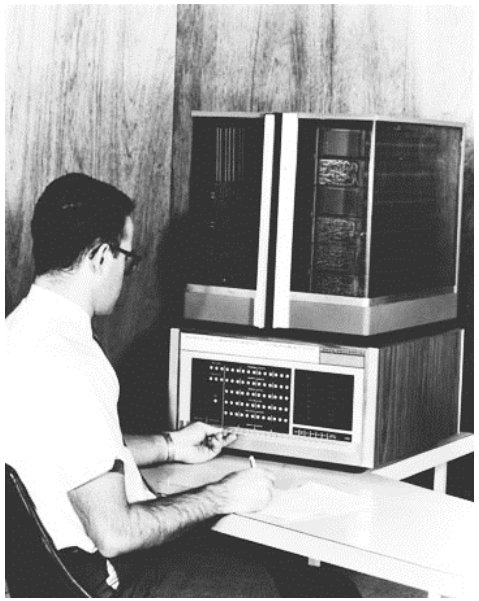
Assembly Language

Telling a computer what to do

Computer Evolution

The rapid development of increasingly capable computers was largely driven by improved silicon fabrication techniques (integrated circuits).

The Electronic Computer



1970s

1980s

1990s

2000s

Arduino

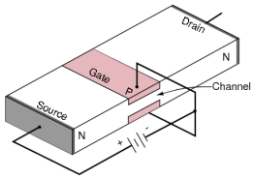
Rasberry Pi

Computer Components (Anatomy)

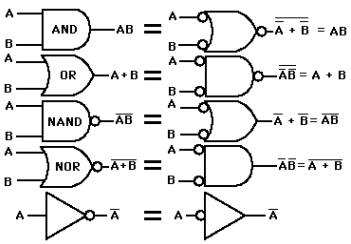
Modern computers are built from a hierarchical arrangement of devices, the lowest level of which is a complimentary pair of transistor switches (CMOS).

