

# Digital Design

## Chapter 1: Introduction

Slides to accompany the textbook *Digital Design, with RTL Design, VHDL, and Verilog*, 2nd Edition,  
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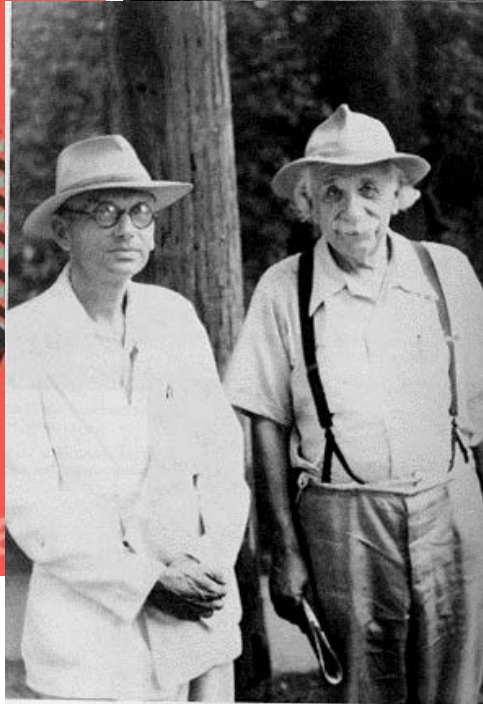
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# Syllabus

- HWs 10%
  - Quizzes 10%
  - Midterm 30%
  - Final 45%
  - Attendance 5%
- 
- Labs  $8 \times 10\% = 80\%$
  - Lab Final 20%
  - Attendance 70% is a MUST

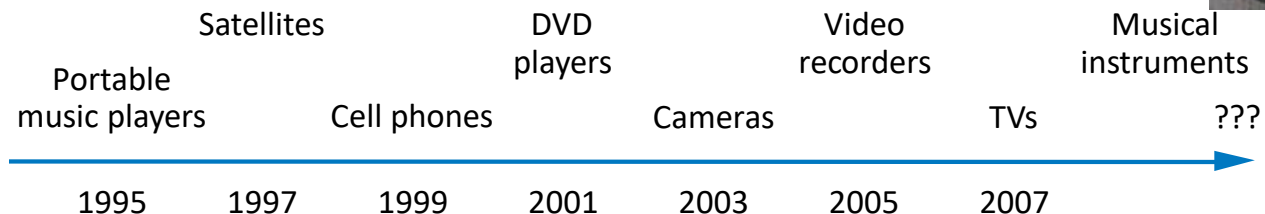
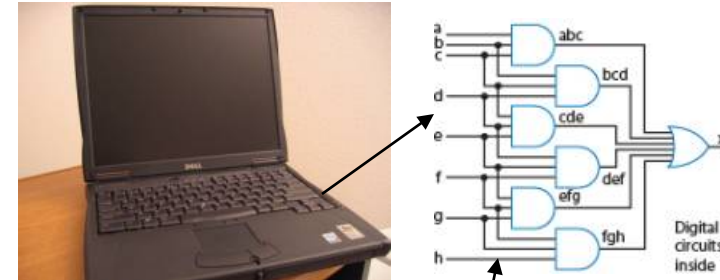


# GÖDEL



# Why Study Digital Design?

- Look “under the hood” of computers
  - Solid understanding --> confidence, insight, even better programmer when aware of hardware resource issues
- Electronic devices becoming digital
  - Enabled by shrinking and more capable chips
  - Enables:
    - Better devices: Sound recorders, cameras, cars, cell phones, medical devices,...
    - New devices: Video games, PDAs, ...
  - Known as “embedded systems”
    - Thousands of new devices every year
    - Designers needed: Potential career direction



- Years shown above indicate when digital version began to *dominate*
  - (Not the first year that a digital version appeared)

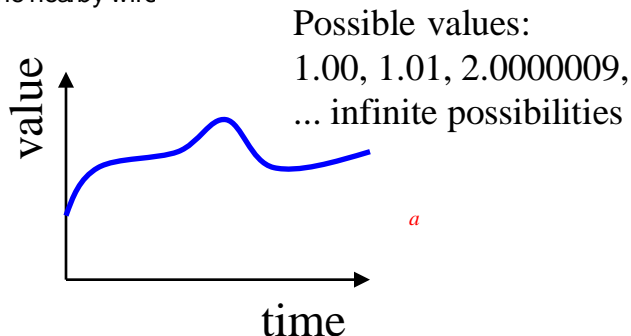
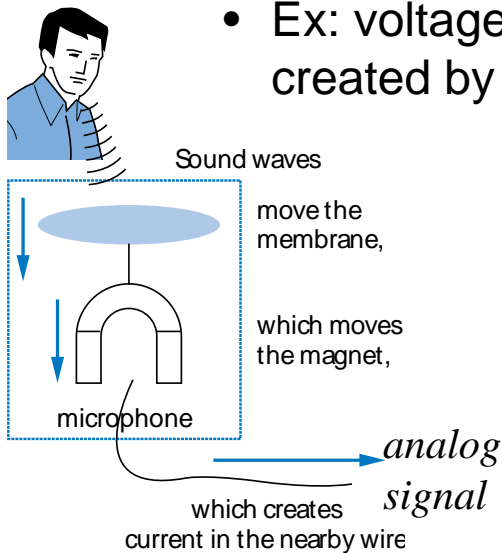


# What Does "Digital" Mean?

- Analog signal

- Infinite possible values

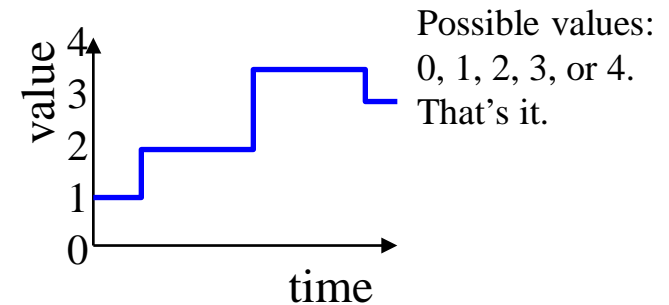
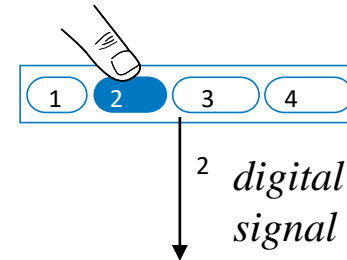
- Ex: voltage on a wire created by microphone



