INTRODUCTION TO EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

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Embedded System Products



Examples of Embedded Systems





























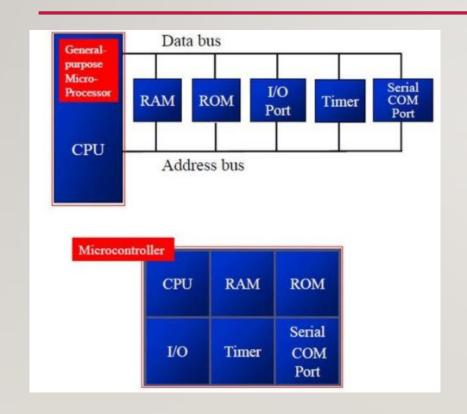


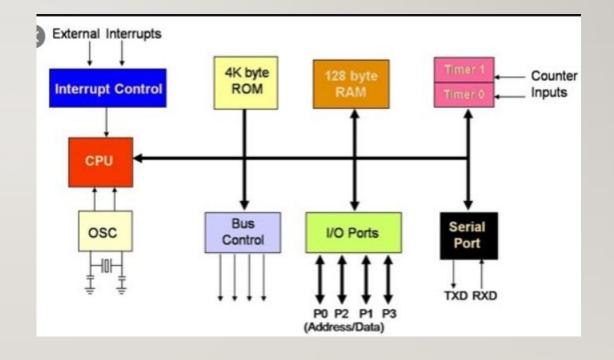












Microprocessor vs. Microcontroller

Microprocessor

- CPU is stand-alone, RAM, ROM, I/O, timer are separate
- designer can decide on the amount of ROM, RAM and I/O ports.
- expensive
- versatility
- general-purpose
- High processing power
- High power consumption
- Instruction sets focus on processing-intensive operations
- Typically 32/64 bit
- Typically deep pipeline (5-20 stages)

Microcontroller

- CPU, RAM, ROM, I/O and timer are all on a single chip
- fixed amount of on-chip ROM, RAM, I/O ports
- for applications in which cost, power and space are critical
- single-purpose (control-oriented)
- Low processing power
- Low power consumption
- Bit-level operations
- Instruction sets focus on control and bit-level operations
- · Typically 8/16 bit
- Typically single-cycle/two-stage pipeline

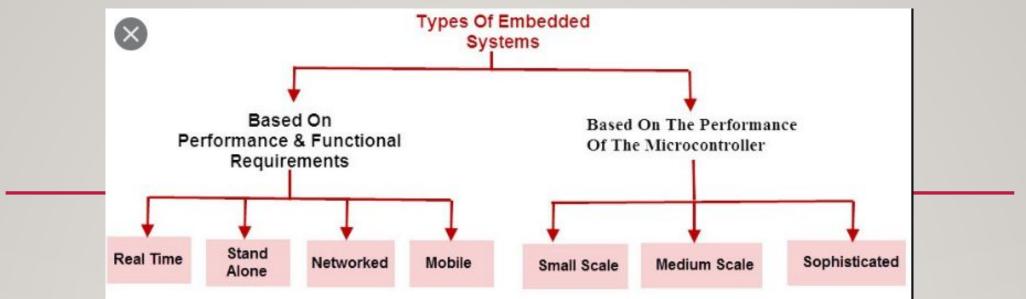
CHARACTERISTICS OF EMBEDDED SYSTEMS



Some of the key characteristics of Embedded Systems are as mentioned below.

- I. All Embedded Systems are task specific. They do the same task repeatedly /continuously over their lifetime. An mp3 player will function only as an mp3 player.
- 2. Embedded systems are created to perform the task within a certain time frame. It must therefore perform fast enough. A car's brake system, if exceeds the time limit, may cause accidents.
- 3. They have minimal or no user interface (UI). A fully automatic washing machine works on its own after the program is set and stops once the task is over.
- 4. Some embedded systems are designed to react to external stimuli and react accordingly. A thermometer, a GPS tracking device.
- 5. Embedded systems are built to achieve certain efficiency levels. They are small sized, can work with less power and are not too expensive.
- 6. Embedded systems cannot be changed or upgraded by the users. Hence, they must rank high on reliability and stability. They are expected to function for long durations without the user experiencing any difficulties.
- 7. Microcontroller or microprocessors are used to design embedded systems.
- 8. Embedded systems need connected peripherals to attach input & output devices.

Criteria	General Purpose Computing System	Embedded System
Contents	A system which is a combination of a generic hardware and a General Purpose Operating System for executing a variety of applications.	A system which is a combination of special purpose hardware and embedded OS for executing a specific set of applications.
os	It contains a general purpose operating system (GPOS).	It may or not contain an operating system for functioning.
Alterations	Applications are alterable (programmable) by the user. (It is possible for the end user to re-install the OS and also add or remove user applications.)	The firmware of the embedded system is pre- programmed and it is non-alterable by the end-user.
Key factor	Performance is the key deciding factor in the selection of the system. Faster is better.	Application specific requirements (like performance, power requirements, memory usage, etc.) are key deciding factors.
Power Consumption	More	Less
Response Time	Not critical	Critical for some applications
Execution	Need not be deterministic	Deterministic for certain types of ES like 'Hard Real Time' systems.



Real-Time Embedded Systems:

- Traffic control system
- Military usage in defense sector
- Medical usage in health sector

Stand Alone Embedded

Systems:

- MP3 players
- Microwave ovens

Networked Embedded Systems

- Home security systems
- ATM machine
- Card swipe machine

Mobile Embedded Systems :

- MP3 player
- Mobile phones