Definition

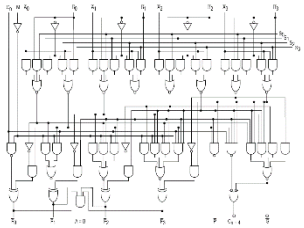
Micro



Transistors

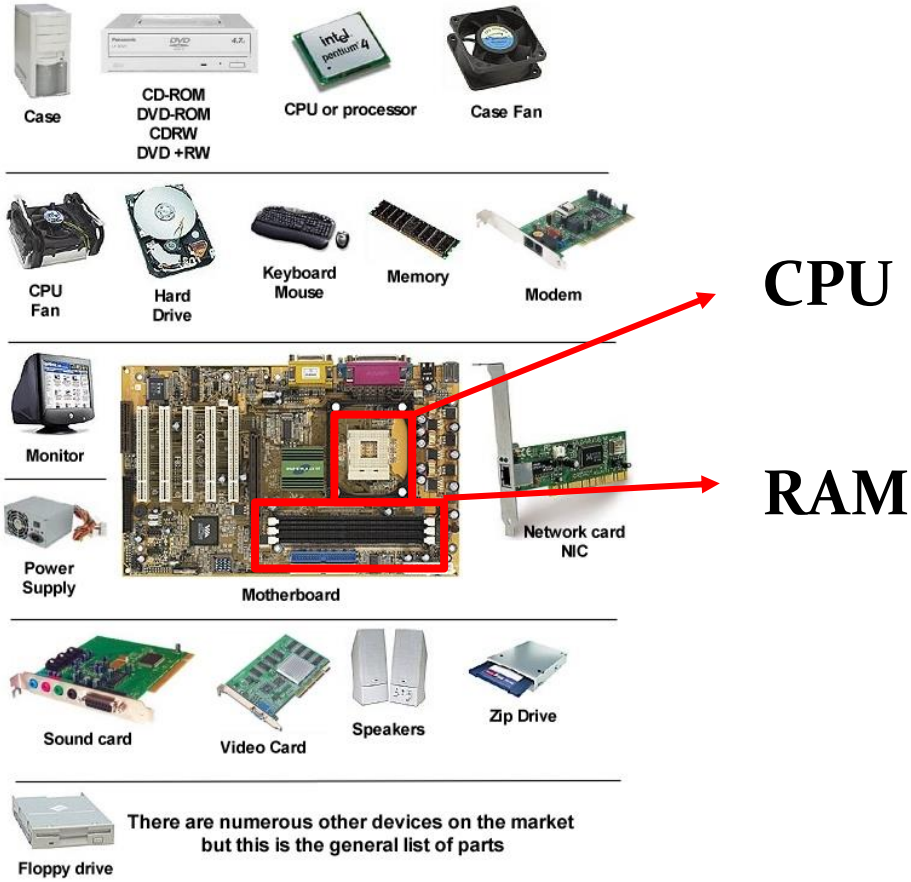


Logic Gates



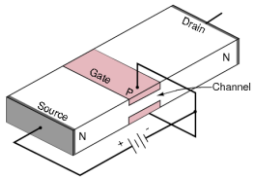
Circuits

Macro



Transistors

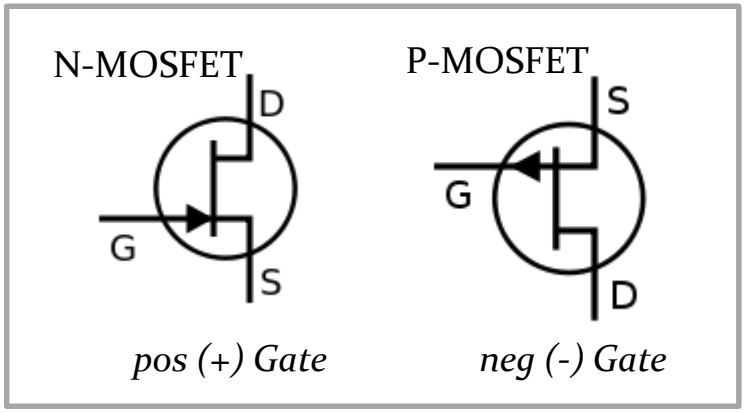
A semiconductor (solid-state) triode.

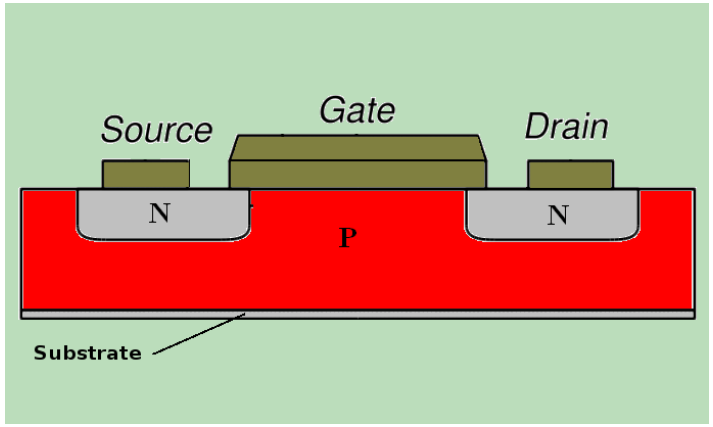


Definition

awesome

...Don't get me started...



