RISC Architecture:

Pipelining

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Computer Organization & Architecture

Lecture 15 (23 April 2013)

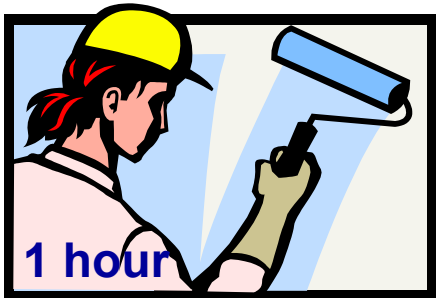
CADSL

ILP: Instruction Level Parallelism

- Single-cycle and multi-cycle datapaths execute one instruction at a time.
- How can we get better performance?
- Answer: Execute multiple instruction at a time:
  - Pipelining – Enhance a multi-cycle datapath to fetch one instruction every cycle.
  - Parallelism – Fetch multiple instructions every cycle.

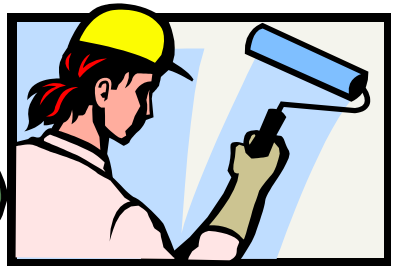
Traffic Flow

Automobile Team Assembly



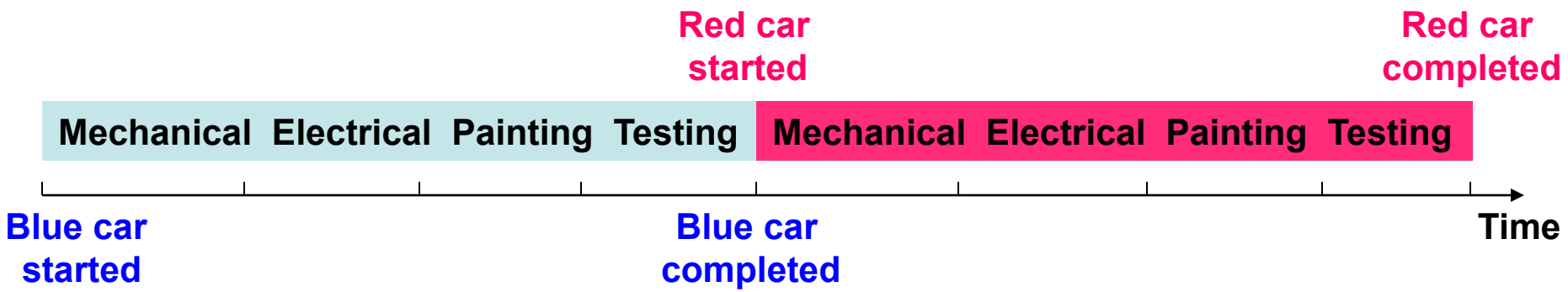
1 car assembled every four hours
6 cars per day
180 cars per month
2,040 cars per year

Automobile Assembly Line



First car assembled in 4 hours (pipeline latency)
thereafter 1 car per hour
21 cars on first day, thereafter 24 cars per day
717 cars per month
8,637 cars per year

