

Adding Speculation to Tomasulo

- Must separate execution from allowing instruction to finish or "commit"
- This additional step called **instruction commit**
- When an instruction is no longer speculative, allow it to update the register file or memory
- Requires additional set of buffers to hold results of instructions that have finished execution but have not committed
- This **reorder buffer (ROB)** is also used to pass results among instructions that may be speculated



Reorder Buffer (ROB)

- In Tomasulo's algorithm, once an instruction writes its result, any subsequently issued instructions will find result in the register file
 - With speculation, the register file is not updated until the instruction commits
 - (we know definitively that the instruction should execute)
 - Thus, the ROB supplies operands in interval between completion of instruction execution and instruction commit
 - ROB is a source of operands for instructions, just as reservation stations (RS) provide operands in Tomasulo's algorithm
- ROB extends architected registers like RS



Reorder Buffer Entry

Each entry in the ROB contains four fields:

1. Instruction type

- a branch (has no destination result), a store (has a memory address destination), or a register operation (ALU operation or load, which has register destinations)

2. Destination

- Register number (for loads and ALU operations) or memory address (for stores) where the instruction result should be written

3. Value

- Value of instruction result until the instruction commits

4. Ready

- Indicates that instruction has completed execution, and the value is ready



Reorder Buffer operation

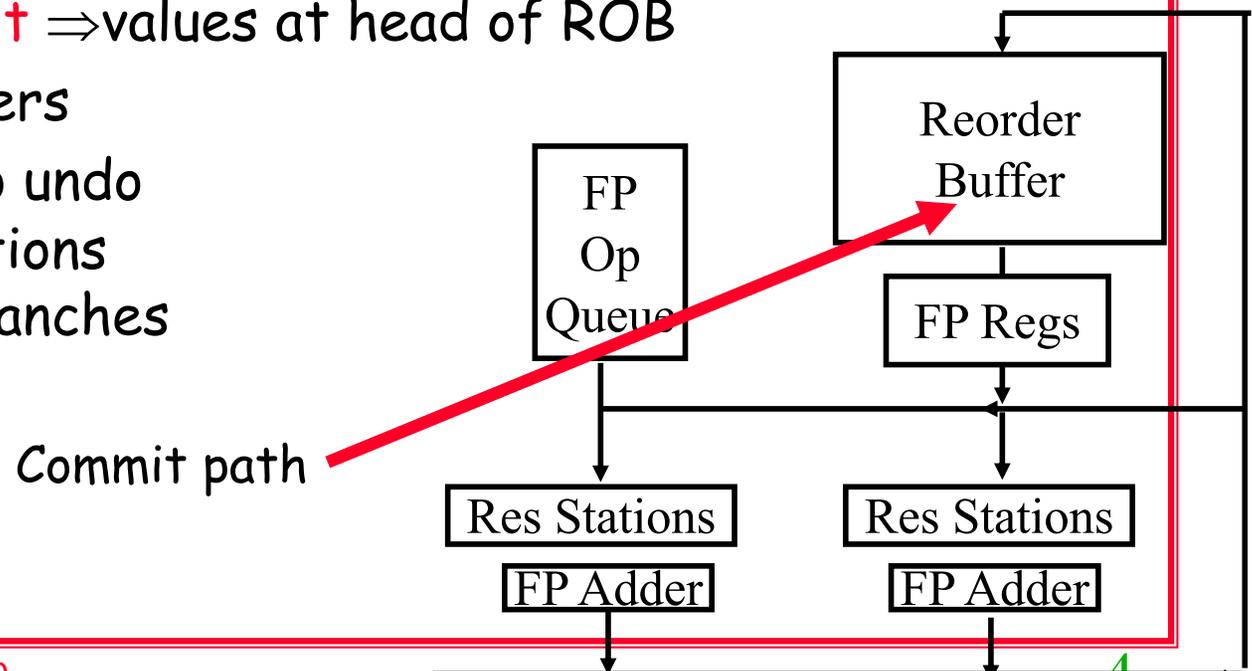
Holds instructions in FIFO order, exactly as issued

When instructions complete, results placed into ROB

- Supplies operands to other instruction between execution complete & commit \Rightarrow more registers like RS
- Tag results with ROB buffer number instead of reservation station

Instructions **commit** \Rightarrow values at head of ROB
placed in registers

As a result, easy to undo
speculated instructions
on mispredicted branches
or on exceptions



Recall: 4 Steps of Speculative Tomasulo Algorithm

1. Issue—get instruction from FP Op Queue

If reservation station and reorder buffer slot free, issue instr & send operands & reorder buffer no. for destination (this stage sometimes called "dispatch")

2. Execution—operate on operands (EX)

When both operands ready then execute; if not ready, watch CDB for result; when both in reservation station, execute; checks RAW (sometimes called "issue")

