

PROBLEM SOLVING USING COMPUTERS

→ Introduction to computing:-

problem solving :- sequential process of analyzing info

- general problem solving step:-

- 1) define the problem
- 2) develop a plan
- 3) implementing
- 4) Evaluate

- steps for computing (step-by-step solving)

- 1) Analyzing
- 2) development of an algorithm
- 3) coding
- 4) Testing & debugging

- skill set required by a software developer

- technical skills
- Problem solving (most imp) (logical & analytical thinking)
- soft skill (comm., negotiation, team work)

what is a problem?

- needs logical thinking to solve (or maths?)

- to solve a problem, you need:-

- Logic : • language for reasoning
- collection of rules we use when doing reasoning.
- the process part of finding the sol. requires logic.
- for solving 1 problem, several logics can be applied.

→ Computational problem :-

- definition ?

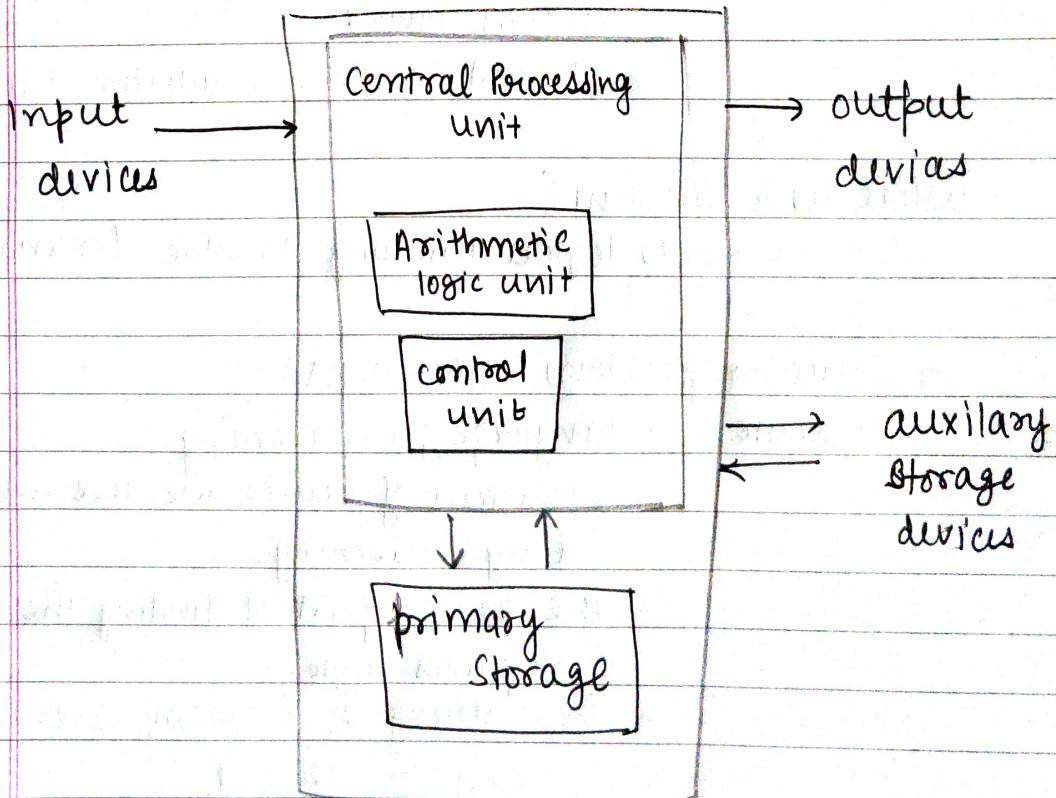
- applications :-

- 1) decision problem (answers = Y/N?)
- 2) Searching & sorting problem (ordering)
- 3) Counting problem (no. of occurrences)
- 4) optimization problem (best solution)

- classification

- 1) concurrent : operation overlap in time
- 2) sequential : step-by-step method
- 3) disturbed : performed at diff. location
- 4) event based : based on input

→ Computer Organization



o CPU

- data & instructions r processed here

- Arithmetic & logic unit

- +, -, *, /, II, %
- logic : OR, AND, NAND

functions of control unit:-

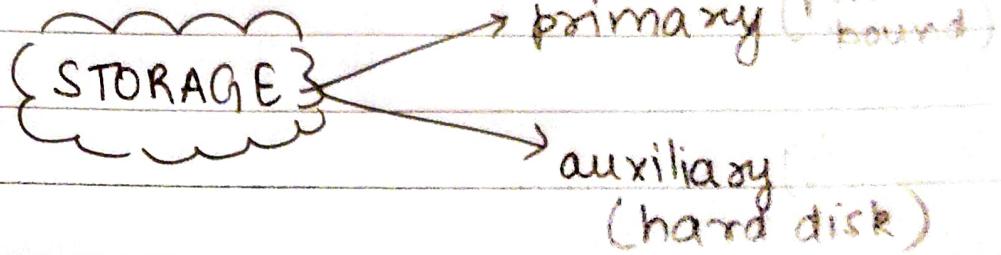
- 1) fetches data & instruction to main memory.
- 2) interprets instruction.
- 3) controls transfer of data to & fro from main memory
- 4) controls input & output devices
- 5) over supervision of comp. system .

