

Introduction to Computer Science: Learning CS & How Computers Work

PowerPoint Presentation
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# Section 1.1 Learning the Exposure May

### The "Nothing is Obvious" Story

Imagine a young boy in the Amazon jungles. This boy has always lived in the jungle without any modern conveniences. He has never been in a city; he has never seen a television nor seen a book.



Now imagine that for some unknown reason this young boy travels to Colorado in the Winter time. The little boy stands in a yard somewhere and watches the snow with bewilderment. He is astonished; he does not understand what is falling from the sky.

Another little boy, about the same age, from Colorado, looks at the boy's behavior. The Colorado boy is confused, why is the boy acting so odd? Obviously it is snowing, so what is the big deal?

### Corn Flakes & Iced Tea

Most Americans consider it
"obvious" that cold milk is poured
on corn flakes. However, in
Europe, everybody knows you put
warm milk on your cereal.





Most Europeans consider it "obvious" that Tea is to be served warm, preferably hot. They are completely baffled when Texans actually put **ICE** in their Tea.

# Section 1.2 The Exposure

### The Exposure Equation

**Bewilderment + Exposure = Obvious** 



### **Exposure in Extracurricular Activities**











Basketball free throws







### The Curious Exposure Discrepancy

Students recognize that only continuous practice will result in a good showing at a brief performance or brief competition.

Many of the same students barely read or practice a topic <u>once</u> for an academic subject.

It appears that preparation for a known, short performance requires practice, but preparation for life receives only minimal effort from many students.

# Section 1.3 cettie me starte.

### **Computer Fundamentals**

First, this is a class in <u>Computer Science</u>, not Computer Literacy or Computer Applications.

The course that you are taking assumes that this is your first formal computer science course.

Furthermore, it is also assumed that you have no knowledge of programming.

If you do know some programming, fine, but it is not a prerequisite.

This means that we should start at

# Section 1.4 computers Work?

### Three Ways Where Computers Beat People

Computers are faster.



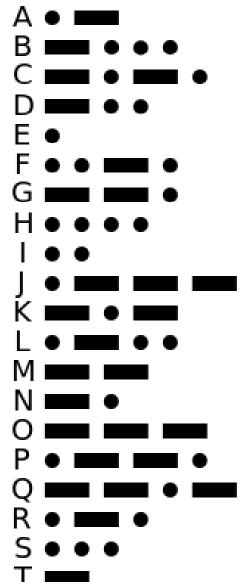
Computers do not forget.

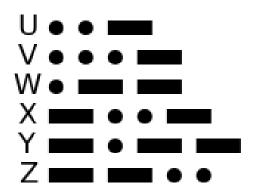
NOTE: Computers do not have intelligence or creativity.

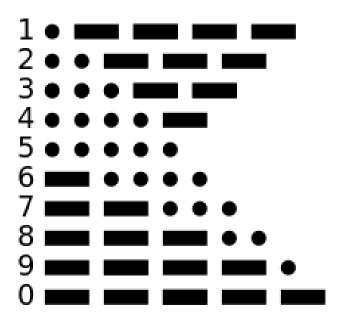
# Section 1.5 communication communication with Morse Code

### Morse Code









### Section 1.6 storing Data Electronically with 1s & 0s

### Early Computers Used Vacuum Tubes

They would turn on and off like light bulbs.

On represented a 1.

Off represented a 0.

#### **Problems with Vacuum Tubes:**

- They were big and bulky.
- They would get hot and burn out.



