

Part 1

CHAPTER 1

Computer Systems Architecture



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Structure of the Book (5 Parts)

Part I *The Beginning*

introduces the concepts, history and underlying technology of digital computers.

1. *Computer Systems Architecture*
2. *Computer Arithmetic and Digital Logic*

Part II *Instruction Set Architectures (ISAs)*

looks at the *programming model* of a computer and introduces the *register model* of a computer, its *instruction types*, and the *addressing modes* of a typical microprocessor.

3. *Architecture and Organization*
4. *Instruction Set Architectures - Breadth and Depth*
5. *Computer Architecture and Multimedia*

Part III *Organization and Efficiency*

describes how we measure the performance of computers.

6. *Performance - Meaning and Metrics*
7. *Processor Control*
8. *Beyond RISC: Superscalar, VLIW, and Itanium*

Structure of the Book

Part IV *The System* → 3350

covers the other parts of a computer required to convert the microprocessor chip into a complete system; for example, *peripheral subsystems* and the wide range of *memory systems*, *storage devices*, and *buses* available to the computer systems' designer.

- 9. Cache Memory and Virtual Memory
- 10. Main Memory
- 11. Secondary Storage
- 12. Input/output

Part V *Processor-Level Parallelism* → 4402.

goes beyond the single-processor computer and introduces the notion of computers with multiple processors.

- 13. Processor-Level Parallelism

Computer Architecture

- ❑ A computer is characterized by its instruction set architecture (**ISA**)
- ❑ An **ISA** is an *abstract entity* because it does not consider the specific design or implementation of a computer
- ❑ An **ISA** is concerned with the computer's register set, instruction set, and addressing modes
- ❑ An **ISA** defines the model of a computer *from the programmer viewpoint*
- ❑ The computer's assembly language embodies its **ISA**