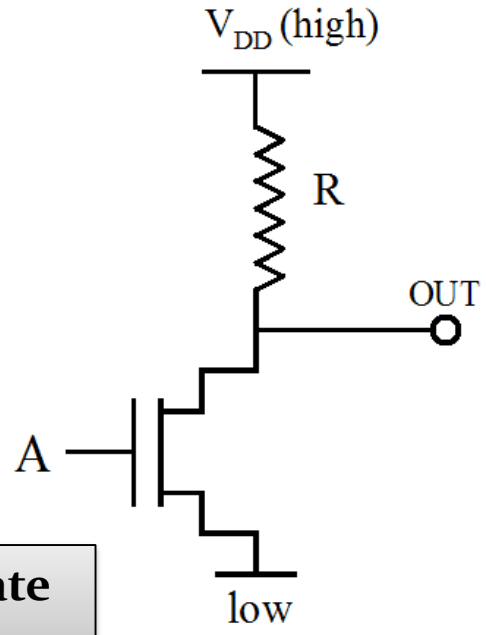


Logic Gates

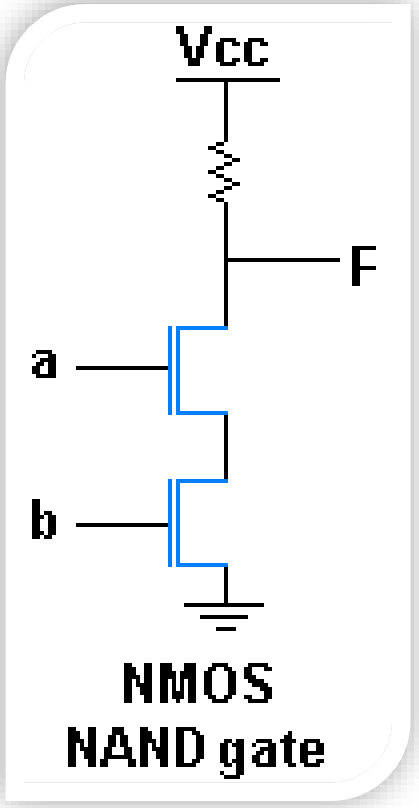
The fundamental units of computation.

Definition

NOT
AND
OR
XOR



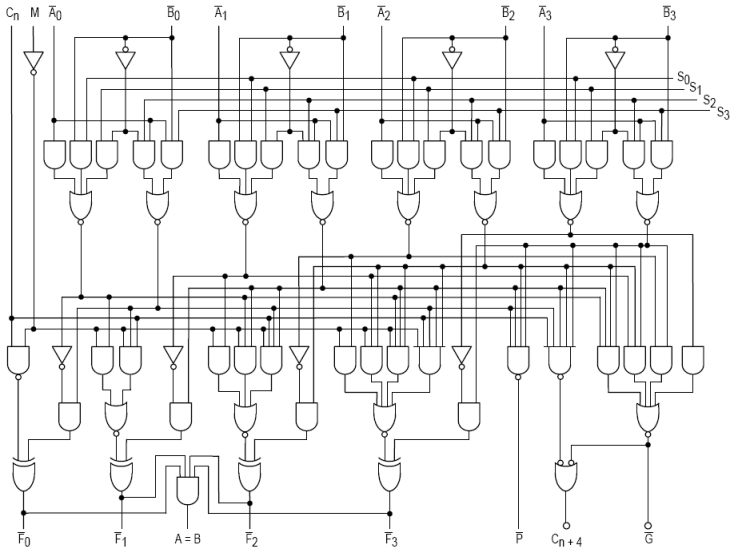
NMOS "NOT" Gate (Inverter)



