

XiangShan: An Open-Source High-Performance RISC-V Processor and Infrastructure for Architecture Research

The XiangShan Team

Institute of Computing Technology (ICT)
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ASPLOS'23@Vancouver, Canada
March 25, 2023

Schedule

Time	Topic
9:00-9:25	Introduction of the XiangShan Project
9:25-9:35	Tutorial Overview and Highlights
9:35-10:20	<i>Microarchitecture Design and Implementation</i>
	Coffee Break
10:40-12:00	Hands-on Development



XiangShan: Open-Source High-Performance Processor

- **1st generation: YANQIHU**

- 2020/6: first commit of design RTL
- 2021/7: **28nm tape-out, 1.3GHz**
- Performance: **SPEC CPU2006 7.01@1GHz, DDR4-1600**

- **2nd generation: NANHU**

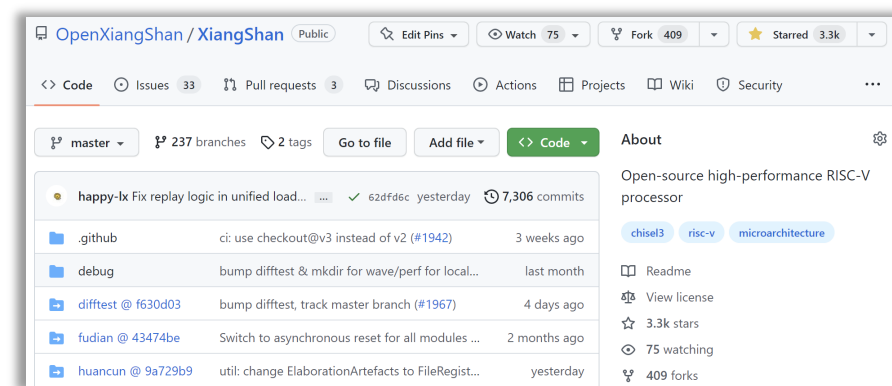
- 2021/5: starting design exploration and RTL design
- 2022/12: RTL Freeze
- Plan: **14-nm tape-out soon, estimated SPEC CPU2006 20@2GHz**

- **3rd generation: KUNMINGHU**

- ISA feature: **Vector (V) extension, Hypervisor (H) extension**
- Comprehensive performance improvement



Fragrant Hills in Beijing



>3.2K stars, >400 forks on GitHub

- Open-sourced at <https://github.com/OpenXiangShan/XiangShan>

Yanqihu: 1st generation of XiangShan

- **Yanqihu:** named after a lake in Beijing, China
 - RV64GC, 11-stage, superscalar, out-of-order
 - 5.3 CoreMark/MHz (gcc-9.3.0 -O2)
 - Real chip: SPEC CPU2006 7@1GHz with DDR4-1600 (DDR not fully optimized)
- **Tape-out:** single XiangShan core (commit hash ccbca07) with 1MB L2 Cache



Yanqi Lake in Beijing

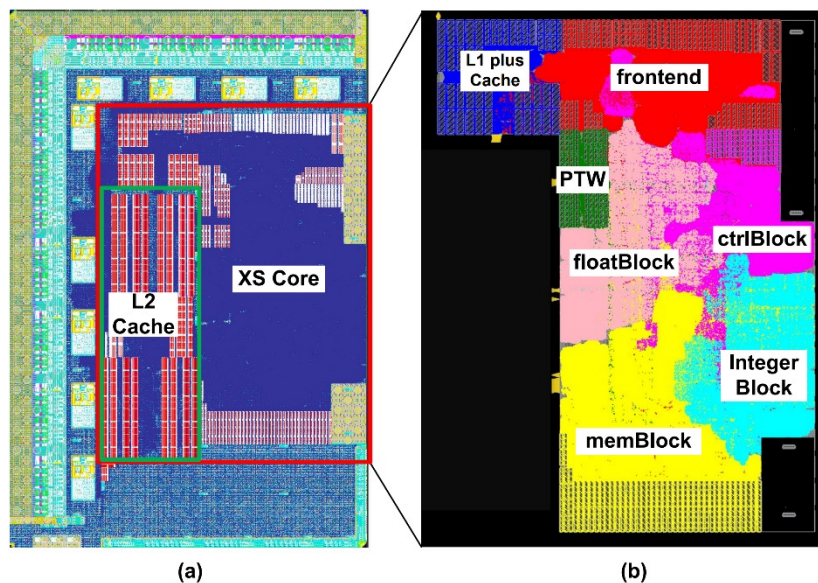
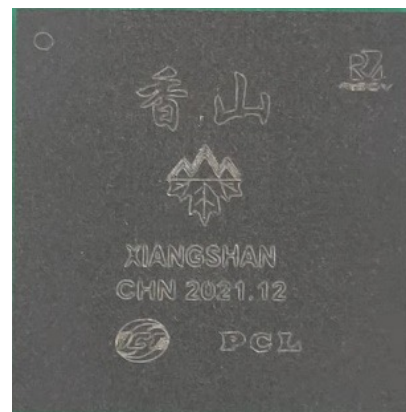


Figure. Layout of (a) the entire chip; (b) the core

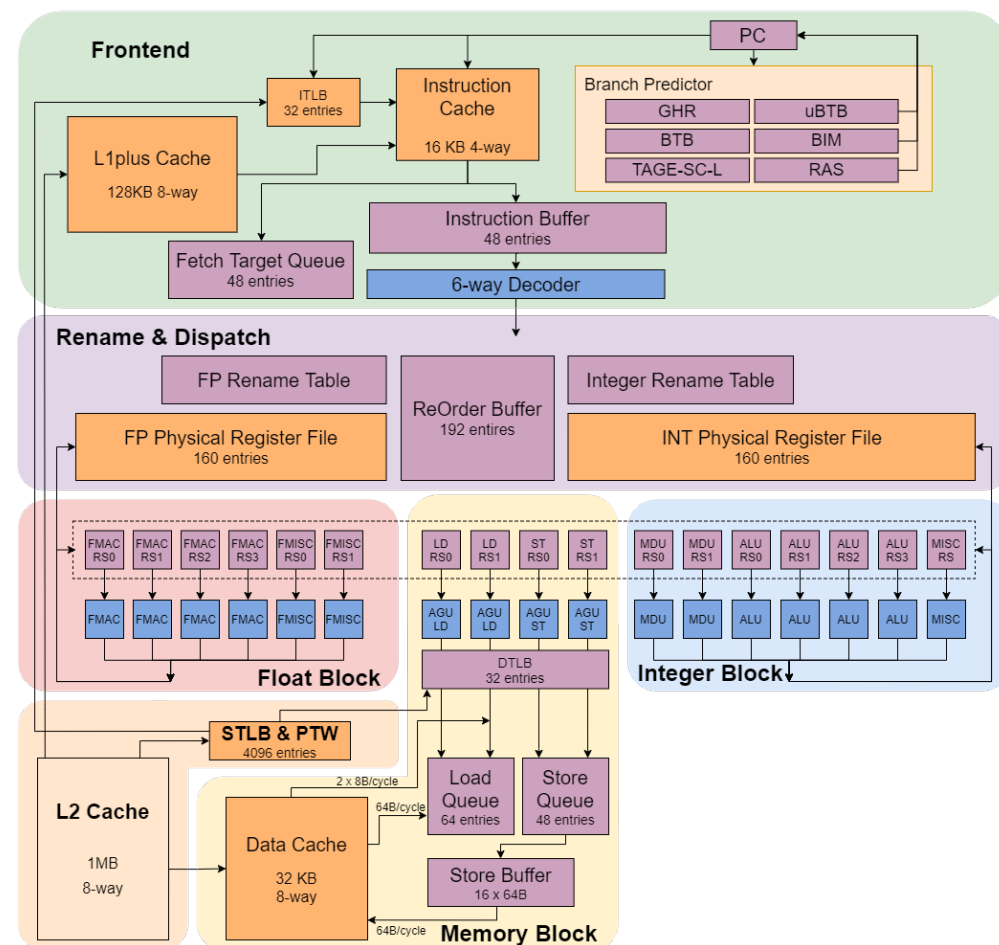


Tape-out information for the processor core	
Process Node	28nm
Die Size	8.6 mm ²
Std Cell	5.05M, 4.27 mm ²
Mem	261, 1.7mm ²
Density	66%
Cell	ULVT 1.04%, LVT 19.32%, SVT 25.19%, HVT 53.67%
Estimated Power	5W
Frequency	1.3GHz, TT85C



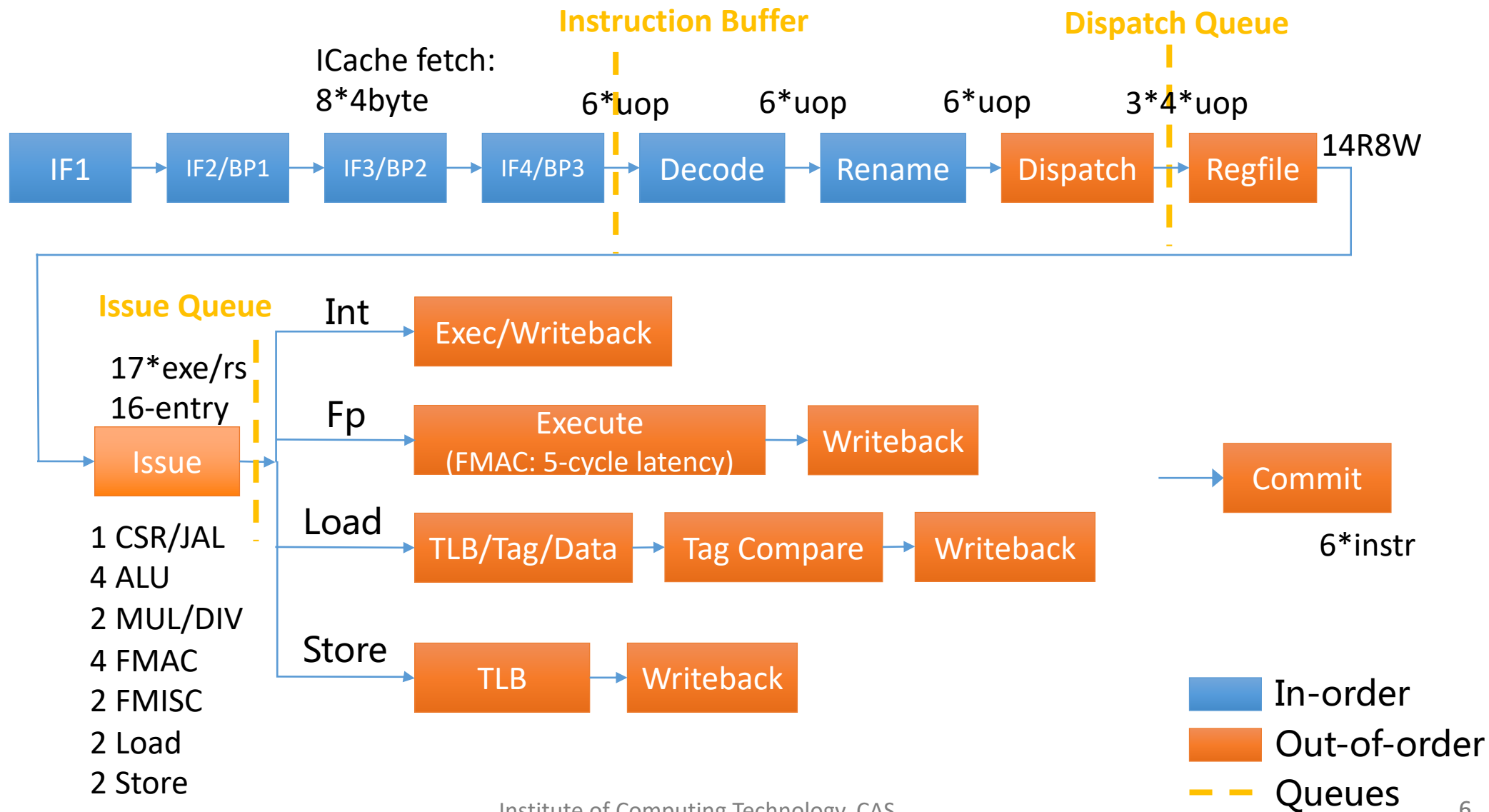
XiangShan Microarchitecture (Yanqihu)

