CS 152 Computer Architecture and Engineering

Lecture 17: Vectors Part II

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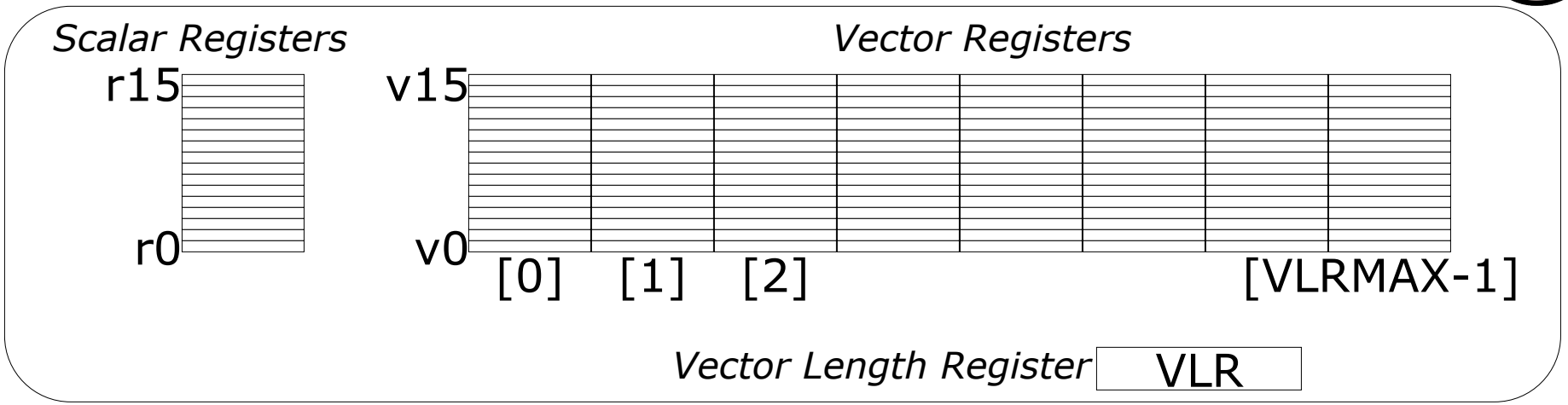
Last Time: Vector Supercomputers

Epitomized by Cray-1, 1976:

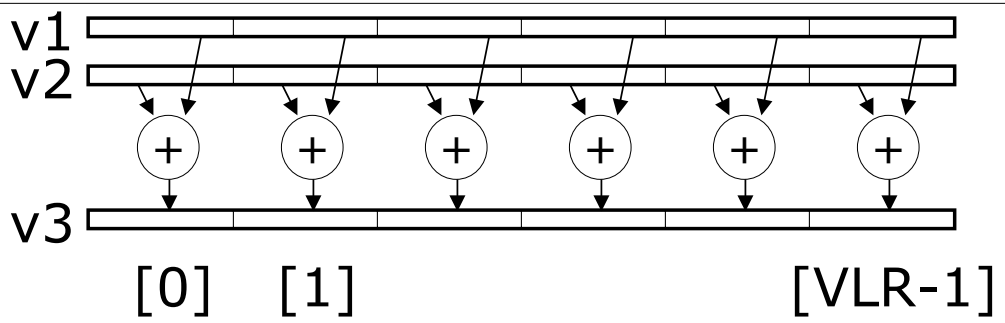
- Scalar Unit
  - Load/Store Architecture
- Vector Extension
  - Vector Registers
  - Vector Instructions
- Implementation
  - Hardwired Control
  - Highly Pipelined Functional Units
  - Interleaved Memory System
  - No Data Caches
  - No Virtual Memory

Vector Programming Model



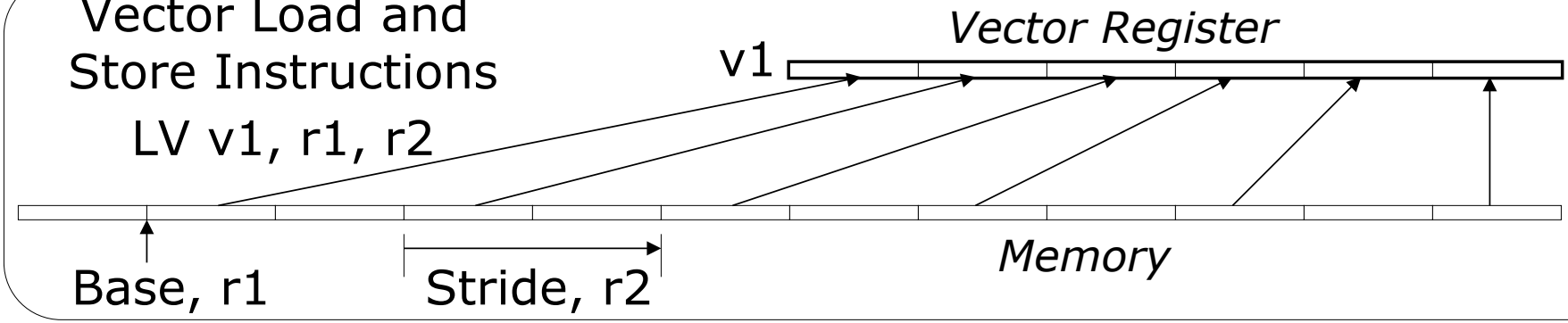
Vector Arithmetic Instructions

ADDV v3, v1, v2



Vector Load and Store Instructions

LV v1, r1, r2



Vector Code Example

```
# C code
for (i=0; i<64; i++)
  C[i] = A[i] + B[i];
```

```
# Scalar Code
  LI R4, 64
loop:
  L.D F0, 0(R1)
  L.D F2, 0(R2)
  ADD.D F4, F2, F0
  S.D F4, 0(R3)
  DADDIU R1, 8
  DADDIU R2, 8
  DADDIU R3, 8
  DSUBIU R4, 1
  BNEZ R4, loop
```

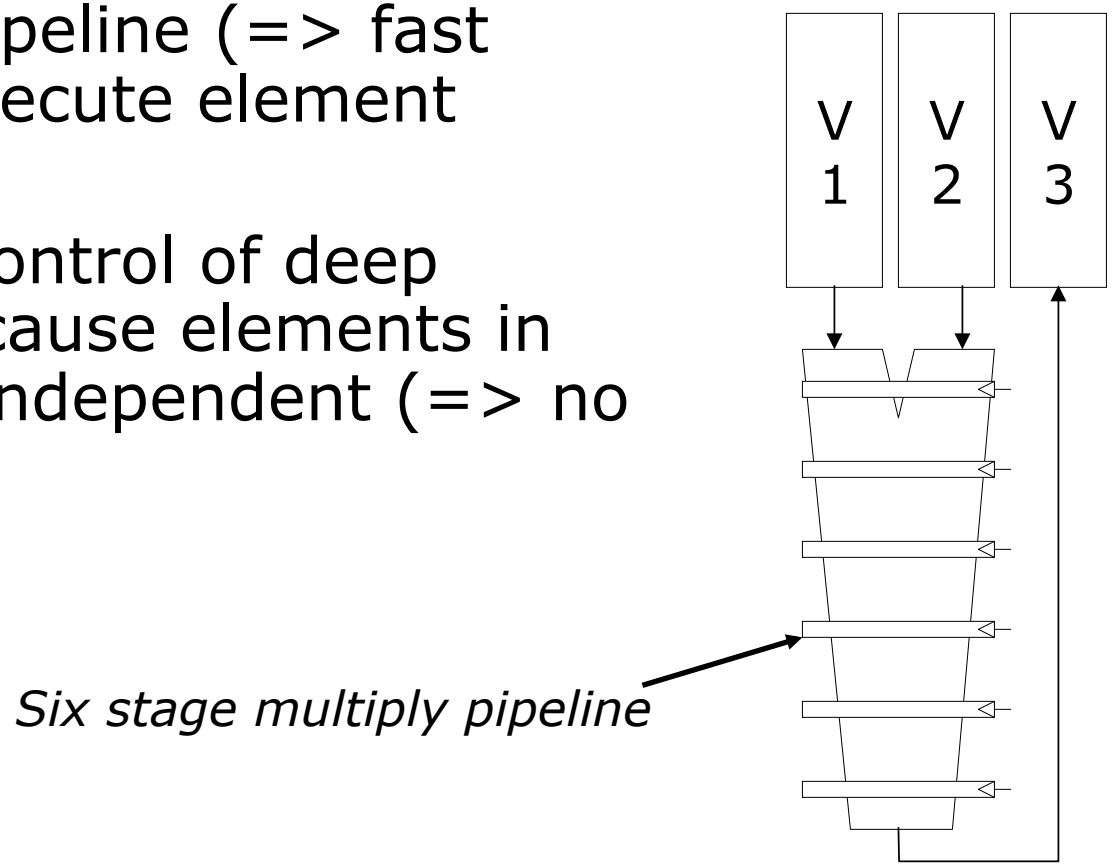
```
# Vector Code
  LI VLR, 64
  LV V1, R1
  LV V2, R2
  ADDV.D V3, V1, V2
  SV V3, R3
```

