High Performance Multiprocessor System

Requirements :

- Large Number of Processors (4)

- Large WriteBack Caches for Each Processor
. Less Bus Traffic => Higher Performance

- Large Shared Main Memories (128MB - 1GB)

MIPS ARCHITECTURE MEETS THESE REQUIREMENTS

RESULT : RISC PROCESSOR IN MOST MP SYSTEMS SHIPPED TODAY

- Ardent, Fermi, RC, SGI are announced

- Several designs yet to announce

MIPS MULTIPROCESSOR SUPPORT

-ARCHITECTURAL SUPPORT

- **PHYSICAL CACHE**
- **ARCHITECTURAL PARTITIONING WELL SUITED FOR MP**
  - **ON-CHIP CACHE CONTROL AND MMU**
  - **OFF-CHIP SEAMLESS FP**
- **TOTAL 128 K BYTE CACHE PER PROCESSOR**

-R3000HARDWARE SUPPORT FOR CACHE COHERENCE

Snooper watches Bus transactions

If Address matches with any cache entry:

MP_STALL STALLS THE PROCESSOR

MP _INVALIDATE SIGNAL CAUSES CPU TO WRITE THE CACHE LOCATION AS INVALID.

LOW COST DESIGN

- DUPLICATE TAG RAMS FOR SNOOPING

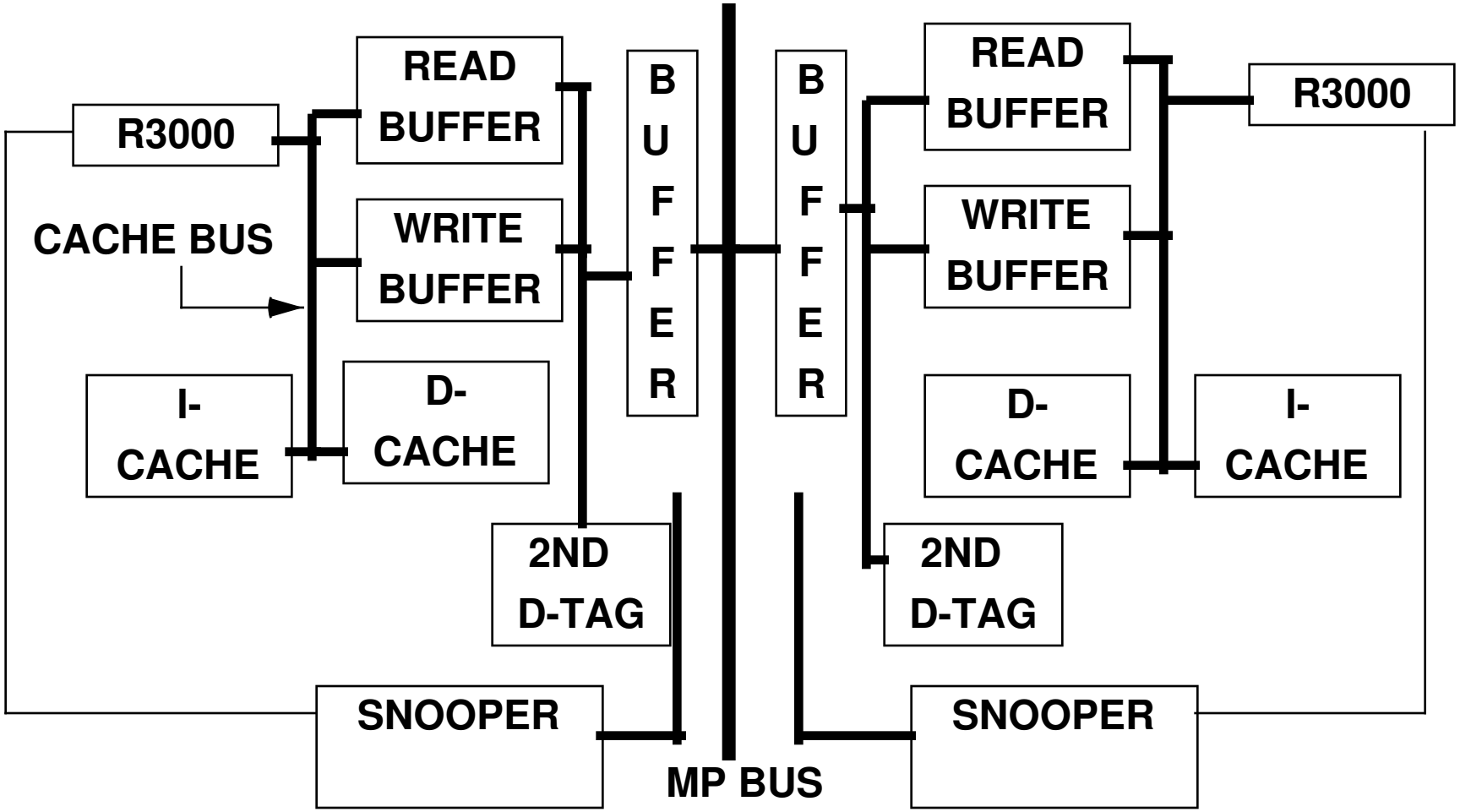
- WRITE THROUGH CACHES

- SNOOPER COMPARES WRITE ADDRESSES IN DUPLICATE TAG

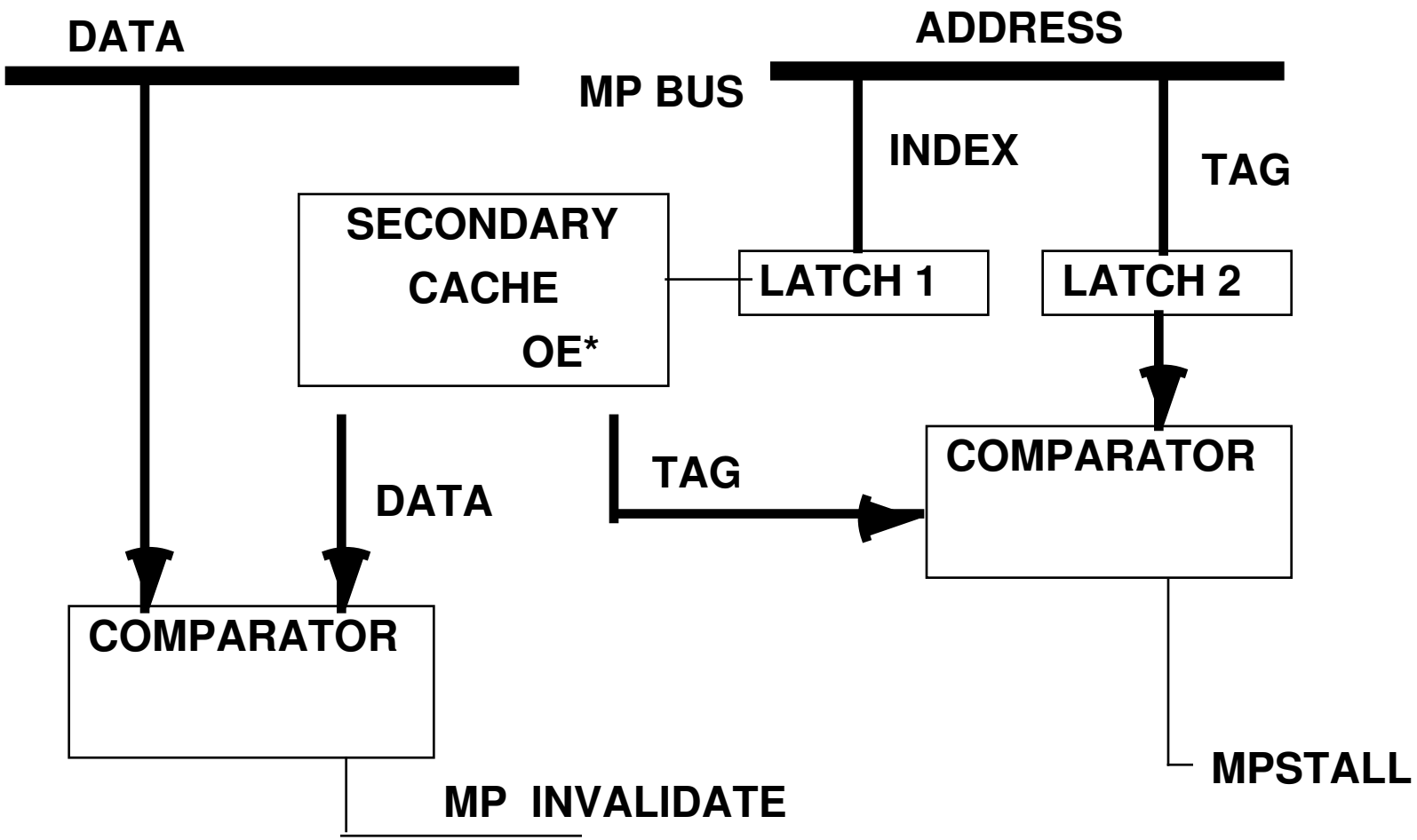
- IF MATCHES , MP_STALL ASSERTED

- ENTRY INVALIDATED FOR THAT ENTRY

MP DESIGN - 1


R3000
CACHE BUS
I-
CACHE
READ
BUFFER
WRITE
BUFFER
D-
CACHE
2ND
D-TAG
SNOOPER
B
U
F
F
E
R
B
U
F
F
E
R
MP BUS
READ
BUFFER
WRITE
BUFFER
D-
CACHE
2ND
D-TAG
SNOOPER
R3000
I-
CACHE

