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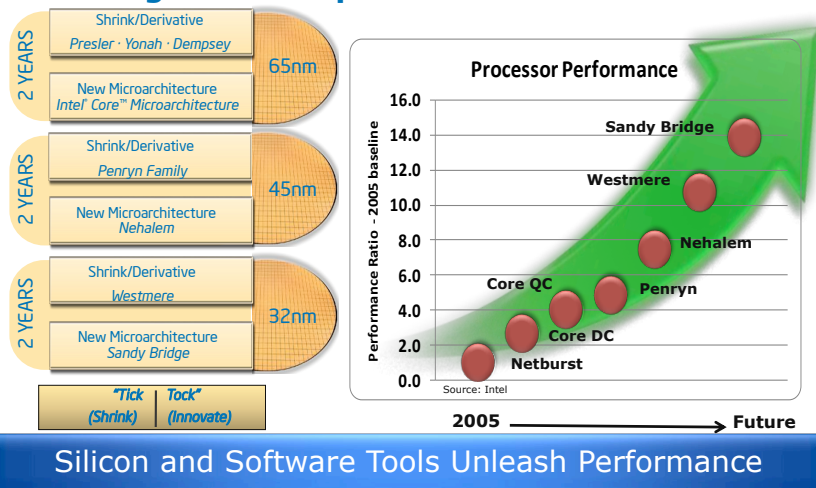
Agenda

- Nehalem Design Philosophy
- Enhanced Processor Core
- New Instructions
- Optimization Guidelines and Software Tools
- New Platform Features

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Intel Tick-Tock Development Model: Delivering Leadership Multi-Core Performance



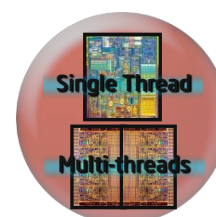
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Nehalem Design Goals

World class performance combined with superior energy efficiency – Optimized for:



A single, scalable, foundation optimized across each segment and power envelope



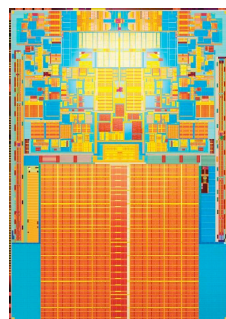
A Dynamic and Design Scalable Microarchitecture



Nehalem: Next Generation Intel® Microarchitecture

Core Microarchitecture Recap

- Wide Dynamic Execution
 - 4-wide decode/rename/retire
- Advanced Digital Media Boost
 - 128-bit wide SSE execution units
- Intel HD Boost
 - New SSE4.1 Instructions
- Smart Memory Access
 - Memory Disambiguation
 - Hardware Prefetching
- Advanced Smart Cache
 - Low latency, high BW shared L2 cache



Nehalem builds on the great Core microarchitecture



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Nehalem Micro-Architecture

A new dynamically scalable microarchitecture

KEY FEATURES

BENEFITS

45nm Intel® multi-core processors
(2, 4, 8 core implementations planned)

Energy efficient multi-core processing

Greater Instruction per clock and improved cache hierarchy

Faster Processing / core

Simultaneous Multi-Threading

More Threads / core

Dynamic Resource Scaling

Any unneeded cores automatically put into sleep mode; remaining operating cores get access to ALL cache, bandwidth and power/thermal budgets

Lower power consumption during periods of low utilization

Turbo Mode

CPU operates at higher-than-stated frequency when operating below power and thermal design points

Additional Processing boost during peak demand periods

FASTER cores ... MORE cores/threads ... DYNAMICALLY ADAPTABLE

Source: Intel. All future products, computer systems, dates, and figures specified are preliminary based on current expectations, and are subject to change without notice.



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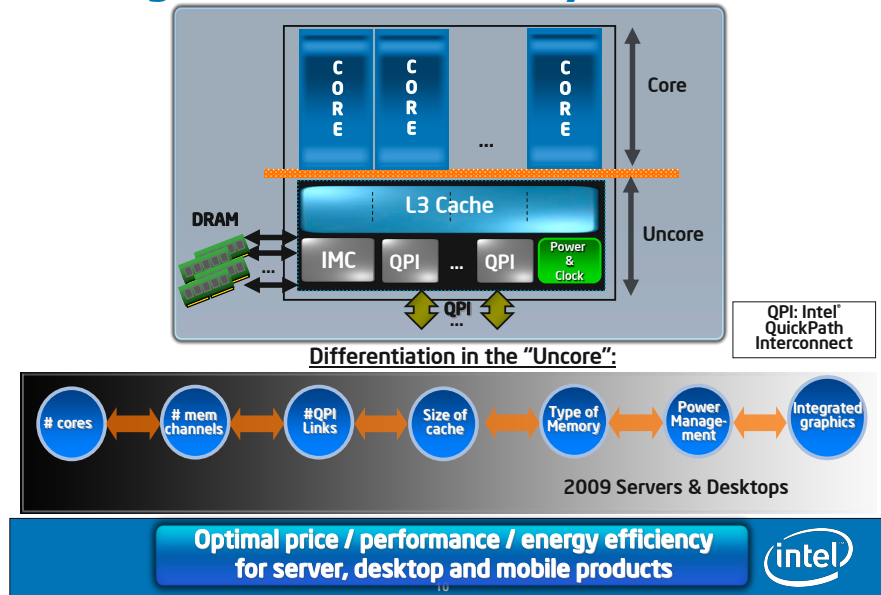
Agenda

- Nehalem Design Philosophy
- **Enhanced Processor Core**
- New Instructions
- Optimization Guidelines and Software Tools
- New Platform Features

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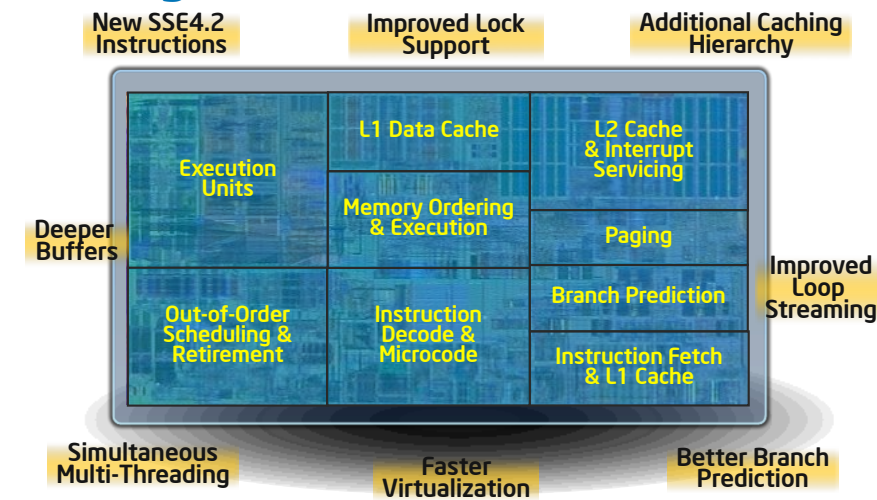
Designed For Modularity