Vector Instruction Set Advantages

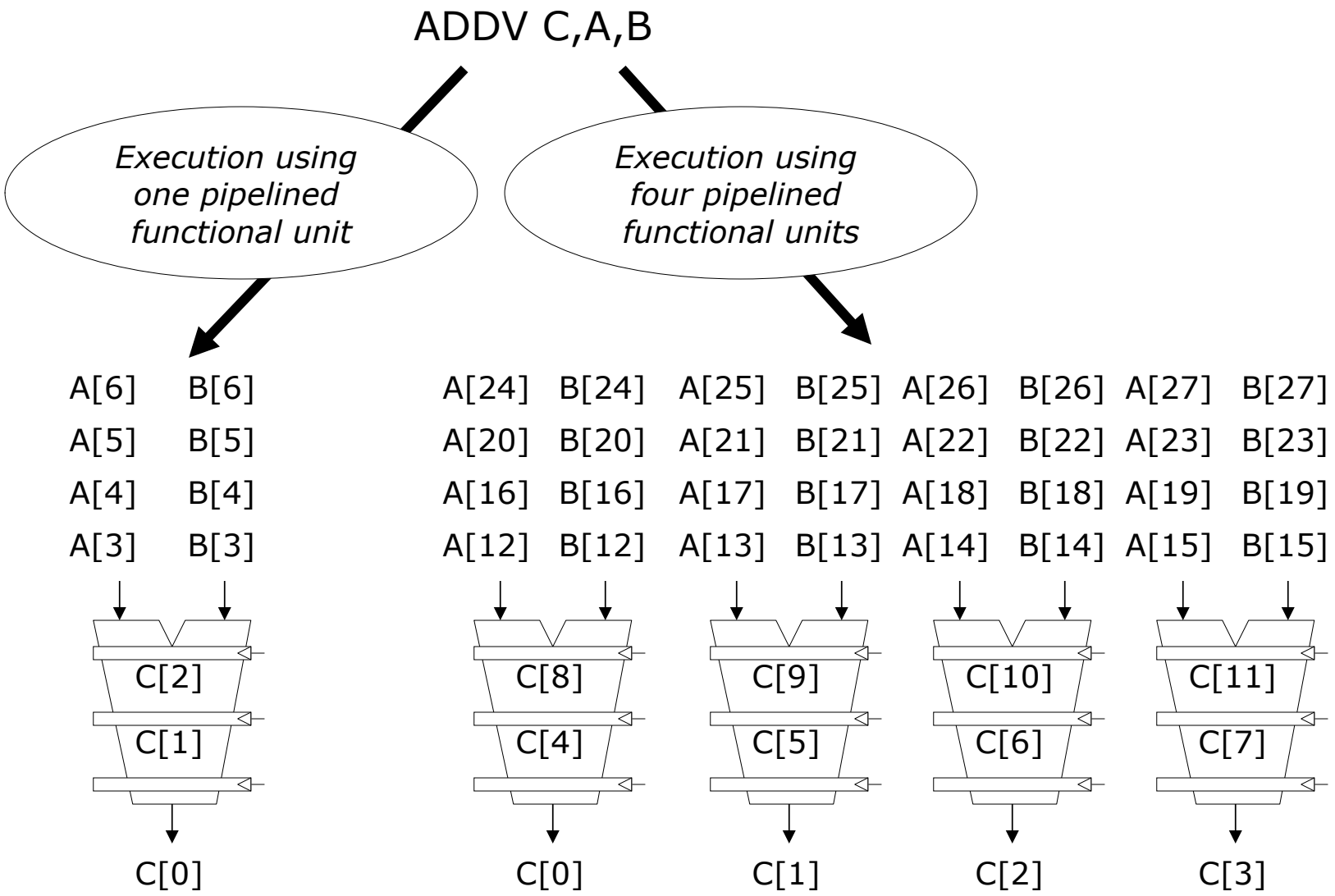
- Compact
  - one short instruction encodes N operations
- Expressive, tells hardware that these N operations:
  - are independent
  - use the same functional unit
  - access disjoint registers
  - access registers in same pattern as previous instructions
  - access a contiguous block of memory (unit-stride load/store)
  - access memory in a known pattern (strided load/store)
- Scalable
  - can run same code on more parallel pipelines (*lanes)*

Vector Arithmetic Execution

- Use deep pipeline (=> fast clock) to execute element operations
- Simplifies control of deep pipeline because elements in vector are independent (=> no hazards!)