Circuits

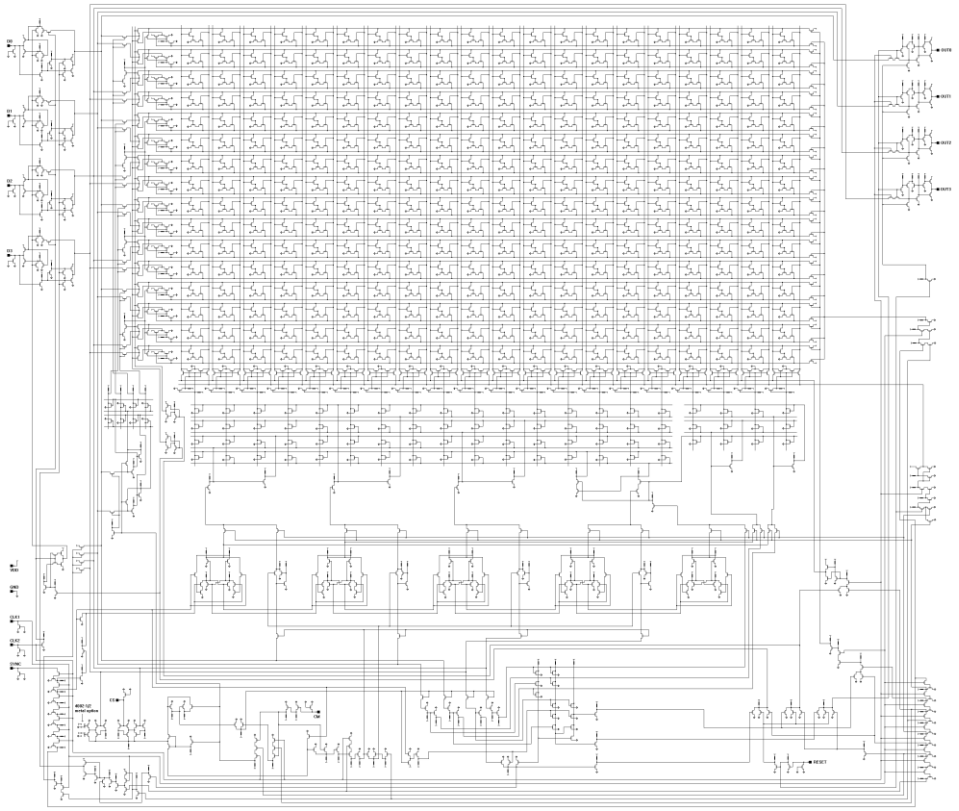
Integrated combinations of logic gates that's store data, process data, and move data around.