SNOOPER LOGIC



HIGH PERFORMANCE MP DESIGN

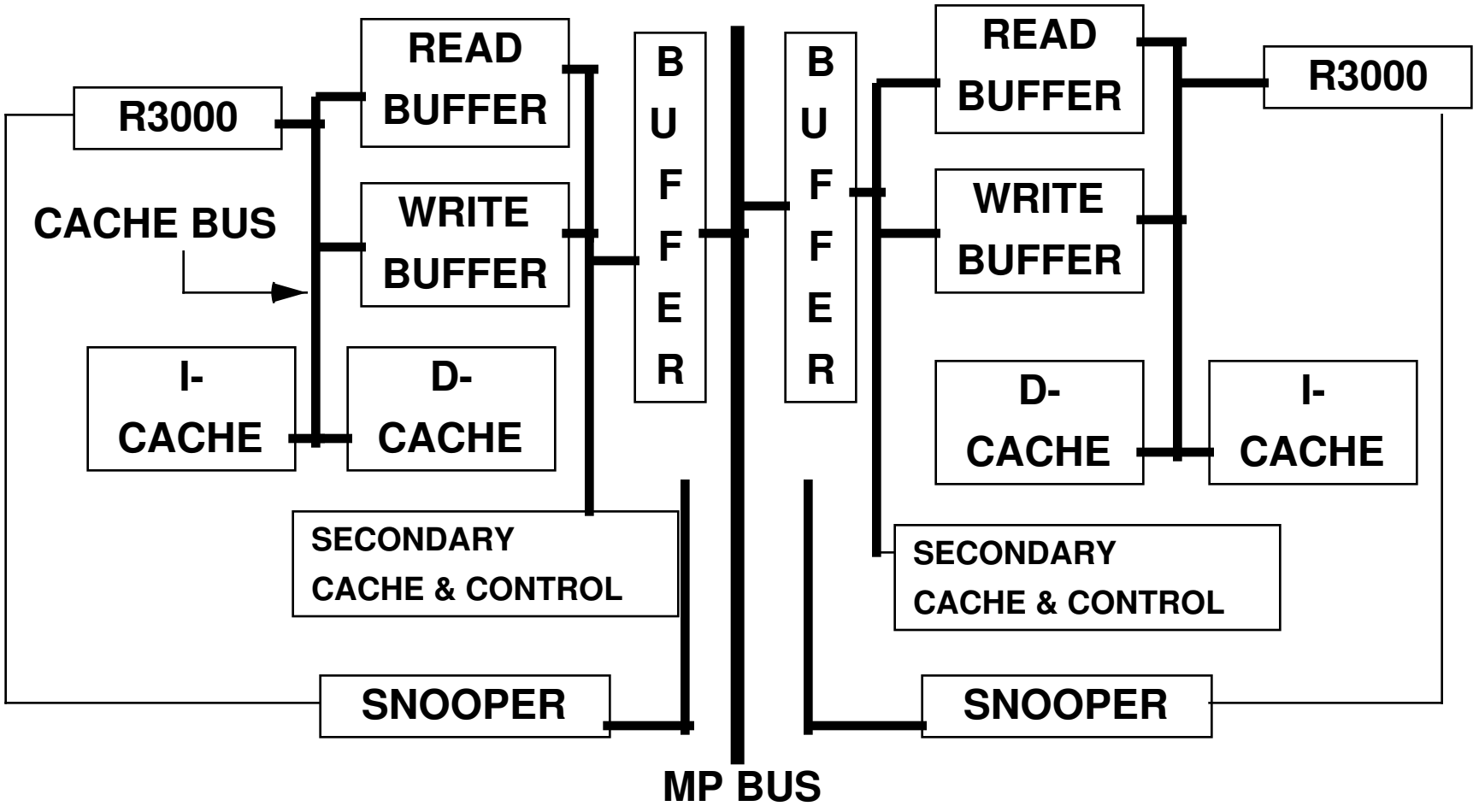
- TWO LEVELS OF CACHE

- WRITE THROUGH PRIMARY

- WRITE BACK SECONDARY

- EXTERNAL WRITE BACK LOGIC AND SNOOP CONTROL

MP DESIGN - 2


R3000
READ BUFFER
WRITE BUFFER
CACHE BUS
I-CACHE
D-CACHE
SECONDARY CACHE & CONTROL
SNOOPER
BUFFER
BUFFER
READ BUFFER
WRITE BUFFER
R3000
D-CACHE
I-CACHE
SECONDARY CACHE & CONTROL
SNOOPER
MP BUS

WRITE BACK LOGIC

EACH BLOCK IN SECONDARY CACHE IN ONE OF 4 STATES :

INVALID : NO DATA
VALID : CLEAN, POTENTIALLY SHARED
RESERVED : WRITTEN JUST ONCE , WRITTEN THROUGH'D TO MAIN MEMORY AND ONLY COPY IN ANY CACHE
DIRTY : WRITTEN MORE THAN ONCE AND ONLY COPY IN ANY CACHE

READ MISS :
IF SNOOP CONTROLLERS FIND THE BLOCK IN ANOTHER CACHE
THEN
IF STATE == DIRTY
THEN 1. SUPPLY THE DATA
2. WRITE TO MEMORY
3. CHANGE STATE TO VALID
IF STATE == RESERVED
THEN 1. SUPPLY THE DATA
2. CHANGE STATE TO VALID
IF STATE == VALID
THEN SUPPLY THE DATA
ELSE READ FROM MEMORY

WRITE HIT :
IF STATE == DIRTY, THEN WRITE TO CACHE
IF STATE == RESERVED
