

# Computer Organization and Architecture

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## 1 Turing Machines

1. Turing's Thesis: Every computation can be represented with a Turing Machine.
2. Turing Machine: A mathematical model of a device that can perform any computation.
3. Universal Turing Machine: A machine to implement any and all Turing Machines.

Beyond models, real world constraints include time, financial cost, power, security, thermal dissipation, space, etc.

## 2 Bits, Data Types, and Operators

The electro-magnetic field is not digital, yet all of modern computing is represented digitally. To compromise, 0 is a representation of the absence of voltage and 1 is a representation of the presence of voltage.

0V	0.5V	"Illegal"	2.4V	2.9V
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## 3 Signed Binary Arithmetic

Binary, without the addition of extra mathematical symbols, can only represent positive whole integers. Signed numbers like  $-5$  require a formal system of representation in order to be used. A binary number can represent  $2^n$  values for  $n$  bits. The objective of signed numbers is to partition half of those values for negative number representation ( $-2^{n-1} - 1 \rightarrow -1$ ) and the other half to positive numbers ( $1 \rightarrow 2^{n-1}$ ) while leaving zero and potentially one other number available.

1. Sign-Magnitude  
The most significant bit is 0 for positive values and 1 for negative values.  
 $00101 = 5$  and  $10101 = -5$

2. One's Complement  
All bits are inverted to represent negative numbers. Like Sign-Magnitude, the most significant bit will tell you whether a number is positive or negative.  
 $00101 = 5$  and  $11010 = -5$
3. Two's Complement (currently in use)  
For each positive number  $A$ , its negative number ( $B$ ) satisfies the equation  $A + B = 0$  when the final carried bit is dropped. To get this number, take the One's Complement of  $A$  and add 1.  $00101 = 5$  and the One's Complement is  $11010$ . So the Two's Complement is  $11011$ . As proof,  $00101 + 11011 = 100000$  but the last carried one is dropped, leaving  $00000$ .

## 4 Arithmetic and Logical Operations

Arithmetic operations

1. Addition  
Just addition, regardless if signed or not. Ignore the final carry-out.
2. Subtraction  
First negate the second operand ( $5 \rightarrow -5$  *forexample*), then use addition.
3. Sign Extension  
To add numbers, they must have the same number of bits. This is because of signed numbers, and storage.

Overflow occurs when

1. Signs of the operands are the same
2. The sign of the sum is different

The issue can be tested for by examining the most significant bit's sign between the operands and the result.

Logical operations

1. AND  
The result is true if and only if both operands are true.  
Useful for clearing bits, a mask of 1's signify keep.
2. OR  
The result is true if either operand is true.  
Useful for setting bits. 1's in the second operand copy to the result.
3. NOT  
The result is true if and only if the operand is false.

Each operation is executed on each bit individually.

## 5 Fractions, Floating, and Fixed-Point Values

A "binary" point is abstractly added to the value. To the left of the point, each bit is worth  $2^{-n}$  where  $n$  is the place left of the point. For example, 101.11. For large numbers, we use scientific notation.  $Sign * (Fraction * 2^{Exponent})$ . IEEE 754 Floating Point Standard for 32-bits signifies 1 bit for sign, 8 bits for the exponent, and 23 bits for the fraction.  
 $1 - 01111110 - 1000000000000000000000 = -1.5 * 2^{???}$

## 6 Other Data Types

1. Single characters use ASCII to map 128 characters to 7-bit code.
2. Text strings are sequences of characters often with a NULL to terminate. No hardware support.
3. Images are arrays of images. Often has hardware support.
4. Sound is a sequence of fixed-point numbers.
5. Other data types may be defined abstractly by us and interpreted as needed.

## 7 Transistors

Each transistor is a digital switch. When combined in different circuits, transistor combinations can emulate certain logical operations such as AND, OR, and NOT. These can then be combined to create adders, multiplexers, decoders, and other farther complex structures.

