

## \* NOTE \*

- These notes are 80-85% complete. (Something is remaining from Unit-3 ig 😊)
- Request you to do some extra study from other study material.  
Don't fully depend on this

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## Memory Management

### \* Call Gate Descriptox -

- • A gate descriptor is a special type of descriptor used for performing protection checks.
- They also control access to entry points within target code segment when control transfers instructions are executed.
- Call gate is one of the types of gate descriptors.
- They are used to call to function/procedure which is at another privilege level i.e. it can change privilege levels.

### \* Segment Descriptox -

- • Diagram -

Segment Base 15....0					Limit 15-0						
Base	G	D	O	Av	Limit	P	DPL	S	TYPE	A	BASE
31...24				L	19..16	7	6 5	4	3 2 1	0	23..16

- Segment descriptor is a special structure which describes segment.
- Exactly one segment descriptor must be defined for each segment in memory

- From the Diagram,

BASE - Base address of segment

LIMIT - Length of segment

P - Present bit : 1 = Present ; 0 = Not present

DPL - Descriptor Privilege Level 0-3

S - Segment descriptor : 0 = System descriptor  
1 = Code / Data segment desc.

TYPE - Type of segment

A - Access bit

G - Granularity bit : 1 = Segment length is page granular

0 = Segment length is byte granular

0 - Bit must be zero (0) for compatibility

AVL - Available field for user or OS

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## \* LDT Descriptors -

- • The LDT (Local Descriptor Tables) are set up in a system for individual task or closely related group of tasks

### • Structure of LDT Descriptors -

63	56-55	51	49-48	47	40-39	32
BASE 31-24	0000	LIMIT 19-16	P	0000010	BASE 23-16	
					- TIME	
8-0    BASE						LIMIT 19-0
15-0						15-0
31		16-15				0

- For the LDT descriptors, 'S' bit is 0 and 'type' bits are 0
- LDTR (Local Descriptor Register) selects LDT descriptors from GDT
- LDT descriptors can only be accessed, if privilege level is 0

## \* Descriptor Tables - GDT, IDT & LDT

- Segment descriptors are grouped and placed one after other in contiguous memory locations.
- This arrangement is known as Descriptor Table.

These are 3 types of Descriptor Tables:

### i) GDT - (Global Descriptor Table)

- It is general purpose table of descriptors, that can be used by all programs to refer segments of memory.
- GDT can have any type of segment descriptors except for descriptors which are used for serving interrupts.
- It addresses up to 512 MB of virtual address space.

### ii) IDT - (Interrupt Descriptor Table)

- It holds segment descriptors that define interrupt or exception handling routines.

- IDT has 24 bit Base Address and 16 bit Limit

- It can handle up to 256 interrupt descriptors

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## iii) LDT - (Local Descriptor Table)

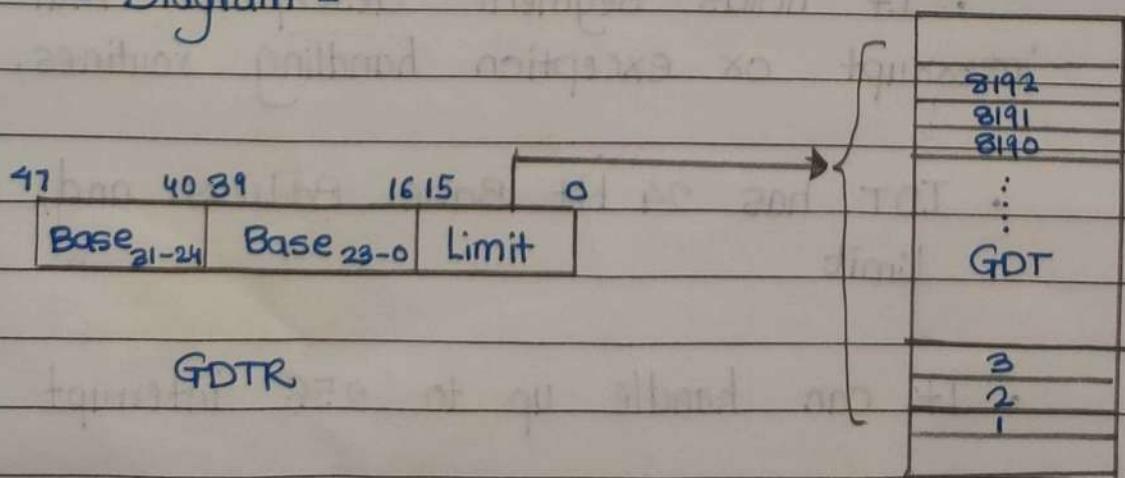
- They are set up in system for individual task or closely related group of tasks
- LDT has 24 bit Base Address and 16 bit Limit. It has 512 MB private address space
- LDT is essential to implement separate address spaces for multiple processes.

## \* Descriptor Registers - GDTR, LDTR & IDTR -

### → 1) GDTR -

- Global Descriptor Table Register is a 48-bit register located inside x86 DX
- Lower two bytes of this register specifies the limit for GDT
- Upper four bytes of GDTR specifies 32-bit linear address of base of GDT.

### • Diagram -

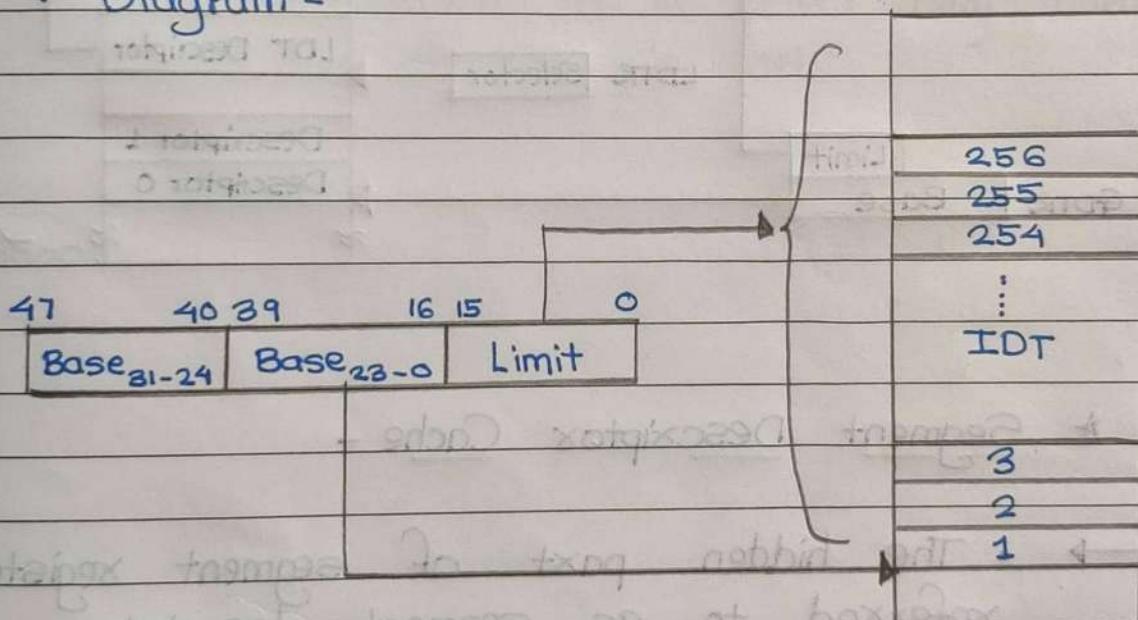


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## 2) IDTR

- Interrupt Descriptor Table Register holds the 16-bit Limit and 32-bit Linear Address of base of IDT
- IDTR is 48 bit in length, with lower 2 byte defining Limit and upper 4 byte defining base address
- Size of IDT should not be set to support more than 256 interrupts.