THEN 1. WRITE TO CACHE
2. CHANGE STATE TO DIRTY
IF STATE == VALID
THEN 1. WRITE THROUGH TO MAIN MEMORY
2. CHANGE STATE TO RESERVED
SNOOP CONTROLLERS FOR OTHER CACHES:
IF THE ENTRY MATCHES, INVALIDATE THE CACHE

WRITE MISS :
IF SNOOP CONTROLLER FINDS A COPY IN ANOTHER CACHE
THEN
IF STATE == DIRTY
THEN 1. SUPPLY THE DATA TO THE CACHE
2. INVALIDATATES ITS COPY
3. AFTER LOADING THE BLOCK, CHANGE STATE TO DIRTY
ELSE LOAD THE BLOCK FROM MEMORY AND
CHANGE STATE TO DIRTY
SNOOP CONTROLLERS FOR OTHER CACHES , IF FIND THE COPY, INVALIDATES THE BLOCK

MP DESIGN - 2 SECOND LEVEL CACHE DESIGN

1. ASSUME FIRST LEVEL CACHE IS WRITE THRU AND SECOND LEVEL CACHE IS WRITE BACK

2. BOTH FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL CACHES ARE PHYSICALLY ADDRESSED (NO REVERSE TRANSLATION NEEDED)

3. MAIN MEMORY READS AND WRITES ALWAYS GO THROUGH THE SECOND LEVEL CACHE (NOT THE WRITE BUFFERS)

4. FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL CACHES MAINTAIN COHERENCY. FIRST LEVEL CACHE IS A SUBSET OF THE SECOND LEVEL CACHE

