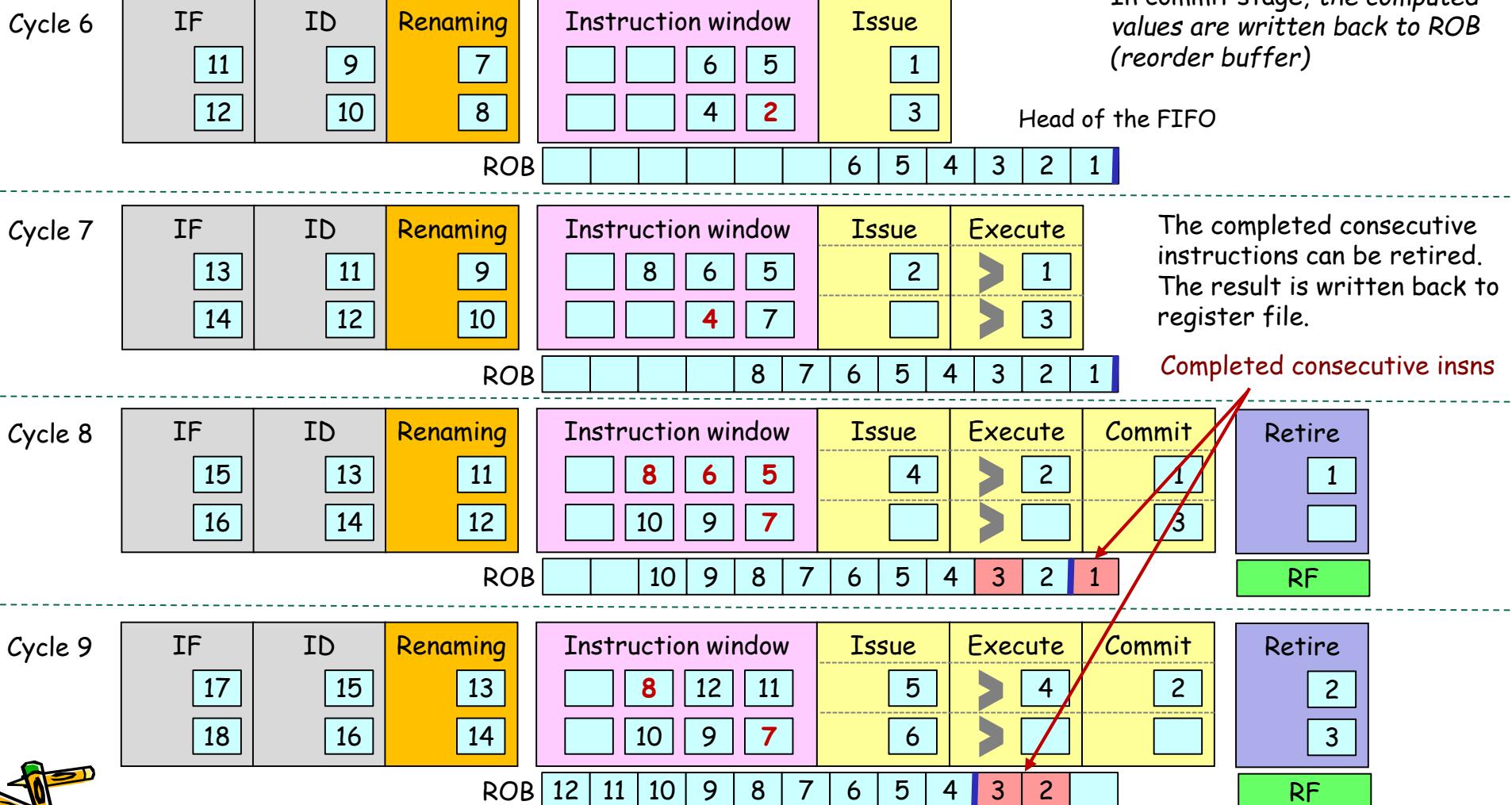


We assume that I1 and I3 can be issued at cycle 6 by dependence.



