

# Lecture 9

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## Stored Program Concept: The Hardware View

# The von-Neumann Architecture

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- Processor

carries out instructions

- Memory

temporary storage

- Input/Output

allows user interaction

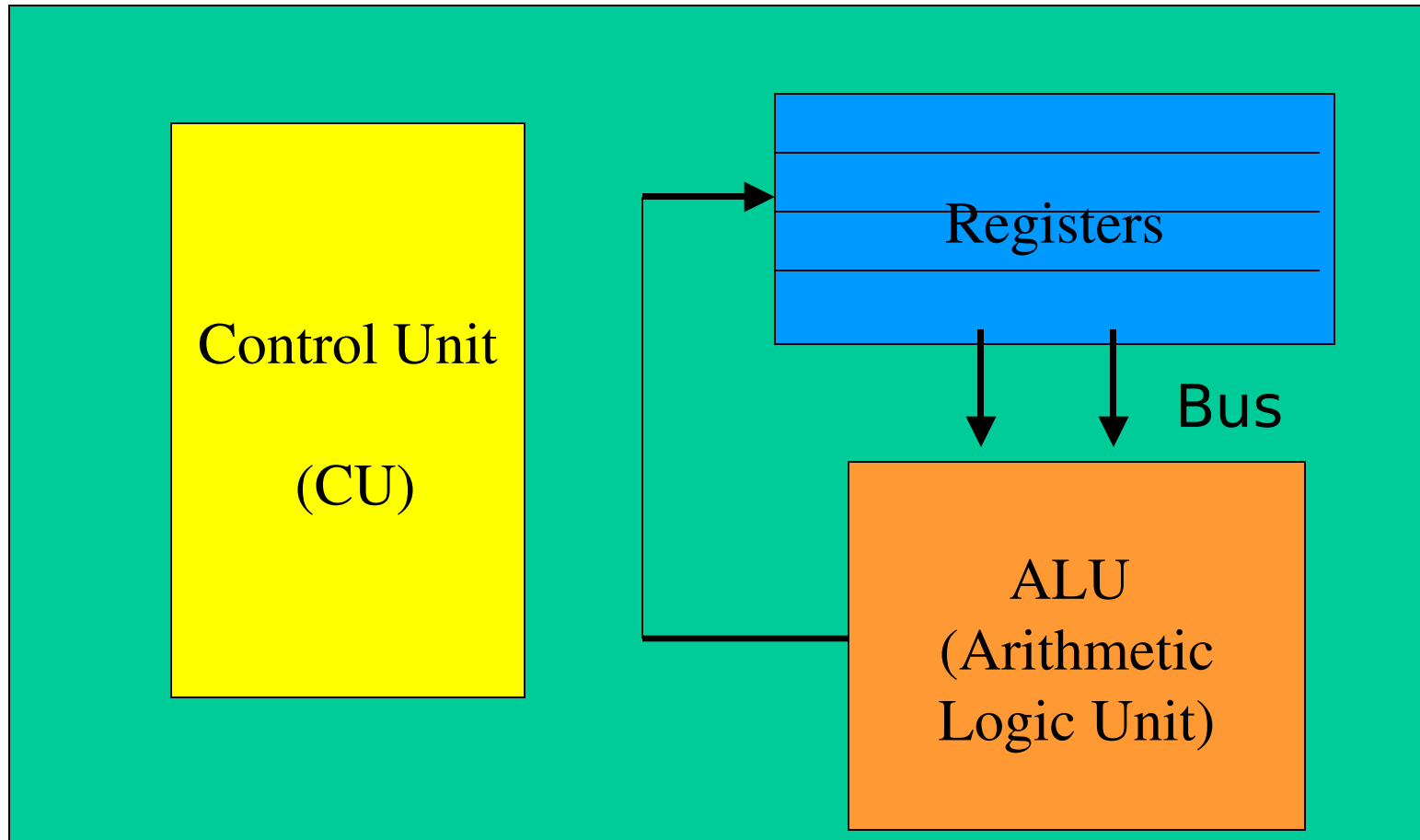
# CPU – Central Processing Unit

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- **ALU** – arithmetic and Logic Unit  
performs operations on data (e.g. add, subtract, AND, OR)
- **Control Unit** – oversees functions of CPU
- **Registers** – memory locations built into the CPU for current data