5. PROCESSOR GETS DATA FROM THE FASTER FIRST LEVEL CACHE IF IT HITS

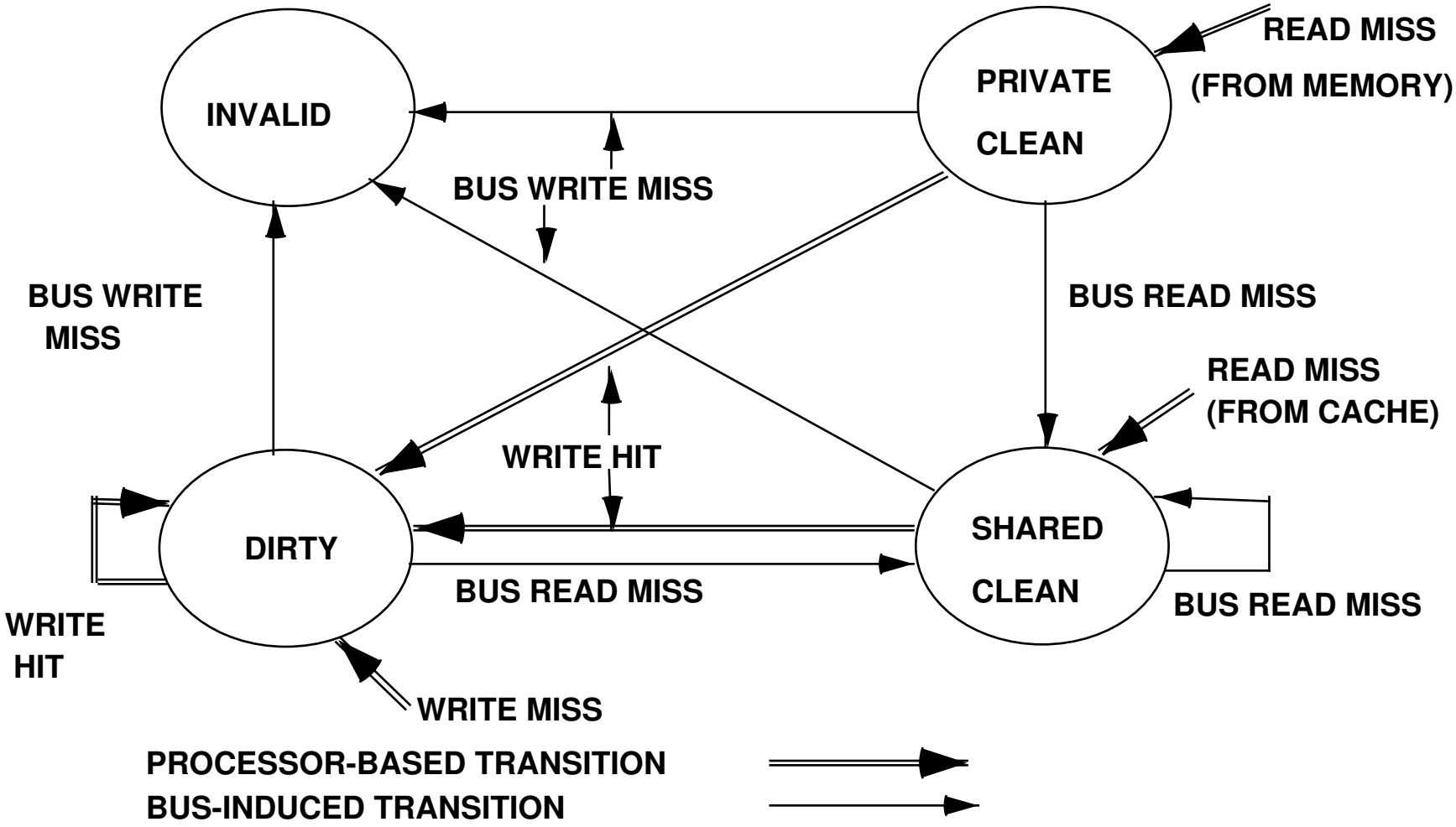
MP DESIGN - 2 CACHE COHERENCY PROTOCOL

- **THE ILLINOIS SCHEME IS USED - WRITE INVALIDATE**

- **FIRST LEVEL CACHE HAS 2 STATES**
  VALID, INVALID

- **SECOND LEVEL CACHE HAS 4 STATES**
  INVALID
  PRIVATE CLEAN (UNMODIFIED, ONLY COPY)
  SHARED CLEAN (UNMODIFIED, POSSIBLY OTHER COPIES)
  DIRTY (MODIFIED, ONLY COPY, WRITE BACK TO MAIN MEMORY)

