

An Overview on Applications of Microcontroller

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ABSTRACT

A microcontroller is a microcomputer's electronic gadget. VLSI technology is used to create them on an one circuit. Computers with term durations varying from 4 to 8 parts, 64 parts to 128 bits are now available. This chapter covers controller, their construction, and a variety of properties. Choosing a microcontroller for a given application is very challenging. The success or failure of any project is mainly determined by the microcontroller unit used. In this article, a short review of the unit is given in terms of making the best choice for a certain application. Many companies produce microcontrollers in large quantities. The evaluation is focused on the products of a few well-known firms. System needs, efficiency, size, energy consumption, adaptability, dependability, durability, atmospheric limitations, application support, accuracy, security, price, and the experience and prior records of the manufacture are all factors to consider all important considerations when using a microcontroller as the device's heart. Several variables are highlighted in this article, and following through on those aspects leads to project success.

Keywords

Applications, Bit, CISC, Microcontroller, RISC.

1. INTRODUCTION

A microcontroller, in a broader sense, is made up of storage, devices, and, more crucially, a processor. Microcontrollers are used in devices that require the user's input [1]. They're designed to perform a specific function, such as showing statistics or symbols on the Large LCD module of a home appliance. Controllers are used in a broad variety of applications. A microcomputer chip may be located in any instrument or piece of equipment that measures, controls, displays, or computes data. They're in practically every contemporary home appliance, toy, traffic light, office equipment, and other everyday goods. Because to advancements in semiconductor manufacturing technology, memory, input/output interfacing circuitry, timers, sequential com ports, Alternative to Digitally Conversion, and various peripheral may now be integrated within microcontrollers. As a consequence, it's essentially a single chip with another chip constructed on top of it. Washing machines, copiers, air conditioners, printing presses, and other consumer products; elevated information preparation such as video teleconferences, real-time compaction and safety processes, image processing, and other automotive systems; and high data processing like online meetings, real-time absorption and safety mechanisms, image processing, and other automobiles structures. [2].

Chip microcontrollers are used in a variety of commercial application, including AC & DC motors controllers, Devices, and so on. Because all functionality block are integrated on an one chip microprocessor IC, control board space and energy

usages are reduced. System dependability is improved, and flexibility is provided. Easy troubleshooting and maintenance are other benefits of utilizing microcontroller-based devices.

All of the aforementioned areas of application are dependent on a variety of variables when selecting the appropriate microcontroller unit for a certain application. This paper provides an overview of the key considerations for meeting the system specification while lowering overall cost, which includes manufacturing, warranty, R&D, after-sale service, maintenance, and replacement, among other things. Microcontrollers may be electrically wiped rapidly with the advent of EEPROM in 1993. It enables fast prototyping as well as In-System Programming (ISP). Atmel released the first microcontroller with Flash memory the same year. Microcontrollers ranging from 4-bit to 32-bit are available on the market. Microcontrollers are divided into four groups based on the number of bits they contain 4-bit, 8-bit, 16-bit, and 32-bit microcontrollers. Electronic toys often utilize 4-bit microcontrollers [3]. 8-bit electronics are often used in a wide range of controlling application, include positions, velocity, and processes management. The 16-bit microcomputer were created with high-speed controlling applications in mind, such as robot controls and automation [4].

A high-level programming language or assembly language programming may be used to program such a microcontroller. 32-bit microcontrollers are utilized for extremely high-speed operations in robotics, image processing, cars, intelligent control systems, and telecommunications. The Intel MCS48, 51, and 96 families, the Motorola MC68HC11 family, and the Zilog z8 are all examples of MCUs. The majority of these MCUs feature an 8-bit word size (with the exception of the MCS-96, which has a 16-bit word size), 64 bytes of R/W memory, and 1 KB of ROM. The number of I/O lines ranges between 16 and 40 [5].