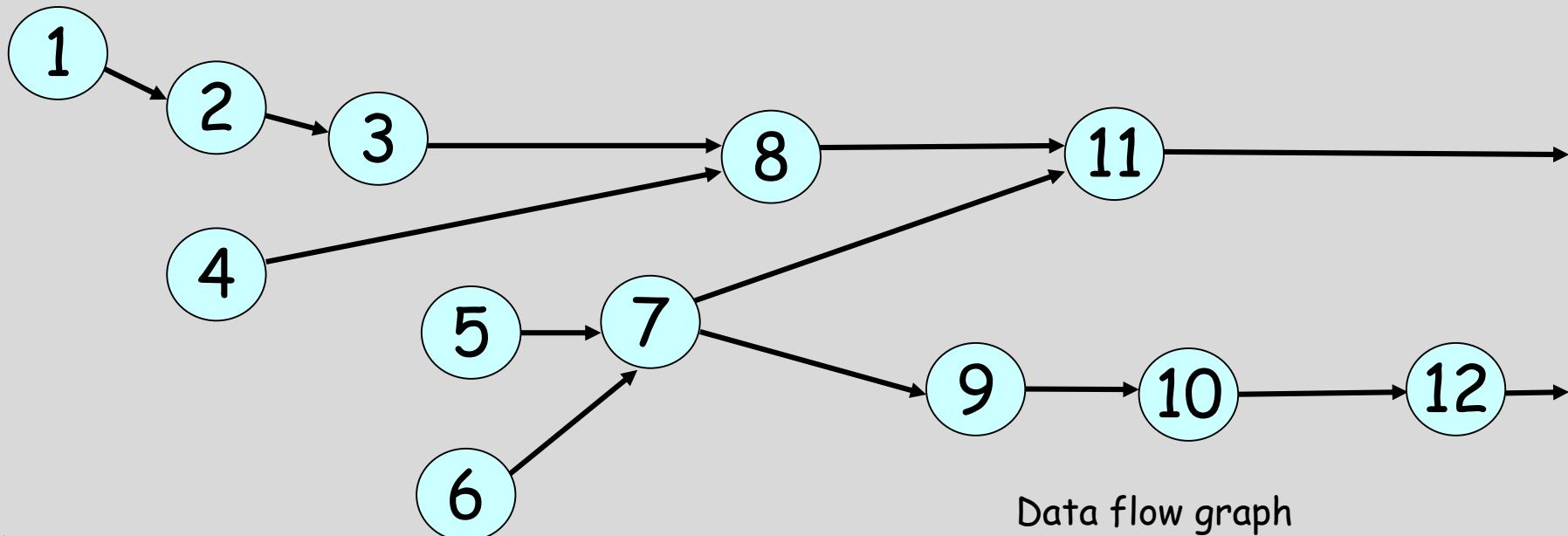
The key idea for OoO execution (3/3)

- In-order front-end, OoO execution core, in-order retirement using instruction window and reorder buffer (ROB)



Exercise 1

- OoO execution
- Fill out the cycle by cycle processing behavior of these 12 instructions
 - *wakeup*
 - *select*



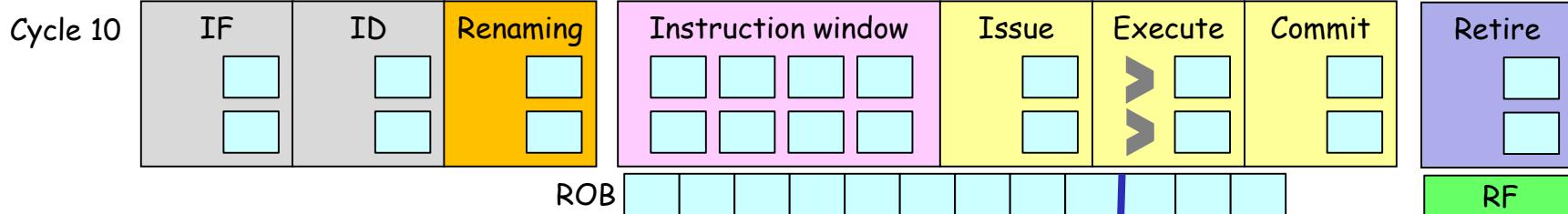
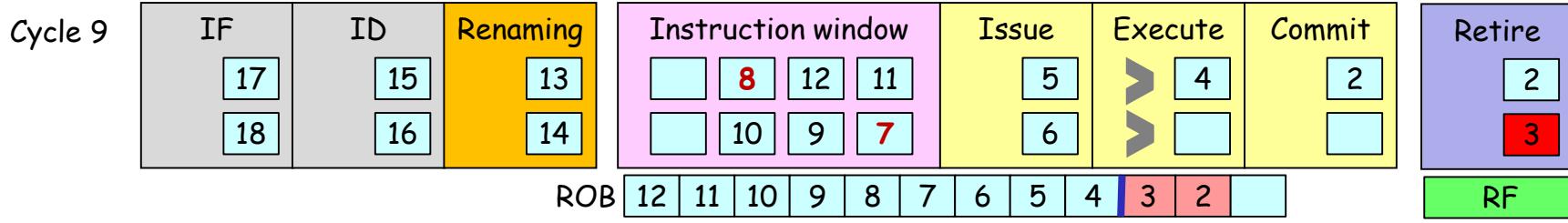
Data flow graph