ILLINOIS SCHEME STATE DIAGRAM



ESTIMATED PARTS LIST

READ BUFFER : FCT374A

WRITE BUFFER : MIPS R3020 OR FCT521 FIFO'S FROM IDT

PRIMARY I & D CACHE : 64K X 1

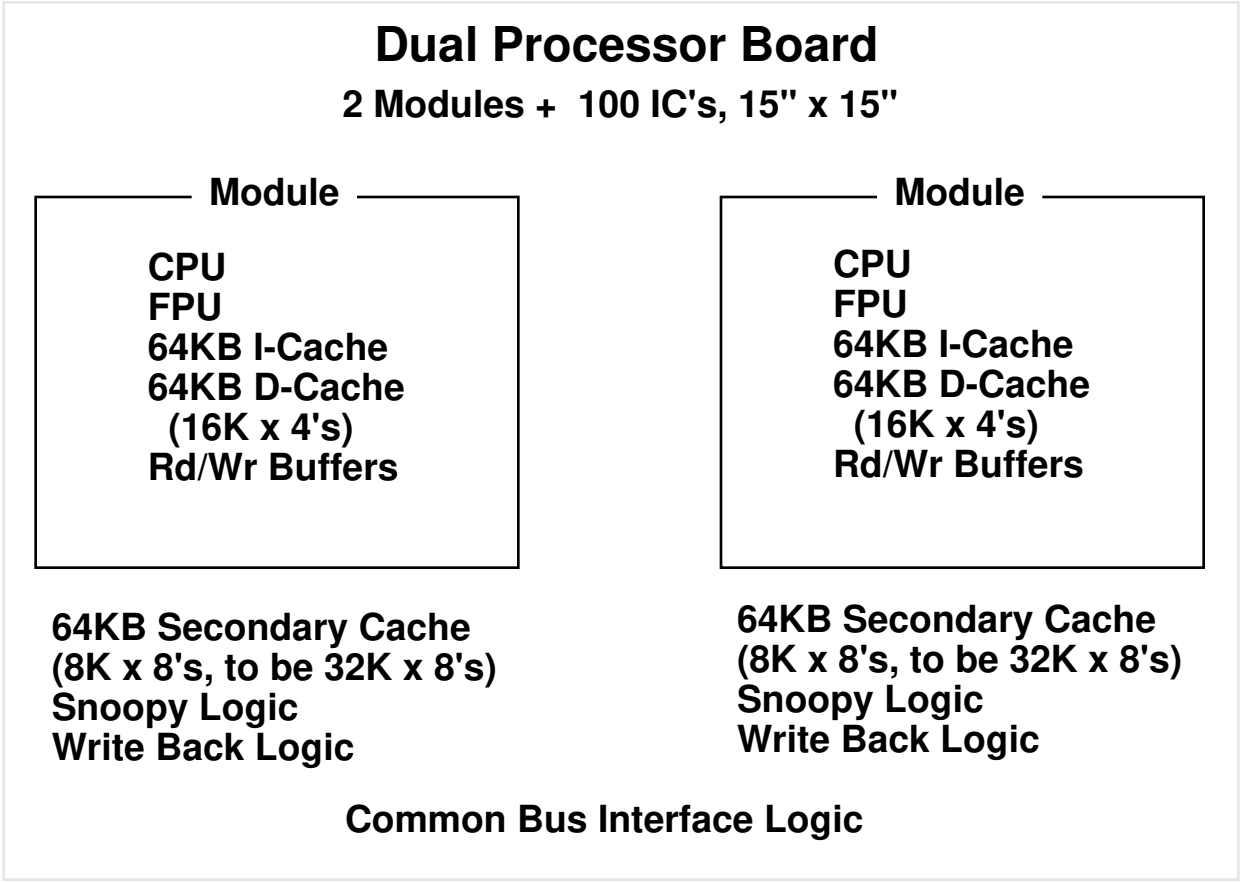
SECONDARY D CACHE : 8K X 8

WRITE BACK LOGIC : APPROX 10 PALS

SNOOPER LOGIC : 1 BUFFER
1 COMPARATOR
2 PALS

APPROXIMATE BOARD SPACE : 100 Square inches per processor module

Multiprocessor System Shipping Today



MIPS MULTIPROCESSOR SUMMARY

- **MINIMUM LOGIC NEEDED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT WITHOUT PENALIZING UNIPROCESSORS.**

- **EXISTENCE PROOF: MP SYSTEMS SHIPPING TODAY BY MULTIPLE VENDORS.**

- **ARCHITECTURAL AND HARDWARE SUPPORT:**
  - **PHYSICAL CACHE, USEFUL PARTITIONING, LARGE CACHES PLUS...**
  - **TWO SIGNALS ALLOW THE CPU TO CONTROL THE CACHE AT HIGH CLOCK RATES & ALSO INVALIDATE WHEN SNOOPING DETECTS A HIT.**

- **FLEXIBLE MP SYSTEM CONFIGURATIONS:**
  - **SUPPORTS MINIMUM SYSTEM WITH DUPLICATE TAGS AND LARGE SYSTEMS WITH SECONDARY CACHES.**