3. Write result—finish execution (WB)

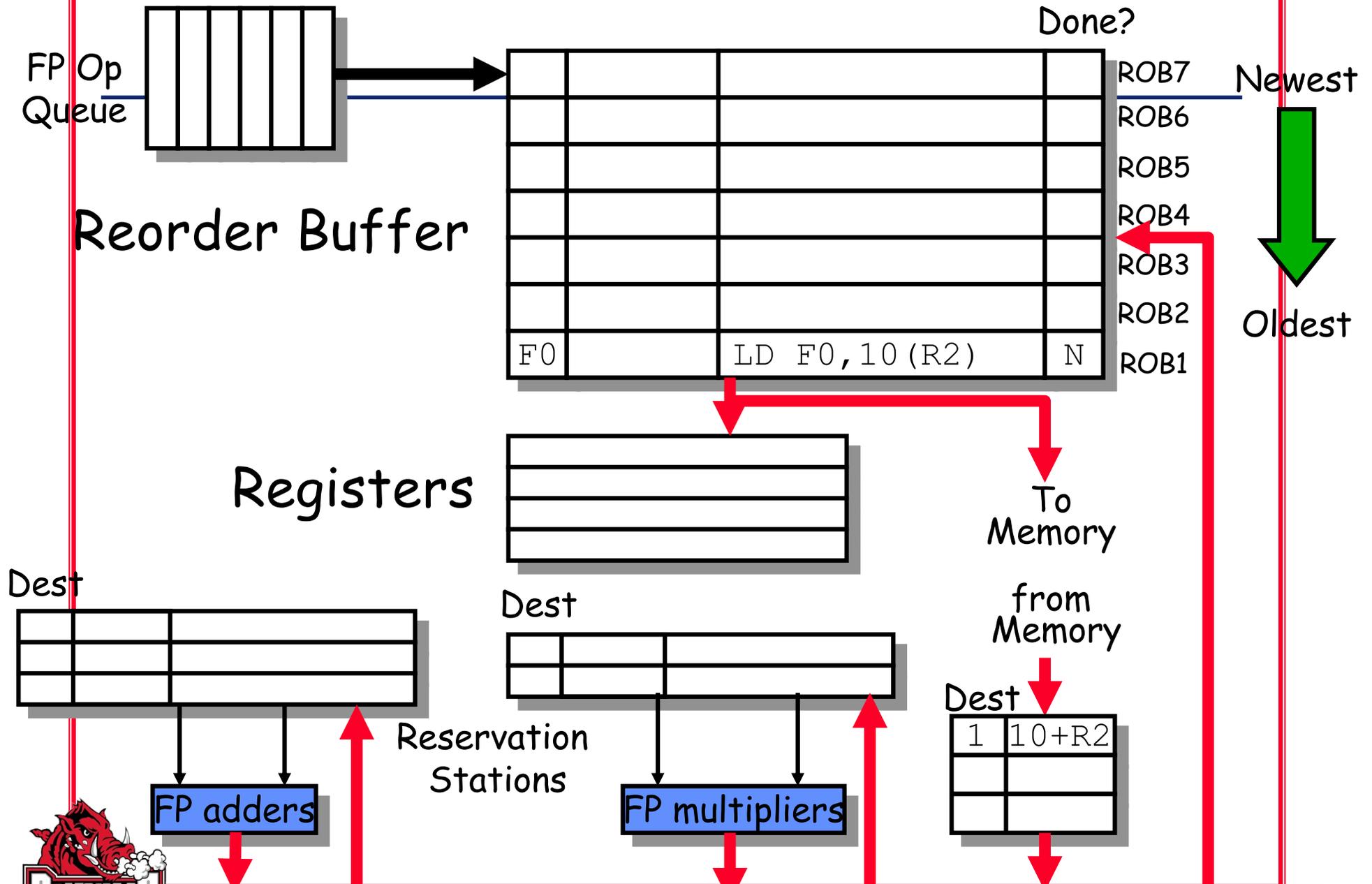
Write on Common Data Bus to all awaiting FUs & reorder buffer; mark reservation station available.

4. Commit—update register with reorder result

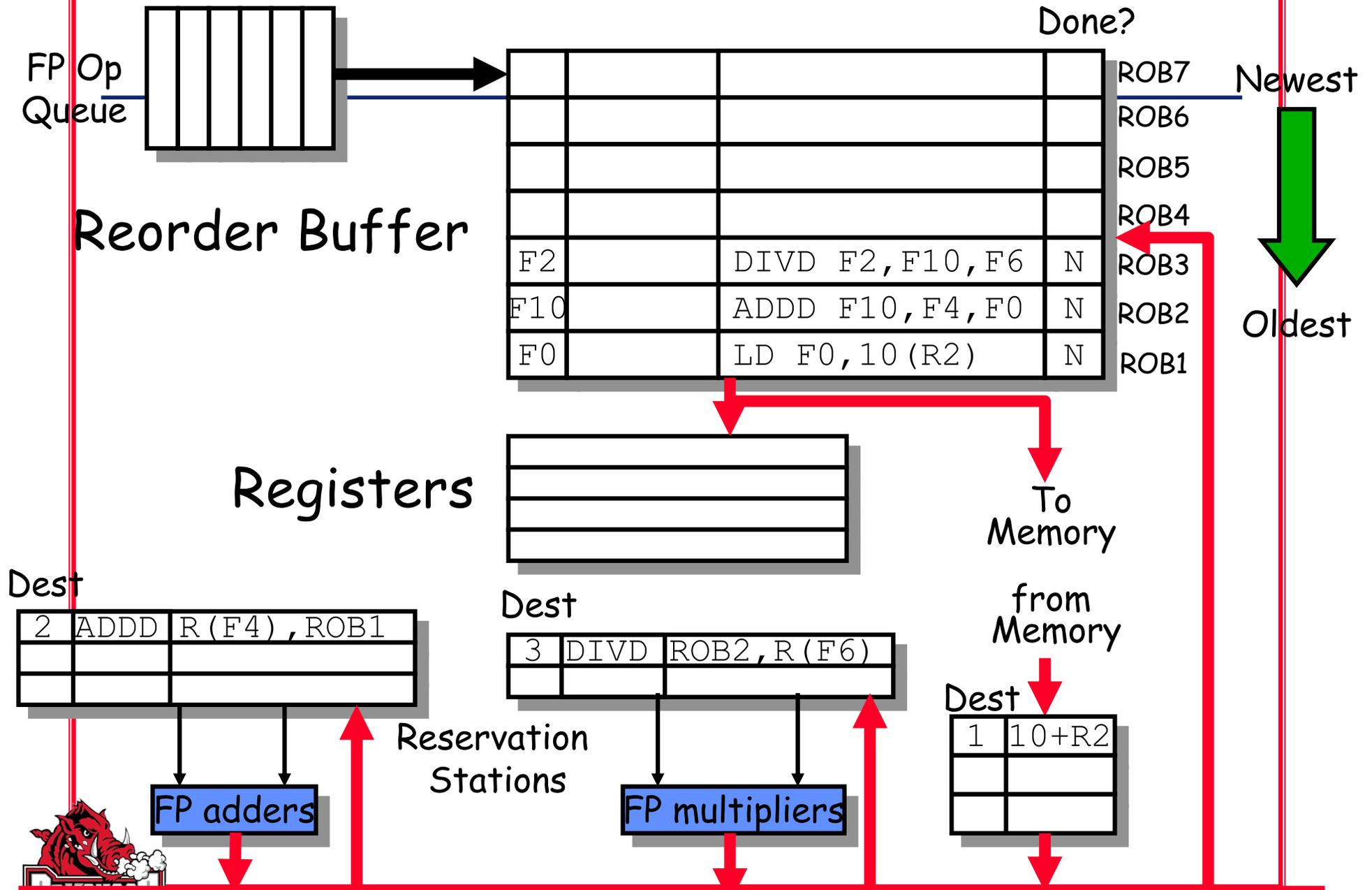
When instr. at head of reorder buffer & result present, update register with result (or store to memory) and remove instr from reorder buffer. Mispredicted branch flushes reorder buffer (sometimes called "graduation")



