

1/

1.1/ ROM(read only memory): All reading at full speed (just get the address and go there)

- Content built-in at time of manufacture.

1.2/ RAM (Random access memory)

- Ram is volatile memory that temporarily stores the files you are working on
- Rom is non-volatile memory that permanently stores instructions for the computer.

1.3/ Static RAM – retains information until power removed. Fast, larger area of silicon per byte, modest power requirement.

> Dynamic RAM - retains information as long as the contents are refreshed frequently enough. Smaller area of silicon per byte, low power requirement.

- Does not use flip-flops.
- Uses tiny capacitors to store electric charge.
- Because the charge leaks away have to rewrite (“refresh”) every few milliseconds.

1.4/ Flash Memory (EEPROM)

- Charge stored between insulators. Write bit by injecting electrons through a barrier layer (physically damaging it). Used in USB drives. Good for about 30,000 writes.

$2 / (2^{10})^3 = 2^{30} \Rightarrow 30$ bits are needed to address all bytes.

3/ > Von Neumann:

- Data and Instructions stored in same location
- Stack central to handling multiple tasks/interrupts

> Harvard:

- Separates data and instructions
- Increased efficiency and security
- Reduced generality and versatility

4/ CPU CACHES

> Store frequently accessed instructions/data in high-speed memory.

> What's in cache depends on caching algorithms

> Can have separate Instruction and Data caches:

- Instructions smaller, more predictable format so have dedicated hardware (read access) to data caches (RW access).

- Increases processing speed – Instructions and Data can be loaded at the same time.

- May save power (can power-down cache if not in use)

> Can have separate layers (L1, L2, L3) depending on speed/frequency requirement.

5/ INTERRUPTS

Stacks allow interrupt-based hardware access.

> A device (e.g. I/O) issues an electrical signal, which feeds into a priority encoder which then issues an INT signal to the CPU (depending on relative priority).

> The current work of the CPU (including the value of the IP) is pushed onto the stack.

> The CPU loads the Interrupt's handler routine (code which specifies what to do when interrupted by the specific hardware), executes the code.

> The INT Handler ends with a RETurn instruction, which pops the stored IP off the stack into the IP, and processing resumes

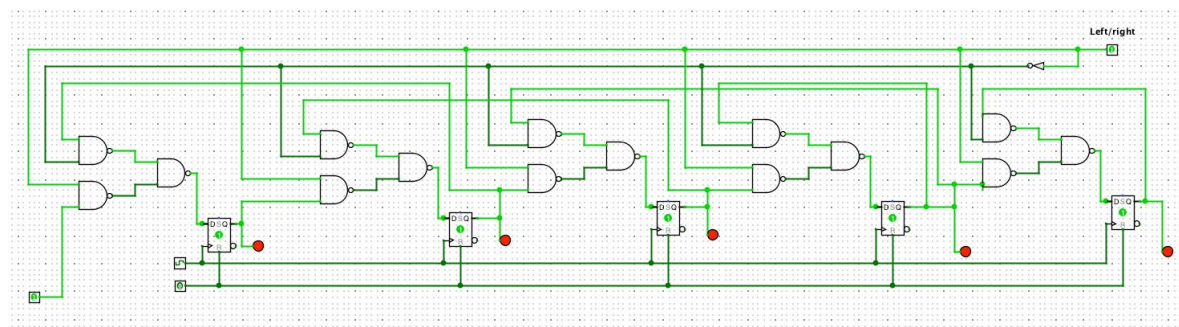
6/ STACKS

- > Random access memory requires knowing the address of every byte/word you want to access
- > Stacks offer a way of organising and accessing memory without random (indexed) access:
 - There are hardware stacks and software stacks.
- > Hardware stacks created out of dedicated shift registers
- > Software stacks typically defined in RAM using conventions (we'll come back to this):

IN SIMPLE TERMS...

- > A stack allows us to mothball/backup/hibernate a process/task at will on the receipt of an interrupt or code invocation.
- > To do this, we
 1. push instructions/data that we will need later onto the stack;
 2. do the task;
 3. and then pop the stored data back off the stack and
 4. continue as before.

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12/