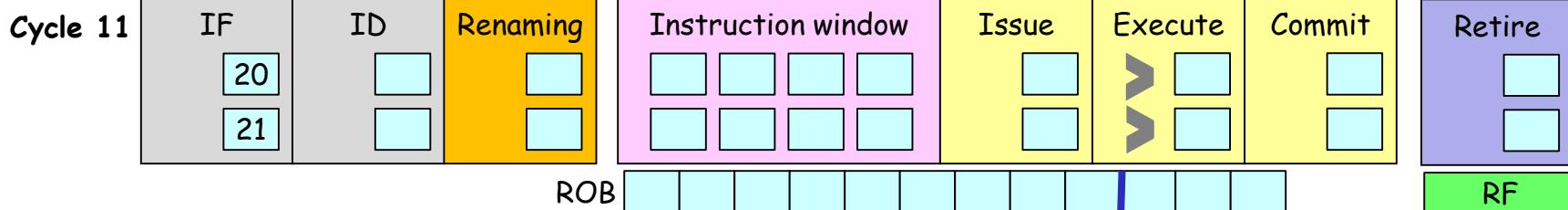
Prediction miss and recovery



- Assume that instruction 3 is a miss predicted branch and its target insn is 20
- When insn 3 is retired, it recovers by flushing all instructions and restart
- Register file (and PC) has the architecture state after insn 3 is executed



Recovery by flushing instructions on the wrong path (may take several cycles)