### Bits, Bytes & Codes

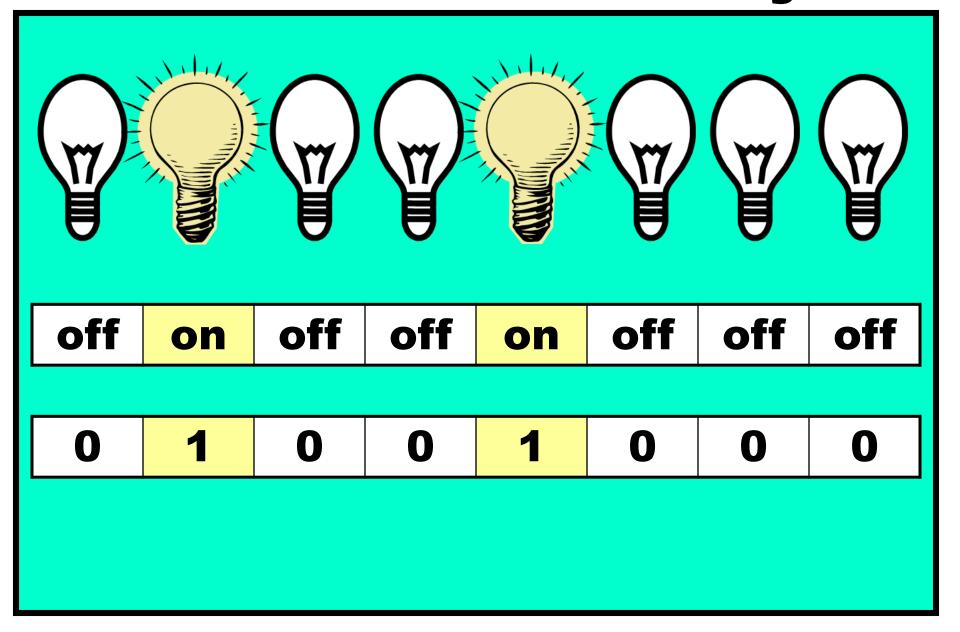
- Bit is a binary digit that is either 0 (off) or 1 (on)
- 1 Byte = 8 bits
- 1 Nibble = 4 bits (½ a byte)
- 1 Byte has 2<sup>8</sup> or 256 different numerical combinations.
- ASCII uses 1 byte (code values 32-127) to store 1 character.
- Unicode uses between 1 and 4 bytes to store a character.
- **UTF-8** is the most common encoding system for Unicode and allows up to **1,112,064** different characters.

# Holding One Byte of Information in 1945

https://commons.wikimedia.org (Public Domain, Cropped Image)



### **Electronic Memory**



### Decimal (Base-10) Number System

The number system that we use is called the *decimal* number system or **base-10**.

It is called "base-10" because it has 10 digits (0 - 9).

Rumor has it that people developed a base-10 system, because of our ten fingers.

#### Consider the base-10 number 2,345,678

10 <sup>6</sup>	10 <sup>5</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup>	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>	10 <sup>1</sup>	10 <sup>0</sup>
1,000,000	100,000	10,000	1,000	100	10	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

### Binary (Base-2) Number System

The number system used by computers is the *binary* number system or **base-2.** 

Only the digits 0 and 1 are used.

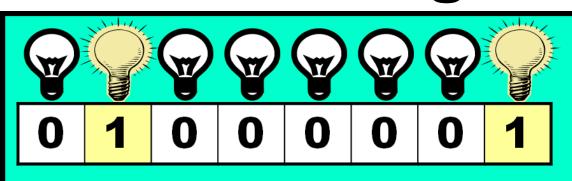
Remember that modern computers use electricity, which is either on or off. 1 means on. 0 means off.

#### Consider the base-2 number 01000001

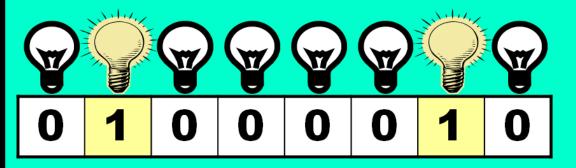
2 <sup>7</sup>	2 <sup>6</sup>	2 <sup>5</sup>	2 <sup>4</sup>	<b>2</b> <sup>3</sup>	2 <sup>2</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	20
128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Can you tell that this is equal to the base-10 number 65?

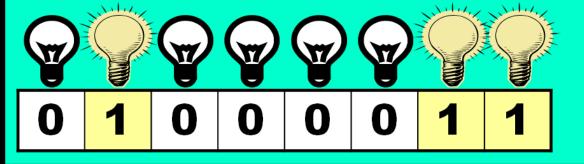
### Three Combinations of 8 Light Bulbs



(base-2) = **65** (base-10) or char **A** 



(base-2) = **66** (base-10) or char **B** 



(base-2) =

(base-10) or char **C** 

### **ENIAC** 1946

The ENIAC was the first electronic general purpose computer.

