

# Prelim 3 Review

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**CS 3410, Spring 2013**

Computer Science

Cornell University

# Administrivia

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## ***Pizza party:*** Project3 Games Night Cache Race

- **Tomorrow**, Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00pm
- **Location: Upson B17**

## Prelim 3

- **Tonight**, Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm
- **Two Locations: PHL101 and UPSB17**
  - If NetID *begins* with 'a' to 'j', then go to **PHL101 (Phillips 101)**
  - If NetID *begins* with 'k' to 'z', then go to **UPSB17 (Upson B17)**

## Project4: Final project out next week

- **Demos: May 14-15**
- ***Will not be able to use slip days***

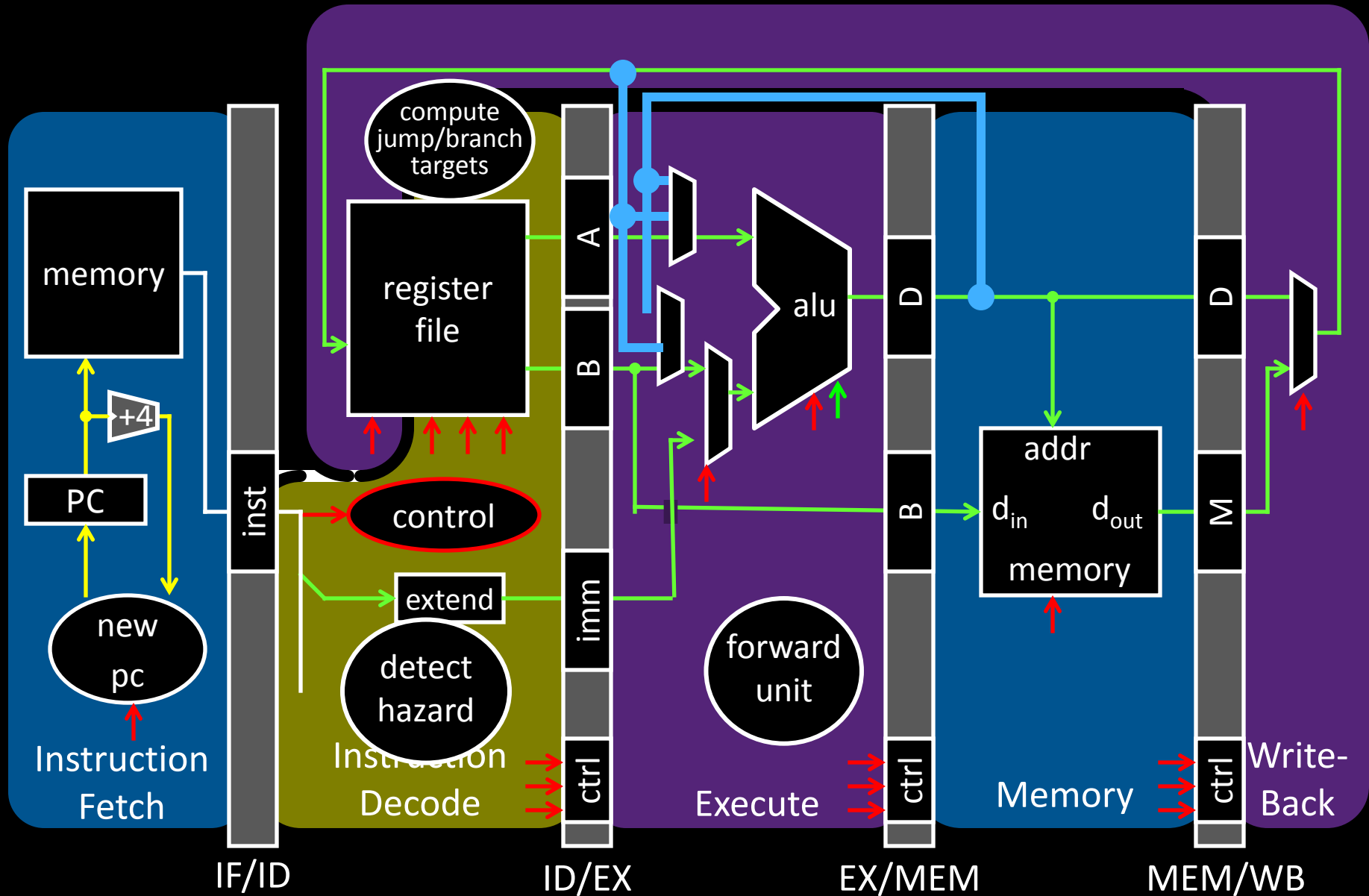
# Goals for Today

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## Prelim 3 review

- Caching,
- Virtual Memory, Paging, TLBs
- Operating System, Traps, Exceptions,
- Multicore and synchronization

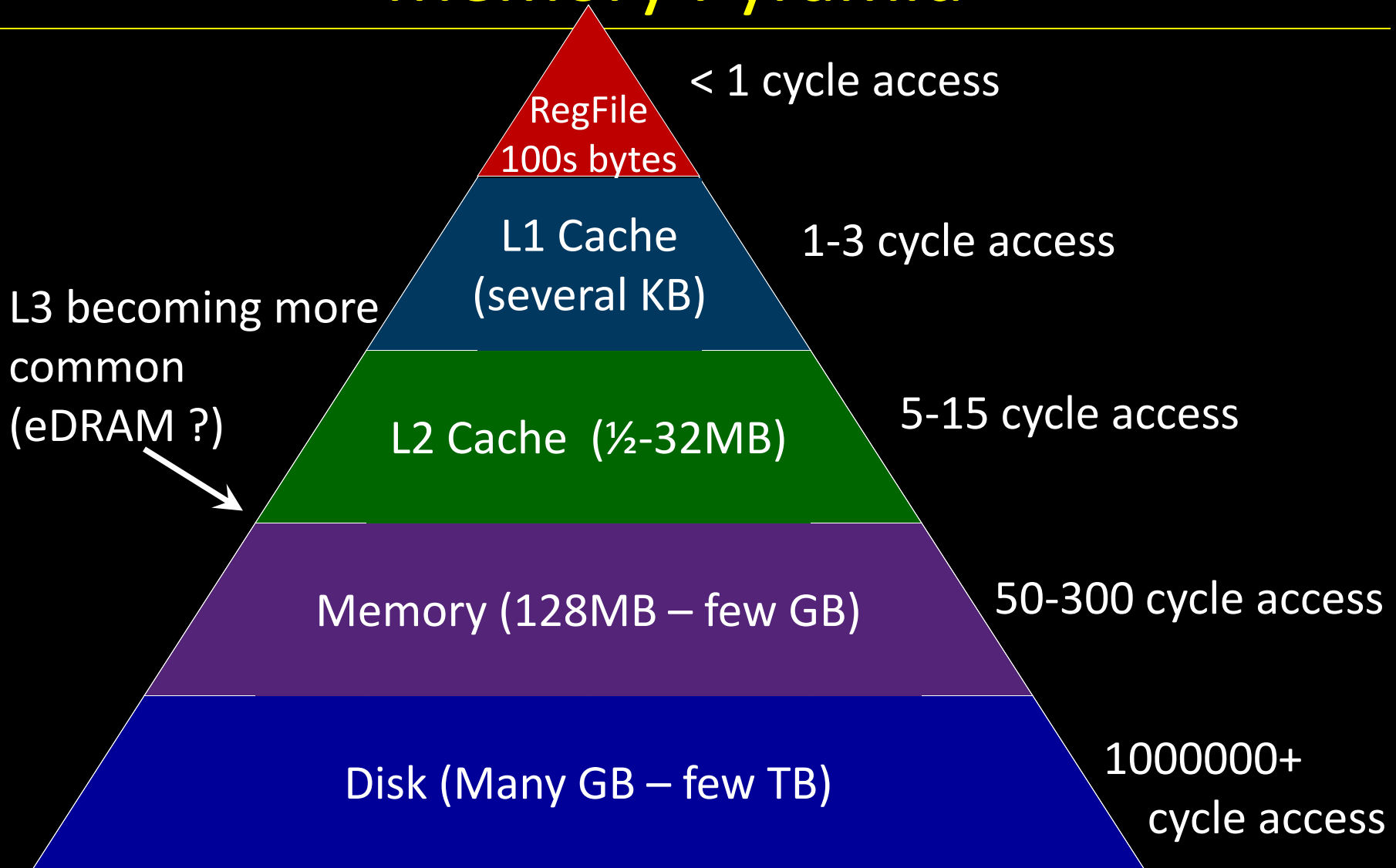
# Big Picture



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# Memory Hierarchy and Caches

# Memory Pyramid



These are rough numbers: mileage may vary for latest/greatest  
Caches usually made of SRAM (or eDRAM)

# Memory Hierarchy

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## Insight for Caches

If Mem[x] is was accessed *recently*...