Restart by fetching instructions using the correct PC

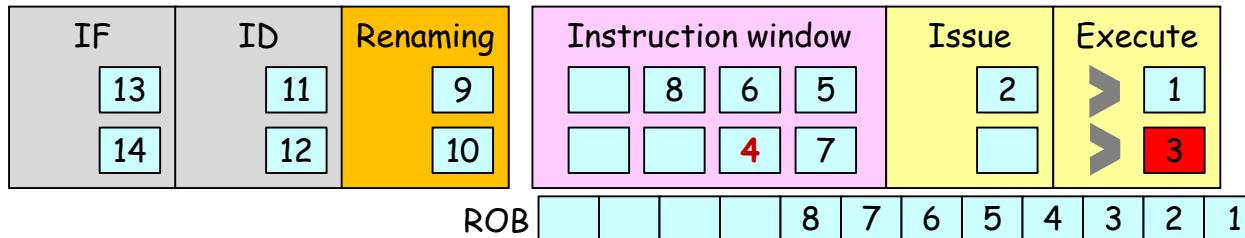


Branch prediction miss and aggressive recovery

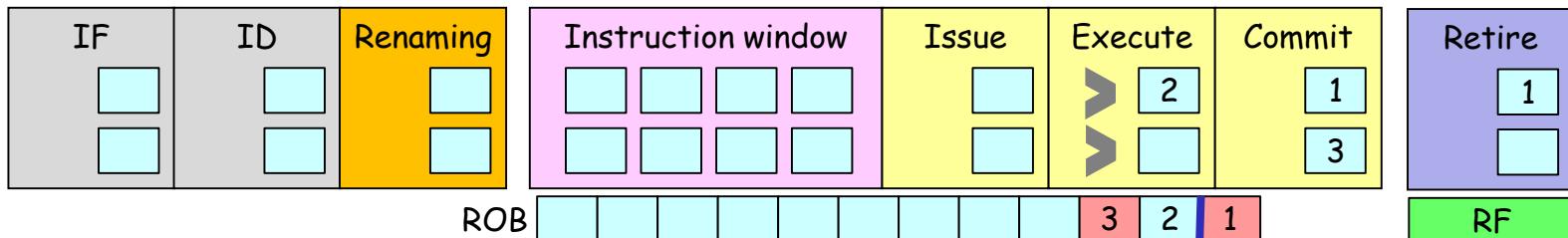


- Instruction 3 is a miss predicted branch and its target insn is 20
- When insn 3 is executed, it recovers by flushing instructions after insn 3 and restarts

Cycle 7

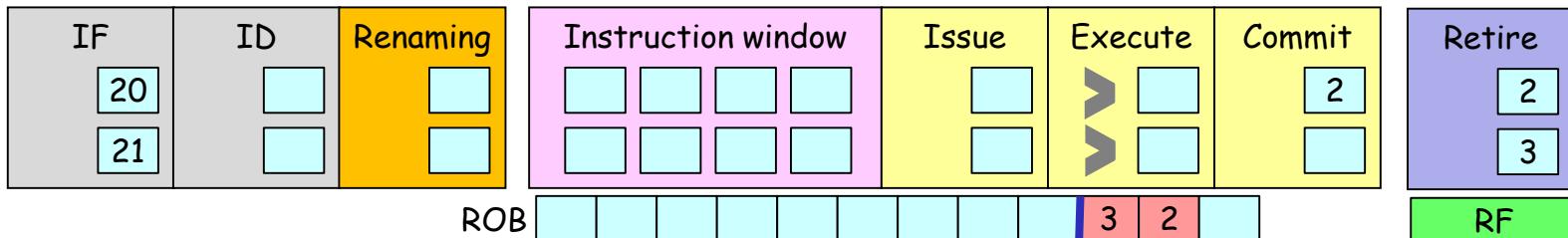


Cycle 8



Recovery by flushing instructions on the wrong path (may takes several cycles)

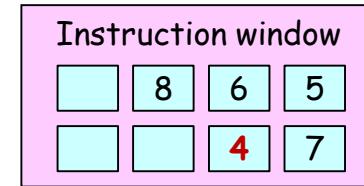
Cycle 9



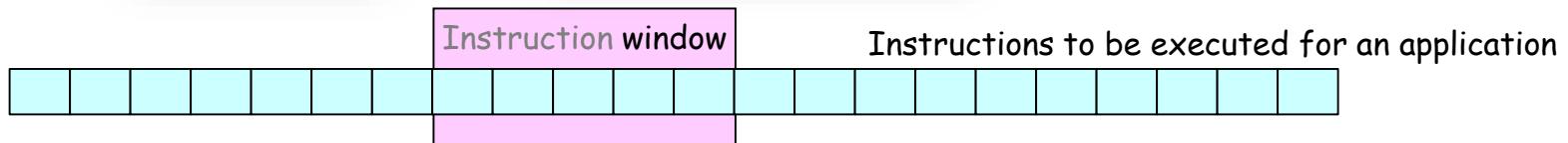
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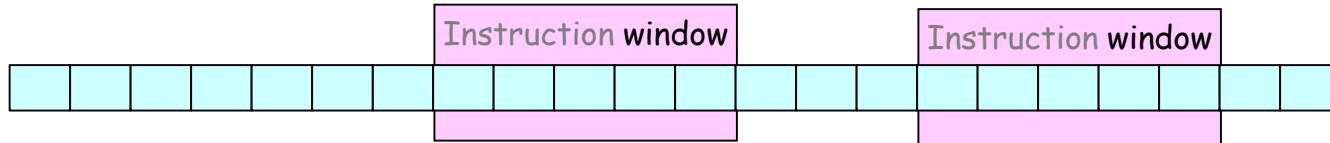
(a)



(b)

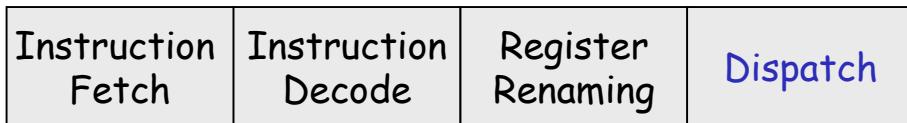


(c)