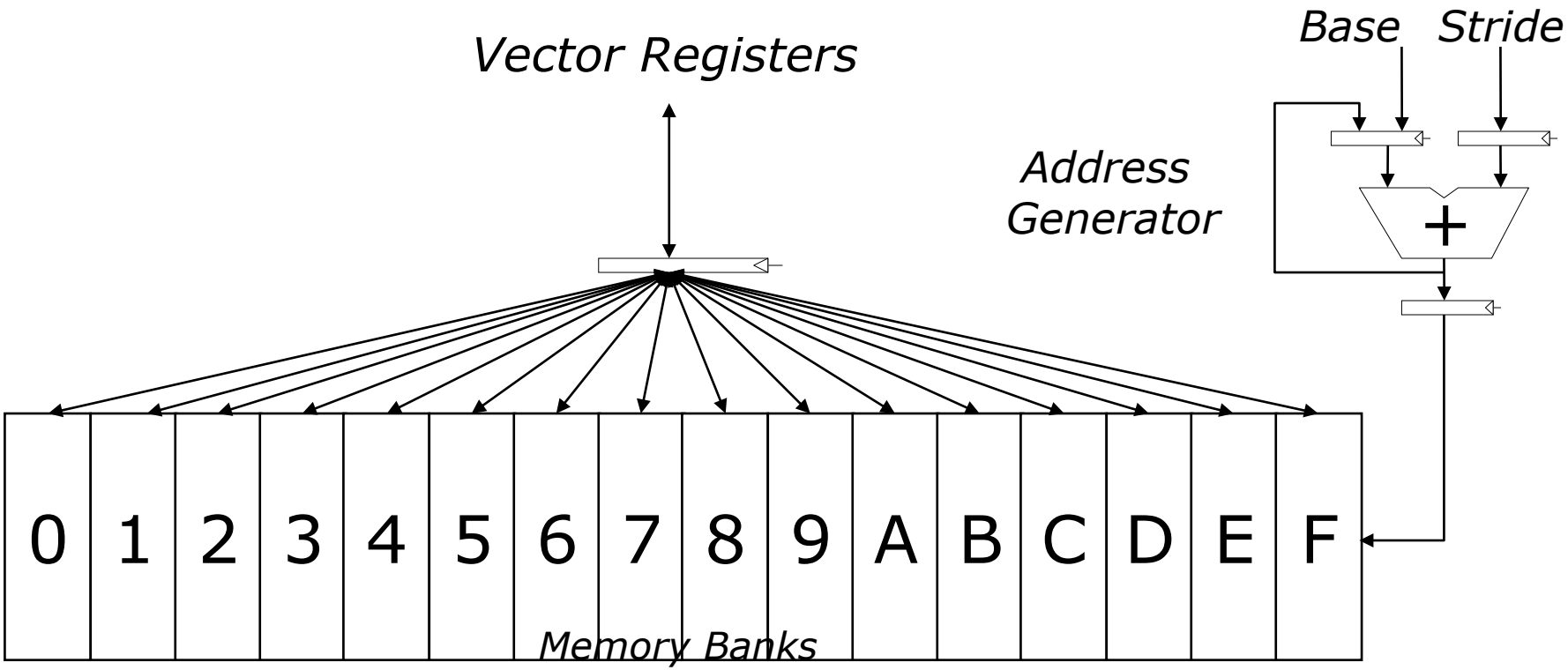
Vector Instruction Execution



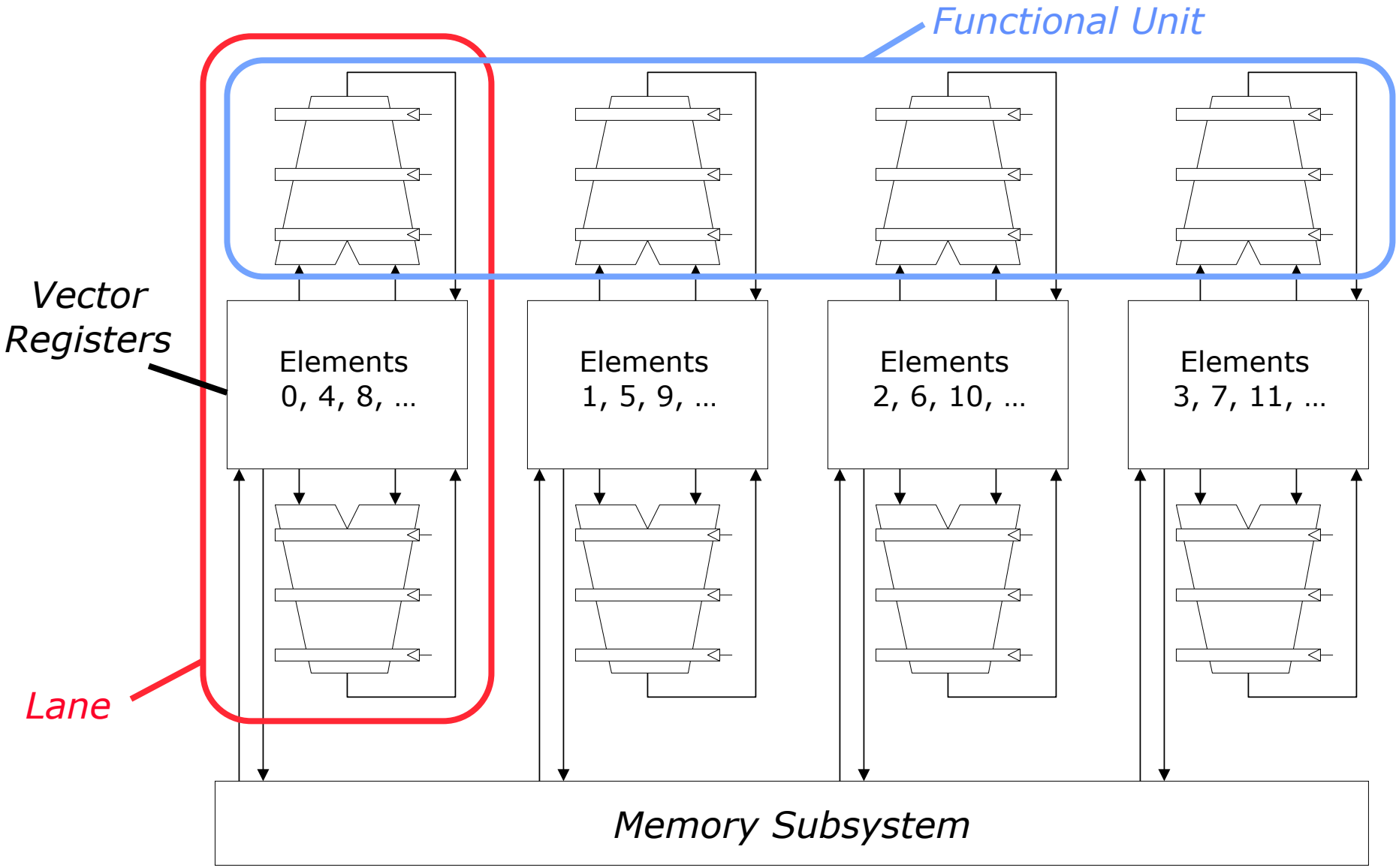
Vector Memory System

Cray-1, 16 banks, 4 cycle bank busy time, 12 cycle latency