- **11**-stage, **6**-wide decode/rename
- **TAGE-SC-L** branch prediction
- **160** Int PRF + **160** FP PRF
- **192**-entry ROB, **64**-entry LQ, **48**-entry SQ
- **16**-entry RS for each FU
- **16KB** L1 Cache, **128KB** L1plus Cache for instruction
- **32KB** L1 Data Cache
- **32**-entry ITLB/DTLB, **4K**-entry STLB
- **1MB** inclusive L2 Cache





XiangShan Microarchitecture (Yanqihu)





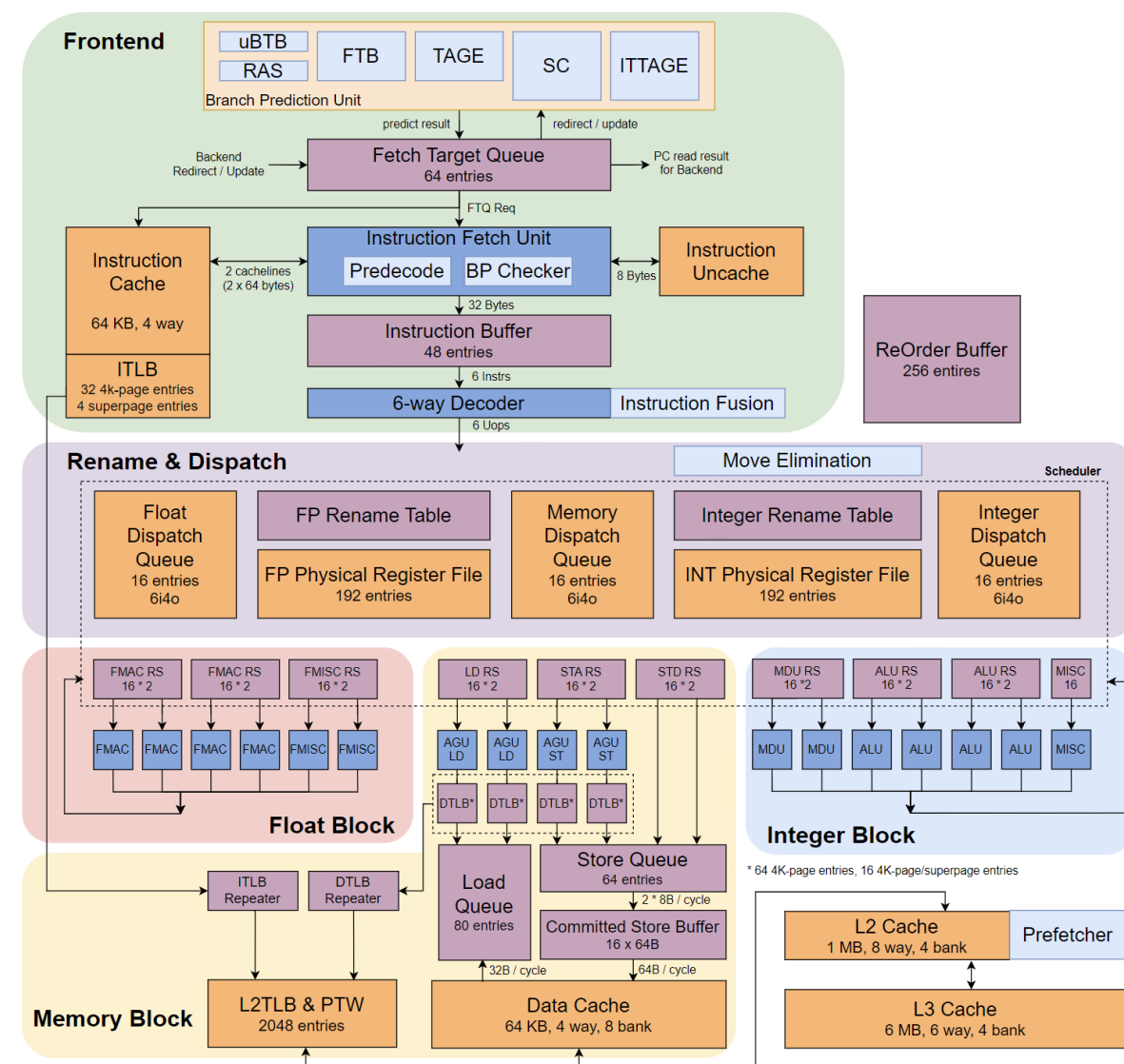
NANHU: 2nd generation microarchitecture

- Named after a lake in Jiaxing, Zhejiang, China
- Target: **2GHz@14nm**
- Estimated **SPECint 2006 19.10, SPECfp 2006 22.18**
- **Major changes**
 - New frontend design: decoupled BP and instruction fetch
 - Improved backend: better scheduler, instruction fusions, and more
 - New L2 cache: designed for high frequency and high performance
 - Tape-out with dual cores (RV64GCBK), more devices support (PCIe, USB, ...)
- **Continuously optimize the performance, frequency, ..., in an agile way**



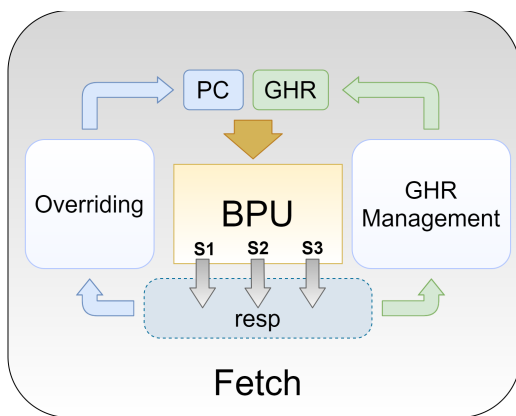
XiangShan Microarchitecture (Nanhu)

- **192** Int PRF + **192** FP PRF
- **256**-entry ROB, **80**-entry LQ, **64**-entry SQ
- **16**-entry RS for each FU (32-entry as an RS)
- **64KB** L1 Cache, **64KB** L1 Data Cache
- **80**-entry DTLB, **36**-entry ITLB, **2K**-entry STLB
- **1MB** non-inclusive L2 Cache
- **6MB** non-inclusive L3 Cache (LLC)

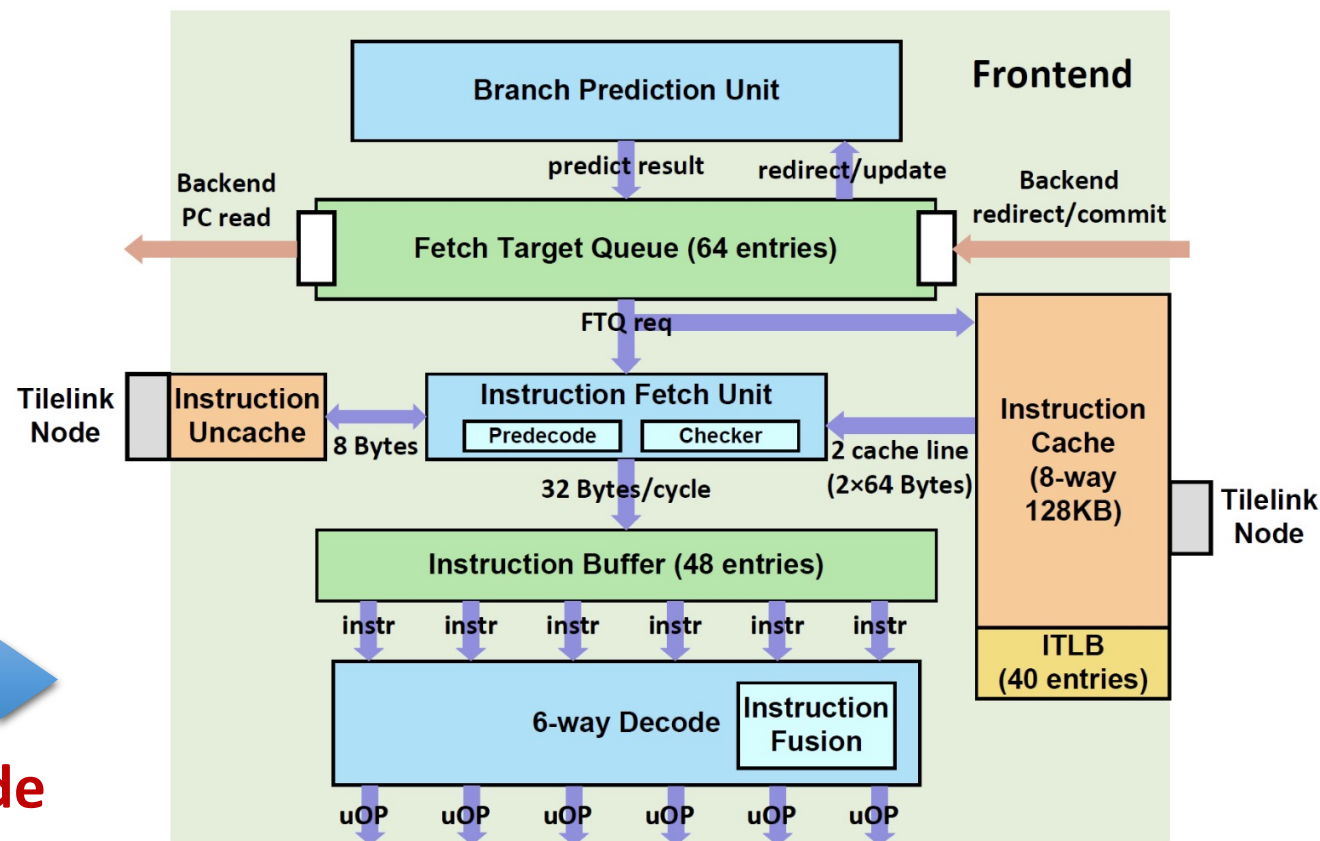


Frontend

- Decoupled frontend
 - **Producer**: branch predictor unit
 - **Consumer**: instruction fetch unit
- Merit
 - Fewer fetch bubbles
 - Fetch directed instr. prefetching