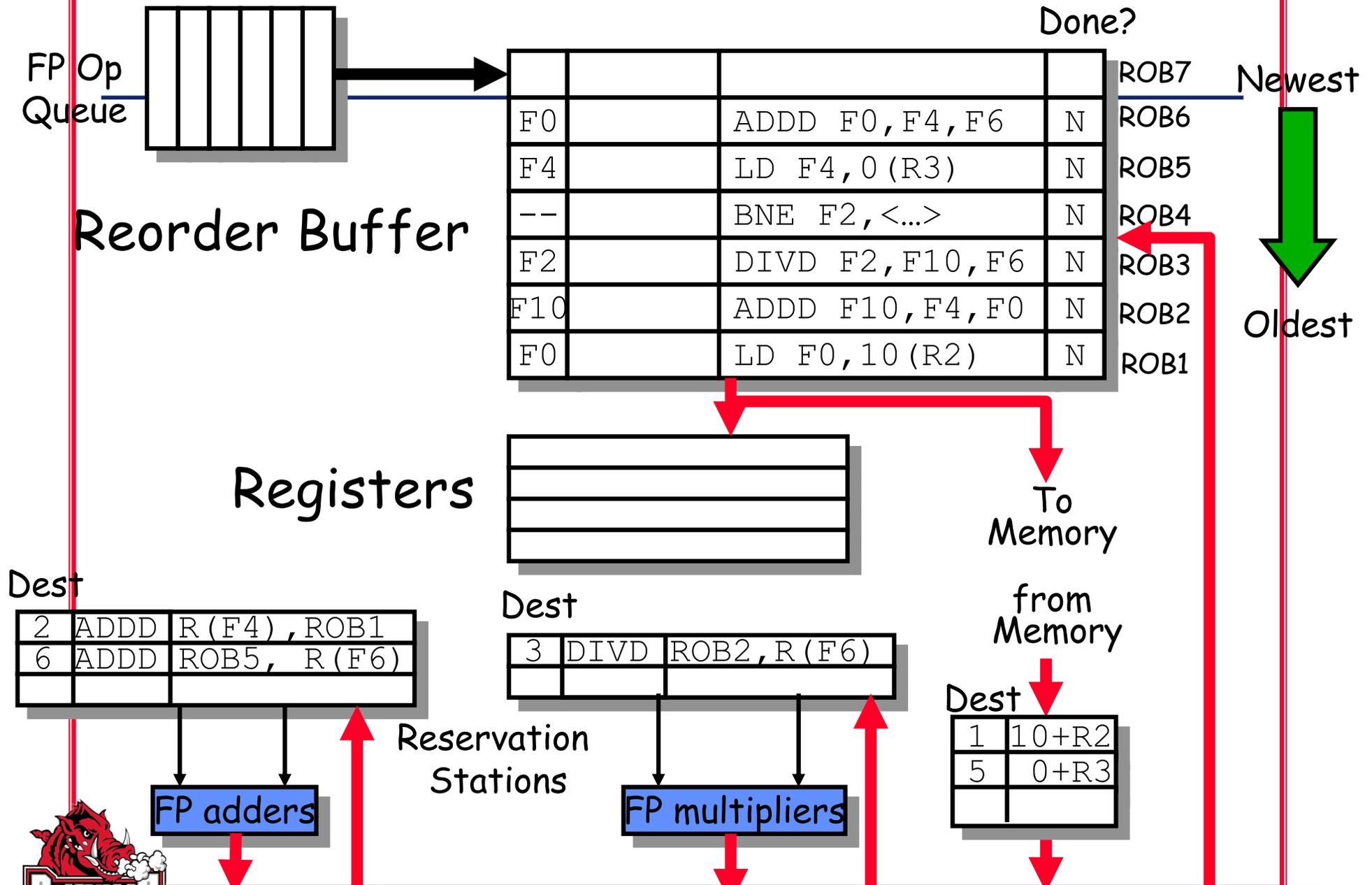
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



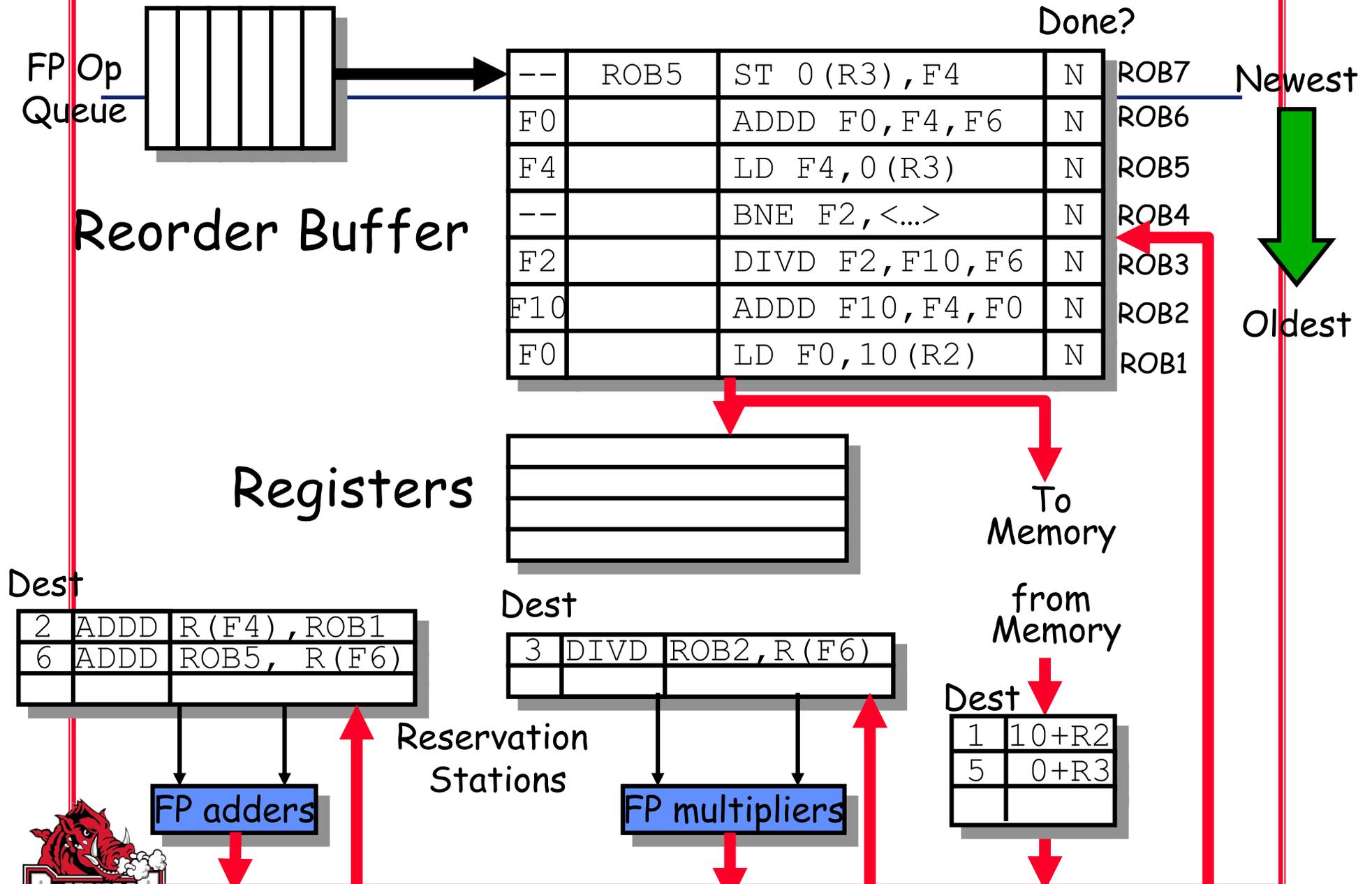
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