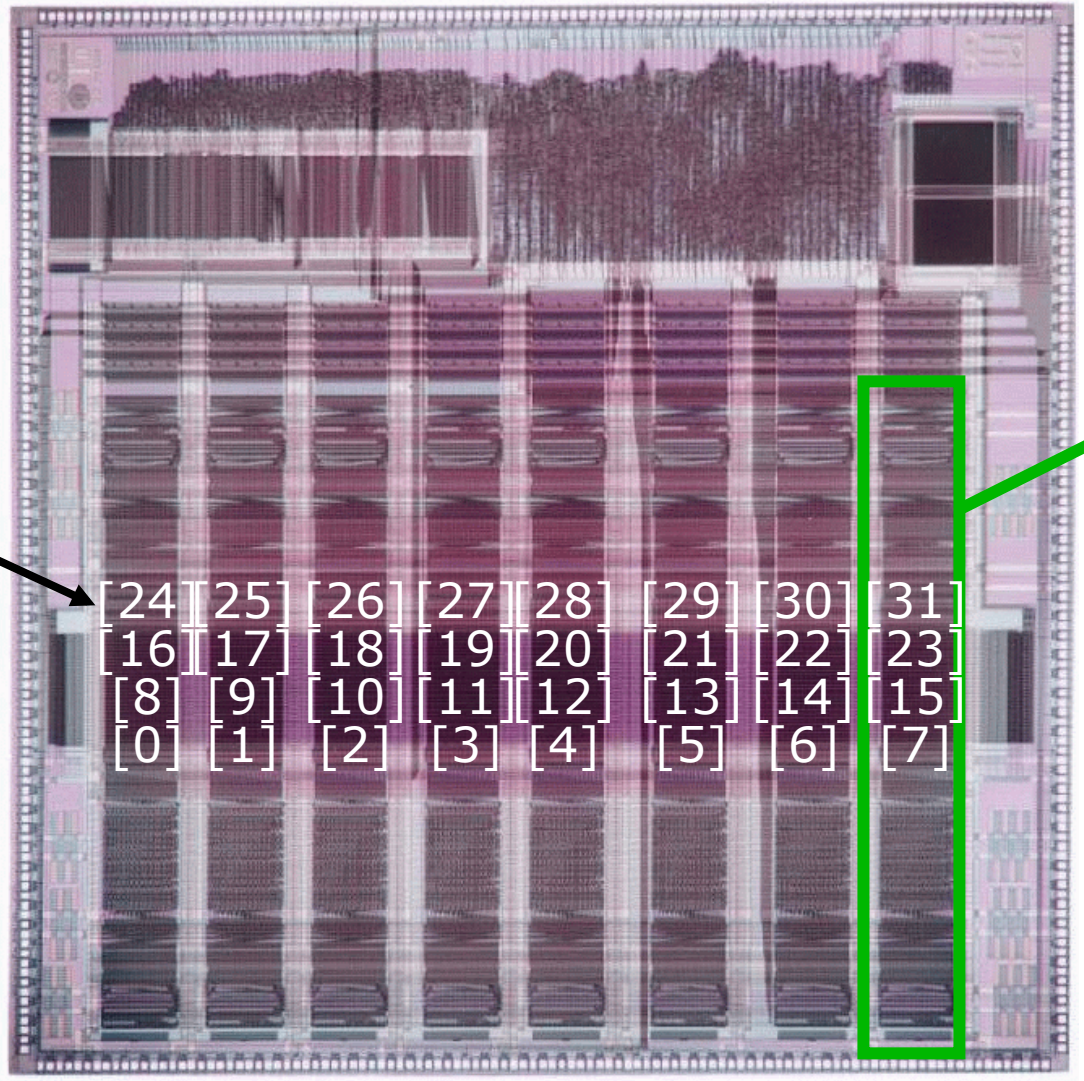
- *Bank busy time*: Time before bank ready to accept next request



Vector Unit Structure



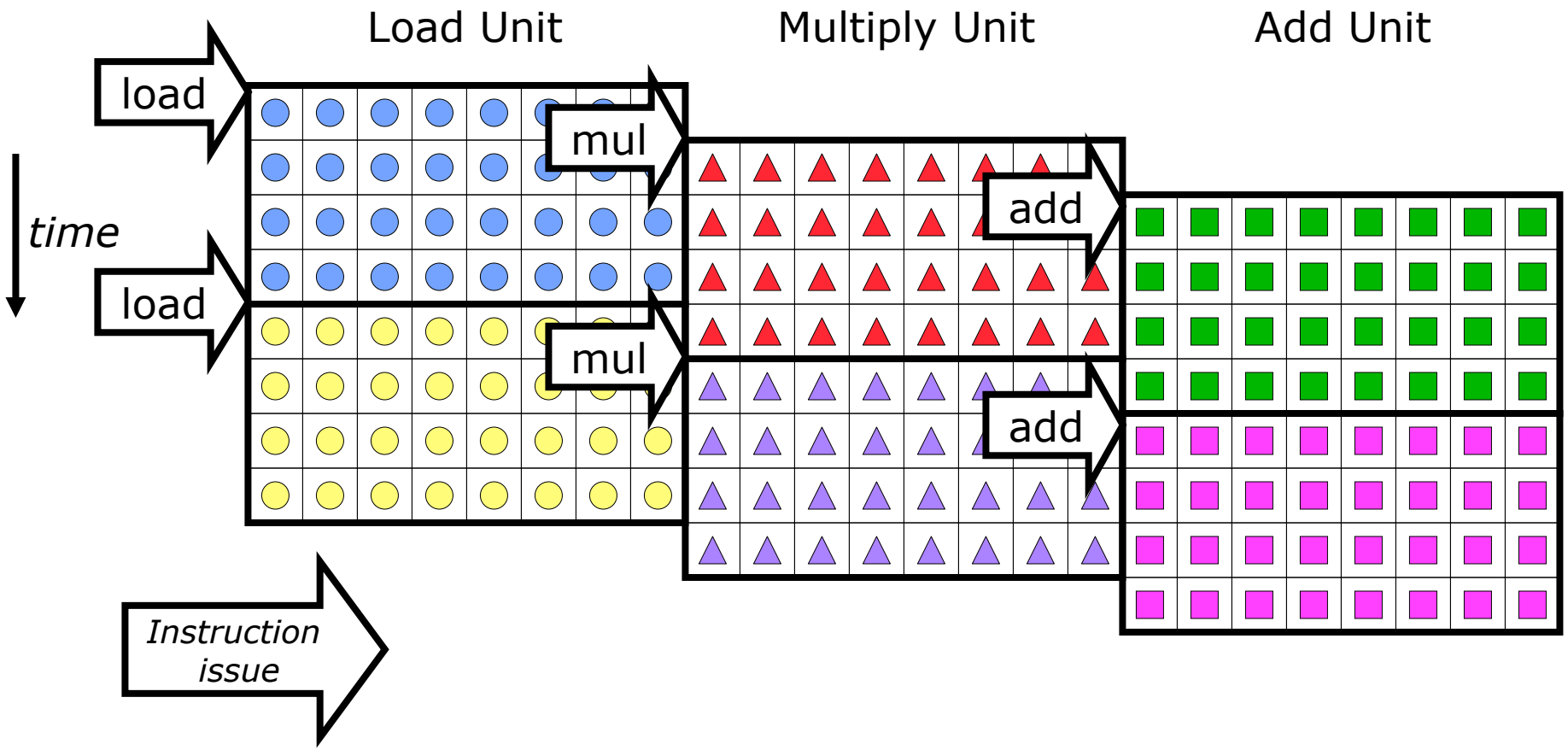
T0 Vector Microprocessor (UCB/ICSI, 1995)