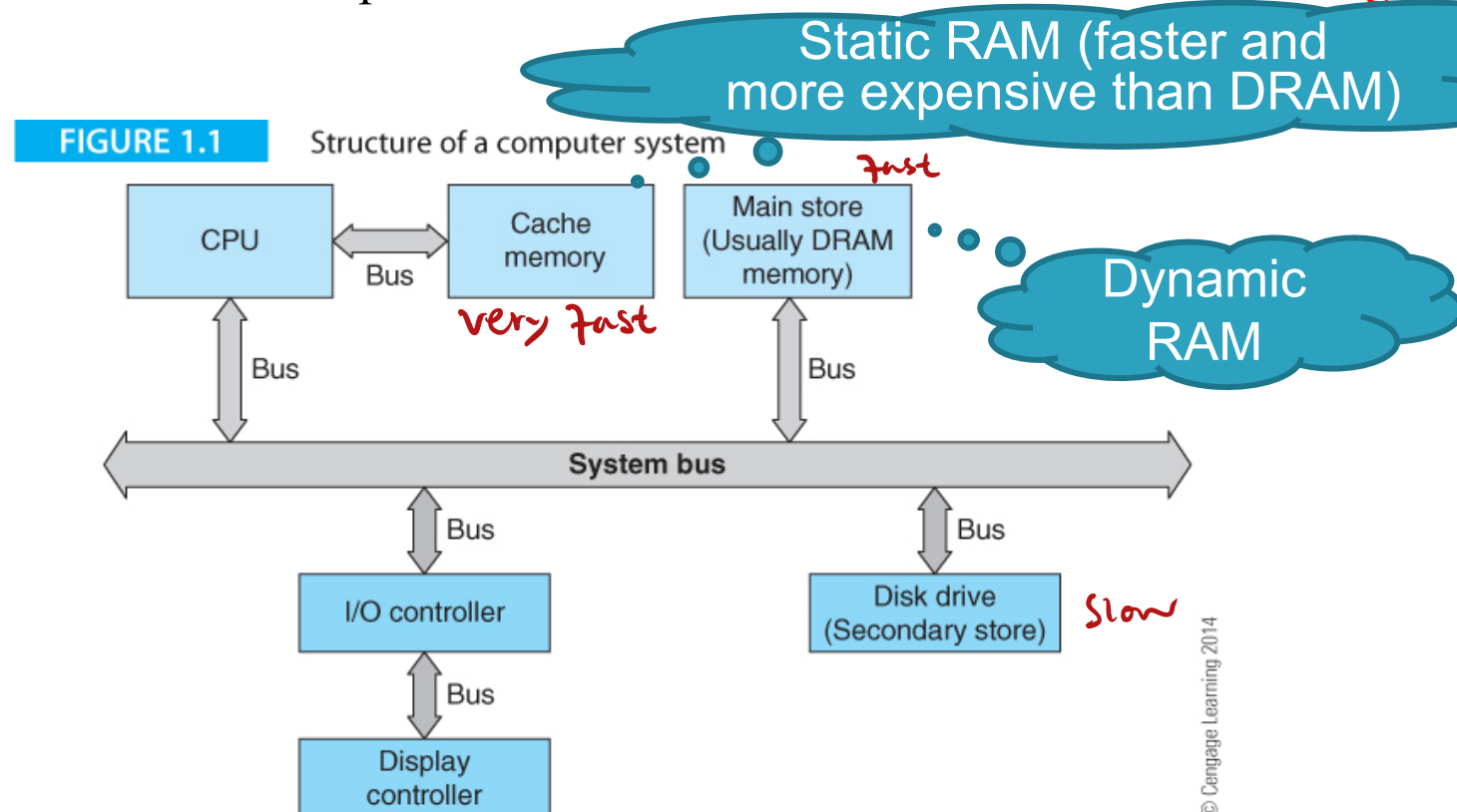
Computer Organization

- ❑ Computer *organization* is concerned with the implementation of an ISA
- ❑ Any given ISA can have many different organizations
 - Examples
- ❑ Computer manufacturers regularly *modify the organization* of a processor while *keeping its ISA essentially constant*
- ❑ Today, a *computer's organization* is often referred to as its *microarchitecture*
- ❑ In *theory*, *architecture* and *organization* are orthogonal; that is, they are entirely independent
- ❑ You could say that
 - *architecture* tells you *what* a computer does and
 - *organization* tells you *how* it does it

Should be "*organization*", not "*architecture*", as in the original slide.

Computer Structure

- ❑ Figure 1.1 describes the **structure of a computer**.
- ❑ The term **computer** describes the **entire system**.
- ❑ The **CPU** is the *Central Processing Unit* that **reads instructions** and **executes** them.
- ❑ The **CPU** is often synonymous with **microprocessor**.
- ❑ **Modern microprocessors** usually include **cache** (high-speed) **memory on-chip**.
- ❑ A key component of computers is the **bus** (or family of busses) that moves information around the computer between different functional units (**data highway**).



Processor Register

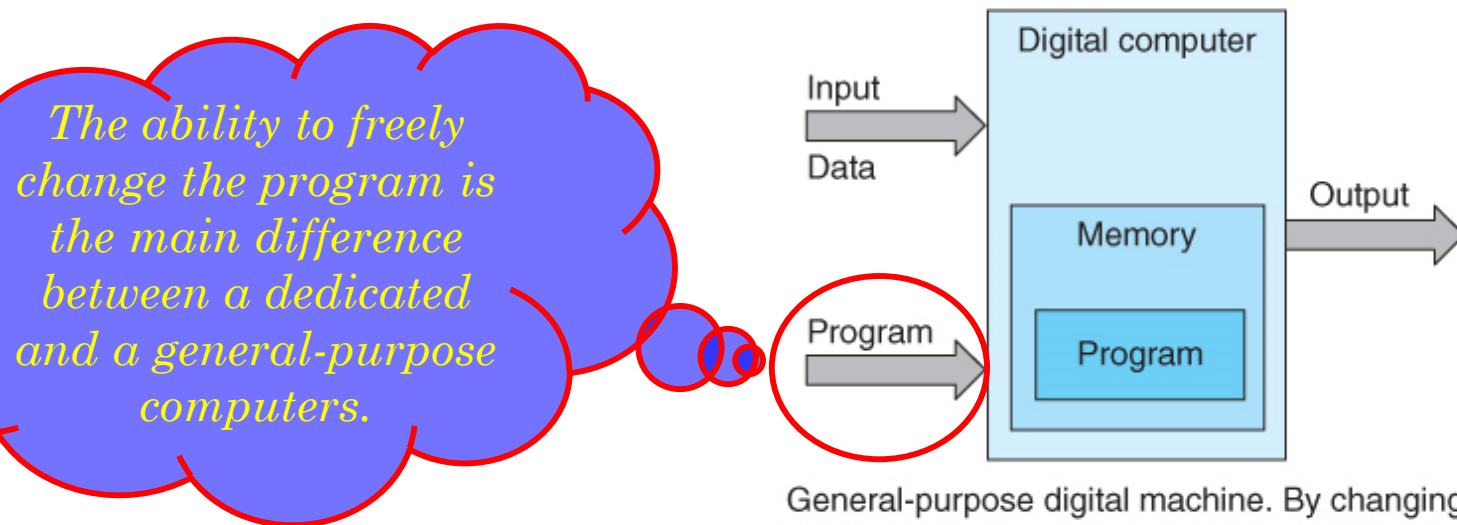
- ❑ A **processor register** is a memory element that holds a single unit data (a word of data). *← Fastest one, inside the processor.*
- ❑ A **processor register** is **specified** in terms of the **number of bits it holds**, which is typically, 8, 16, 32, or 64.
 - Currently, most of computers either have **32-bit** or **64-bit-wide** registers. *64 bit*
- ❑ Each processor has a specified number of registers.
- ❑ There is **no fundamental difference** between
 - a register and
 - a word in memory.
- ❑ The **practical difference** is that registers are located within the CPU
 - can be accessed more rapidly than other memories.

