

Embedded Systems Introduction

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Sections

- Embedded Systems
- Microcontrollers
- Microprocessors
- CPU
- System-on-Chip (SoC)
- Microcontroller Structure



Embedded Systems - Introduction

- Embedded Systems are specialized computing systems designed to perform specific tasks or functions within larger systems or devices.
- These systems are tightly integrated into hardware, making them dedicated and efficient for their intended applications.
- Embedded systems can be found in various domains, including automotive, consumer electronics, industrial automation, medical devices, and more.



Embedded Systems - Applications

- Automotive:
 - Engine control units (ECUs)
 - Infotainment systems
- Consumer Electronics:
 - Smart TVs and set-top boxes
 - Home automation controllers
- Industrial Automation:
 - Programmable logic controllers (PLCs)
 - SCADA systems for monitoring and control
- Medical Devices:
 - Patient monitoring systems
 - Implantable medical devices





Embedded Systems - Board Examples

- Arduino Boards:
 - Arduino Uno for DIY electronics projects
 - Arduino Nano for compact designs
- Raspberry Pi:
 - Raspberry Pi Zero for low-cost embedded solutions
 - Raspberry Pi Compute Module for industrial applications
- Texas Instruments LaunchPad:
 - MSP430 LaunchPad for ultra-low-power applications
 - Tiva C Series LaunchPad for real-time control



Microcontroller - Introduction

- Microcontrollers are small, self-contained computing devices with integrated memory, I/O ports, and peripherals, commonly used in embedded systems.
- Advantages:
 - Cost-effective solution for specific tasks
 - Low power consumption for extended battery life
 - Compact size and easy integration
- Cons:
 - Limited processing power for complex applications
 - Smaller memory capacity compared to microprocessors
 - Fewer built-in peripherals than some SoCs







Microcontroller - Architecture

- Microcontrollers utilize the Harvard architecture with CPU, RAM, ROM/Flash, and built-in peripherals, allowing efficient control of devices.
- Peripherals:
 - General Purpose Input/Output (GPIO) pins
 - Timers and counters for precise timekeeping
 - Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADC) for sensor interfacing
 - Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter (UART) for serial communication



Microcontroller - Applications

- Home Automation:
 - Smart thermostats
 - Lighting control systems
- Automotive Systems:
 - Engine control units
 - Airbag systems
- Consumer Electronics:
 - Remote controls
 - Fitness trackers
- Industrial Automation:
 - Programmable logic controllers (PLCs)
 - Process control

- Arduino boards for DIY electronics projects
- Raspberry Pi Pico for low-cost microcontroller applications



Microprocessor - Introduction

- Microprocessors are CPUs designed for high processing power and general-purpose computing, found in devices like computers and laptops.
- Advantages:
 - High computing performance for complex tasks
 - Ability to handle multitasking and multiple applications
 - Support for various operating systems and software
- Cons:
 - Higher power consumption compared to microcontrollers
 - Larger physical size and higher cost
 - Limited on-chip peripherals, requiring external components



Microprocessor - Architecture

- Microprocessors follow the Von Neumann architecture, featuring CPU, ALU, Control Unit, and Registers. External memory chips are required for data storage.
- Peripherals:
 - Microprocessors usually require external components for peripherals such as keyboard, mouse, and display interface.



Microprocessor - Applications

- Personal Computers:
 - Desktops
 - Laptops
 - 2-in-1 devices
- Servers:
 - Data centers
 - Cloud computing
- Gaming Consoles:
 - PlayStation
 - Xbox
 - Nintendo Switch

- CISC
 - Intel 386
 - Intel 486
 - Pentium
 - Pentium Pro
 - Pentium II
- RISC
 - IBM RS6000
 - DEC Alpha 21064
 - DEC Alpha 21164



CPU - Introduction

• CPUs (Central Processing Units) are the heart of any computing device, responsible for executing instructions and performing calculations.