- Digital signal

- Finite possible values

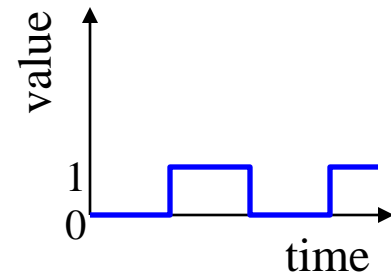
- Ex: button pressed on a keypad





# Digital Signals with Only Two Values: Binary

- **Binary** digital signal -- only *two* possible values
  - Typically represented as **0** and **1**
  - One *binary digit* is a **bit**
  - We'll only consider *binary* digital signals
  - Binary is popular because
    - Transistors, the basic digital electric component, operate using *two* voltages (more in Chpt. 2)
    - Storing/transmitting one of *two* values is easier than three or more (e.g., loud beep or quiet beep, reflection or no reflection)



# Example of Digitization Benefit

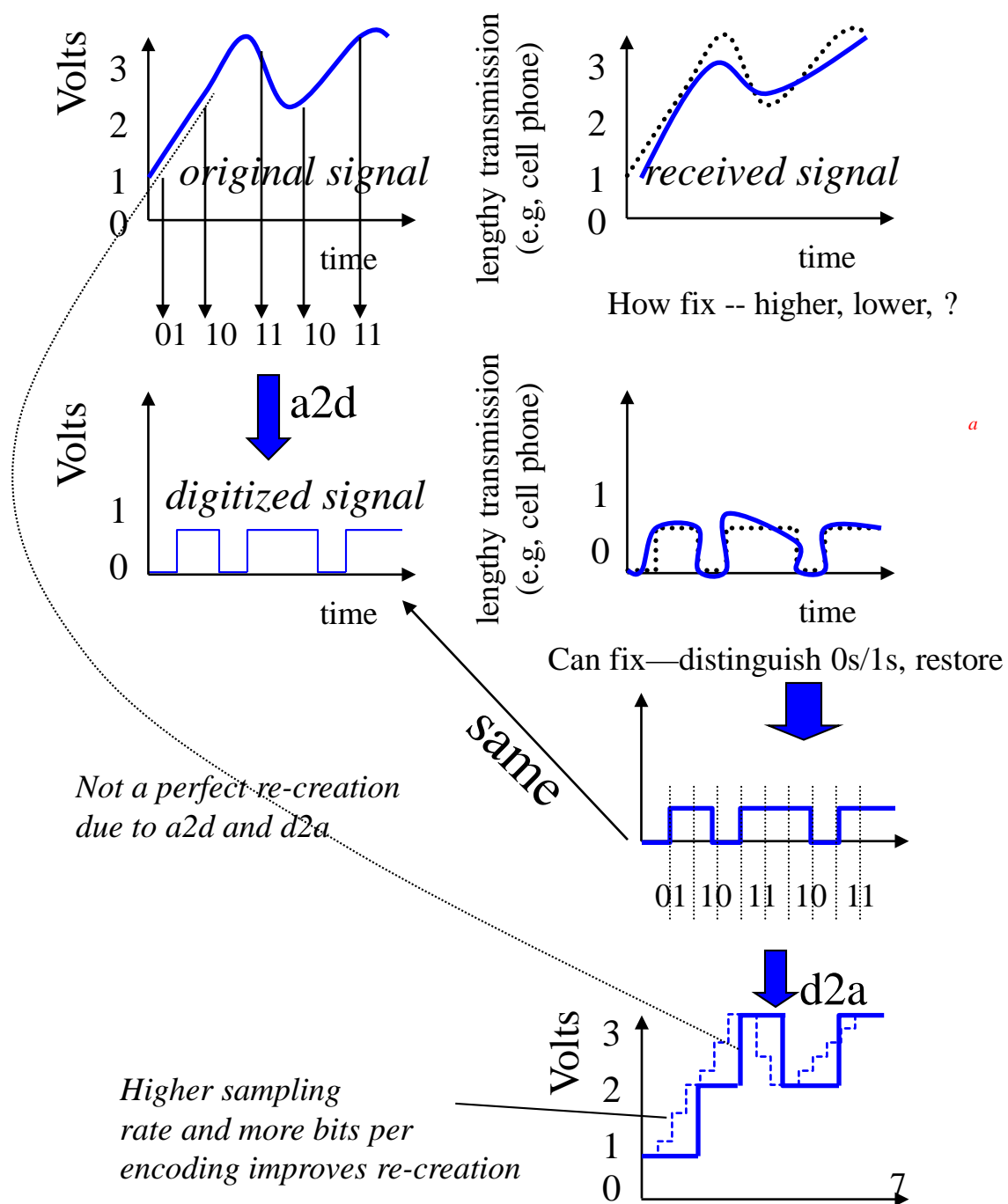
- Analog signal (e.g., audio, video) may lose quality
  - Voltage levels not saved/copied/transmitted perfectly
- Digitized version enables near-perfect save/cpy/tran.
  - “Sample” voltage at particular rate, save sample using bit encoding
  - Voltage levels still not kept perfectly
  - But we can distinguish 0s from 1s

Let bit encoding be:

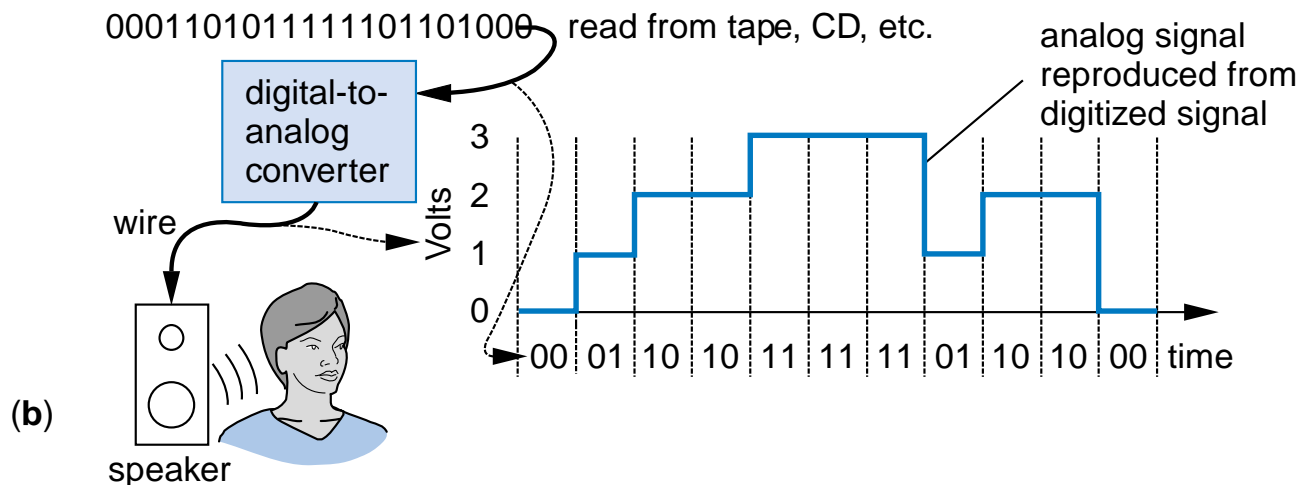
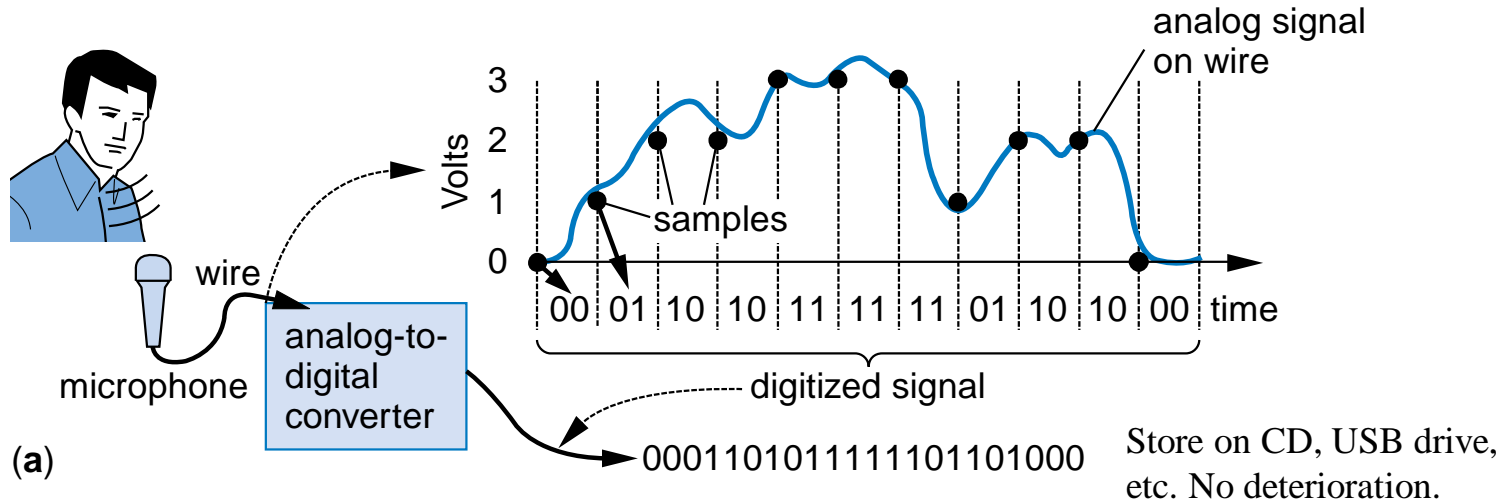
1 V: “01”

2 V: “10”

3 V: “11”



# Digitization Benefit: Can Store on Digital Media





# Digitized Audio: Compression Benefit

- Digitized audio can be compressed
  - e.g., MP3s
  - A CD can hold about 20 songs uncompressed, but about 200 compressed
- Compression also done on digitized pictures (jpeg), movies (mpeg), and more
- Digitization has many other benefits too

Example compression scheme:

00 means 0000000000

01 means 1111111111

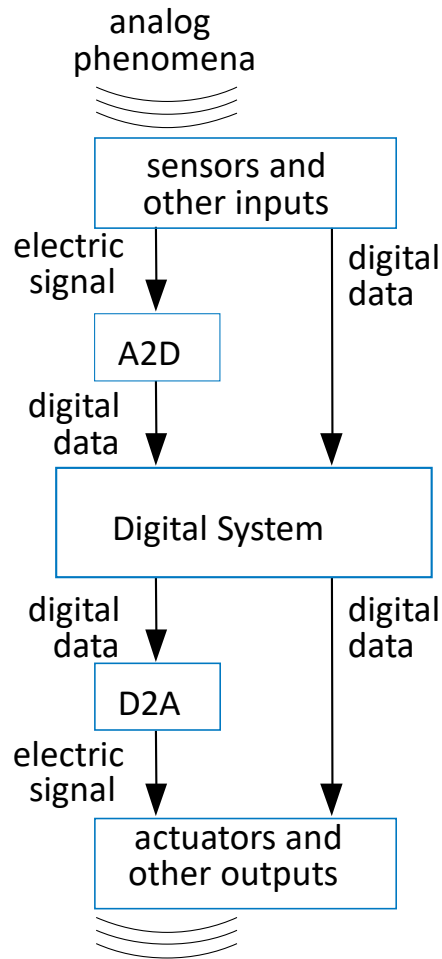
1X means X

0000000000 0000000000 000001111 1111111111

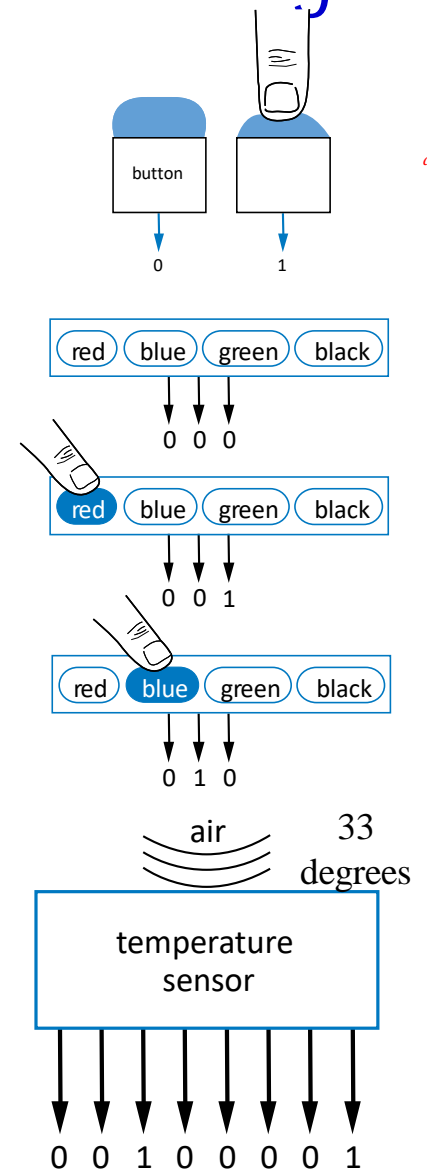
00 00 1000001111 01



# How Do We Encode Data as Binary for Our Digital System?



- Some inputs inherently binary
  - Button: not pressed (0), pressed (1)
- Some inputs inherently digital
  - Just need encoding in binary
  - e.g., multi-button input: encode red=001, blue=010, ...
- Some inputs analog
  - Need analog-to-digital conversion
  - As done in earlier slide -- sample and encode with bits



# How to Encode Text: ASCII, Unicode

- ASCII: 7- (or 8-) bit encoding of each letter, number, or symbol
- Unicode: Increasingly popular 16-bit encoding
  - Encodes characters from various world languages

Sample ASCII encodings

Encoding	Symbol
010 0000	<space> <sub>sp</sub>
010 0001	!
010 0010	"
010 0011	#
010 0100	\$
010 0101	%
010 0110	&
010 0111	'
010 1000	(
010 1001	)
010 1010	*
010 1011	+
010 1100	,
010 1101	-
010 1110	.
010 1111	/

Encoding	Symbol
100 0001	A
100 0010	B
100 0011	C
100 0100	D
100 0101	E
100 0110	F
100 0111	G
100 1000	H
100 1001	I
100 1010	J
100 1011	K
100 1100	L
100 1101	M

Encoding	Symbol
100 1110	N
100 1111	O
101 0000	P
101 0001	Q
101 0010	R
101 0011	S
101 0100	T
101 0101	U
101 0110	V
101 0111	W
101 1000	X
101 1001	Y
101 1010	Z

Encoding	Symbol
110 0001	a
110 0010	b
...	
111 1001	y
111 1010	z
011 0000	0
011 0001	1
011 0010	2
011 0011	3
011 0100	4
011 0101	5
011 0110	6
011 0111	7
011 1000	8
011 1001	9

Question:

What does this ASCII bit sequence represent?

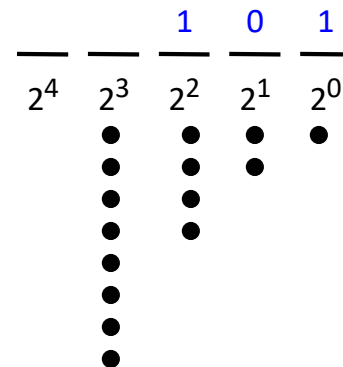
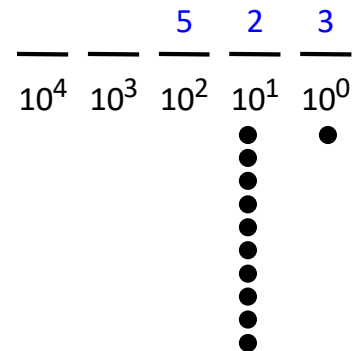
1010010 1000101 1010011 1010100

R E S T



# How to Encode Numbers: Binary Numbers

- Each position represents a quantity; symbol in position means how many of that quantity
  - Base ten (*decimal*)
    - Ten symbols: 0, 1, 2, ..., 8, and 9
    - More than 9 -- next position
      - So each position power of 10
    - Nothing special about base 10 -- used because we have 10 fingers
  - Base two (*binary*)
    - Two symbols: 0 and 1
    - More than 1 -- next position
      - So each position power of 2



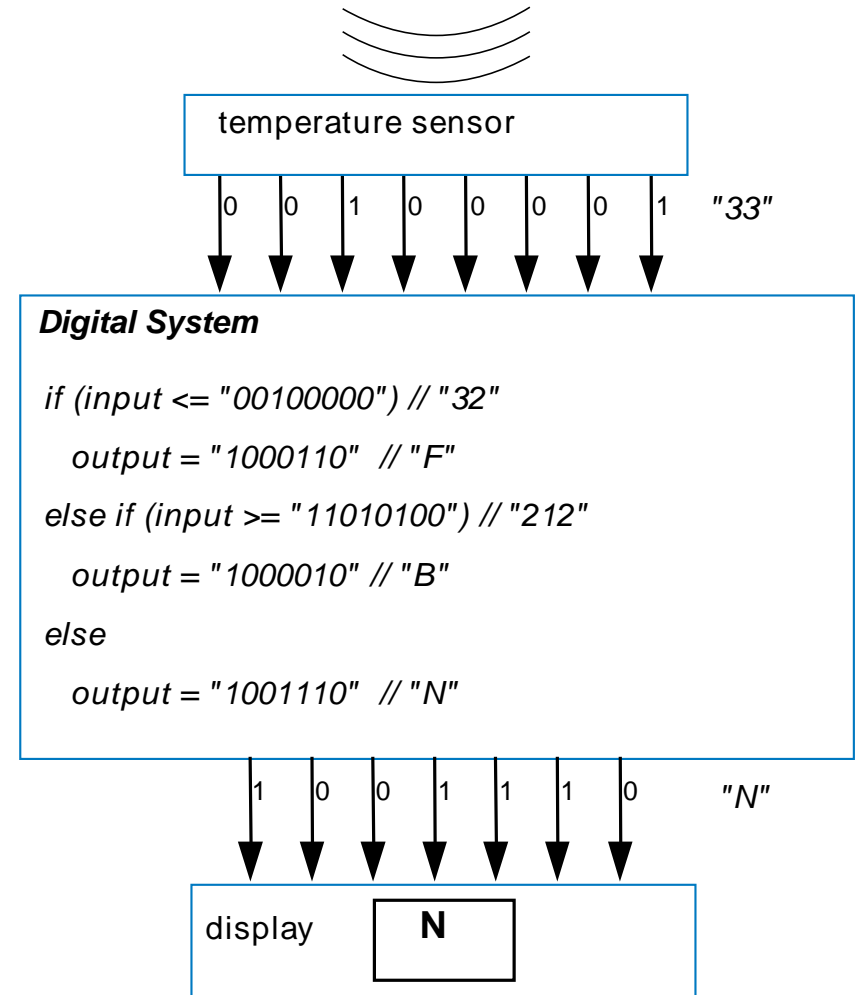
Q: How much?