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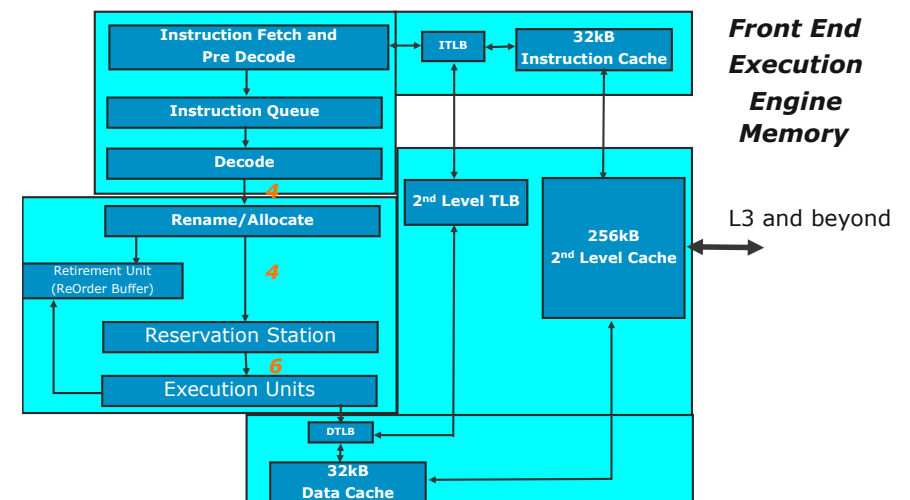
Designed for Performance



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Enhanced Processor Core

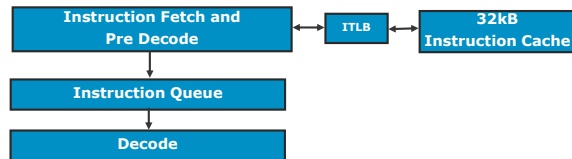


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Front-end

- Responsible for feeding the compute engine
 - Decode instructions
 - Branch Prediction
- Key Core 2 Features
 - 4-wide decode
 - Macrofusion
 - Loop Stream Detector



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Macrofusion Recap

- Introduced in Core 2
- TEST/CMP instruction followed by a conditional branch treated as a single instruction
 - Decode as one instruction
 - Execute as one instruction
 - Retire as one instruction
- Higher **performance**
 - Improves throughput
 - Reduces execution latency
- Improved **power efficiency**
 - Less processing required to accomplish the same work

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Nehalem Macrofusion

- Goal: Identify more macrofusion opportunities for increased **performance** and **power efficiency**
- Support all the cases in Core 2 **PLUS**
 - CMP+Jcc macrofusion added for the following branch conditions
 - JL/JNGE
 - JGE/JNL
 - JLE/JNG
 - JG/JNLE
- Core 2 only supports macrofusion in 32-bit mode
 - Nehalem supports macrofusion in both 32-bit and 64-bit modes

Increased macrofusion benefit on Nehalem

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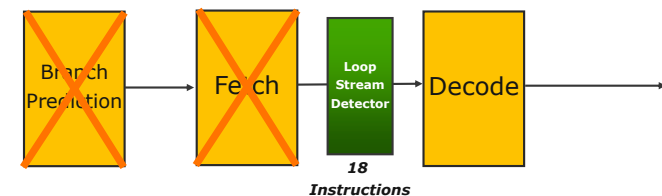


Front-end: Loop Stream Detector

Reminder

- Loops are very common in most software
- Take advantage of knowledge of loops in HW
 - Decoding the same instructions over and over
 - Making the same branch predictions over and over
- Loop Stream Detector identifies software loops
 - Stream from Loop Stream Detector instead of normal path
 - Disable unneeded blocks of logic for **power savings**
 - **Higher performance** by removing instruction fetch limitations

Core 2 Loop Stream Detector



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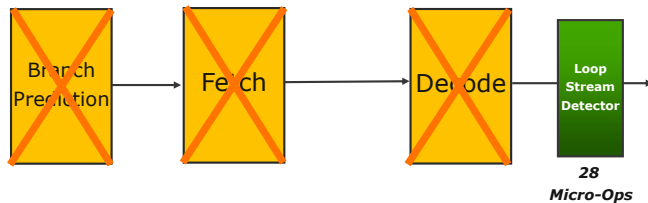


Front-end: Loop Stream Detector

in Nehalem

- Same concept as in prior implementations
- **Higher performance:** Expand the size of the loops detected
- **Improved power efficiency:** Disable even more logic

Nehalem Loop Stream Detector



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Branch Prediction Reminder

- Goal: Keep powerful compute engine fed
- Options:
 - Stall pipeline while determining branch direction/target
 - Predict branch direction/target and correct if wrong
- Minimize amount of time wasted correcting from incorrect branch predictions
 - **Performance:**
 - Through higher branch prediction accuracy
 - Through faster correction when prediction is wrong
 - **Power efficiency:** Minimize number of speculative/incorrect micro-ops that are executed

Continued focus on branch prediction improvements

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L2 Branch Predictor

- Problem: Software with a large code footprint not able to fit well in existing branch predictors
 - Example: Database applications
- Solution: Use multi-level branch prediction scheme
- Benefits:
 - Higher **performance** through improved branch prediction accuracy
 - Greater **power efficiency** through less mis-speculation

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Renamed Return Stack Buffer (RSB)

- Instruction Reminder
 - CALL: Entry into functions
 - RET: Return from functions
- Classical Solution
 - Return Stack Buffer (RSB) used to predict RET
 - RSB can be corrupted by speculative path
- The **Renamed RSB**
 - No RET mispredicts in the common case

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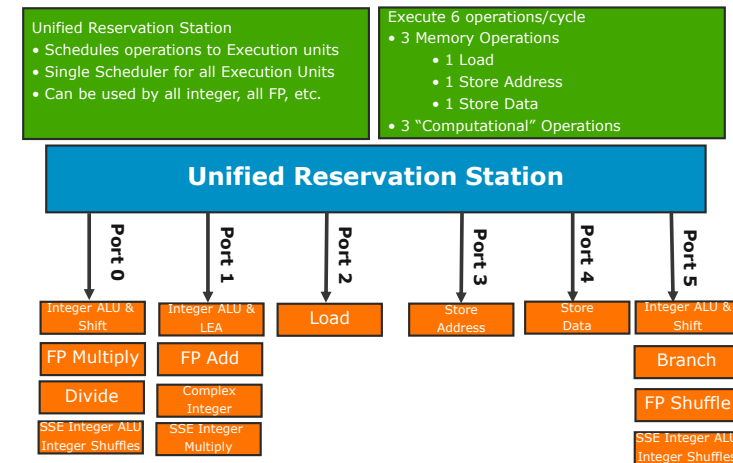
Execution Engine

