

# SYSTEM UNIT

**CS-305** 

- Computer is an electronic device that works with digital signals such as ON and OFF.
- Digit 0 represents OFF and 1 represents ON.
- Computer works for a binary system.
- This system consists of two digits 0 and 1 called bits.
- It is smallest unit of data can be represented in the computer.
- Collection of 8 bits is called byte.
- One byte can represents 256 different characters.

- Different combinations of 0 and 1 are used to represent different characters.
- Different coding schemes are used to represent different characters.
- Popular coding schemes are as follows:
- 1. BCD Code (Binary Code Decimal)
- 2. EBCDIC Code (Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchangeable Code)
- 3. ASCII code (American Standard Code for Information Interchange)
- 4. Unicode

- 1. BCD Code (Binary Code Decimal):
- ✓ It's a 4 bit code.
- ✓ It means that each decimal digit is represented by 4 binary digits.
- ✓ It was used by early computers.

- 2. EBCDIC Code (Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code):
- ✓ It's a 8 bit code.
- ✓ Divided in two groups of 4 bits.
- Each group represent one hexadecimal digit.
- Developed by IBM.
- ✓ Normally used in Mainframe Computers.
- ✓ It can represent 256 characters.

- 3. ASCII (American Standard Code Information Interchange):
- ✓ Published in 1968 By ANSI(American national Standard Institute).
- Most widely used coding scheme for personal computers.
- ✓ 7 bit code can represents 128 characters.
- ✓ It is not enough to represent some graphical characters displayed on computer screens.
- ✓ An 8-bit code can represent 256 characters.

#### 4. Unicode

- ✓ 16-bit code
- ✓ It can represents 65536 characters.
- ✓ It has started to replace ASCII code.
- ✓ It can represents the characters of all languages in the world.

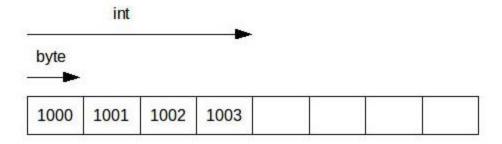
- An area of computer that stores data and instructions to be accessed by processor as well as the results of processing.
- Consists of one or more chips on motherboard.

### Structure of Memory:

- Main memory of a computer consists of thousands or millions of cells of storage location.
- Each cell can store a bit.
- One bit can represent 0 or 1.
- Bit stands for binary digit.
- Memory cells are logically organized into groups of 8 bits known as byte.

### Structure of Memory:

- Each memory has unique number assigned to it.
- The number is known as address of that byte.
- The scheme of arranging the cells into a byte and bytes into memory chips is shown in the following figure.



- □ Volatile Memory:
- ✓ Loses its contents when the computer is turned off.
- ✓ Ram is the most common type of Volatile memory.
- □ Non-Volatile Memory:
- ✓ Does not lose its contents when the computer is turned off.
- ✓ ROM, flash memory etc.

#### RAM:

- ✓ Stands for random access memory.
- ✓ Also called direct access memory.
- ✓ Random access means that each individual byte in entire memory can be accessed directly.
- ✓ Used to store data and instructions temporarily.
- ✓ A program must be loaded into RAM before execution.
- ✓ Volatile memory

#### RAM:

- Ram is read/write memory.
- ✓ Also called main memory or primary memory.
- ✓ Plays important role in the processing speed of the computer.
- ✓ A bigger Ram size provides larger amount of space for processing.
- ✓ Space 4GB or more.

RAM:

- DRAM(Dynamic RAM)
- SRAM(Static RAM)
- MRAM (Magnetoresistive RAM)

#### RAM:

- DRAM(Dynamic RAM)
- used in most of the computers.
- ✓ Least expensive kind of memory.
- ✓ It requires an electric current to maintain its electrical state.
- ✓ Electrical charge decreases with time that may result in loss of data.
- Recharged again and again to maintain its data.

#### RAM:

- SRAM(Static RAM)
- ✓ It can store data without any need of frequent recharging.
- ✓ CPU does not need to wait to access data from SRAM during process.
- ✓ That is why it is faster than DRAM.
- ✓ Utilize less power than DRAM.
- More expensive.
- ✓ Normally used to build a very fast memory known as cache memory.