- control unit :

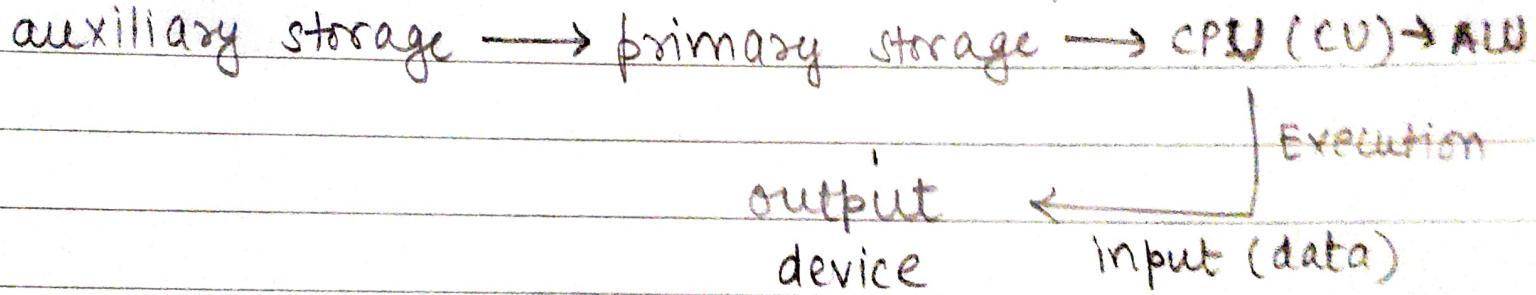
controls the order in which program instructions r execut

from main memory
controls input & output
supervision of system.

~ SESSION - II ~



flow :-



primary storage + Auxiliary storage → Memory unit

° Memory unit:-

- data & instructions fed by the USER are STORED
- an ordered sequence of storage cell, holding a piece of info
- each cell has its own address
- info can be input data, instruction, computed values.

- the memory is measured in terms of bits , bytes and words.
 - A bit is a binary digit (either 0 or 1)
 - A byte is unit of memory and is defined as sequence of 8 bits
 - the word can be defined as a sequence of or 2/4/8 bytes respectively

→ Computer memory classification

- Main / primary
- Auxiliary / secondary
- Cache memory

(i) Main Memory (primary memory)

(1) Main Memory (Primary memory)

- Memory where data & inst., currently being executed are stored

Main Memory

Main Memory volatile
Main memory is volatile
and limited.

→ Hence, it is essential for other types of storage devices where program can be stored when they are no longer being processed.

Installed within computer
at the factory or added
later.

- Located outside CPU
 - high speed (relative wst Auxiliary)
 - data erased when power goes off

primary | temporary

 - semiconductor memory
 - measured in terms of
megabytes & gigabytes
 (10^6) (10^9)

4. Random Access Memory

- Read & write memory
 - Info typed by user is stored
 - any memory location can be accessed w/o scanning it (random access)
 - Volatile memory (~~erased~~)

o ROM (Read only memory)

- permanent memory
 - non volatile
 - location data location cannot be changed
 - stores mainly stored program

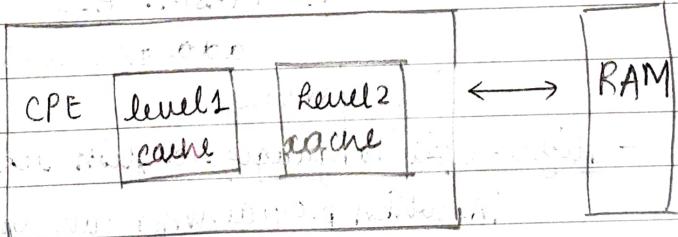
(2) Secondary memory (Auxillary)

- Non-volatile.
- Made up of magnetic material.
- stores large amount of information for a long time.
- low speed (wrt primary memory)
- holds programs not currently being

(3) Cache Memory:- (semiconductor)

- high speed memory placed b/w CPU & main memory
- stores data & instruction currently to be executed.
- More costlier but less capacity than main memory.
- Users can not access this memory.