Yanqihu



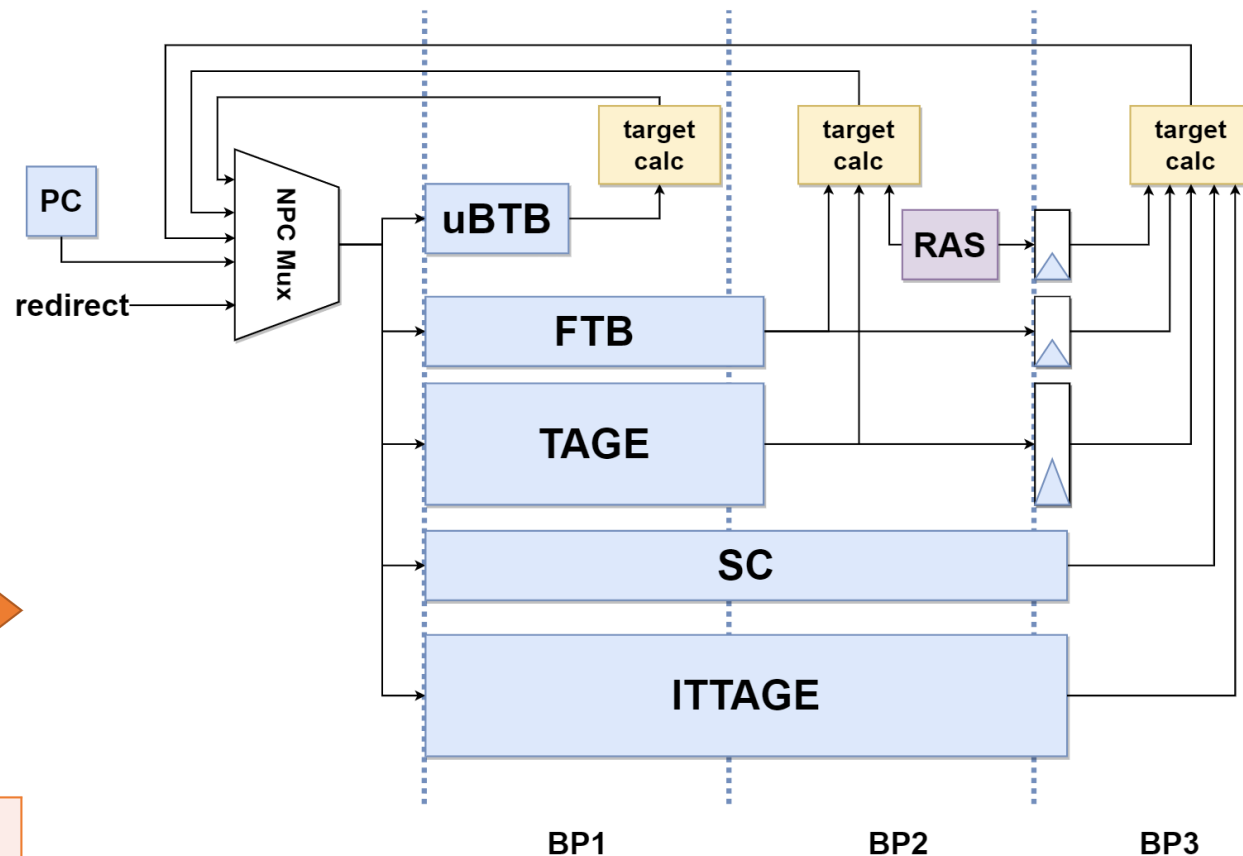
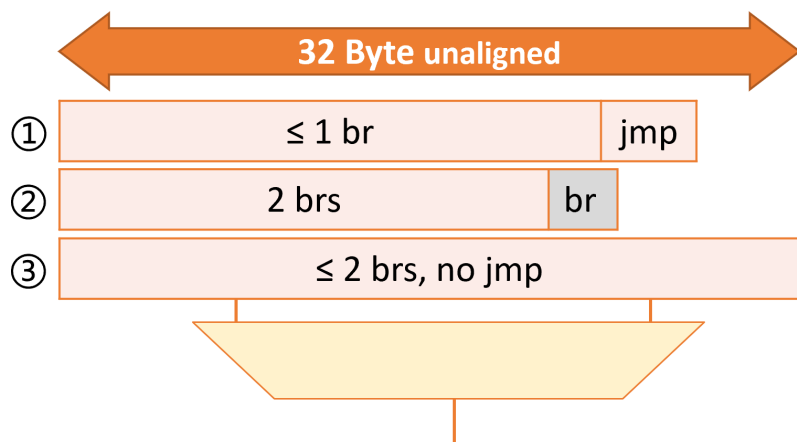
Nanhu



Branch Predictor

Three-stage overriding prediction

- **Stage 1** : uBTB
 - **Stage 2** : FTB + TAGE
 - **Stage 3** : SC + ITTAGE + RAS
- **FTB: Fetch Target Buffer**

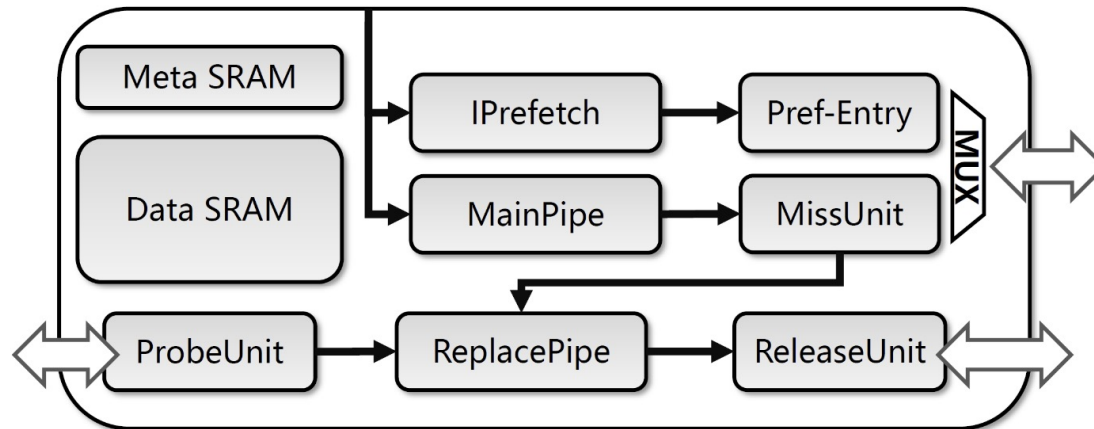




Instruction Cache

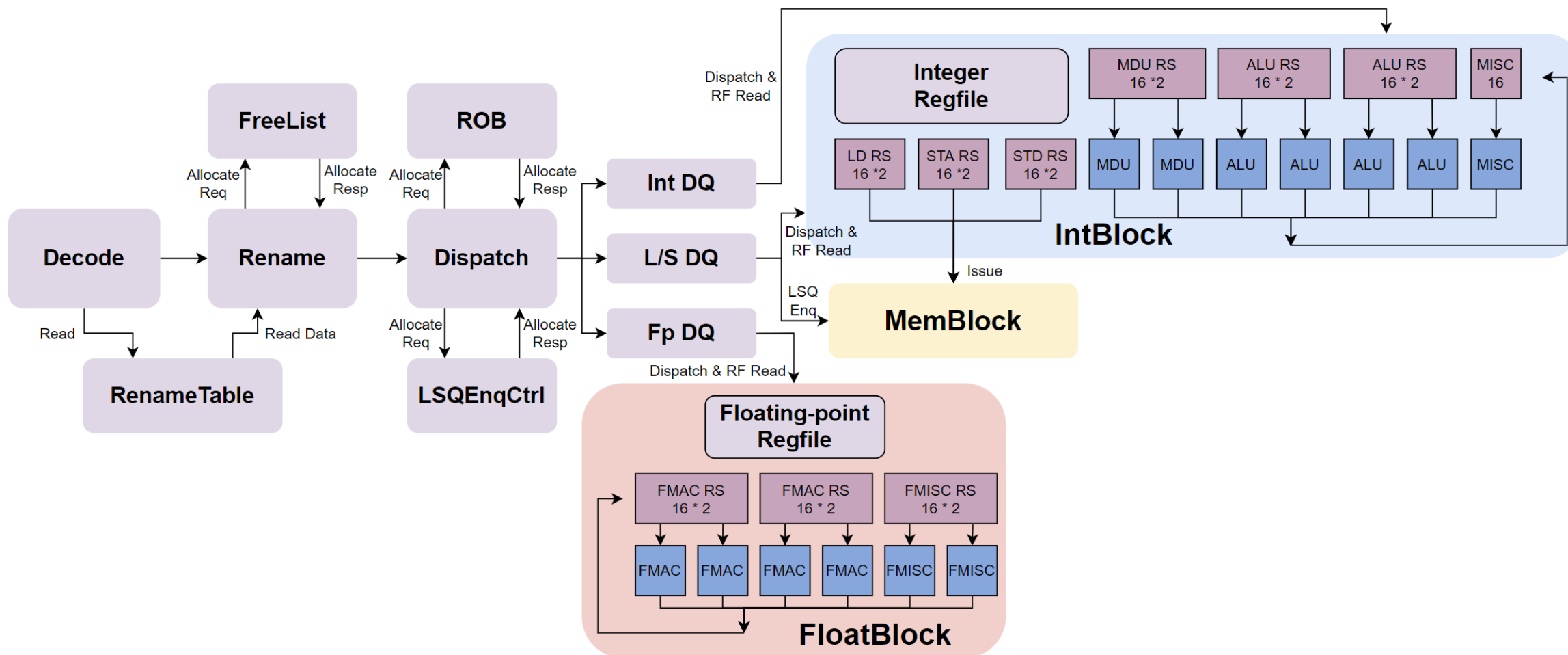
• Main feature

- 64KB 4-w VIPT blocking cache
- Even/odd bank interleaving read
- **Support TileLink protocol**
- PLRU replacement



	Yanqihu	Nanhu	
ICache level	Two	One	Reduce
Size	16KB, 4-w	64KB, 4-w	4×
L1plus Cache	128KB, 8-w	-	Reduce
Read bandwidth	64 B	128 B	2×
TileLink Support	No	Yes	New
Instruction prefetch	Stream	L2 FDIP	New

Backend





Instruction Fusion

- Fusion of adjacent UOPs
 - Improve backend efficiency
 - Reduce data bypass delay
- How can we do that?
 1. Reuse of the original calculation
 2. Designing new types of calculations
- **Reduce dynamic instr. greatly**

