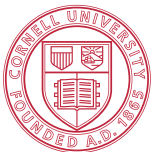


# Dynamic Hazard Resolution for Pipelining Irregular Loops in High-Level Synthesis

Steve Dai<sup>1</sup>, Ritchie Zhao<sup>1</sup>, Gai Liu<sup>1</sup>, Shreesha Srinath<sup>1</sup>, Udit Gupta<sup>2</sup>,  
Christopher Batten<sup>1</sup>, Zhiru Zhang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Electrical and Computer Engineering, Cornell University

<sup>2</sup> Computer Science, Harvard University



Cornell University



# Loop Pipelining in High-Level Synthesis

- ▶ **Ultimate Goal**
  - Synthesize an efficient pipeline with the highest possible throughput for all kinds of applications
- ▶ **Conventional HLS pipelining**
  - Ineffective for loops with data-dependent memory accesses
    - Cannot be predicted by static compiler analysis
    - Infrequent dynamic structural and data hazards
- ▶ **Our Study**
  - Augment HLS synthesized pipeline with application-specific dynamic hazard resolution logic

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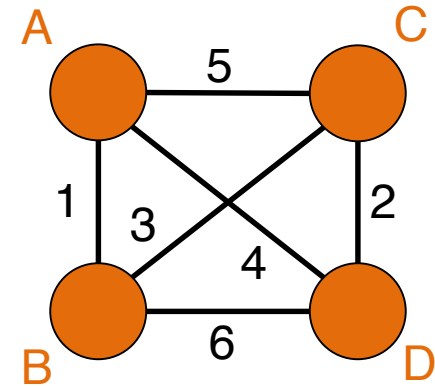
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# Pipelining Loops with Infrequent Hazards

Maximal Matching

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  }  
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j=1

j=2

j=3

j=4

j=5

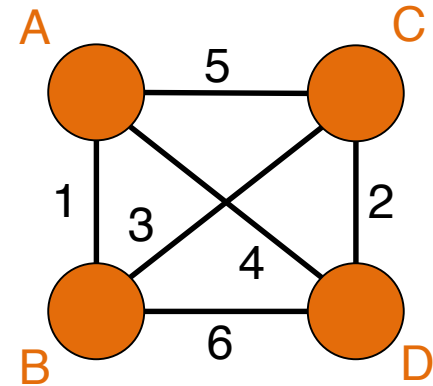
j=6

Clock Cycles →

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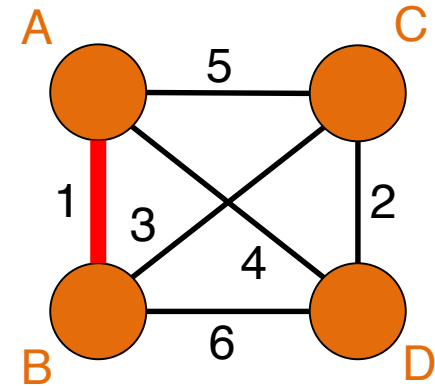
j=1  
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ld	ld
----	----

j=2

j=3

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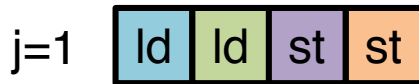
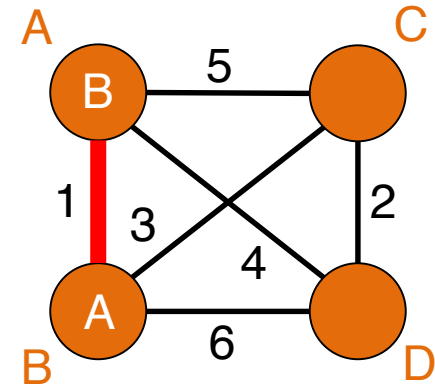
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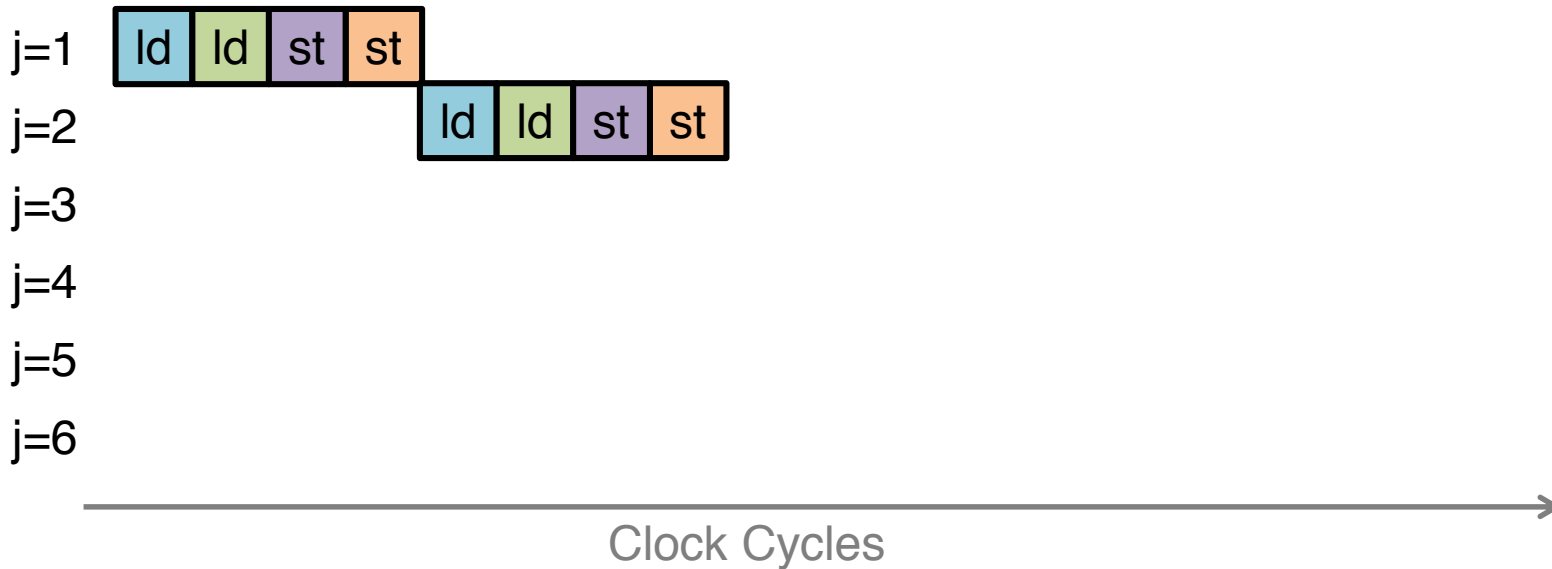
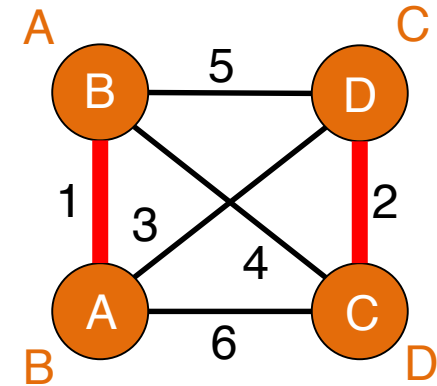
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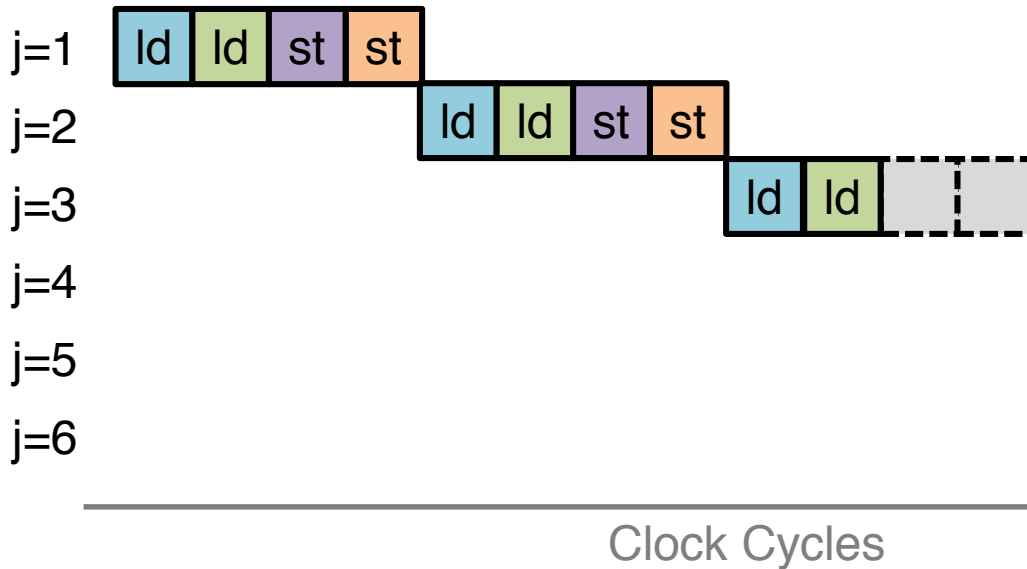
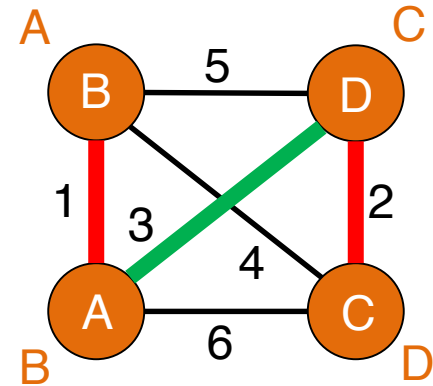
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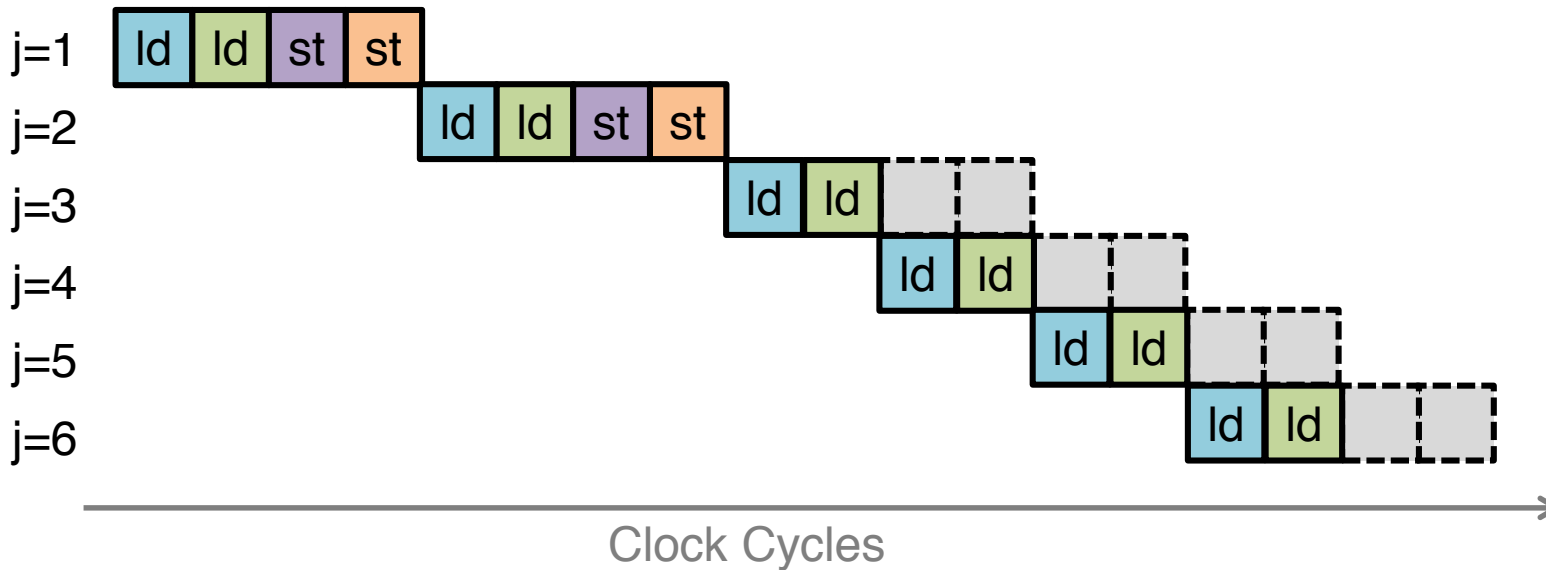
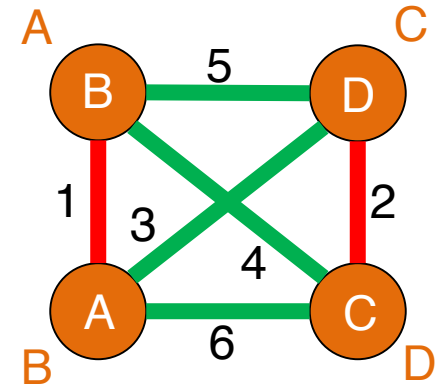
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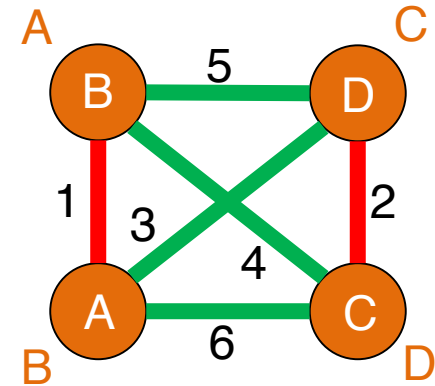
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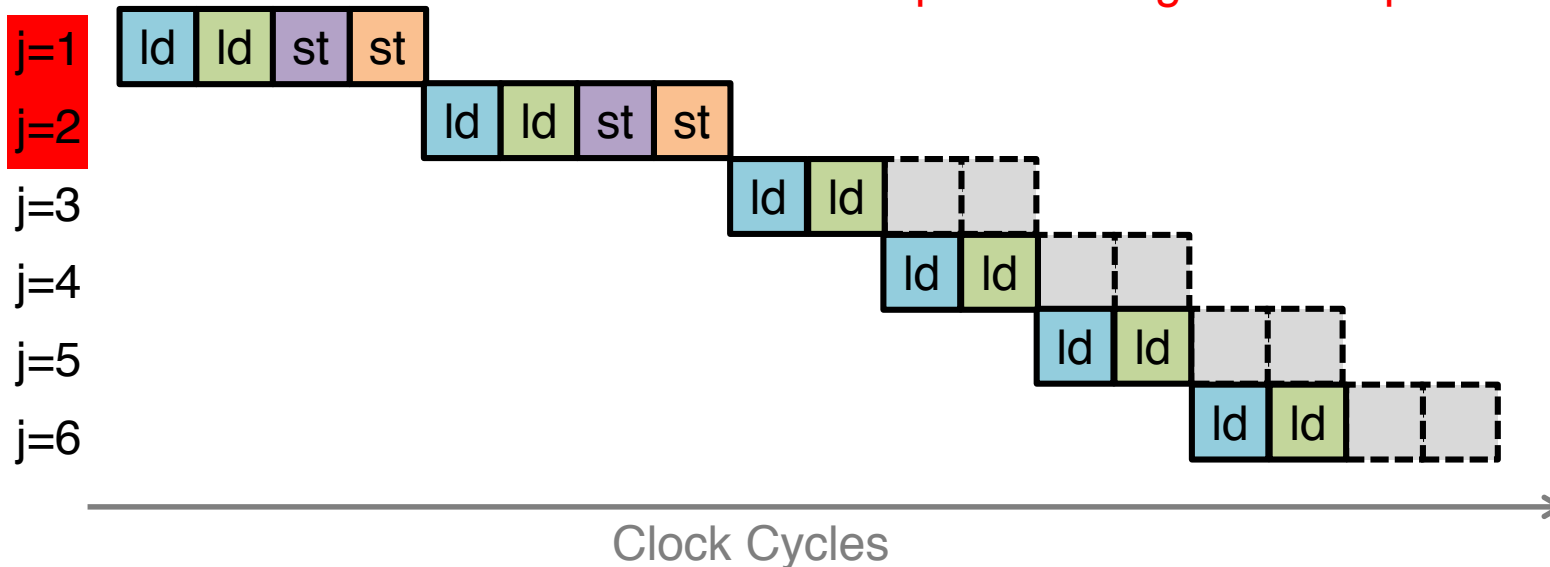
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Independent edges → Requires stores



