**Part 7**

**Pipelining**

*\* Pipelining* is an implementation technique used to build fast processors. It allows the execution of multiple instructions to overlap in time.

**Pipeline Stages**



The computer pipeline divide the instruction processing into stages. Each stage completes a part of an instruction and loads a new part in parallel.

We can divide the execution of an instruction into the following 5 “classic” stages:

 **IF:** Instruction Fetch

 **ID:** Instruction Decode, register fetch

 **EX:** Execution

 **MEM:** Memory Access

 **WB:** Register write Back

**Example:** Compute the time needed to process three instructions in four-stage pipelining versus sequential technique.

 

It is clear from the figure that the total time required to process three instructions (I1, I2, I3) is only **six** time units if four-stage pipelining is used as compared to **12** time units if sequential processing is used.

**Advantages/Disadvantages**

Advantages:

* More efficient use of processor
* Quicker time of execution of large number of instructions

Disadvantages:

* Pipelining involves adding hardware to the chip
* Inability to continuously run the pipeline at full speed because of pipeline hazards which disrupt the smooth execution of the pipeline.

**Pipeline Throughput and Latency:**

**Pipeline throughput**: instructions completed per second

**Pipeline latency**: how long does it take to execute single instruction in the pipeline.

**Pipeline Hazards**

* Data Hazards – an instruction uses the result of the previous instruction. A hazard occurs exactly when an instruction tries to read a register in its ID stage that an earlier instruction intends to write in its WB stage.
* Control Hazards – the location of an instruction depends on previous instruction For example **Branch** instruction affects PC(program counter) contents .
* Structural Hazards – two instructions need to access the same resource

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**Stalling:**

* Stalling involves halting the flow of instructions until the required result is ready to be used. However stalling wastes processor time by doing nothing while waiting for the result.



**Type of Pipelining:**

* Software Pipelining

 1) Can Handle Complex Instructions

 2) Allows programs to be reused

* Hardware Pipelining

 1) Help designer manage complexity – a complex task can be divided into smaller, more manageable pieces.

 2) Hardware pipelining offers higher performance

**Pentium processor architecture:**



**Pentium registers:**



Pipelining on the 486/Pentium