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Today's Goal:

- Overview of this class
 - Grading, Outline, etc
- Introduction to Parallel Computer Architecture
- Basic Terminology
- Introduction to Parallelism

Grading • Assignments

- Krerk: Experiments/Assignments 10%
- Natawut: Benchmarks Lab 10%
- Veera: Programming Lab 20%
- Midterm 25%
- Final 35%

4

2



Why Parallel Computing?

- A large problem can be divided into several smaller problems, which can then be solved concurrently.
- Have been used for many years, mainly in highperformance computing.
- Why it is more interesting now?
 - physical constraints of frequency scaling (e.g. power wall)
 - emerging of parallel scaling
- Cheaper (comparing to SuperComputer)

About performance

Given

• Execution Time = #Instructions x CPI x Cycle Time

• How does parallel computing make it faster?

8









What is SuperScalar?

- Common instructions (arithmetic, load/store, conditional branch) can be initiated and executed independently
- Equally applicable to RISC & CISC
- In practice usually RISC



18