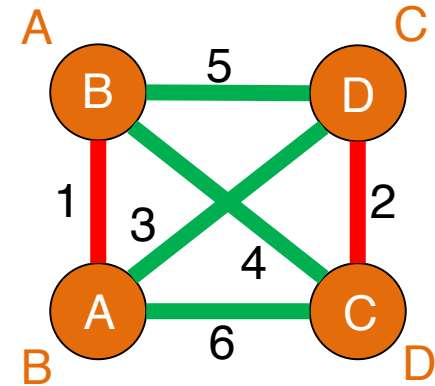
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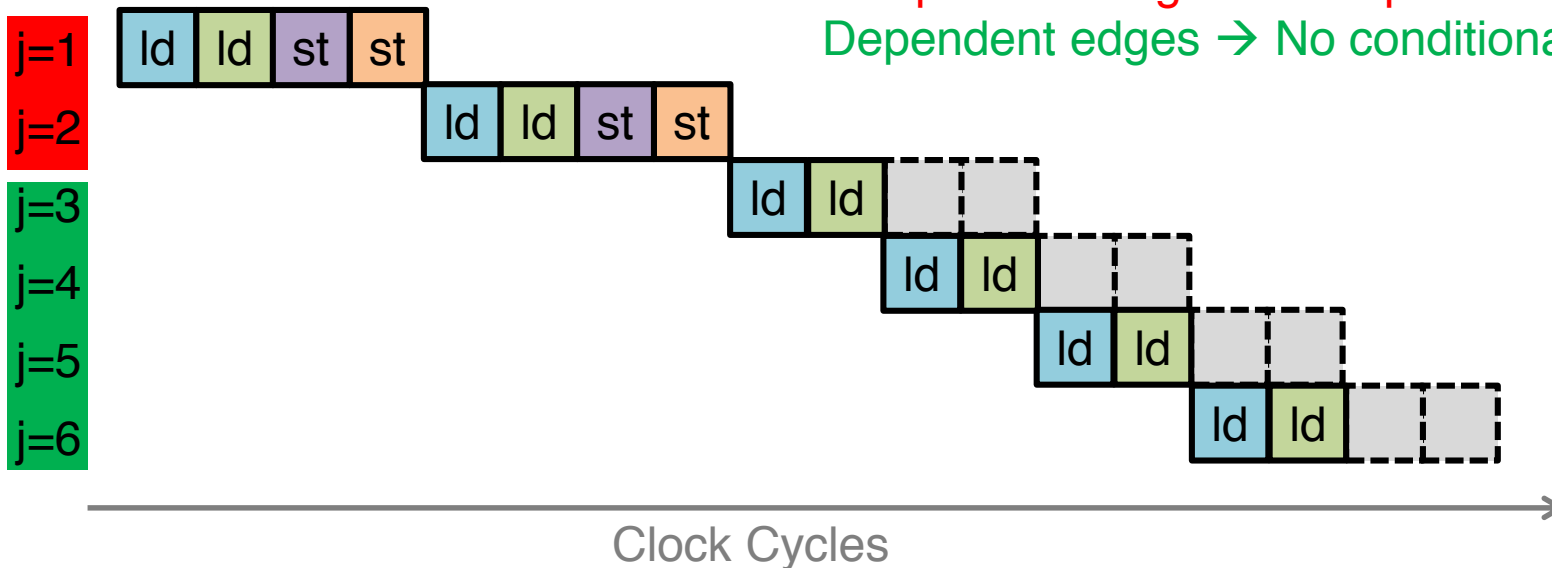
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```