- Start with powerful Core 2 execution engine
 - Dynamic 4-wide Execution
 - Advanced Digital Media Boost
 - 128-bit wide SSE
 - HD Boost (Penryn)
 - SSE4.1 instructions
 - Super Shuffler (Penryn)
- Add Nehalem enhancements
 - Additional parallelism for higher performance

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Execution Unit Overview

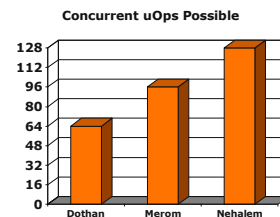


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Increased Parallelism

- Goal: Keep powerful execution engine fed
- Nehalem increases size of out of order window by 33%
- Must also increase other corresponding structures



Structure	Merom	Nehalem	Comment
Reservation Station	32	36	Dispatches operations to execution units
Load Buffers	32	48	Tracks all load operations allocated
Store Buffers	20	32	Tracks all store operations allocated

Increased Resources for Higher Performance

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Enhanced Memory Subsystem

- Start with great Core 2 Features
 - Memory Disambiguation
 - Hardware Prefetchers
 - Advanced Smart Cache
- New Nehalem Features
 - New TLB Hierarchy
 - Fast 16-Byte unaligned accesses
 - Faster Synchronization Primitives

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New TLB Hierarchy

- Problem: Applications continue to grow in data size
- Need to increase TLB size to keep the pace for performance
- Nehalem adds new low-latency unified 2nd level TLB

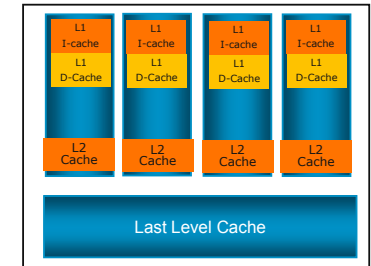
	# of Entries
1st Level Instruction TLBs	
Small Page (4k)	128
Large Page (2M/4M)	7 per thread
1st Level Data TLBs	
Small Page (4k)	64
Large Page (2M/4M)	32
New 2nd Level Unified TLB	
Small Page Only	512



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Enhanced Cache Subsystem – New Memory Hierarchy

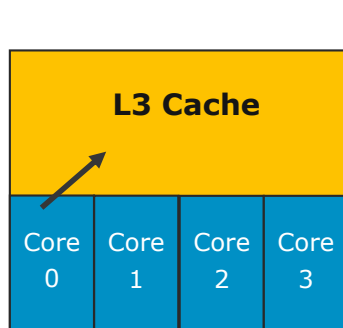
- New 3-level cache hierarchy
 - 1st level remains the same as Intel Core Microarchitecture
 - 32KB instruction cache
 - 32KB data cache
 - New L2 cache per core
 - 256 KB per core – holds data + instructions
 - Very low latency
 - New shared last level cache
 - Large size (8MB for 4-core)
 - Shared between all cores
 - ✓ Allows lightly threaded applications to use the entire cache
 - Inclusive Cache Policy
 - ✓ Minimize traffic from snoops
 - ✓ On cache miss, only check other cores if needed (data in modified state)



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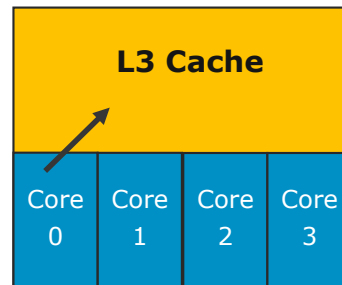
Inclusive vs. Exclusive Caches – Cache Miss

Exclusive



Data request from Core 0 misses Core 0's L1 and L2
Request sent to the L3 cache

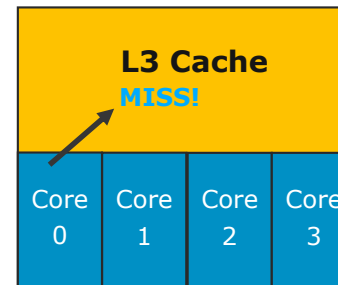
Inclusive



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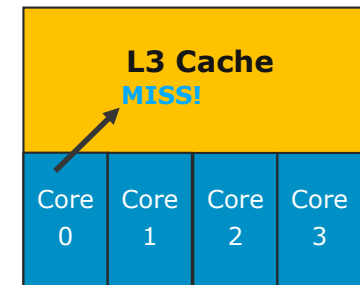
Inclusive vs. Exclusive Caches – Cache Miss

Exclusive



Core 0 looks up the L3 Cache
Data not in the L3 Cache

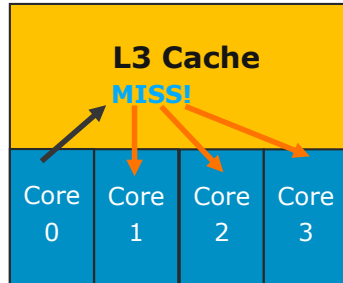
Inclusive



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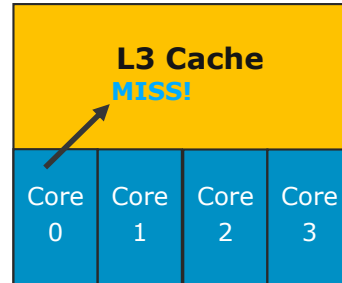
Inclusive vs. Exclusive Caches – Cache Miss

Exclusive



Must check other cores

Inclusive



Guaranteed data is not on-die

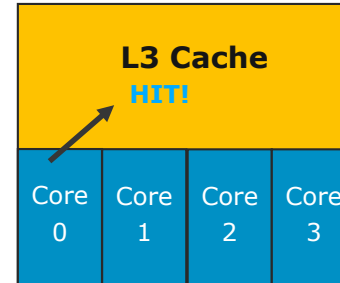
Greater **scalability** from inclusive approach



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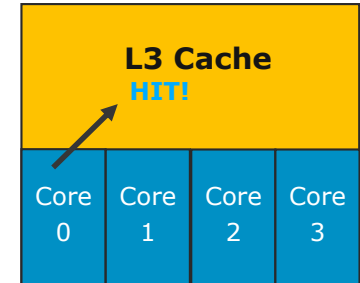
Inclusive vs. Exclusive Caches – Cache Hit

Exclusive



No need to check other cores

Inclusive



Data could be in another core
BUT Nehalem is smart...

