




Fundamentals of Microprocessor and Microcontroller

Dr. Farid Farahmand

Updated: 2/23/19



First Let's Review a Few BASIC
Things.....



Unsigned
Signed

Data Format (8-bit) (1 of 4)

- Unsigned Integers: All eight bits (Bit0 to Bit7) represent the magnitude of a number
 - Range 0 to FF in Hex and 0 to 255 in decimal

Unsigned

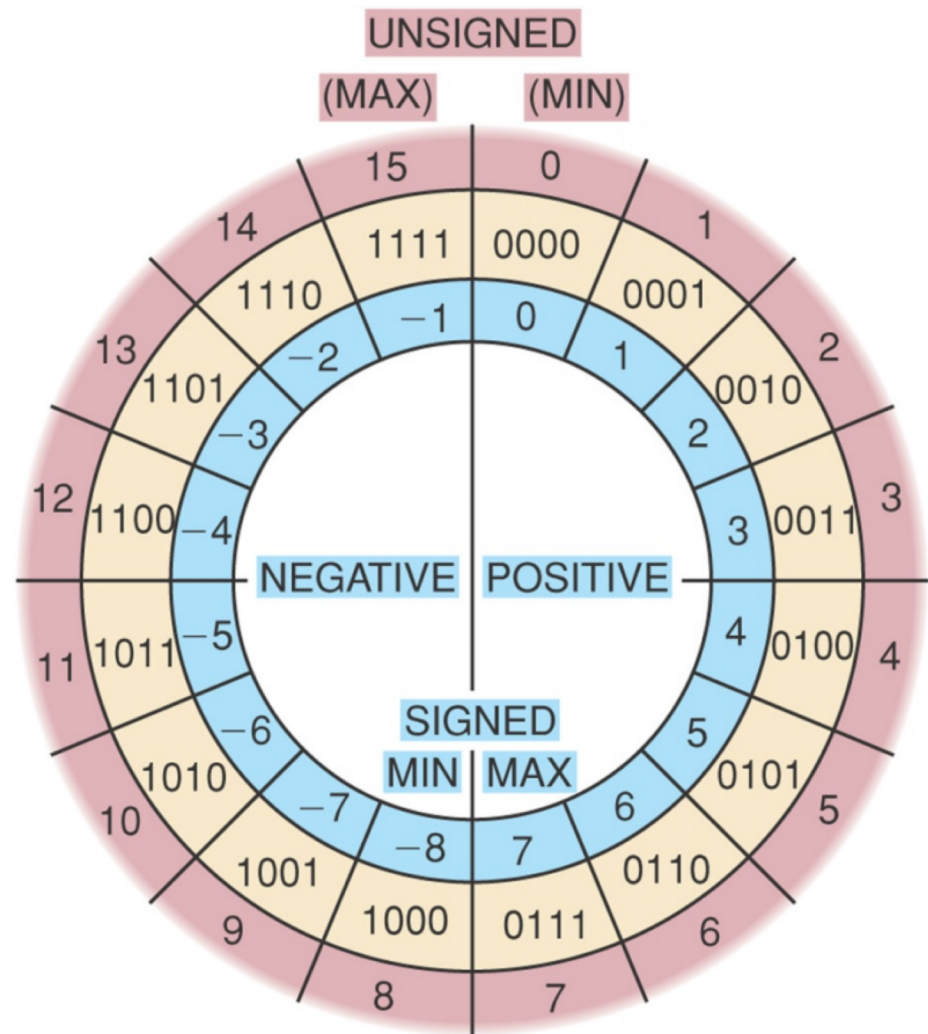
Signed

Data Format (8-bit) (2 of 4)

- Signed Integers: Seven bits (Bit0 to Bit6) represent the magnitude of a number.
 - The 8th bit (Bit7) represents the sign of a number. The number is positive when Bit7 is zero and negative when Bit7 is one.
 - **Positive** numbers: 0 to 7F (0 to 127)
 - **Negative** numbers: 80 to FF (-1 to -128)
 - All negative numbers are represented in **2's complement**

Representing NEG values using 2's complement

Integer Signed	2's Complement
7	0111
6	0110
5	0101
4	0100
3	0011
2	0010
1	0001
0	0000
-1	1111
-2	1110
-3	1101
-4	1100
-5	1011
-6	1010
-7	1001
-8	1000





Data Format (8-bit) (3 of 4)

- Binary Coded Decimal Numbers (BCD)

- 8 bits of a number divided into groups of four, and each group represents a **decimal** digit from 0 to 9
- Four-bit combinations from A through F in Hex are **invalid** in BCD numbers
 - Example: **0010 0101** represents the binary coding of the decimal number **25d** which is different in value from **25H**.



Data Format (8-bit) (4 of 4)

- American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII)
 - Seven-bit alphanumeric code with 128 combinations (00 to 7F)
 - Represents English alphabet, decimal digits from 0 to 9, symbols, and commands

See this for more information:

<http://web.sonoma.edu/users/f/farahman/sonoma/courses/es310/resources/Digital%20Arithmetic.pdf>



Evolution of Integrated Devices

- First came transistors
- Integrated circuits
 - SSI (**Small-Scale Integration**) to ULSI
 - Very Large Scale Integration circuits (VLSI)
- 1- Microprocessors (MPU)
 - Microcomputers (with CPU being a microprocessor)
 - Components: Memory, CPU, Peripherals (I/O)
 - Example: Personal computers
- 2- Microcontroller (MCU)
 - Microcomputers (with CPU being a microprocessor)
 - Many special function peripheral are integrated on a single circuit
 - Types: General Purpose or Embedded System (with special functionalities)



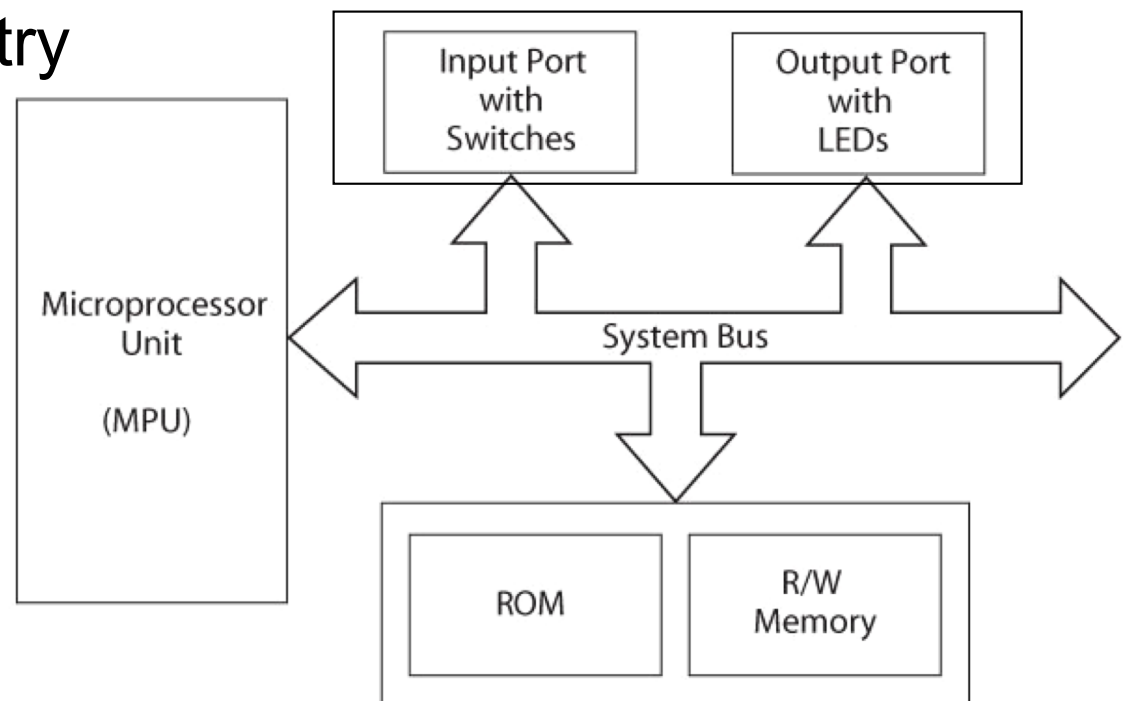
Microcontrollers – Embedded Systems and Integrated Devices

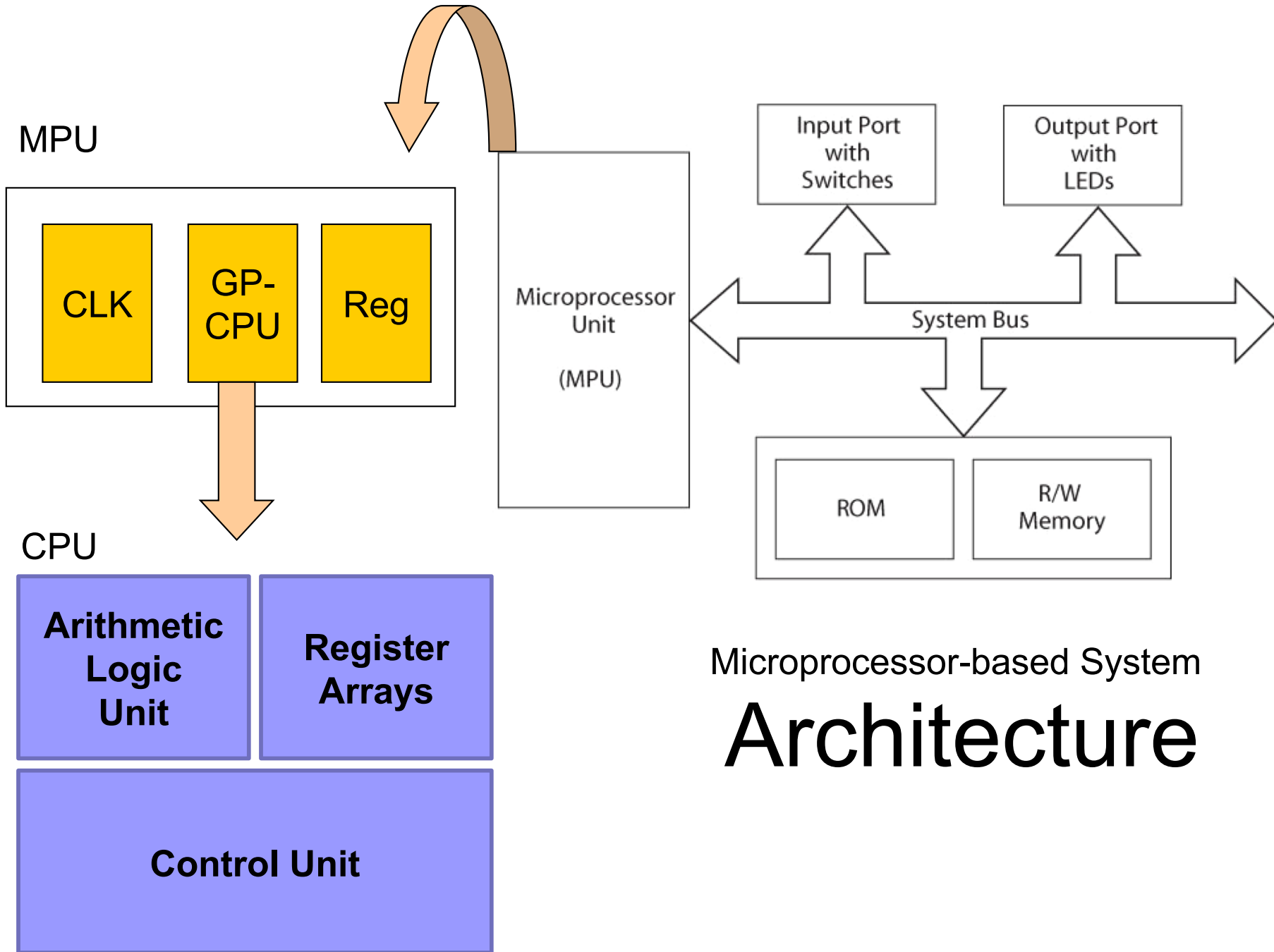
- **An embedded system** is a special-purpose computer system designed to perform one or more dedicated functions often in real-time
- Embedded systems often have dedicated system software
 - System software: A group of programs that monitors the functions of the entire system
- Embedded systems are generally microprocessor-based