Independent edges → Requires stores  
 Dependent edges → No conditional stores



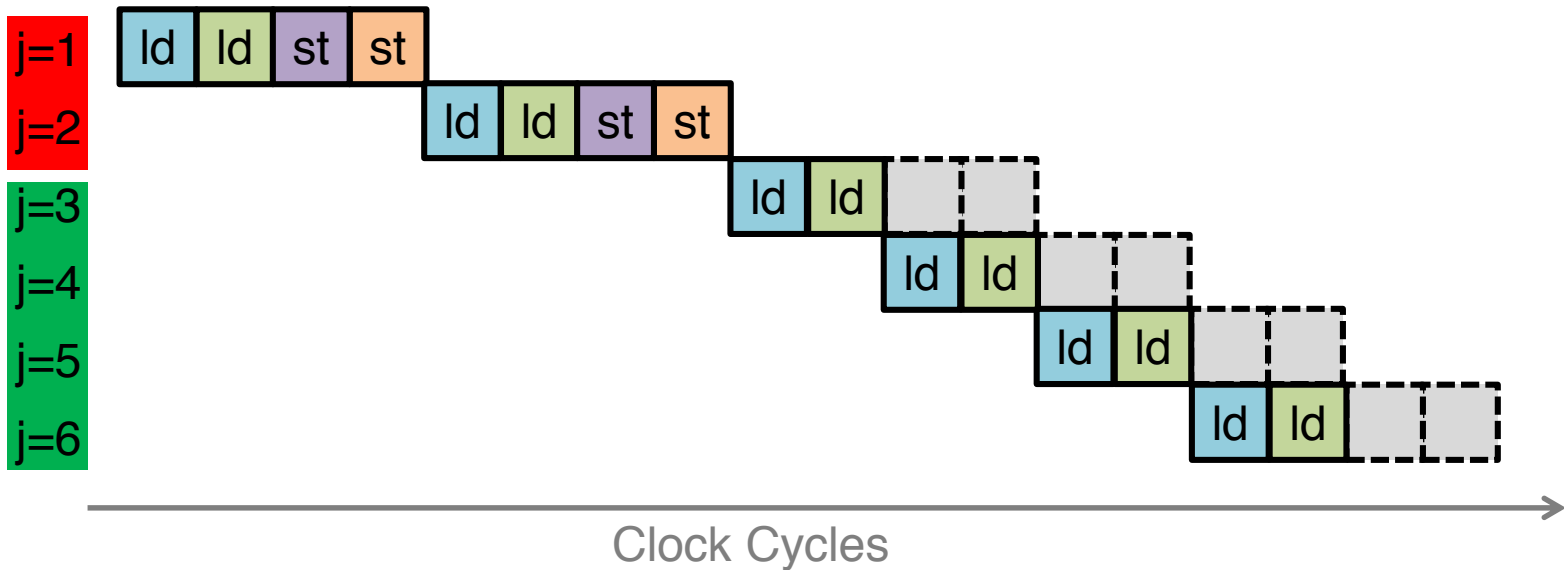
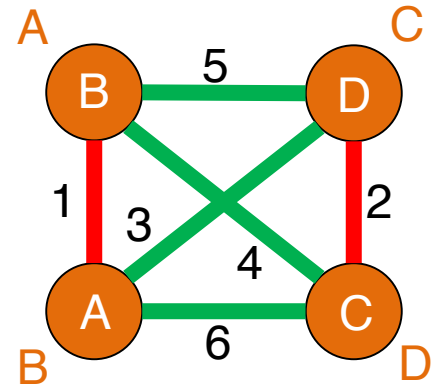
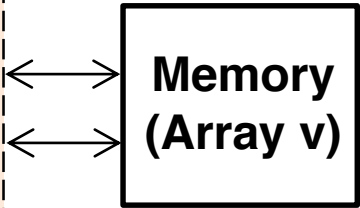
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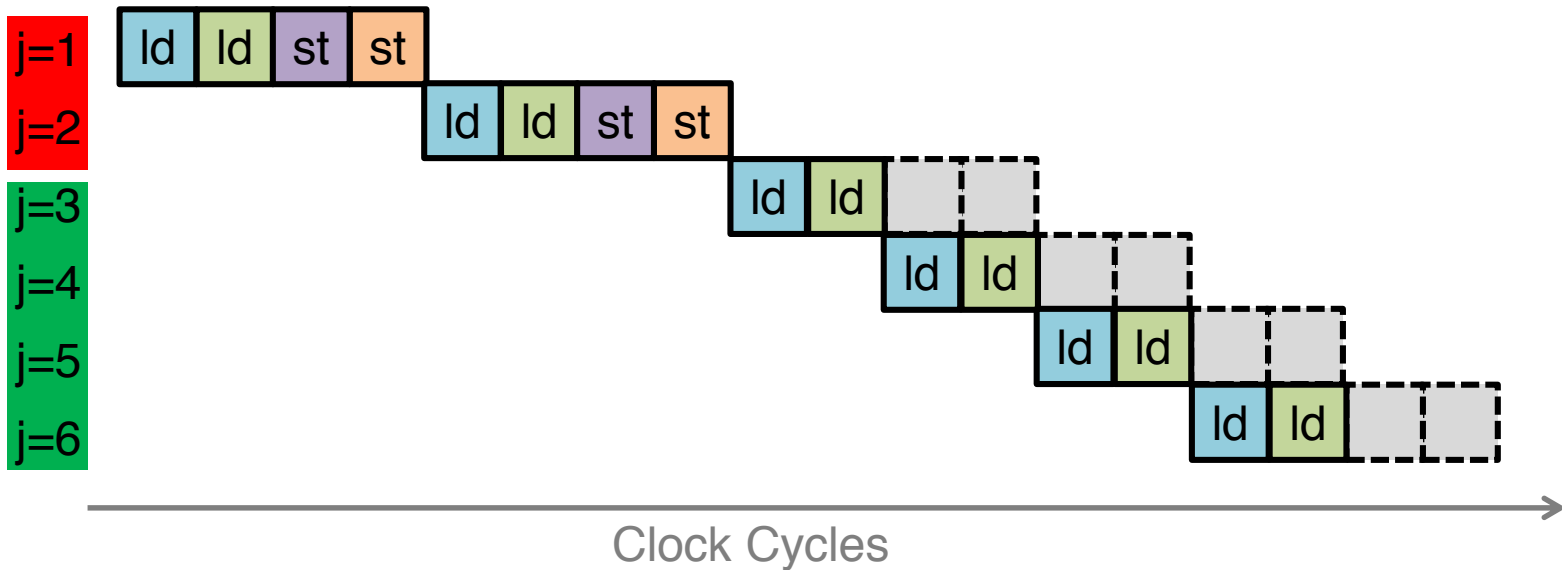
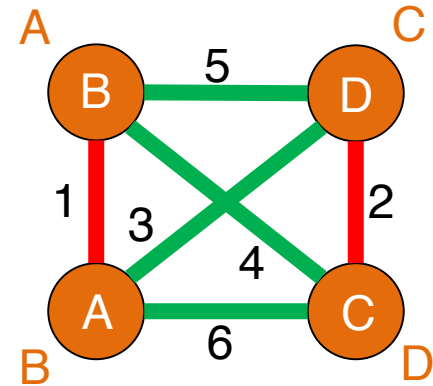
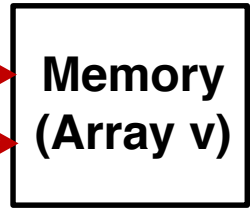
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```

} structural hazards  
} (memory ports)



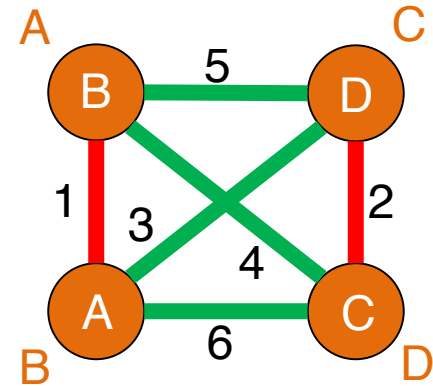
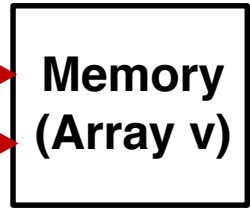
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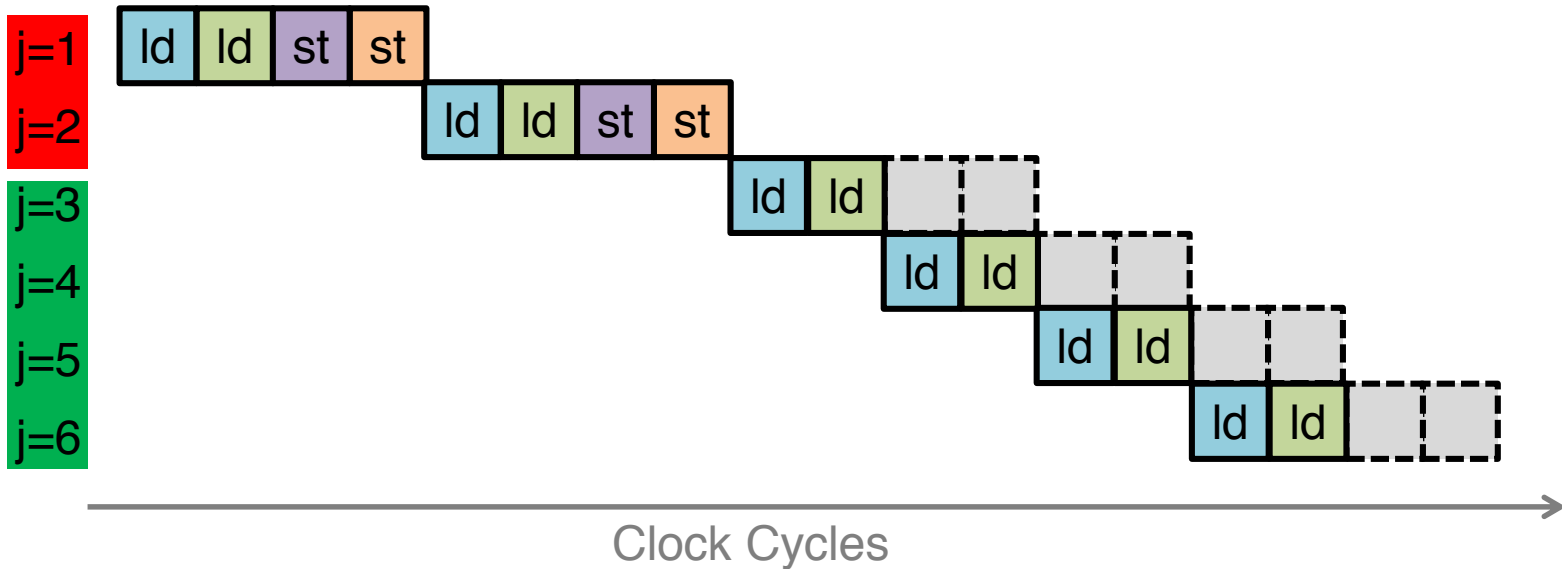
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Data hazards  
(read-after-write)

structural hazards  
(memory ports)





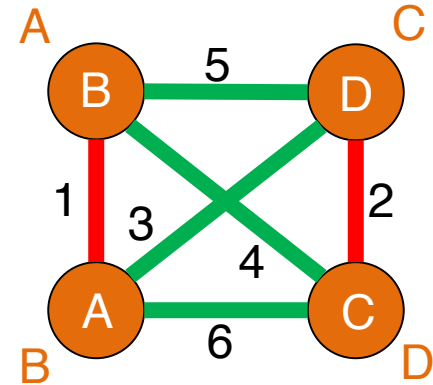
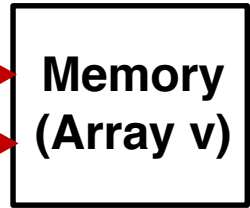
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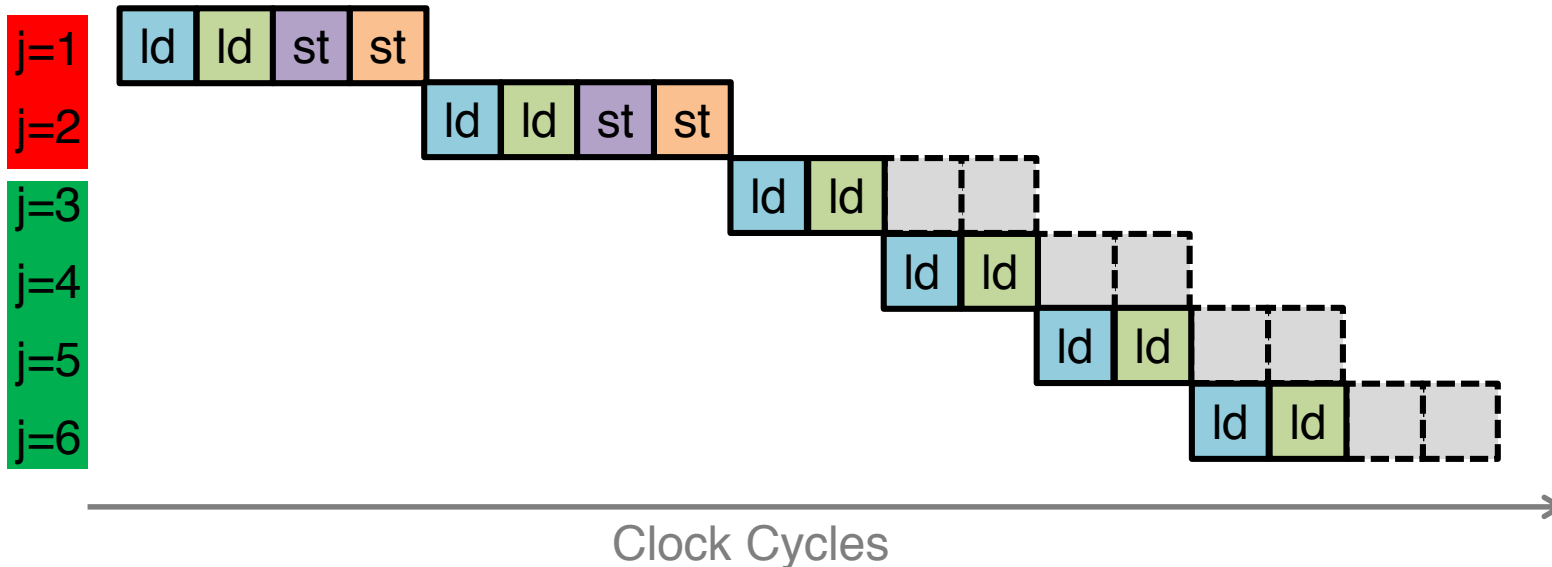
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Occur infrequently