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In-order front-end

Out-of-order back-end



In-order retirement



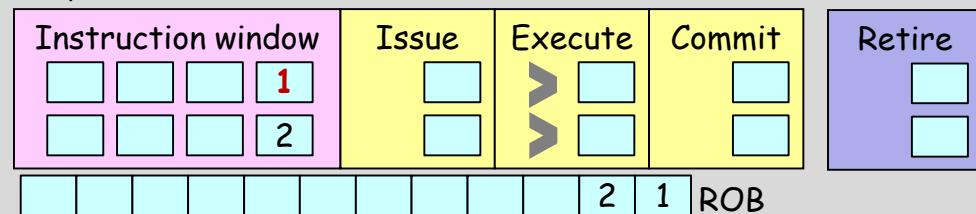
Recommended Reading

- **Clockhands: Rename-free Instruction Set Architecture for Out-of-order Processors**
 - Toru Koizumi (NITech), Ryota Shioya, Shu Sugita, Taichi Amano, Yuya Degawa, Junichiro Kadomoto, Hidetsugu Irie, Shuichi Sakai (U.Tokyo)
 - 56th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO'23)
- A quote:

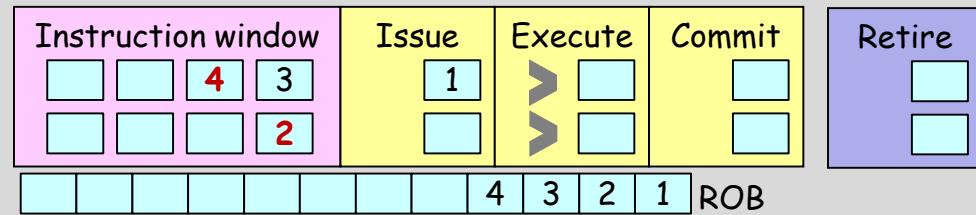
"Out-of-order superscalar processors are currently the only architecture that speeds up irregular programs, but they suffer from poor power efficiency. To tackle this issue, we focused on how to specify register operands. Specifying operands by register names, as conventional RISC does, requires register renaming, resulting in poor power efficiency and preventing an increase in the front-end width. In contrast, a recently proposed architecture called STRAIGHT specifies operands by inter-instruction distance, thereby eliminating register renaming. However, STRAIGHT has strong constraints on instruction placement, which generally results in a large increase in the number of instructions."
- We propose *Clockhands*, a novel instruction set architecture that has multiple register groups and specifies a value as "the value written in this register group k times before." *Clockhands* does not require register renaming as in STRAIGHT. In contrast, *Clockhands* has much looser constraints on instruction placement than STRAIGHT, allowing programs to be written with almost the same number of instructions as Conventional RISC. We implemented a cycle-accurate simulator, FPGA implementation, and first-step compiler for *Clockhands* and evaluated benchmarks including SPEC CPU. On a machine with an eight-fetch width, the evaluation results showed that *Clockhands* consumes 7.4% less energy than RISC while having performance comparable to RISC. This energy reduction increases significantly to 24.4% when simulating a futuristic up-scaled processor with a 16-fetch width, which shows that *Clockhands* enables a wider front-end."