Gordon Moore, an early founder of Intel, hypothesized that transistor count would double every two years. This is now known as Moore's Law.

Transistors have 3 wells. A well is a homogeneous material that is either more or less positive than negative. A negative well is denoted  $n$  and a positive well is denoted  $p$ . The gate in a transistor creates a field to allow or disallow charge to migrate across wells.

n-Type Transistor (npn)

Two  $n$  wells inside a large  $p$  substrate.

- When gate is tied to GND, the switch is open.  
No current flows from the source to the drain.  
'0 state'
- When gate is tied to voltage the switch is closed.  
Current flows from the source to the drain.  
'1 state'

p-Type Transistor (pnp)

Two  $p$  wells inside a large  $n$  substrate.

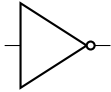
- When gate is tied to GND, the switch is closed.  
Current flows from the source to the drain.  
'1 state'
- When gate is tied to voltage the switch is open.  
No current flows from the source to the drain.  
'0 state'

## 8 Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor Circuits(CMOS)

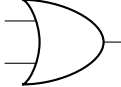
- NOT Gate (Inverter)
- NOR Gate (NOT OR, Serial on top, Parallel on bottom)
- OR Gate (NOR + NOT)
- NAND Gate (NOT AND, Parallel on top, Series on bottom)
- AND Gate (NAND + NOT)

## 9 Simplified Gates

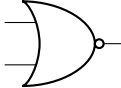
- NOT Gate



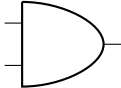
- OR Gate



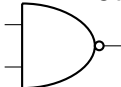
- NOR Gate



- AND Gate



- NAND Gate



## 10 Other Circuits

- 2-Bit Decoder  
Uses 4 AND Gates with different inverter configurations on each. It maps 2 inputs to 4 outputs.
- Multiplexer  
Uses 4 inputs and interprets to 1 output. A selector input of two wires will change the output from 4 AND Gates.
- Full Adder  
Capable of adding two bits with carry-in. Produces a one-bit sum with carry-out

## 11 Logical Completeness

Can complete any truth table with just AND, OR, NOT. First, mark every output row that has a truth value of true. Draw an OR gate at the bottom to accept all true outputs. Connect AND Gates to the OR Gate and have every input connect to each AND gate. For each AND Gate, configure the inputs with inverters so that each AND Gate emulates a truth table row.

## 12 Combinational vs Sequential Circuits

Combinational Circuit

always produces the same output for a given set of inputs

Sequential Circuit

Stores information

Output depends on stored information (state) plus input

## 13 R-S Latch

R is used to 'Reset' or clear the element - set it to zero.

S is used to 'set' the element - set it to one.

If both R and S are one, the output could be either one or zero. To assert one of the inputs, use Active Low Logic.

## 14 Gated D Latch

Based upon R-S Latch and has 2 inputs. D (for data) and WE (write enabled). Two AND gates feed into the R and S inputs of an R-S latch, and input is only sent to the R-S latch when WE is asserted.

$WE = 1 \rightarrow$  latch is set to the value of D.  $S = \text{NOT}(D)$ ,  $R = D$

$WE = 0 \rightarrow$  latch holds previous value.  $S = R = 1$

## 15 Register

Side by side Gated D latches that share a single WE line, but has separate data lines.

A register holds a n-bit value, controlled by a common WE.

## 16 Memory

Address is taken as multiple inputs, that input passes to an address decoder which uses AND gates to specify what memory location can be written to, when WE is asserted.

Not the most expensive, and more transistors are needed in greater density.

Address decoder

Word Select Line

Word Write Enable

## 17 Representing Multi-bit Numbers

Number bits from right to left for convention. Use brackets to denote range.