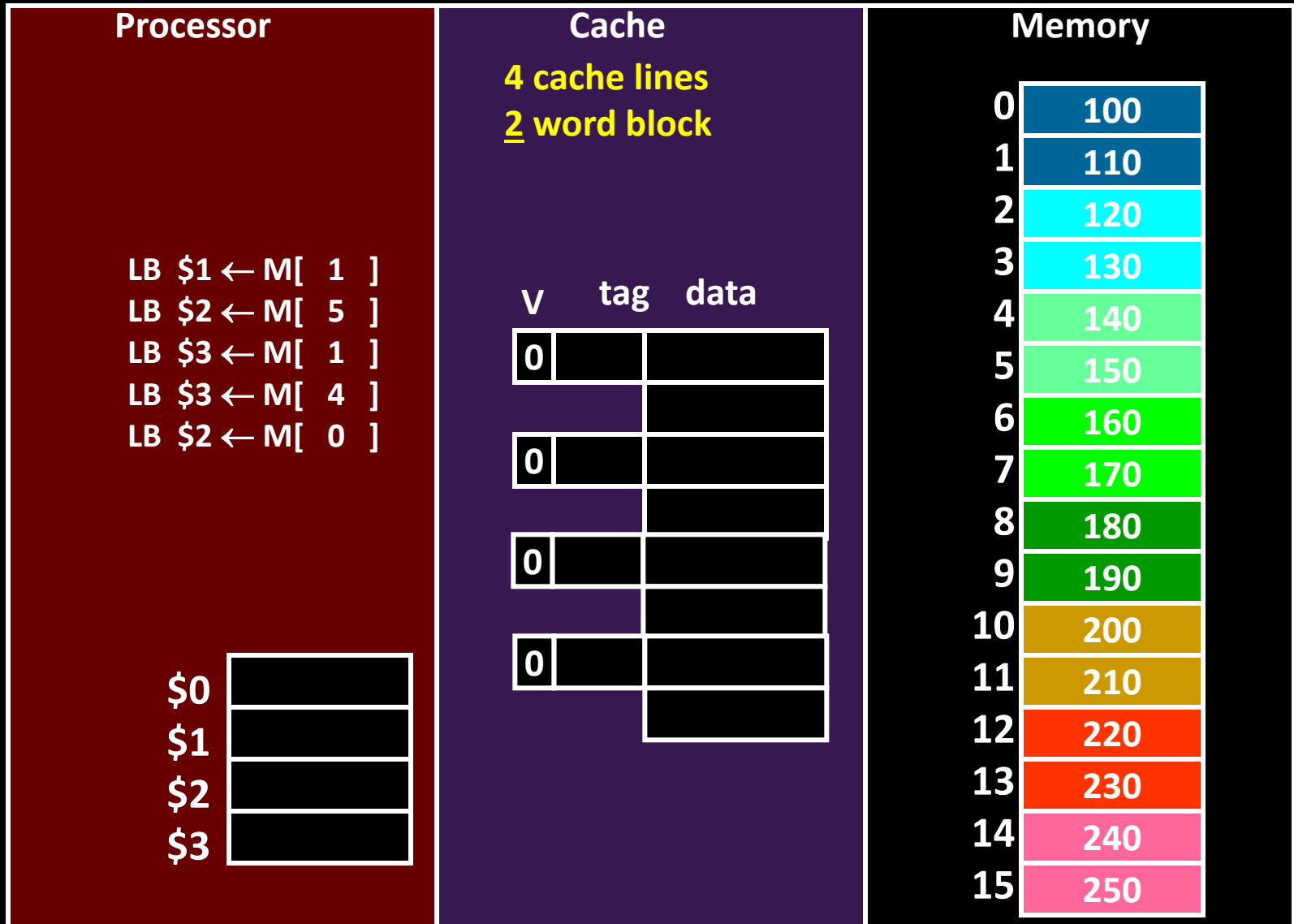
... then Mem[x] is likely to be accessed *soon*

- Exploit **temporal locality**:
  - Put recently accessed Mem[x] higher in memory hierarchy since it will likely be accessed again soon

... then Mem[x ± ε] is likely to be accessed *soon*

- Exploit **spatial locality**:
  - Put entire block containing Mem[x] and surrounding addresses higher in memory hierarchy since nearby address will likely be accessed

# Memory Hierarchy





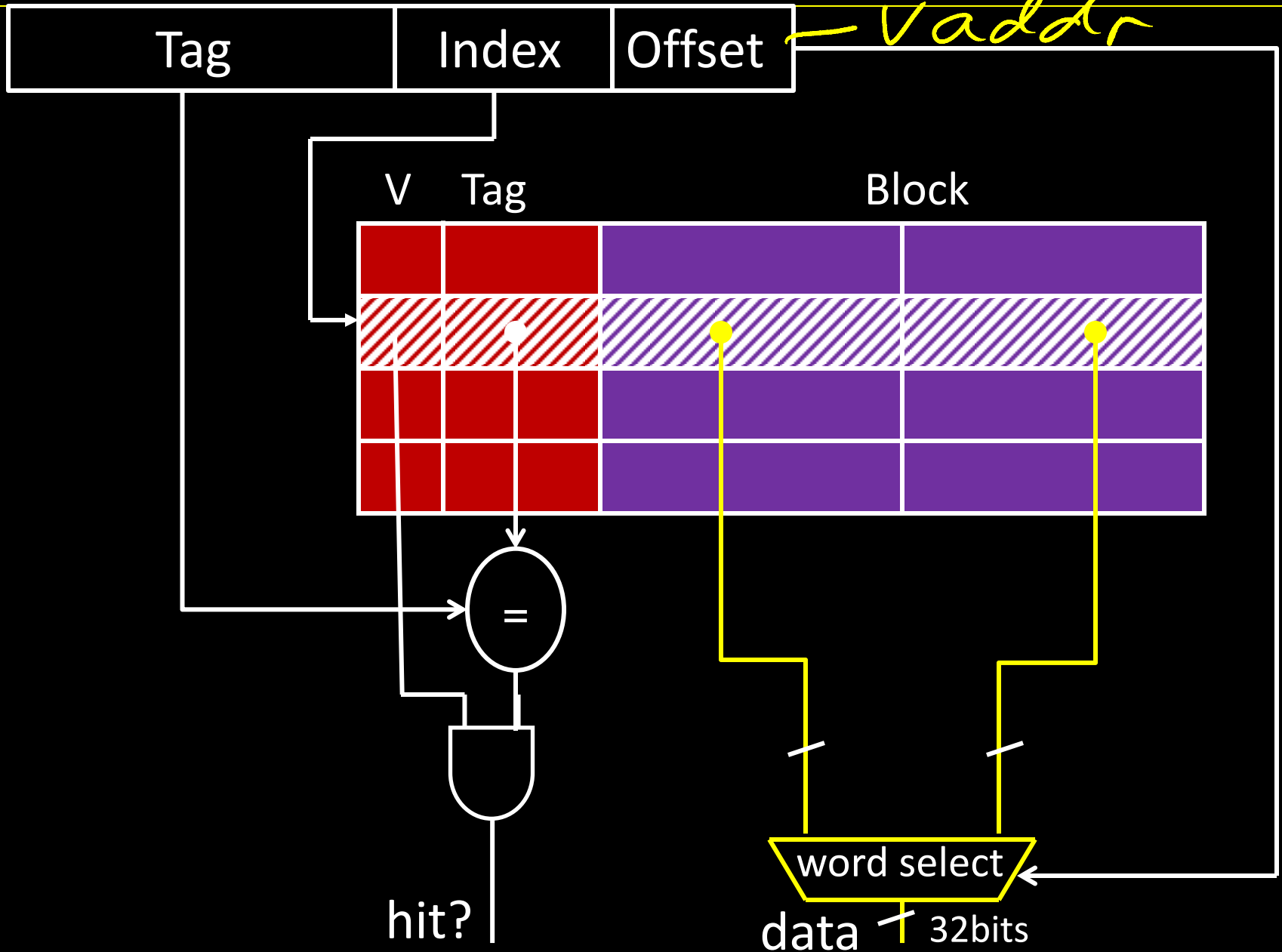
# Three Common Cache Designs

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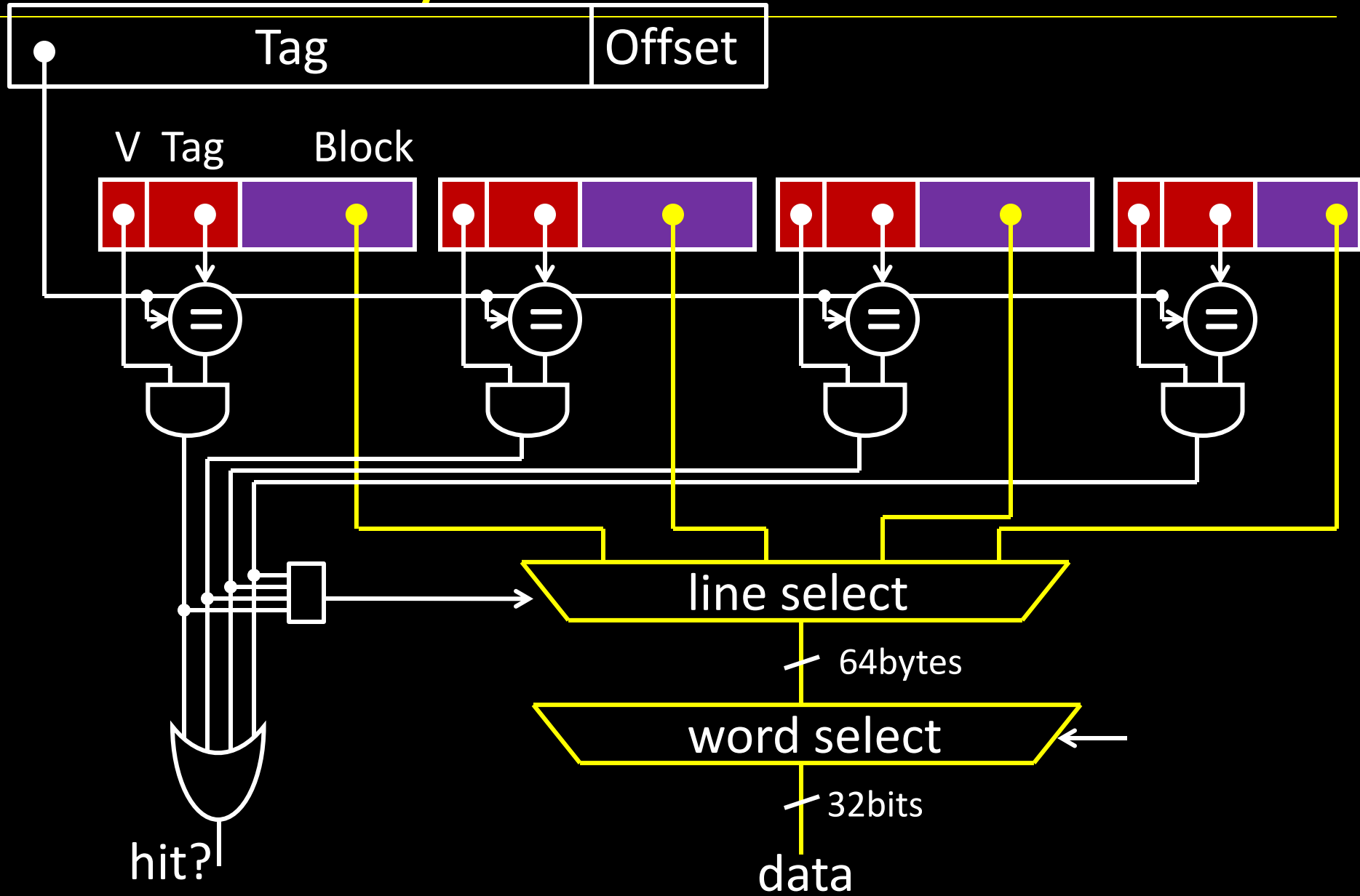
A given data block can be placed...