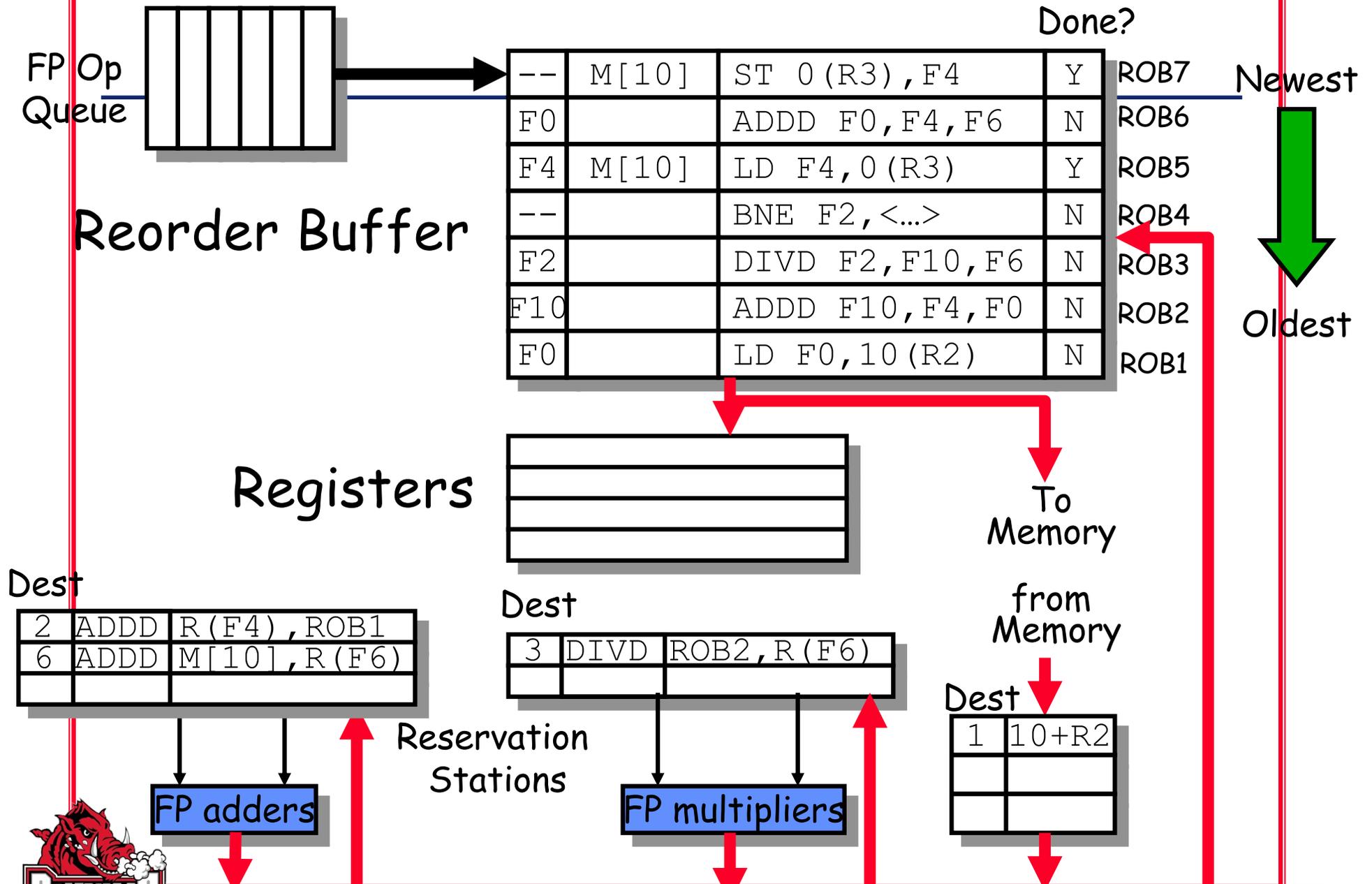
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