### • Diagram -



## 3) LDTR

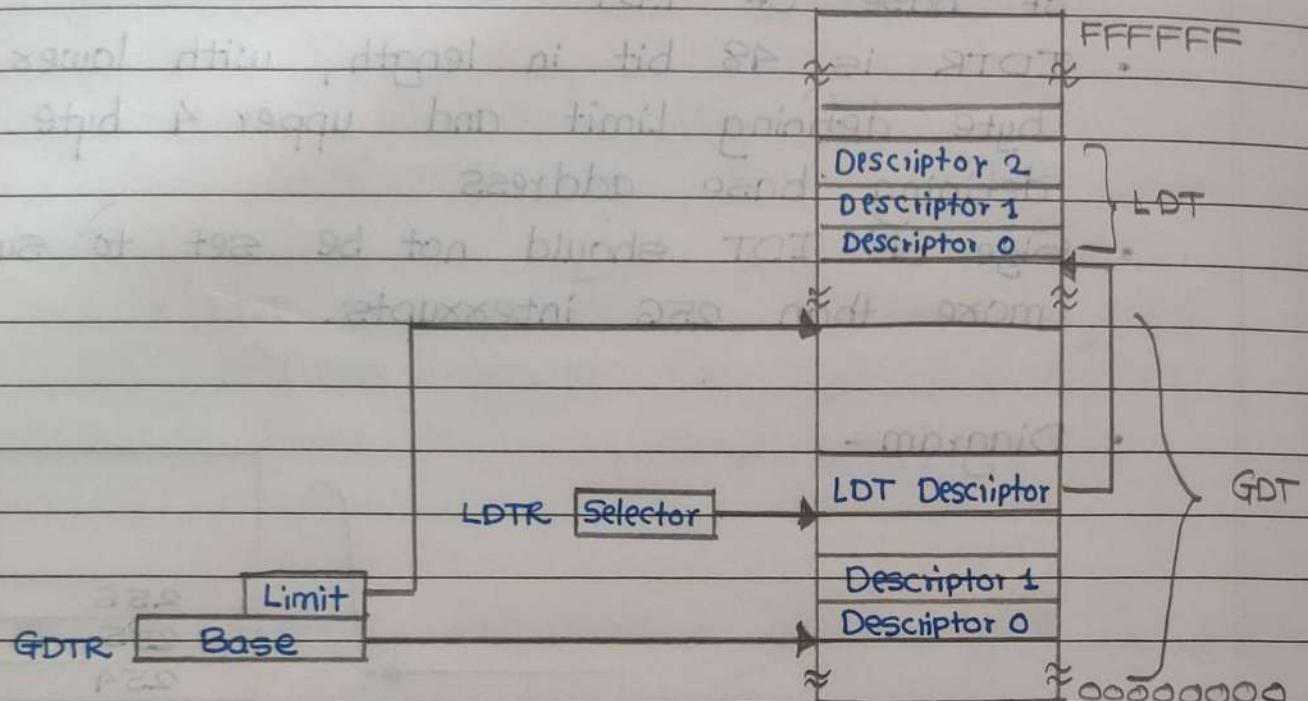
• Local Descriptor Table Register is a 16-bit register.

- It specifies the address of LDT descriptor stored in GDT
- LDTR holds a selector that points to an LDT descriptor in GDT
- Whenever a selector is loaded into LDTR

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corresponding descriptor is located in GDT.

- Diagram -



## \* Segment Descriptor Cache -

- • The hidden part of segment registers is referred to as segment descriptor cache registers.
- Using these registers, 80386 DX stores information from descriptors, thereby avoiding need to consult descriptor table every time.
- Segment descriptor cache registers contents are manipulated by processor.

## \* Page Translation - Address conversion -

- • Page translation is second phase of address translation
- In this phase, x86 transforms linear address generated by segment translation into a physical address
- Page translation is in effect only when PG bit of CR0 is set.

### PROTECTION

\* Faux level of Hierarchical protection / five aspects of protection in 80386 DX :

- • 80386 uses segment level protection and page level protection mechanism to protect critical sections.
- Protection in 86DX has 5 aspects :
  - 1) Type Checking
  - 2) Limit Checking
  - 3) Restriction of Addressable Domain
  - 4) Restriction of Procedure Entry points
  - 5) Restriction of Instruction Set
- The concept of privilege applies to both, segment protection & page protection

#### ▲ Definitions :

##### i) RPL -

- Requestor Privilege Level
- It is the privilege level of original task that supplies the selector
- RPL is the  $\underline{\underline{2}}^{\leftarrow}$   $\underline{\underline{LSB}}$  of selector  
Least Significant Bit

iii) DPL -

- Descriptor Privilege Level
- It is least privilege level at which a task may access that descriptor and the segment associated with that descriptor
- Bits 6 & 5 of access rights byte of descriptor determine the DPL

iii) CPL -

- Current Privilege Level
- The privilege level at which a task / code segment is being currently executed
- Normally, CPL = DPL of segment that processor is currently executing

iv) EPL -

- Effective Privilege Level
- When access to new memory segment is desired, EPL is computed
- It is defined as,  
$$EPL = \max \{ RPL, CPL \}$$
 (numerically)

