

Course Resources

Mr. Alei's web page

Michael Brooke Online Course Notes

- 1.1 System Organization
- 1.2 System Design
- 2. Computer Architecture
- 3. Networks
- 4. Computational Thinking

DP Compute Science Sylllabus

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Topic 1—System fundamentals (20 hours)

1.1 Systems in organizations (10 hours)

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Planning and system installation				
1.1.1	Identify the context for which a new system is planned.			
1.1.2	Describe the need for change management.			
1.1.3	Outline compatibility issues resulting from situations including legacy systems or business mergers.			
1.1.4	Compare the implementation of systems using a client's hardware with hosting systems remotely.			
1.1.5	Evaluate alternative installation processes.			
1.1.6	Discuss problems that may arise as a part of data migration.			
1.1.7	Suggest various types of testing.			
User focus				
1.1.8	Describe the importance of user documentation.			
1.1.9	Evaluate different methods of providing user documentation.			
1.1.10	Evaluate different methods of delivering user training.			
System backup				
1.1.11	Identify a range of causes of data loss.			
1.1.12	Outline the consequences of data loss in a specified situation.			
1.1.13	Describe a range of methods that can be used to prevent data loss.			
Software deployment				
1.1.14	4 Describe strategies for managing releases and updates.			

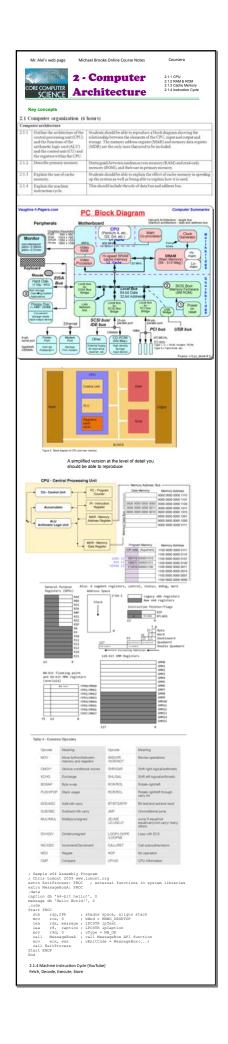
1.2 System design basics (10 hours)

Components of a computer system			
1.2.1	Define the terms: hardware, software, peripheral, network, human resources.		
1.2.2	Describe the roles that a computer can take in a networked world.		
1.2.3	Discuss the social and ethical issues associated with a networked world.		
System design and analysis			
1.2.4	Identify the relevant stakeholders when planning a new system.		
1.2.5	Describe methods of obtaining requirements from stakeholders.		
1.2.6	Describe appropriate techniques for gathering the information needed to arrive at a workable solution.		
1.2.7	Construct suitable representations to illustrate system requirements.		
1.2.8	Describe the purpose of prototypes to demonstrate the proposed system to the client.		
1.2.9	Discuss the importance of iteration during the design process.		
1.2.10	Explain the possible consequences of failing to involve the end-user in the design process.		
1.2.11	Discuss the social and ethical issues associated with the introduction of new IT systems.		
1.2.12	Define the term usability.		
1.2.13	Identify a range of usability problems with commonly used digital devices.		
1.2.14	Identify methods that can be used to improve the accessibility of systems.		
1.2.15	Identify a range of usability problems that can occur in a system.		
1.2.16	Discuss the moral, ethical, social, economic and environmental implications of the interaction between humans and machines.		

Topic 2—Computer organization (6 hours)

2.1 Computer organization (6 hours)

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Computer architecture			
2.1.1	Outline the architecture of the central processing unit (CPU) and the functions of the arithmetic logic unit (ALU) and the control unit (CU) and the registers within the CPU.		
2.1.2	Describe primary memory.		
2.1.3	Explain the use of cache memory.		
2.1.4	Explain the machine instruction cycle.		
Secondary memory			
2.1.5	Identify the need for persistent storage.		
Operating systems and application systems			
2.1.6	Describe the main functions of an operating system.		
2.1.7	Outline the use of a range of application software.		
2.1.8	Identify common features of applications.		
Binary representation			
2.1.9	Define the terms: bit, byte, binary, denary/decimal, hexadecimal.		
2.1.10	Outline the way in which data is represented in the computer.		
Simple logic gates			
2.1.11	Define the Boolean operators: AND, OR, NOT, NAND, NOR and XOR.		
2.1.12	Construct truth tables using the above operators.		
2.1.13	Construct a logic diagram using AND, OR, NOT, NAND, NOR and XOR gates.		



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Give the name and function of the following acronyms:

- Central Processing Unit
 Hardware "brains" of the computer, performs input/output, basic arithmetic & logic operations.
- Control Unit
 Part of the CPU, it controls retrieval of instructions and data from the primary memory as well as their sequence of execution.

Arithmetic Logic Unit
 Part of the CPU, it performs basic arithmetic, logical, and input/

MAR

• Memory Address Register

• Holds the address of the data being used by the ALU as it performs input/output operations to memory.

MDR

- Memory Data Register
- Holds the data used by the ALU as it performs input/output operations to memory.

Describe the function of the:

- rescribe the function of the flemony Bus
 The connection for addresses being passed between the memory and the MAR. Also known as the Memory Address Bus
- The connection for data being passed between the memory and the MDR

Question: What is an instruction cycle?

Answer: It is the basic operation cycle of a computer, taking place in a definite time consists of four stages: fetch, decode, executer and store.