Computer Types

- ❑ Computers are either **dedicated** or **general-purpose**.
 - A **dedicated** computer **solves only one class of problems** (e.g., a computer in a calculator, a cruise speed control, or washing machine).
 - A **general-purpose** computer can be **programmed** to solve any problem.
- ❑ Figure 1.2 describes the structure of a general-purpose computer.
- ❑ A key feature of the general-purpose computer is that the program and its data are held in the same memory. *=> Allow to modify the computer.*
- ❑ Such a computer is called a **von Neumann machine**.

FIGURE 1.2

The general-purpose computer



General-purpose digital machine. By changing the program, this machine can carry out any task capable of being performed by a computer.

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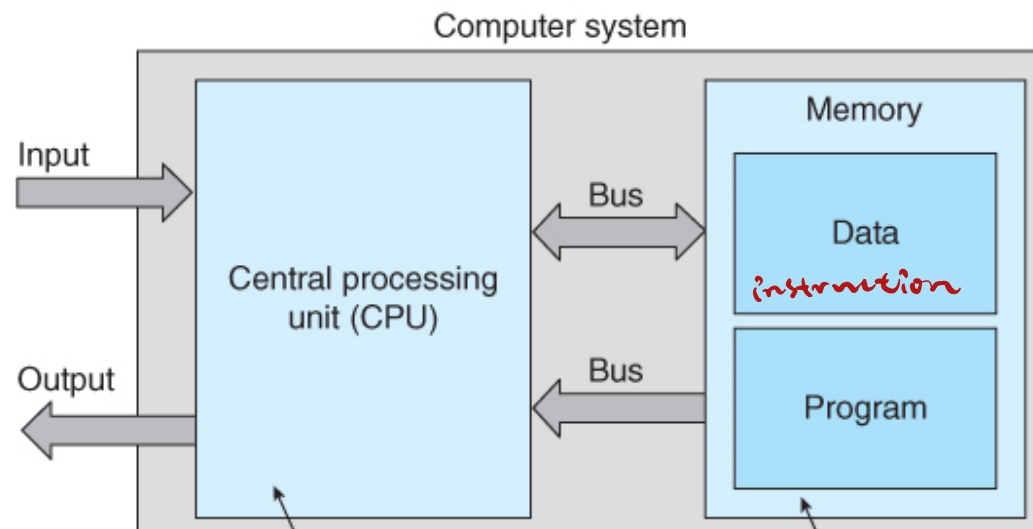
Stored Program Computer

- ❑ Figure 1.3 emphasizes the nature of the stored program computer.
- The CPU reads instructions from memory and then
 - carries out operations on input data and data in memory
 - Data and instructions co-exist in the same memory system

⇒ it can not be differ, both are 0 and 1.