Microprocessor-Based Embedded Systems

Microprocessor

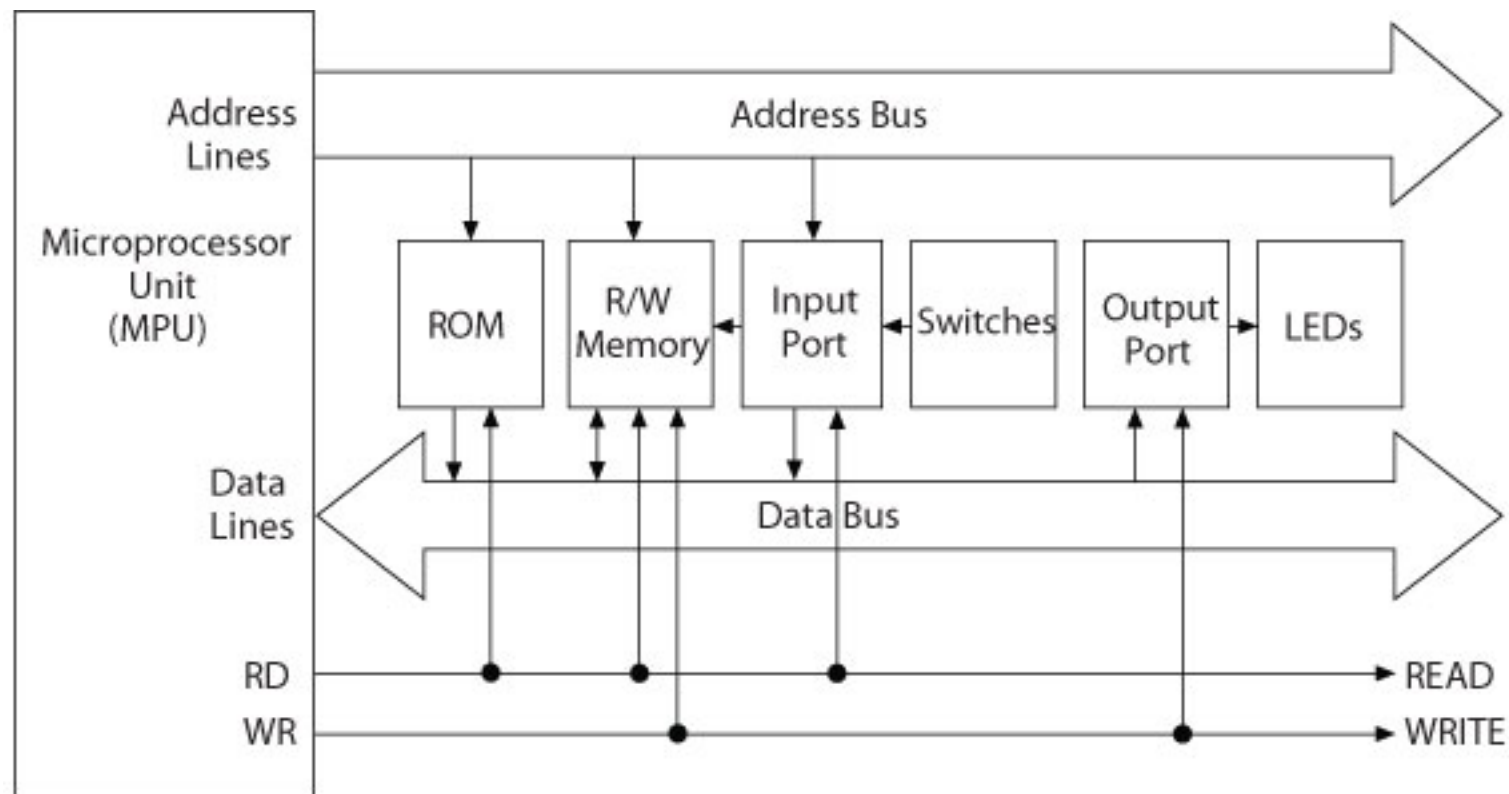
- Memory
- Input/Output (I/O) circuitry
- Buses
 - Address bus
 - Data bus
 - Control bus





Microprocessor-based System
Architecture

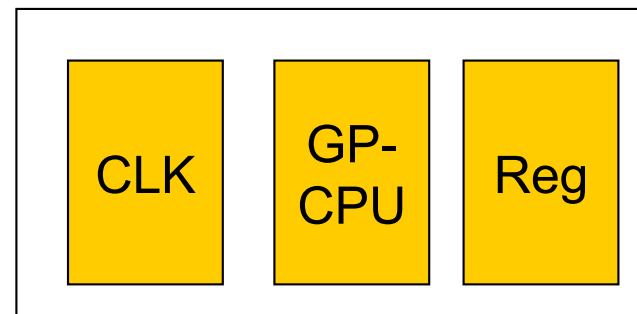
Microprocessor-Based System with Buses: Address, Data, and Control



Microprocessor-based Systems:

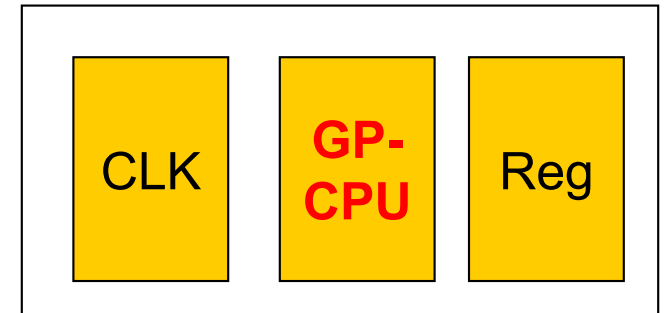
Microprocessor (1)

- The microprocessor (MPU) is a computing and logic device that executes binary instructions in a sequence stored in memory.
- Characteristics:
 - General purpose central processor unit (CPU)
 - Binary-based
 - Register-based
 - Clock-driven
 - Programmable



Microprocessor-based Systems

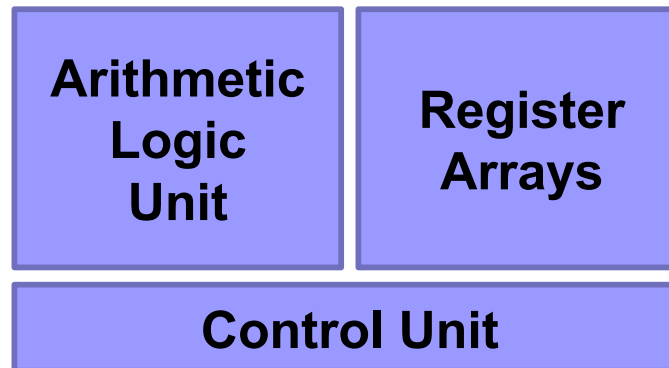
GP CPU



■ the “brain” of the computer

- its job is to fetch instructions, decode them, and then execute them
- 8/16/32/etc –bit (how it moves the data)

■ contains:



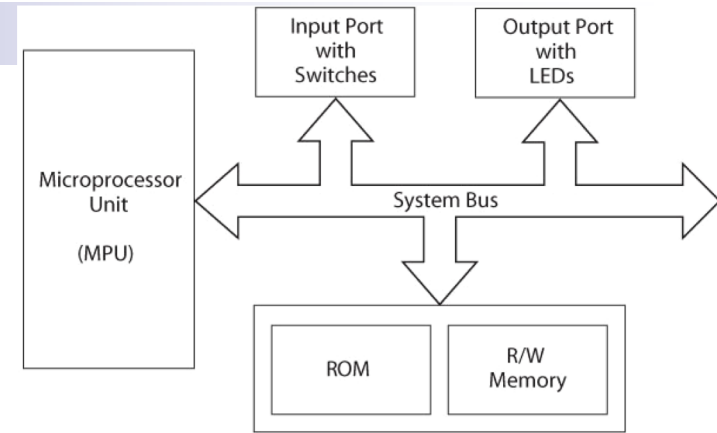
ALU performs computing tasks – manipulates the data/ performs numerical and logical computations

Registers are used for temp. storage


Control unit is used for timing and other controlling functions – contains a program counter (next instruction’ s address and status register)

System software: A group of programs that monitors the functions of the entire system

Microprocessor-based Systems - Memory



- Memory is a group of registers
 - 16 register – address: 0-15 – in binary: 0-1111; Address lines: A0-A3
- Serves two major purposes
 - storing the binary codes for the sequence of instructions specified by programs (**program**)
 - storing binary data that the computer needs to execute instructions (**data**)



Microprocessor-based Systems

Memory Types

□ **R/W or RAM: Read/Write Memory**

- It is volatile (losses information as power is removed)
- Write means the processor can store information
- Read means the processor can receive information from the memory
- Acts like a Blackboard!

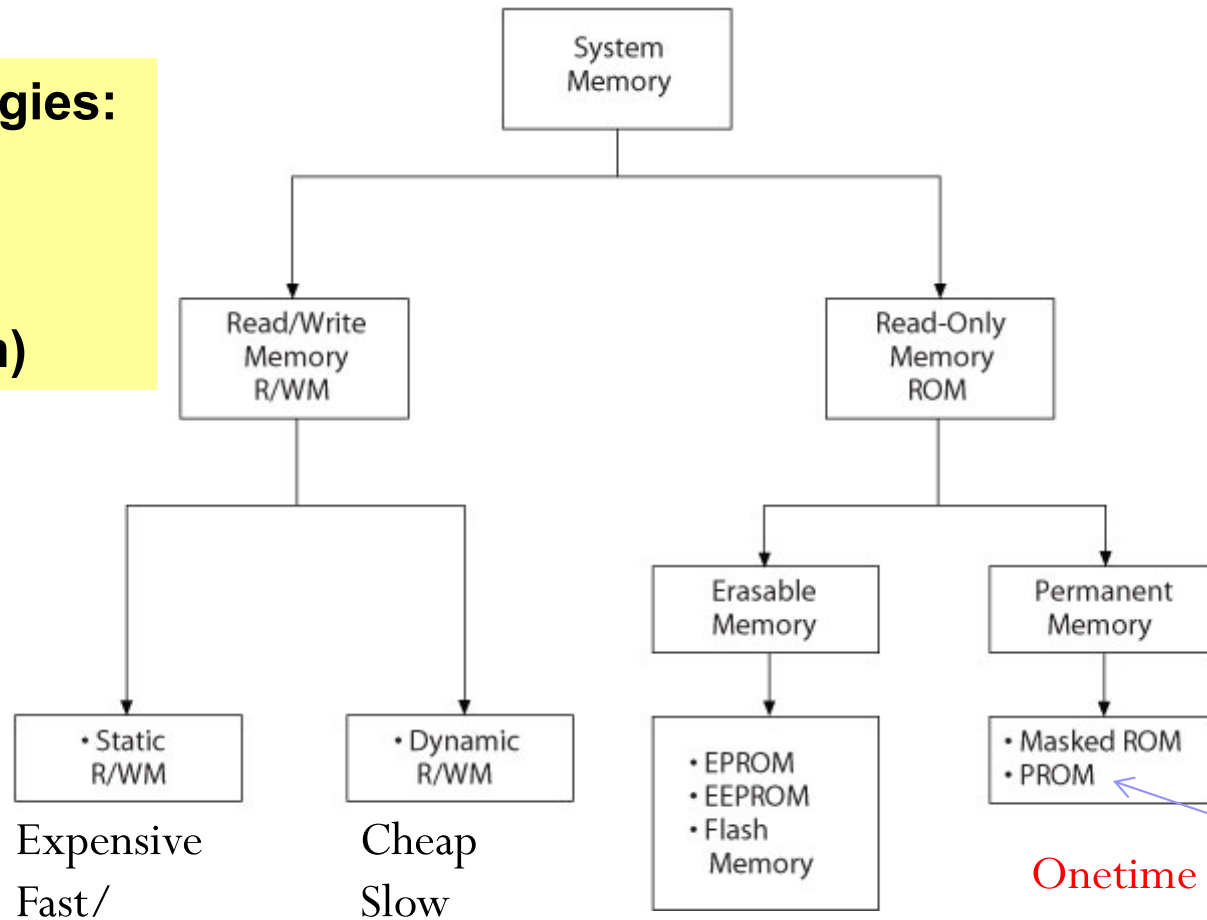
□ **ROM: Read-Only memory;**

- It is typically non-volatile (permanent) – can be erasable
- It is similar to a Page from your textbook

Microprocessor-based Systems

Memory Classification

Basic Technologies:
Semiconductor
Magnetic
Optical
(or combination)



Electrically Erasable
PROM

Onetime programmable

Microprocessor based Systems

Memory Classification

- one transistor and one capacitor to store a bit
- Leakage problem, thus requires refreshing
- Used for dynamic data/program storage
- Cheap and slow!