Question: State some differences between Cache Memory and RAM.

- Cache memory is nearer to the CPU than RAM.
- Cache memory is much faster than RAM.
- · Cache memory is more expensive than RAM.

Question: Identify some differences between ROM and RAM found in a PC.

Answer:

- ROM cannot be written to, but RAM can be written to.
- ROM holds the (BIOS) Basic Input / Output System, but RAM holds the programs running and the data used.
- . ROM is much smaller than RAM.
- ROM is non-volatile (permanent), but RAM is volatile.

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2.1.5 Secondary memory CORE COMPUTER Architecture

Key concepts

Secondary memory
2.1.5 | Identify the need for persistent Persistent storage is needed to store data in a non-volatile device during and after the running of a program. LINK Consequences of data loss. TOK If there are no consequences of data loss, why is it stored. TOK There is no such thing as persistent storage. AIM 9 An appreciation of the issues related to both the ever increasing amount of data and a need to retain it.

What is *persistent storage*? How does it differ from other types?

• It is "permanent" or non-volatile - does not disappear on power down.

Name some types of persistent storage.

- Magnetic memory (Hard drives, magnetic tape, floppy disks)
 Solid state (Flash) memory: (SD & CF cards, thumb drives, etc.)
 Optical memory (CD/DVD R/W or ROM)
 Solid state ROM



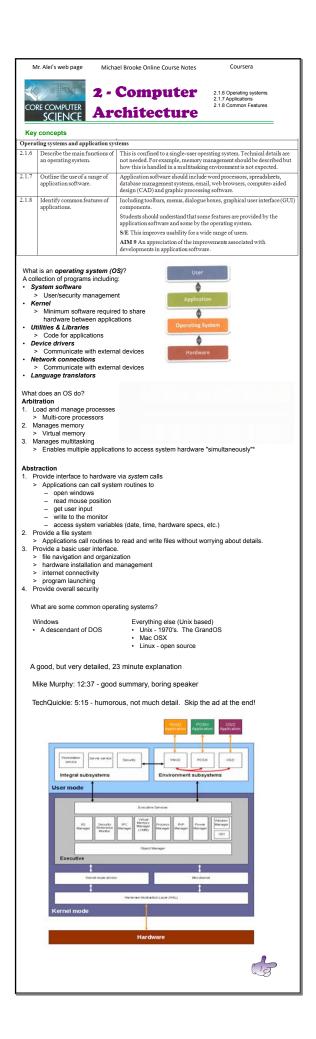
Comparison of Primary and Secondary Memory

Primary Memory

- Expensive
- Expensive
 Fast SRAM (Fastest)
 Volatile gone with power off
 Directly accessible by the CPU
 Small amounts of data (a few GB)
- Secondary Memory Cheap
- Slow
 Permanent (well, semi-permanent)
 Accessed through drivers
 Large amounts of data (a few TB)

Virtual memory
When a computer needs more primary memory, it can use secondary memory as "virtual





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2 - Computer Architecture

2.1.7 Applications 2.1.8 Common Features

Key concepts

Operating systems and application systems					
2.1.6	Describe the main functions of an operating system.	This is confined to a single-user operating system. Technical details are not needed. For example, memory management should be described but how this is handled in a multitasking environment is not expected.			
2.1.7	Outline the use of a range of application software.	Application software should include word processors, spreadsheets, database management systems, email, web browsers, computer-aided design (CAD) and graphic processing software.			
2.1.8	Identify common features of applications.	Including toolbars, menus, dialogue boxes, graphical user interface (GUI) components.			
		Students should understand that some features are provided by the application software and some by the operating system.			
		S/E This improves usability for a wide range of users.			
		AIM 9 An appreciation of the improvements associated with developments in application software.			

In approximate order of usage

Web browsers

Email

Word processors

Spreadsheets

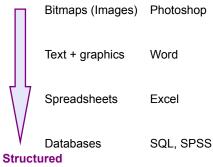
Graphic processing software.

Database management systems

Computer aided design (CAD)

Data "Structure"

Free Form



Common Features?

- Menus
- Toolbars
- Dialogue boxes
- · Window management

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State was function of the operating system in mutuaging memory:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      // mark/
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      [I mark]
Award [I mark] for a valid example.

Word processor, spreadsheet, database management system; e-mail, web browser,
CAD, graphic processing software;
                                movined from each of the applications.

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         Data representation
Byte - 8 bits
Byte - 8 bits
Word - 8 prospending a Brany Digit
Byte - 8 bits
Word - 8 prospending a Brany Byte Forester Byte - 8 bits
Word - 8 prospending - 8 prospending - 8 prospending - 9 prospending - 9 prospending - 9 prospending - 9 bits machines used 2 byte words (they're fading fast)
- 4 bit machines used 4 byte words (they're fading fast)
- 4 bit machines use 8 bytes per words
- 6 bit machines use 8 bytes per words
   3 4 6
      10011100
                   34774 1000 0111 1101 0110
511 1111 1111
43981 1010 1011 1100 1101
                       Adding in binary The MSB + 110 (23) (6)
                   In a signed binary number, the MSB is the sign bit.

Negative numbers have an MSB of 1 and are in 2's complement form
      A 16 bit unsigned integer has values from 0 to 65535
A 16 bit signed integer has values from -32768 to 32767
      Multiplying binary numbers
Use the same algorithm that you do with base 10
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