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HANDS ON ACTIVITY: EMBEDDED SYSYTEM COMPARISON 8051 AND ARDUINO

	8051 Micro-	
Feature	controller	Arduino
Architecture	Harvard	Modified Harvard
Instruction Set	8-bit	8-bit (AVR) or 32-bit (ARM)
Clock Speed	Typically up to 12 MHz	8 MHz (Uno), 16 MHz (Mega), varies with different boards
Memory	ROM, RAM, EEPROM	Flash, SRAM, EEPROM
GPIO Pins	Limited	Abundant, typically 20 or more
Analog Inputs	Usually limited	Typically multiple, 6 or more
Digital I/O	Limited	Abundant
Development Tools	Limited availability	Extensive community support, IDE like Arduino IDE
Programming	Assembly, C	Arduino Sketch (C/C++)
IDE Support	Limited	Arduino IDE, PlatformIO
Debugging	Limited	Limited (Serial debugging, LED blinking)
Cost	Affordable	Affordable

To summarize:

Architecture and Instruction Set:

- The 8051 is an 8-bit microcontroller with a simple architecture and instruction set.
- Arduino boards typically use AVR or ARM-based microcontrollers, which have more advanced architectures and instruction sets compared to the 8051.

Memory Organization:

- The 8051 typically has limited on-chip memory for program storage and data storage.
- Arduino boards often have more memory available compared to the 8051, both in terms of program memory (flash) and data memory (RAM).

Peripheral Integration:

- The 8051 usually requires external components for additional functionality such as timers, UART, and I/O ports.
- Arduino boards often integrate many peripherals on the board itself, such as UART, SPI, I2C, digital I/O pins, analog inputs, PWM channels, etc., making it easier to interface with external devices.

Development Environment:

- Programming the 8051 microcontroller typically involves using specific IDEs and compilers provided by the manufacturer, such as Keil or SDCC.
- Arduino provides a user-friendly development environment based on the Arduino IDE, which abstracts away much of the low-level details and simplifies the programming process. It also offers a vast library of pre-written functions for various tasks.

Interrupt Handling:

- Both the 8051 and Arduino support interrupts for handling asynchronous events.
- Arduino abstracts away much of the complexity of interrupt handling, making it easier for beginners to work with interrupts.

Power Consumption:

- The 8051 is known for its low power consumption, making it suitable for battery-powered applications.
- Arduino boards vary in power consumption depending on the specific microcontroller used and the peripherals connected to it.

Performance: The performance of the 8051 is modest and suitable for many embedded applications but may not be suitable for high-performance computing tasks. Arduino boards typically have better performance compared to the 8051, especially if they use ARM-based microcontrollers. This allows for more complex tasks and faster execution of code.