- ... in exactly one cache line → Direct Mapped
- ... in any cache line → Fully Associative
- ... in a small set of cache lines → Set Associative

# Direct Mapped Cache



# Fully Associative Cache





# Cache Misses

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## Three types of misses

- Cold (aka Compulsory)
  - The line is being referenced for the first time
- Capacity
  - The line was evicted because the cache was not large enough
- Conflict
  - The line was evicted because of another access whose index conflicted

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# Writing with Caches

# Eviction

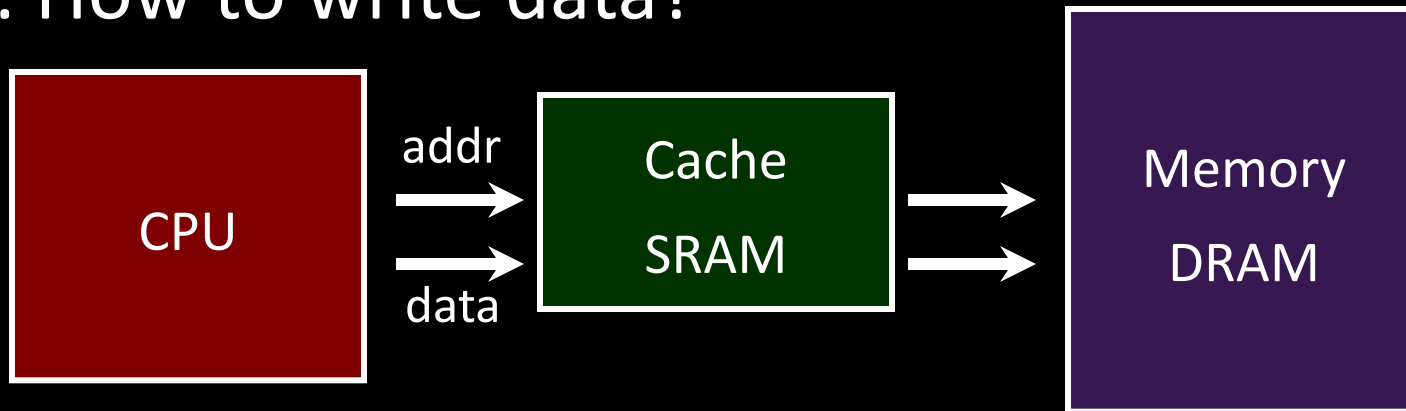
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Which cache line should be evicted from the cache to make room for a new line?

- Direct-mapped
  - no choice, must evict line selected by index
- Associative caches
  - random: select one of the lines at random
  - round-robin: similar to random
  - FIFO: replace oldest line
  - LRU: replace line that has not been used in the longest time

# Cached Write Policies

Q: How to write data?



If data is already in the cache...

## No-Write

- writes invalidate the cache and go directly to memory

## Write-Through

- writes go to main memory and cache

## Write-Back

- CPU writes only to cache
- cache writes to main memory later (when block is evicted)



# What about Stores?

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Where should you write the result of a store?

- If that memory location is in the cache?
  - Send it to the cache
  - Should we also send it to memory right away?  
(write-through policy)
  - Wait until we kick the block out (write-back policy)
- If it is not in the cache?
  - Allocate the line (put it in the cache)?  
(write allocate policy)
  - Write it directly to memory without allocation?  
(no write allocate policy)

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# Cache Performance

# Cache Performance

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Consider hit (H) and miss ratio (M)

$$H \times AT_{\text{cache}} + M \times (AT_{\text{cache}} + AT_{\text{memory}}) = AT_{\text{cache}} + M \times AT_{\text{memory}}$$

Hit rate = 1 – Miss rate

Access Time is given in cycles

Ratio of Access times, 1:50

$$90\% : 1 + .1 \times 50 = 6$$

$$95\% : 1 + .05 \times 50 = 3.5$$

$$99\% : 1 + .01 \times 50 = 1.5$$

$$99.9\% : 1 + .001 \times 50 = 1.05$$

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# Cache Conscious Programming

# Cache Conscious Programming

```
// H = 12, NCOL = 10
```

```
int A[NROW][NCOL];
```

```
for(col=0; col < NCOL; col++)
```

```
    for(row=0; row < NROW; row++)
```

```
        sum += A[row][col];
```

1	11	21							
		2	12	22					
				3	13	23			
						4	14	24	
								5	15
6	16	26							
		7	17	...					
				8	18				
						9	19		
								10	20

Every access is a cache miss!

(unless *entire* matrix can fit in cache)



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# MMU, Virtual Memory, Paging, and TLB's

# Multiple Processes

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How to Run multiple processes?

*Time-multiplex* a single CPU core (**multi-tasking**)

- Web browser, skype, office, ... all must co-exist

Many cores per processor (**multi-core**)

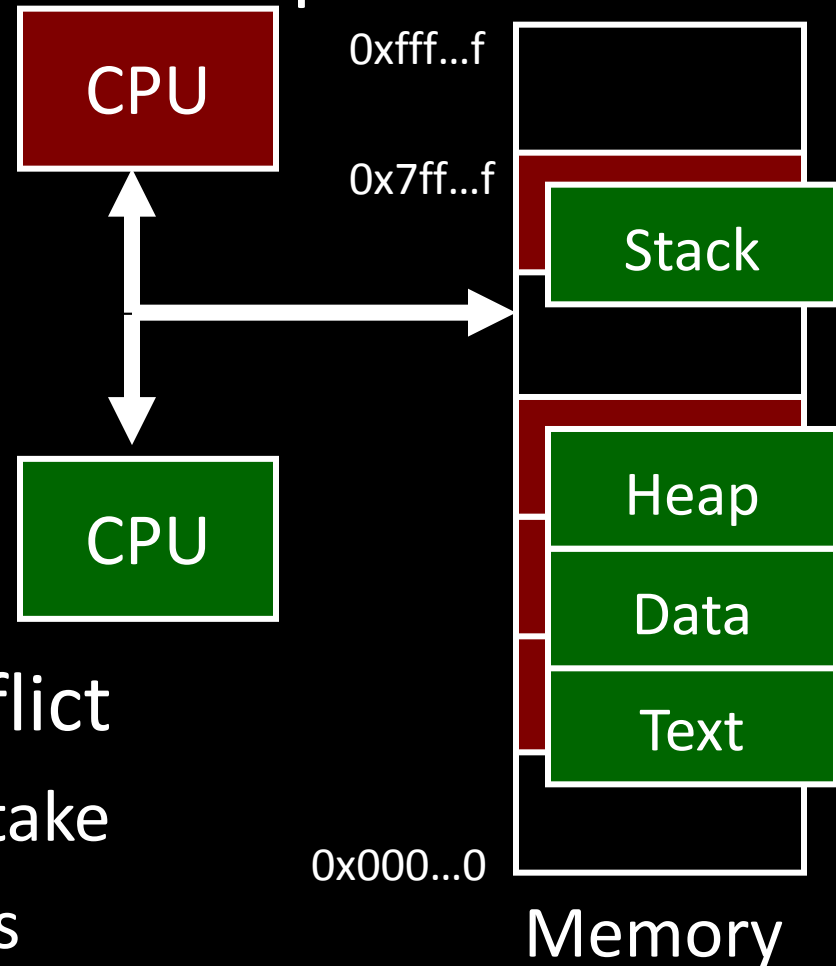
or many processors (**multi-processor**)

- Multiple programs run *simultaneously*



# Multiple Processes

Q: What happens when another program is executed concurrently on **another** processor?



A: The addresses will conflict

- Even though, CPUs may take turns using memory bus

# Virtual Memory

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**Virtual Memory:** A Solution for All Problems

Each **process** has its own **virtual address space**

- Programmer can code as if they own all of memory

On-the-fly at runtime, for each memory access

- all access is *indirect* through a virtual address
- translate fake **virtual address** to a real **physical address**
- redirect load/store to the physical address

# Virtual Memory Advantages

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## Advantages

### Easy relocation

- Loader puts code anywhere in physical memory
- Creates **virtual mappings** to give illusion of correct layout

### Higher memory utilization

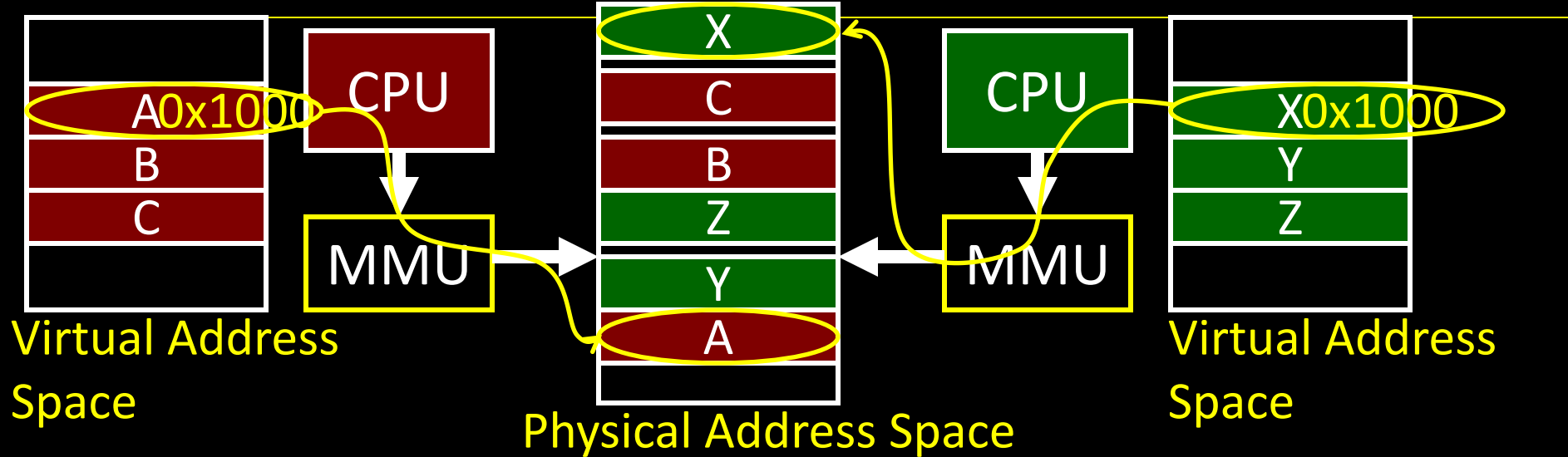
- Provide illusion of contiguous memory
- Use all physical memory, even physical address 0x0