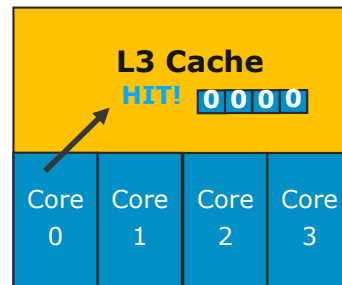


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Inclusive vs. Exclusive Caches – Cache Hit

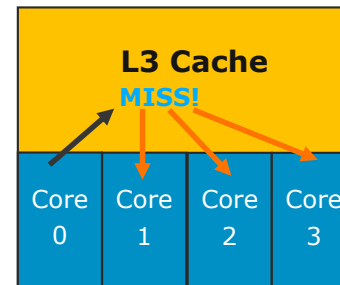
- Maintain a set of "core valid" bits per cache line in the L3 cache
- Each bit represents a core
- If the L1/L2 of a core *may* contain the cache line, then core valid bit is set to "1"
- No snoops of cores are needed if no bits are set
- If more than 1 bit is set, line cannot be in Modified state in any core

Inclusive



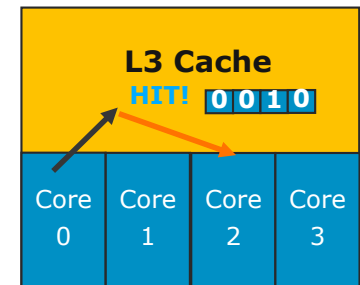
Core valid bits limit unnecessary snoops

Exclusive



Must check all other cores

Inclusive



Only need to check the core whose core valid bit is set



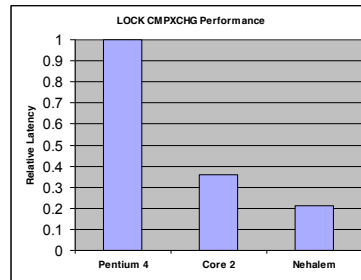
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Faster Synchronization Primitives

- Multi-threaded software becoming more prevalent
- Scalability** of multi-thread applications can be limited by synchronization
- Synchronization primitives: LOCK prefix, XCHG
- Reduce synchronization latency for legacy software



Greater thread **scalability** with Nehalem

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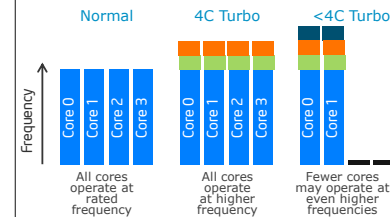


Other Performance Enhancements

Intel Xeon® 5500 Series Processor (Nehalem-EP)

Intel® Turbo Boost Technology

Increases performance by increasing processor frequency and enabling faster speeds when conditions allow



Higher performance on demand

Intel® Hyper-Threading Technology

Increases performance for threaded applications delivering greater throughput and responsiveness



Higher performance for threaded workloads

† For notes and disclaimers, see performance and legal information slides at end of this presentation.

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Hyper-Threading Implementation Details for Nehalem

- Multiple policies possible for implementation of SMT
- Replicated** – Duplicate state for SMT
 - Register state
 - Renamed RSB
 - Large page ITLB
- Partitioned** – Statically allocated between threads
 - Key buffers: Load, store, Reorder
 - Small page ITLB
- Competitively shared** – Depends on thread's dynamic behavior
 - Reservation station
 - Caches
 - Data TLBs, 2nd level TLB
- Unaware**
 - Execution units

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Agenda

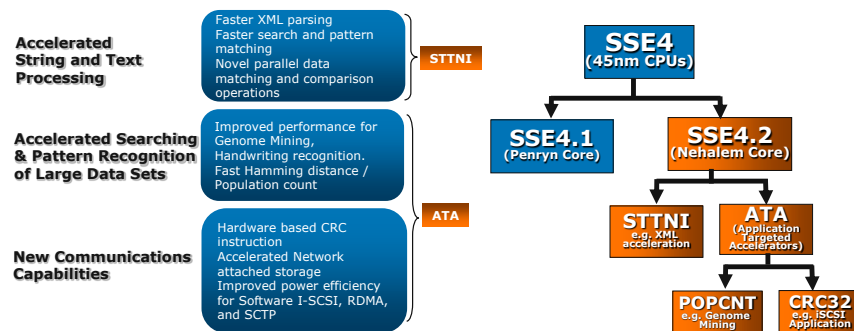
- Nehalem Design Philosophy
- Enhanced Processor Core
- New Instructions**
- Optimization Guidelines and Software Tools
- New Platform Features

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Extending Performance and Energy Efficiency

- SSE4.2 Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) Leadership



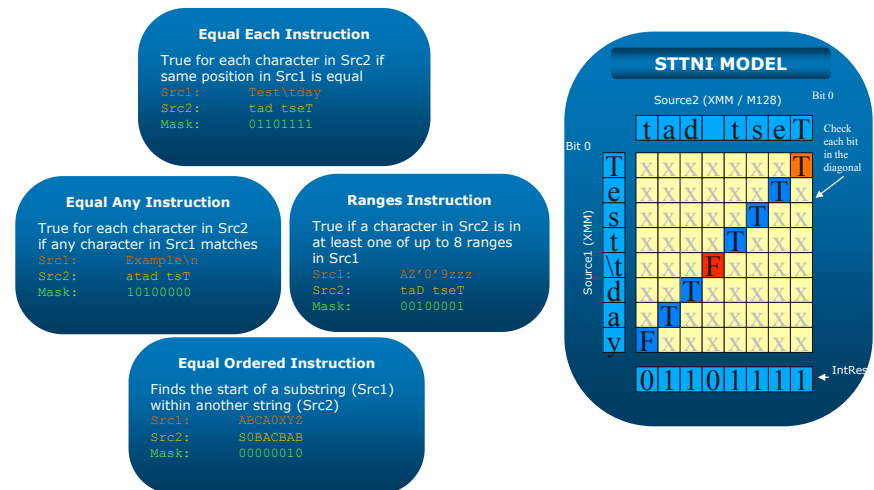
What should the applications, OS and VMM vendors do?:
 Understand the benefits & take advantage of new instructions in 2008.
 Provide us feedback on instructions ISV would like to see for next generation of applications



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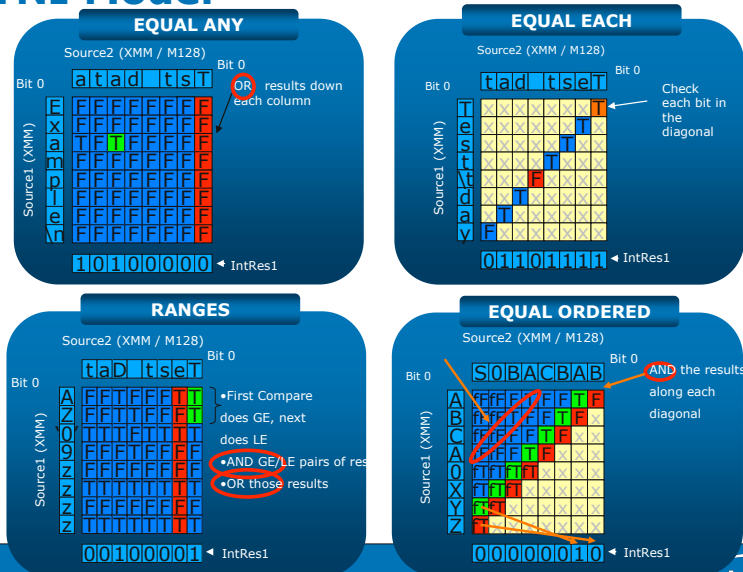
STTNI - String & Text New Instructions