#### RAM:

- MRAM(Magnetoresistive RAM)
- ✓ It stores data using magnetic charges instead of electrical charges.
- ✓ MRAM uses far less power than other RAM technologies so it is ideal for portable devices.
- ✓ Greater storage capacity.
- ✓ Faster access time.
- ✓ It retains contents when the power is removed from computer.

# MEMORY MODULES

- Small circuit boards that hold RAM chips.
- These modules are plugged into memory slots on them motherboard.
- Most Personal Computers have slots for two to four memory modules.
- They come in different sizes and have different configuration.

### MEMORY MODULES

- SIMM (single inline memory module)
- ✓ Older standard of RAM.
- ✓ Developed in 1983 at Wang Laboratories
- ✓ Used in old computers during 1980s and 1990s.
- ✓ SIMM module has 72 pins and it only supports 32 bit data.
- ✓ SIMM module is 4.25 inches in length and 1 inch in width.

# MEMORY MODULES

- DIMM(Dual inline memory module)
- ✓ It provides faster data transfer speed and better features.
- ✓ It typically supports 64-bit data transfer.
- ✓ Most common pin configuration of DIMM module is 168 pins.
- ✓ Some other DIMM configuration are 100, 172, 184, 204, 214 and 240.

- ✓ The instruction in ROM prepare the computer for use.
- ✓ These instructions can only be read but cannot be changed or deleted.
- ✓ Not possible to write new instruction or information into the ROM.
- Store data and instructions permanently.

- ✓ When the power is switched off, the instruction stored in ROM are not lost.
- ✓ Non-Volatile Memory.
- ✓ The information in ROM is stored by the manufacturer.
- ✓ When the computer is switched on, the instructions in the ROM are automatically loaded into the memory of computer.

- ✓ When the computer is on, the instructions in the ROM are automatically loaded into memory of the computer.
- ✓ ROM contains a small set of instructions called ROM BIOS.
- ✓ BIOS stands for Basic input/output System.
- ✓ Instruction tells the computer how to access hard disk, find the operating system and load the operating system in RAM.

- Types of ROM
- □ PROM
- Stands for programmable read only memory.
- ✓ This form of ROM is initially blank.
- ✓ The user or manufacturer can write data and programs on it using special devices.
- ✓ The user can write instruction on it only once.
- ✓ It is typically used in electronic machines to store some information permanently.

#### □ EPROM

- ✓ Stands for Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory.
- ✓ The user can write data and programs on it using special devices.
- ✓ The data and programs written on it.
- ✓ It can be erased using ultraviolet light.
- ✓ The ROM then can be reprogrammed.

#### □ EEPROM

- ✓ Electronically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory.
- ✓ In this memory, user can erase and write instructions with the help of electrical pulses.
- ✓ It is similar to flash memory.
- ✓ The data can be written to EEPROM in multiple times.
- ✓ The contents of EEPROM can be updated without removing it from circuit board.

- □ Cache Memory
- ✓ Small and very fast memory.
- ✓ Designed to speed up the transfer of data and instructions.
- ✓ Located inside or close to the CPU chip.
- ✓ Faster then RAM.
- ✓ The data and instructions that are most recently or most frequently used by CPU are stored in Cache.

### □ Cache Memory

- ✓ The data and instructions are retrieved from RAM when CPU uses them first time.
- ✓ A copy of that data or instructions is stored in cache.
- ✓ Next time CPU needs that data or instructions, it first look in cache.
- ✓ If required data is found there, it is retrieved from cache memory instead of main memory.

- □ Flash Memory
- Consists of non-volatile memory chips.
- ✓ Used it to store start-up instructions as it allows computer to update its contents easily.
- ✓ Flash memory chips are also built into many devices such as tablets, mobile phones, digital cameras and printers.
- ✓ The data in smart phone stored on flash memory.
- Some portable media players store music on flash memory.

#### □ CMOS

- ✓ Complementary metal-oxide semiconductor.
- ✓ It stores configuration information of computer.
- ✓ The information include the type of disk drives, keyboards, monitor, current data and other start up information required during booting process.

- Memory Access Time
- ✓ The amount of time required by processor to read data, instructions and information from memory.
- ✓ Access time defined by different terminologies:

Terminology	Equal	Denoted
Millisecond	One thousandth sec.	ms
Microsecond	One millionth sec.	μs
Nanosecond	One billionth sec.	ns
Picosecond	One trillionth sec.	
Megahertz	Converted into ns by dividing it into 1 billion ns	MHz.