### Easy sharing

- Different mappings for different programs / cores

### Different Permissions bits

# Address Space



Programs load/store to virtual addresses

Actual memory uses physical addresses

## Memory Management Unit (MMU)

- Responsible for translating on the fly
- Essentially, just a big array of integers:

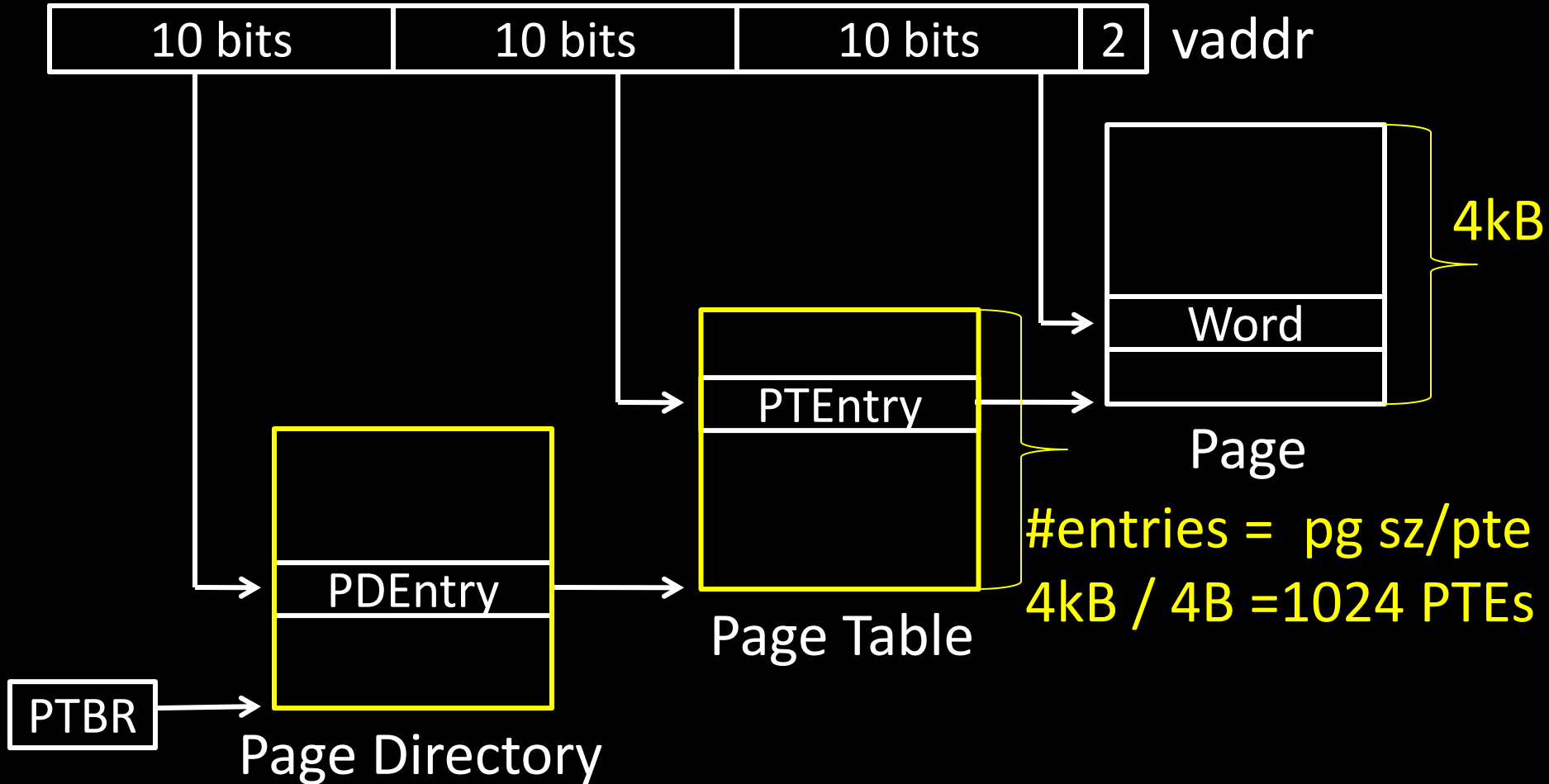
```
paddr = PageTable[vaddr];
```



# Beyond Flat Page Tables

Assume most of PageTable is empty

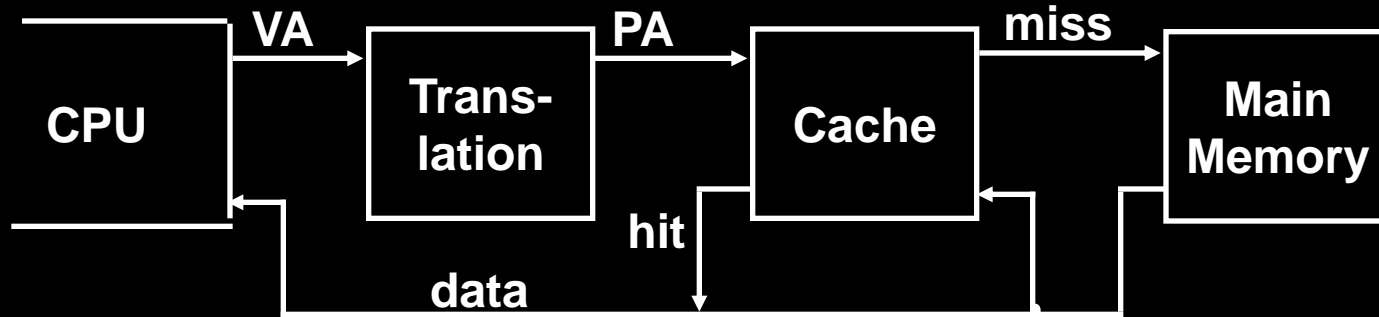
How to translate addresses? Multi-level PageTable



\* x86 does exactly this

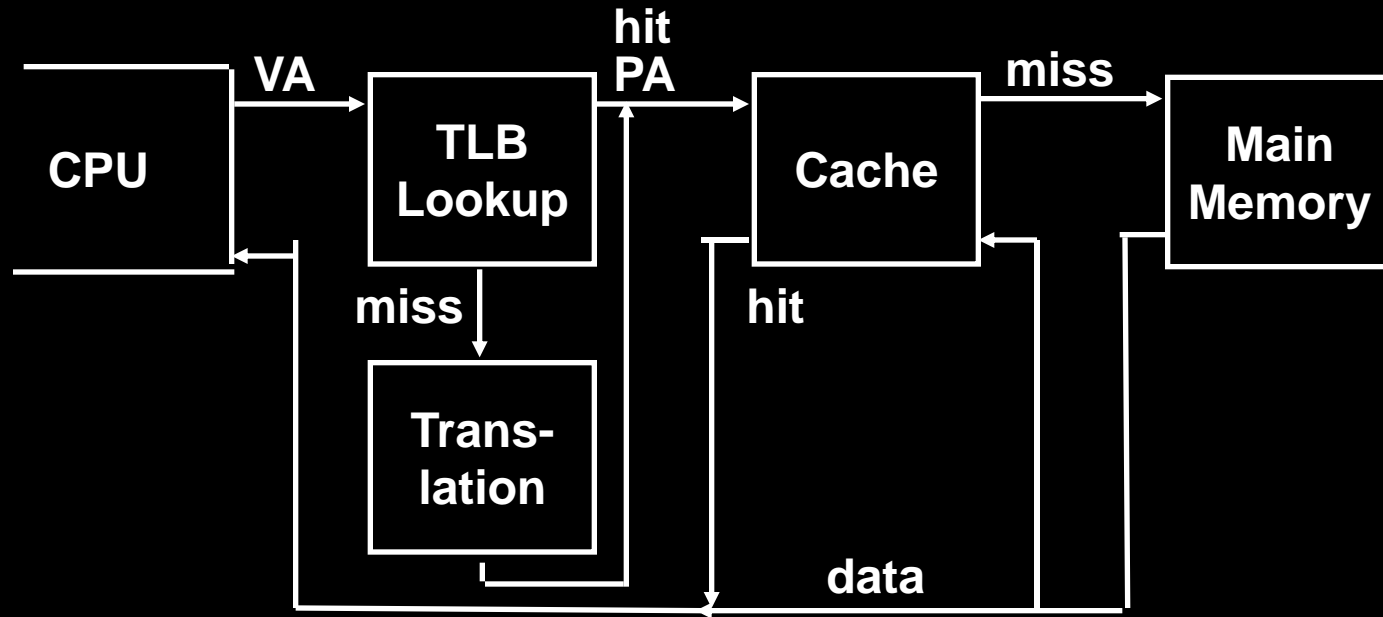
# Virtual Addressing with a Cache

Thus it takes an *extra* memory access to translate a *vaddr (VA)* to a *paddr (PA)*



- This makes memory (cache) accesses **very expensive** (if every access was really *two* accesses)