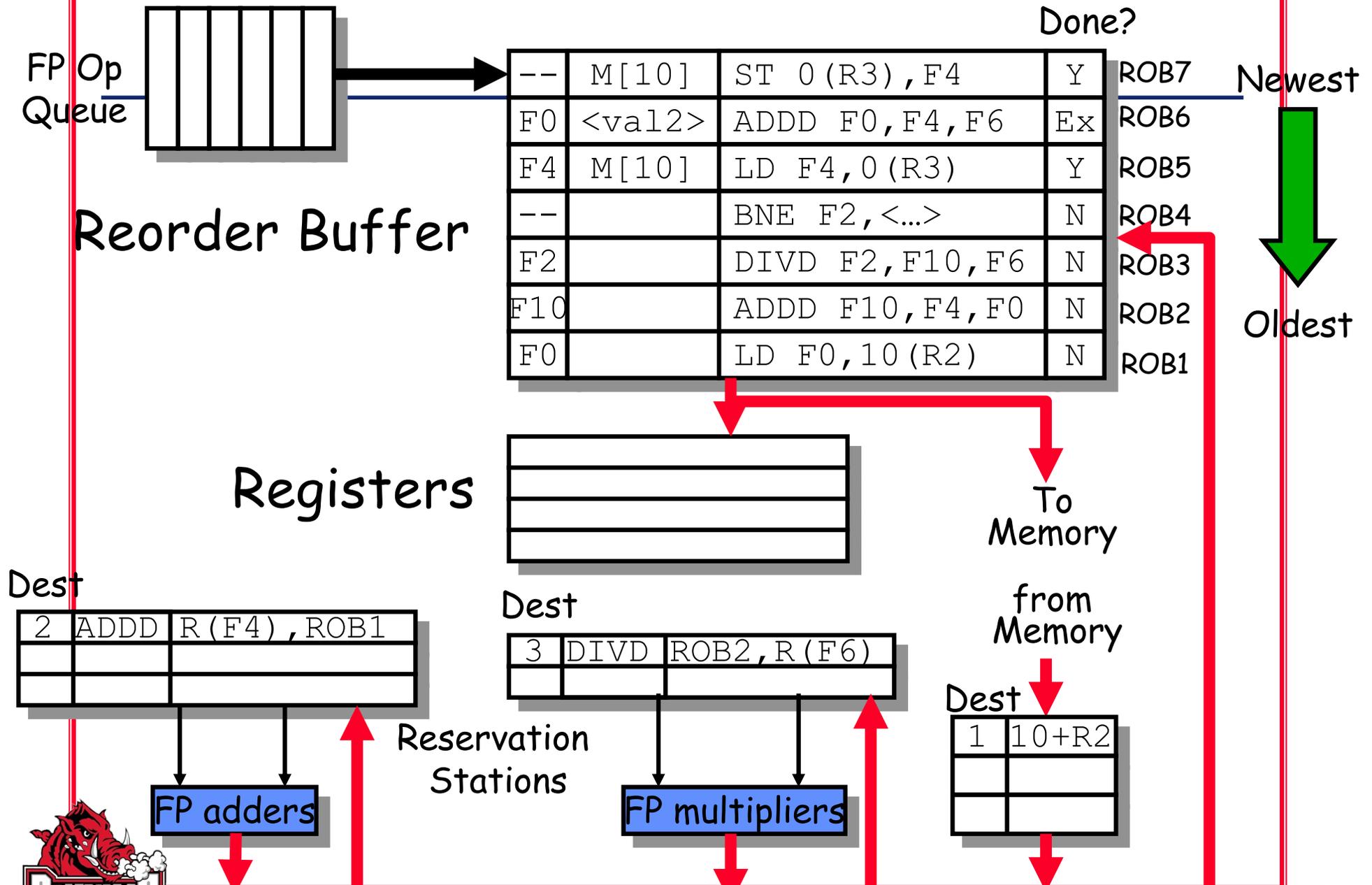
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



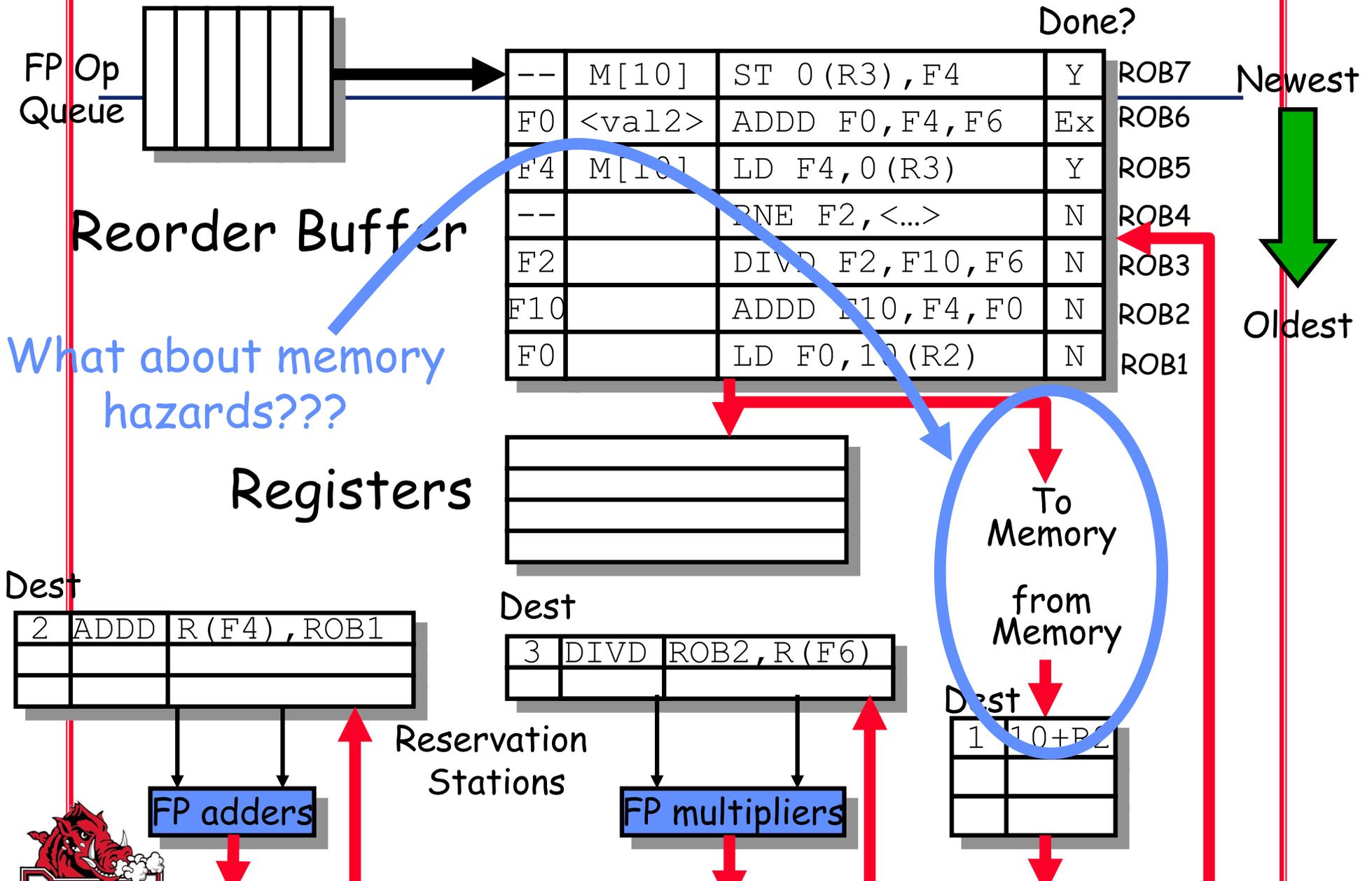
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



