## 250P: Computer Systems Architecture

# Lecture 4: Basics of pipelining

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### View from 5,000 Feet



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Source: H&P textbook

## Building a Car

Time

## Building a Car



### The Assembly Line



Time

Break the job into smaller stages

### Performance Improvements?

Does it take longer to finish each individual job?

Does it take shorter to finish a series of jobs?

What assumptions were made while answering these questions?

Is a 10-stage pipeline better than a 5-stage pipeline?

# **Quantitative Effects**

- As a result of pipelining:
  - Time in ns per instruction goes up
  - Each instruction takes more cycles to execute
  - But... average CPI remains roughly the same
  - Clock speed goes up
  - Total execution time goes down, resulting in lower average time per instruction
  - Under ideal conditions, speedup

= ratio of elapsed times between successive instruction completions

= number of pipeline stages = increase in clock speed

### **Clocks and Latches**



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### Some Equations

- Unpipelined: time to execute one instruction = T + Tovh
- For an N-stage pipeline, time per stage = T/N + Tovh
- Total time per instruction = N (T/N + Tovh) = T + N Tovh
- Clock cycle time = T/N + Tovh
- Clock speed = 1 / (T/N + Tovh)
- Ideal speedup = (T + Tovh) / (T/N + Tovh)
- Cycles to complete one instruction = N
- Average CPI (cycles per instr) = 1

#### Thank you!

#### AM vs. GM

- GM of IPCs = 1 / GM of CPIs
- AM of IPCs represents thruput for a workload where each program runs sequentially for 1 cycle each; but high-IPC programs contribute more to the AM
- GM of IPCs does not represent run-time for any real workload (what does it mean to multiply instructions?); but every program's IPC contributes equally to the final measure

- "Speedup" is a ratio = old exec time / new exec time
- "Improvement", "Increase", "Decrease" usually refer to percentage relative to the baseline
  = (new perf – old perf) / old perf
- A program ran in 100 seconds on my old laptop and in 70 seconds on my new laptop
  - What is the speedup?
  - What is the percentage increase in performance?
  - What is the reduction in execution time?