# A TLB in the Memory Hierarchy



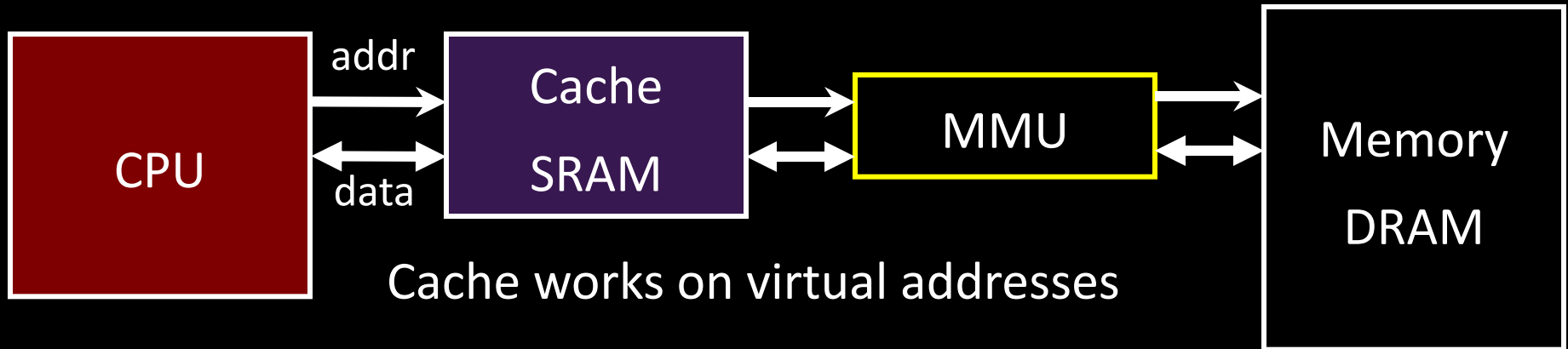
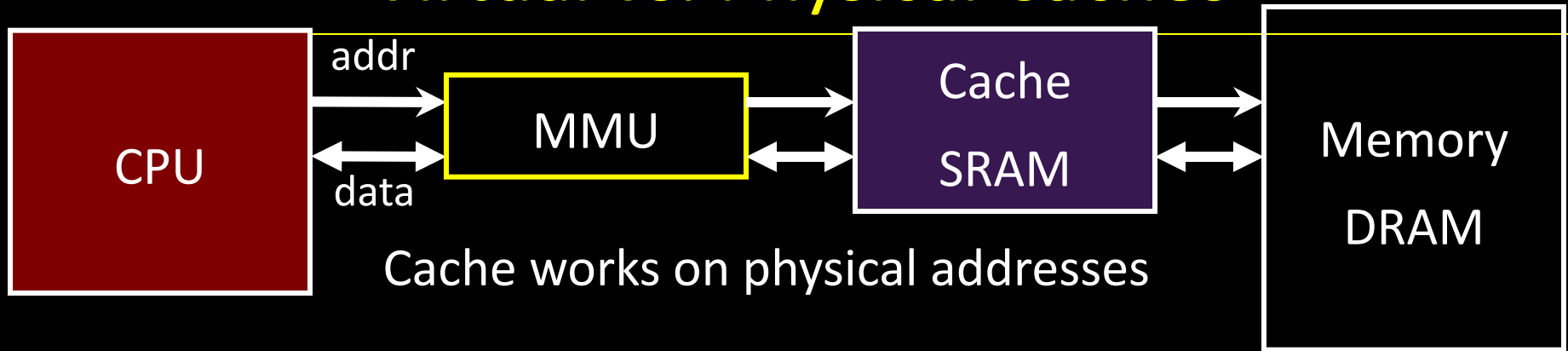
## A TLB miss:

- If the page is not in main memory, then it's a true page fault
  - Takes 1,000,000's of cycles to service a page fault

TLB misses are much more frequent than true page faults



# Virtual vs. Physical Caches



Q: What happens on context switch?

Q: What about virtual memory aliasing?

Q: So what's wrong with physically addressed caches?

# Indexing vs. Tagging

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## Physically-Addressed Cache

- slow: requires TLB (and maybe PageTable) lookup first

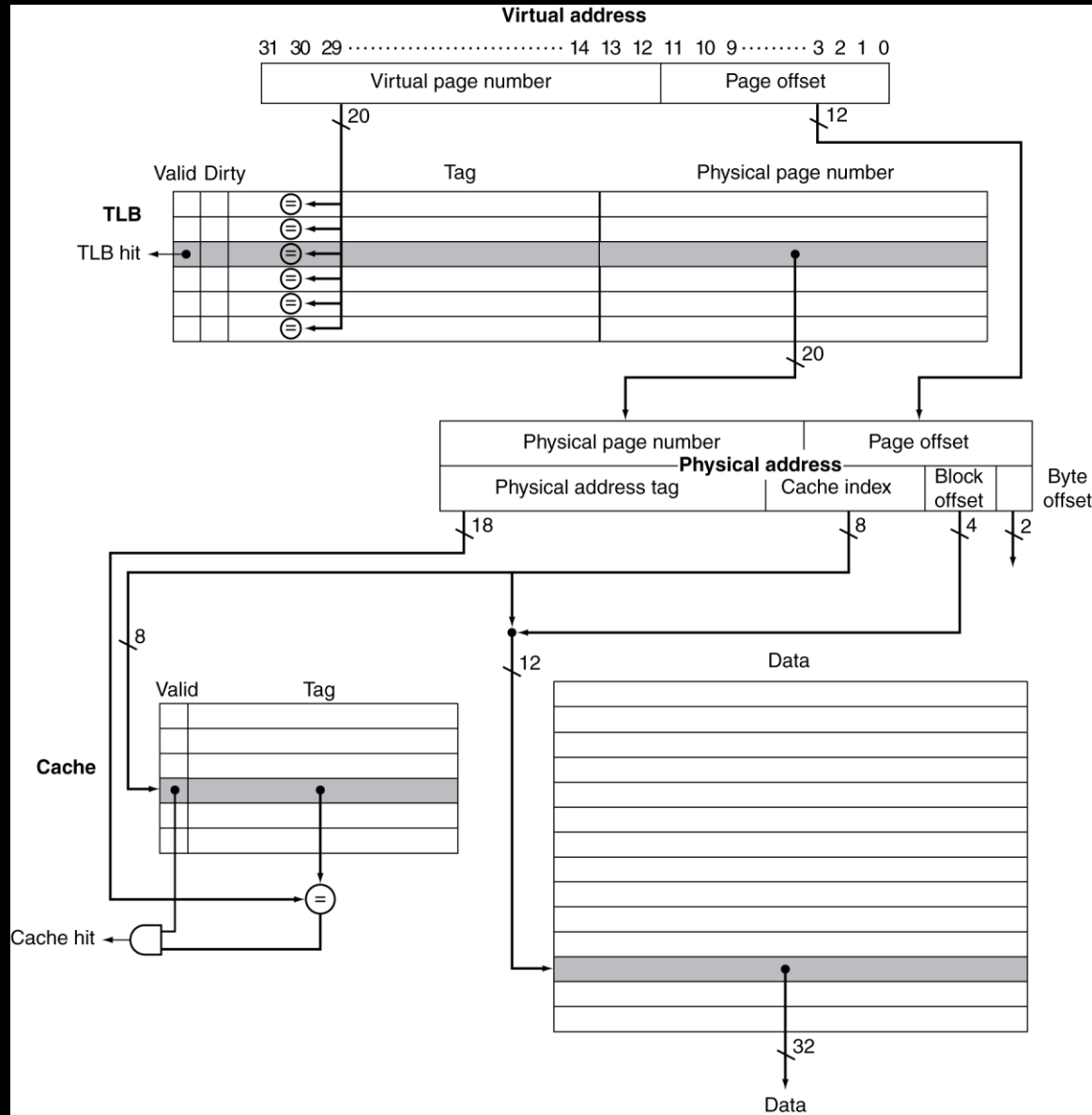
## Virtually-Addressed Cache

- fast: start TLB lookup before cache lookup finishes
- PageTable changes (paging, context switch, etc.)
  - need to purge stale cache lines (how?)
- Synonyms (two virtual mappings for one physical page)
  - could end up in cache twice (very bad!)

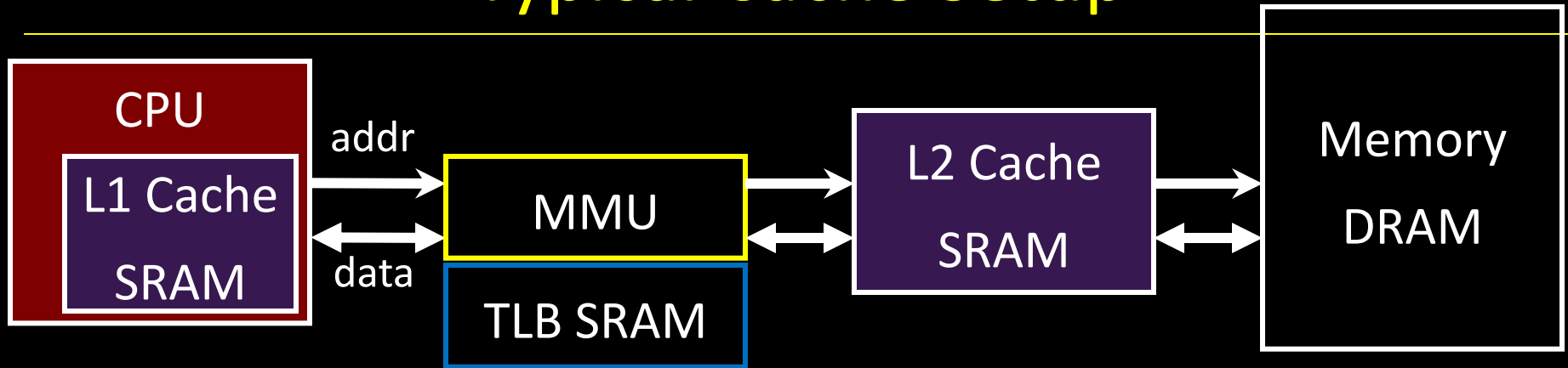
## Virtually-Indexed, Physically Tagged Cache

- ~fast: TLB lookup in parallel with cache lookup
- PageTable changes → no problem: phys. tag mismatch
- Synonyms → search and evict lines with same phys. tag

# Indexing vs. Tagging



# Typical Cache Setup



Typical L1: On-chip **virtually** addressed, **physically** tagged

Typical L2: On-chip **physically** addressed

Typical L3: On-chip ...

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# Hardware/Software Boundary

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Virtual to physical address translation is assisted by hardware?

