COMPUTER SYSTEMS FUNDAMENTALS (4COSCO04W)

Data Storage Part 1 of 3

In this lecture we will cover:

- Data storage units:
 - Terminology
 - Appreciation of magnitudes of data

DATA STORAGE

UNITS OF DATA STORAGE

By the end of this unit you will:

- Be able to distinguish between various units of data storage
- Be able to convert between the units correctly

Bit

- Binary Digit
- Either a 1 or a 0
- Smallest unit of data

Nibble

- 4 Bits
- Useful for converting Binary to Hex and back

Byte

- 8 Bits
- 2 Nibbles
- Smallest unit of data addressable by CPU
- CPU transfers data in units of 1 Byte
- Smallest number in 1 Byte $00000000_2 = 0_{10}$
- Largest number in 1 Byte $111111111_2 = 255_{10}$
- 256 different values
- 1 ASCII Character (next video)

Kilobyte 1024 Bytes (2¹⁰)

- This is **NOT** 1000 bytes !!!!
- 1KB = 1 Kilobyte
 - A book with 2 pages, with an average of 600 words per page, and on average 6 characters per word:
 - How much storage space would be required using ASCII?

$$- \frac{2 \times 600 \times 6}{1024} = 7.03125 \, KB$$

Megabyte 2^{20} bytes

- This is **NOT** 1 million Bytes
- 1 Megabyte = $1MB = 2^{20}$ Bytes = 1,048,576 Bytes
- 1MB = 1024 Kilobytes

Gigabyte 2^{30} bytes

- 1 Gigabyte = $1GB = 2^{30}$ Bytes = 1,073,741,824 Bytes
- 1GB = 1024 MB

Terabyte 2^{40} bytes

- 1 Terabyte = 1TB = 2^{40} Bytes = 1,099,511,627,776 Bytes
- 1TB = 1024 GB

Data storage units:

Name	Size
Byte (B)	2ºBytes
Kilobyte (KB)	$2^{10}Bytes = 1024 B$
Megabyte (MB)	$2^{20}Bytes = 1024 \text{ KB}$
Gigabyte (GB)	$2^{30}Bytes = 1024 MB$
Terabyte (TB)	$2^{40}Bytes = 1024 \text{ GB}$
Petabyte (PB)	$2^{50}Bytes = 1024 \text{ TB}$
Exabyte (EB)	$2^{60}Bytes = 1024 PB$
Zettabyte (ZB)	$2^{70}Bytes = 1024 EB$
Yottabyte (YB)	$2^{80}Bytes = 1024 ZB$

In this lecture we covered:

- Data storage
 - Unit sizes
 - Bit, Nibble, Byte, KB, MB, GB,

Thank you

© The University of Westminster (2021)

These notes were modified from the lecture slides generated by Noam Weingarten.

The right of Noam Weingarten to be identified as author of this work has been asserted by them in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988