- 4/6 transistor to save a single bit
- Volatile
- Fast but expensive

• Static R/W

Expensive
Fast/

• Dynamic R/W

Cheap
Slow

Erased Memory

• EPROM
• EEPROM
• Flash Memory

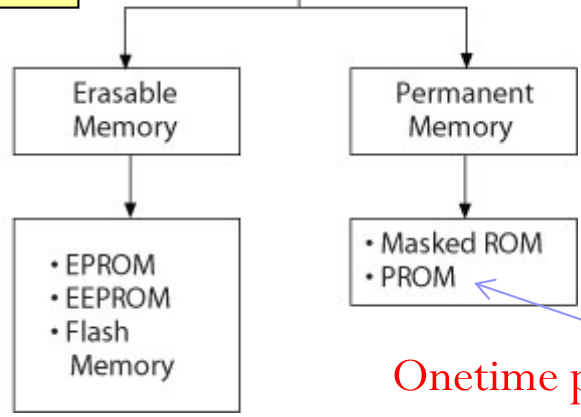
Electrically Erasable
PROM

Permanent Memory

• Masked ROM
• PROM

Onetime programmable

Read-Only Memory ROM





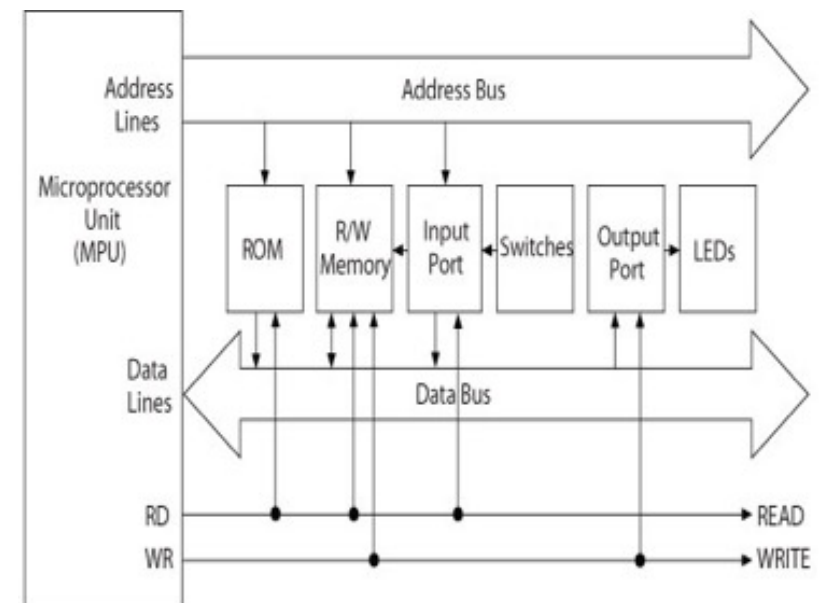
Erasable ROMs

- **Marked Programmed ROM**
 - Programmed by the manufacturer
- **Programmable ROM (PROM)**
 - Can be programmed in the field via the programmer
- **Erasable Programmable ROM (EPROM)**
 - Uses ultraviolet light to erase (through a quartz window)
 - OTP refers to one-time programmable
- **Electrically Erasable Programmable ROM (EEPROM)**
 - Each program location can be individually erased
 - Expensive
 - Requires programmer
- **FLASH**
 - Can be programmed in-circuit (in-system)
 - Easy to erase (no programmer)
 - Only one section can be erased/written at a time (typically 64 bytes at a time)

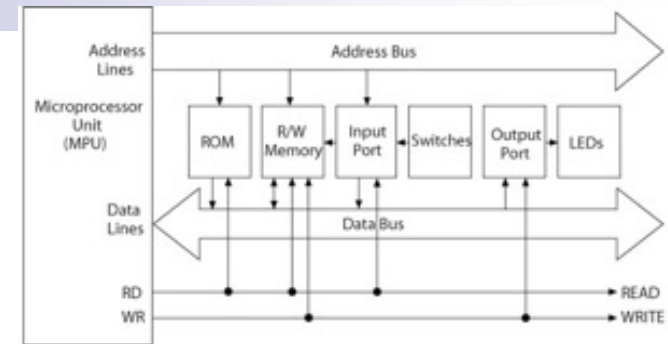
Microprocessor-based Systems

I/O Ports

- The way the computer communicates with the outside world devices
- I/O ports are connected to Peripherals
 - Peripherals are I/O devices
 - **Input devices**
 - **Output devices**
 - Examples
 - **Printers and modems,**
 - **keyboard and mouse**
 - **scanner**
 - **Universal Serial Bus (USB)**



Microprocessor-based Systems - BUS

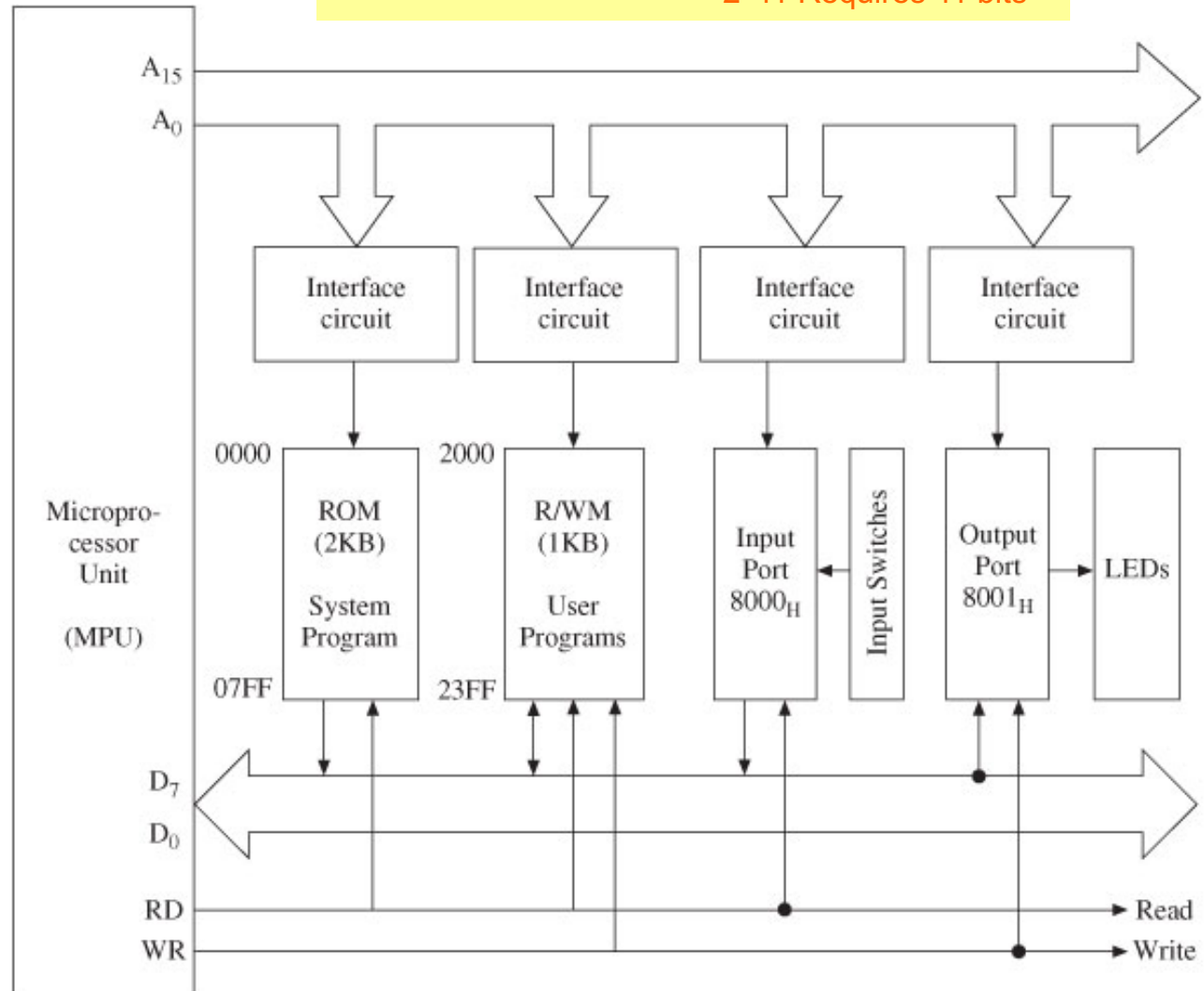


- The three components – MPU, memory, and I/O – are connected by a group of wires called the BUS
- **Address bus**
 - consists of 16, 20, 24, or 32 parallel signal lines (wires) - unidirectional
 - these lines contain the address of the memory location to read or written
- **Control bus**
 - consists of 4 to 10 (or more) parallel signal lines
 - CPU sends signals along these lines to memory and to I/O ports
 - examples: Memory Read, Memory Write, I/O Read, I/O Write
- **Data bus**
 - consists of 8,16, or 32 parallel signal lines
 - bi-directional
 - only one device at a time can have its outputs enabled,
 - this requires the devices to have three-state output

Microprocessor-Based System - Expanded System

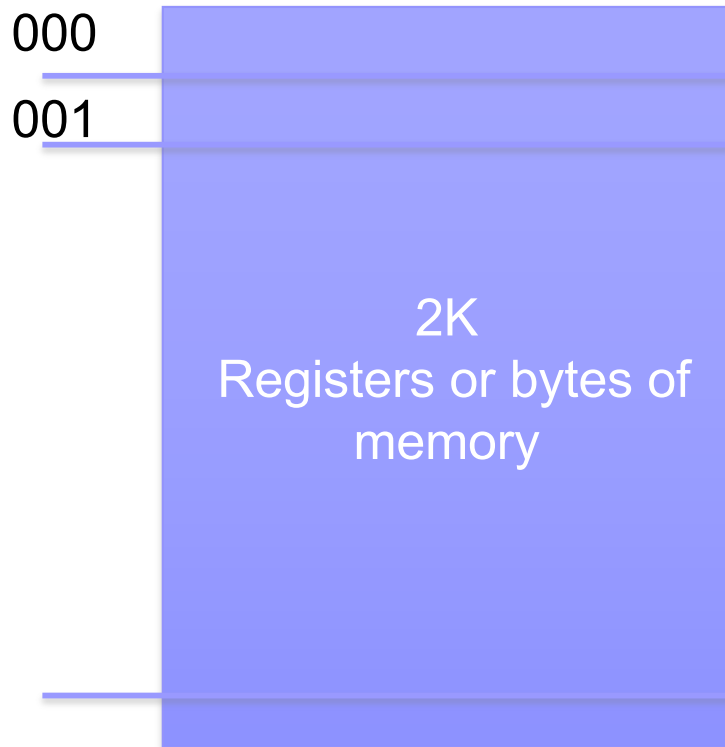
Remember: $111\ 1111\ 1111 = 7FF = 2^{11}-1 = 2047$
 $2^{11}=2K=2048$
 2^{11} Requires 11 bits

1. Note the directions of busses
2. What is the width of the address bus?
3. What is the value of the Address but to access the first register of the R/W/M?