Operates on strings of bytes or words (16b)



Projected 3.8x kernel speedup on XML parsing & 2.7x savings on instruction cycles

STTNI Model



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Example Code For strlen()

```
string equ [esp + 4]
mov ecx, string
test ecx, 3 ; test if
je short main_loop ; is it byte 3
str_misaligned:
; simple byte loop until string is a
mov al, byte ptr [ecx]
add ecx, 1
test al, al
je short byte_3
test ecx, 3
jne short str_misaligned ; 5 b
add eax, dword ptr 0 ; should l
align 16
main_loop:
mov eax, dword ptr [ecx] ; n
mov edx, 7efefeffh
xor eax, eax
add ecx, 1
xor eax, edx
add ecx, 4
test eax, 81010100h
je short main_loop ; found zero byte in the loop
mov eax, [ecx - 4]
test al, al ; is it byte
je short byte_0
test ah, ah ; is it byte
je short byte_1 ; is it byte
test eax, 00ff0000h ; is it byte
je short main_loop
strlen endp
end
```

STTNI Version

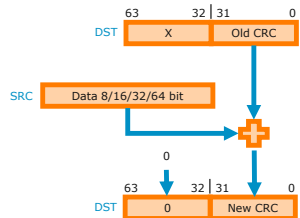
```
int sttnl_strlen(const char * src)
{
char eom_vals[32] = {1, 255, 0};
__asm{
mov eax, src
movdqu xmm2, eom_vals
xor ecx, ecx
topofloop:
add eax, ecx
movdqu xmm1, QWORD PTR[eax]
pcmpltri xmm2, xmm1, imm8
jnz topofloop
endofstring:
add eax, ecx
sub eax, src
ret
}
```

Current Code: Minimum of 11 instructions; Inner loop processes 4 bytes with 8 instructions
 STTNI Code: Minimum of 10 instructions; A single inner loop processes 16 bytes with only 4 instructions

ATA - Application Targeted Accelerators

CRC32

Accumulates a CRC32 value using the iSCSI polynomial



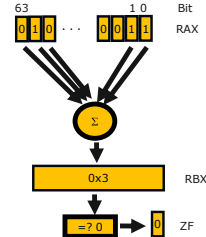
One register maintains the running CRC value as a software loop iterates over data.
Fixed CRC polynomial = 11EDC6F41h

Replaces complex instruction sequences for CRC in Upper layer data protocols:

- iSCSI, RDMA, SCTP

POPCNT

POPCNT determines the number of nonzero bits in the source.



POPCNT is useful for speeding up fast matching in data mining workloads including:

- DNA/Genome Matching
- Voice Recognition

ZFlag set if result is zero. All other flags (C,S,O,A,P) reset

Enables enterprise class data assurance with high data rates in networked storage in any user environment.



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CRC32 Preliminary Performance

CRC32 optimized Code

```

crc32c_sse42_optimized_version(uint32 crc, unsigned
char const *p, size_t len)
{ // Assuming len is a multiple of 0x10
asm("pusha");
asm("mov %0, %%eax" :: "m" (crc));
asm("mov %0, %%ebx" :: "m" (p));
asm("mov %0, %%ecx" :: "m" (len));
asm("1:");
// Processing four byte at a time: Unrolled four times:
asm("crc32 %eax, 0x0(%%ebx)");
asm("crc32 %eax, 0x4(%%ebx)");
asm("crc32 %eax, 0x8(%%ebx)");
asm("crc32 %eax, 0xc(%%ebx)");
asm("add $0x10, %%ebx");
asm("sub $0x10, %%ecx");
asm("jecz 2f");
asm("jmp 1b");
asm("2:");
asm("mov %%eax, %0" :: "=m" (crc));
asm("popa");
return crc;
}
    
```

> Preliminary tests involved Kernel code implementing CRC algorithms commonly used by iSCSI drivers.

> 32-bit and 64-bit versions of the Kernel under test

> 32-bit version processes 4 bytes of data using 1 CRC32 instruction

> 64-bit version processes 8 bytes of data using 1 CRC32 instruction

> Input strings of sizes 48 bytes and 4KB used for the test

	32 - bit	64 - bit
Input Data Size = 48 bytes	6.53 X	9.85 X
Input Data Size = 4 KB	9.3 X	18.63 X

Preliminary Results show CRC32 instruction outperforming the fastest CRC32C software algorithm by a big margin

Agenda

- Nehalem Design Philosophy
- Enhanced Processor Core
- New Instructions

Optimization Guidelines and Software Tools

- New Platform Features

Software Optimization Guidelines

- Most optimizations for Core microarchitecture still hold
- Examples of new optimization guidelines:
 - 16-byte unaligned loads/stores
 - Enhanced macrofusion rules
 - NUMA optimizations
- Nehalem SW Optimization Guide are published
- Intel Compiler supports settings for Nehalem optimizations (e.g. -xSSE4.2 option)

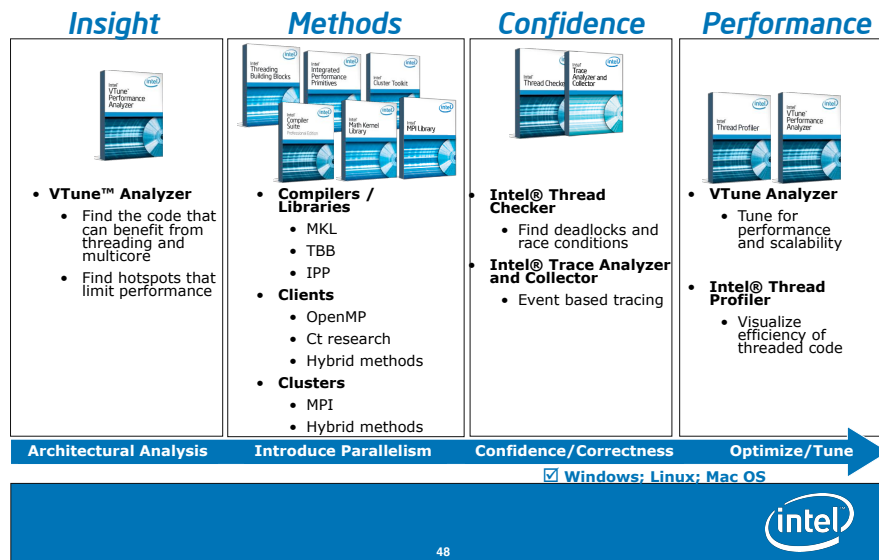


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Simplified Many-core Development with Intel® Tools