1.1 Types of Microcontroller

- *Bit Size-Based categorization:* An 8-bit microcontroller is used to perform fundamental tasks including arithmetic and logic operations. The Intel 8051 microprocessor is a microcomputer with an 8-bit resolution. A 16-bit microcomputer, such as the Intel 8096, is one illustration. When compared to 8-bit microcontrollers, they are more accurate and offer greater performance. Higher-level tasks that need precise automated control are performed by 32-bit microcontrollers. Implantable medical gadgets are the greatest illustration of a microcontroller application.
- *Memory-based categorization :* Microcontrollers are categorized as external memory microcontrollers or embedded memory microcontrollers based on the memory space available within the microcontroller[6].
- *External memory microcontroller:* It does not contain all of the required elements on an one device, notably the

memory. The Intel 8031 is an illustration of a processor that does not have on-chip program memory.

- **Embedded memory:** As the name implies, it consists of a single chip that houses all of the working components, including the program and data memory. An example is the number 8051.
- **Instruction Set-Based Categorization:** Based on the instruction set, there are two categories. They are CISC and RISC, respectively. The abbreviations CISC and RISC stand for Computers with a sophisticated command set and a machine with a limited instructions set, respectively. CISC is built on macro instruction sets, which means that a single instruction may replace many others. The operating time is decreased in reduced instruction architecture by reducing the clock cycle per instruction. Intel developed the 8051 microprocessor in 1981, and it is the most widely used microcontroller. It comes with a 40-kilobyte internal ROM and 128-byte RAM. A total of 64 kilobytes of external memory may be connected to the microcontroller. This microcontroller's four parallel 8-bit ports are simple to program and address. The microcontroller is connected to a crystal oscillator that produces a frequency of 12 MHz. Aside from these components, the 8051 microcontrollers include an 8-bit serial interface and two 16-bit timers.
- **PIC Microcontroller:** Micro-chip Technology classifies its single-chip microcontrollers using the Pervasive Interconnect Processor (PIC). These devices have been quite successful in 8-bit chipsets. The key explanation for this is because Micro-chip Technologies has been constantly upgrading the appliance architecture and integrating much-needed peripherals to the microcomputer to fulfill the customers' demands. PIC microcontrollers are immensely famous amongst enthusiasts and industrialists because to their widespread availability, low cost, large client population, and serial development capability. The architecture of 8-bit PIC microcontrollers is classified as follows:
 - **Base Line Architecture:** PIC chips from the PIC10F series, as well as a part of the PIC12 and PIC16 families, are used in the base-line structure. These devices feature a 12 bit programming word structure and are available in packages ranging from six to twenty-eight pins. A simply described attribute set of fundamental structure enables the most lucrative business options. This design is perfect for gadgets that run on batteries. One reduced 8-bit flash microprocessor in a 6-pin chip is the PIC10F200 family.
 - **Mid-Range Architecture** -This moderate sibling of the PIC12 and PIC16 families gets a 14-bit programming phrase design. In the midrange, PIC16 devices provide a broad variety of package configurations, as well as medium to high external connectivity integration. SPI, USART, I2C, USB, LCD, and A/D conversions are amongst the analogue, electronic, and serial ports on this PIC16 device. The half PIC16 computers have suspending controlling capabilities with an eight-level software load.
 - **High Performance Design:** The elevated design included the PIC18 family of appliances. These computers use a 16-bit programming word layout and are available in packaging with 18 to 100 pins. Computers with constructed Analogue to Digitally converter, such as the PIC18, are elevated controllers. The RISC structure of PIC18 microcontrollers is extensively advanced, and all variants enable flash memory[7]. The PIC18 has a more

solid base, a 32-level deeper loading, and a variety of internal and outside interruptions [8].