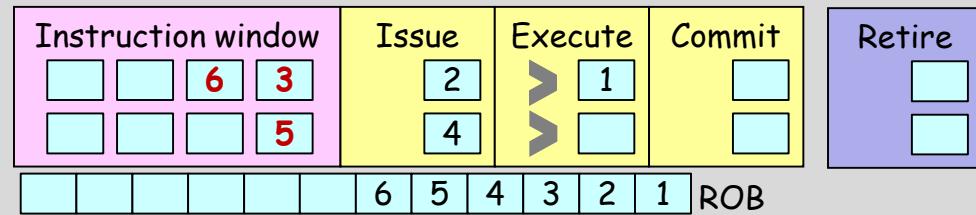
Cycle 1



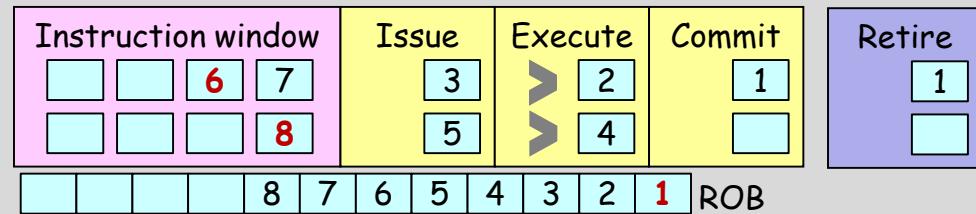
Cycle 2



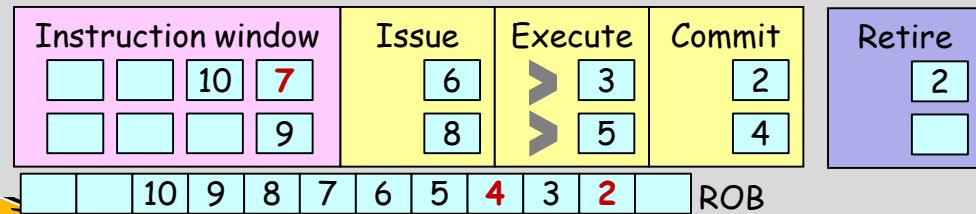
Cycle 3



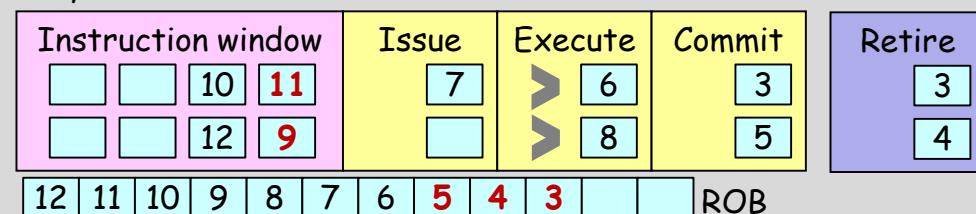
Cycle 4



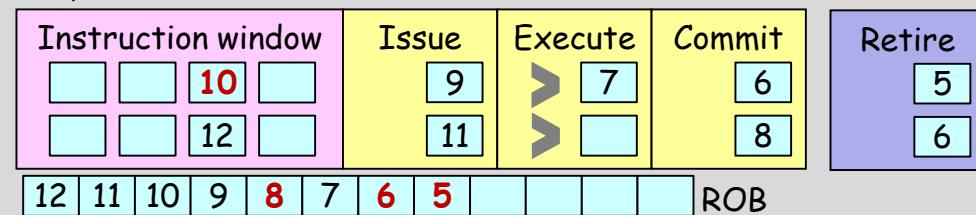
Cycle 5



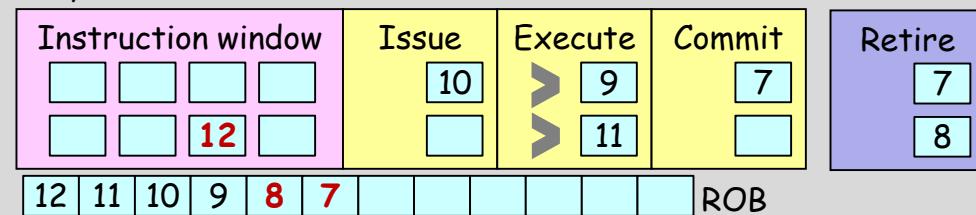
Cycle 6



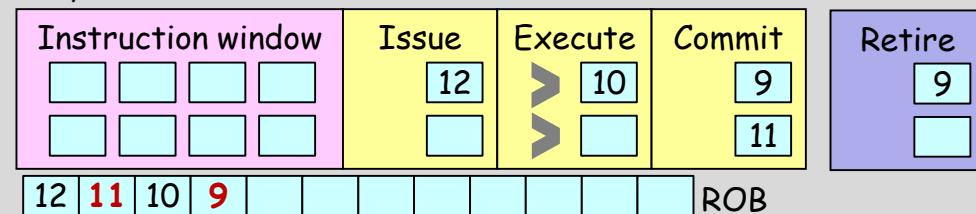
Cycle 7



Cycle 8



Cycle 9



Cycle 10