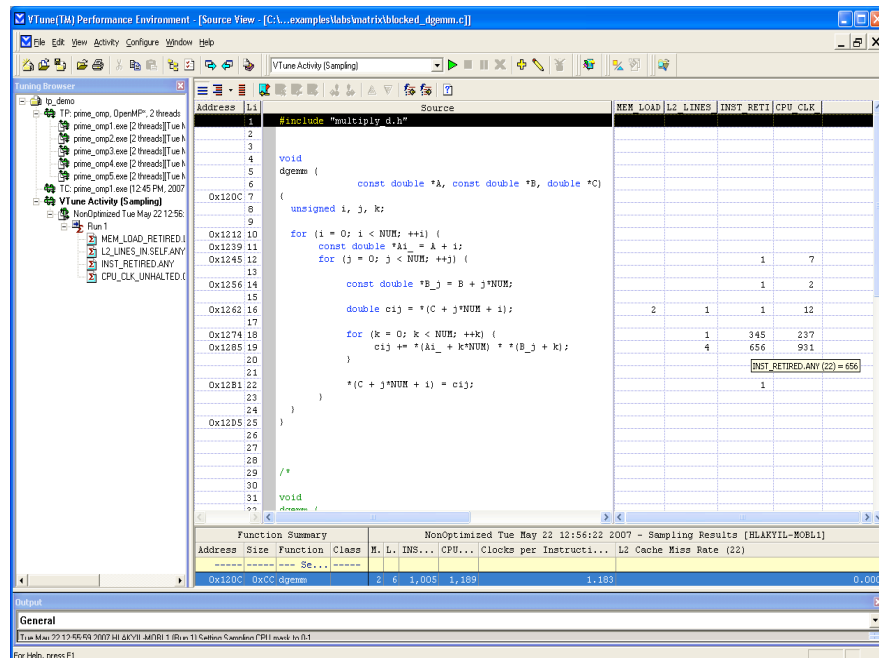


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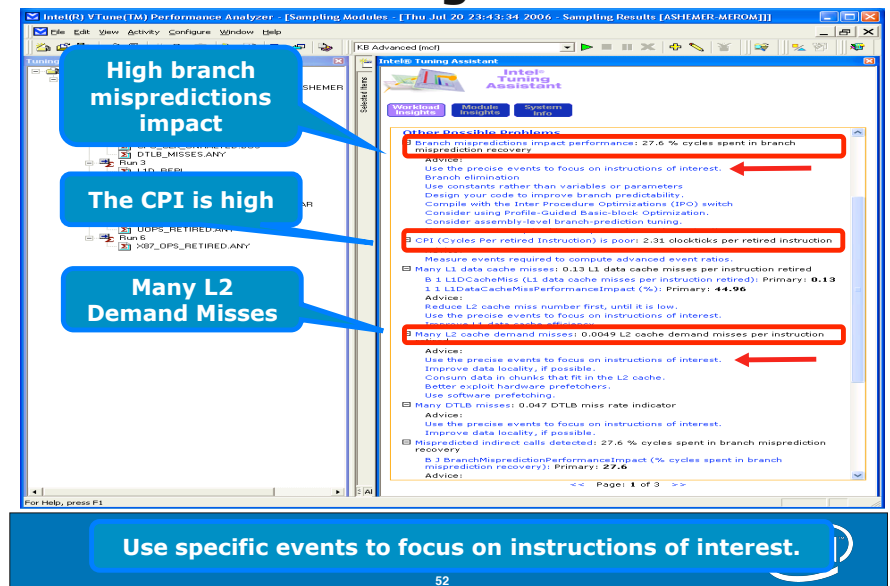
Tools Support of New Instructions

- Intel Compiler 10.x+ supports the new instructions
 - SSE4.2 supported via intrinsics
 - Inline assembly supported on both IA-32 and Intel64 targets
 - Necessary to include required header files in order to access intrinsics
 - <tmmintrin.h> for Supplemental SSE3
 - <smmmintrin.h> for SSE4.1
 - <pmmintrin.h> for SSE4.2
- Intel Library Support
 - XML Parser Library released in Fall '08
 - IPP is investigating possible usages of new instructions
- Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 VC++
 - SSE4.2 supported via intrinsics
 - Inline assembly supported on IA-32 only
 - Necessary to include required header files in order to access intrinsics
 - <tmmintrin.h> for Supplemental SSE3
 - <smmmintrin.h> for SSE4.1
 - <pmmintrin.h> for SSE4.2
 - VC++ 2008 tools masm, msdis, and debuggers recognize the new instructions

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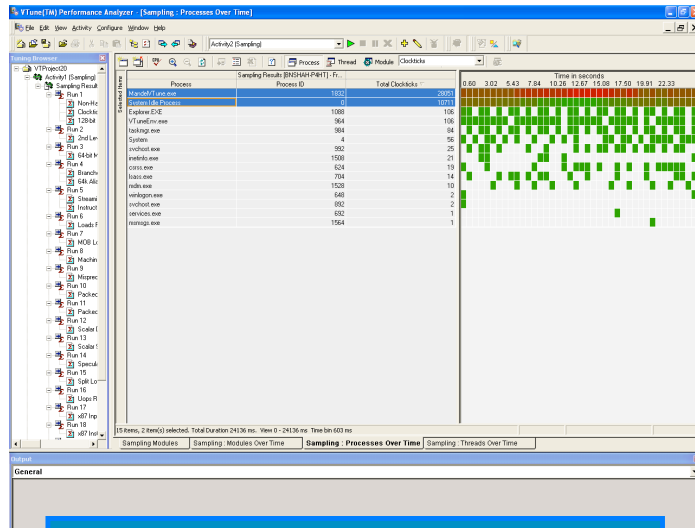
VTune Tuning Assist View



Use specific events to focus on instructions of interest.

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VTune Sampling Over Time View



Sampling Over Time Views Show How Sampling Data Changes Over Time

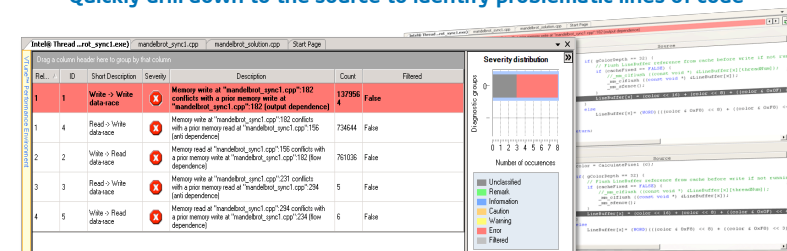
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Intel® Thread Checker

Deliver Multi-Threaded Optimized Code

- Detect hidden potential non-deterministic multithreading errors such as **deadlocks** and **data races**
- Analyze the results using Visual Studio* integration or a standalone graphical interface.
- Quickly drill down to the source to identify problematic lines of code



5



Use the Same Toolset for 32/64 bit on Windows*, Linux* and Mac OS* X

Intel® Software Development Products		Operating Systems		Operating Systems		
		Windows*	Linux*	Windows	Linux	Mac OS*
		Development Environments		Development Environments		
		Visual Studio*	GCC*	Visual Studio	GCC	Xcode*
Compilers	C++	●	●	●	●	●
	Fortran	●	●	●	●	●
Performance Analyzers	VTune® Performance Analyzer	●	●	●	●	
Performance Libraries	Integrated Performance Primitives	●	●	●	●	●
	Math Kernel Library	●	●	●	●	●
	Mobile Platform SDK			●		
Threading Analysis Tools	Thread Checker			●	●	
	Thread Profiler			●		
	MPI Library	●	●	●	●	
Cluster Tools	Trace Analyzer and Collector	●	●	●	●	
	Math Kernel Library Cluster Edition	●	●	●	●	
	Cluster Toolkit	●	●			
XML Tools**	XML Software Suite 1.0			●	●	