Throughput: Team Assembly

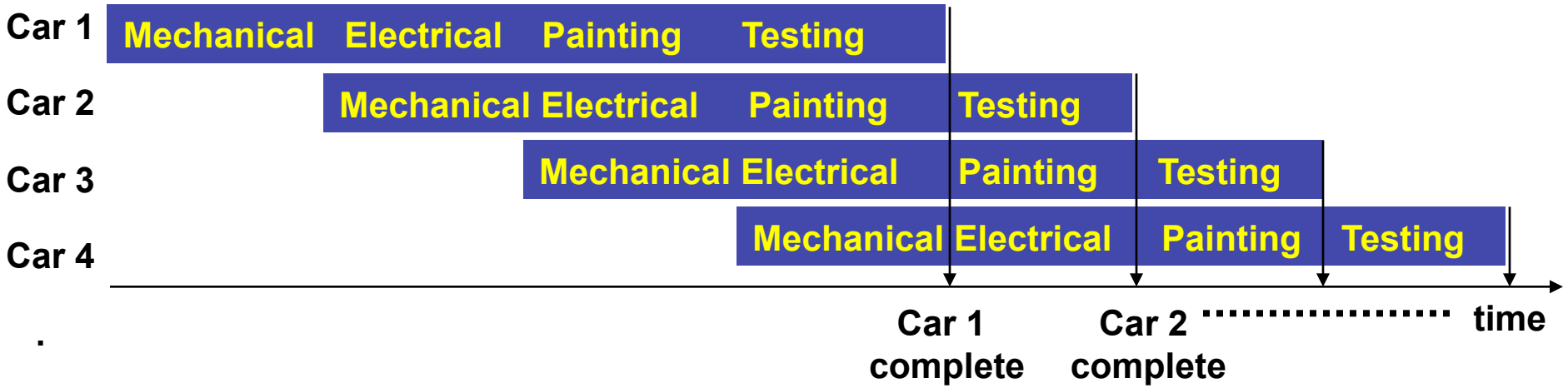


Time of assembling one car = n hours

where n is the number of nearly equal subtasks, each requiring 1 unit of time

Throughput = $1/n$ cars per unit time

Throughput: Assembly Line



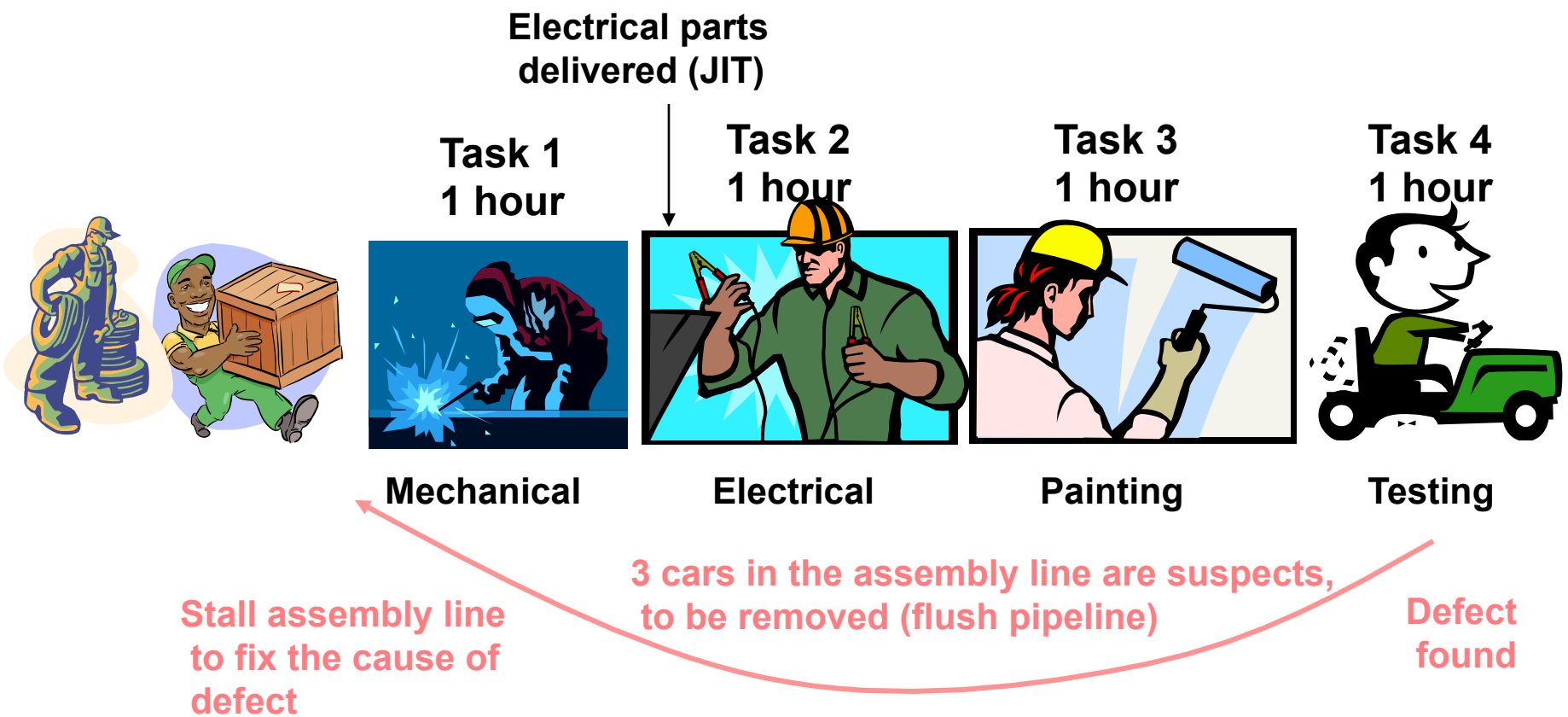
Time to complete first car = n time units (latency)

Cars completed in time T = $T - n + 1$

Throughput = $1 - (n - 1)/T$ car per unit time

$$\frac{\text{Throughput (assembly line)}}{\text{Throughput (team assembly)}} = \frac{1 - (n-1)/T}{1/n} = n - \frac{n(n-1)}{T} \rightarrow n \text{ as } T \rightarrow \infty$$

Some Features of Assembly Line



Pipelining in a Computer

- Divide datapath into nearly equal tasks, to be performed serially and requiring non-overlapping resources.
- Insert registers at task boundaries in the datapath; registers pass the output data from one task as input data to the next task.
- Synchronize tasks with a clock having a cycle time that just exceeds the time required by the longest task.
- Break each instruction down into a fixed number of tasks so that instructions can be executed in a staggered fashion.

Single-Cycle Datapath

Instruction class	Instr. fetch (IF)	Instr. Decode (also reg. file read) (ID)	Execution (ALU Operation) (EX)	Data access (MEM)	Write Back (Reg. file write) (WB)	Total time
lw	2ns	1ns	2ns	2ns	1ns	8ns
sw	2ns	1ns	2ns	2ns		8ns
R-format add, sub, and, or, slt	2ns	1ns	2ns		1ns	8ns
B-format, beq	2ns	1ns	2ns			8ns

No operation on data; idle time equalizes instruction length to a fixed clock period.

Thank You