- **Microcontroller AVR:** AVR, or Accelerated Virtual RISC, is an 8-bit RISC single microprocessor based on the Cambridge design. Atmel created the first microcontroller chip in 1966. The Cambridge design specifies that code and data be gathered in distinct places and used simultaneously. It were one of the first microcomputer designs to employ on-chip flashing storage for programming storing, rather than the each programmed EPROM, EEPROM, or ROM that were being used at the time by other microcontrollers. Flash memory is a non-volatile programmable memory. AVR Microcontroller Architecture Alf-Egil Bogen and Vegard Wollan created the AVR microprocessor architecture. The moniker AVR is derived from the microcontroller's designers' names. The AT90S8515 were the initial microcomputer founded on the AVR design, while the AT90S1200 were the initial commercial microcontroller in 1997. In most systems, SRAM, Flash, and EEPROM are all combined on a single chip, eliminating the need for extra external memory. Many appliances include a linear outside bus option that allows for the installation of extra data memory devices. Despite the exceptions of Tiny AVR chips, almost all appliances offer a serial connection for connecting large sequential Flash and EEPROM chips [9].
- **Microcontroller AMR:** AMR is the brand of a company that designs microcontroller architectures. It also sells rights to firms who make genuine chips. AMR is really a 32-bit genuine RISC framework. In the years 1980, Apple Computing Ltd produced it. This AMR base microcontroller has no on-board flash memory. ARM is a microcontroller-specific processor that is simple to understand and use while being strong sufficient for perhaps the more challenging integrated applications [10].

1.2 Microcontroller Architecture

Architecture of microcontroller consists of following components;

- **CPU:** The microcontroller's main processor unit, sometimes called as the brain, obtains, deciphers, and performs the commands. It is in charge of coordinating the microcontroller's various functions.
- **I/O Unit:** In a microcontroller, there are a lot of parallel input/output ports. They link the microcontroller to several peripherals, including printing, outside storage, LEDs, and LCDs. Usb lines are utilized to attach sequentially connected devices to the microprocessor in additional to parallelism connectors.
- **Memory:** Capacity regions like RAM and ROM, particularly EEPROM and EPROM, are found in microcontrollers, just as they are in microprocessors. It also allocates certain flash space for the storage of software code.
- **Timer Counter:** A microcontroller's interesting component elements are timers and counters. Newbies and counts are used for modulating, clocking operations, frequencies production, monitoring, and pulses generating.
- **Analog to Digital Converter:** Analog to digital converters (ADCs): These conversions are useful for translating the outputs of an analogue sensing to a digitized ones [9].
- **Digital to Analog Converter:** A digital to analog converter (DAC) Analog to digital converters function in the other direction. As you would assume, the outputs

would be an analogue message that might be utilized to control analog devices such as an actuator.

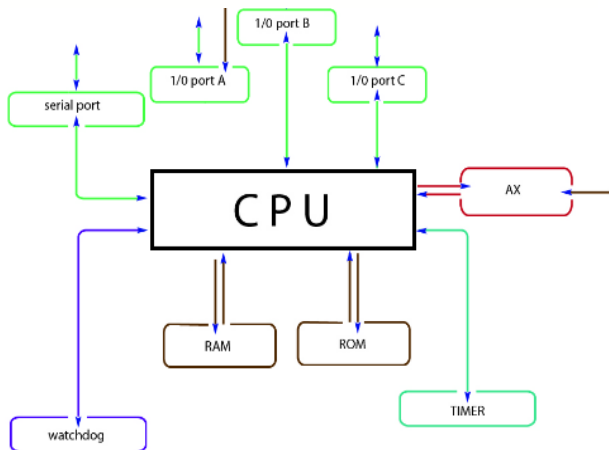


Figure 1: Diagrammatic Representation of Microcontroller [BASE64]

1.3 Advantages Of Microcontroller

- The procedure takes a short amount of time to complete.
- It's simple to use, and troubleshooting and system maintenance are simple.
- Many activities are frequently completed in the same amount of time, saving the human impact.
- The processor chip is very tiny, allowing for flexibility.
- The system is less expensive and smaller in size.
- A microcomputer may readily be expanded with more RAM, ROM, and I/O ports.
- Once a microcomputer has been configured, it can be restarted.
- It will seem to be a microcomputer if the digital components are missing.
- It's simple to use, troubleshoot, and keep your system up to date.

1.4 Disadvantages Of Microcontroller

- It's commonly found in micro-equipment.
- In comparison to microprocessors, it has a more sophisticated structure.
- A higher-power device cannot be directly interfaced by the microcontroller.
- It could only carry out a limited amount of executions at the same time.