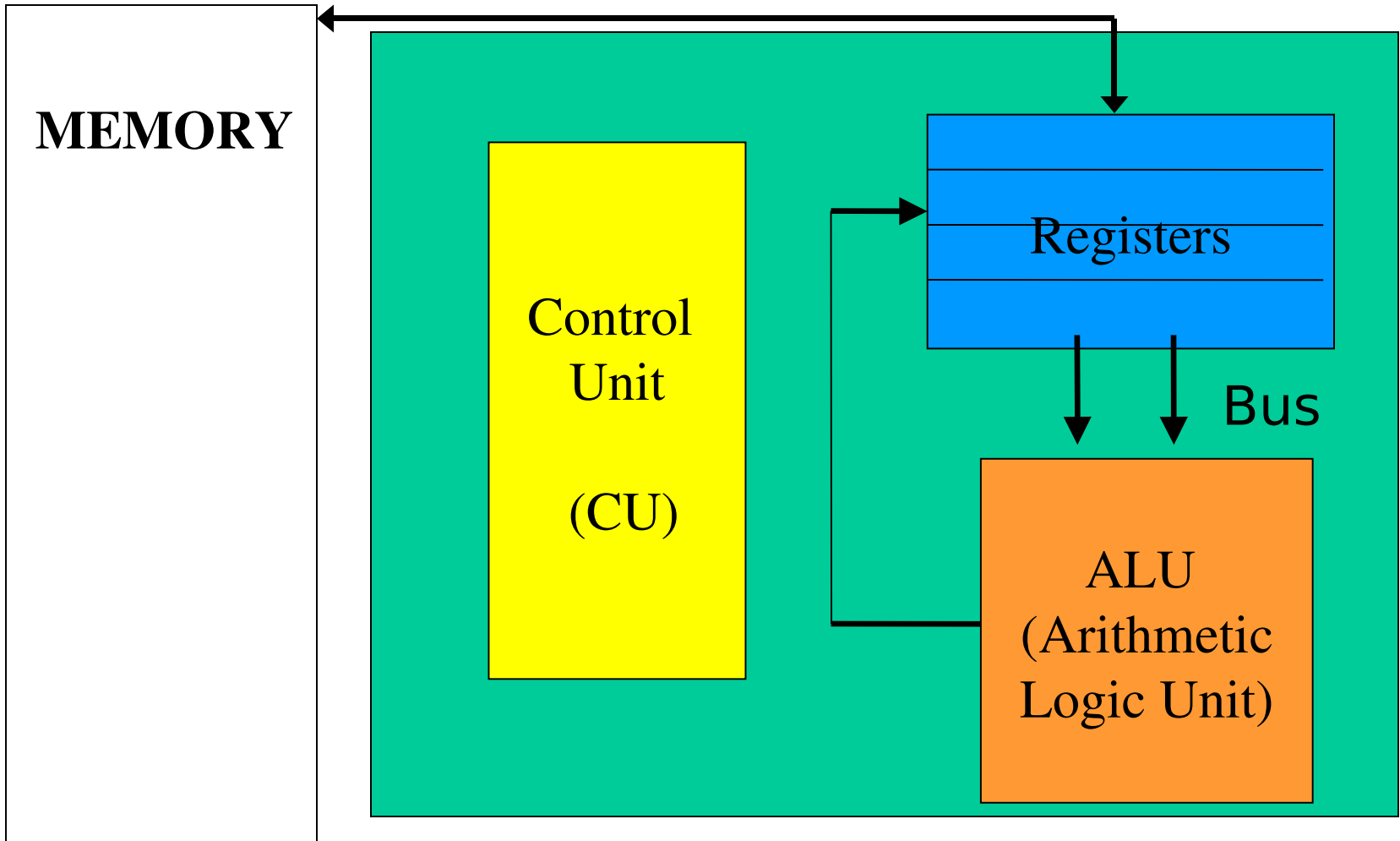
# CPU - Central Processing Unit

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# Memory and the CPU

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# What is stored in Memory?

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- Instructions
- Data

Example of instructions:

ADD R0, R2, R1

SUB MEM7, MEM1, MEM9

# Executing an Instruction

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Example: SUB MEM7, MEM1, MEM9

3. Copy the value from MEM1 to a register (say R1).
4. Copy the value from MEM9 to a register (say R2).
5. Tell the ALU to subtract R1-R2.
6. Put the sum into location 7 in memory.

# Memory vs. Registers

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- Registers hold the values that the ALU is currently working with. Registers are accessed very fast.
- Memory is larger (holds more data), is more permanent than registers, and slower.



# Control Unit

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1. Fetch instruction from memory
2. Decode instruction
3. Decode instruction
4. Execute instruction
5. Execute instruction

1: Fetch instruction from  
memory.....

Copy the next instruction into a  
special register call the  
instruction register.

How do we know which is the next  
instruction?

Its address is in a special  
register called the program  
counter.

# 1: Fetch instruction from Memory

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Example:

Program Counter (PC) has the value 10.

The control unit fetches the instruction sitting at location 10 in memory, and copies it into the instruction register.

## 2: Decode the instruction

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Break up the instruction into its parts:

- **Operation** (add, sub, etc)
- **Data** (copy data from memory if necessary)

## 3: Execute

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Configure the ALU and the buses to carry out the instruction.

(the actual operation is executed by the ALU)

# Example of Fetch-Decode-Execute

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- Say PC=10, the control unit copies an instruction from location 10 in memory into the IR.
- Decode the instruction into its parts: SUB R0 R1 R2
- Set the ALU to subtract and set the buses to send registers R1 and R2 to the ALU

# Changing the program counter

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There are two ways to change the program counter:

The normal way is that after executing an instruction, the control unit increments the Program counter

$$PC = PC + 1$$

The following instruction in memory will be executed next.

## Changing the PC (#2)

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A jump instruction sets the PC to a certain location in memory.

Example: JUMP MEM87

This instruction means: jump to memory location 87 and continue executing.

PC = 87



# “High-Level” View

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- A user writes a program in a high-level language (e.g. C++)
- The program is translated by a compiler into machine language
- The CPU executes the machine language instructions (fetch-decode-execute cycles)