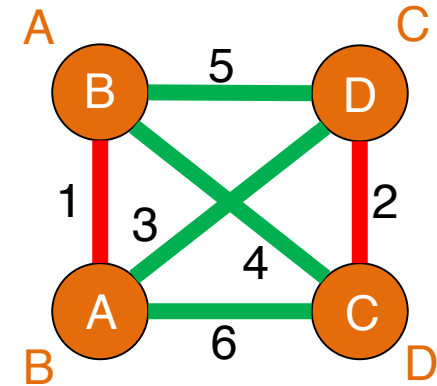
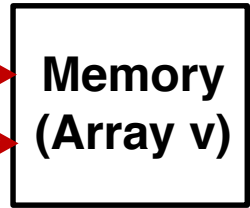


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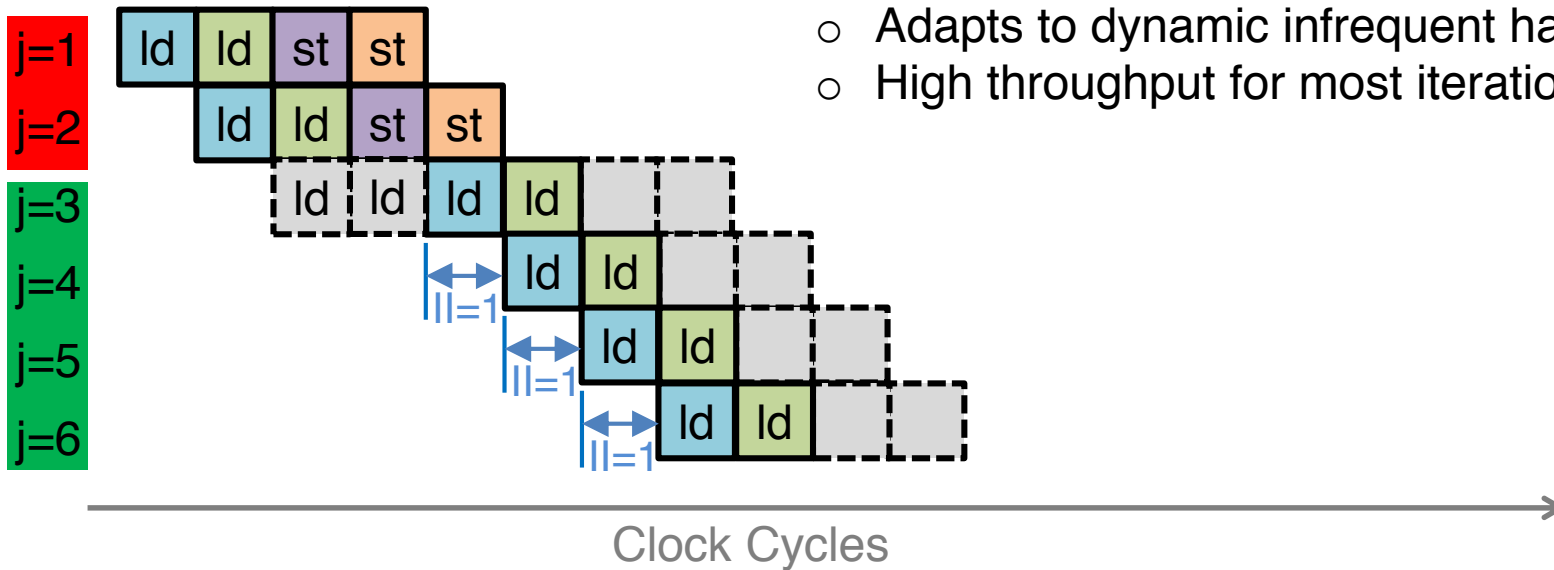
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## Optimal Schedule

- Adapts to dynamic infrequent hazards
- High throughput for most iterations



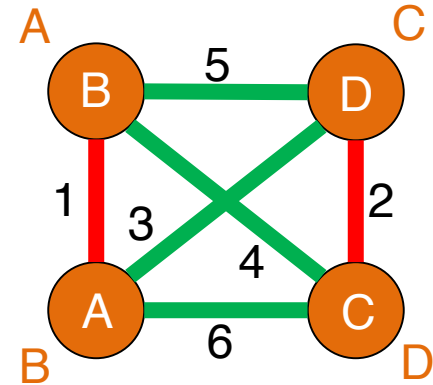
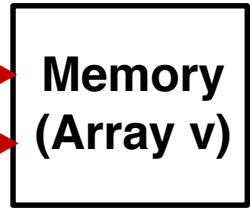
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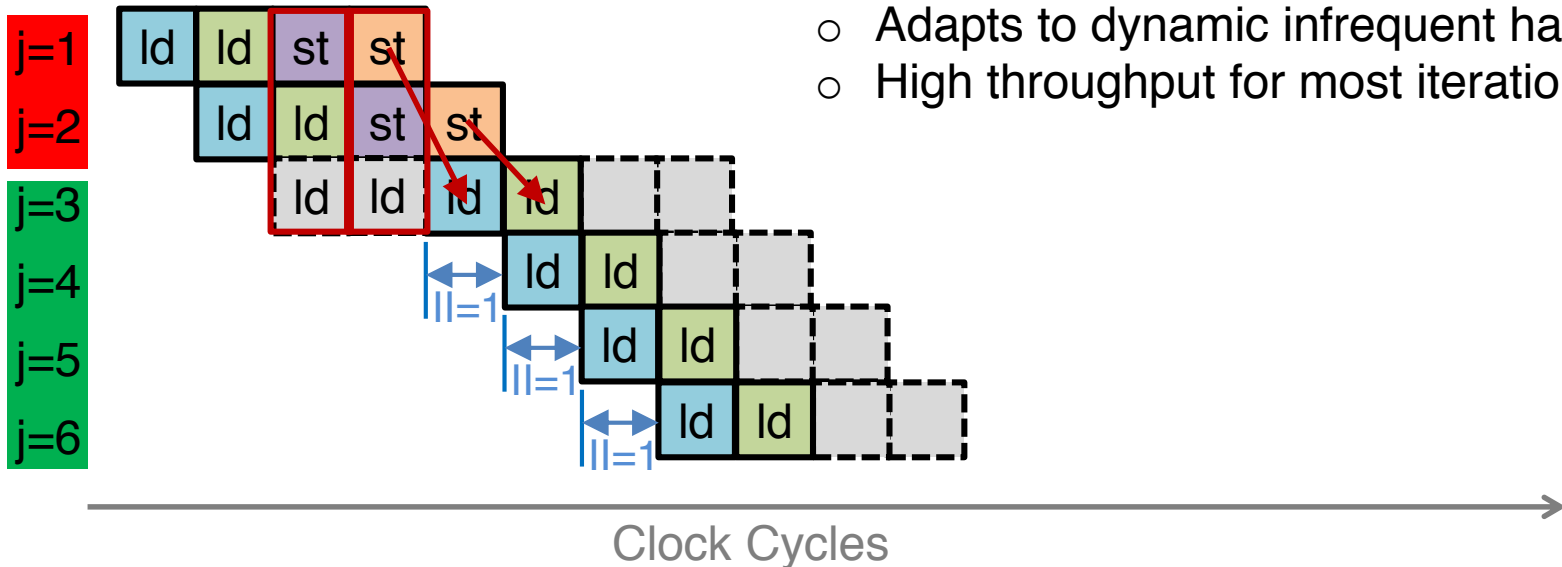
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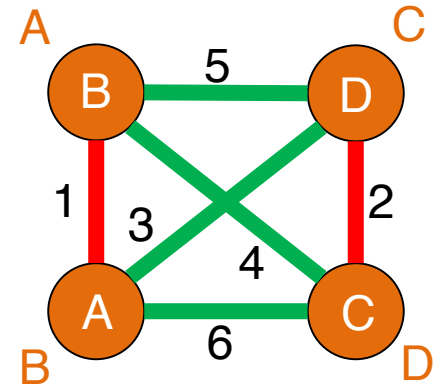
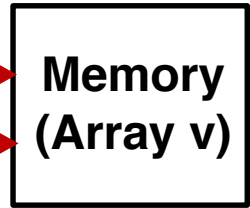
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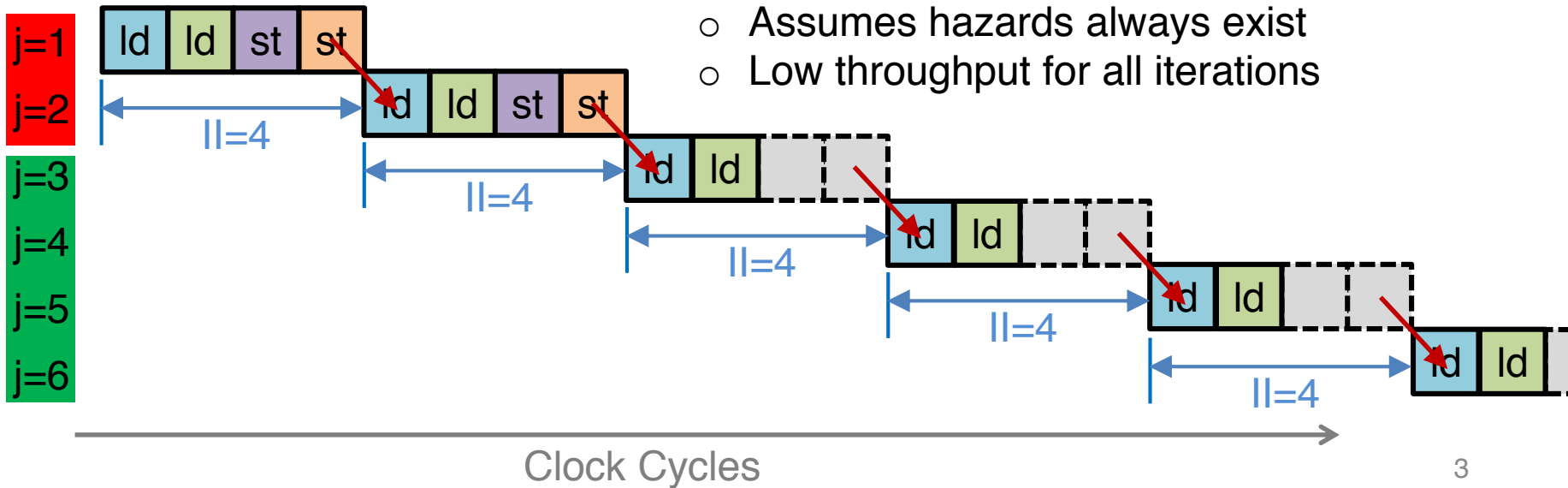
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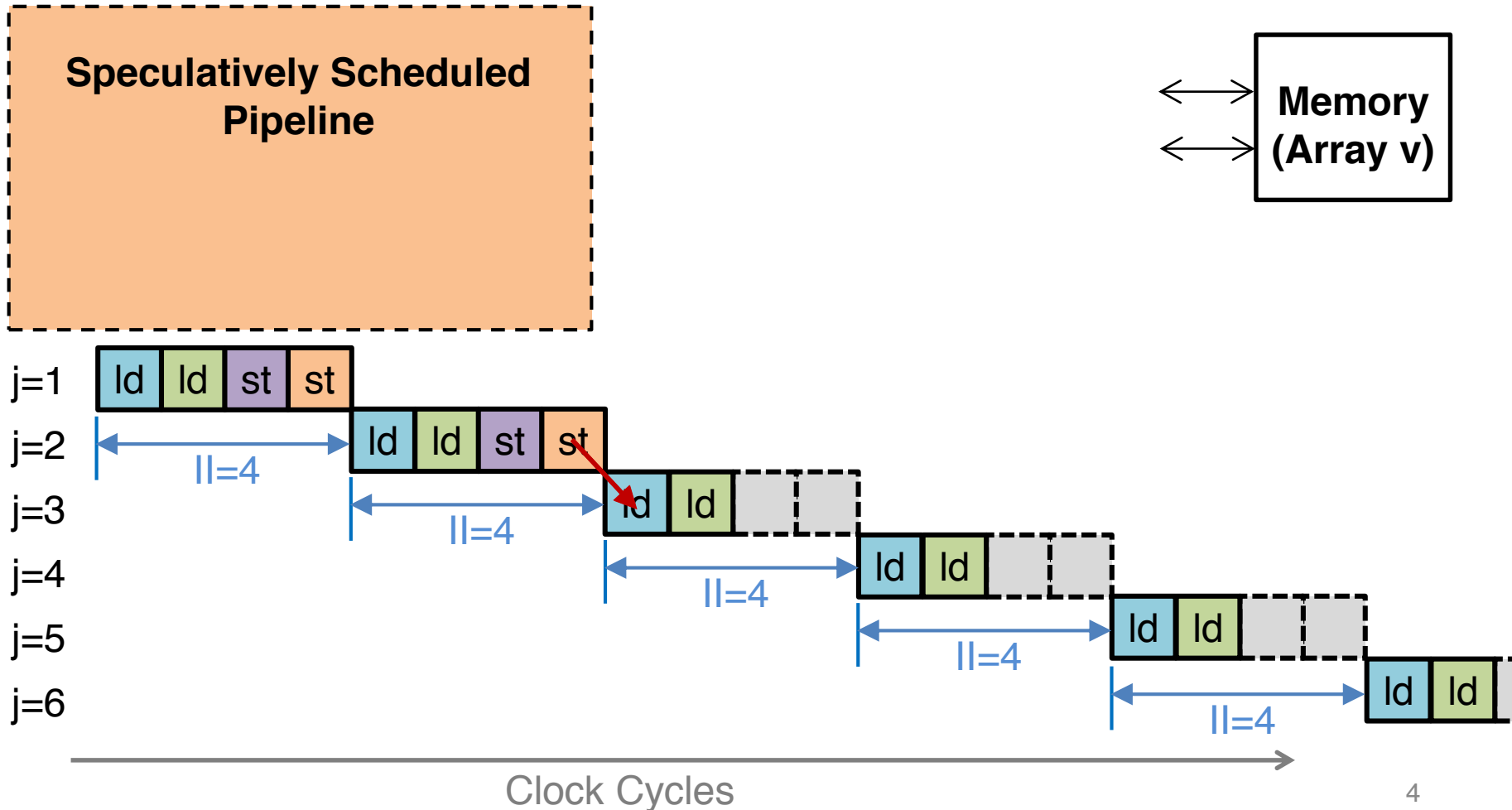
## Conventional HLS Schedule