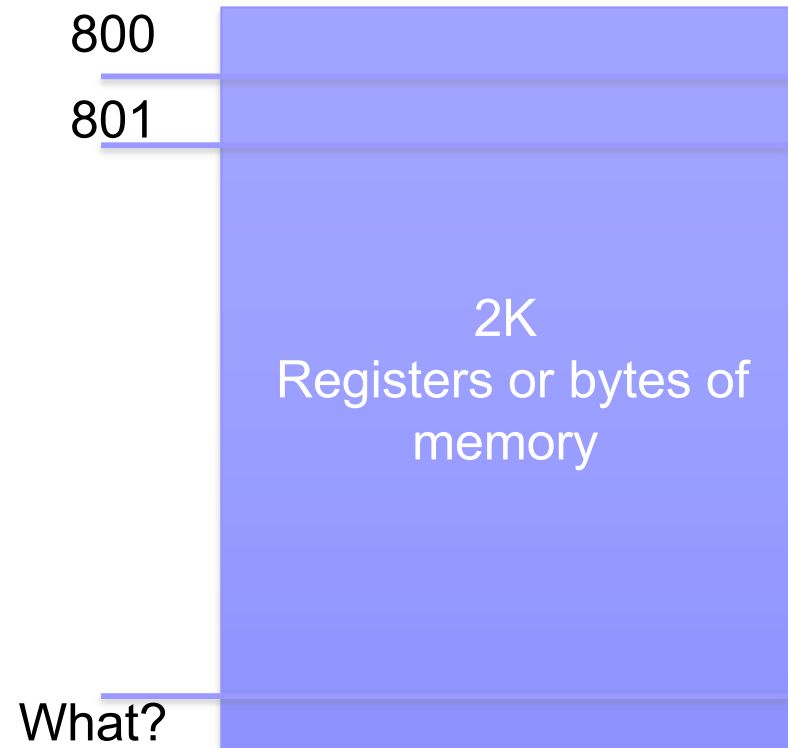


You must know how to draw it!

Example



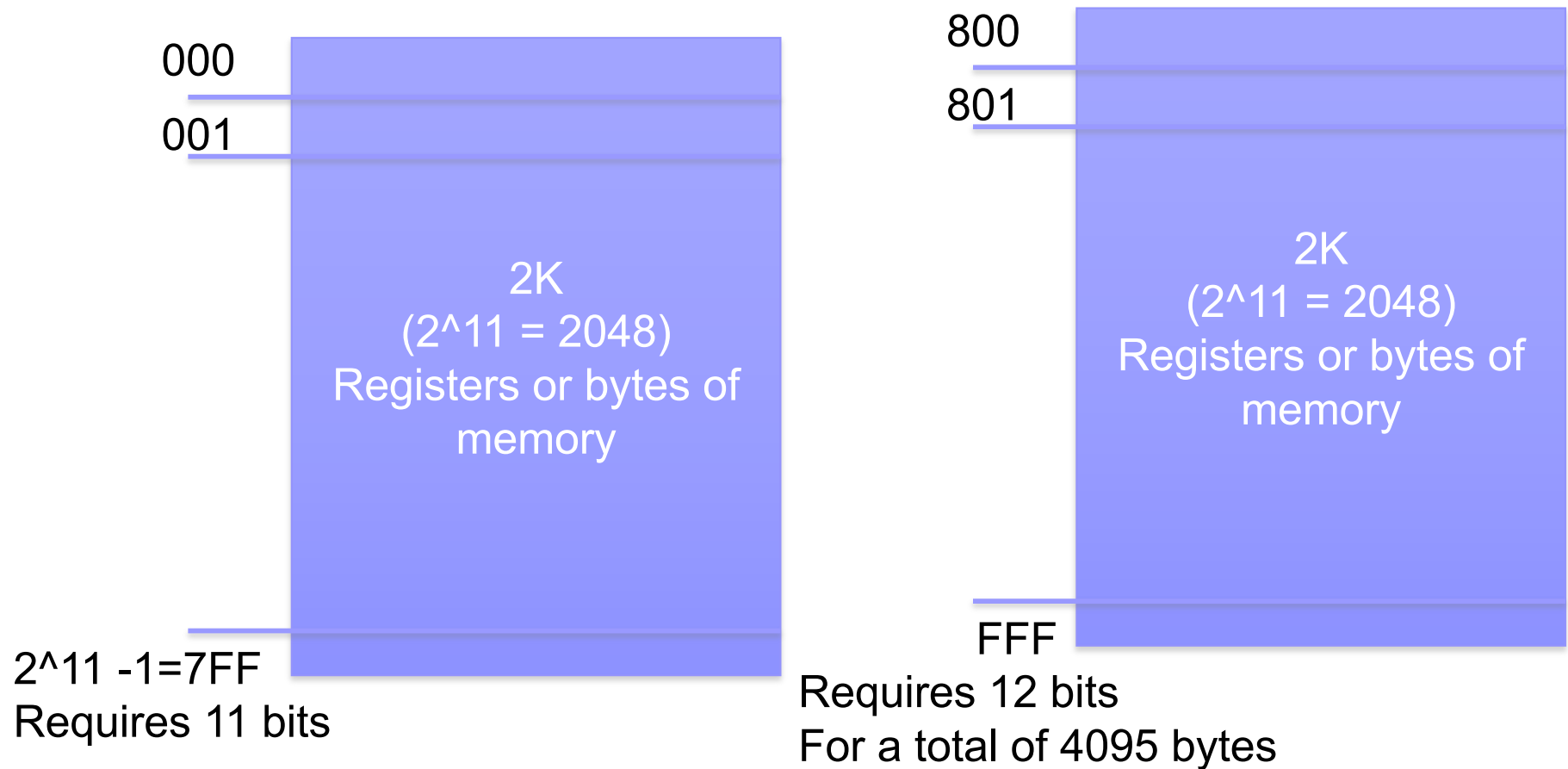
What?
How many bits



What?
How many bits

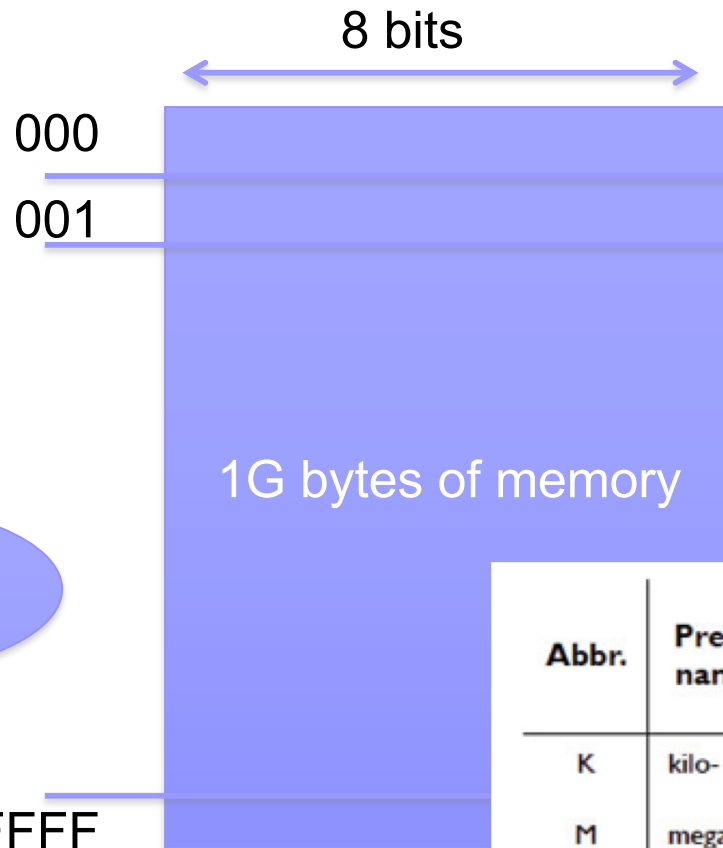
How much memory do we have?

Example



Total of 4K bytes of memory: 2^{12} (FFF) \rightarrow 12 bits ; last values $2^{12}-1 = 4096-1$

Example

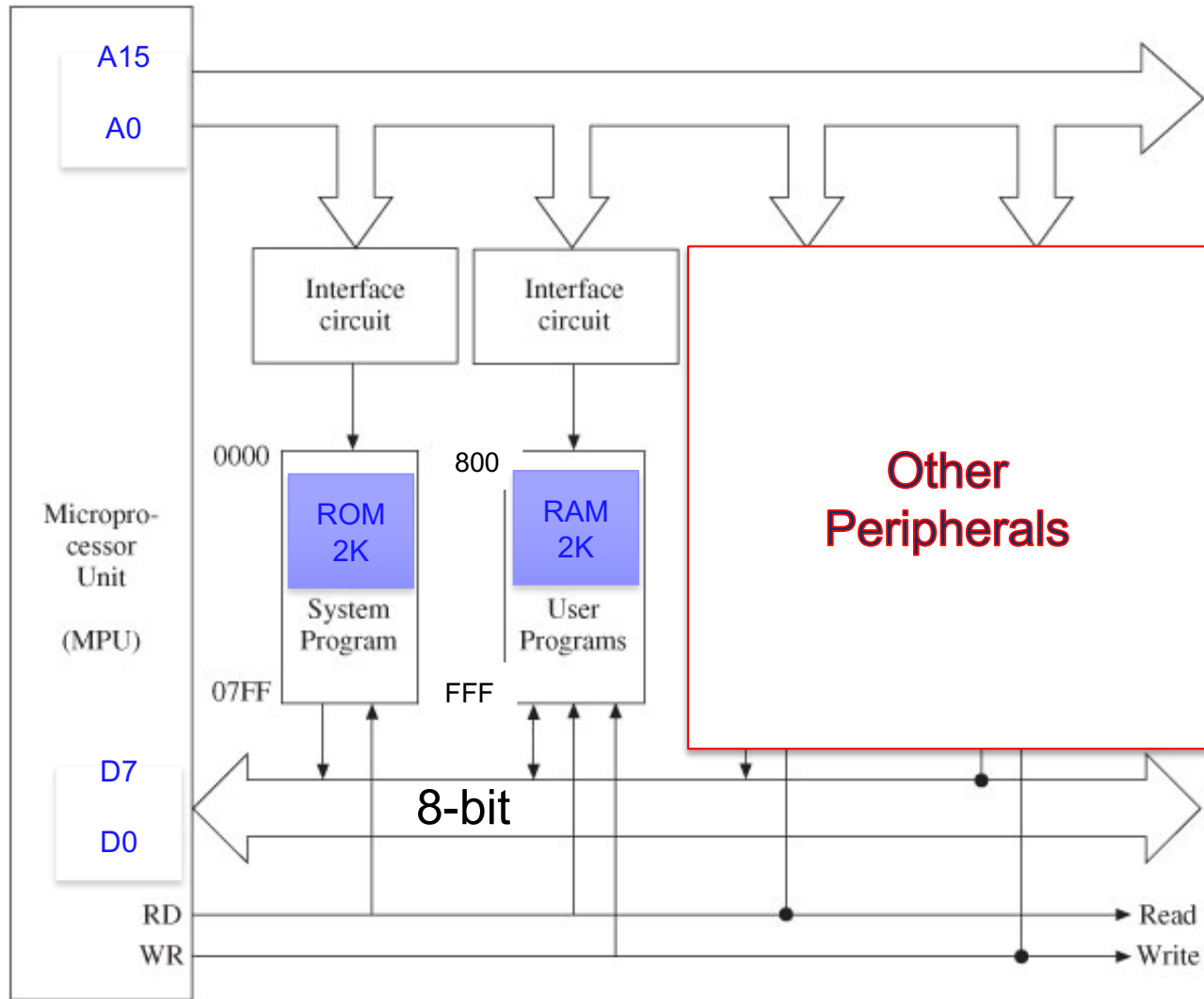


$$2^{30} - 1 = 3FFF\ FFFF$$

Next number: 4000 0000 (in Hex)