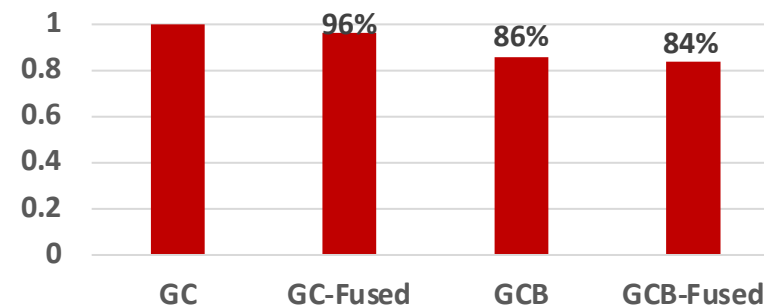
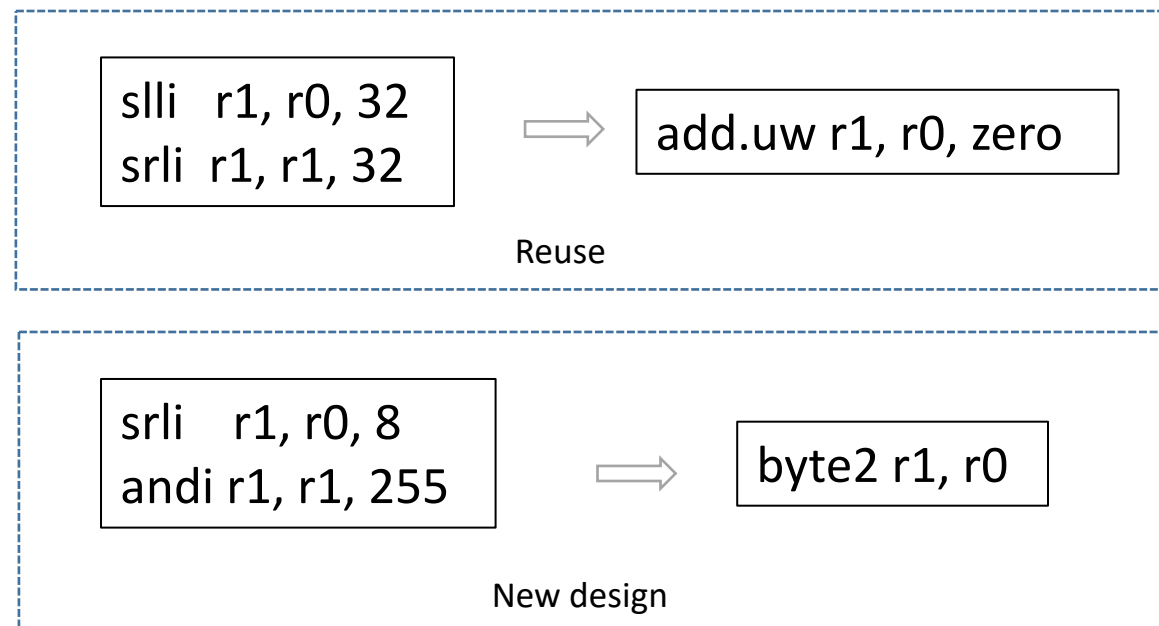
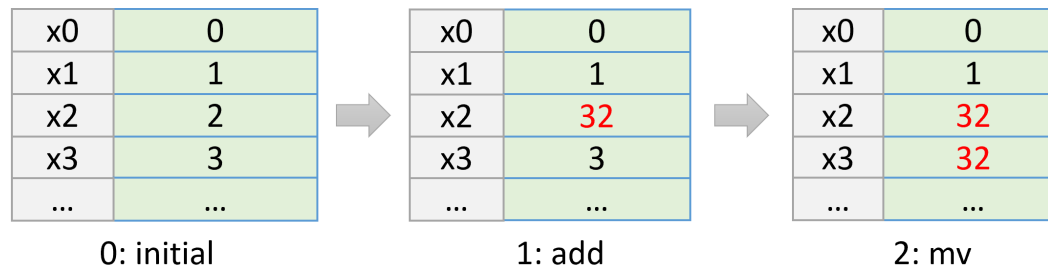
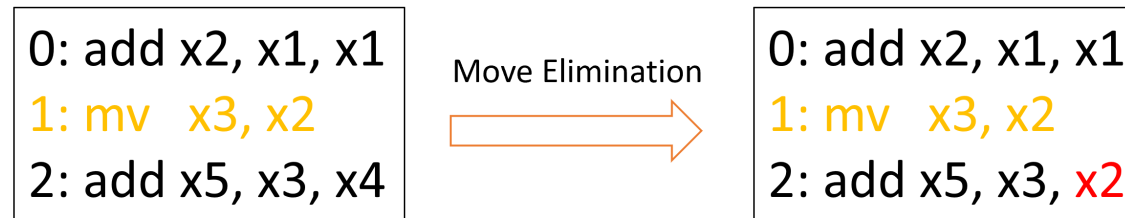


Figure. Normalized Dynamic Instruction Count for CoreMark (-O2)

Rename & Move Elimination

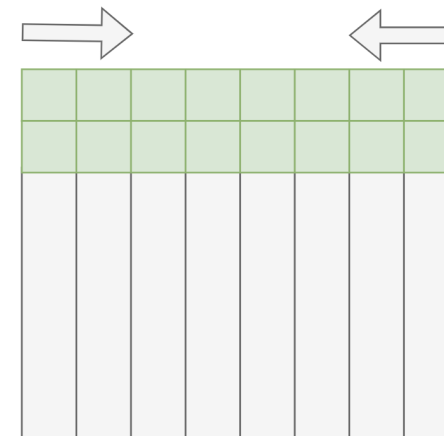
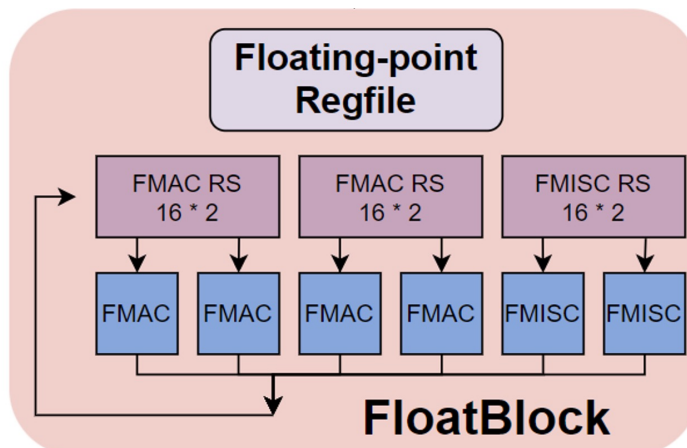
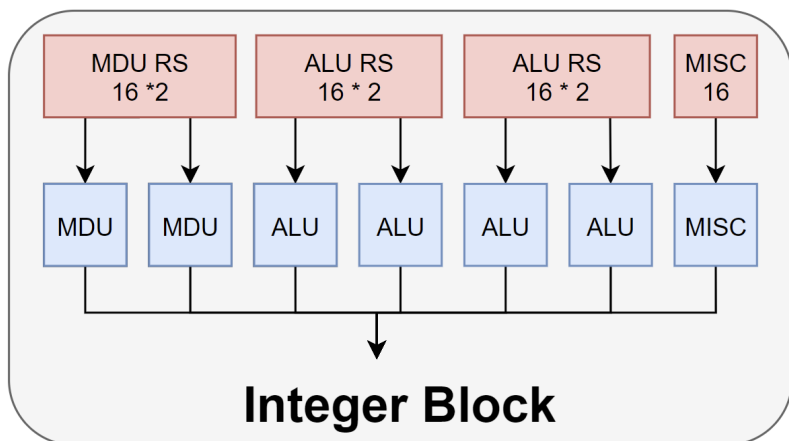
- Maintain the mapping between **arch registers** and **physical registers**
- Move Elimination
 - Mark as **Complete** when Move instruction enters ROB
 - Use **Reference-Counter** to record mapping counts of physical registers





Reservation Station

- Hybrid reservation station design
 - 2i1o & 1i1o
 - normal selection & age matrix base selection



Normal Select

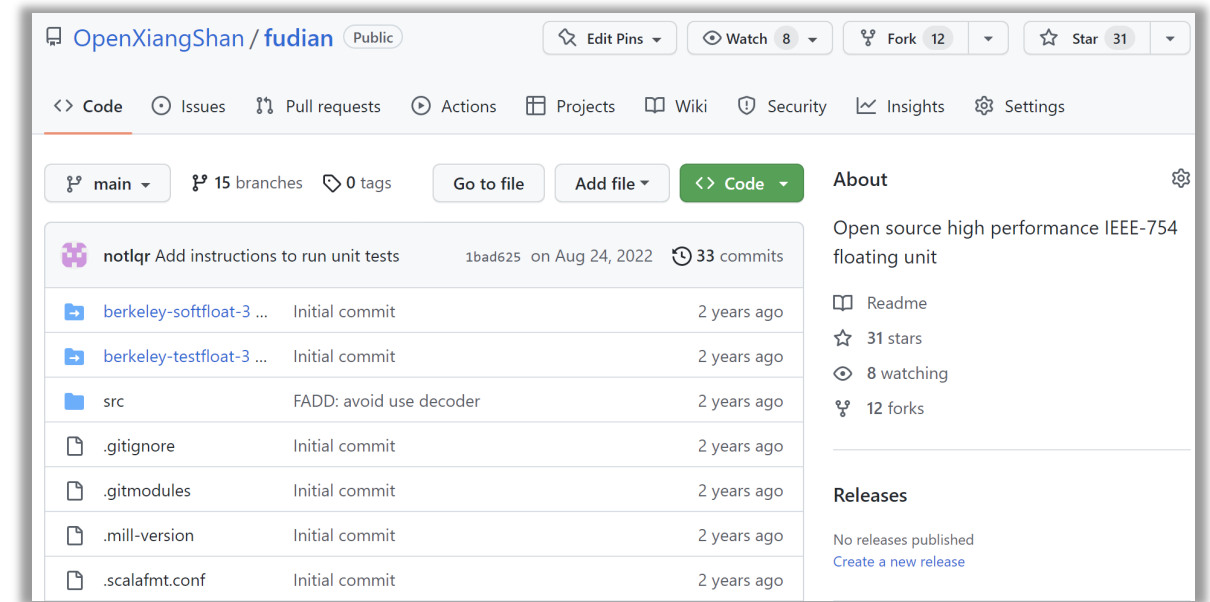
0	true			
1	true	true		
2	true	false	true	
3	true	false	false	true
	0	1	2	3

Age Matrix

Floating-Point Units (FPUs)