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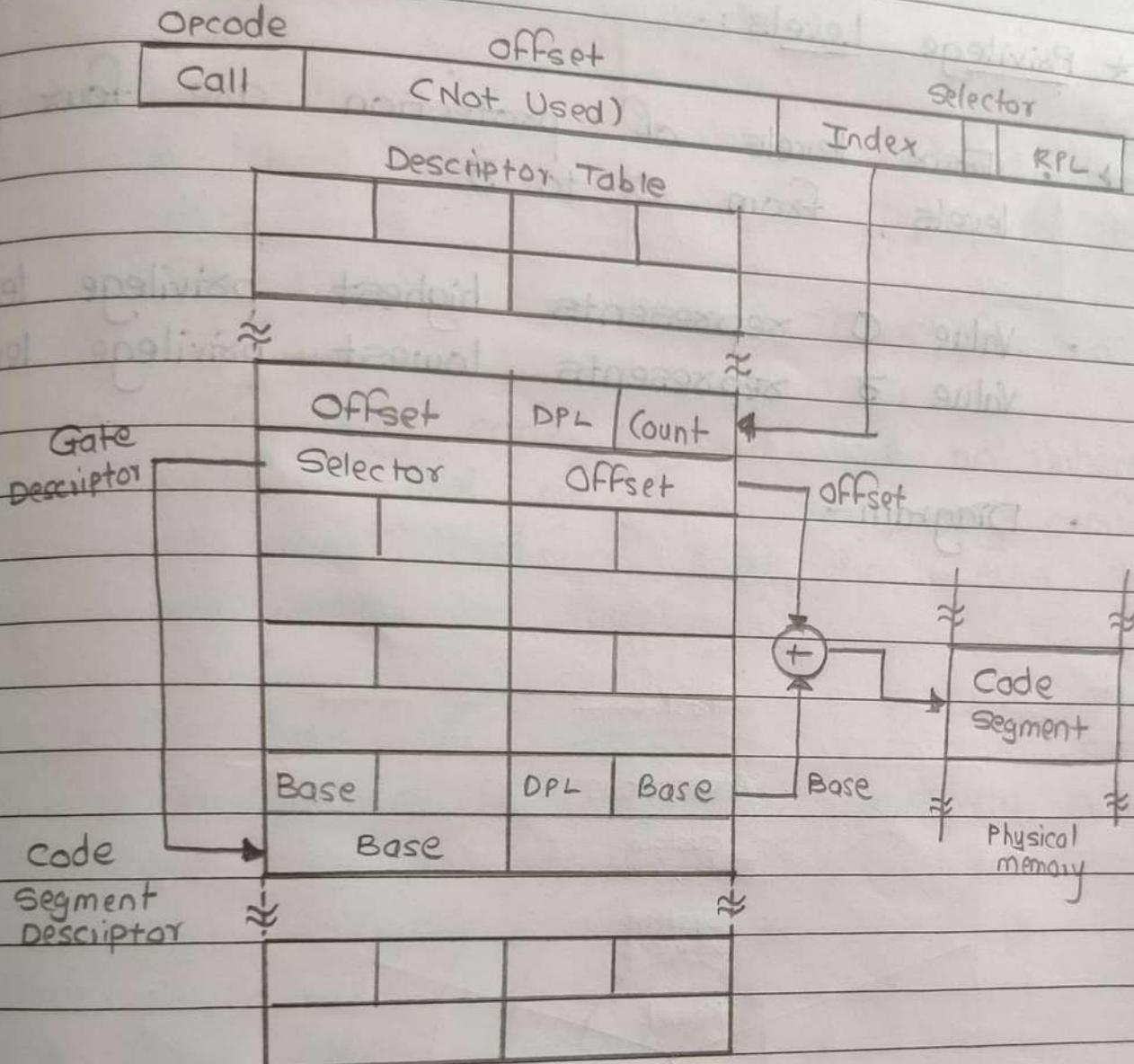
## \* Privilege Transfer using Call Gate Descriptors -

- • Call gate is only mechanism that allows to call a procedure located in any segment which has a higher privilege level
- Call gate descriptors are used by 'call' and 'jump' instructions in same way as code segment descriptors
- It contains 2 important things:
  - a) Selector (which points to descriptor for segment where procedure is loaded)
  - b) offset of called procedure in segment
- If call is valid, then selector is placed in visible portion of CS register and corresponding segment descriptor is placed in hidden portion of CS register
- The 86DX then uses base address from segment descriptor and offset from call gate to calculate physical address of called procedure

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- Diagram -



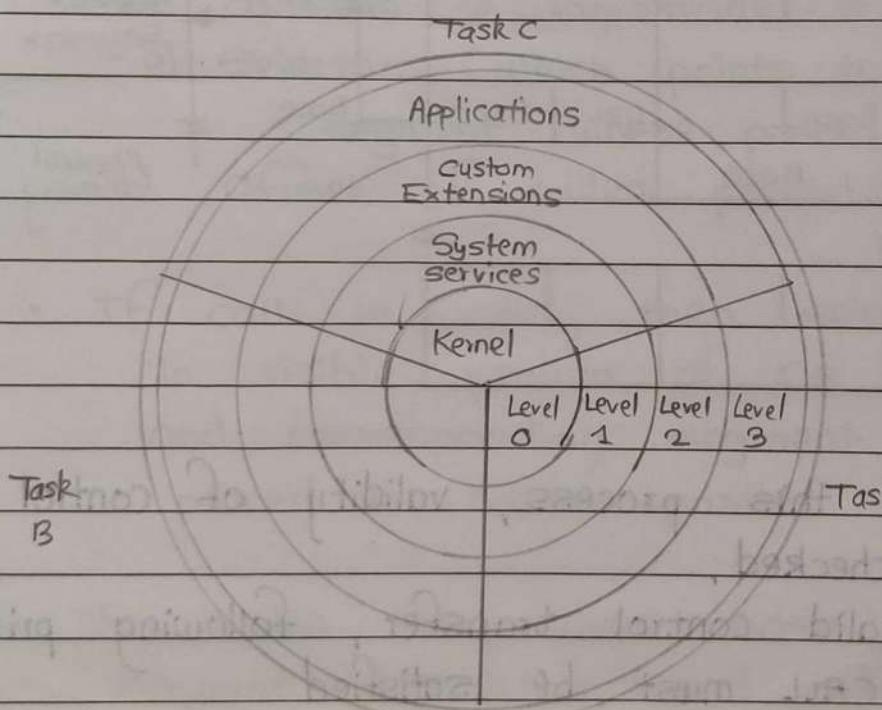
- During this process, validity of control transfer is checked,

For valid control transfer, following privilege rules for CALL must be satisfied

$$\text{Target DPL} \leq \max(\text{RPL}, \text{CPL}) \leq \text{Call gate DPL}$$

### \* Privilege Levels :-

- • Four levels of protection are four privilege levels, from 0 to 3
- Value 0 represents highest privilege level, value 3 represents lowest privilege level
- Diagram -



- It shows that operating system Kernel is assigned to highest privilege level.
- System services such as BIOS procedures are assigned with PL1, whereas custom device drivers with PL2 and application programs with PL3

### \* Conforming Code Segment -

- • A code segment is considered conforming if bit 2 of access rights byte of its descriptor is set.  
( C=1 for conforming ; C=0 for non-conforming)
- Conforming code segment have no inherent privilege level of their own ; they conform to that level of code that CALLS them or JMPs to them.
- The DPL of conforming descriptors must always be less than or equal to current CPL.

### \* Page Level Protection -

- • Aspects :
  - Page level protection involves two kinds of protections.
- 1) Restricting Addressable Domain -
  - U/S bit of PDE is 0 for OS, It is supervisor level. When x86 is executing at supervisor level, all pages are addressable
  - If U/S bit is 1, x86 is executing at user level wherein only pages belonging to user are addressable

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## 2) Type Checking -

- When x86 is executing at supervisor level, all pages are assigned with R/W access
- When executing at user level, access depends on R/W bit in PDE & PTE fields
- If R/W bit is 1, pages are only readable  
If R/W bit is 0, pages are both readable & writeable.