Abbr.	Prefix name	Decimal size	Size in thousands	Binary approximation	Address variable size
K	kilo-	10^3	1,000	$1,024 = 2^{10}$	10
M	mega-	10^6	$1,000^2$	$1,024^2 = 2^{20}$	20
G	giga-	10^9	$1,000^3$	$1,024^3 = 2^{30}$	30
T	tera-	10^{12}	$1,000^4$	$1,024^4 = 2^{40}$	40
P	peta-	10^{15}	$1,000^5$	$1,024^5 = 2^{50}$	50
E	exa-	10^{18}	$1,000^6$	$1,024^6 = 2^{60}$	60

Example of an 8-bit MPU





So what are
microcontrollers?



What is a Microcontroller?

- A microcontroller is a small computer on a single integrated circuit containing
 - processor core,
 - memory,
 - programmable input/output peripherals
- Used for specific (embedded) applications



Embedded controllers

- Used to control smart machines
- Examples: printers, auto braking systems
- Also called microcontrollers or microcontroller units (MCU)



Embedded controllers

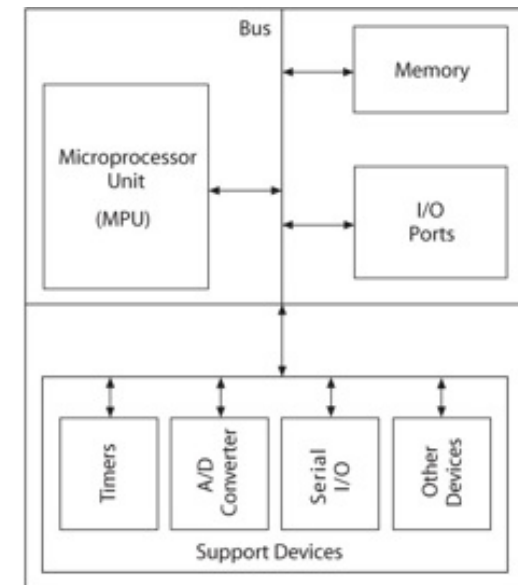
Software Characteristics

- No operating systems
- Execute a single program, tailored exactly to the controller hardware
- Assembly language (vs. High-level language)
 - Not transportable, machine specific
 - Programmer need to know CPU architecture
 - Speed
 - Program size
 - Uniqueness

Microcontroller Unit (MCU)

Block Diagram

- An integrated electronic computing and logic device that includes three major components on a single chip (System-on-Chip (SOC))
 - Microprocessor
 - Memory
 - I/O ports
- Includes support devices
 - Timers
 - A/D converter
 - Serial I/O
 - Parallel Slave Port
- All components connected by common communication lines called the system bus.





First Microcontrollers

- IBM started using Intel processors in its PC
 - Intel started its 8042 and 8048 (8-bit microcontroller) – using in printers
- Apple Macintosh used Motorola
- 1980 Intel abandoned microcontroller business
- By 1989 Microchip was a major player in designing microcontrollers
 - PIC: Peripheral Interface Controller

Different Microcontrollers (MCU)

- ARM core processors (from many vendors)
- Atmel AVR (8-bit), AVR32 (32-bit), and AT91SAM (32-bit)
- Cypress Semiconductor PSoC (Programmable System-on-Chip)
- Freescale ColdFire (32-bit) and S08 (8-bit)
- Freescale 68HC11 (8-bit)
- Intel 8051
- Infineon: 8, 16, 32 Bit microcontrollers^[9]
- MIPS
- Microchip Technology PIC, (8-bit PIC16, PIC18, 16-bit dsPIC33 / PIC24), (32-bit PIC32)
- NXP Semiconductors LPC1000, LPC2000, LPC3000, LPC4000 (32-bit), LPC900, LPC700 (8-bit)
- Parallax Propeller
- PowerPC ISE
- Rabbit 2000 (8-bit)
- Renesas RX, V850, Hitachi H8, Hitachi SuperH (32-bit), M16C (16-bit), RL78, R8C, 78K0/78K0R (8-bit)
- Silicon Laboratories Pipelined 8051 Microcontrollers
- STMicroelectronics ST8 (8-bit), ST10 (16-bit) and STM32 (32-bit)
- Texas Instruments TI MSP430 (16-bit)
- Toshiba TLCS-870 (8-bit/16-bit).

What is the
difference?

8/16/24/32 bits

Architecture

Package

Capability

Memory

Software (IDE)/cloud

ADC (10-12 bit)



MCU Architecture

■ RISC

- Reduced instruction set computer
- Simple operations
- Simple addressing modes
- Longer compiled program but faster to execute
- Uses pipelining
- Most embedded system

■ CISC

- Complex instruction set computer
- More complex instructions (closer to high-level language support)
- x86 standard (Intel, AMD, etc.), but even in the mainframe territory CISC is dominant via the IBM/390 chip

Bench marks: How to compare MCUs together

MIPS: Million Instructions / second (Useful when the compilers are the same)

CISC vs RISC

CISC Pentium/x86 are CISC-based	RISC ARM-based Most mobile-phones
Complex instructions require multiple cycles	Reduced instructions take 1 cycle
Many instructions can reference memory	Only Load and Store instructions can reference memory
Instructions are executed one at a time	Uses pipelining to execute instructions
Few general registers	Many general registers

RISC and CISC architectures are becoming more and more alike.
Read the LINK on the web site!

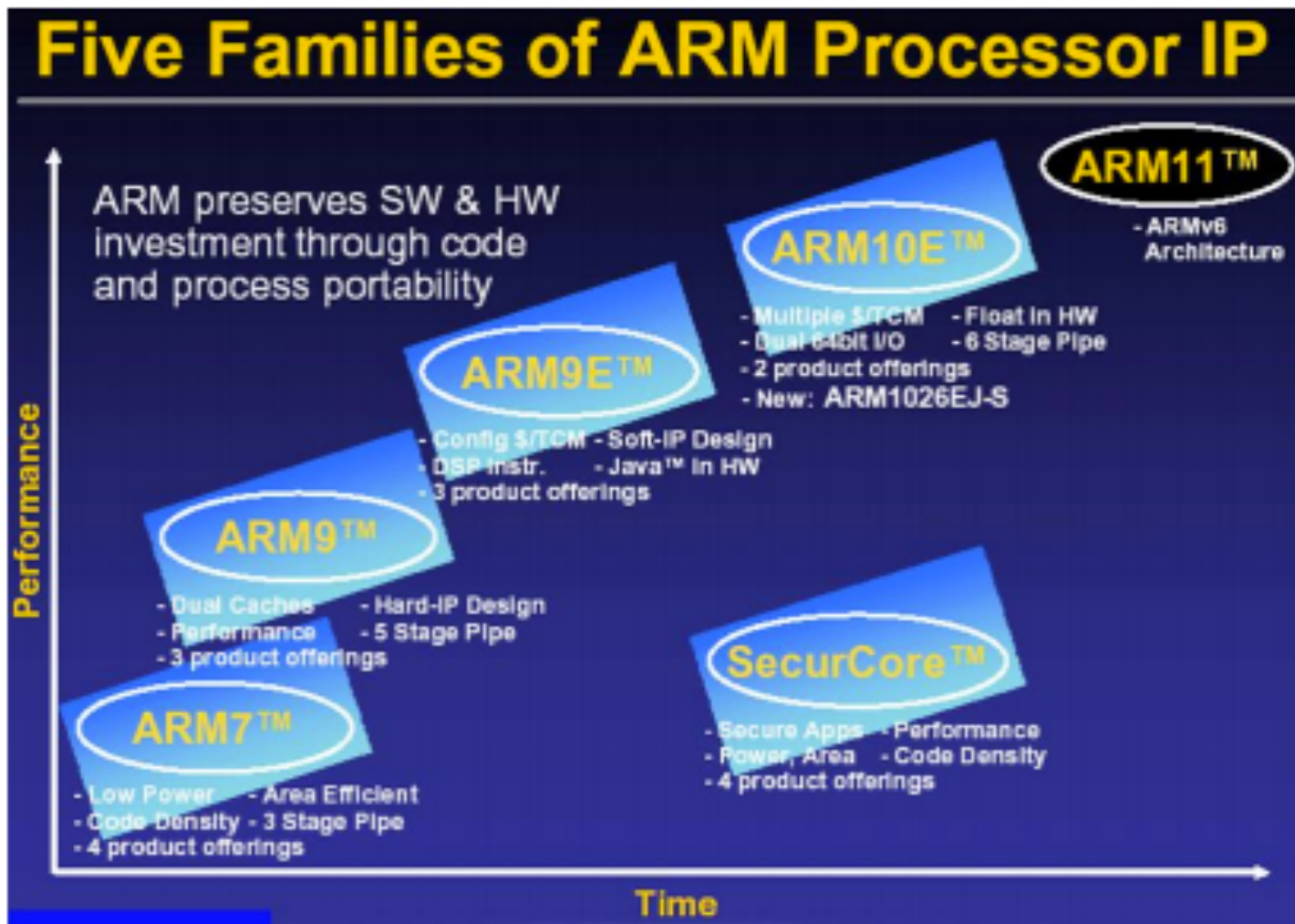
A Bit About ARM's Architecture

(Advanced RISC Machine)