- Industry competitive Float Point Unit, **IEEE 754** compatible

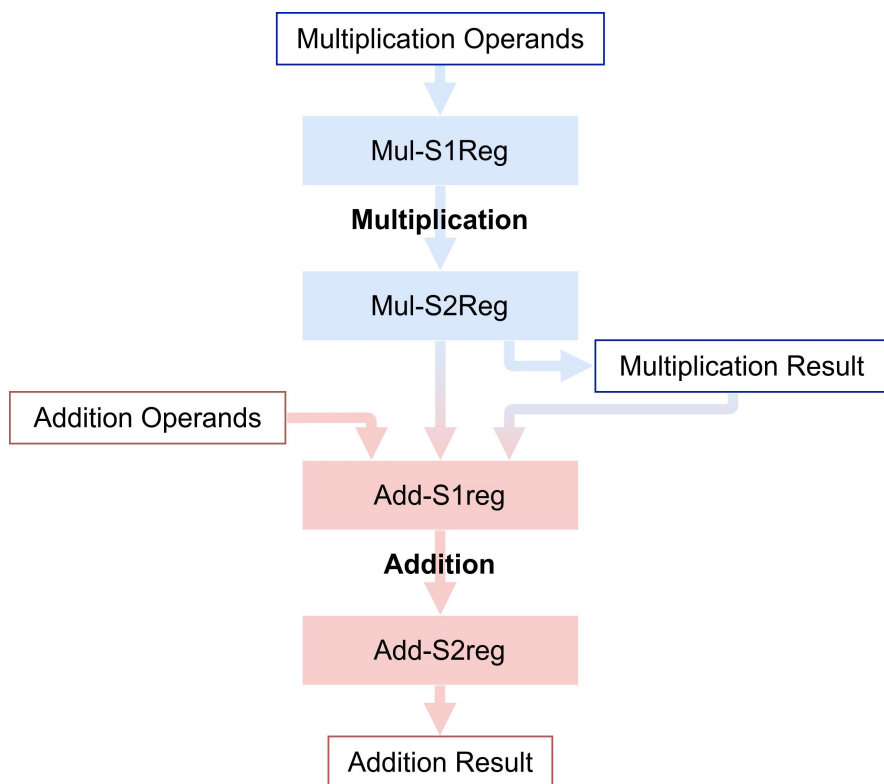
Operations	Latency
FADD	3
FMUL	3
FMA	5
FDIV	≤ 11 (float) ≤ 18 (double)
FSQRT	≤ 17 (float) ≤ 31 (double)
FCVT, FCMP	3



<https://github.com/OpenXiangShan/fudian>

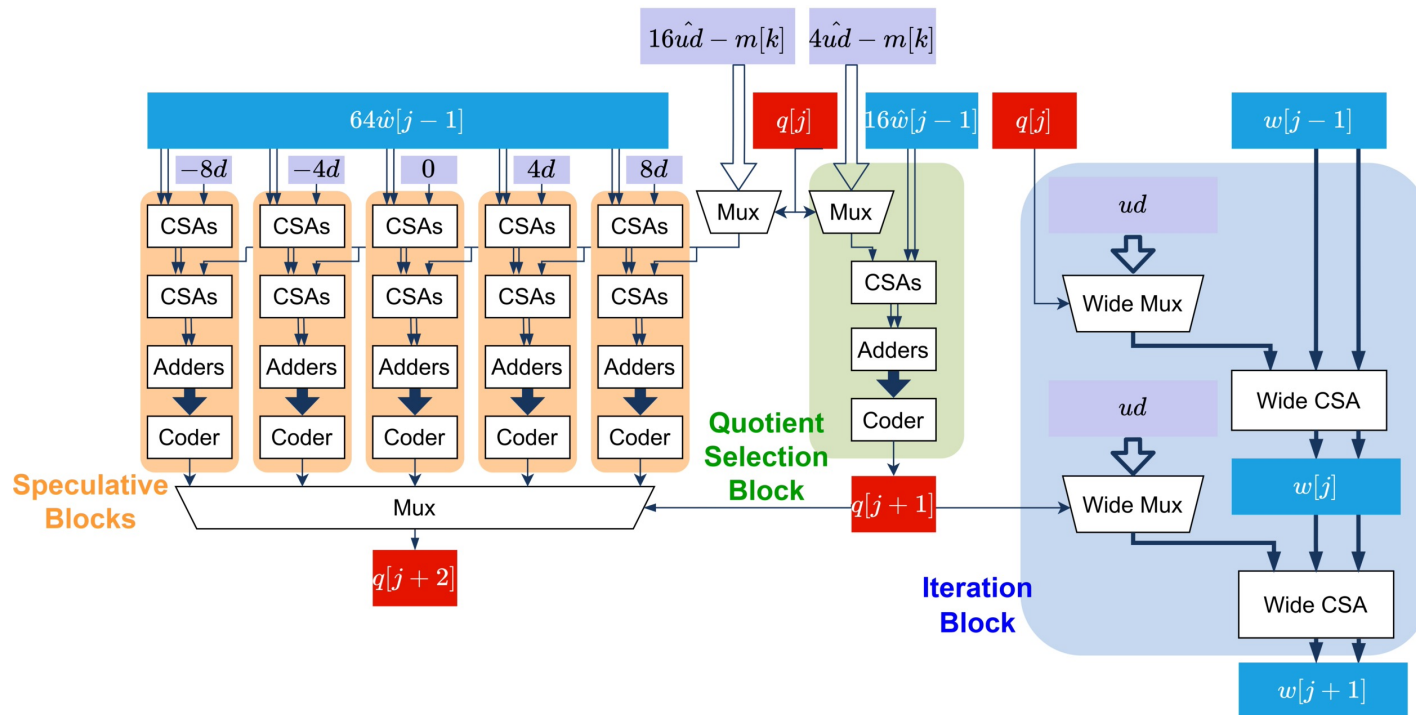
• Cascade FMA

- Reduce FADD delay 5->3



• SRT16 Division units

- $\frac{1}{2}$ delay compared with Yanqihu (SRT4)



B/K Extension Implemented

- **B**: Bit-Manipulation extension
- **K**: Cryptographic extension
- * **V**(Vector)/**H**(Hypervisor) extensions are in development!

1. Extensions	
1.1. Zba extension	
1.2. Zbb: Basic bit-manipulation	
1.2.1. Logical with negate	
1.2.2. Count leading/trailing zero bits	
1.2.3. Count population	
1.2.4. Integer minimum/maximum	
1.2.5. Sign- and zero-extension	
1.2.6. Bitwise rotation	
1.2.7. OR Combine	
1.2.8. Byte-reverse	
1.3. Zbc: Carry-less multiplication	
1.4. Zbs: Single-bit instructions	

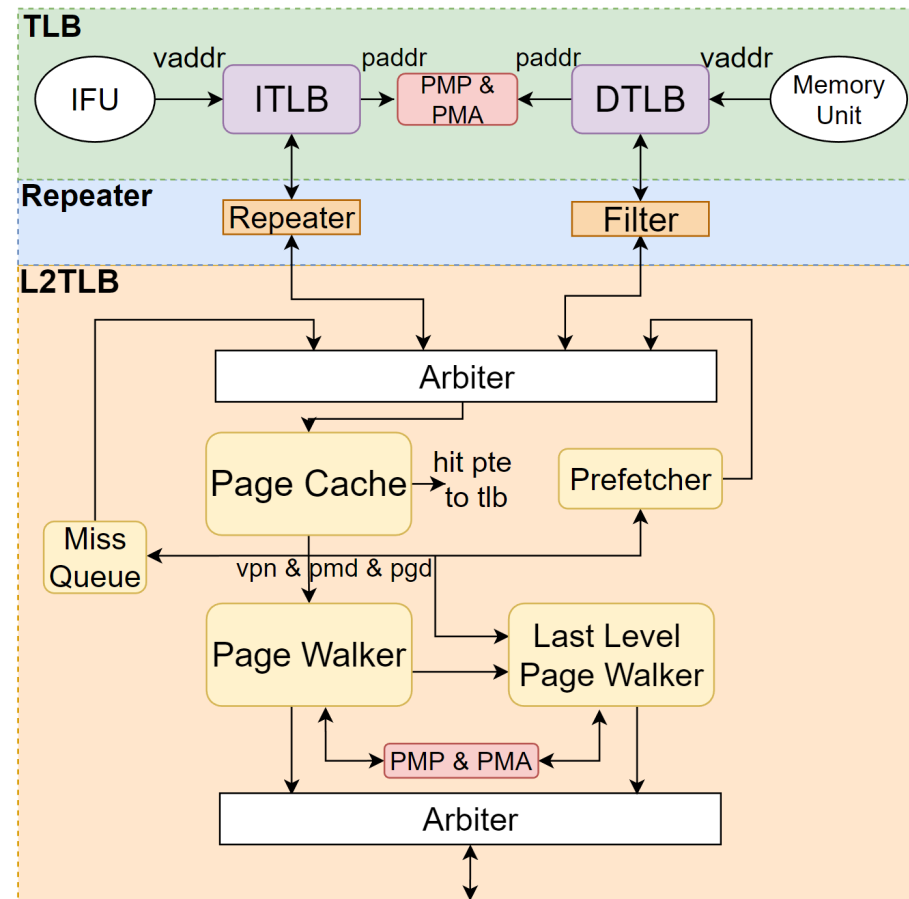
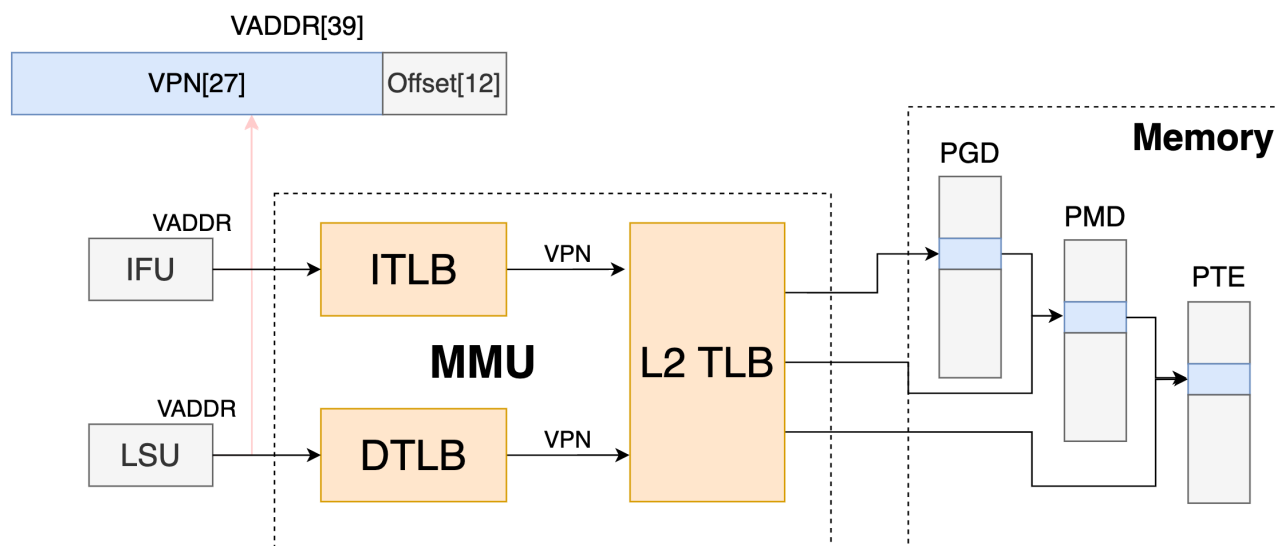
B Extension