## \* Significance of IOPL in x86 -

- • In IOPL mechanism, for execution of IN, INS, OUT, OUTS, CLI, STI instructions, the CPL of procedure / task must be same or lower than no. represented by IOPL bits i.e.  $(CPL \leq IOPL)$
- Each task has its own unique copy of flag register.  
~~Thus, each task has its own unique copy of flag regi~~
- Thus, each task can have different IOPL. The task can change IOPL.

### \* I/O Permission Bit Map -

- I/O permission bit map is mechanism for protection I/O ports from unauthorized access
- It allows ports to be associated only with specific tasks.
- I/O Permission Bit Map is a bit vector.  
Size of map & its location in TSS are variable
- Each bit in the map corresponds to I/O port byte address
- To access I/O port, the corresponding bit in I/O bitmap must be 0

### \* Privileged Instructions -

- Privileged Instructions are those that affect segmentation and protection mechanism, alter interrupt flag, or perform peripheral I/O.
  - These instructions are divided in 2 groups
- 1) Privileged Instructions -
    - The instructions that affect system data structures come under this.
    - These must be executed when CPL is 0

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- Example,

HLT

Halts the processor

LGDT, LLDT, LIDT

Loads GDT, LDT, IDT register

LTR

Loads Task Registers

LMSW

Loads Machine Status Word

## 2) IOPL Sensitive Instructions -

- IOPL field in Flag Register defines the right to use I/O instructions.
- These must be executed when ( $CPL \leq IOPL$ )

- Example,

CLI

Disables interrupts

STI

Enables interrupts

IN, INS

Inputs data from I/O port

OUT, OUTS

Outputs data to I/O port

## MULTITASKING

### \* Multitasking -

- • Multitasking is ability of computer to run more than one program/task at same time
- The hardware support for multitasking is given by 80386.
- 80386 has special registers for implementing multitasking. These are:
  - i) Task State Segment (TSS)
  - ii) Task State Segment Descriptor
  - iii) Task Registers
  - iv) Task Gate Descriptors
- With these registers, 80386 switches execution from one task to another task, saving environment of current task
- Apart from simple task switch, '86 supports two other task management features:
  - i) Interrupts
  - ii) Exceptions

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## \* Task State Segment :-

→ • Diagram -

I/O Map Base	00000000 00000000	64
00000000 00000000	LDT	60
00000000 00000000	GS	50
00000000 00000000	FS	58
00000000 00000000	DS	54
00000000 00000000	SS	50
00000000 00000000	CS	40
00000000 00000000	ES	48
EDI		44
ESI		40
EBP		30
ESP		38
EBX		34
EDX		30
ECX		28
EAX		28
EFLAGS		24
EIP		20
CR3		10
00000000 00000000	SS2	18
EIP2		14
00000000 00000000	SS1	10
EIP1		08
00000000 00000000	SS0	8
EIP0		4
00000000 00000000	Back Link	0

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- The TSS stores entire context of task when task switching takes place.
- Each task is given a separate TSS.
- Fields of TSS are divided into 2 sets:
  - i) A Dynamic set that the processor updates with each switch from task.  
This set includes:
    - a) General Registers (EAX, EBX, ECX, etc)
    - b) Segment Registers (CS, SS, DS, ES, FS, GS)
    - c) Flag Registers (EFLAGS)
    - d) Instruction pointer (EIP)
    - e) Back Link
  - ii) Static set that processor reads but does not change. This set includes:
    - a) Selectors of task's LDT
    - b) Registers (PDBR) that contains base address of task's page directory
    - c) Pointers to stacks
    - d) The T-bit (Debug Trap bit)

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## \* TSS Descriptor :-

→ • Diagram :-

31	23	15	7	0
Base 31-24	G 0 0 L	A V Limit 19-16	P DPL 0 1 0 B 1	Base 23-16 4
Base 15-0			Limit 15-0	0

- 8-bit in type field indicates whether task is busy
- BASE, LIMIT, DPL, G-bit, P-bit have functions similar to other descriptors
- To access TSS Descriptor, procedure must have privilege level less than / equal to privilege level specified by DPL field

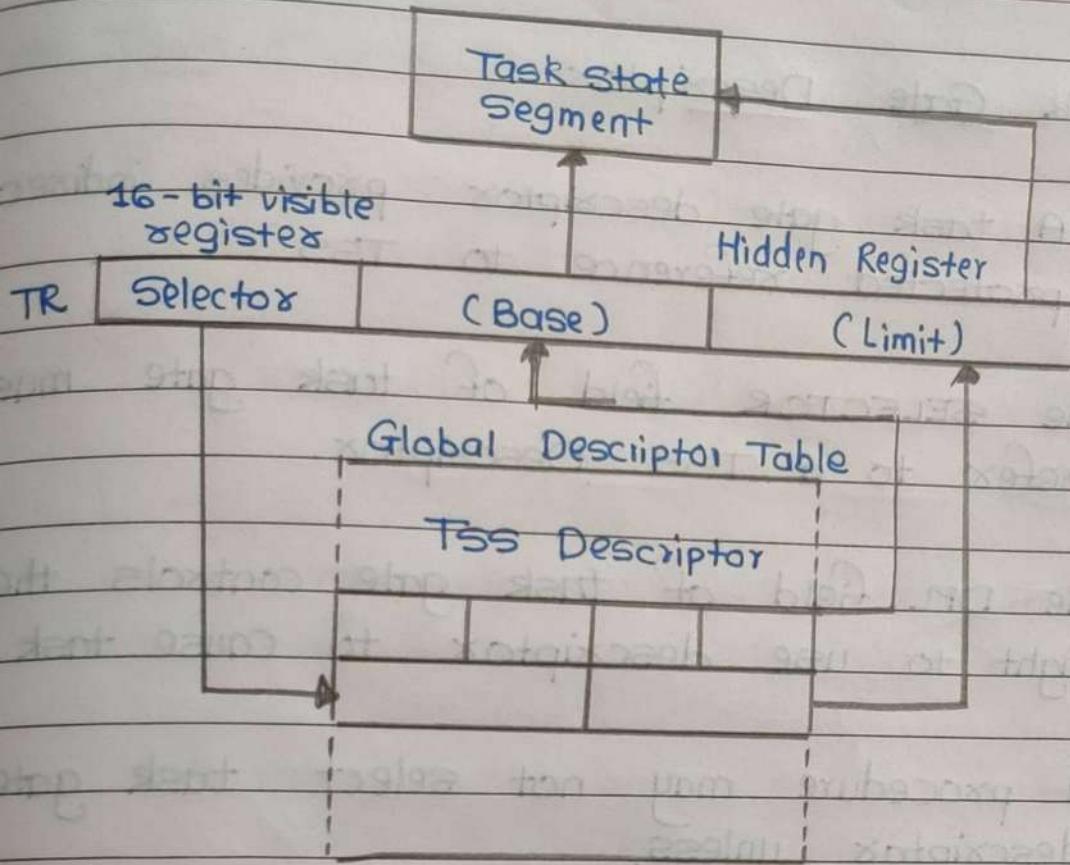
## \* Task Registers :-

→ • The Task Registers (TR) identifies the currently executing task by pointing to TSS.