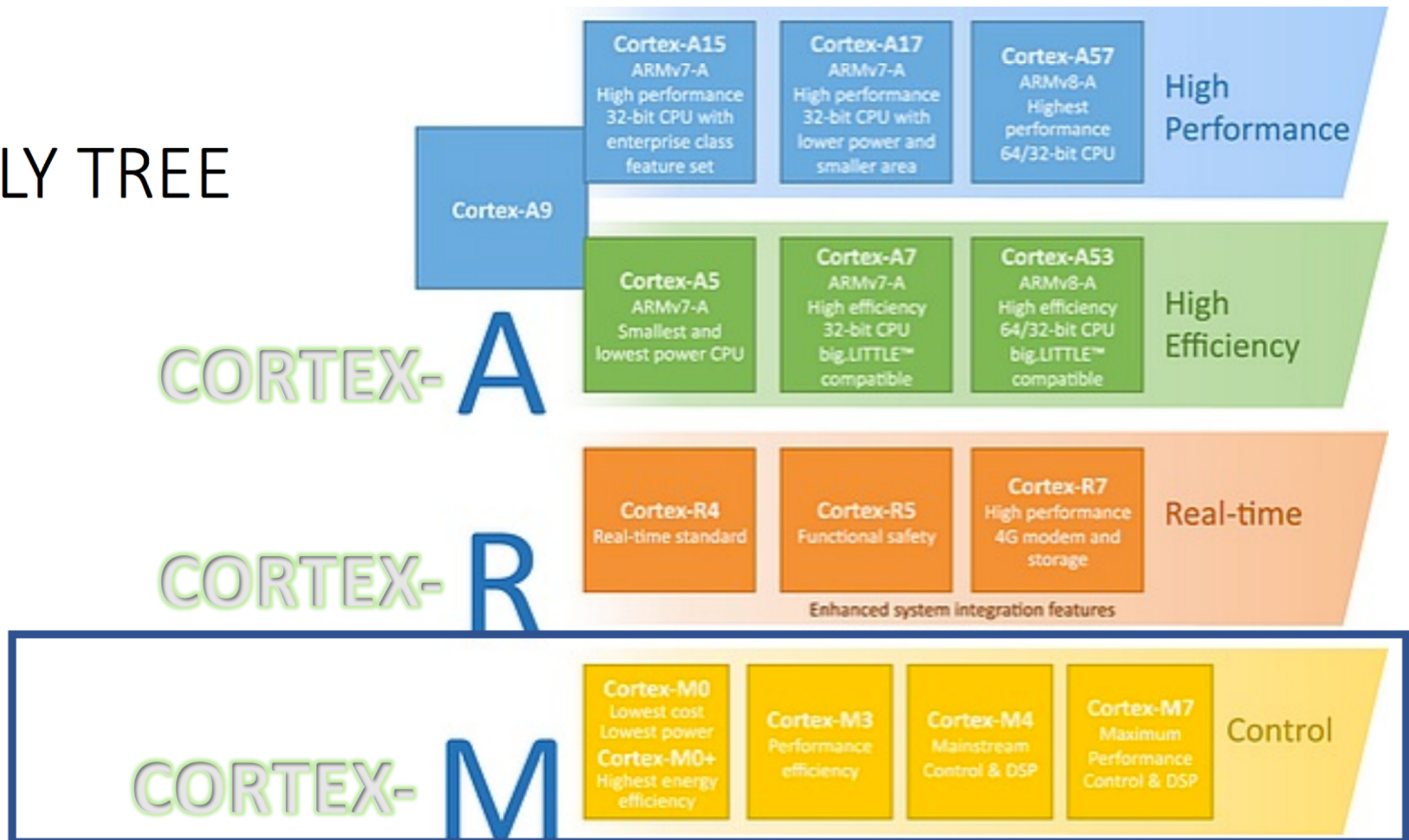
- ARM design takes the RISC based computer design approach – Linux –like architecture
- ARM is a British semiconductor (and software) design company that designs and licenses ARM processor cores to semiconductor manufacturers
 - They just sell the ARM *core*
 - Other manufacturers license the core from them and then design microcontrollers around that core by adding in peripherals and memory to suit their design goals
- There are different cores for different applications
 - Cortex-M0/M0+, Cortex-M3, or Cortex-M4.

ARM Processor IP



ARM Processor IP

ARM FAMILY TREE



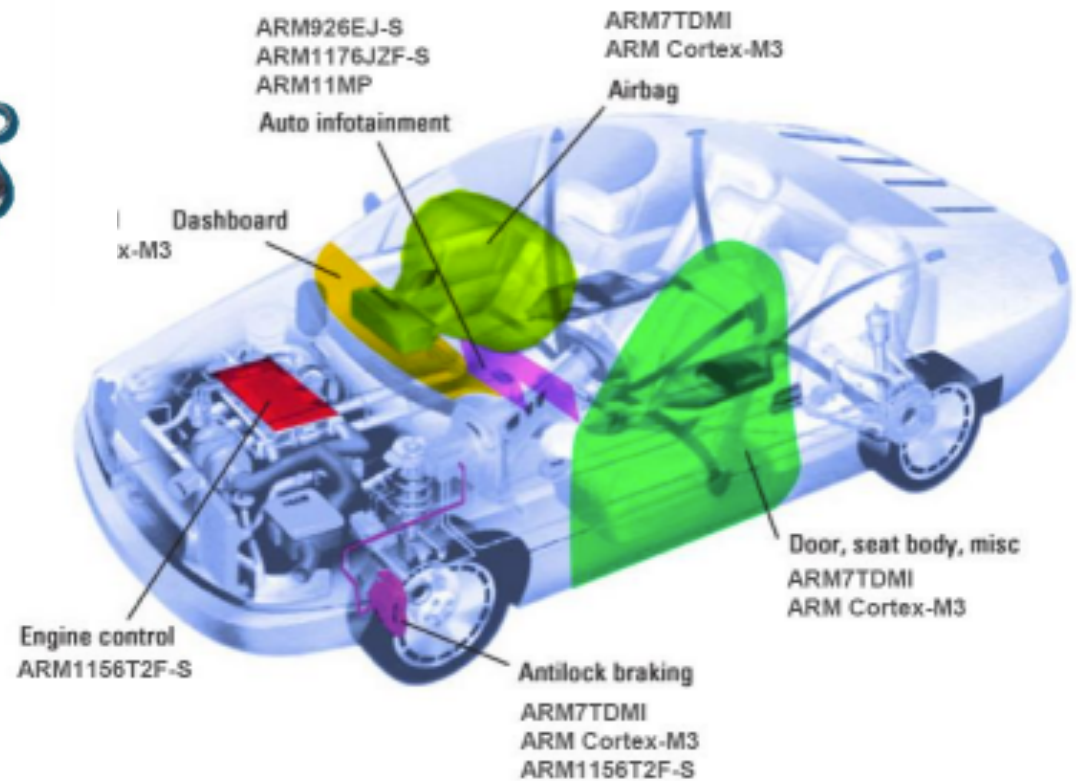
Applications of ARM-Based Microcontrollers



Most Cellphones!

Who is using ARM? Check this out!

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_applications_of_ARM_cores



Back to Our 8-bit Controllers...

(Main Players)

- Microchip
 - RISC architecture (reduced instruction set computer)
 - Has sold over 2 billion as of 2002
 - Cost effective and rich in peripherals
- Motorola
 - CISC architecture
 - Has hundreds of instructions
 - Examples: 68HC05, 68HC08, 68HC11
- Intel
 - CISC architecture
 - Has hundreds of instructions
 - Examples: 8051, 8052
 - Many difference manufacturers: Philips, Dallas/MAXIM Semiconductor, etc.
- Atmel
 - RISC architecture (reduced instruction set computer) – with CISC instruction set!
 - Cost effective and rich in peripherals
 - Claims to be very code efficient – less memory for the same code!
 - AVR (Advanced Virtual RISC): TunnyAVR, MegAVR, XmegaAVR
- Freescale
- Ziglog (Z8)

What is the
difference?