Definition



The 74181 4-bit ALU

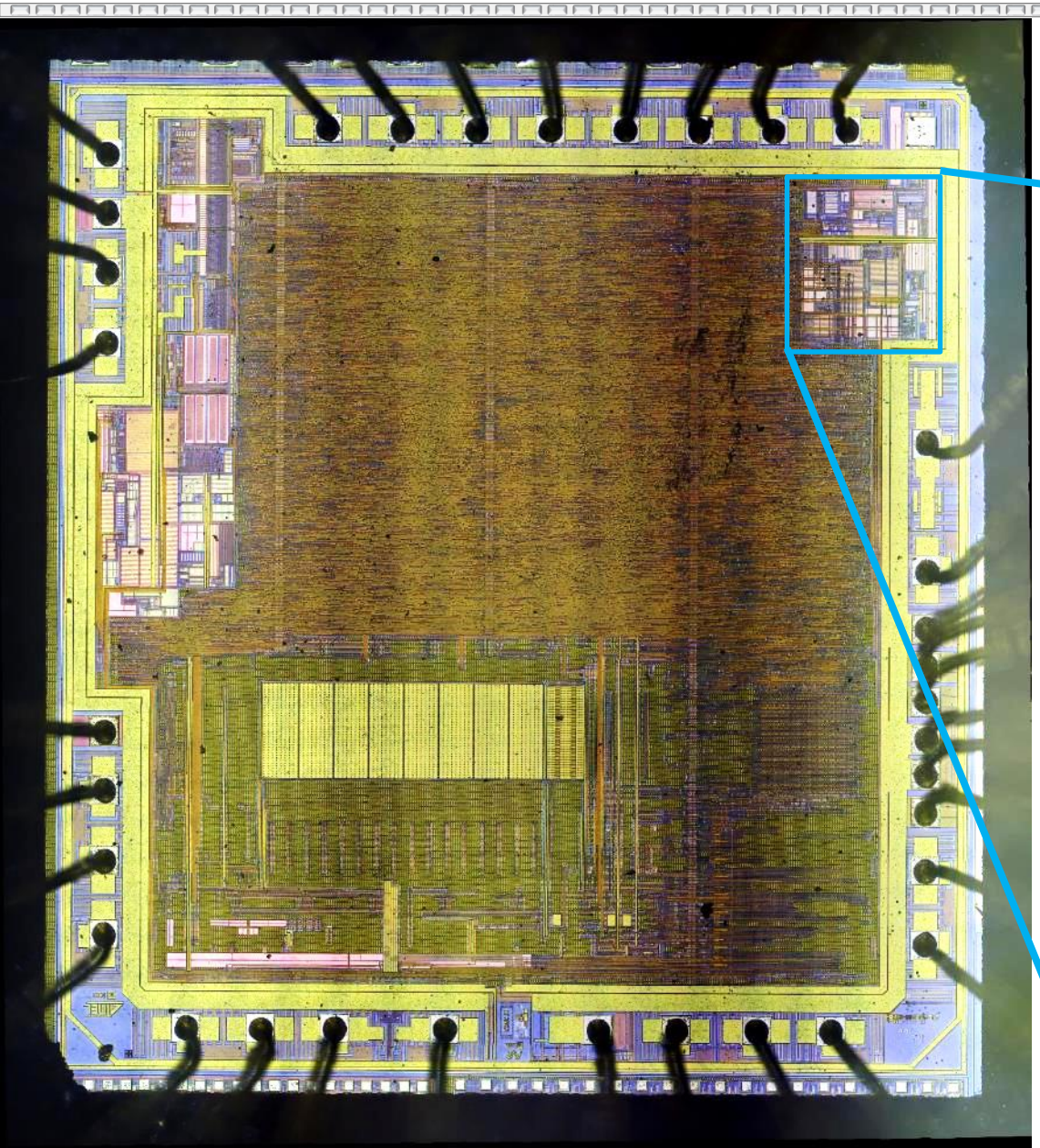
4002 320-bit RAM



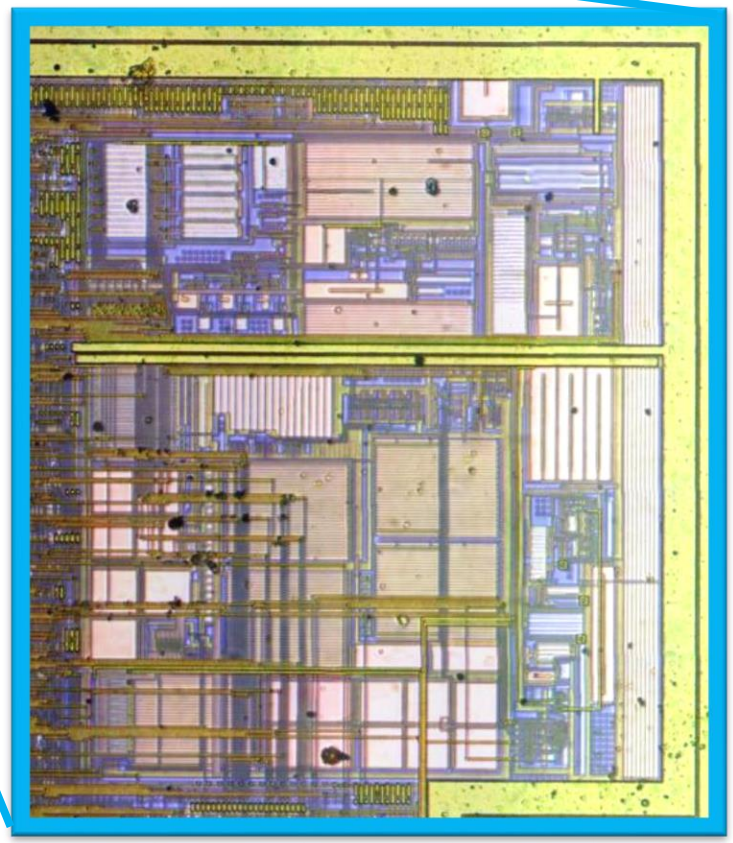
An ALU performs a specific logic function of 4 input bits based on a "control input" (instruction)

RAM can read or write bits values (0 or 1) at a specific location (address)