• Diagram :-

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- i. 86 gives two instructions to read & modify visible portion of task

## ii) LTR (Load Task Register) -

It loads visible portion of task with selector and invisible portion with information from TSS descriptor selected by selector

## iii) STR (Store Task Registers) -

It stores visible portion of task register in general register or memory word.

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## \* Task Gate Descriptors -

- A task gate descriptor provides indirect, protected reference to TSS
- The SELECTOR field of task gate must refer to a TSS Descriptor.
- The DPL field of task gate controls the right to use descriptors to cause task switch
- A procedure may not select task gate descriptors unless,  
 $\max(RPL, CPL) \leq DPL$

### • Diagram -

21	23	15	7	0
(Not Used)	P	DPL	0 0 101	(Not Used)
Selector		(Not Used)		0

## \* Task Switching -

- i) Steps involved in Task Switching (Without Task Gate)-
- Privilege Check :  
If  $DPL \geq \max(CPL, RPL)$ , then only current task is allowed to switch
  - Limit & Present bit Check :  
TSS descriptor for designated task is checked for its limit & presence
  - Saving the state of current task :  
 $x86$  copies cached registers into current TSS. Selector for current task is saved as back link selector in new task.
  - Loading of Task Register :  
Visible portion of task register is loaded with selector of designated task's TSS descriptor
  - Resuming Execution :  
Finally,  $x86$  starts execution of designated task, with instructions pointed by new content of CS & EIP

- ii) Steps involved in Task Switching (Using Task Gate)-
- Privilege Check of Task Gate -  
If  $DPL \geq \max(CPL, RPL)$ , current task is allowed to switch

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- Remaining steps are similar except that, for loading selector for TSS into TR, task gate is referred instead of CALL / JMP

## \* Task Linking C Nested Tasks)

- • The back-link field of TSS and the NT (Nested Task) bit of flag word together allow x86 to automatically return to task that called another task.
- When a CALL instruction, interrupt instruction, etc causes switch to new task, x86 automatically fills back-link of new TSS with selector of current TSS & at same time, sets NT bit.
- The NT flag indicates whether back-link field is valid.
- New task releases control by executing IRET instruction. When interpreting IRET, x86 examines NT flag.
- If NT is set, x86 switches back to task selected by back-link field.

### \* Task Address Space -

- • By appropriate choice of segment & page mappings for each task, tasks may share address spaces.
- Ability for tasks to have distinct address spaces is important aspect of x86 protection.
- Module in one task cannot interfere with module of another task, if modules do not have access to same address spaces.

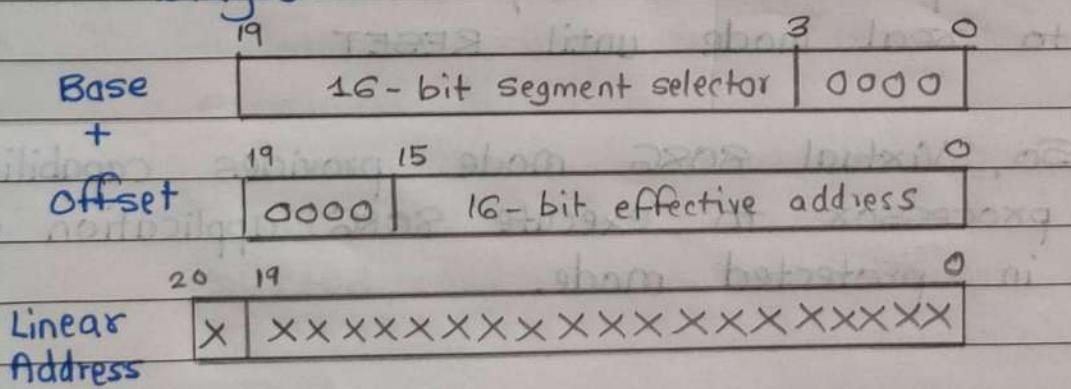
### \* Virtual 8086 Mode -

- • When processor starts / resets it operates in Real Mode.  
In Real Mode, x86 executes 8086 instructions.
- But once, processor switches from real mode to protected mode, it cannot return back to real mode until RESET.
- So, Virtual 8086 mode provides capabilities to processor to execute 8086 application while in protected mode.

- Features of Virtual 8086 -
  - x86 operating in protected mode can easily switch back-forth to virtual 8086 mode
  - x86 allows one or more 8086, 8088, etc program execution as different task in VM mode
  - Address range of virtual mode task is 1 MB

### \* Linear Address Formation in VM -

- • In Virtual 8086 mode, segment register contents are used to form linear address with help of offset.
- The linear address is formed by adding contents of appropriate segment register which are shifted left by 4 bit, to an effective offset.
- Diagram -



- If there is carry generated after addition, then unlike 8086, resulting 21 bit address is linear address.

### \* Entering & Leaving Virtual Mode -

#### → • Entering Virtual Mode -

- The processor enters into Virtual 8086 mode from protected mode by setting Vm bit of EFLAG.
- The processor enters into virtual mode by executing IRET instruction at CPL=0 or task switch at CPL.
- Virtual 8086 mode executes all programs at privilege level 3.

#### • Leaving Virtual Mode -

- The processor leaves the Virtual 8086 mode when an interrupt or exception occurs.
- The Interrupt Service Routine (ISR) reset Vm bit to enter the processor back to protected mode.

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\* Difference between Real Mode vs Protected Mode -  
(Also Virtual)

## → Real Mode

i) Memory Addressing up to 1 MB physical memory

ii) No virtual memory support

iii) Memory protection mechanism is not available

iv) Does not support virtual address space

v) Does not support LDT and GDT

vi) Segment Descriptor Cache not available

vii) Supports segmentation

## Protected Mode

i) Memory Addressing up to 16 MB physical memory

ii) Supports up to 64 TB of virtual memory

iii) Memory Protection Mechanism is available

iv) Gives virtual & physical address space

v) Supports LDT & GDT

vi) Segment Descriptor Cache available

vii) Supports segmentation and paging

## Interrupts & Exceptions , Microcontrollers

### ■ Definition -

#### i) Faults :

- Faults are either detected before instruction begins to execute, or during execution of instruction
- If detected, during instruction, machine is restored to a state that permits instruction to restart.

#### ii) Traps :

They are reported at instruction boundary immediately after instruction in which exception was detected

#### iii) Aboots :

Used to report severe errors such as hardware errors & illegal values in system table. It neither permits precise location of instruction nor restart the program

## \* Enabling & Disabling Interrupts -

→ • Certain conditions and flag settings cause processor to inhibit certain interrupts & exceptions.  
These are:

### 1) NMI masks further NMIs:

While NMI handler is executing, processor ignores further interrupt signals at NMI pin until next IRET instruction is executed.

### 2) IF masks INTR:

IF flag controls acceptance of external interrupt signalled via INTR pin.

### 3) RF masks Debug Faults:

The RF bit in EFLAGS controls recognition of debug faults.