- Advantages:
 - High processing power for complex computations
 - Versatility to handle various tasks and workloads
 - Critical component in modern technology
- Cons:
 - Higher power consumption compared to microcontrollers
 - Requires additional components for a complete system
 - Complexity can lead to challenging debugging and design.







CPU - Architecture

- CPUs follow different architectures like x86, ARM, and RISC-V, with various components such as ALU, Control Unit, and Registers.
- Peripherals:
 - CPUs require external components like memory, I/O devices, and graphics cards for complete system functionality.



CPU - Applications

- Personal Computers:
 - Desktops
 - Laptops
 - Workstations
- Servers:
 - Data centers
 - Cloud computing
- Supercomputers:
 - Scientific research
 - Simulation and modeling

- Intel Core i9 for high-end desktop computing
- AMD EPYC processors for server applications



System-on-Chip (SoC) - Introduction

- System-on-Chip (SoC) integrates CPU (microcontroller/microprocessor), memory, peripherals, and other components on a single chip, enhancing device functionality.
- Advantages:
 - Compact size and reduced power consumption
 - Simplified design and reduced PCB space
 - Improved performance with integrated components
- Cons:
 - Higher complexity may lead to more challenging debugging
 - Customization options limited by integrated components





SoC - Architecture

- SoCs combine CPU, memory, graphics, and audio controllers on a single chip, commonly used in smartphones, IoT devices, and wearables.
- Peripherals:
 - Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) for enhanced graphics performance
 - Audio Codec for audio processing and playback
 - Connectivity options such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and NFC



SoC - Applications

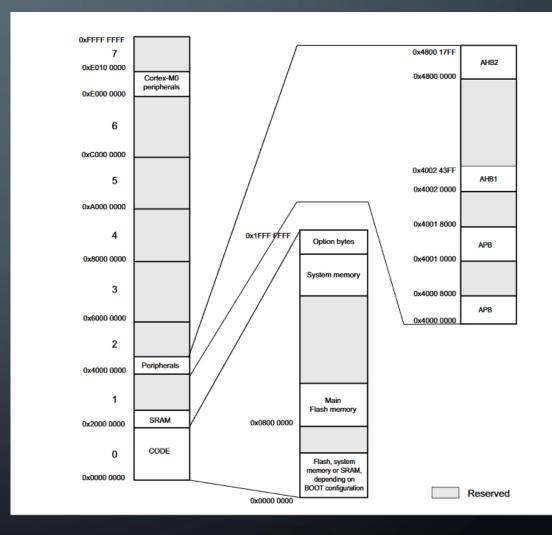
- Smartphones and Tablets:
 - Apple iPhone
 - Samsung Galaxy
- Internet of Things (IoT) Devices:
 - Smart home devices
 - Wearables
- Wearable Technology:
 - Smartwatches
 - Fitness trackers

- Qualcomm Snapdragon SoCs for smartphones and IoT devices
- Apple A-series SoCs for iPhones and iPads



Memory Map

 Memory Map organizes a microcontroller's or SoC's memory, including RAM, ROM/Flash, I/O ports, and special function registers, essential for efficient programming.





Flash Memory

- Flash memory is used in microcontrollers for non-volatile data storage.
- Types of Flash Memory:
 - NOR Flash: Commonly used for firmware storage and can execute code directly from memory.
 - NAND Flash: Typically used for data storage and requires a separate RAM buffer for code execution.



Register Map

- Special Function Registers (SFRs) control various hardware functionalities in microcontrollers.
- Examples:
 - GPIO Configuration Registers: Set pins as input or output.
 - Timer Control Registers: Configure timer settings for precise timekeeping.



RAM

- Microcontrollers have various areas in RAM to store data during program execution.
- Global Area:
 - Hold Static and global variables that must remain in entire of process
- Heap Area:
 - Dynamically allocated memory for variables during runtime.
- Stack Area:
 - Holds return addresses and local variables during function calls.

Global

Heap

Stack