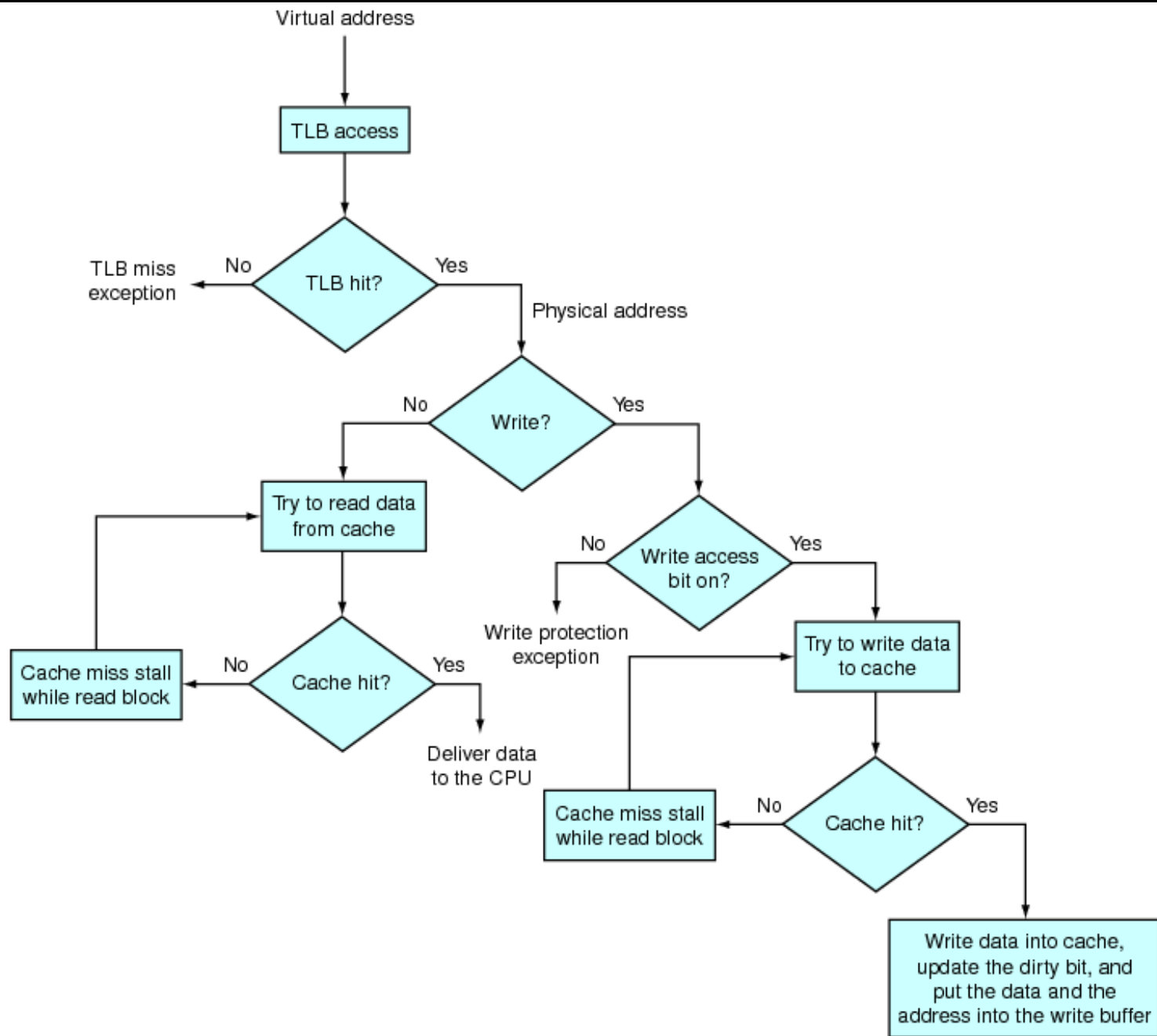
- Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB) that caches the recent translations
  - TLB access time is part of the cache hit time
  - May allot an extra stage in the pipeline for TLB access
- TLB miss
  - Can be in software (kernel handler) or hardware

# Hardware/Software Boundary

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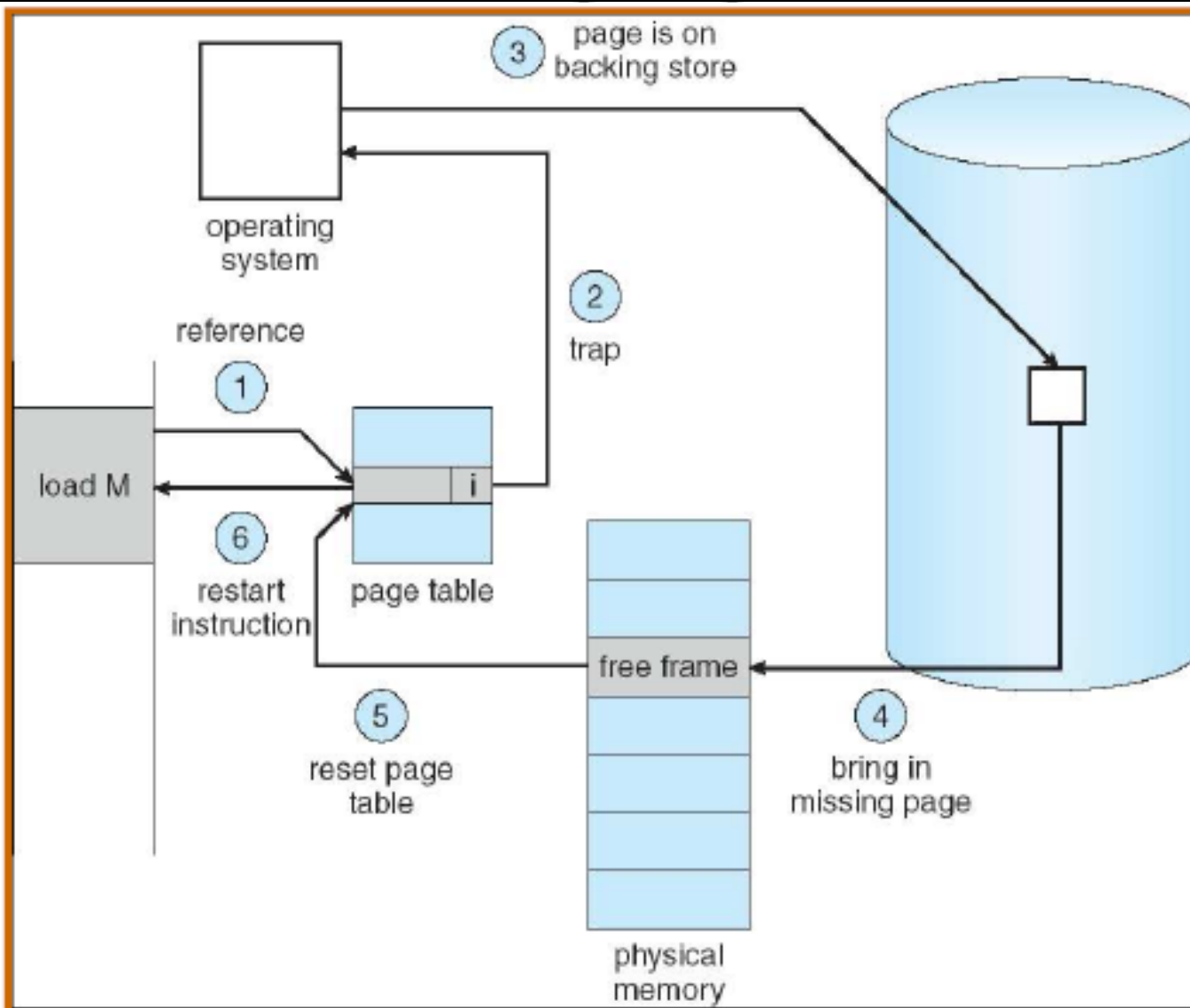
Virtual to physical address translation is assisted by hardware?

- Page table storage, fault detection and updating
  - Page faults result in interrupts (precise) that are then handled by the **OS**
  - **Hardware** must support (i.e., update appropriately) Dirty and Reference bits (e.g., ~LRU) in the Page Tables





# Paging



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# Traps, exceptions, and operating system

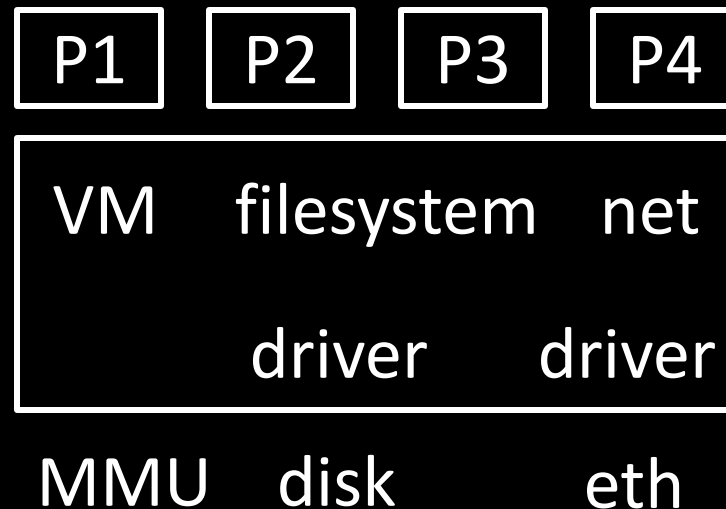
# Operating System

Some things not available to untrusted programs:

- Exception registers, HALT instruction, MMU instructions, talk to I/O devices, OS memory, ...

Need trusted mediator: **Operating System (OS)**

- *Safe control transfer*
- *Data isolation*



# Terminology

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**Trap:** Any kind of a control transfer to the OS

**Syscall:** Synchronous (planned), program-to-kernel transfer

- SYSCALL instruction in MIPS (various on x86)

**Exception:** Synchronous, program-to-kernel transfer

- exceptional events: div by zero, page fault, page protection err,  
...

**Interrupt:** Aysnchronous, device-initiated transfer

- e.g. Network packet arrived, keyboard event, timer ticks

\* real mechanisms, but nobody agrees on these terms

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# Multicore and Synchronization

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Multi-core is a reality...

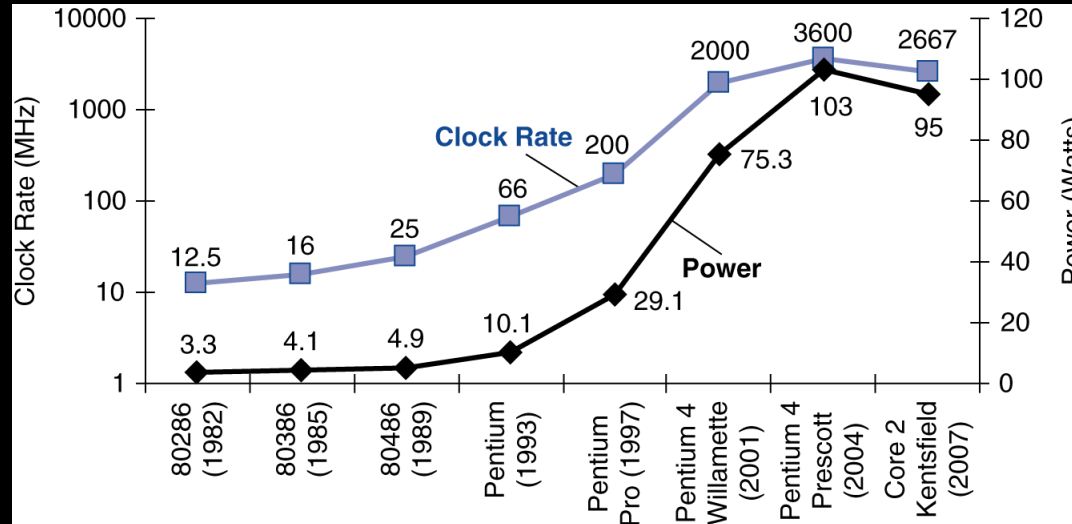
... but how do we write multi-core safe code?