From Servers to Mobile / Wireless Computing, Intel® Software Development Products Enable Application Development Across Intel® Platforms

** Additional XML tools information can be found at www.intel.com/software/xml

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Agenda

- Nehalem Design Philosophy
- Enhanced Processor Core
- New Instructions
- Optimization Guidelines and Software Tools
- New Platform Features

5



Feeding the Execution Engine

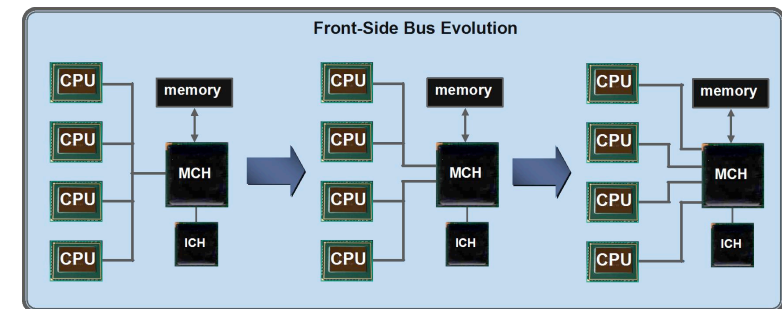
- Powerful 4-wide dynamic execution engine
- Need to keep providing fuel to the execution engine
- Nehalem Goals
 - **Low latency** to retrieve data
 - Keep execution engine fed w/o stalling
 - High data **bandwidth**
 - Handle requests from multiple cores/threads seamlessly
 - **Scalability**
 - Design for increasing core counts
- Combination of great **cache hierarchy** and **new platform**

Nehalem designed to feed the execution engine



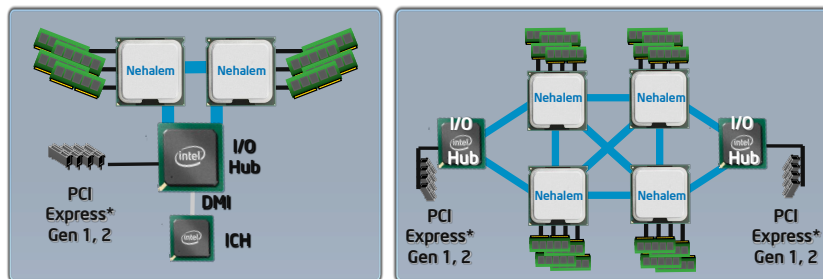
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Previous Platform Architecture



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Nehalem Based System Architecture



Intel® QuickPath Interconnect

Nehalem Microarchitecture
Integrated Intel® QuickPath Memory Controller
Intel® QuickPath Interconnect
Buffered or Un-buffered Memory
PCI Express* Generation 2
Optional Integrated Graphics

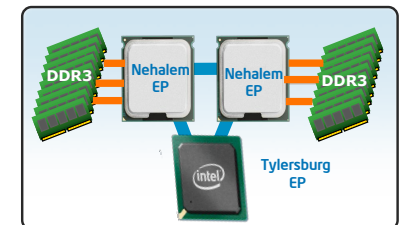
Source: Intel. All future products, computer systems, dates, and figures specified are preliminary based on current expectations, and are subject to change without notice.



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Integrated Memory Controller (IMC)

- Memory controller optimized per market segment
- Initial Nehalem products
 - Native DDR3 IMC
 - Up to 3 channels per socket
 - Speeds up to DDR3-1333
 - Massive **memory bandwidth**
 - Designed for **low latency**
 - Support RDIMM and UDIMM
 - RAS Features
- Future products
 - **Scalability**
 - Vary # of memory channels
 - Increase memory speeds
 - Buffered and Non-Buffered solutions
 - Market specific needs
 - Higher memory capacity
 - Integrated graphics



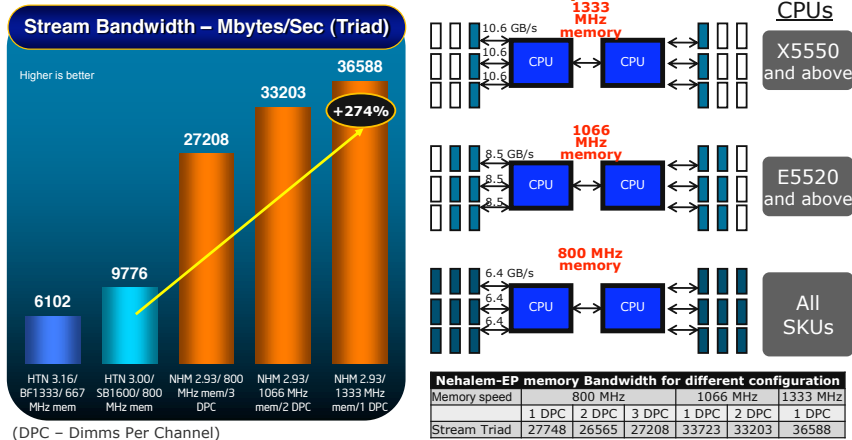
Significant performance through new IMC



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Intel® Xeon® Processor 5500 series based Server platforms

Stream Bandwidth for Xeon X5570 processor



Massive Increase in Platform Bandwidth

Source: Intel internal measurement – March 2009

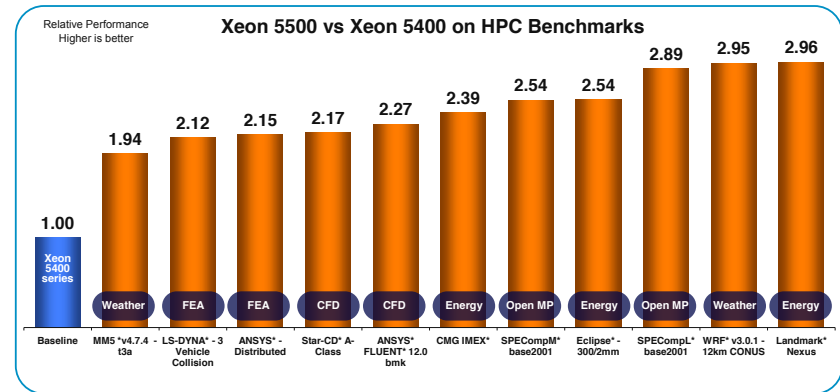
Performance tests and ratings are measured using specific computer systems and/or components and reflect the approximate performance of Intel products as measured by those tests. Any difference in system hardware or software design or configuration may affect actual performance. Buyers should consult other sources of information to evaluate the performance of systems or components they are considering purchasing. For more information on performance tests and on the performance of Intel products, visit <http://www.intel.com/performance/resources/limits.htm> Copyright © 2009, Intel Corporation. * Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