### 4) MOV AX POP to SS masks some Interrupts:

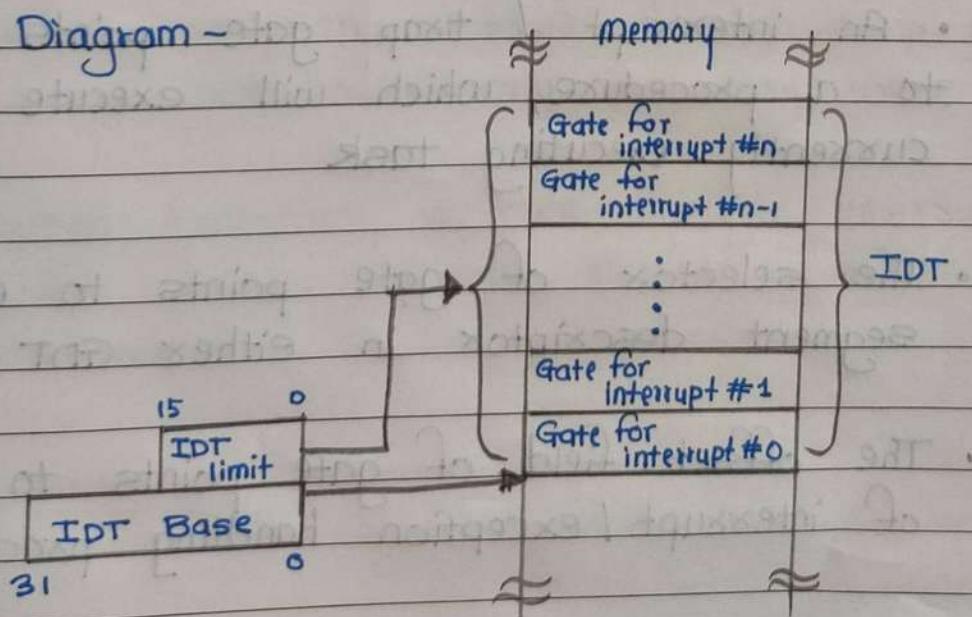
Software that need to change stack segments often use pair of instructions, eg  
MOV SS, AX.

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## \* Interrupt Descriptors Table -

- In protection mode, each interrupt / exception is associated with descriptors which gives information about ISR.
- These descriptors are stored in special descriptors table called Interrupt Descriptors Table (IDT)
- IDT may only contain task gates, interrupt gates & trap gates
- IDT should be atleast 256 bytes in size in order to hold descriptors for 32 Reserved Interrupts
- Processor locates IDT by means of IDT register (IDTR)  
Instructions LIDT & SIDT operate on IDTR.

### • Diagram -



- Interrupt Gate Descriptors - ~~Table~~

31	23	15	7	0
(Not Used)	P	DPL 00101	(Not Used)	4

Not  
Necessary  
to

Revise,  
If  
you  
can  
remember  
then  
only  
revise

- Trap Gate Descriptors - ~~Table~~

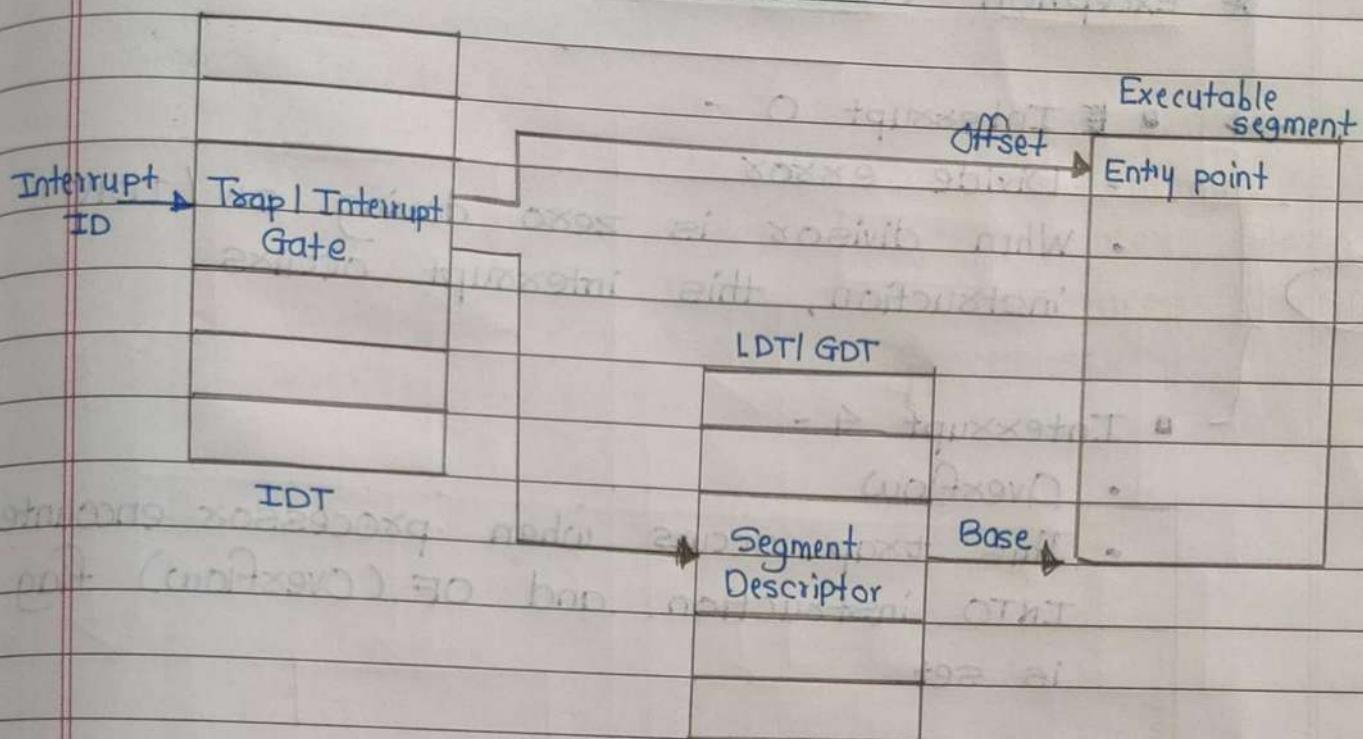
31	23	15	7	0
offset 31...16	P	DPL 00101	000 (Not Used)	4

- ★ Interrupt Procedure - ~~Table~~

- An interrupt / trap gate points indirectly to a procedure which will execute in the currently executing task

- The selector of gate points to executable - segment descriptors in either GDT or current LDT.
- The offset field of gate points to beginning of interrupt / exception handling procedure.

• Diagram -



\* Difference between Trap Gate & Interrupt Gate -

- • Trap gate operates exactly like interrupt gate in all respect except one.
- When exception vectors through trap gate, all flags remain exactly as they were.
- When exception vectors through interrupt gate, x86 resets IF to disable further hardware interrupts.

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## \* Exception Conditions -

### → ■ Interrupt 0 -

- Divide error
- When divisor is zero during DIV / IDIV instruction, this interrupt occurs

IMP

### ■ Interrupt 4 -

- Overflow
- This trap occurs when processor encounters INTO instruction and OF (Overflow) flag is set.