Speed

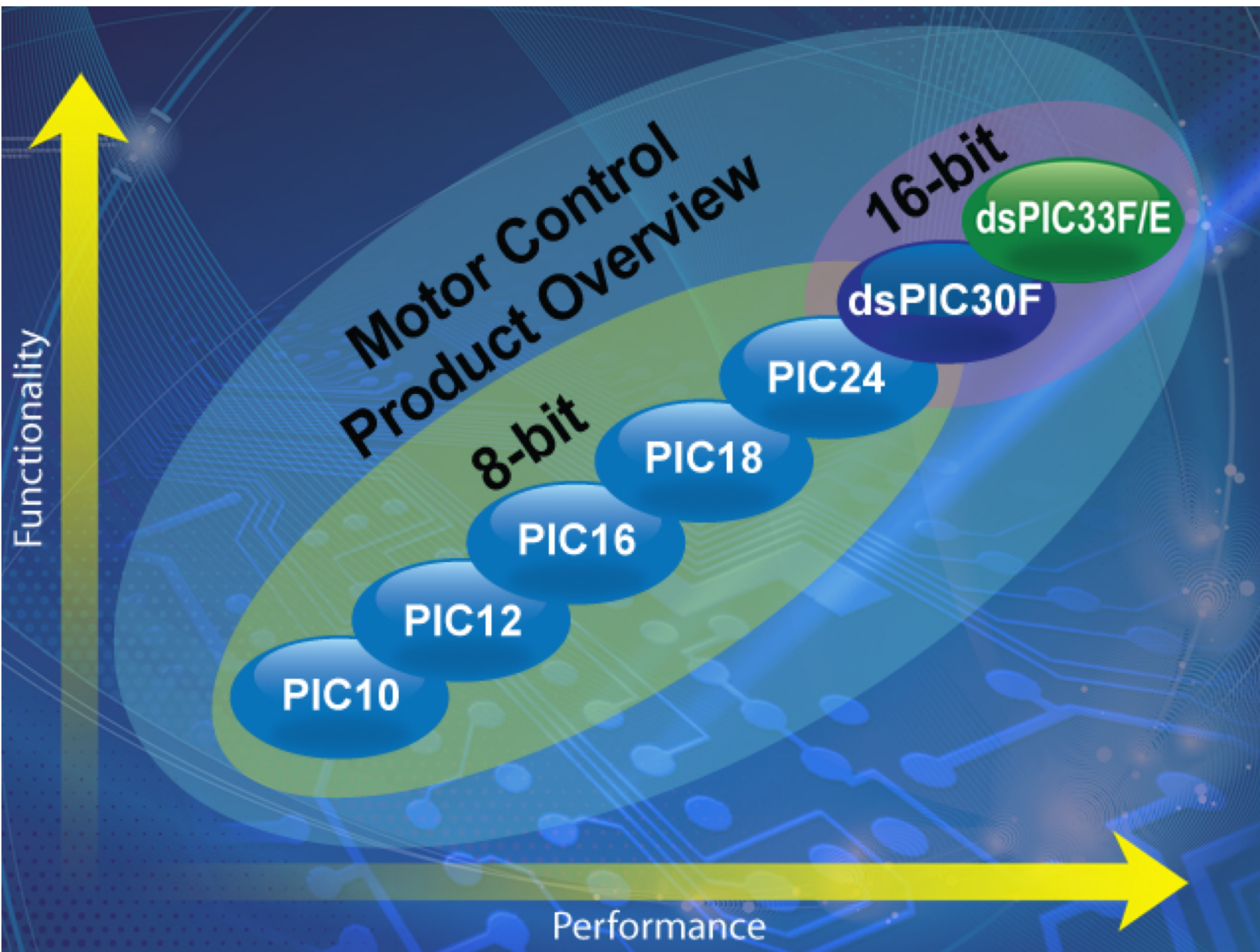
Package

Power

RAM/ROM

IO Pins

Software (IDE)/cloud



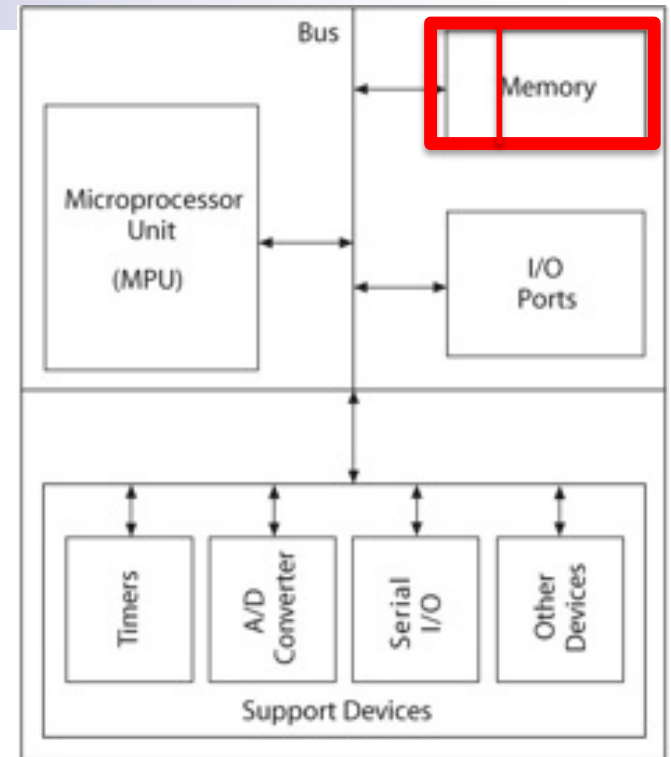


What you Need to Use Microcontrollers

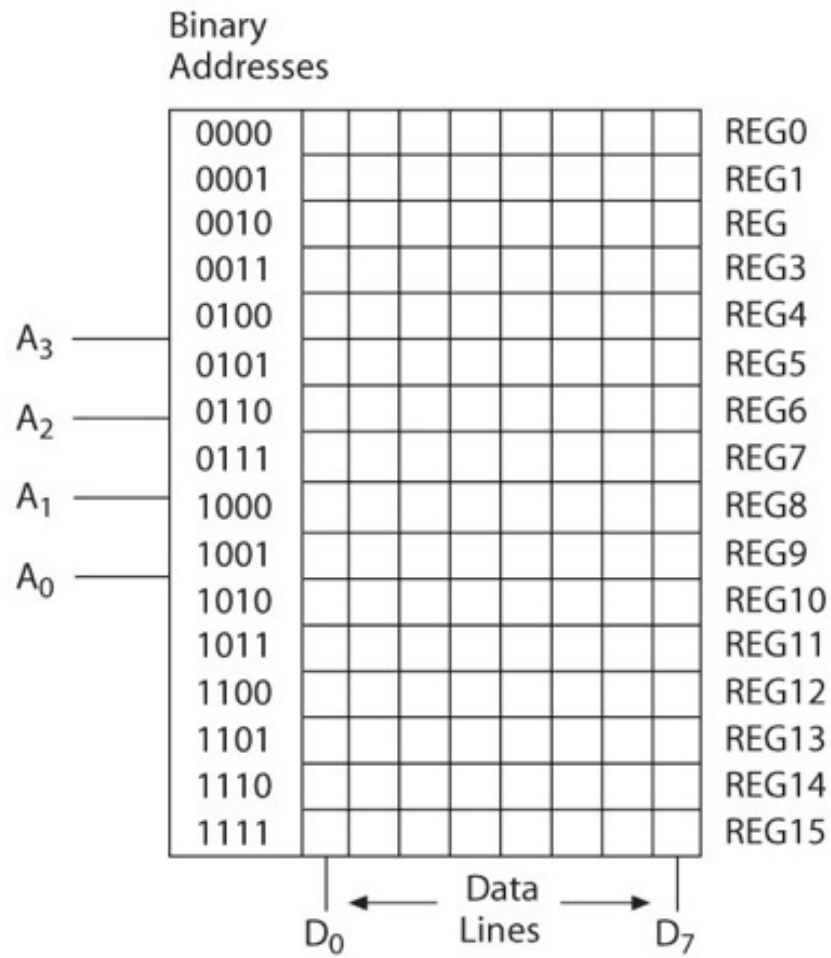
- A *target* - the actual microcontroller
- A *toolchain* — this is the software you use to write your code
 - Most developers use an *IDE* — integrated development environment — which contains a text editor, plus functionality for compiling and downloading your programs to the target
 - The toolchain can be locally installed or on **cloud!**
- A *Programmer/debugger* — this is the device that connects the computer to the microcontroller to download code to it
 - Your PICKIT3!
 - Allows real-time debugging of the program

Programming MCUs..

- Memory devices can store two types of information:
 - Data (RAM)
 - Programs (a series of **instructions** that tell the MPU in the microcontroller what to do!)
 - ROM



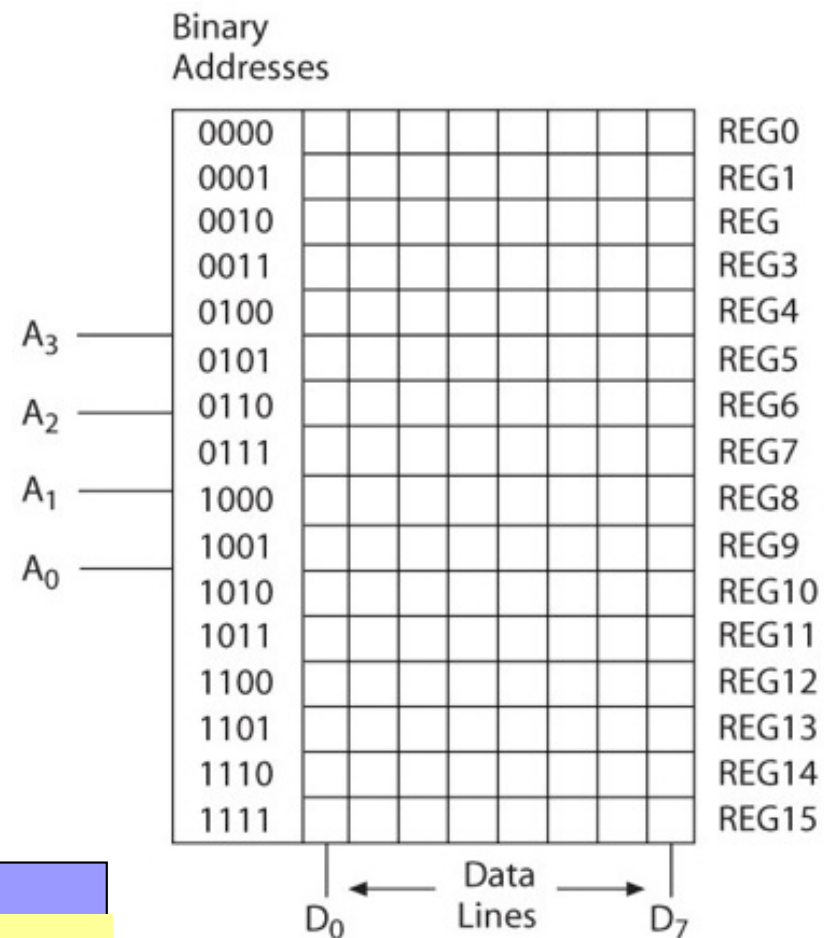
Memory



- A semiconductor storage device consisting of registers that store binary bits
- Two major categories
 - Read/Write Memory (R/WM)
 - Read-only-Memory (ROM)

Storing Bits in Memory

- We can store in different memory types
 - EEPROM, FLASH, RAM, etc.
- In an 8-bit RAM
 - Each byte is stored in a single memory register
 - Each word is stored in two memory locations (registers)
 - DATA 0x1234
 - 0x12 → REG11 (High-order byte)
 - 0001 0010
 - 0x34 → REG10 (Low-order byte)
 - 0011 0100



Remember -8 → 111 1000 (in two's complement)



So, How Do We Write the
Instructions and Tell the MPU What
to Do?

... We use a **Software Language**

Software: From Machine to High-Level Languages (1 of 3)

High-level Language

Assembly Language

Machine Language

■ Machine Language: binary instructions

- All programs are converted into the machine language of a processor for execution
- Example:

Machine Instruction	Machine Operation
00000000	Stop Program
00000001	Turn bulb fully on
00000010	Turn bulb fully off
00000100	Dim bulb by 10%

Software: From Machine to High-Level Languages (2 of 3)

High-level Language

Assembly Language

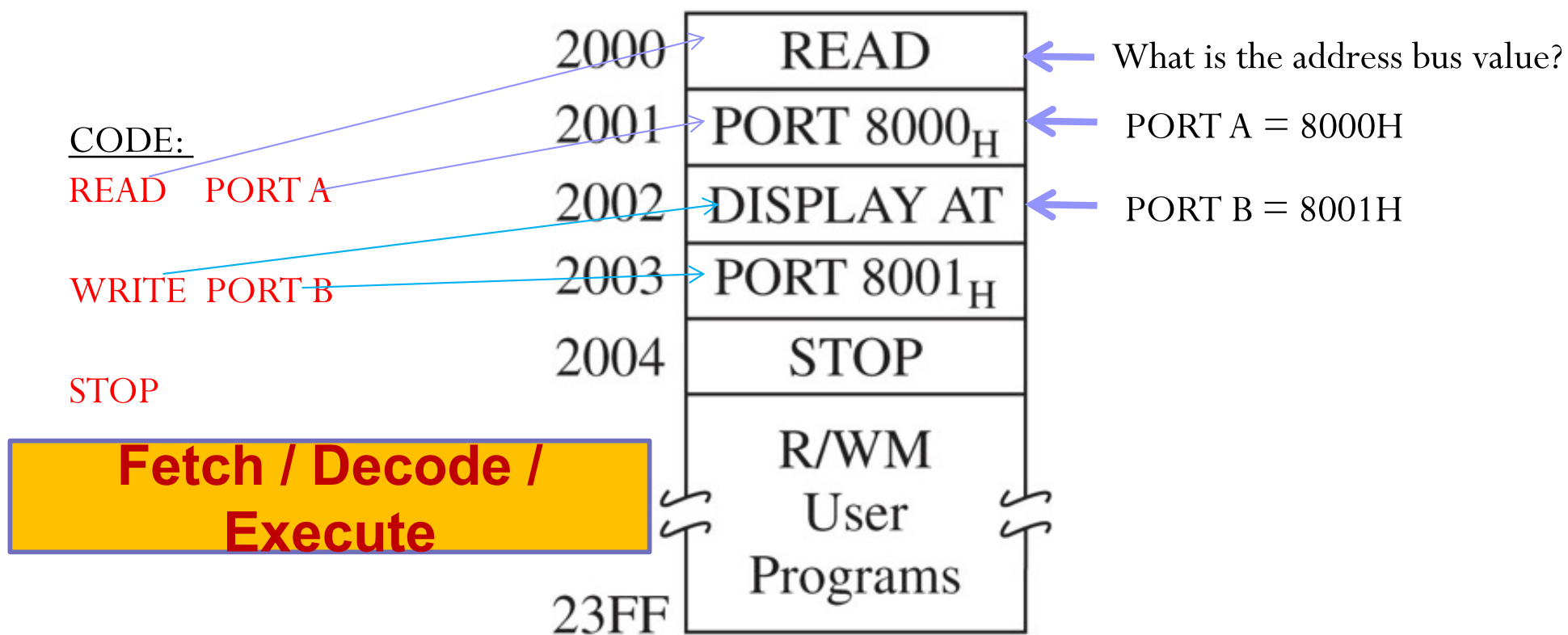
Machine Language

- Assembly Language: machine instructions represented in mnemonics
 - Has **one-to-one** correspondence with machine instructions
 - Efficient in **execution and use of memory**; machine-specific and not easy to troubleshoot
 - See next slide.....