FIGURE 1.3

Structure of the stored program computer



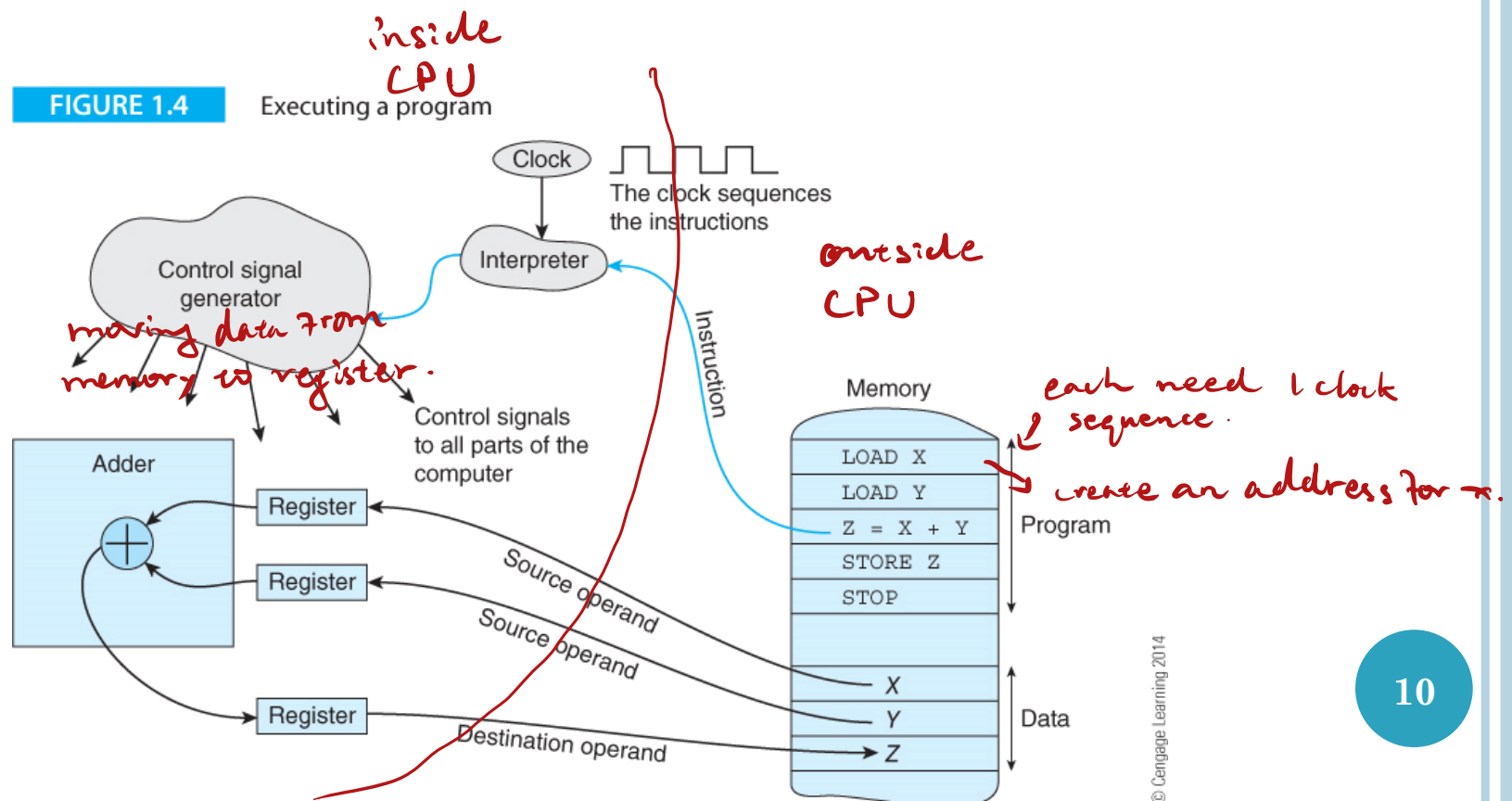
The CPU reads instructions from memory and then carries out operations on input data and data in memory.

Data and instructions co-exist in the same memory system.

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Stored Program Computer

- Figure 1.4 illustrates the operation of a stored program, where the operation $Z = X + Y$ is read from memory, interpreted and used to add X and Y to create Z .
- A clock (a stream of pulses) sequences all operations in a computer.
- All events in a computer are triggered by clock pulses.