- Assumes hazards always exist
- Low throughput for all iterations



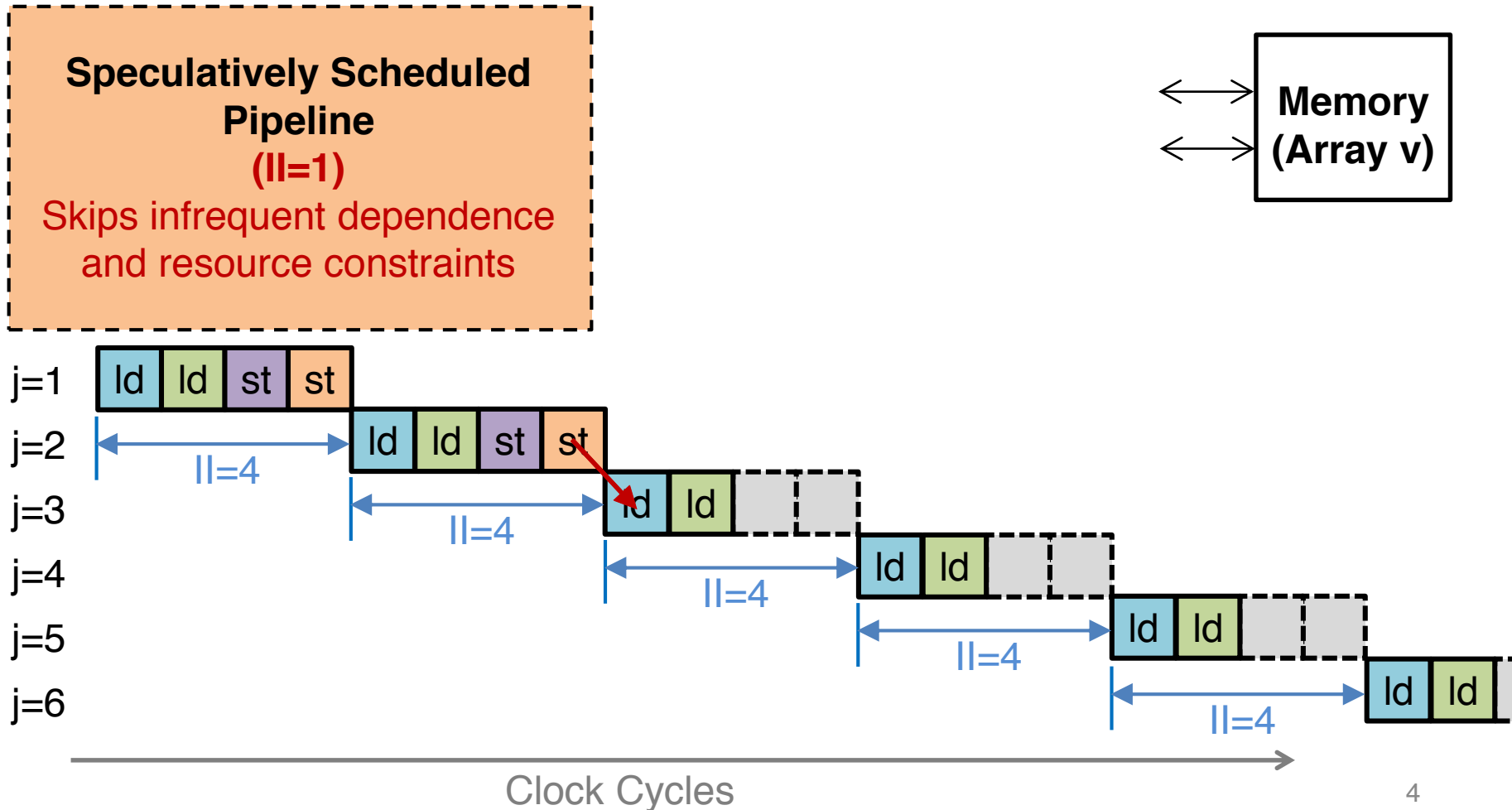
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- ▶ Create a speculative pipeline for common case and rely on hazard resolution units to resolve hazards at runtime