Vector Instruction Parallelism

Can overlap execution of multiple vector instructions

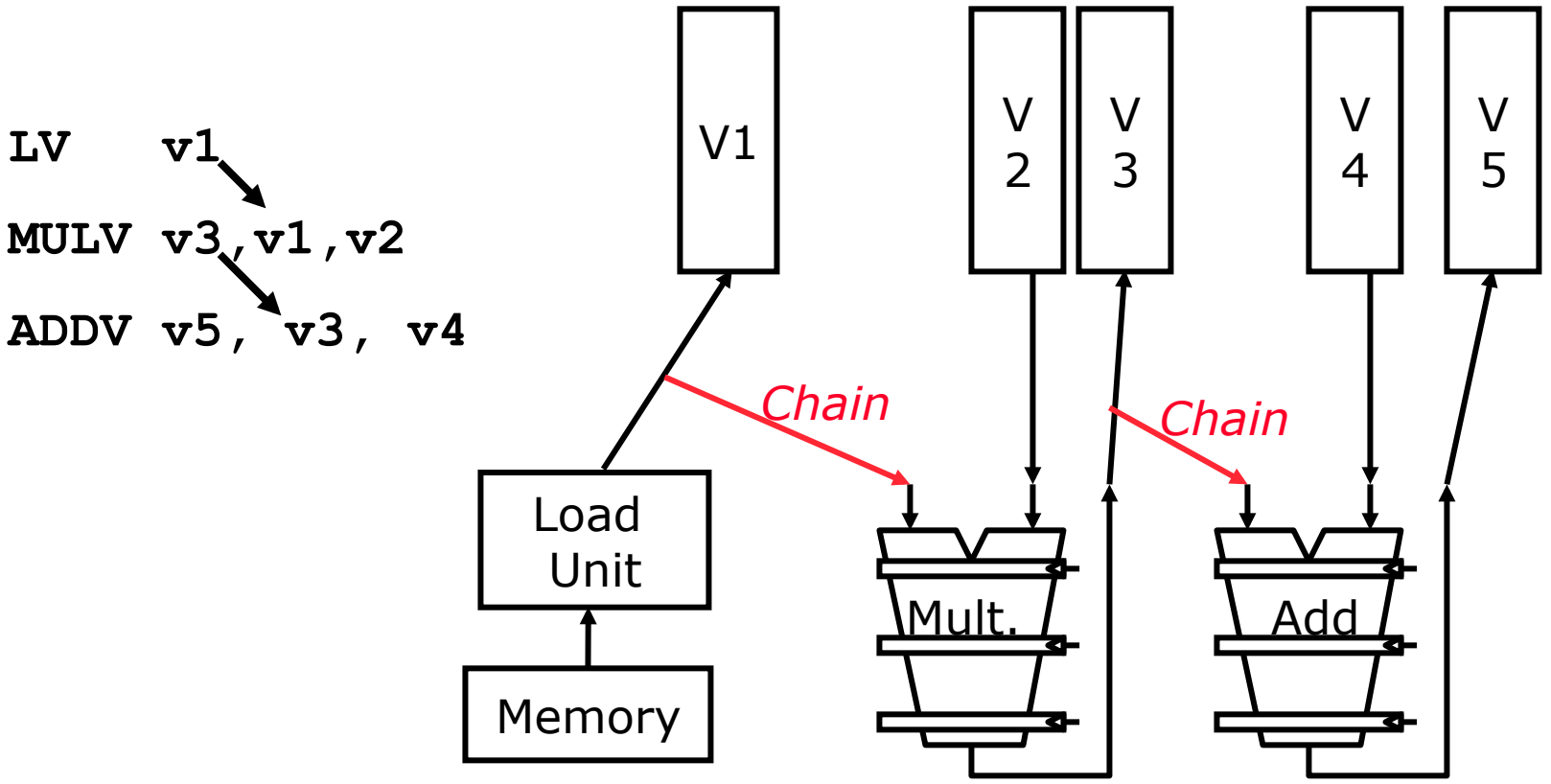
– example machine has 32 elements per vector register and 8 lanes



Complete 24 operations/cycle while issuing 1 short instruction/cycle

Vector Chaining

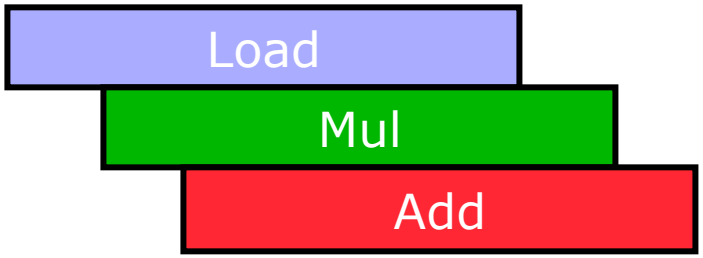
- Vector version of register bypassing
  - introduced with Cray-1



Vector Chaining Advantage

- Without chaining, must wait for last element of result to be written before starting dependent instruction

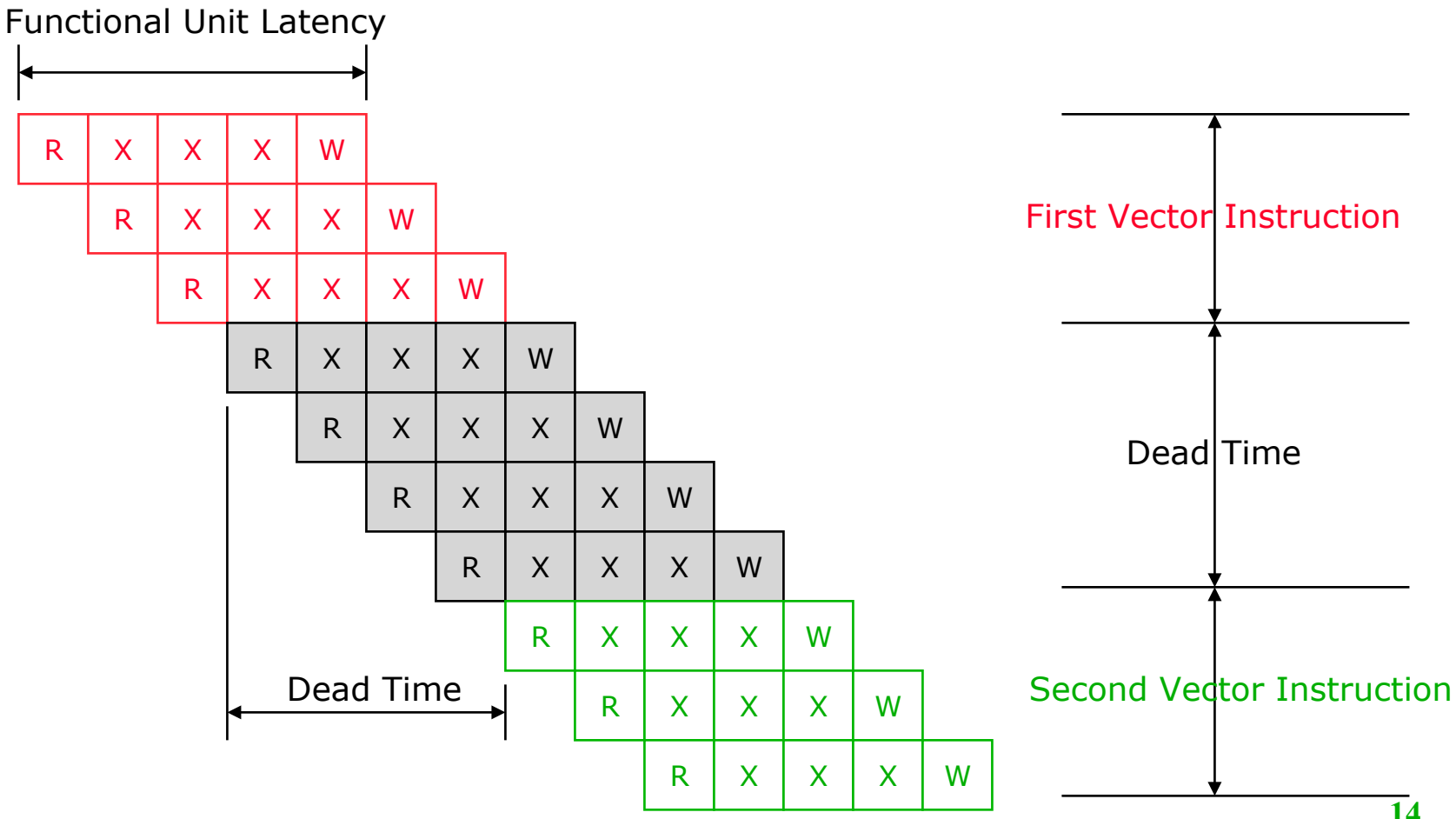
- With chaining, can start dependent instruction as soon as first result appears