# Power Trends



In CMOS IC technology

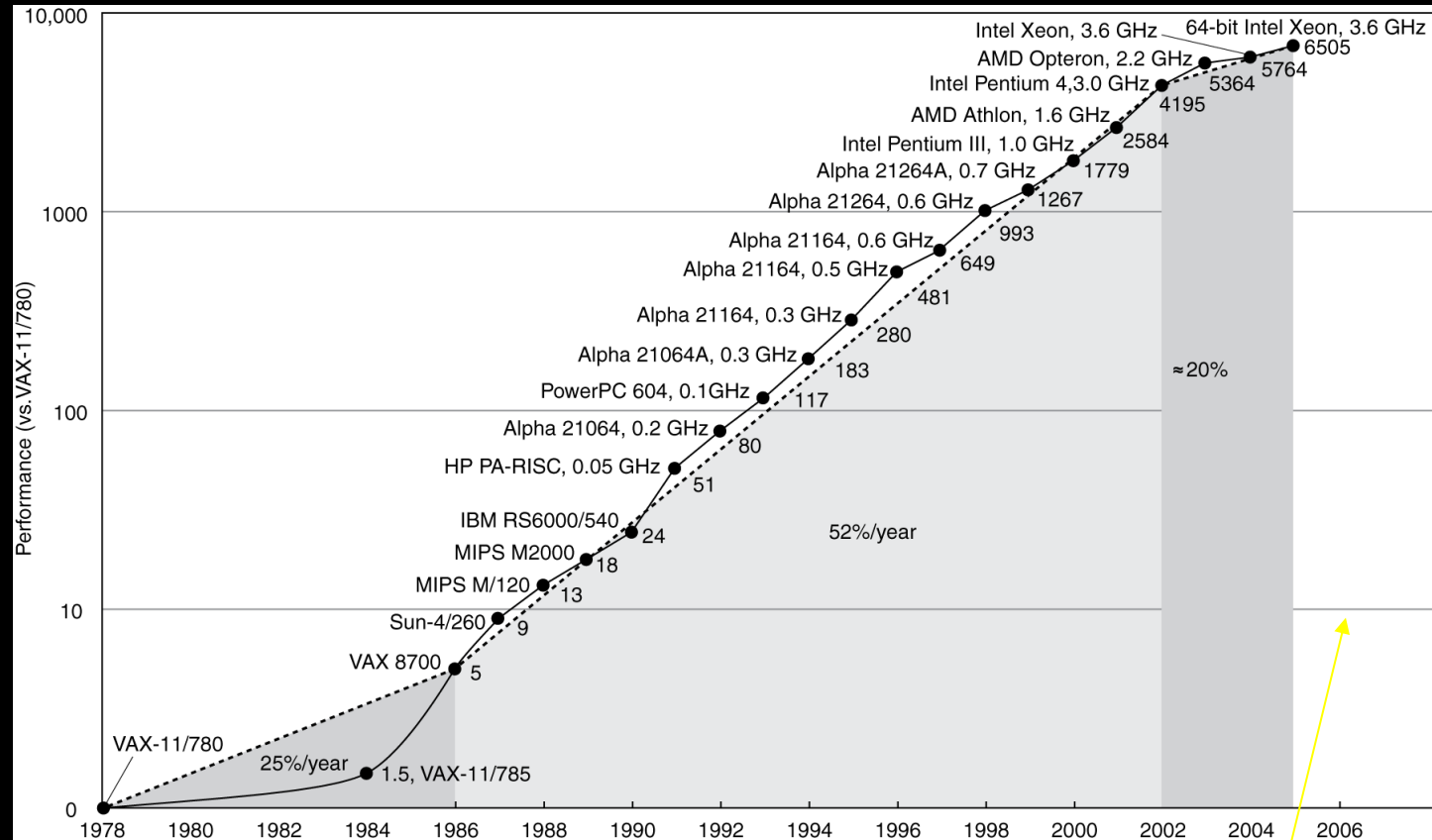
$$\text{Power} = \text{Capacitive load} \times \text{Voltage}^2 \times \text{Frequency}$$

× 30

5V → 1V

× 1000

# Uniprocessor Performance



Constrained by power, instruction-level parallelism, memory latency

# Why Multicore?

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## Moore's law

- A law about transistors
- Smaller means faster transistors

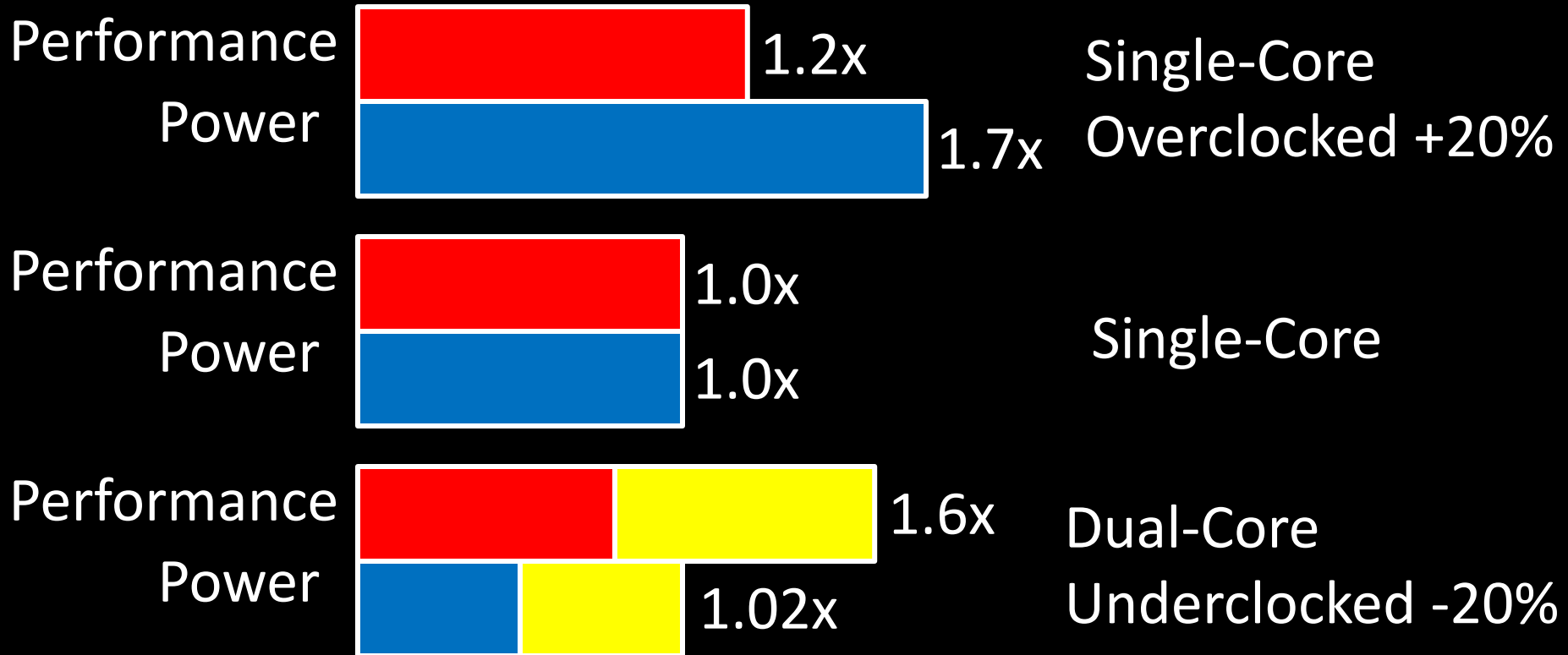
## Power consumption growing with transistors

## The power wall

- We can't reduce voltage further
- We can't remove more heat

How else can we improve performance?

# Why Multicore?



# Amdahl's Law

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Task: serial part, parallel part

As number of processors increases,

- time to execute parallel part goes to zero
- time to execute serial part remains the same

***Serial part eventually dominates***

Must parallelize ALL parts of task

$$\text{Speedup}(E) = \frac{\text{Execution Time without } E}{\text{Execution Time with } E}$$

# Amdahl's Law

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Consider an improvement  $E$