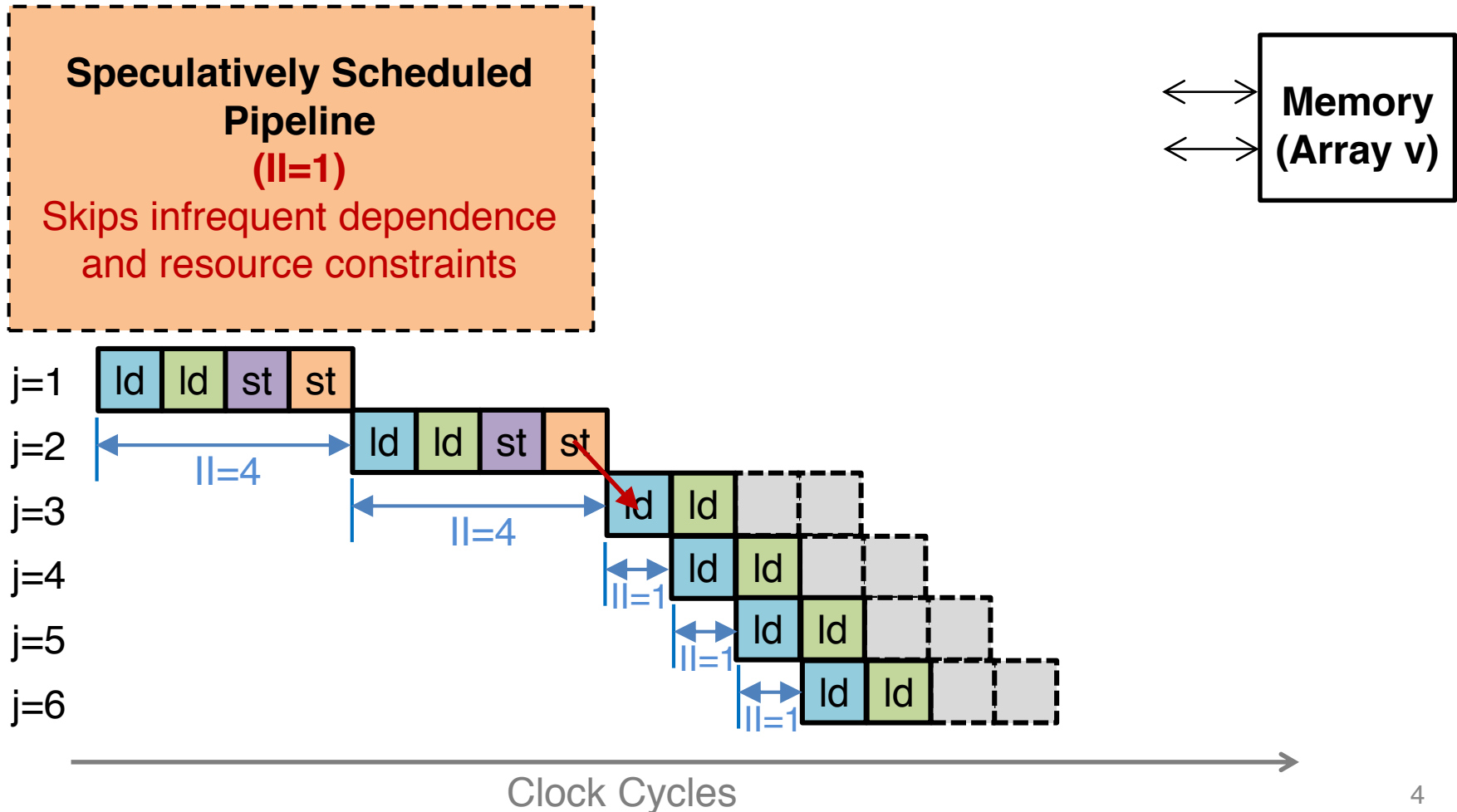
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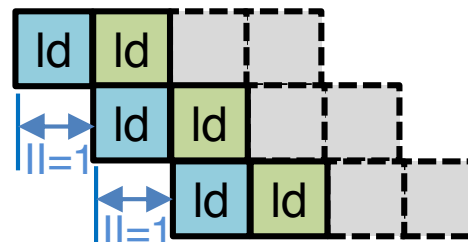
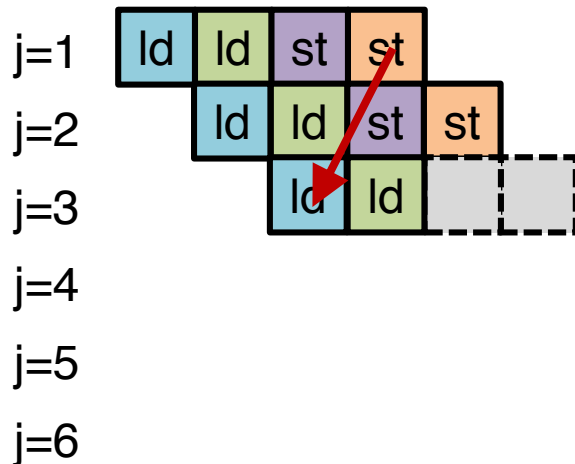
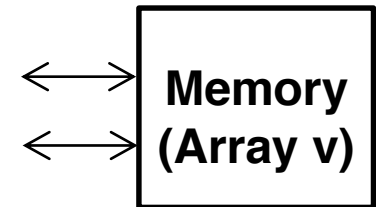
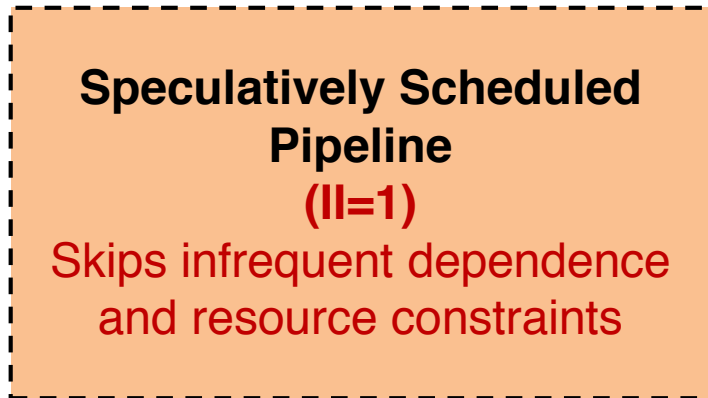
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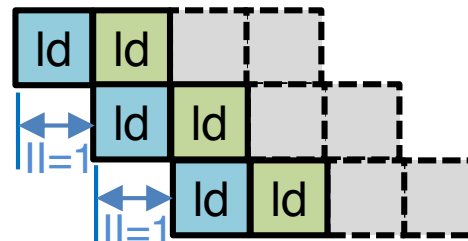
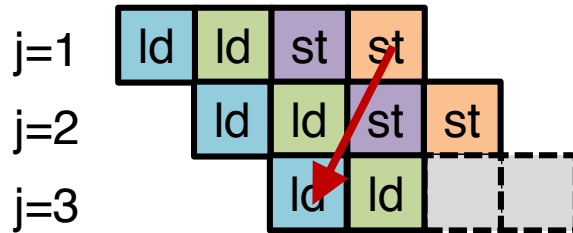
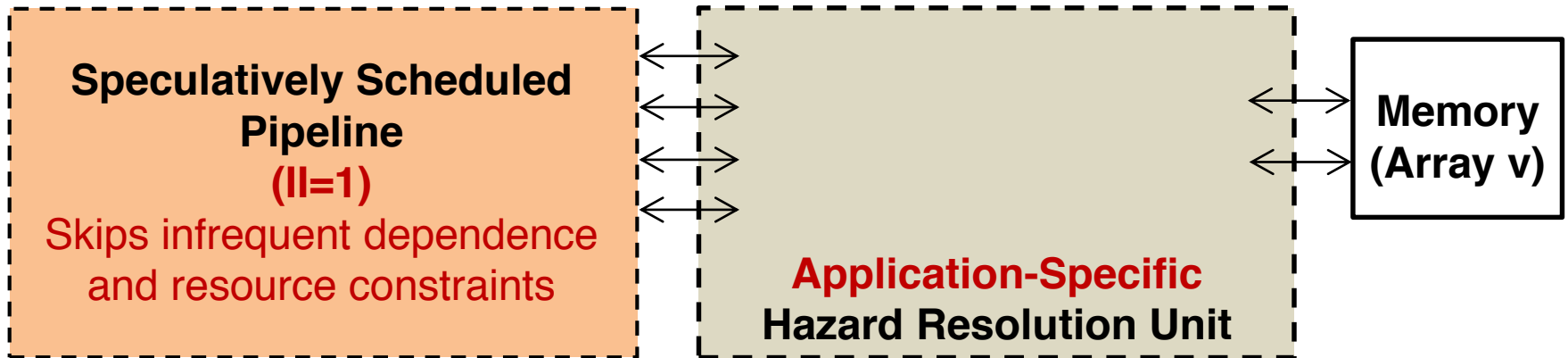


Clock Cycles



# Dynamic Hazard Resolution for HLS

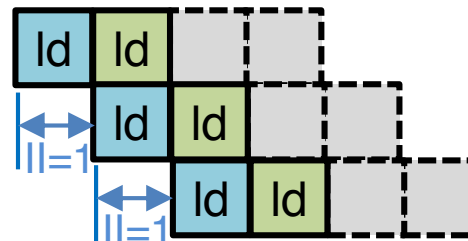
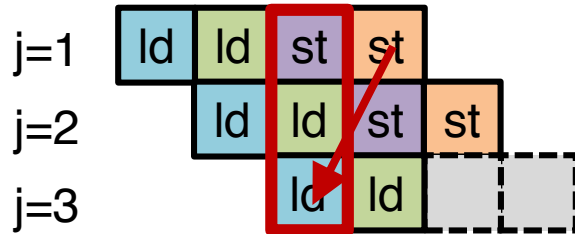
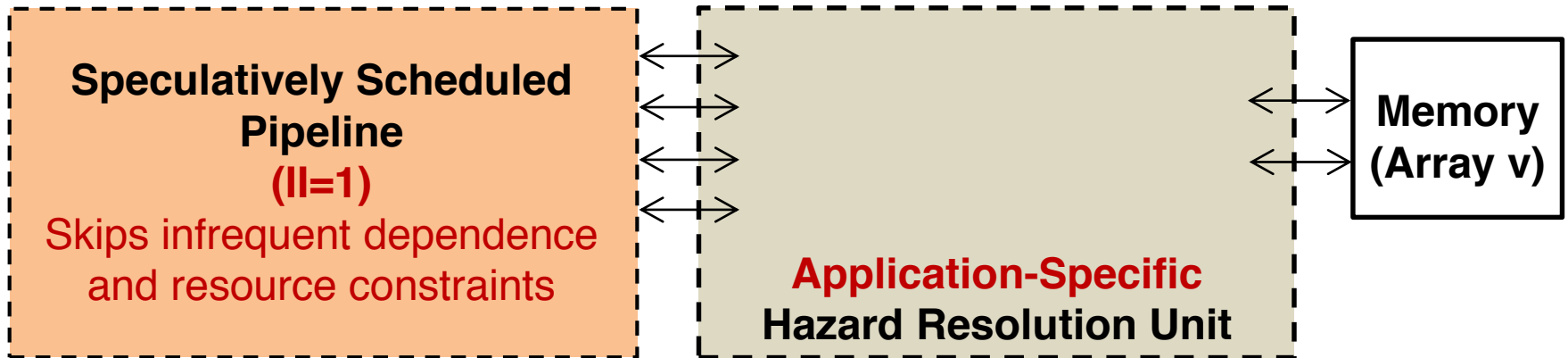
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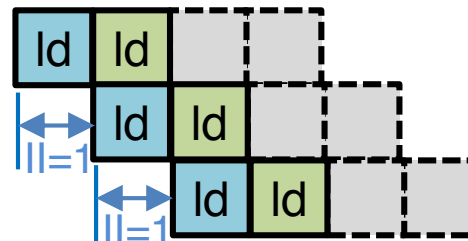
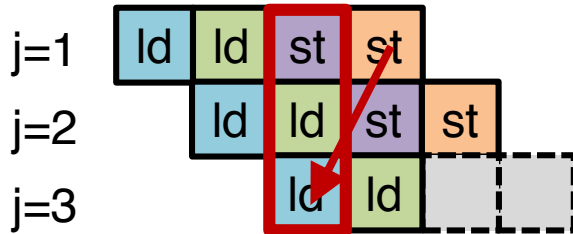
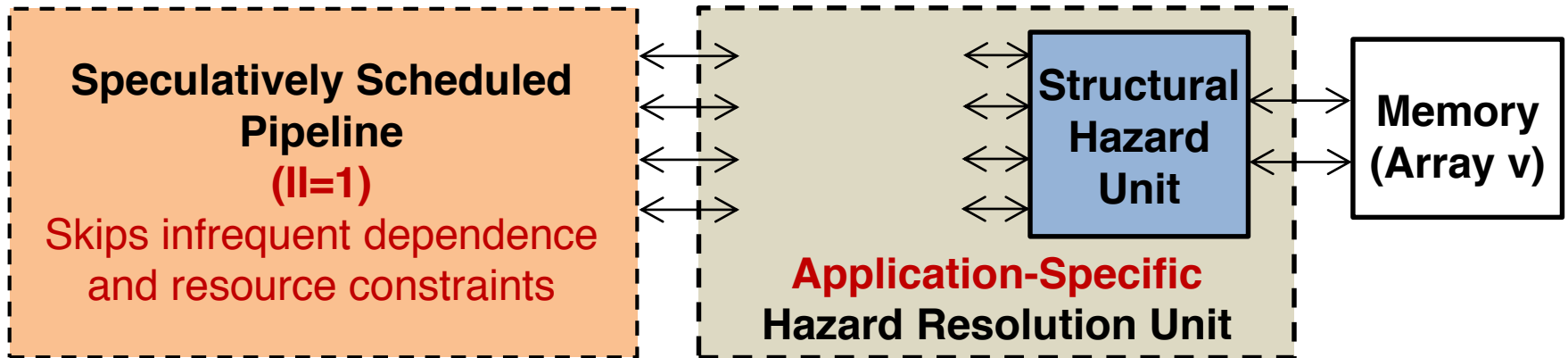
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Clock Cycles

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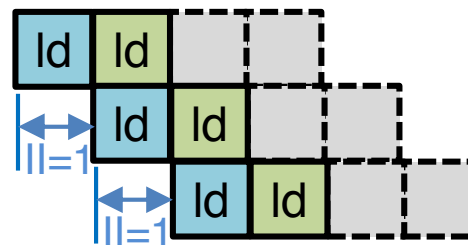
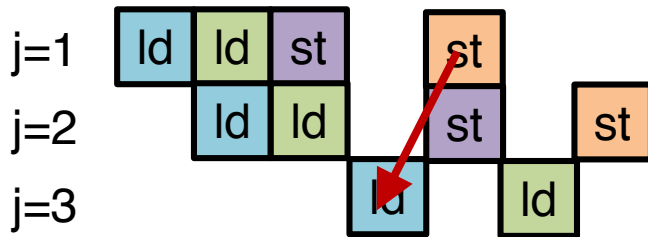
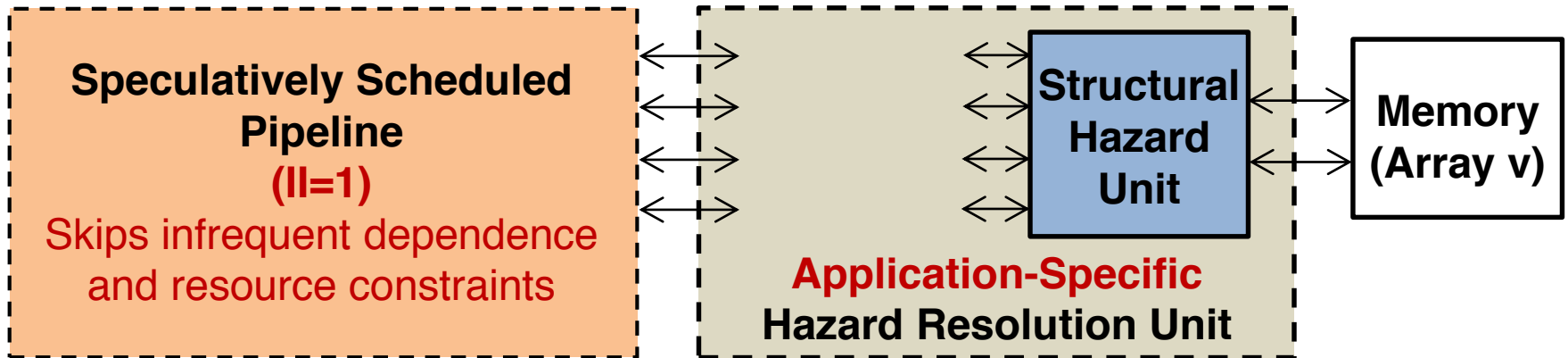
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Clock Cycles