Circuits in Silicon



Atmel Mega 328P



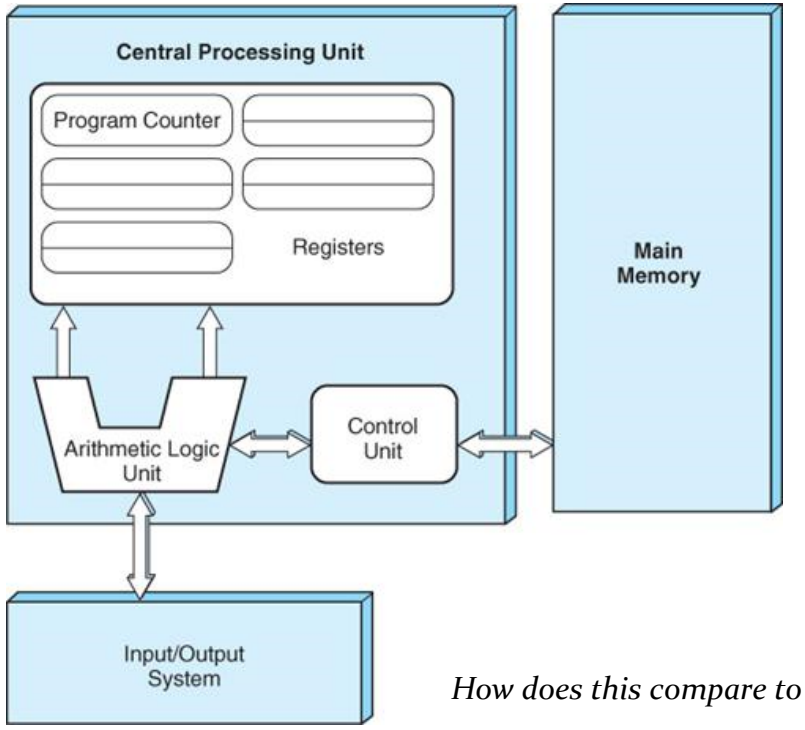
ALU (arithmetic/logic unit)

Von Neumann Architecture

John realized that “Data” and a “Program” do not require distinct substrates…they can be stored in the same hardware, system memory (often RAM) and then processed by a separate CPU.

Definition

John von Neumann

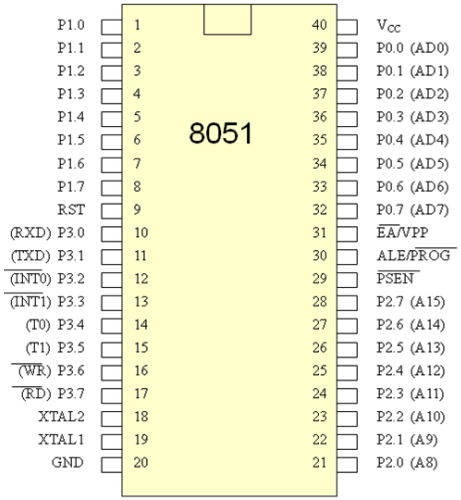


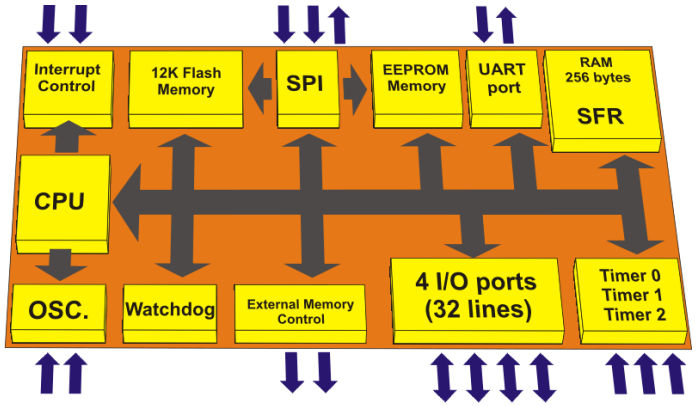
How does this compare to the brain?