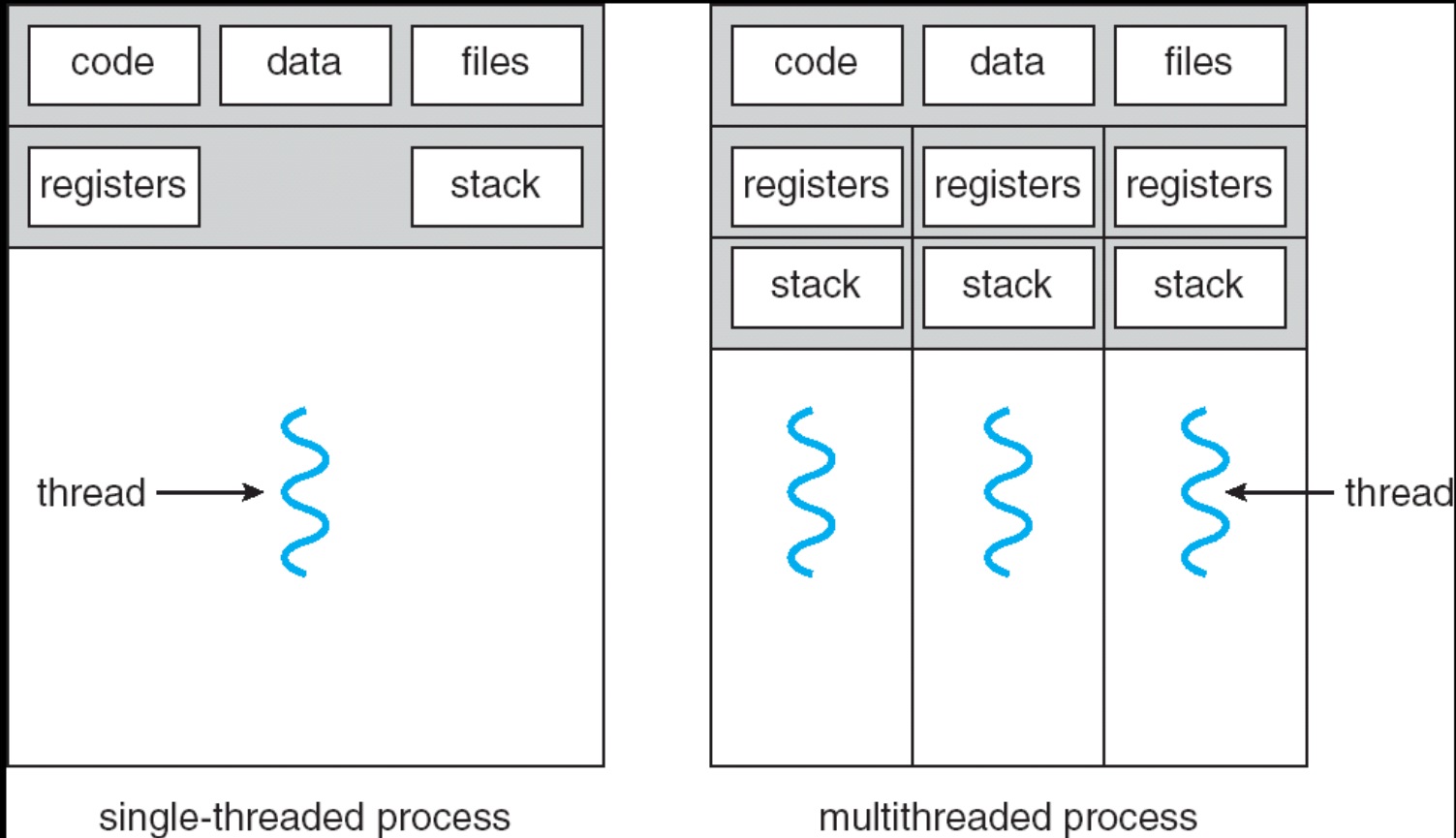
$F$  of the execution time is affected

$S$  is the speedup

Execution time (with  $E$ ) =  $((1 - F) + F/S) \cdot$  Execution time (without  $E$ )

$$\text{Speedup (with } E) = \frac{1}{(1 - F) + F/S}$$

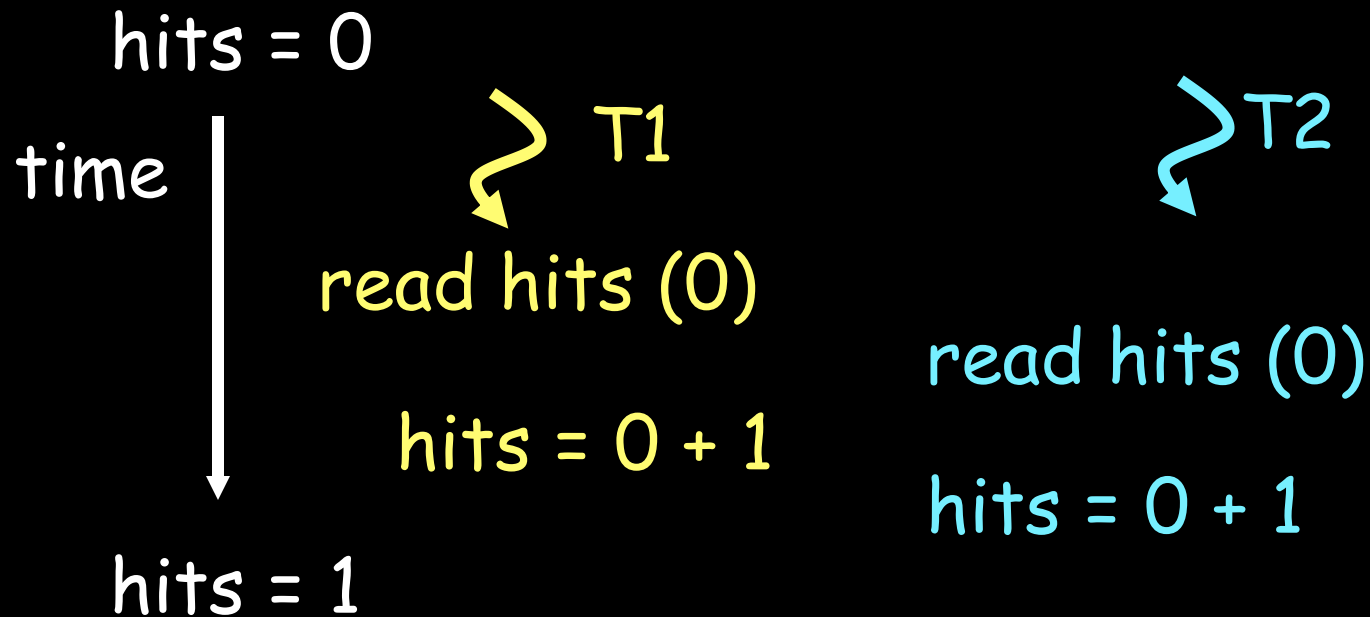
# Multithreaded Processes



# Shared counters

Usual result: works fine.

Possible result: lost update!



Occasional timing-dependent failure  $\Rightarrow$  Difficult to debug

Called a *race condition*



# Race conditions

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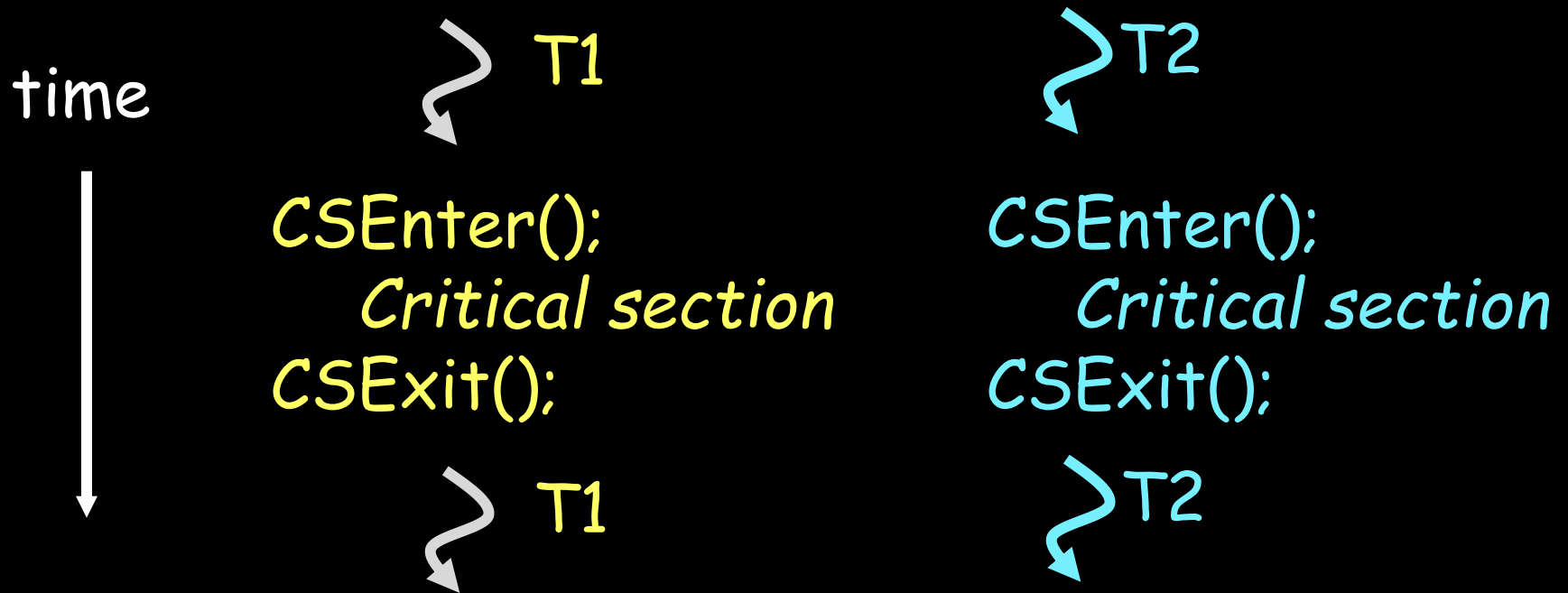
Def: a timing dependent error involving shared state

- Whether it happens depends on how threads scheduled: who wins “races” to instructions that update state
- Races are intermittent, may occur rarely
  - Timing dependent = small changes can hide bug
- A program is correct *only* if *all possible* schedules are safe
  - Number of possible schedule permutations is huge
  - Need to imagine an adversary who switches contexts at the worst possible time

# Critical Sections

Basic way to eliminate races: use *critical sections* that only one thread can be in

- Contending threads must wait to enter



# Mutexes

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Critical sections typically associated with mutual exclusion locks (*mutexes*)

Only one thread can hold a given mutex at a time

Acquire (lock) mutex on entry to critical section

- Or block if another thread already holds it

Release (unlock) mutex on exit

- Allow one waiting thread (if any) to acquire & proceed

```
pthread_mutex_init(m) ;  
pthread_mutex_lock(m) ;      pthread_mutex_lock(m) ;  
    hits = hits+1;           hits = hits+1;  
pthread_mutex_unlock(m) ;    pthread_mutex_unlock(m) ;
```

→ T1

→ T2

# Protecting an invariant

// invariant: data is in buffer[head..tail-1]. Protected by m.

```
pthread_mutex_t *m;
```

```
char buffer[1000];
```

```
int head = 0, tail = 0;
```

```
void put(char c) {  
    pthread_mutex_lock(m);  
    buffer[tail] = c;  
    tail = (tail + 1) % n;  
    pthread_mutex_unlock(m);  
}
```

```
char get() {  
    pthread_mutex_lock(m);  
    char c = buffer[head];  
    head = (head + 1) % n;  
    pthread_mutex_unlock(m);  
}
```

X what if first==last?

- Rule of thumb: all updates that can affect invariant become critical sections.

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See you Tonight  
Good Luck!