### ■ Interrupt 2 -

- This is only hardware interrupt assigned permanent vector
- NMI

### ■ Interrupt 10 -

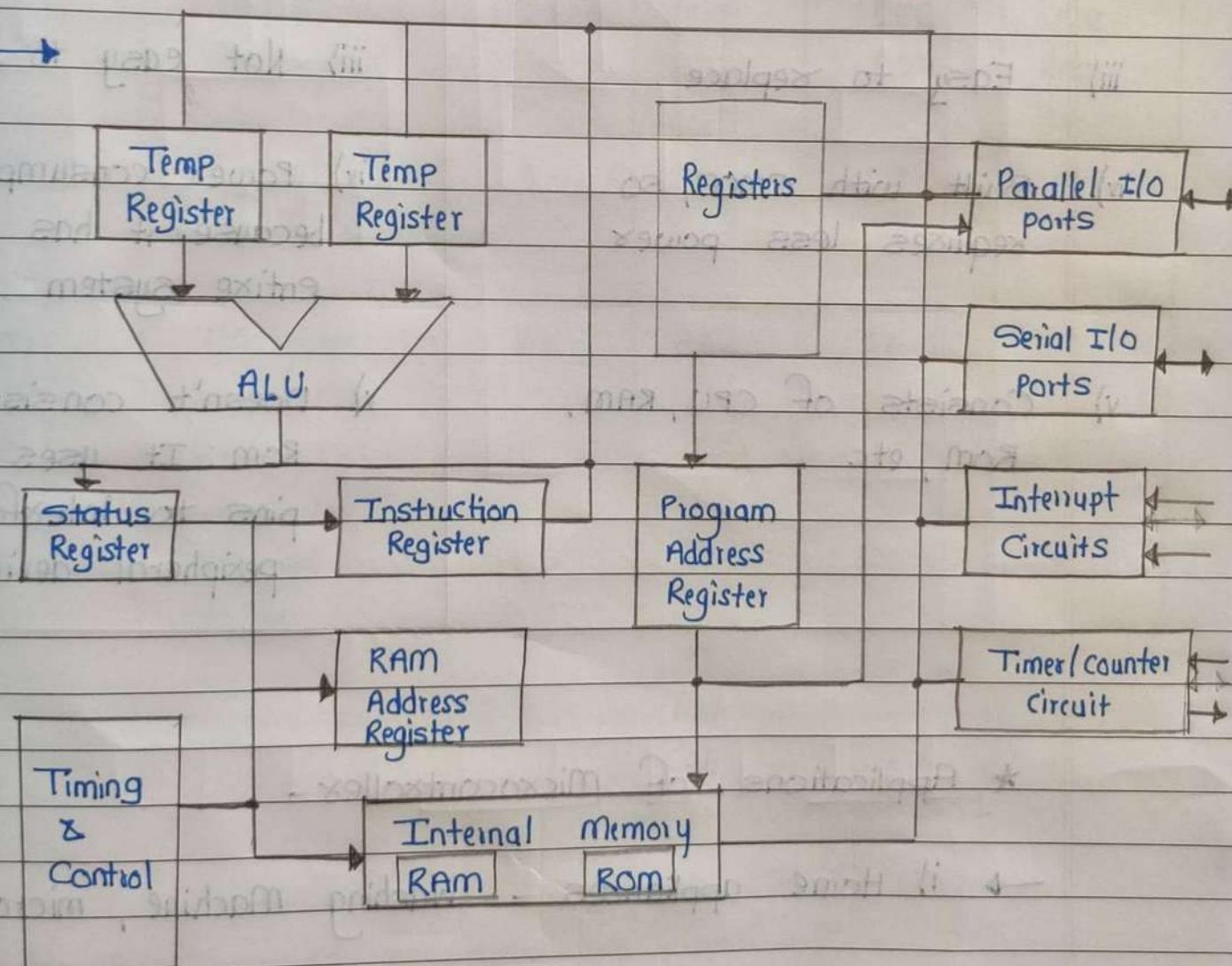
- Invalid TSS
- Occurs if during task switch, the new TSS is invalid.

■ Definition :-

Microcontroller -

A device which contains microprocessor with integrated peripherals like memory, serial ports, parallel ports, timer/counter, interrupt controller, data acquisition interfaces like ADC, DAC is called microcontroller.

\* Block Diagram of Microcontroller -



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## \* Difference - Microcontroller vs Microprocessor



### Microcontroller

i) They are used to execute a single task within an application.

ii) Designing & Hardware cost is low.

iii) Easy to replace.

iv) Built with CMOS, so requires less power.

v) Consists of CPU, RAM, ROM, etc.

### Microprocessor

ii) Microprocessors are used for big applications.

iii) Designing & Hardware cost is high.

iv) Not easy to replace.

iv) Power consumption is high because it has to control entire system.

v) Doesn't consist RAM, ROM. It uses its pins to interface to peripheral devices.

## \* Applications of Microcontroller -

→ i) Home appliances - Washing Machine, microwave, etc

ii) Calculators, keyboards, mobile phones, etc

iii) Industrial controllers, communication system, etc

iv) Automobile engines, military applications.