Microcontrollers (µC, MCU)

Definition

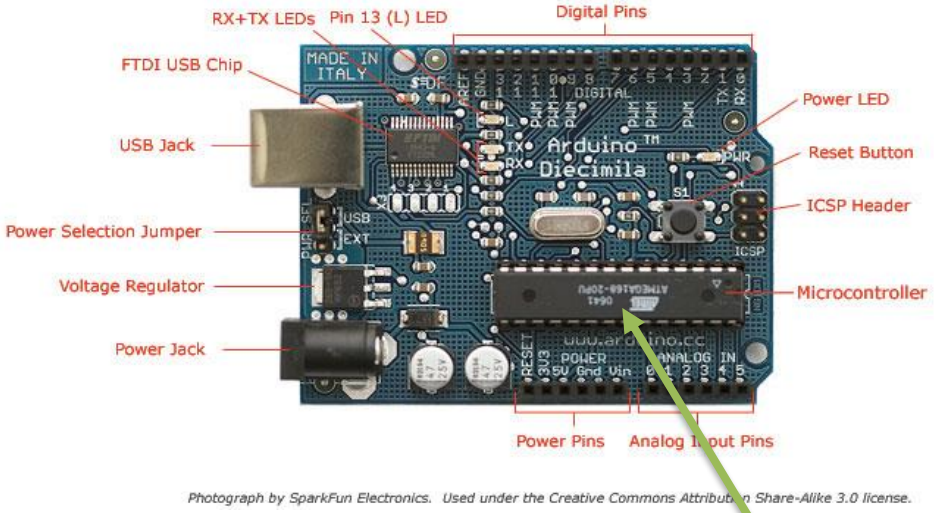
Microcontrollers, as the name suggests, are small computers containing a CPU and RAM. Unlike a PC, they lack an operating system (OS). They normally come on a board (PCB) integrated with ADCs, DACs, peripheral contacts, and a communication bus (serial, USB, etc.)





Arduino

Definition Arduino is an open-source, open-hardware platform that integrates a slow (16 MHz) microcontroller, ADCs, digital ports, PWMs, counters, voltage regulators, USB-to-Serial converter, and useful connectors (headers) onto a single board.



Photograph by SparkFun Electronics. Used under the Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike 3.0 license.

Microcontroller	ATmega328
Operating Voltage	5V
Input Voltage (recommended)	7-12V
Input Voltage (limits)	6-20V
Digital I/O Pins	14 *(of which 6 provide PWM output)*
Analog Input Pins	6
DC Current per I/O Pin	40 mA
DC Current for 3.3V Pin	50 mA
Flash Memory	32 KB (ATmega 328) *of which 0.5 KB used by bootloader*
SRAM	2 KB (ATmega328)
EEPROM	1 KB (ATmega328)
Clock Speed	16 MHz

Atmel Mega 328P

How do you tell a (binary) computer what to do?

Binary Representation

Definition The bits 0 and 1 can be used to represent any number, as can the digits 0 through 9, when combined appropriately. The number of distinct values that can be represented depends on the number of bits used.

"Let's count in Binary!"

0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
…
33

$$\#Values = 2^{\#Bits}$$

1-bit: 2

8-bits: 256

16-bits: 65,536

32-bits: 4,294,967,296 (~4 billion)

64-bits: 18,446,744,073,709,551,616 (~18 quintillion)

128-bits: 340,282,366,920,938,463,463,374,607,431,768,211,456

(~340 undecillion)

Binary Data Types

Definition Conventions for translating a set of binary values into another format (integer, floating point, text, colour, etc.). The number and range of distinct values in the new format is constrained by the bit-depth of the binary representation (e.g. 8-bit text = 256 possible letters).

Data Types:

- **Boolean** – True vs. False (1-bit)
- **Integers** - *signed/unsigned*

  8-bit, 16-bit, 32-bit, 64-bit

  Note: Range depends on signed/unisgned:

  8-bit signed: 0 to 256

  8-bit unsigned: -127 to 127
- **Floating Point** (with decimal point)

  32 and 64-bit

  (Single) (*Double*) precision
- **Strings/Characters**
  - (ASCII/UNICODE)
- Others?