D[l:r] denotes bit l to bit r from left to right in register D

May also see "A<sub>14:9</sub>"

## 18 State Machine

Finite State Machine with Datapath (FSMD)

Controller / Data Path

Another type of combinational logic with storage. It "Remembers" states and changes its output(s) are based on inputs and the state machine's current state. This type of circuit is the heart of the controller in a CPU.

Combinational vs Sequential: Combinational types depend only on the values.

Sequential types strictly depend on the order of values inputted.

The state of a system is a snapshot of all the relevant elements of the system at the moment the snapshot is taken.

State diagrams are directed graphs that show how actions change states.

1. A finite number of states
2. A finite number of external inputs
3. A finite number of external outputs
4. An explicit specification of all state transitions
5. An explicit specification of what determines each external value

Clock cycles are used in digital circuits to trigger state transitions. A single cycle is when the value changes between '1' and '0' fully. Transitions can be triggered with edge triggered logic, or level triggered logic.  
Storage for state machines can be accomplished using a Master-Slave flipflop.

## 19 From Logic to Datapath

The datapath of a computer is all the logic used to process information.

- Combinational Logic
  - Decoders – convert instructions into control signals
  - Multiplexers – select inputs and outputs
  - ALU (Arithmetic and Logic Unit) – operations on data
- Sequential Logic
  - State machine – coordinate control signals and data movement
  - Registers and latches – storage elements

## 20 von Neumann Machine / Model

Basic structure of machine that is the most common, even today.  
a memory, containing instructions and data  
a processing unit, for performing arithmetic and logical operations  
a control unit for interpreting instructions

## 21 Harvard Model

Refinement of von Neumann Model.  
separate memory for programs and data  
Both models are sequential and synchronous. Programs are both interpreted by a control unit.

- IR - Instruction Register
- PC - Program Counter
- ALU - Arithmetic and Logical Unit
- MAR - Memory Address Register
- MDR - Memory Data Register
- PMEM - Program Memory (Harvard Model, effectively Read-Only)
- DMEM - Data Memory (Harvard Model)

## 22 Memory

$2^k * m$  array of stored bits.

Address - unique k-bit identifier of location

Contents - m-bit value stored in location

Basic Operations:

LOAD - Read a value from a memory location

STORE - Write a value to a memory location

## 23 Interface to Memory

To LOAD a location (A)

- Write the address (A) into the MAR
- Send a 'read' signal to the memory
- Read the data stored in MDR

To WRITE a value (X) to a location (A)

- Write data (X) to the MDR
- Write the address (A) to the MAR
- send a 'write' signal to the memory

## 24 Processing Unit

Functional Units - add, multiply, square root

Registers - Small temp storage, operands and results of functional units

Data Word Size - number of bits normally processed by ALU in one instruction. Also the width of registers

## 25 Input and Output

- Devices for getting data into and out of computer memory
- Each device has its own interface, usually a set of registers like the memory's MAR and MDR
- Some devices provide both input and output (disk, networking)
- Programs that control access to a device is a driver



## 26 Control Unit

- Instruction Register - IR - contains the current instruction
- Program Counter - PC - contains the address of the next instruction to be executed
- Control unit reads an instruction from memory. interprets the instruction, generating signals that tell the other components what to do

## 27 Instruction Processing - PNAMEBC

PNAMEBC → Pay No Attention to the Man Behind the Curtain

- Fetch instruction from memory
- Decode instruction
- Evaluate address
- Fetch operands from memory
- Execute operation
- Store result

Instructions are the fundamental unit of work. An instruction specifies opcode (what operation needs to be performed) and operands (data/locations to be used in the operation). They are stored just like data, as a fixed length sequence of bits. The Control Unit interprets the instruction and generates a sequence of signals to carry out the action.

A computer's instructions and their formats is known as its Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)

## 28 Types of Instructions

- Computational instructions (ADD, AND, etc)
- Data movement instructions (LD, ST, etc)
- Control instructions (JMP, BRxx, etc)

### 28.1 AVR add instruction

Instruction format: 000011rdddddrrrr

For this ISA, 000011 is the opcode for addition, and d is the 'destination register' and r is the 'source register'. The r and d is staggered for legacy reasons.