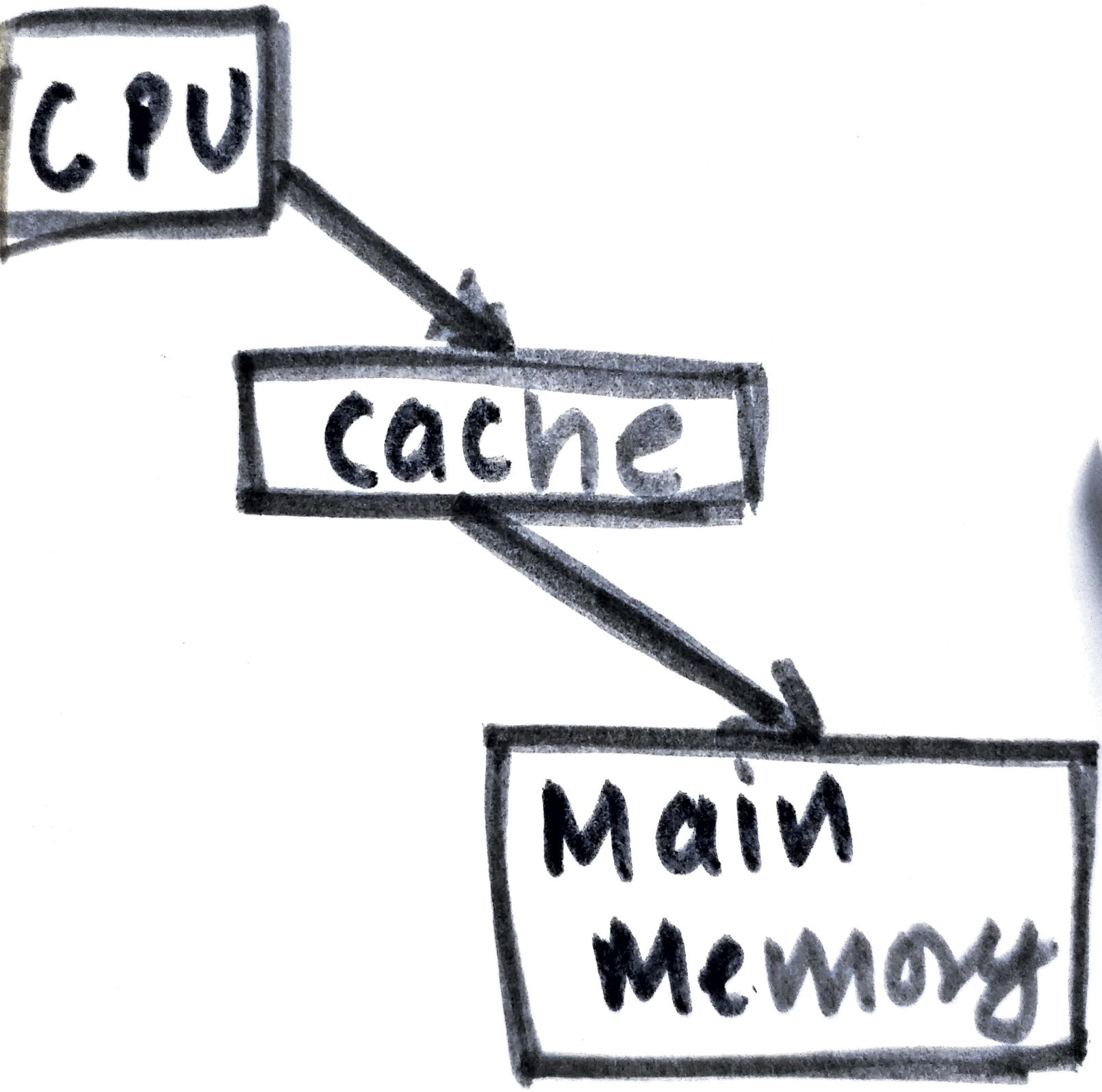
there is a little memory in CPU → registers (limited size)



- Problem: in the CPU, data goes from CPU to the RAM (Registers → RAM) which takes time.
- ~~internally~~ ∵ cache was introduced.

- there are different levels of cache memory (L_1 , L_2 , L_3)
- Some levels hold the data, some hold instruction, some hold both.

disadvantages:- (1) limited space (2) very expensive.



→ operating system :-

- OS is an integrated collection of programs which make the computer operational and help in executing user program
- acts as an interface b/w man and machine
 - It manages the system resources like memory, processors, input-output devices and files.
 - eg:- Windows, DOS, Linux

→ Computer languages:-

- machine language : consists of 1's and 0's
(only programming lang available in earlier days.)

TRANSLATORS are used to convert English to binary programs. Called compilers & interpreters.

- Symbolic language or assembly language
 - symbols or mnemonics used to represent instructions.

(this is the intermediate form b/w English and binary)

- hardware specific

- eg:- MASM: `ADD n, y;`

add the content of y and n

THERE IS A DIRECT CO-RELATION B/W ASSEMBLY LANG & MACHINE LANG

- High-level languages: english like language in which programmer can write programs to solve a problem.
 - more concerned with the prob. specification.
 - not oriented towards the details of comp.
 - eg, C++, C, C#, Pascal, Fortran

→ Language Translator:-

- Compiler :- Program that translates entire high-level language program into machine language at a time.

- interpreter:- Program which translates one statement of a high-level language program into machine language at a time and executes it.

eg:- Java interpreters , Basic interpreters .

- Assembler:- ~~program~~ which translates an assembly language program into machine language.

eg. TASM (Turbo ASseMbler) MASM
(Macro ASseMbler)