2. Extensions Overview	
2.1. Zbkb - Bitmanip instructions for Cryptography	
2.2. Zbkc - Carry-less multiply instructions	
2.3. Zbkx - Crossbar permutation instructions	
2.4. Zknd - NIST Suite: AES Decryption	
2.5. Zkne - NIST Suite: AES Encryption	
2.6. Zknh - NIST Suite: Hash Function Instructions	
2.7. Zksed - ShangMi Suite: SM4 Block Cipher Instructions	
2.8. Zksh - ShangMi Suite: SM3 Hash Function Instructions	
2.9. Zkr - Entropy Source Extension	
2.10. Zkn - NIST Algorithm Suite	
2.11. Zks - ShangMi Algorithm Suite	
2.12. Zk - Standard scalar cryptography extension	
2.13. Zkt - Data Independent Execution Latency	

K Extension

Memory Management Unit

- Translate from virtual address to physical address
- Privilege checking
- Support Sv39

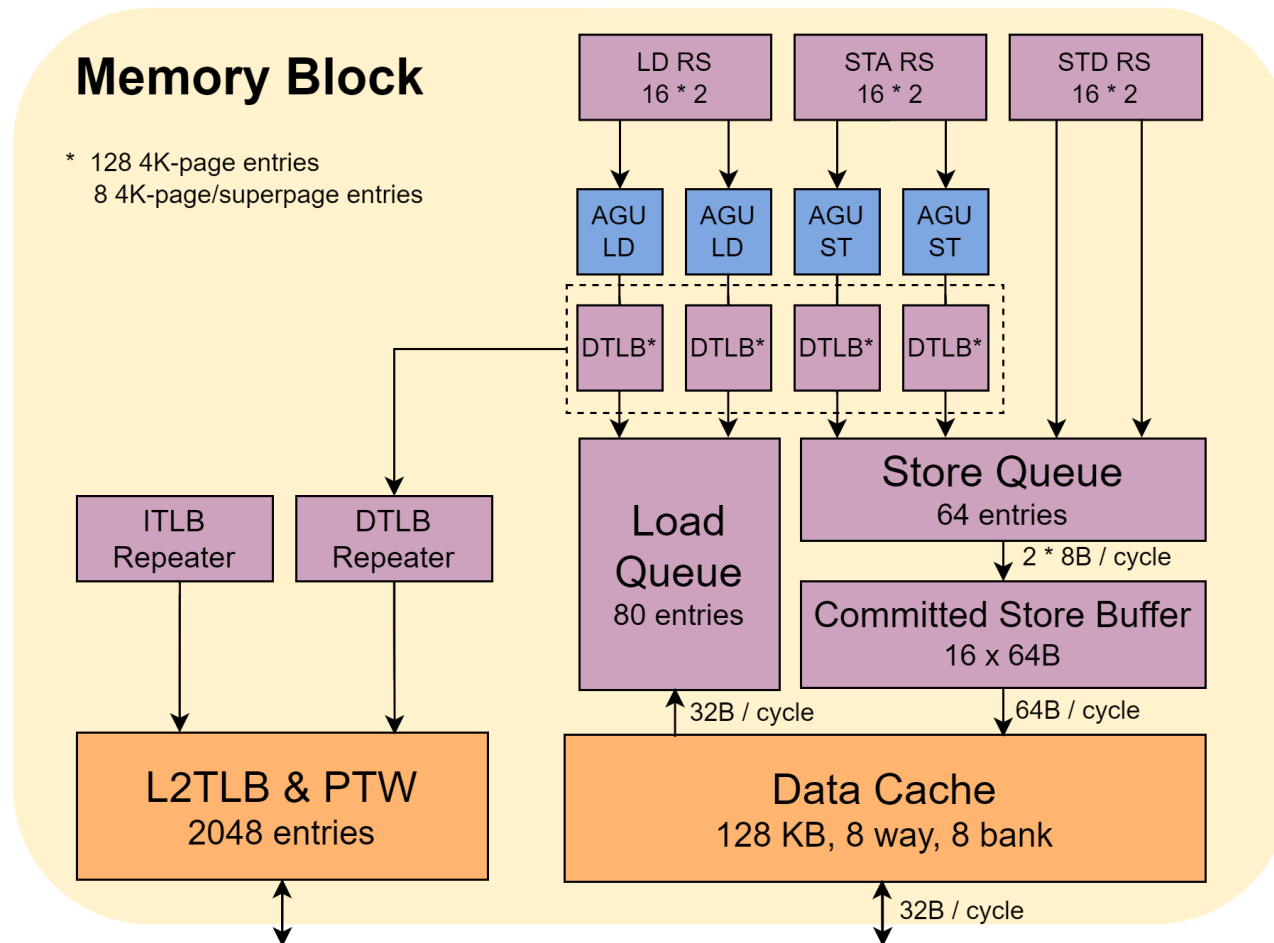




Memory Block

- Datasheets

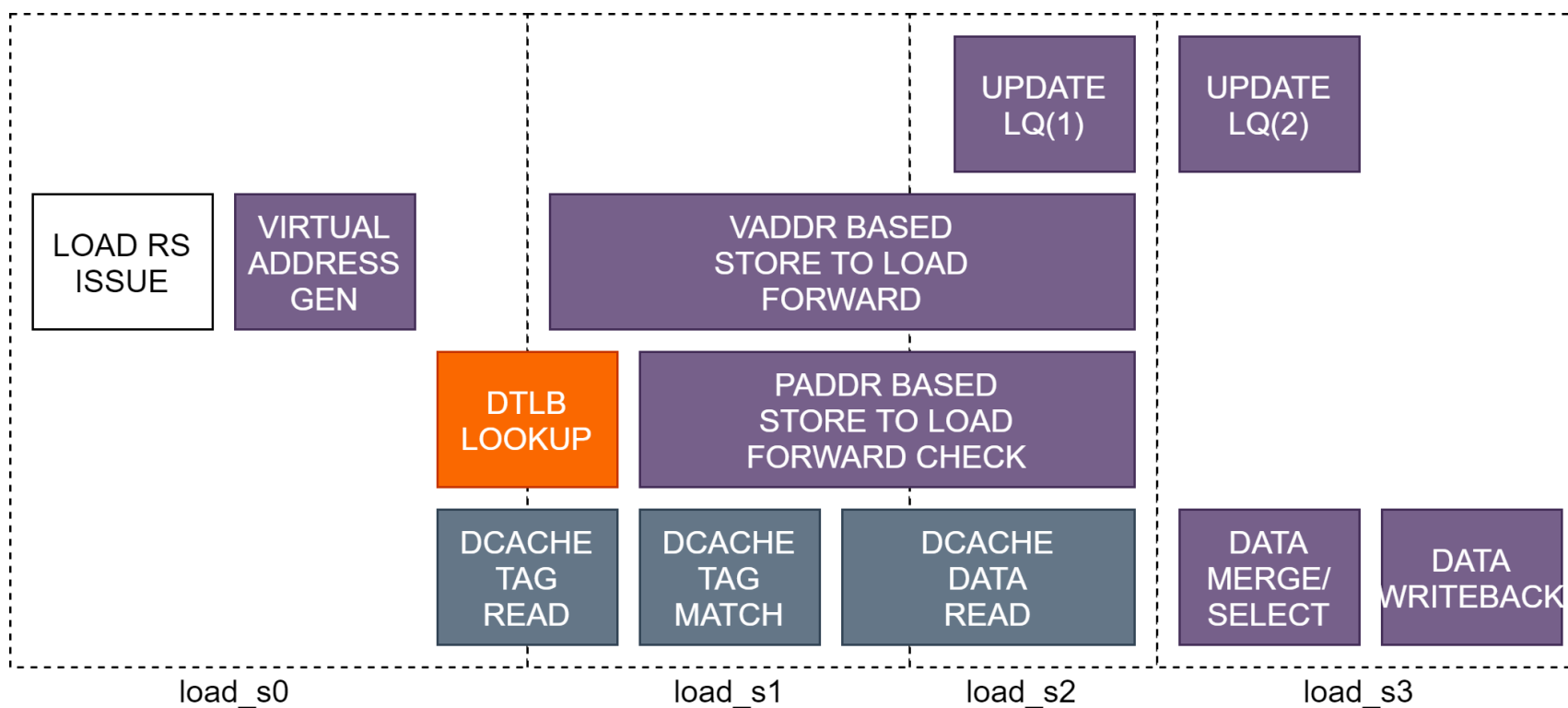
Load pipeline	2
Store address pipeline	2
Store data pipeline	2
L1 LD hit latency	4
L1 LD hit bandwidth	2x8B/cycle
Store data bandwidth	2x8B/cycle
Load Queue Entry	80
Store Queue Entry	64
Merged Store Buffer	16 cachelines