1.5 Criteria for choosing a microcontroller

- *Requirement for the System:* If the system requires a single chip MCU or extra peripherals, design should begin with a blank piece of paper describing the application requirements. The selection process begins with a choice on whether the application requires a 4-bit, 8-bit, 16-bit, or 32-bit microcontroller. It's more difficult to write code for 4-bit architectures, because dealing with 4-bit instructions and data lengths limits arithmetic capabilities. Because the technology has been around for a long time and a large variety of controllers are available on the market, most embedded applications are built using an 8-bit microcontroller. They're utilized in anything from low-cost, low-speed 4-bit microcontrollers to devices that provide tens of MIPS, like Atmel's AVR

series, which has a 50 ns instruction cycle time when clocked from a 20 MHz crystal. If the application requires additional processing power, a 16-bit or 32-bit MCU is the most probable option. Vendors provide 32-bit performance at a reasonable price. The consumer pays almost little for 32-bit devices. The available on-chip peripherals have a significant impact on component selection. Check for Timers, Serial interfaces, ROM, RAM, A/D converter, and D/A converter availability. A suitable number of I/O ports is required. Too many I/O ports result in high costs, yet only a handful can perform the job.

- *Memory Architecture:* This is a critical consideration when developing a microcontroller-based system. Program memory, such as Flash, OTP, ROM, and ROM-less components, (b) data memory, such as on-chip SRAM or external SDRAM, and (c) nonvolatile memory, such as EEPROM or Flash, all play a part in the selection process. Whether the memory is on-chip or off-chip, as well as the size needed, is likely to be a significant influence in determining the system's cost and speed of operation. For example, the Atmel AVR series has Flash memory ranging from 1KB to 128KB, on-chip SRAM for data storage, and a few bytes of EEPROM allocated for setup information and serial numbers. The AVR family's golden characteristics make it increasingly popular in a variety of applications. Flash offers you the freedom to modify your code and the ability to utilize In-System-Programmed. The segmented Flash blocks in the Atmel 89C51 and Mega AVR families enable you to Without withdrawing the power, reprogram one section under the command of another. Finally, select a gadget from a series that has adequate or greater storage capacity than you anticipate using.
- *Accessibility:* The device's availability should be verified before the system is implemented. The availability of microcontrollers in required numbers, both now and in the future, is a criterion for selecting one. There is no need to be concerned about the project failing if adequate quantities are accessible with a promising future.

2. DISCUSSION

Microcontrollers are used in automatic-operating items and equipment like automotive motor controlling systems, implantable healthcare instruments, distant controlling, workplace machinery, utilities, power drills, games, and various integrated structures. By reducing the size and price of a systems that uses a distinct microcontroller, memory, and input/output objects, modules make it more cost-effective to electronically manage many additional gadgets and processes. By including analogue elements, mixing signals microchips are often utilized to run non-digital electrical devices. As edge devices in the network of things, computers are an expense and extensively utilized technique of gathering information, sensing, and manipulating the physical environment. Some microcontrollers use four-bit words and operate at frequency as low as 4 kHz to save electricity. They may keep working when awaiting for an event, such as a button press or other interrupting; energy usage while hibernating may be as minimal as nanowatts, making many of them excellent for long-term battery applications. Other microcontrollers, which need higher clock rates and power expenditure than a digitized signals processing, may be utilized in performance-critical applications (DSP).

3. CONCLUSION

A microcomputer (MCU for microcomputer module) is a small processor that is constructed from a sole MOS integral circuit (IC) chip. A microcomputer is a processor with one or more CPU cores, memory, and programmed input/output devices. On-chip memory includes a small quantity of Memory as much as programming storage in the shape of ferromagnetic RAM, NOR flash, or OTP ROM. Microcontrollers, unlike microcomputers used in desktop computer and other summary purposes, are designed for embedding applications and are made up of a collection of separate chips. In today's terminology, a microcontroller is equivalent to, but less complicated than, a chipset (SoC). A microcomputer may be one of the SoC's components, but it's usually paired with more advanced peripherals like a graphical processor units (GPU), a Wi-Fi modules, or one or more coprocessors. The application note will list the majority of the factors presented in this article for selecting MCU. The choice is not simple, and it will become more important as technology advances. Here are a few pointers on how to choose the appropriate one. Anyone may use their own grading scale and make their own judgment. As a result, This study's perspectives and views are not the only ones considered during the selecting procedure.

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