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Intel® Xeon® Processor 5500 series based Server platforms

HPC Performance comparison to Xeon 5400 Series



Exceptional gains on HPC applications

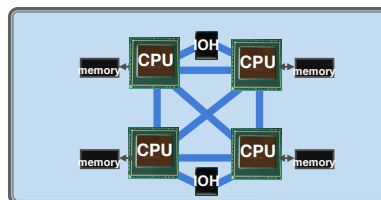
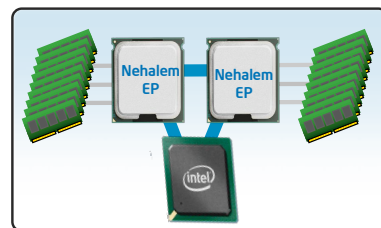
Performance tests and ratings are measured using specific computer systems and/or components and reflect the approximate performance of Intel products as measured by those tests. Any difference in system hardware or software design or configuration may affect actual performance. Buyers should consult other sources of information to evaluate the performance of systems or components they are considering purchasing. For more information on performance tests and on the performance of Intel products, visit <http://www.intel.com/performance/resources/limits.htm> Copyright © 2009, Intel Corporation. * Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

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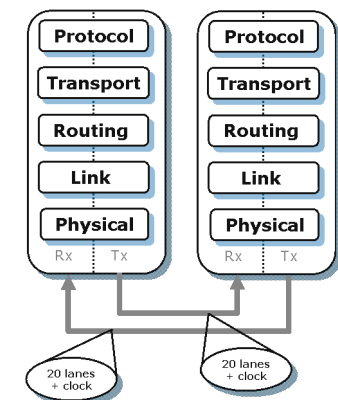
QuickPath Interconnect

- Nehalem introduces new QuickPath Interconnect (QPI)
- High bandwidth, low latency** point to point interconnect
- Up to 6.4 GT/sec initially
 - 6.4 GT/sec -> 12.8 GB/sec
 - Bi-directional link -> 25.6 GB/sec per link
 - Future implementations at even higher speeds
- Highly **scalable** for systems with varying # of sockets



Layered Architecture

- Functionality is partitioned into five-layers, each layer performing a well-defined set of non-overlapping functions
 - Protocol Layer is the set of rules for exchanging packets between devices
 - Transport Layer provides advanced routing capability for the future*
 - Routing Layer provides framework for directing packet through the fabric
 - Link Layer is responsible for reliable transmission and flow control
 - Physical Layer carries the signals and transmission/receiver support logic



Modularity aids interconnect longevity & eases component design

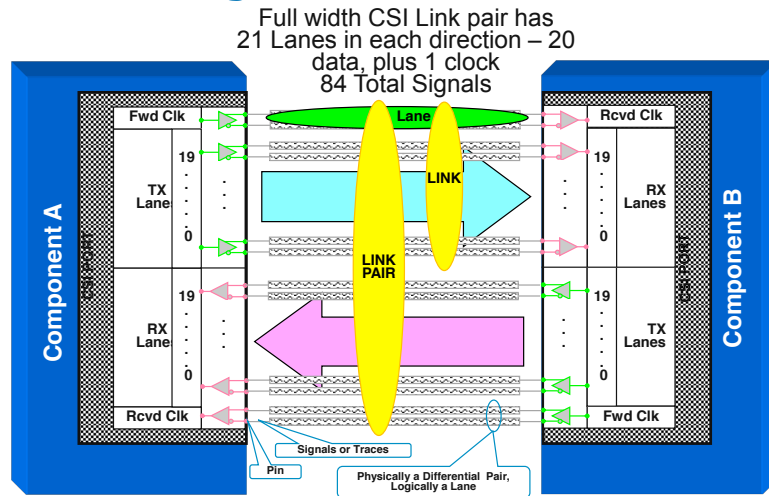
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QPI Link – Logical View



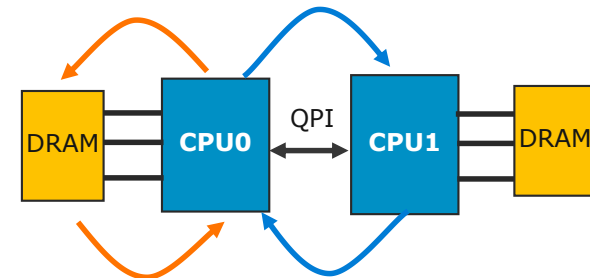
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Local Memory Access

- CPU0 requests cache line X, not present in any CPU0 cache
 - CPU0 requests data from its DRAM
 - CPU0 snoops CPU1 to check if data is present
- Step 2:
 - DRAM returns data
 - CPU1 returns snoop response
- Local memory latency is the maximum latency of the two responses
- Nehalem optimized to keep key latencies close to each other

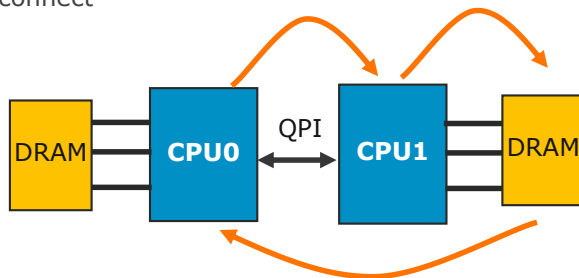


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Remote Memory Access

- CPU0 requests cache line X, not present in any CPU0 cache
 - CPU0 requests data from CPU1
 - Request sent over QPI to CPU1
 - CPU1's IMC makes request to its DRAM
 - CPU1 snoops internal caches
 - Data returned to CPU0 over QPI
- Remote memory latency a function of having a low latency interconnect

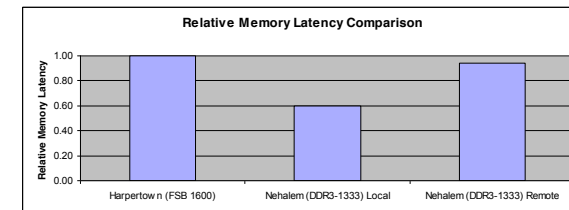


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Memory Latency Comparison

- **Low memory latency** critical to high performance
- Design integrated memory controller for low latency
- Need to optimize both local and remote memory latency
- Nehalem delivers
 - Huge reduction in local memory latency
 - Even remote memory latency is fast
- Effective memory latency depends per application/OS
 - Percentage of local vs. remote accesses
 - Nehalem has lower latency regardless of mix



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Summary

- Nehalem – The 45nm Tock designed for
 - **Power Efficiency**
 - **Scalability**
 - **Performance**
- Enhanced Processor Core
- Brand New Platform Architecture
- Extending x86 ISA Leadership
- Tools Available to support new processors feature and ISA

- More web based info:

<http://www.intel.com/technology/architecture-silicon/next-gen/index.htm>