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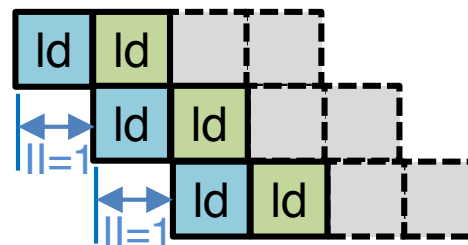
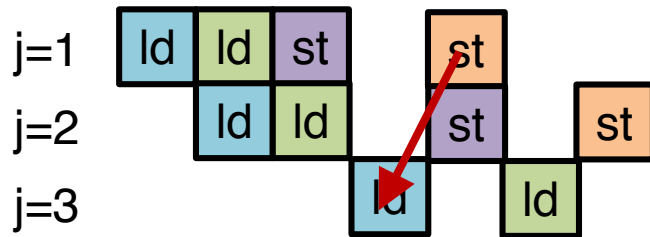
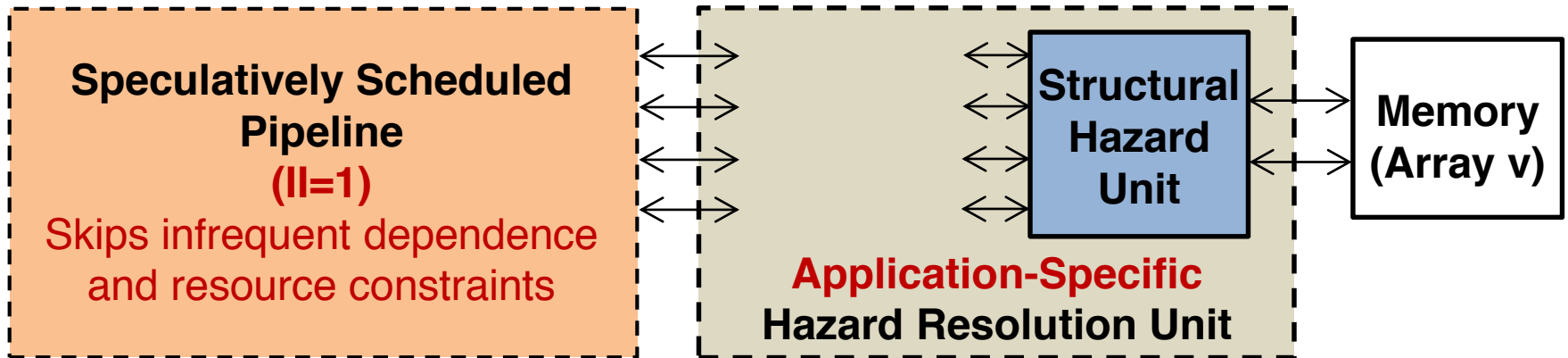
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Clock Cycles

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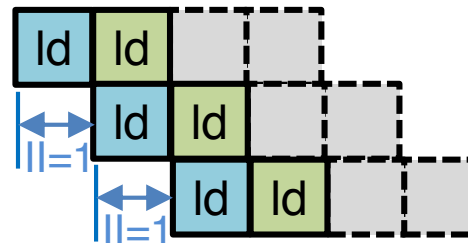
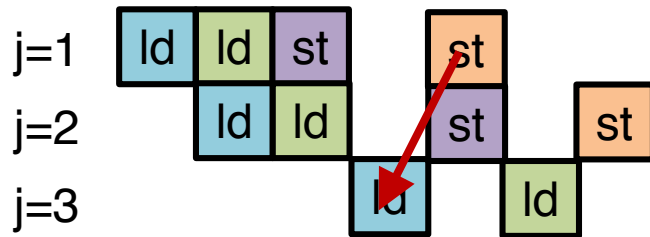
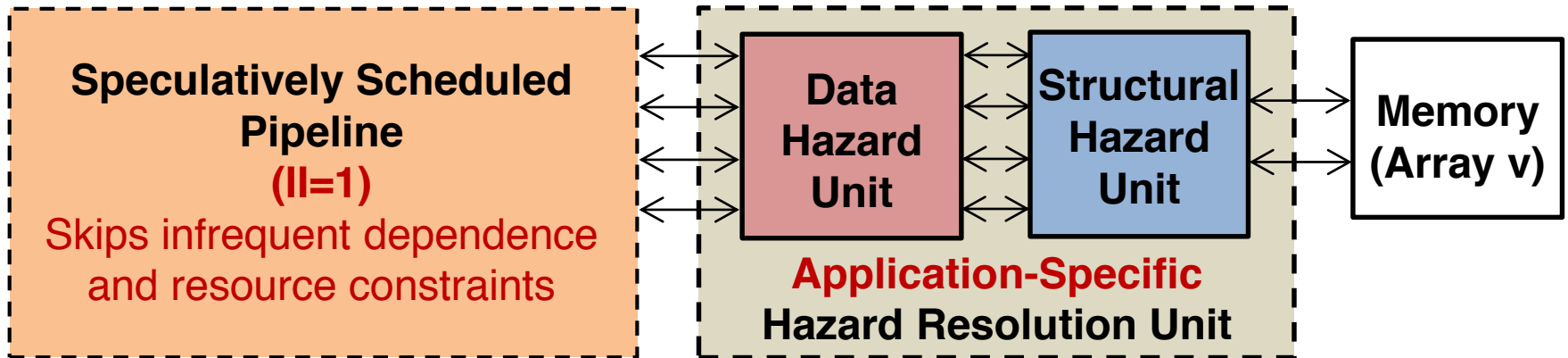
- ▶ Create a speculative pipeline for common case and rely on hazard resolution units to resolve hazards at runtime