● + ● = ●  
 ●    ●    ●  
 ●    ●    ●  
 ●    ●    ●  
 4 + 1 = 5



# Using Digital Data in a Digital System

- A temperature sensor outputs temperature in binary
- The system reads the temperature, outputs ASCII code:
  - “F” for freezing (0-32)
  - “B” for boiling (212 or more)
  - “N” for normal
- A display converts its ASCII input to the corresponding letter



# Converting from Binary to Decimal

- Just add weights
  - $1_2$  is just  $1 \cdot 2^0$ , or  $1_{10}$ .
  - $110_2$  is  $1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0$ , or  $6_{10}$ . We might think of this using base ten weights:  $1 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 1$ , or 6.
  - $10000_2$  is  $1 \cdot 16 + 0 \cdot 8 + 0 \cdot 4 + 0 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 1$ , or  $16_{10}$ .
  - $10000111_2$  is  $1 \cdot 128 + 1 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 1 = 135_{10}$ . Notice this time that we didn't bother to write the weights having a 0 bit.
  - $00110_2$  is the same as  $110_2$  above — the leading 0's don't change the value.

*Useful to know powers of 2:*

$2^9$	$2^8$	$2^7$	$2^6$	$2^5$	$2^4$	$2^3$	$2^2$	$2^1$	$2^0$
512	256	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1

Practice counting up by powers of 2:

512 256 128 64 32 16 8 4 2 1





# Converting from Decimal to Binary

- Put 1 in leftmost place without sum exceeding number
- Track sum

	Desired decimal number: <b>12</b>	Current sum	Binary number
(a)	16 > 12, too big; Put 0 in 16's place	0	$\frac{0}{16}$ $\frac{\quad}{8}$ $\frac{\quad}{4}$ $\frac{\quad}{2}$ $\frac{\quad}{1}$
(b)	8 ≤ 12, so put 1 in 8's place, current sum is 8	8	$\frac{0}{16}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{\quad}{4}$ $\frac{\quad}{2}$ $\frac{\quad}{1}$
(c)	8+4=12 ≤ 12, so put 1 in 4's place, current sum is 12	12	$\frac{0}{16}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{\quad}{2}$ $\frac{\quad}{1}$
(d)	Reached desired 12, so put 0s in remaining places	done	$\frac{0}{16}$ $\frac{1}{8}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{0}{2}$ $\frac{0}{1}$