Syntax: add Rd, Rr

Example: "add r1, r3 ; add r3 to r1 bits are 0000110000010011"

## 28.2 AVR rjump instruction (Relative Jump)

Instruction format: 1100kkkkkkkkkkkk

Syntax: rjump k  $-2K \leq k < 2K$

Operation:  $PC = PC + k$  (after PC is already incremented) where  $-2K \leq k \leq 2K$

Example: "rjmp DoIt ; jmp to label DoIt bits are 1100000011111111"

## 29 Instruction Processing

- FETCH:
  - Load next instruction from the address stored at the program counter (PC) and place into the instruction register (IR)  
Copy contents of PC to PMAR (Program Memory Address Register)  
Send "read" to memory  
Copy PMDR (Program Memory Data Register) contents to IR
  - Increment the PC so that it points to the next instruction
- DECODE:
  - Identify the opcode  
For the AVR ADD instruction, this is bits [15:10]
  - Depending on the opcode, identify the other operands from the remaining bits
- EVALUATE ADDRESS:
  -

## 30 Assembly Language

Nothing but human readable machine code. Assembly gives a way to easily convert between symbols and machine code.

An assembler is a program that makes such a conversion. Assemblers are very specific to ISA. Because of this, there is a very close relationship between symbols and instruction sets. This means opcodes are mnemonics specific to an ISA. Using assembly we can label locations in memory to prevent hassles with program location.

Some instructions can only be preformed on specific registers.

### 30.1 Syntax

LABEL OPCODE OPERANDS ; COMMENTS (where the label and comment are optional)

- Comments: begin with a semi-colon  
";This is a comment"
- Labels: not a instruction, but a tag within the code that defines a location. In AVR, labels end with a colon  
"mylabel:"
- Assembler Directive: specifies the origin of the next instruction within memory  
".org 0x100" - this means the next instruction will be at location 0x100
- Opcode: can be different per instruction. Generally organized to have a text mnemonic followed by comma sperated values in the form of labels, registers, and numbers.  
"ldi r16, 6" - Load the value '6' into register 16
- Operands: registers, numbers, labels.  
Registers have the format r1, r13, fXX.  
Numbers can be decimal X or hex 0xX.  
Labels are just text, in the format XXXXX
- Directives: pseudo-operations used only by the assembler. Start with a '.'  
.ORG [address] - Starting address of next instruction in PMEM  
.BYTE [expressions] - Place bytes from expressions in code  
.SET [symbol, expression] - Set the value of a symbol to an expression  
.FILL [repeat, size, value] - allocate one word, init with a value  
.SECTION [section name] - Place following code into the section name's location

## 31 Register Transfer Language (RTL)

```

FETCH
 $PMAR \leftarrow PC$ 
AssertREADofPMEM
 $PMDR \leftarrow PMEM[PMAR]$ 
 $IR \leftarrow PMDR$ 
 $PC \leftarrow PC + 1$ 

```

## 32 Assembly Process

Convert's assembly files (.asm) to executables (.hex) for the AVR.

First Pass

- Scan assembly file
- find all labels and calculate corresponding addresses (symbol table)

Second Pass

- Convert instructions to machine code using information from the symbol table

### 32.1 Constructing a Symbol Table

1. Initialize the location counter (LC) which keeps track of the address of the current instruction
2. For each non-empty line in the program:
  - (a) If the line contains a label, add label and LC to symbol table
  - (b) Increment LC (If .FILL or .BYTE is used, increment LC by the number of words allocated)
3. Stop construction when end of file is reached.

### 32.2 Second Pass

- For each executable assembly statement, generate the corresponding machine language instruction
- Potential problems:
  - Improper number/type of arguments
  - Immediate argument too large