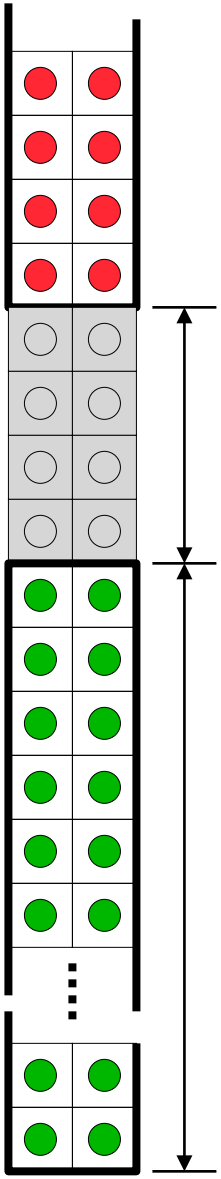
Vector Startup

Two components of vector startup penalty

- functional unit latency (time through pipeline)
- dead time or recovery time (time before another vector instruction can start down pipeline)



Dead Time and Short Vectors

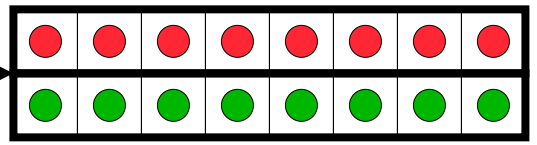


4 cycles dead time

64 cycles active

Cray C90, Two lanes
4 cycle dead time
Maximum efficiency 94%
with 128 element vectors

No dead time



T0, Eight lanes
No dead time
100% efficiency with 8 element vectors

Vector Memory-Memory versus Vector Register Machines

- Vector memory-memory instructions hold all vector operands in main memory
- The first vector machines, CDC Star-100 ('73) and TI ASC ('71), were memory-memory machines
- Cray-1 ('76) was first vector register machine

Example Source Code

```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
{
  C[i] = A[i] + B[i];
  D[i] = A[i] - B[i];
}
```

Vector Memory-Memory Code

```
ADDV C, A, B
SUBV D, A, B
```

Vector Register Code

```
LV V1, A
LV V2, B
ADDV V3, V1, V2
SV V3, C
SUBV V4, V1, V2
SV V4, D
```

Vector Memory-Memory vs. Vector Register Machines

- Vector memory-memory architectures (VMMA) require greater main memory bandwidth, why?
  - All operands must be read in and out of memory
- VMMAs make if difficult to overlap execution of multiple vector operations, why?
  - Must check dependencies on memory addresses
- VMMAs incur greater startup latency
  - Scalar code was faster on CDC Star-100 for vectors < 100 elements
  - For Cray-1, vector/scalar breakeven point was around 2 elements

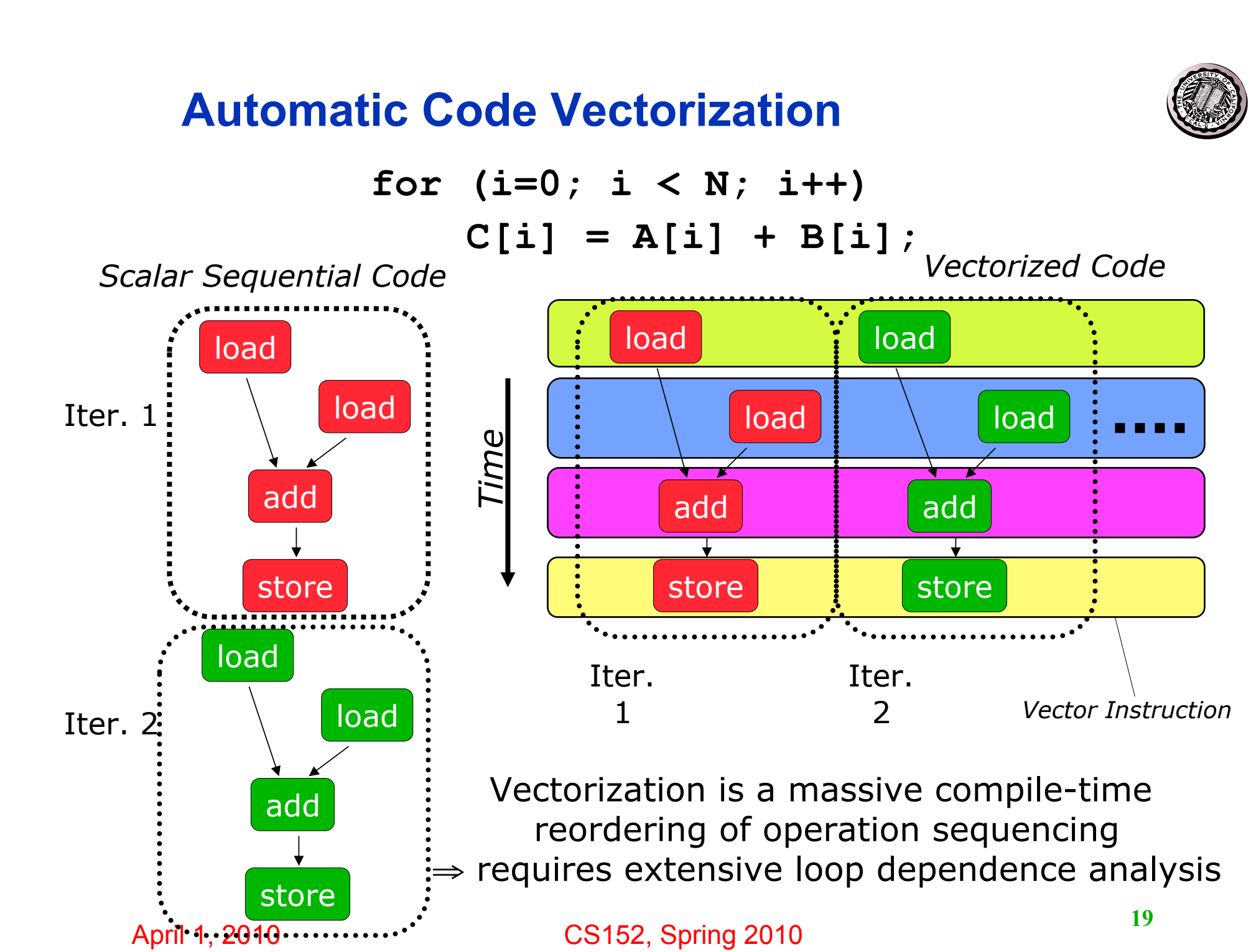
⇒ *Apart from CDC follow-ons (Cyber-205, ETA-10) all major vector machines since Cray-1 have had vector register architectures*

(we ignore vector memory-memory from now on)