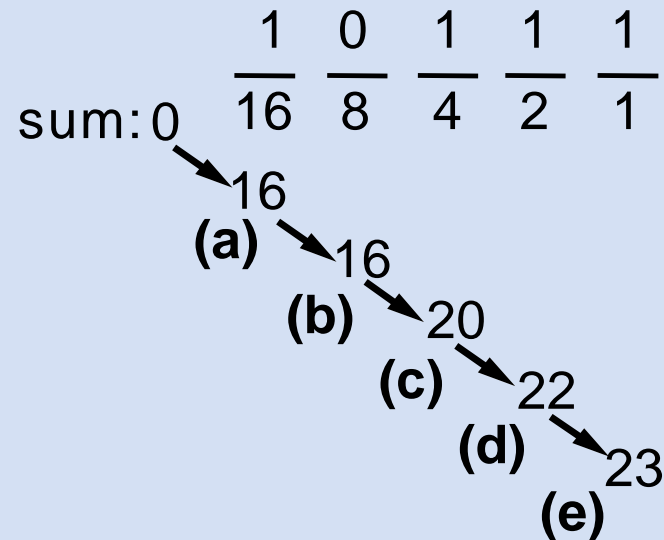


# Converting from Decimal to Binary

- Example using a more compact notation

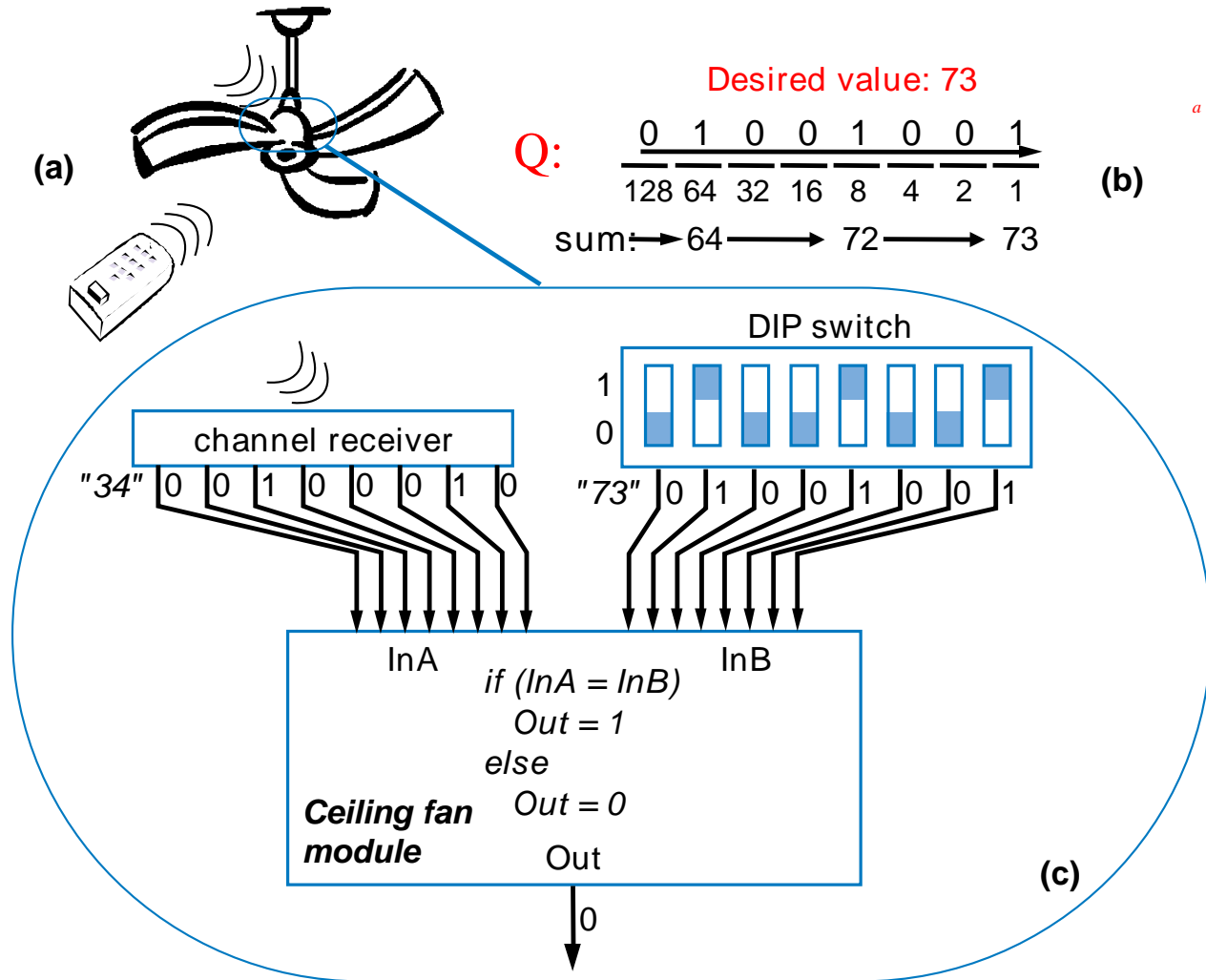
Desired decimal number: **23**

Binary number



# Example: DIP-Switch Controlled Channel

- Ceiling fan receiver should be set in factory to respond to channel "73"
- Convert 73 to binary, set DIP switch accordingly



# Base Sixteen: Another Base Used by Designers

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \text{---} & \text{---} & \frac{8}{16^2} & \frac{A}{16^1} & \frac{F}{16^0} \\
 16^4 & 16^3 & 16^2 & 16^1 & 16^0 \\
 & & \downarrow 8 & \downarrow A & \downarrow F \\
 & & 1000 & 1010 & 1111
 \end{array}$$

hex	binary	hex	binary
0	0000	8	1000
1	0001	9	1001
2	0010	A	1010
3	0011	B	1011
4	0100	C	1100
5	0101	D	1101
6	0110	E	1110
7	0111	F	1111

- Nice because each position represents four base-two positions
  - Compact way to write binary numbers
- Known as **hexadecimal**, or just **hex**

Q: Write **11110000** in hex

Q: Convert hex **A01** to binary



# Decimal to Hex

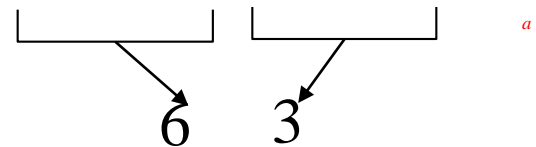
- Easy method: convert to binary first, then binary to hex

Convert 99 base 10 to hex

First convert to binary:

0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	<i>a</i>
128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	

Then binary to hex:

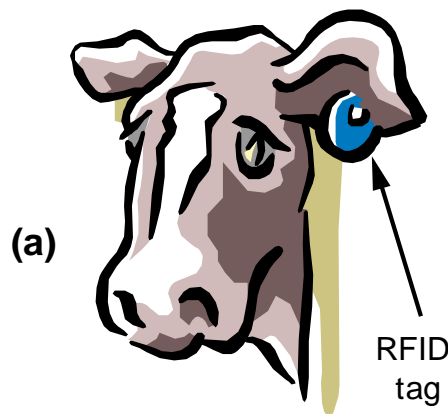


(Quick check:  $6*16 + 3*1 = 96+3 = 99$ ) *a*



# Hex Example: RFID Tag

- Batteryless tag powered by radio field
  - Transmits unique identification number
  - Example: 32 bit id
    - 8-bit province number, 8-bit country number, 16-bit animal number
    - Tag contents are in binary
    - But programmers use hex when writing/reading