Assembly Language Example:

Symbolic Representation of Program Memory Contents

■ Addresses Registers



Software: From Machine to High-Level Languages (3 of 3)

High-level Language

Assembly Language

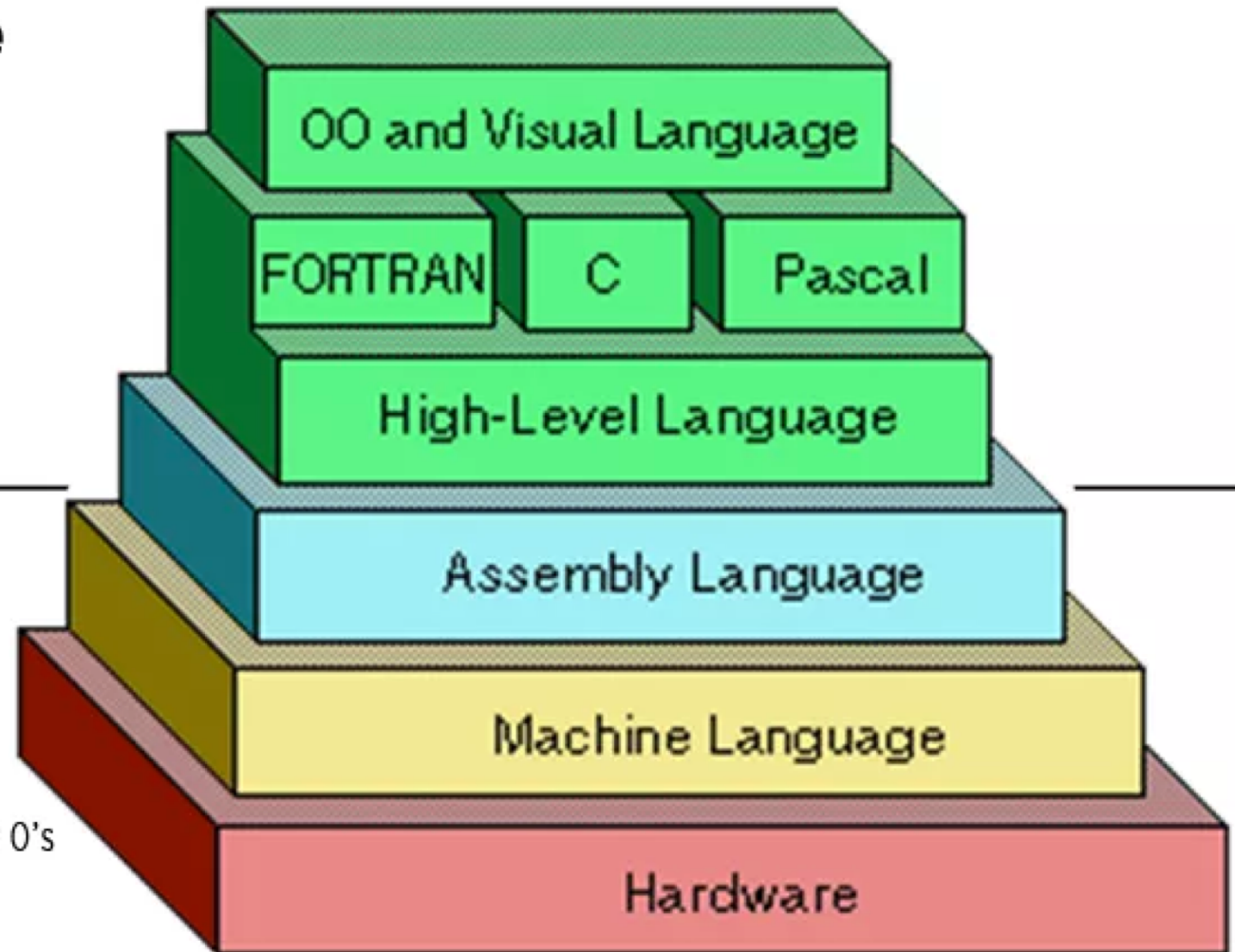
Machine Language

- High-Level Languages (such as BASIC, C, and C++)
 - Written in statements of spoken languages (such as English)
 - machine independent
 - easy to write and troubleshoot
 - requires large memory and less efficient in execution

```
2  #include<conio.h>
3  void main()
4  {
5  int num,i;
6  printf("Enter a number below 100\n");
7  scanf("%d",&num);
8  for(i=1;i<100;i++)
9  {
10     printf("%d\n",i);
11     if(i==num)
12     break;
13 }
14 getch();
15 }
```

High Level Language

- Easy for Programmers to understand
- Contains English Words



Low Level Languages

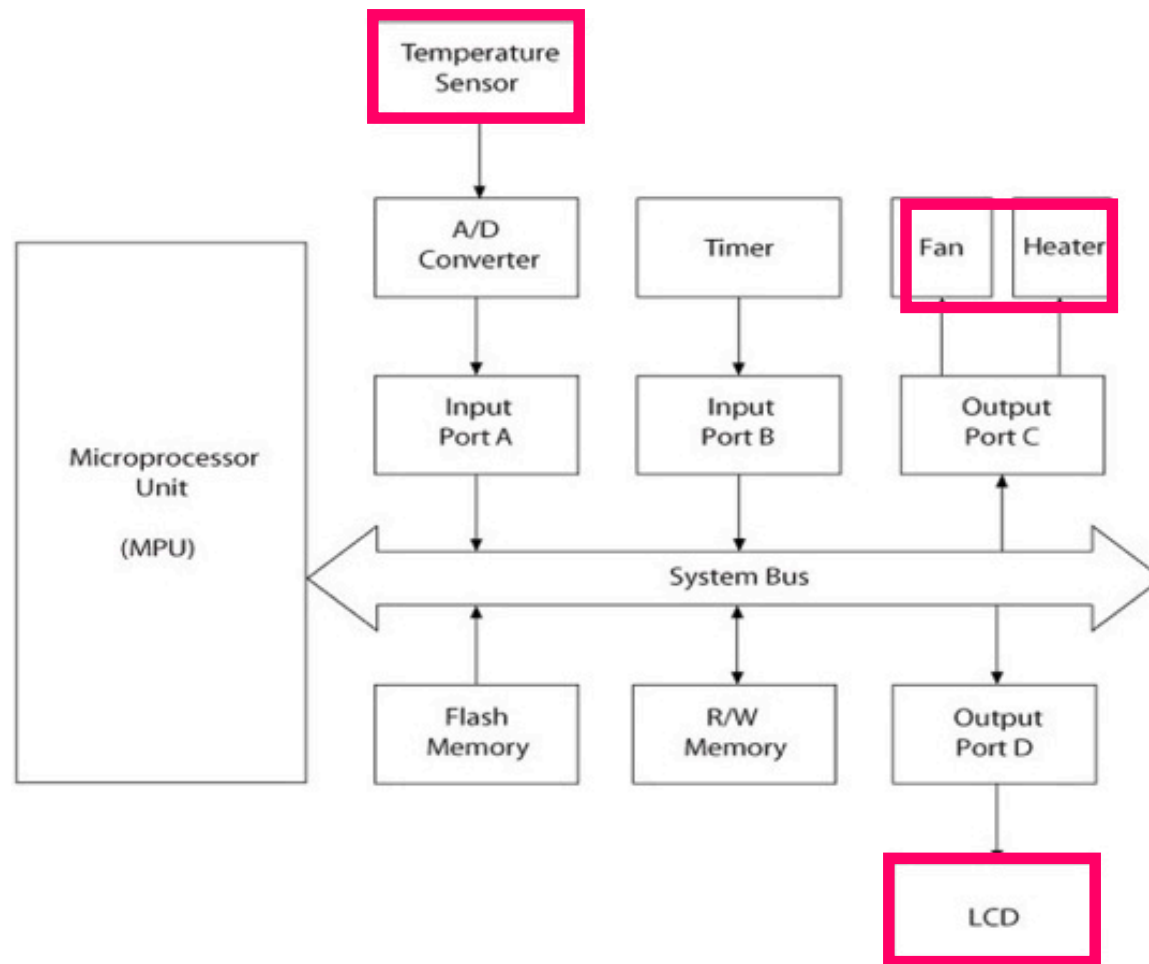
- The computer's own Language
- Binary numbers, in 1's and 0's



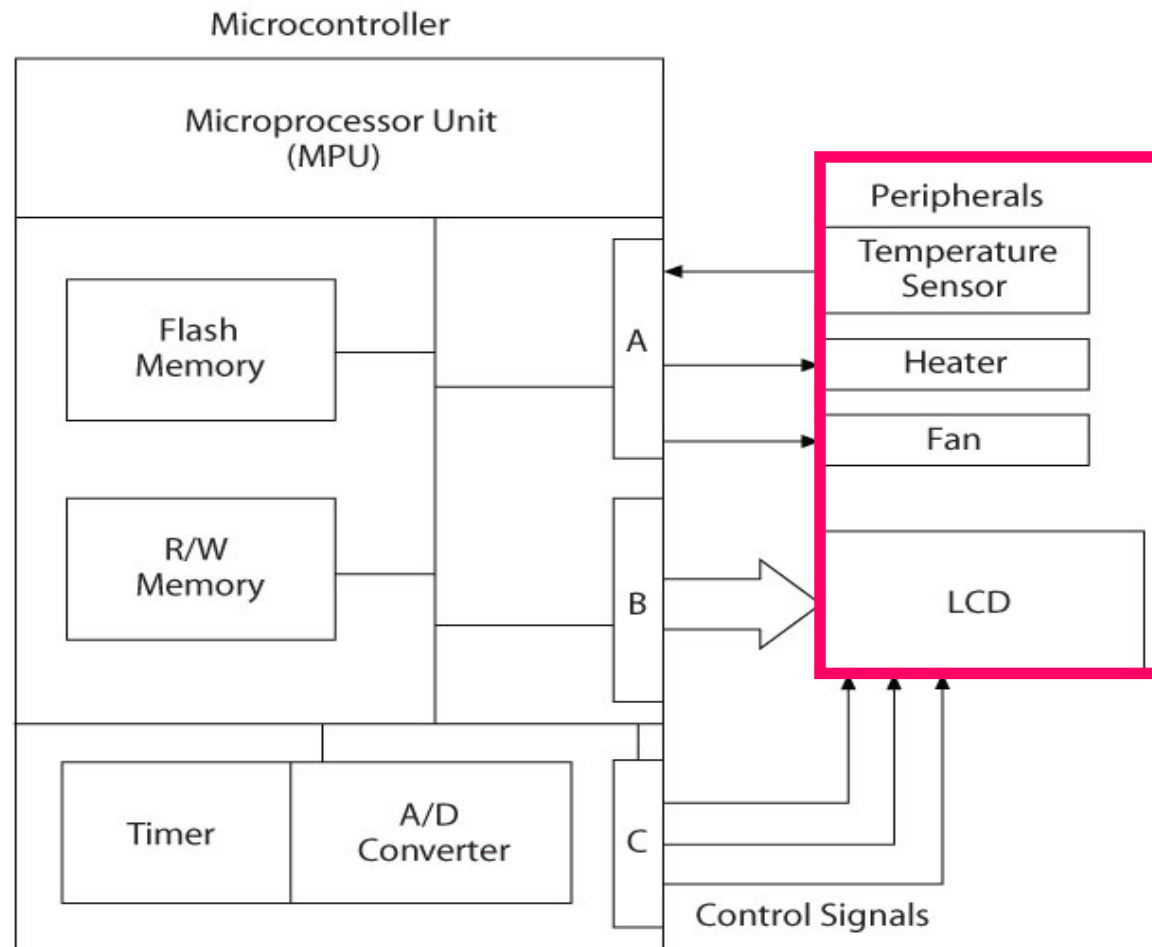
Design Examples

Microcontrollers vs. Microprocessors

MPU-Based Time and Temperature System



MCU-Based Time and Temperature System





References

- Computer History Museum: <http://www.computerhistory.org/>
- Read about microcontrollers:
http://www.mikroe.com/en/books/picbook/2_01chapter.htm
- Lots of good information exist on Wikipedia about microcontrollers
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>
- History of transistors:
<http://inventors.about.com/library/weekly/aa061698.htm>
- Nice transistor timeline by Intel:
<http://www.intel.com/technology/timeline.pdf>
- I used a few slides from here:
http://www.ceng.metu.edu.tr/courses/ceng336/_documents/introduction.pdf
- ARM related references:
 - <http://mc2.unl.edu/2013/10/03/getting-started-with-arm-microcontrollers/>
 - http://www4.cs.fau.de/Lehre/SS06/HS_AKES/slides/ARM.pdf - Very good reference !



References - RISC

- <http://cse.stanford.edu/class/sophomore-college/projects-00/risc/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Complex_instruction_set_computer
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RISC>
- <http://arstechnica.com/articles/paedia/cpu/pipelining-1.ars/4>