Load Pipeline

- Four stage
- Optimized for load-to-load & load-store bypass

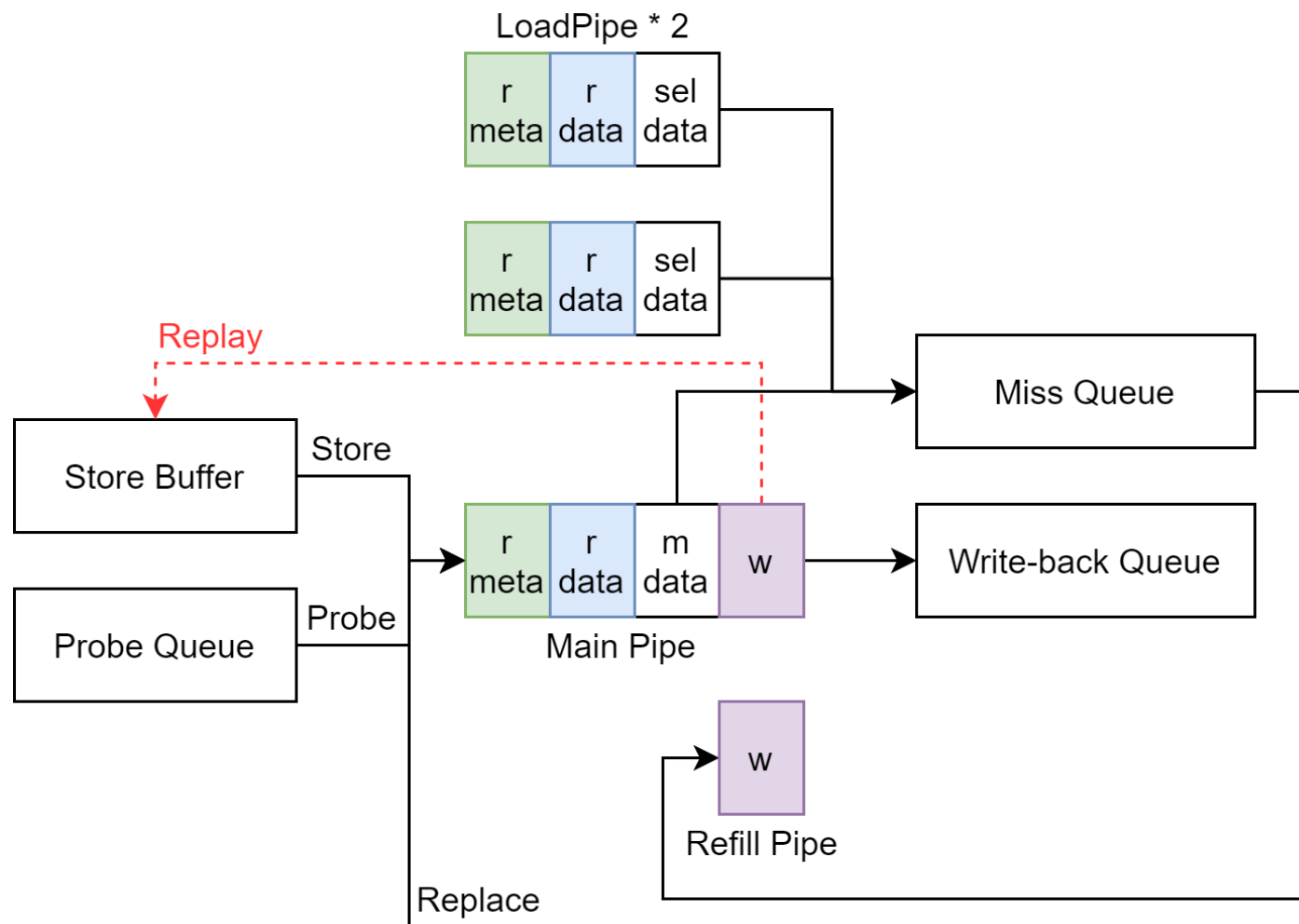




L1 DCache

- Coupled with load pipeline
- TileLink protocol

L1 Data cache size	64KB
L1/L2 Bus Width	256bit
Store Buffer	16
Probe Queue	8
Miss Queue	16
Write-back Queue	18
Prefetch Instruction	Support
ECC	Support

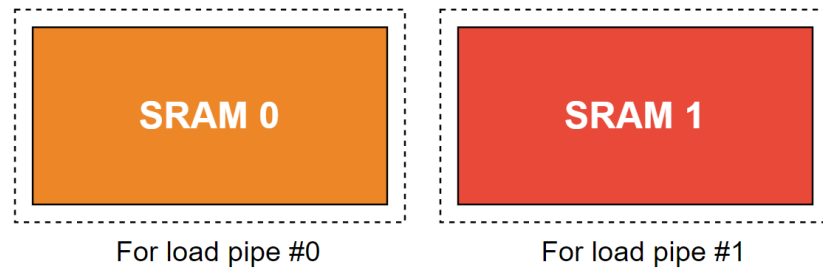




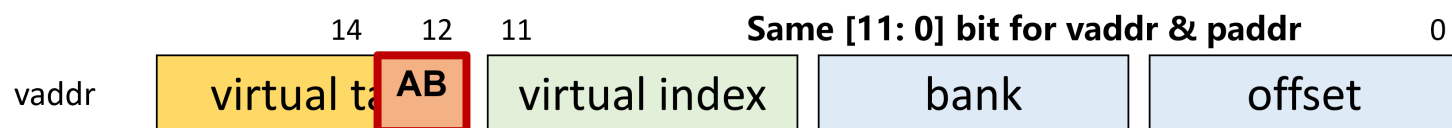
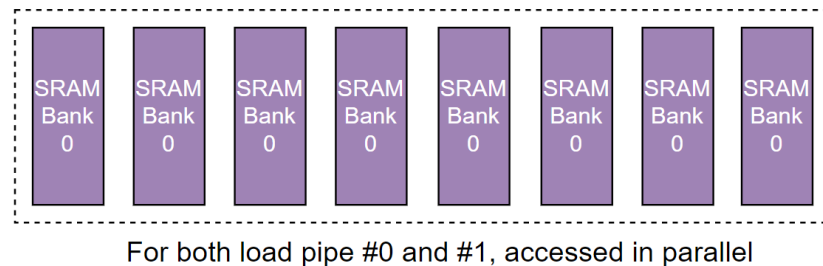
L1 DCache

- Noteworthy features
 - Multi-bank
 - Anti-alias
 - MSHR request merge
 - Optional L1D prefetcher

Yanqihu



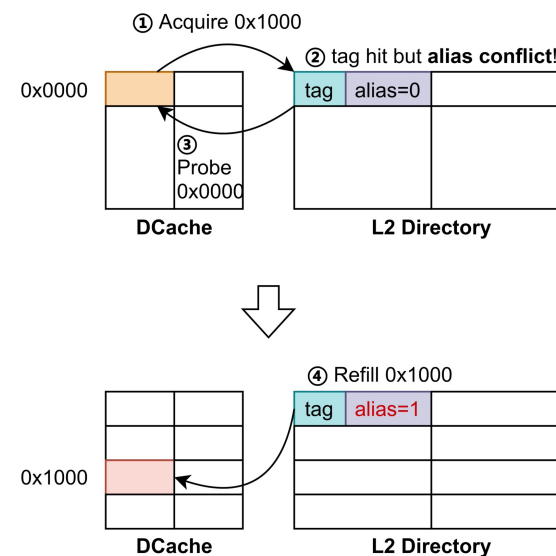
Nanhu



Alias Bit transferred to L2 cache



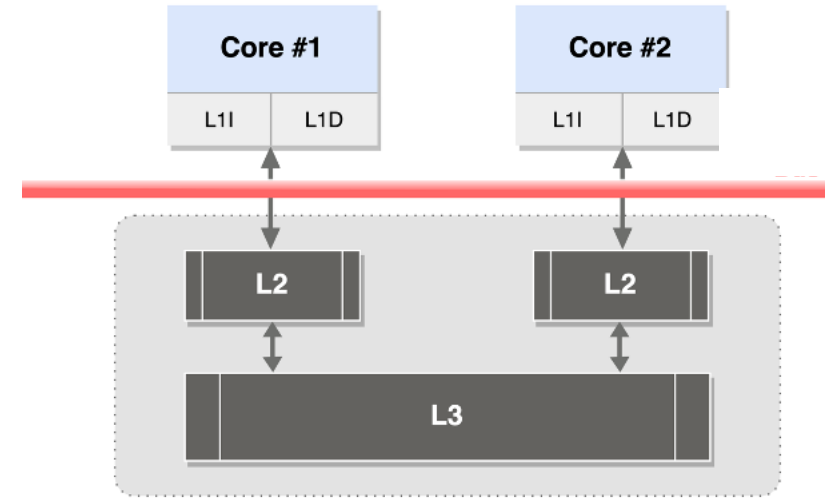
Use paddr tag for data cache tag comparison



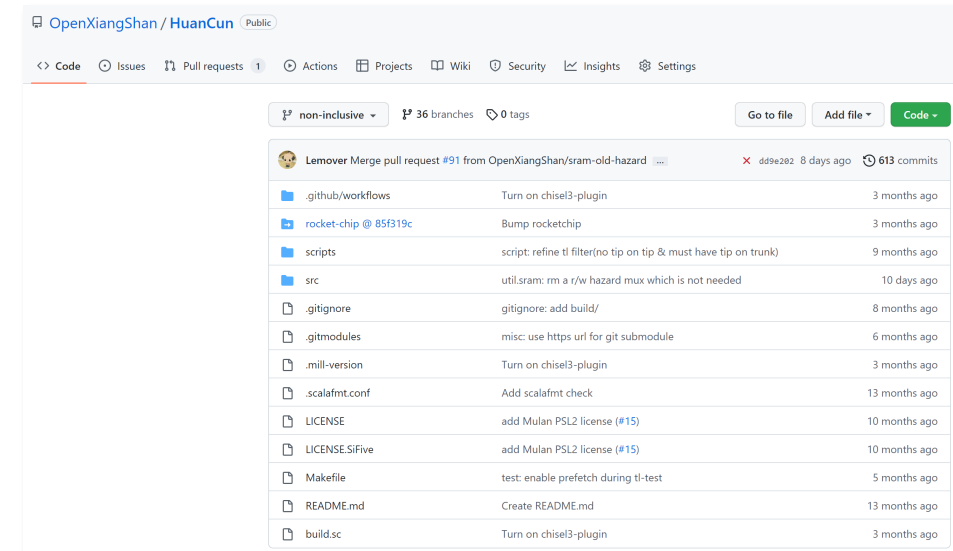


L2/L3 Cache

- High performance non-blocking **L2/L3** cache
- Design features
 - **Directory based coherence**
 - **Inclusive/Non-inclusive**
 - **TileLink protocol**
- Highly configurable parameters
 - Slice, Size, #Ways, #MSHRs
 - Replacement: **Random/PLRU/RRIP**
 - Prefetch: **BOP/SMS**
- Maintain coherence with **both** L1I & L1D



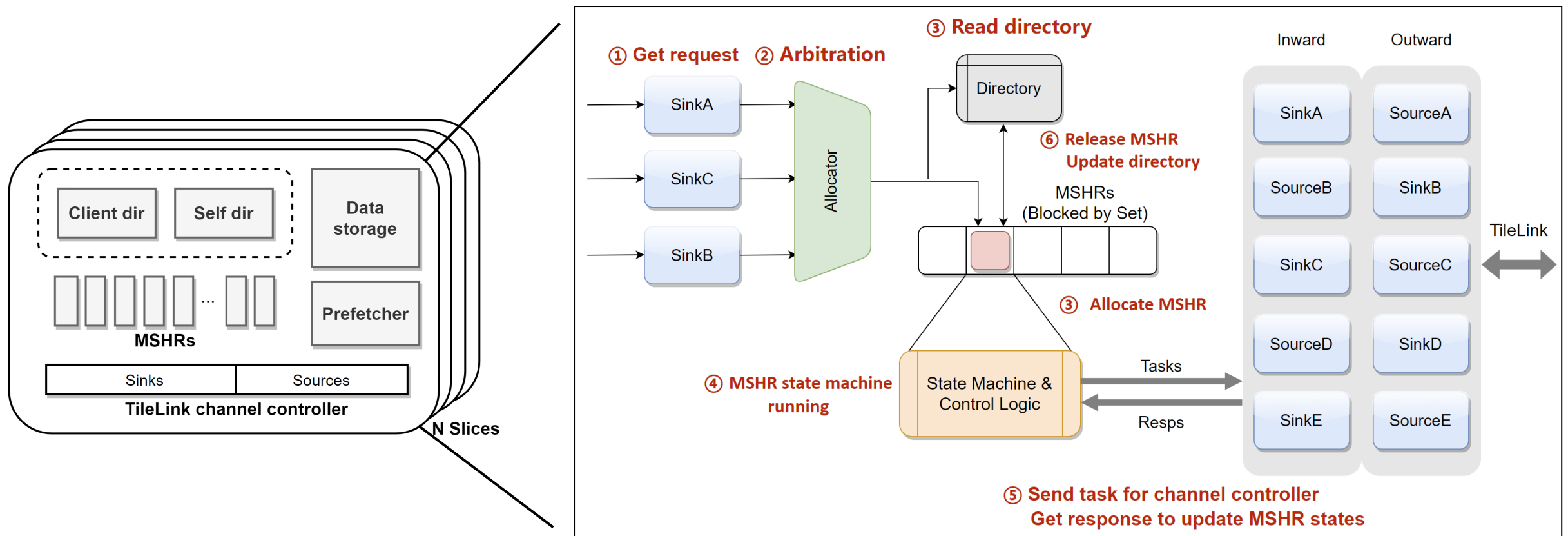
Nanhu Dual-core



<https://github.com/OpenXiangShan/HuanCun>

L2/L3 Cache

- Concurrent request processing flow



Microarchitecture Implementation

- Implement by **Chisel** HDL

- High readability
- High modifiability



- Beyond built-ins, we designed some open-source high-performance utilities/components