(c) Province: 7      City: 160      Animal: 513

(d) 00000111      10100000      00000010 00000001

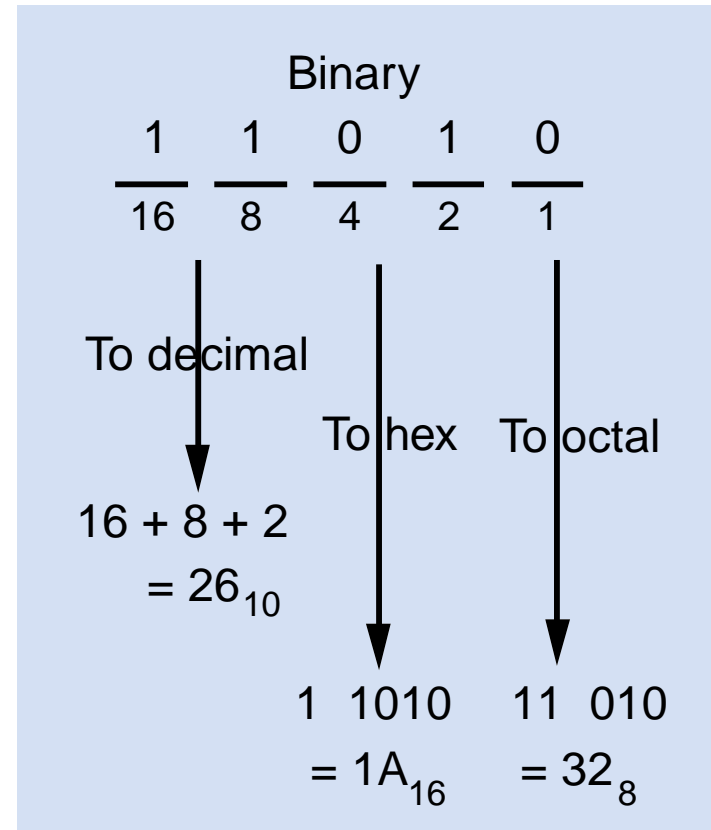
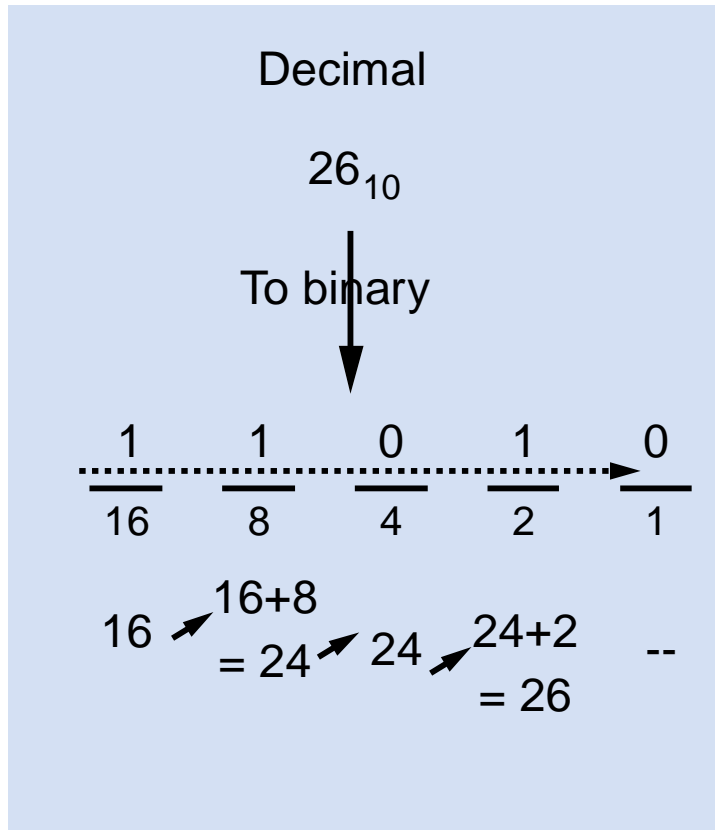
(e) 07      A0      02 01

(f) **Tag ID in hex: 07A00201**





# Converting To/From Binary by Hand: Summary



# Divide-By-2 Method Common in Automatic Conversion


- Repeatedly divide decimal number by 2, place remainder in current binary digit (starting from 1s column)

	Decimal	Binary
1. Divide decimal number by 2 Insert remainder into the binary number Continue since quotient (6) is greater than 0	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 2\sqrt{12} \\ -12 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ 1 \end{array}$ (current value: 0)
2. Divide quotient by 2 Insert remainder into the binary number Continue since quotient (3) is greater than 0	$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 2\sqrt{6} \\ -6 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 0 \quad 0 \\ 2 \quad 1 \end{array}$ (current value: 0)
3. Divide quotient by 2 Insert remainder into the binary number Continue since quotient (1) is greater than 0	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 2\sqrt{3} \\ -2 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \\ 4 \quad 2 \quad 1 \end{array}$ (current value: 4)
4. Divide quotient by 2 Insert remainder into the binary number Quotient is 0, done	$\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ 2\sqrt{1} \\ -0 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 1 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \\ 8 \quad 4 \quad 2 \quad 1 \end{array}$ (current value: 12)

*Note:*  
Works for  
any base  
N—just  
divide by  
N instead



# Bytes, Kilobytes, Megabytes, and More

- Byte: 8 bits A diagram showing a horizontal row of eight adjacent squares, each representing a bit within a byte.
- Common metric prefixes:
  - kilo (thousand, or  $10^3$ ), mega (million, or  $10^6$ ), giga (billion, or  $10^9$ ), and tera (trillion, or  $10^{12}$ ), e.g., kilobyte, or KByte
- BUT, metric prefixes also commonly used inaccurately
  - $2^{16} = 65536$  commonly written as “64 Kbyte”
  - Typical when describing memory sizes
- Also watch out for “KB” for kilobyte vs. “Kb” for kilobit



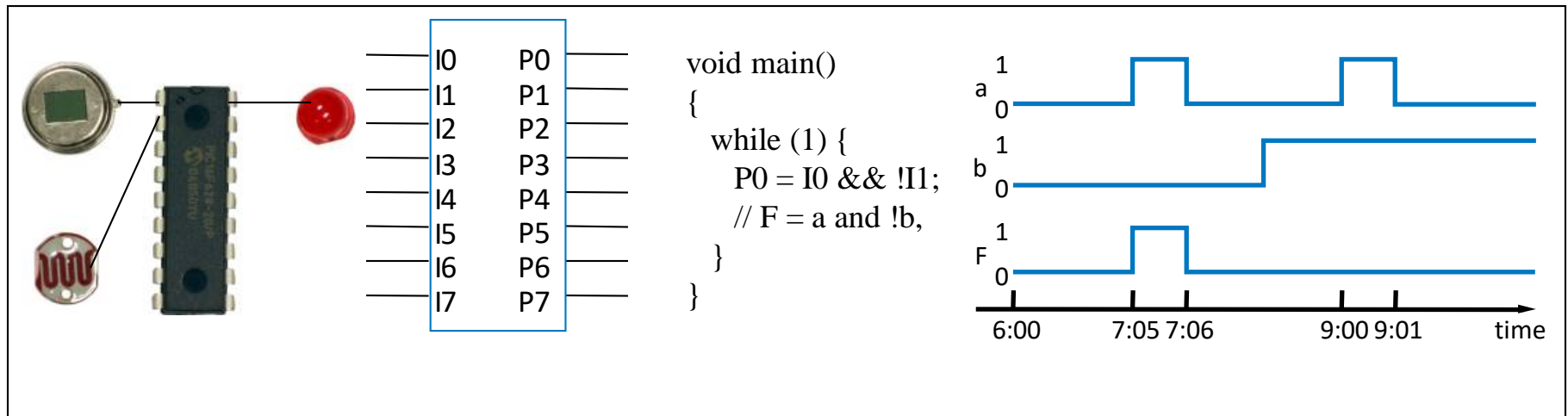
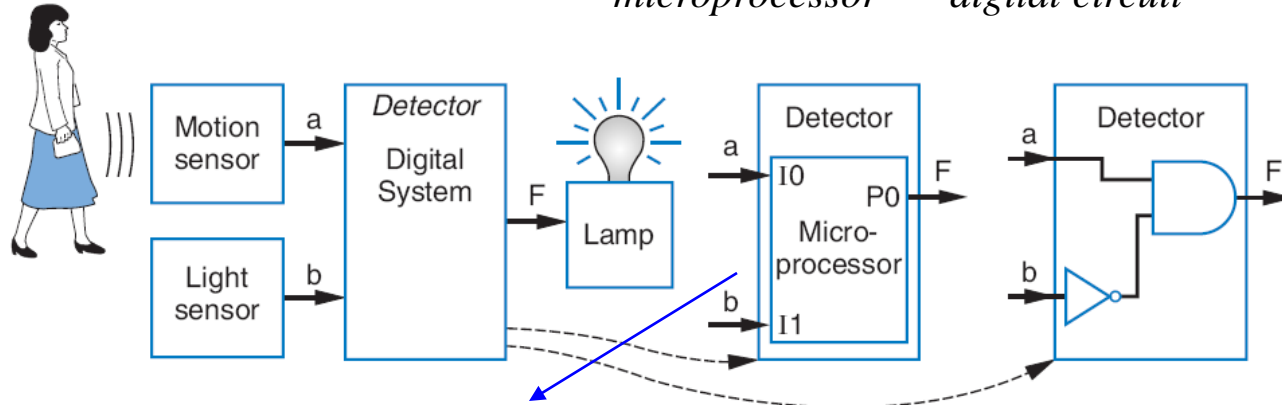
# Implementing Digital Systems: Programming Microprocessors Vs. Designing Digital Circuits