CS152 Administrivia

- Quiz 4, Tue Apr 13

Automatic Code Vectorization

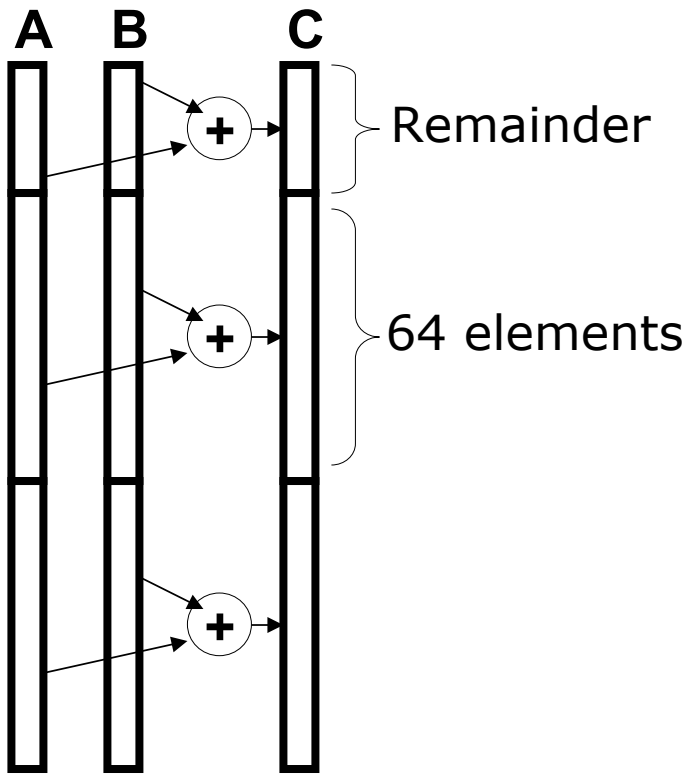


Vector Stripmining

Problem: Vector registers have finite length

Solution: Break loops into pieces that fit in registers, *"Stripmining"*

```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
    C[i] = A[i]+B[i];
```




```
ANDI R1, N, 63    # N mod 64
 MTC1 VLR, R1     # Do remainder
loop:
 LV V1, RA
 DSLL R2, R1, 3   # Multiply by 8
 DADDU RA, RA, R2 # Bump pointer
 LV V2, RB
 DADDU RB, RB, R2
 ADDV.D V3, V1, V2
 SV V3, RC
 DADDU RC, RC, R2
 DSUBU N, N, R1 # Subtract elements
 LI R1, 64
 MTC1 VLR, R1   # Reset full length
 BGTZ N, loop   # Any more to do?
```

Vector Conditional Execution

Problem: Want to vectorize loops with conditional code:

```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
    if (A[i]>0) then
        A[i] = B[i];
```

Solution: Add vector *mask* (or *flag*) registers

- vector version of predicate registers, 1 bit per element

…and *maskable* vector instructions

- vector operation becomes NOP at elements where mask bit is clear

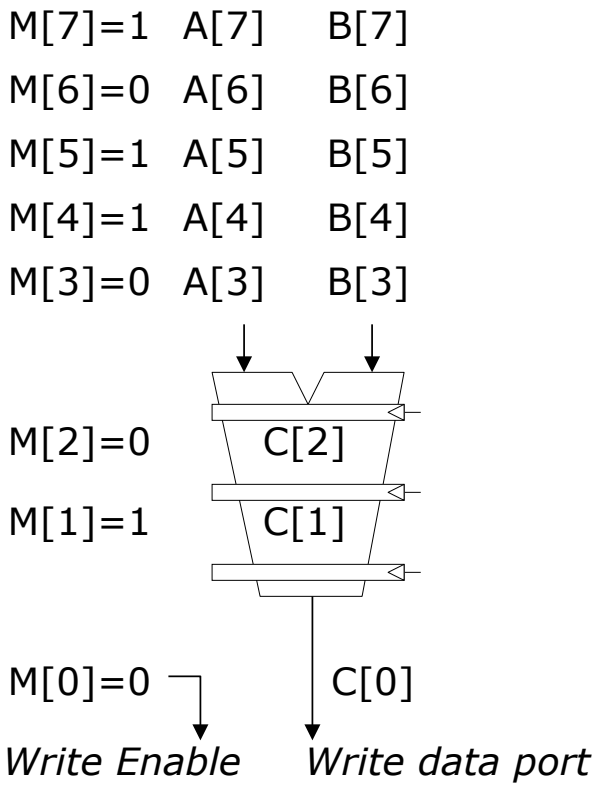
Code example:

```
CVM              # Turn on all elements
LV vA, rA        # Load entire A vector
SGTVS.D vA, F0   # Set bits in mask register where A>0
LV vA, rB        # Load B vector into A under mask
SV vA, rA        # Store A back to memory under mask
```

Masked Vector Instructions

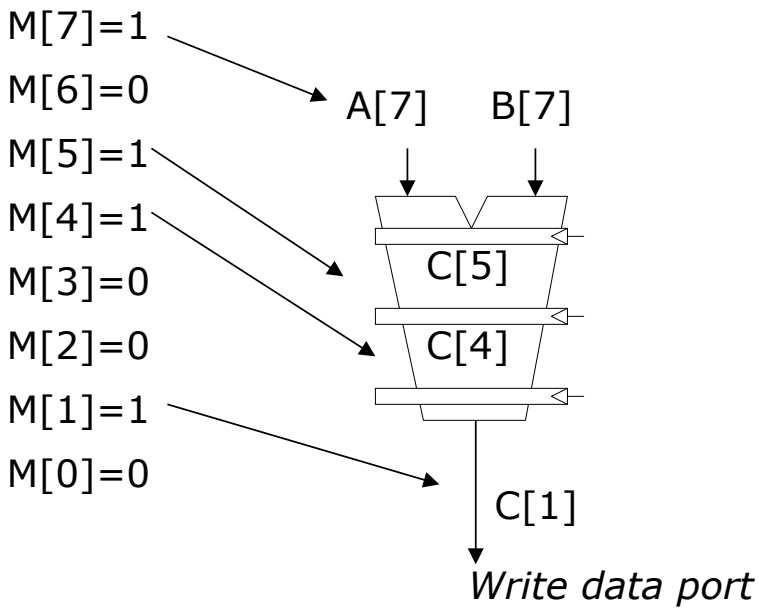
Simple Implementation

- execute all N operations, turn off result writeback according to mask



Density-Time Implementation

- scan mask vector and only execute elements with non-zero masks



Vector Reductions

Problem: Loop-carried dependence on reduction variables

```
sum = 0;
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
    sum += A[i];  # Loop-carried dependence on sum
```

Solution: Re-associate operations if possible, use binary tree to perform reduction

```
# Rearrange as:
sum[0:VL-1] = 0                     # Vector of VL partial sums
for(i=0; i<N; i+=VL)                # Stripmine VL-sized chunks
    sum[0:VL-1] += A[i:i+VL-1]; # Vector sum
# Now have VL partial sums in one vector register
do {
    VL = VL/2;                        # Halve vector length
    sum[0:VL-1] += sum[VL:2*VL-1] # Halve no. of partials
} while (VL>1)
```

Vector Scatter/Gather

Want to vectorize loops with indirect accesses:

```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
    A[i] = B[i] + C[D[i]]
```

Indexed load instruction (*Gather*)

```
LV vD, rD         # Load indices in D vector
LVI vC, rC, vD    # Load indirect from rC base
LV vB, rB         # Load B vector
ADDV.D vA,vB,vC   # Do add
SV vA, rA         # Store result
```

Vector Scatter/Gather

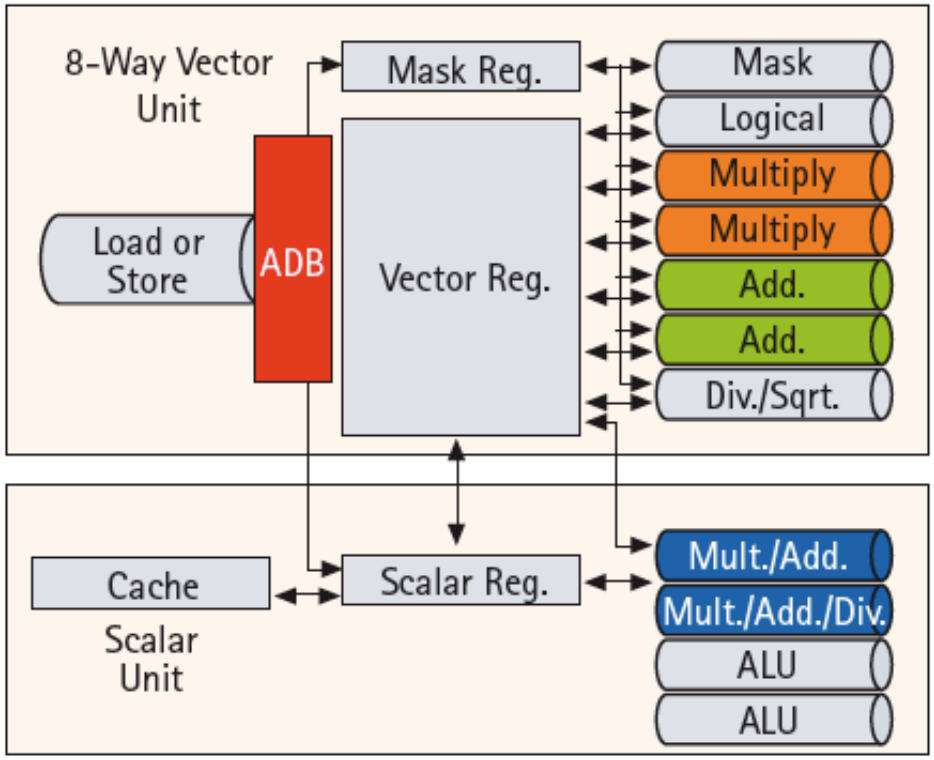
Scatter example:

```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
    A[B[i]]++;
```