With over 17,000 vacuum tubes, the machine was the size of a gymnasium and cost \$500,000.

This was the first computer used to calculate the value of  $\pi$ .



# Section 1.7 Secondary Storage

### The Win-Win-Win with Transistors

### Transistors have major advantages over Vacuum Tubes:

- They are much smaller.
- They do not get hot and burn out.

This lead to the invention of *integrated* circuits and later microchips, which allowed modern computers to become much smaller and considerably less expensive.



¹⁄₄ inch ←

### **Motherboard & Computers Chips**

#### motherboard

The main board with all the primary computer components. Has several computer chips attached:

#### **Read Only Memory (ROM)**

This chip stores permanent information for the computer.

#### **Random Access Memory (RAM)**

This chip stores temporary information for the computer.

#### **Central Processing Unit (CPU)**

This chip is the "brains" of the computer.

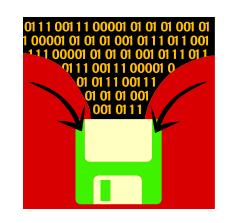
### **Measuring Memory**

KB	Kilo Byte	1 thousand bytes	1,000		
MB	Mega Byte	1 million bytes	1,000,000		
GB	Giga Byte	1 billion bytes	1,000,000,000		
TB	Tera Byte	1 trillion bytes	1,000,000,000		
PB	Peta Byte	1 quadrillion bytes	1,000,000,000,000		
EB	Exa Byte	1 quintillion bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000		
ZB	Zetta Byte	1 hexillion bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000		
YB	Yotta Byte	1 septillion bytes	1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000		

Note: Technically, a kilobyte is exactly 2<sup>10</sup> or 1024 bytes.

### **Secondary Storage Devices**

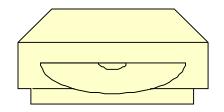
Since RAM is lost when the computer is turned off, files must be saved to some secondary storage device for later use.





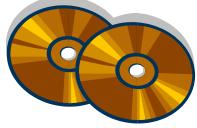












### Analog vs. Digital

### **Analog Devices**

#### **Digital Devices**

Measures continuously.



Measures in increments.



Copies are not as good as the original.



Copies are IDENTICAL to the original.



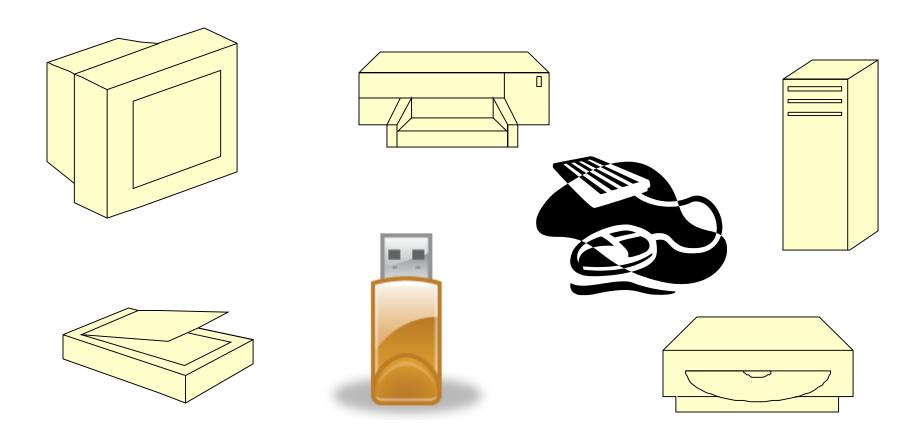
### Section 1.8

# Hard Ware & software

### **Hardware**

Hardware refers to physical pieces of computer equipment.

This included the main computer system unit, as well as all of the peripherals (things that plug into the computer.)



### Software

Software provides instructions to a computer.

The most important aspect of this course is to learn how to give correct and logical instructions to a computer with the help of a programming language.

**Software falls into two categories:** 

- System Software
- Application Software.

Applications Software refers to the instructions that the computer requires to do something specific for you.

Word Processors and Electronic Spreadsheets are the two most common applications for a computer.

System Software refers to the instructions that the computer requires to operate properly.

The major operating systems are Windows, UNIX, Linux & the MAC OS.