Clock Cycles

# Dynamic Hazard Resolution for HLS

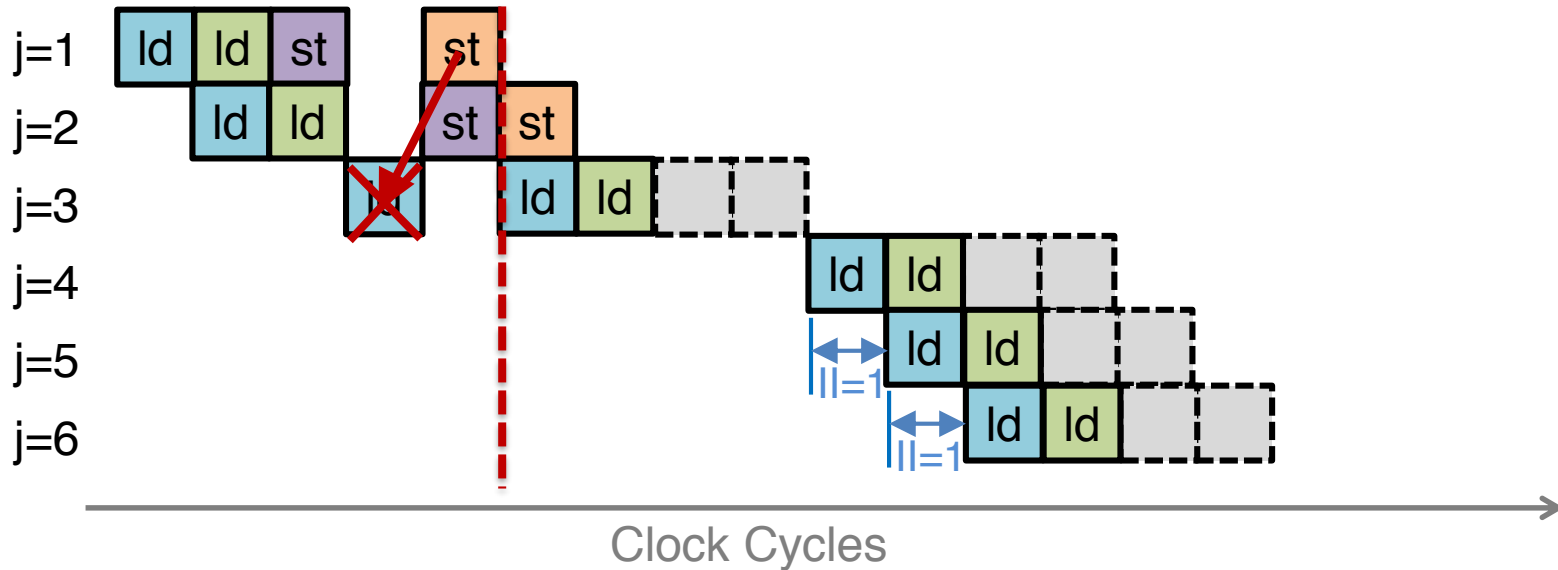
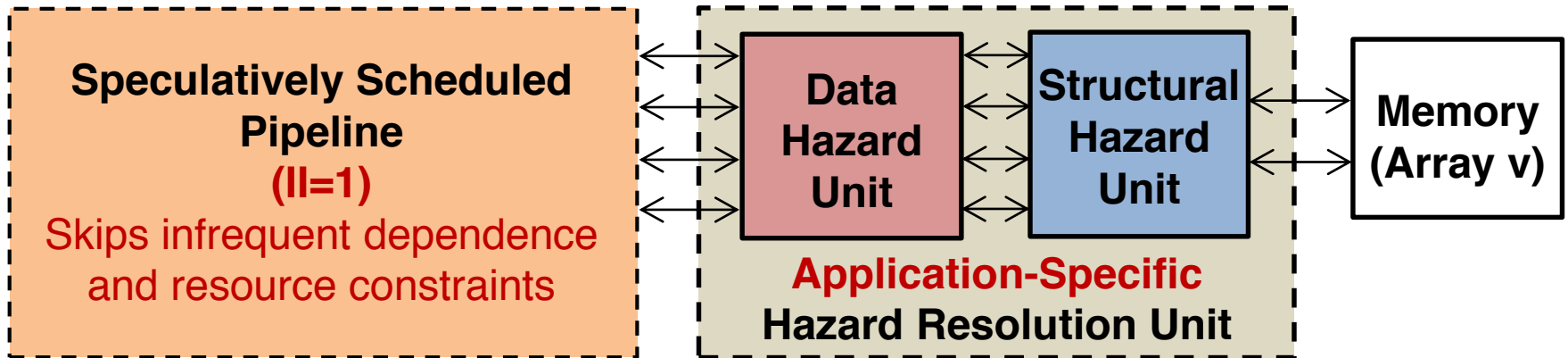
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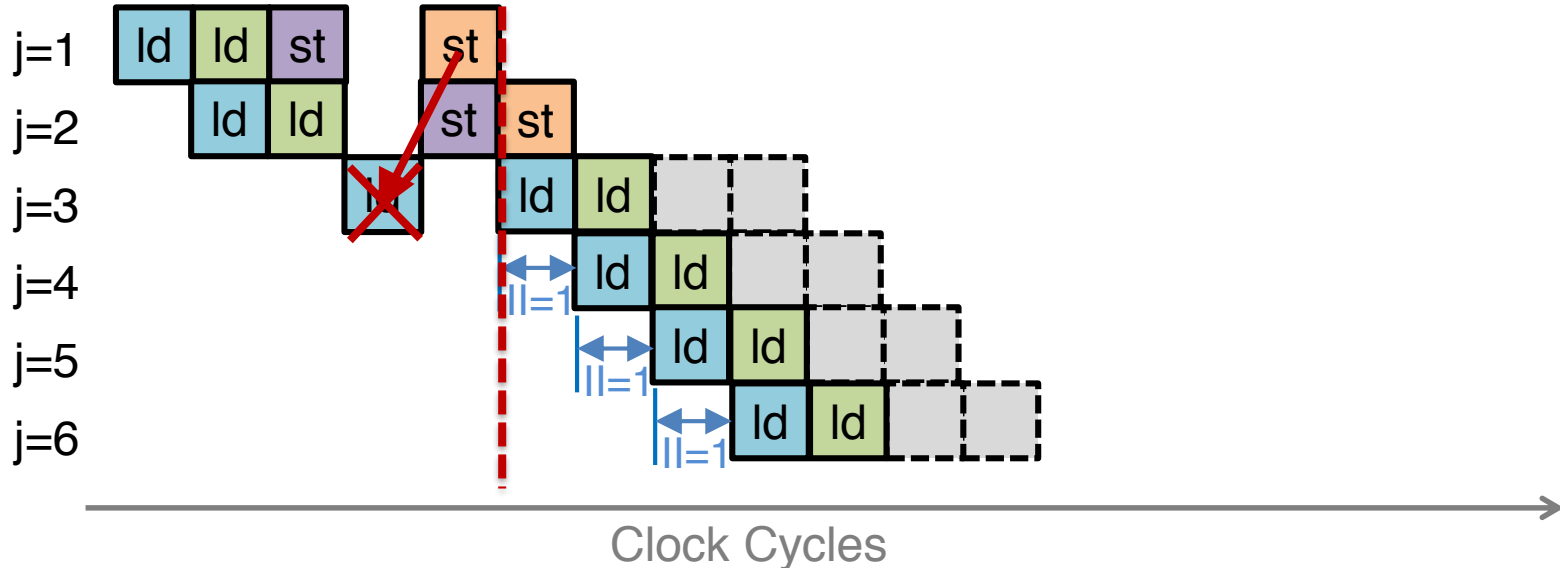
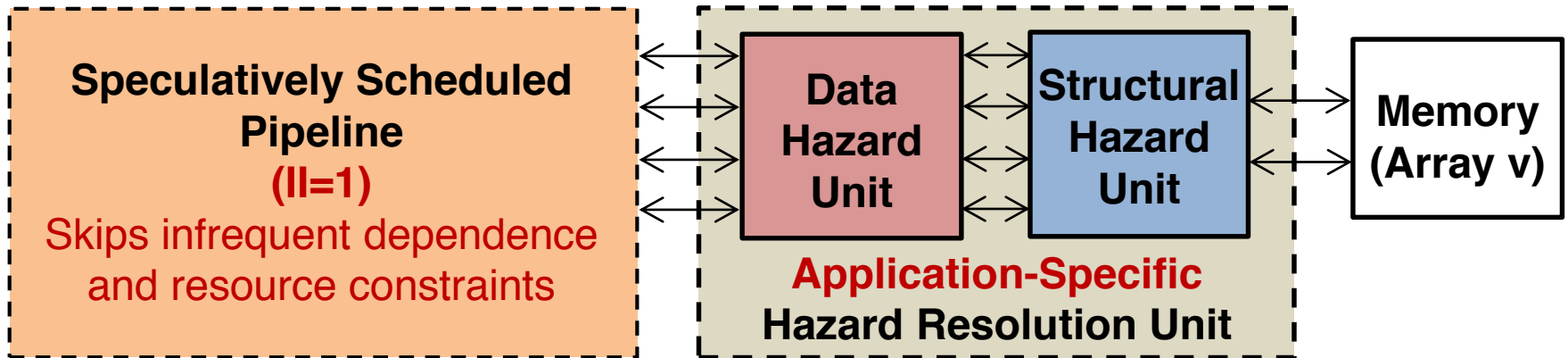
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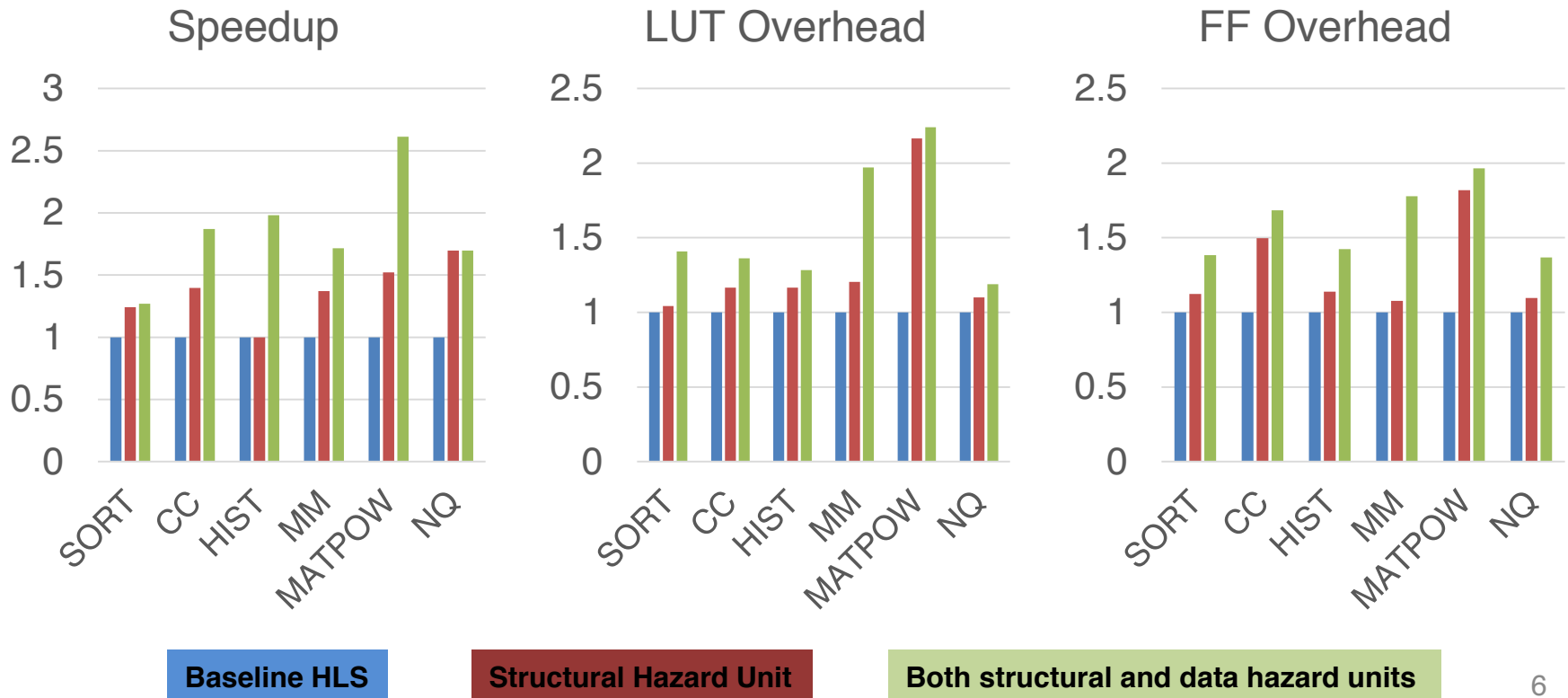
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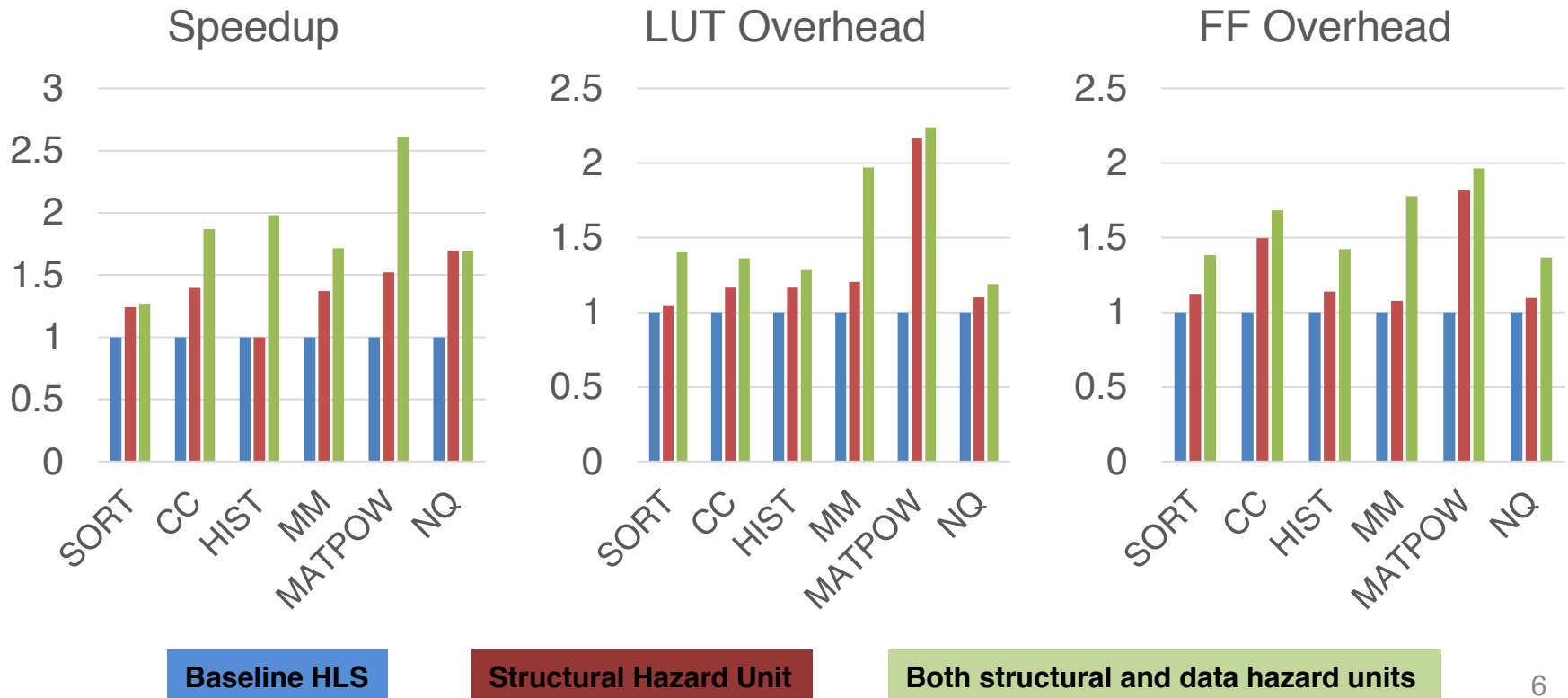
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- ▶ Significant speedup with reasonable area overhead
  - Amount of speedup depends on input pattern, data access pattern, and available memory bandwidth
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