 BinaryArbiterNode.scala

 BitUtils.scala

 ChiselDB.scala

 CircularQueuePtr.scala

 Constantin.scala

 DataModuleTemplate.scala

 ECC.scala

 ExcitingUtils.scala

 ExtractVerilogModules.scala

 FastArbiter.scala

 FileRegisters.scala

 GTimer.scala

 Hold.scala

 IntBuffer.scala

 LFSR64.scala

 LatencyPipe.scala

 LookupTree.scala

 MIMOQueue.scala

 Misc.scala

 ParallelMux.scala

 Pipeline.scala

 PipelineConnect.scala

 PriorityMuxDefault.scala

 PriorityMuxGen.scala

 RegMap.scala

 Replacement.scala

 ResetGen.scala

 SRAMTemplate.scala

 StopWatch.scala

 TLClientsMerger.scala

 TLEdgeBuffer.scala

Check it out!





Microarchitecture Implementation

- Highly configurable
 - You can setup parameters as you wish

```
IBufSize: Int = 48,
DecodeWidth: Int = 6,
RenameWidth: Int = 6,
CommitWidth: Int = 6,
FtqSize: Int = 64,
EnableLoadFastWakeUp: Boolean = true,
IssQueueSize: Int = 16,
NRPhyRegs: Int = 192,
LoadQueueSize: Int = 80,
LoadQueueNWriteBanks: Int = 8,
StoreQueueSize: Int = 64,
StoreQueueNWriteBanks: Int = 8,
RobSize: Int = 256,
dpParams: DispatchParameters =
  DispatchParameters(
    IntDqSize = 16,
    FpDqSize = 16,
    LsDqSize = 16,
    IntDqDeqWidth = 4,
    FpDqDeqWidth = 4,
    LsDqDeqWidth = 4
  ),
  exuParameters: ExuParameters =
    ExuParameters(
      ImpCnt = 1,
      AluCnt = 4,
      MulCnt = 0,
      MduCnt = 2,
      FmacCnt = 4,
      FmiscCnt = 2,
      FmiscDivSqrtCnt = 0,
      LduCnt = 2,
      StuCnt = 2
    ),
    prefetcher: Option[PrefetcherParams] =
      Some(SMSParams()),
    LoadPipelineWidth: Int = 2,
    StorePipelineWidth: Int = 2,
    StoreBufferSize: Int = 16,
    StoreBufferThreshold: Int = 7,
    EnableLoadToLoadForward: Boolean = true,
    EnableFastForward: Boolean = false,
    EnableLdVioCheckAfterReset: Boolean = true,
    EnableSoftPrefetchAfterReset: Boolean = true,
    EnableCacheErrorAfterReset: Boolean = true,
    EnablePTWPreferCache: Boolean = true,
    EnableAccurateLoadError: Boolean = true,
```

Some key parameters

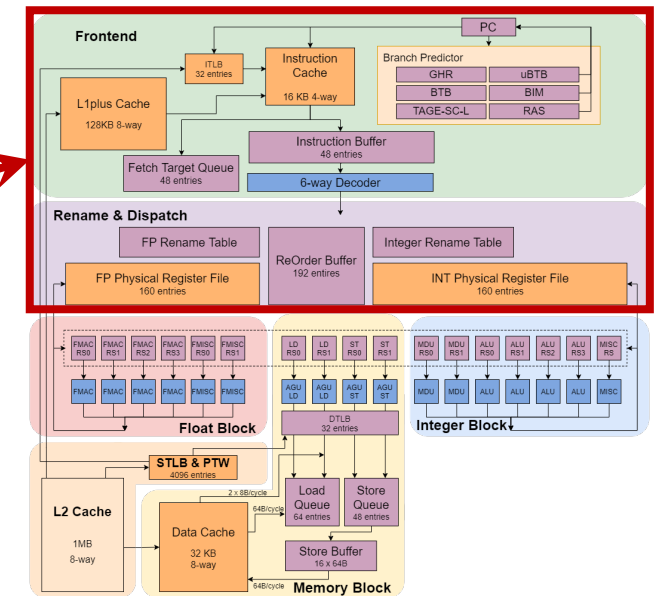
e.g.

How to change rename/decode/issue width?

All you need is to change a number

```
23 // Synthesizable minimal XiangShan
24 // * It is still an out-of-order, super-scalaer arch
25 // * L1 cache included
26 // * L2 cache NOT included
27 // * L3 cache included
28 class MinimalConfig(n: Int = 1) extends Config(
29   new DefaultConfig(n).alter((site, here, up) => {
30     case SoCParamsKey => up(SoCParamsKey).copy(
31       cores = up(SoCParamsKey).cores.map(_.copy(
32         DecodeWidth = 2,
33         RenameWidth = 2,
34         FetchWidth = 4,
35         IssQueueSize = 8,
36         NRPhyRegs = 80,
37         LoadQueueSize = 16,
38         StoreQueueSize = 16,
39         RoqSize = 32,
40         BrqSize = 8,
41         FtqSize = 16,
42         IBufSize = 16,
43         StoreBufferThreshold = 3,
44         dpParams = DispatchParameters(
45           IntDqSize = 8,
46           FpDqSize = 8,
47           LsDqSize = 8,
48           IntDqDeqWidth = 4,
49           FpDqDeqWidth = 4,
50           LsDqDeqWidth = 4
51         )
52       )
53     )
54   })
```

**All affected
But it works**

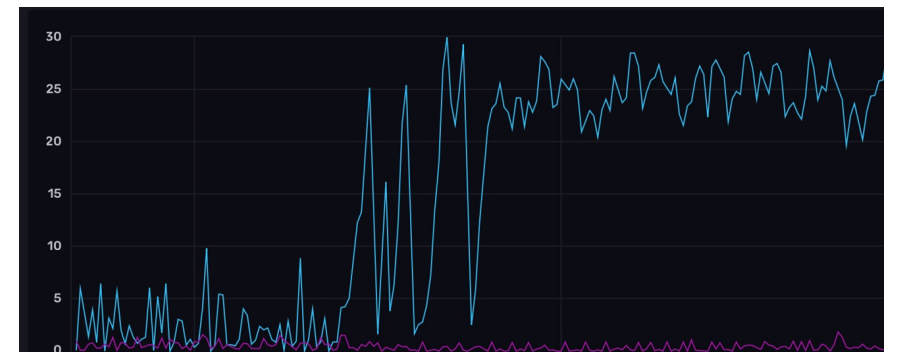
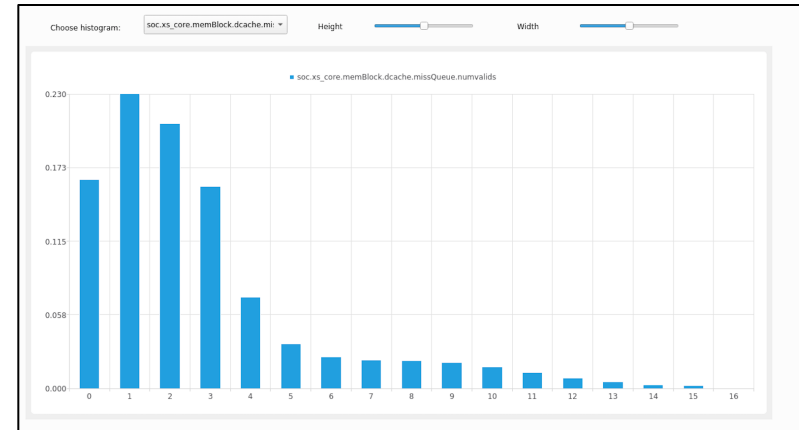




Microarchitecture Implementation

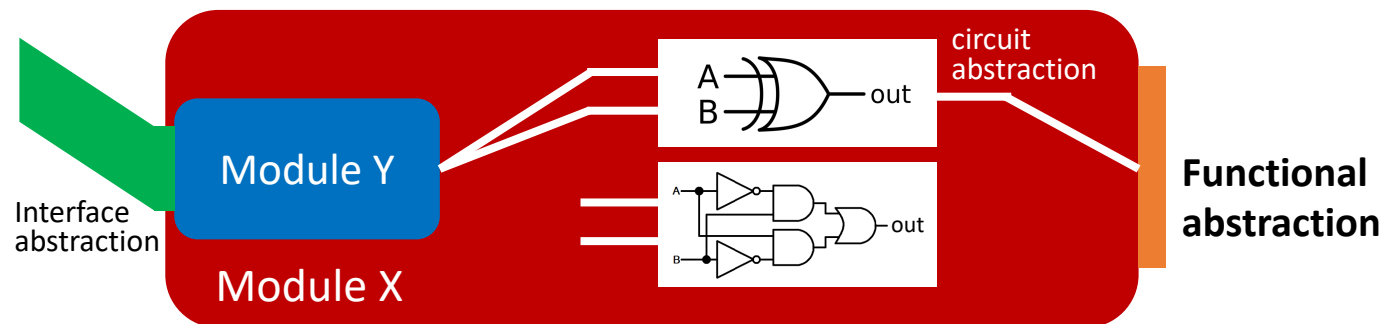
- Easy-to-use performance counter system
- Multiple collection types
 - Cumulative counter
 - Delay counter
 - Transaction counter
- Multiple analysis style
 - Key-value list
 - Histogram
 - Database
 - Time series visualization

TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpBInstr,	57899
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpBRight,	54695
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpBWrong,	3204
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpCRight,	3615
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpCWrong,	34
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpInstr,	78176
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpIRight,	5471
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpIWrong,	6099
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpJRight,	8707
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpJWrong,	0
TOP.XSSimSoC.soc.xs_core.ctrlBlock.ftq: BpRight,	68873



Microarchitecture Implementation

- Modules are designed according to object-oriented programming
- Support multi-level abstraction



- e.g., to implement a new prefetcher
 - We provide a clean set of interfaces that allow the developer to focus on the implementation of the algorithm itself

Thanks!