Is following a correct translation?

```
LV vB, rB          # Load indices in B vector
LVI vA, rA, vB     # Gather initial A values
ADDV vA, vA, 1     # Increment
SVI vA, rA, vB     # Scatter incremented values
```

A Modern Vector Super: NEC SX-9 (2008)

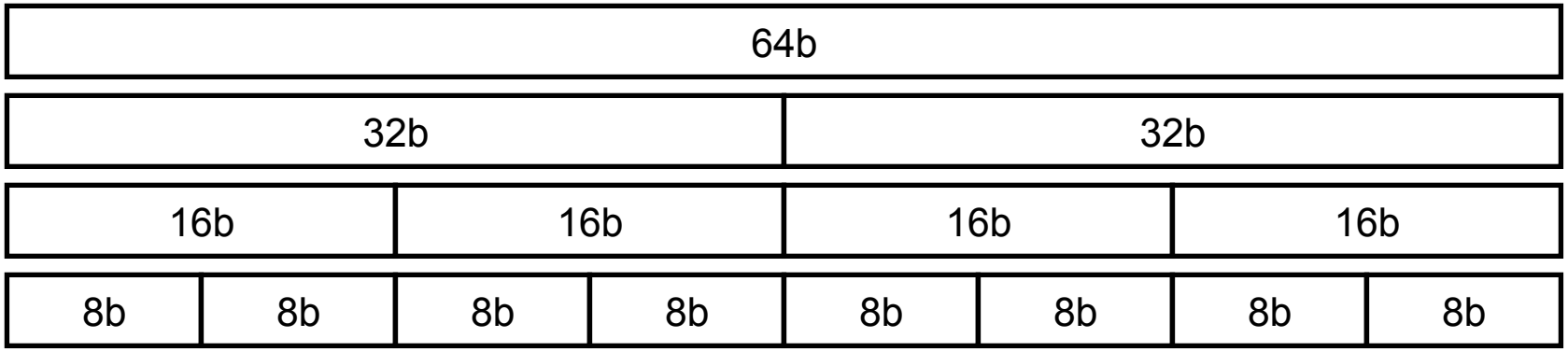


- 65nm CMOS technology
- Vector unit (3.2 GHz)
  - 8 foreground VRegs + 64 background VRegs (256x64-bit elements/VReg)
  - 64-bit functional units: 2 multiply, 2 add, 1 divide/sqrt, 1 logical, 1 mask unit
  - 8 lanes (32+ FLOPS/cycle, 100+ GFLOPS peak per CPU)
  - 1 load or store unit (8 x 8-byte accesses/ cycle)
- Scalar unit (1.6 GHz)
  - 4-way superscalar with out-of-order and speculative execution
  - 64KB I-cache and 64KB data cache

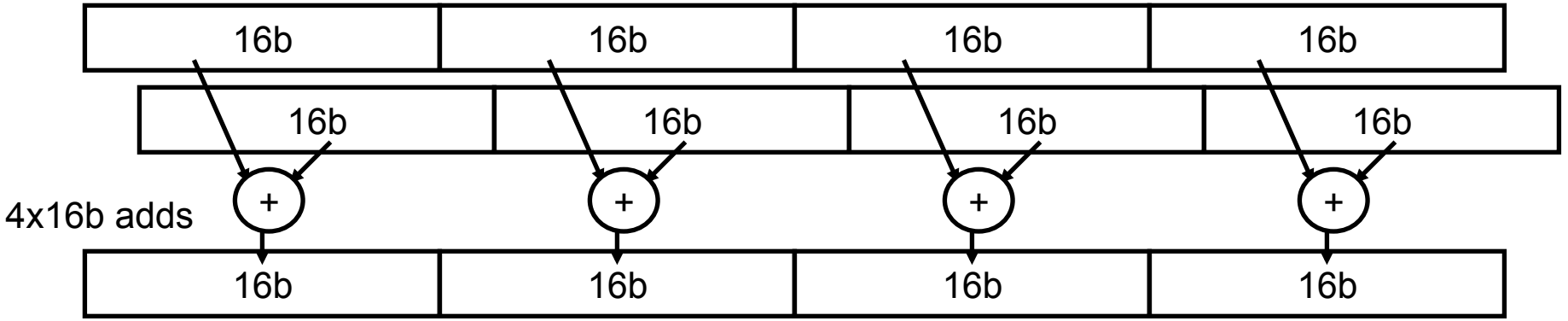
- Memory system provides 256GB/s DRAM bandwidth per CPU
- Up to 16 CPUs and up to 1TB DRAM form shared-memory *node*
  - total of 4TB/s bandwidth to shared DRAM memory
- Up to 512 nodes connected via 128GB/s network links (message passing between nodes)

(See also Cray X1E in Appendix F)

Multimedia Extensions (aka SIMD extensions)



- Very short vectors added to existing ISAs for microprocessors
- Use existing 64-bit registers split into 2x32b or 4x16b or 8x8b
  - This concept first used on Lincoln Labs TX-2 computer in 1957, with 36b datapath split into 2x18b or 4x9b
  - Newer designs have 128-bit registers (PowerPC Altivec, Intel SSE2/3/4)
- Single instruction operates on all elements within register



Multimedia Extensions versus Vectors

- Limited instruction set:
  - no vector length control
  - no strided load/store or scatter/gather
  - unit-stride loads must be aligned to 64/128-bit boundary
- Limited vector register length:
  - requires superscalar dispatch to keep multiply/add/load units busy
  - loop unrolling to hide latencies increases register pressure
- Trend towards fuller vector support in microprocessors
  - Better support for misaligned memory accesses
  - Support of double-precision (64-bit floating-point)
  - New Intel AVX spec (announced April 2008), 256b vector registers (expandable up to 1024b)

Graphics Processing Units (GPUs)

- Original GPUs were dedicated fixed-function devices for generating 3D graphics
- More recently, GPUs have been made more programmable, so called “General-Purpose” GPUs or GP-GPUs.
- Base building block of modern GP-GPU is very similar to a vector machine
  - e.g., NVIDA G80 series core (NVIDA term is Streaming Multiprocessor, SM) has 8 “lanes” (NVIDA term is Streaming Processor, SP). Vector length is 32 elements (NVIDIA calls this a “warp”).
- Currently machines are built with separate chips for CPU and GP-GPU, but future designs will merge onto one chip
  - Already happening for smartphones and tablet designs

Acknowledgements

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