Binary Memory Block

```
0010100110101000101101110100010110110001010111010100100100
0100010101001010101000001010101111011001010101001010100100
0000100101101000101000010111010100010111001011010100000101
0101000101010101010010100010101001000101010010101010100011
1110101010100010111010100101001001010000010010010010100001
0101010010101010100101010100101010010101010010001001011101
```

ASCII Text File:	01000100**01100001**01110100**01100001**	= "Data"
16-bit Integers:	0100010001100001**0111010001100001**	= 17505 29793
32-bit Integer:	01000100011000010111010001100001	= 1147237473
32-bit Float:	01000100011000010111010001100001	= 901.81842041015625

Note

Hexadecimal Representation

Base 16: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F

(each Hex numeral is equivalent to 4-bits, two Hex is a byte,…convenient)

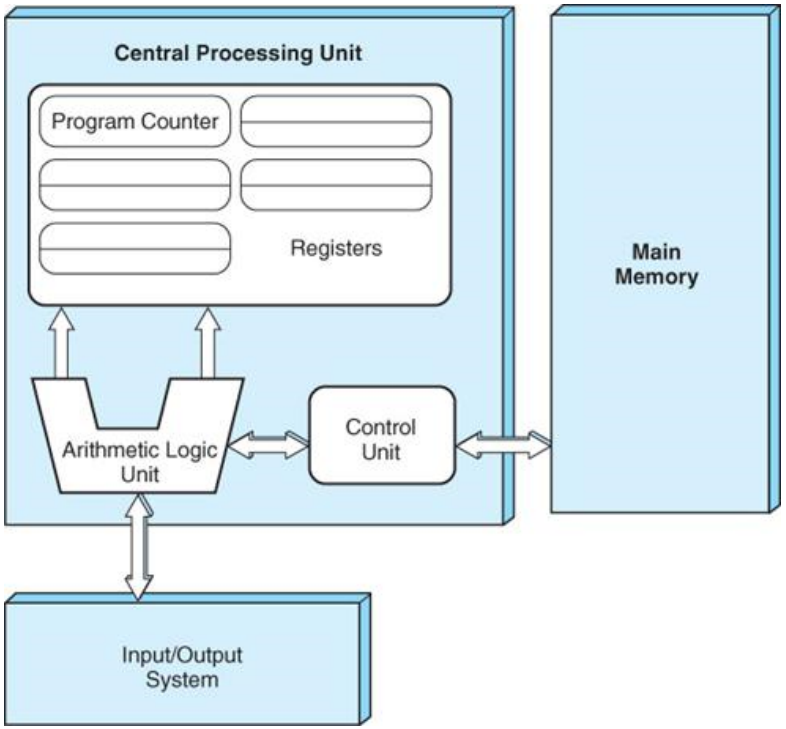
How do you tell a (binary) computer what to do?

PROGRAMMING

Assembly Languag

The lowest (sensible) level that you can specify … your computer.

Definition




```
:100000000C945C000C946E000C946E000C946E00CA
:100010000C946E000C946E000C946E000C946E00A8
:100020000C946E000C946E000C946E000C946E0098
:100030000C946E000C946E000C946E000C946E0088
:100040000C9488000C946E000C946E000C946E005E
:100050000C946E000C946E000C946E000C946E0068
:100060000C946E000C946E0000000008002010069
:1000700000030407000000000000000000102040863
:10008000102040800102040810200102040810200 2
:10009000040404040404040202020202020203032E
:1000A0000303030300000000025002800 2B000000CC
:1000B0000000240027002A0011241FBECFEFD8E043
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:1000D000B207E1F70E9403020C9413020C94000093
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:10015000A11DB11D2093000180930101909302012 4
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:1002900081608083E0E8F0E0808181608083E1EB31
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:0A0420000000F9CF0895F894FFCF13
:00000001FF
```

```
.ORG    0x0000
RJMP    main

main:
    LDI     r16, 0xFF
    OUT     0x04, r16

loop:
    SBI     0x05, 5
    RCALL   delay
    CBI     0x05, 5
    RCALL   delay
    RJMP    loop
delay:
    LDI r16, 61

    outer_loop:
    LDI r24, low(0)
    LDI r25, high(0)

    delay_loop:
    ADIW    r24, 1
    BRNE    delay_loop
    DEC     r16
    BRNE    outer_loop

    RET
```