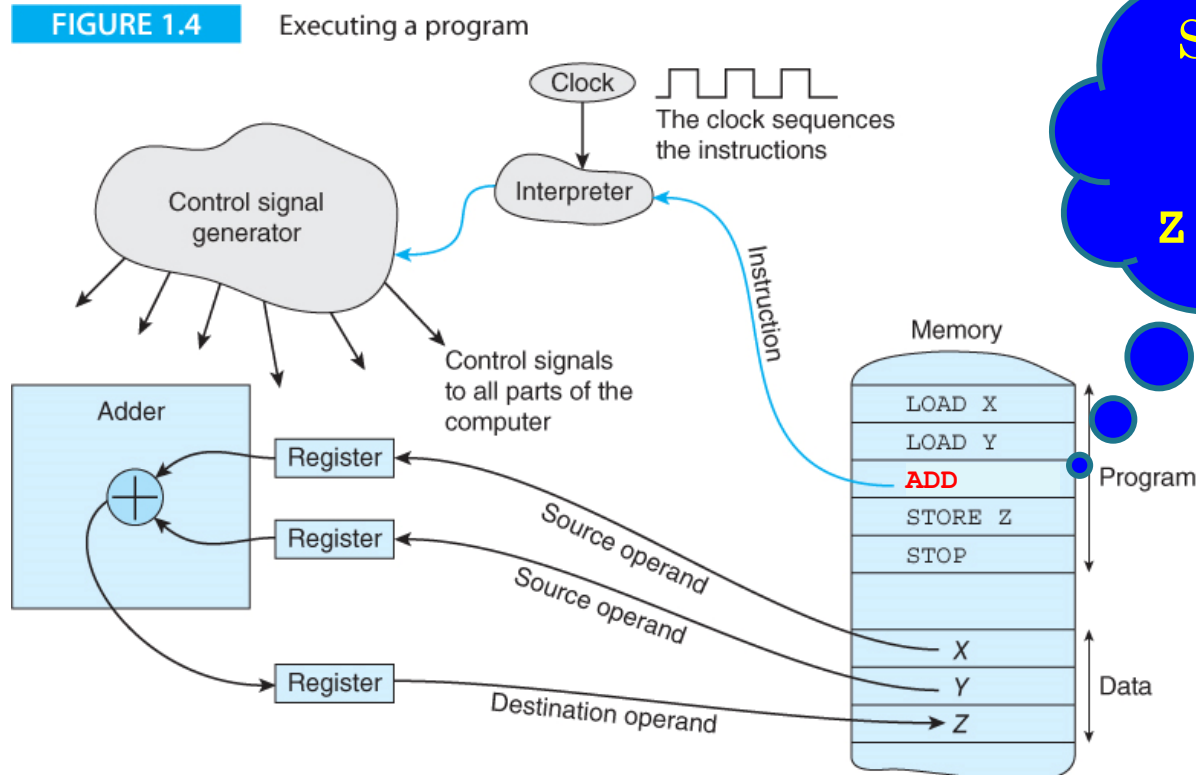


Stored Program Computer

- ❑ **LOAD** moves data from memory to a register and
- ❑ **STORE** moves data from a register to memory.
- ❑ **$Z = X + Y$** performs a simple operation on data (addition).
- ❑ **Memory** is a bottleneck because
 - instructions have to flow from it.
 - Data has to flow from it to take part in operations and
 - Data has to flow back to store the result.

How many memory access do we need to execute this program? 8.

Should be
ADD
Not
 $Z = X + Y$



The Clock

- ❑ Most digital electronic circuits have a **clock** that **generates a continuous stream of regularly spaced electrical pulses**.
- ❑ It's called a clock because the **pulses are used to time** or sequence all events within the computer; **for example**, a processor might start executing a new instruction each time a clock pulse arrives.
- ❑ A clock is **defined** in terms of its *repetition rate* i.e., *frequency*.
- ❑ **Typical clock** frequencies in computers **range from 1 MHz to about 4.5 GHz**.
- ❑ Clocks are **also defined** in terms of the **width of a clock pulse**, which is the reciprocal of its frequency; that is $f = 1/T$;
for example a **1 MHz** clock has a duration of **1 μ s (i.e., 10^{-6} s)**,
and a **1 GHz** clock has a duration of **1 ns (i.e., 10^{-9} s)**.
- ❑ A **5 GHz** clock has a period of **0.2 ns** or simply **200 ps** (picoseconds)—**1 ps = 10^{-12} s**
- ❑ To feel how a **ps** is small, light travels approximately **6 cm** in **200 ps**.