*Desired motion-at-night detector*

*Programmed microprocessor*

*Custom designed digital circuit*

- Microprocessors a common choice to implement a digital system
  - Easy to program
  - Cheap (as low as \$1)
  - Readily available



# Digital Design: When Microprocessors Aren't Good Enough

- With microprocessors so easy, cheap, and available, why design a digital circuit?
  - Microprocessor may be too slow
  - Or too big, power hungry, or costly



Wing controller computation task:

- 50 ms on microprocessor
- 5 ms as custom digital circuit

If must execute 100 times per second:

- $100 * 50 \text{ ms} = 5000 \text{ ms} = 5 \text{ seconds}$
- $100 * 5 \text{ ms} = 500 \text{ ms} = 0.5 \text{ seconds}$

Microprocessor too slow, circuit OK.

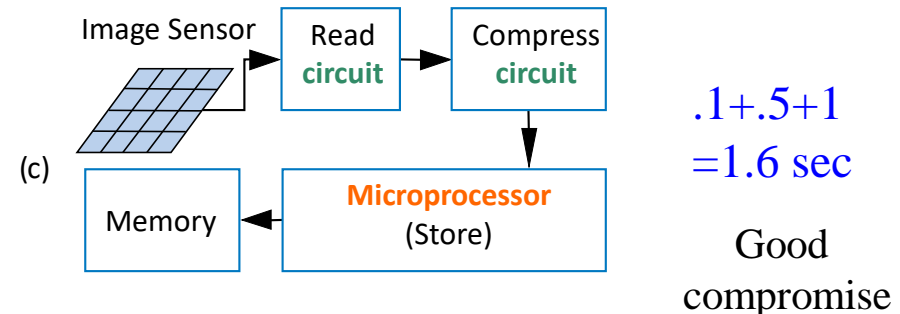
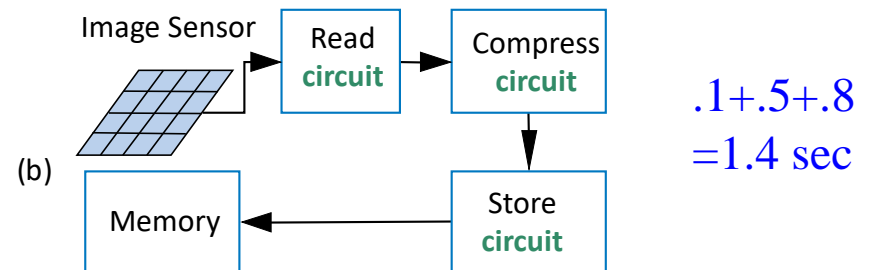
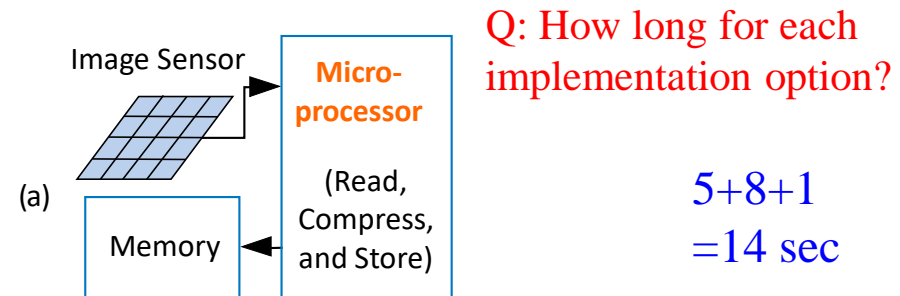


# Digital Design: When Microprocessors Aren't Good Enough

- Commonly, designers partition a system among a microprocessor and custom digital circuits

Sample digital camera task execution times (in seconds) on a microprocessor versus a digital circuit:

Task	Microprocessor	Custom Digital Circuit
Read	5	0.1
Compress	8	0.5
Store	1	0.8





# Chapter Summary

- Digital systems surround us
  - Inside computers
  - Inside many other electronic devices (embedded systems)
- Digital systems use 0s and 1s
  - Encoding analog signals to digital can provide many benefits
    - e.g., audio—higher-quality storage/transmission, compression, etc.
  - Encoding integers as 0s and 1s: Binary numbers
- Microprocessors (themselves digital) can implement many digital systems easily and inexpensively
  - But often not good enough—need custom digital circuits