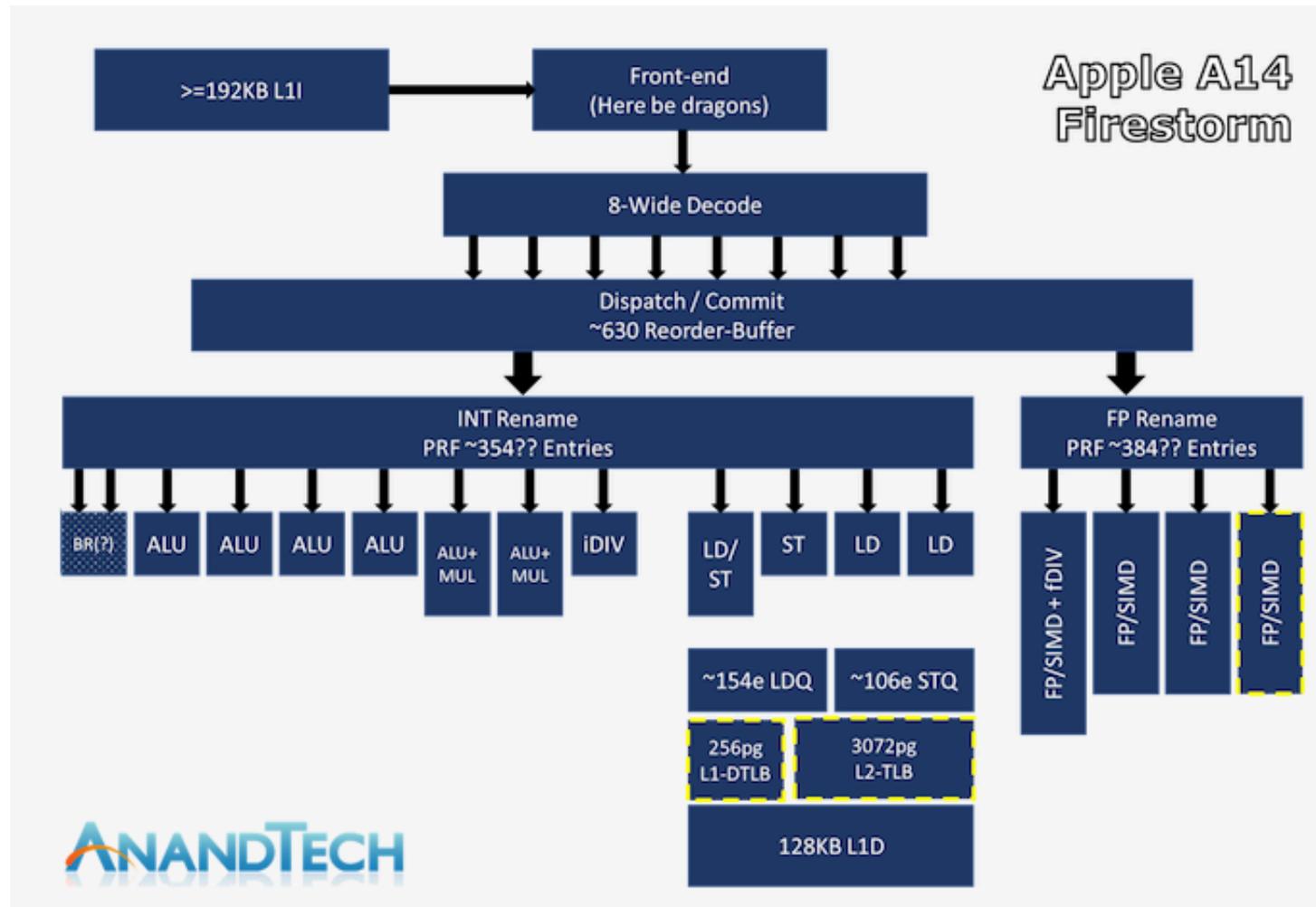
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



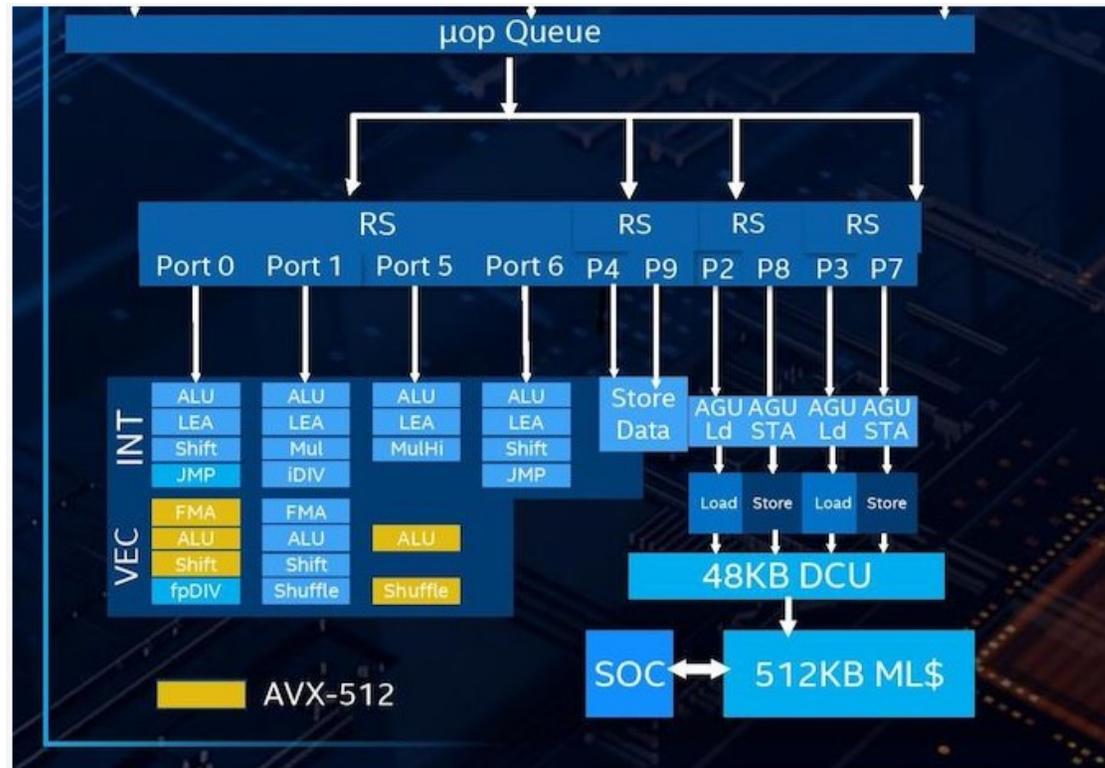
Tomasulo With Reorder buffer:



How Big Is a Real Reorder Buffer?



Intel Sunny Cove



AnandTech	Haswell	Skylake	Sunny Cove
Reorder Buffer	182	224	352
In-Flight Stores	72	72	128
In-Flight Loads	42	56	72



AMD Ryzen "Zen 3"

"ZEN 3" OVERVIEW

2 THREADS PER CORE (SMT)

STATE-OF-THE-ART BRANCH PREDICTOR

CACHES

- I-cache 32k, 8-way
- Op-cache, 4K instructions
- D-cache 32k, 8-way
- L2 cache 512k, 8-way

DECODE

- 4 instructions / cycle from decode or 8 ops from Op-cache
- 6 ops / cycle dispatched to Integer or Floating Point

EXECUTION CAPABILITIES

- 4 integer units
- Dedicated branch and store data units
- 3 address generations per cycle

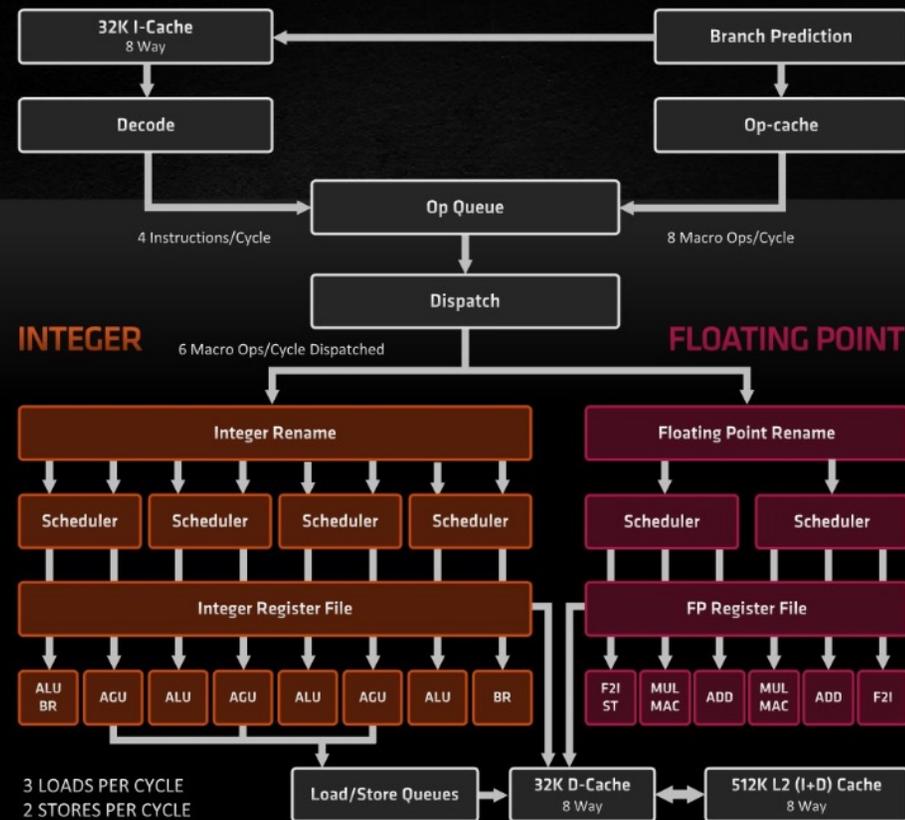
3 MEMORY OPS PER CYCLE

- Max 2 can be stores

TLBs

- L1 64 entries I & D, all page sizes
- L2 512 I, 2K D, everything but 1G

TWO 256-BIT FP MULTIPLY ACCUMULATE / CYCLE



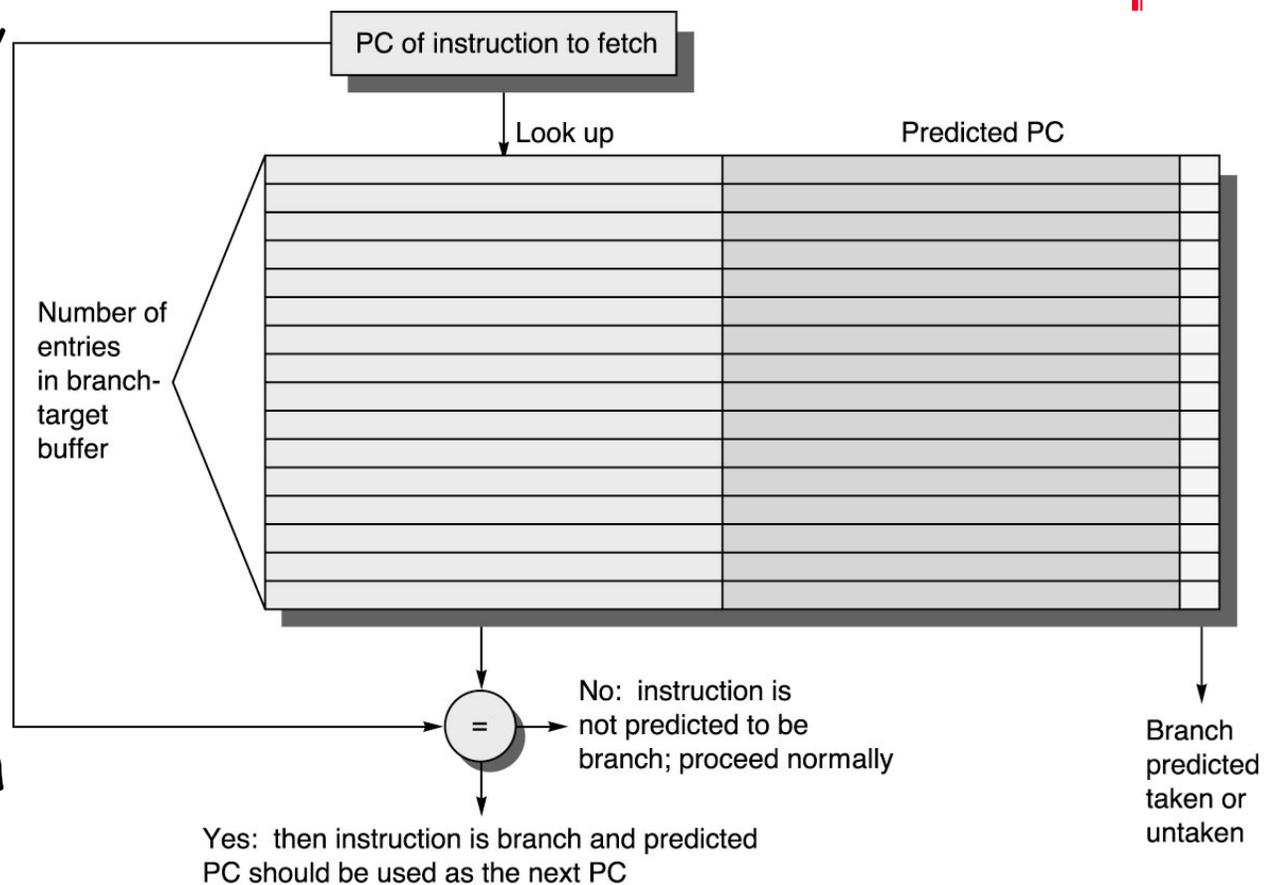
5 WHERE GAMING BEGINS: AMD RYZEN | AMD CONFIDENTIAL



Increasing Instruction Fetch Bandwidth

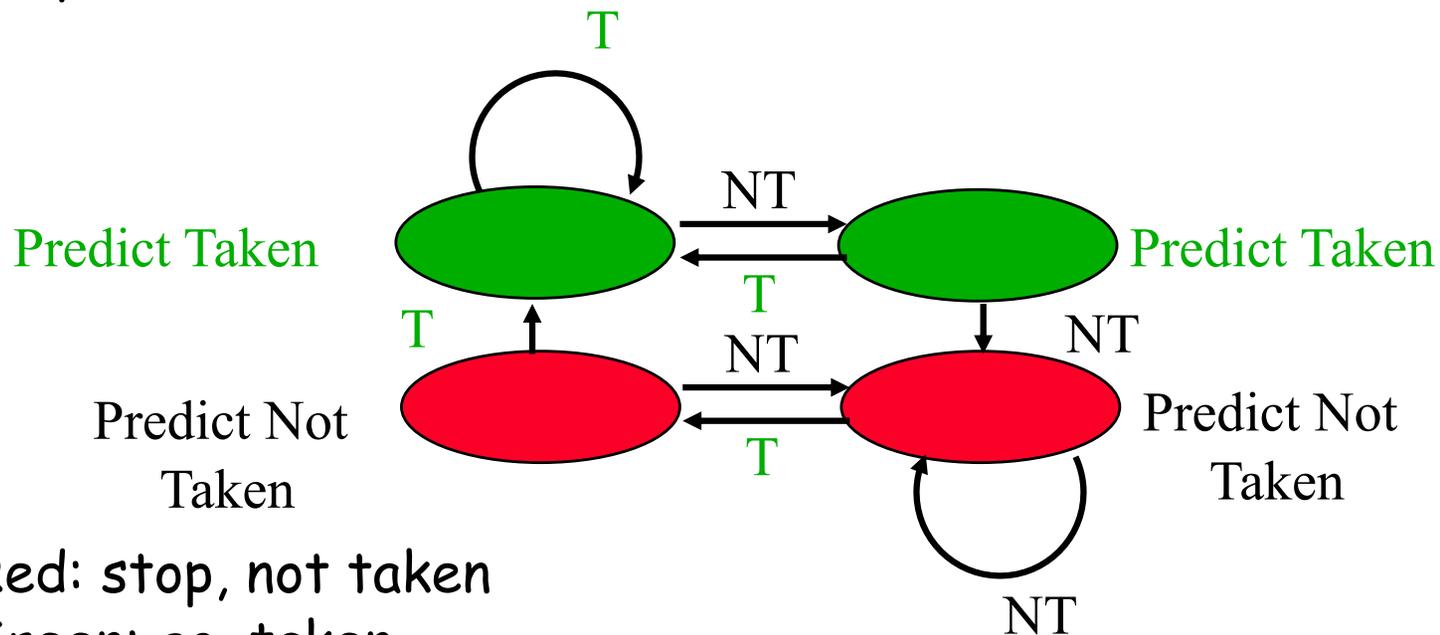
- Predicts next instruction address, sends it out *before* decoding instruction
- PC of branch sent to BTB
- When match is found, Predicted PC is returned
- If branch predicted taken, instruction fetch continues at Predicted PC

Branch Target Buffer (BTB)



2-bit Predictor "Smooths Out Edges" For Nested Loops

- Solution: 2-bit scheme where change prediction only if get misprediction *twice*



- Red: stop, not taken
- Green: go, taken
- Adds *hysteresis* to decision making process



Correlated Branch Prediction

- Idea: record m most recently executed branches as taken or not taken, and use that pattern to select the proper n -bit branch history table
- In general, (m,n) predictor means record last m branches to select between 2^m history tables, each with n -bit counters
 - Thus, old 2-bit BHT is a $(0,2)$ predictor
- Global Branch History: m -bit shift register keeping T/NT status of last m branches.

Each entry in table has m n -bit predictors.



Correlating Branches

(2,2) predictor

- Behavior of recent branches selects between four predictions of next branch, updating just that prediction