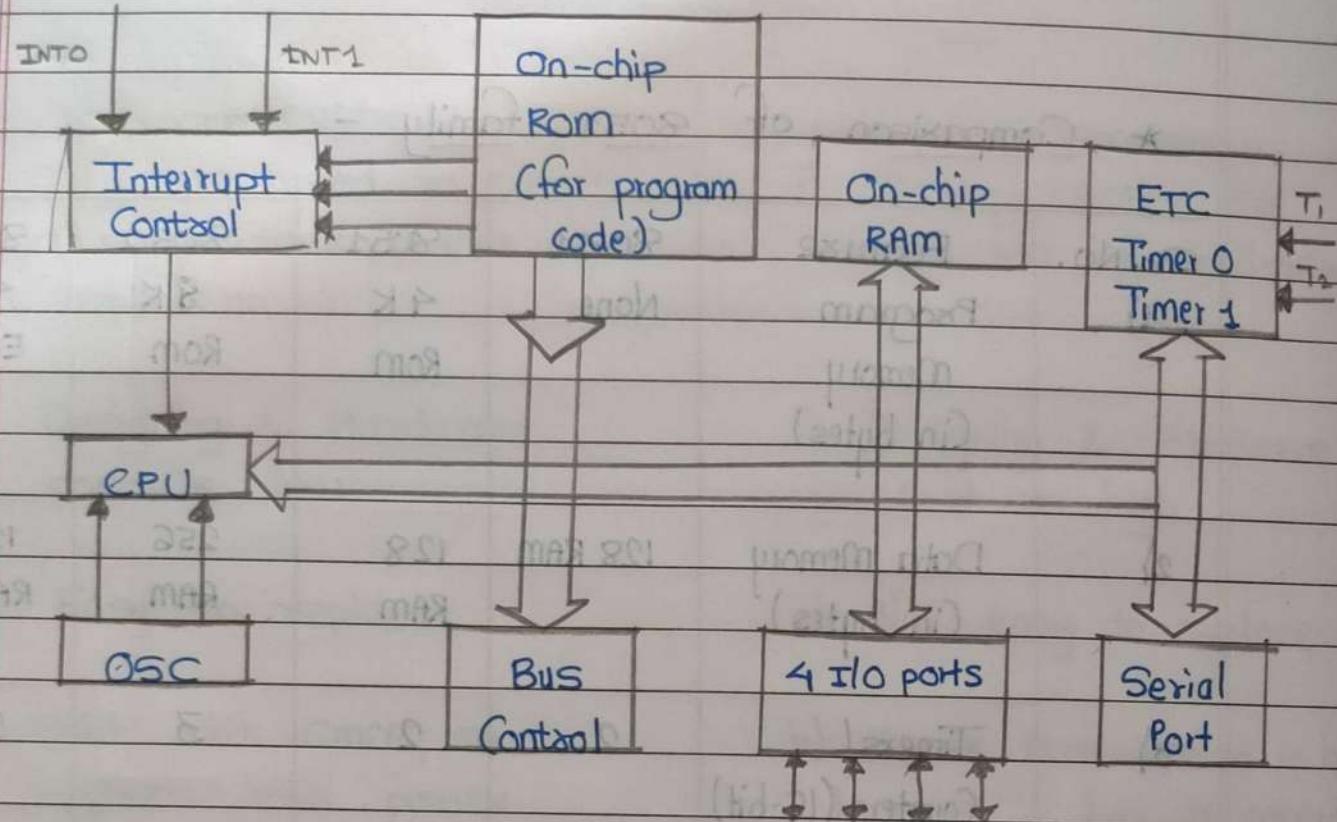
\* Comparison of 8051 family -

Sr. No.	Feature	8031	8051	8052	8751
1)	Program Memory (in bytes)	None	4K	8K	4K
			ROM	ROM	EPROM
2)	Data Memory (in bytes)	128 RAM	128 RAM	256 RAM	128 RAM
3)	Timers/Counters (16-bit)	2	2	3	2
4)	I/O pins	32	32	32	32
5)	Serial port	1	1	1	1
6)	Interrupt Sources	5	5	6	5

You  
can write  
★ features of 8051  
from this.

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## \* Block-Diagram of 8051 microcontroller-



\* Program Status Word (PSW) -

→ • PSW is also known as flag register

- ### • Diagram -

B <sub>7</sub>	B <sub>6</sub>	B <sub>5</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>0</sub>
CY	AC	FO	RS1	RS0	OV	-	P

- CY (Carry Flag) -

This flag is set, if there is overflow out of bit 7

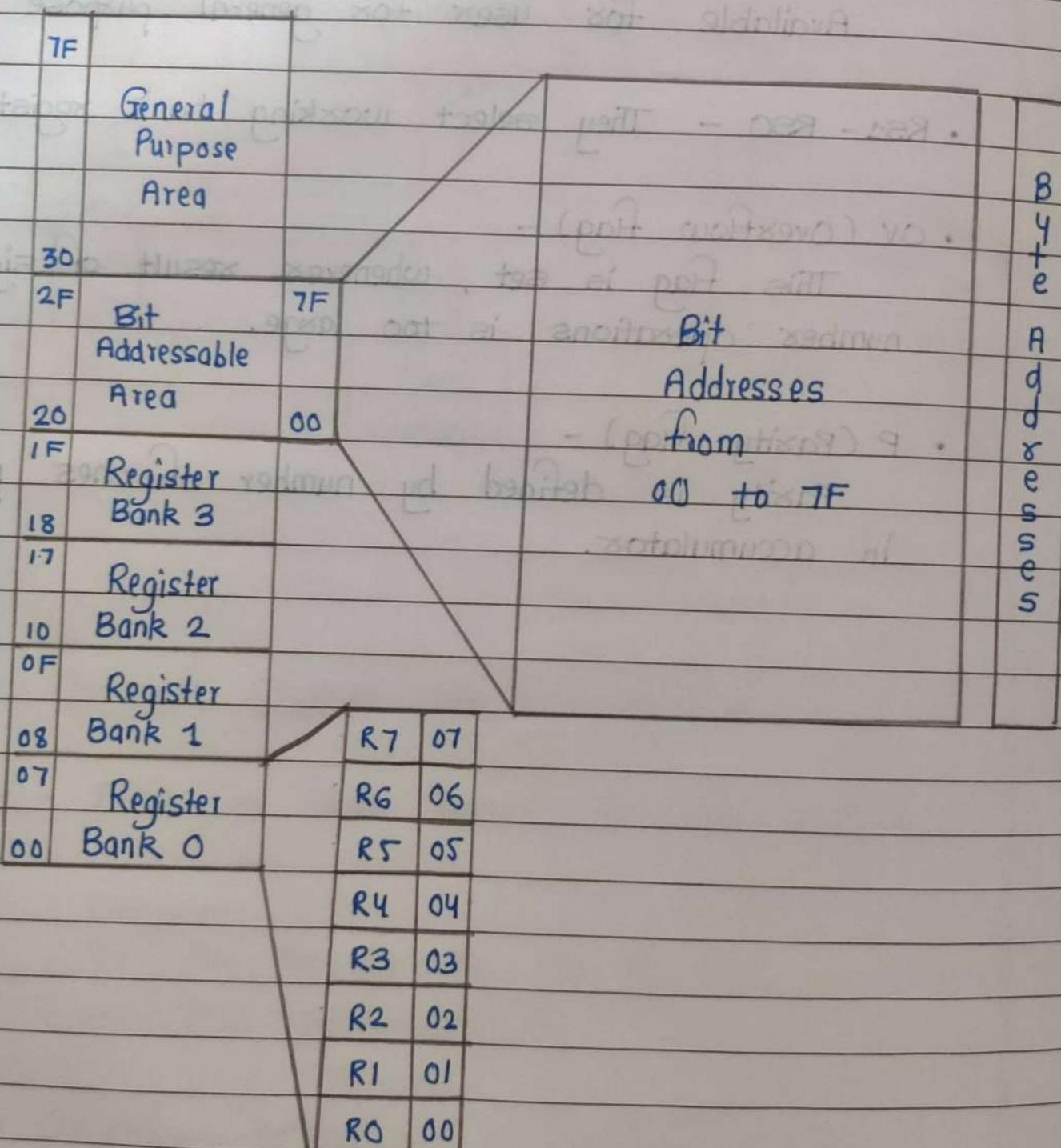
- AC (Auxillary Carry Flag) -  
This flag is set if there is an overflow out of bit 3.
- FO -  
Available for user for general purpose
- RS1 - RS0 - They select working bank register
- OV (Overflow flag) -  
This flag is set, whenever result of signed number operations is too large.
- P (Parity flag) -  
Parity is defined by number of ones present in accumulators.

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## \* Internal RAM Structure of 8051 -

- 8051 has 128-byte internal RAM.

- Diagram -



- It is organized in 3 distinct areas:

### 1) Register Banks -

The first 32 bytes from address 00H to 1FH of RAM constitute 32 working registers.

### 2) Bit / Byte Addressable -

8051 provides 16 bytes of bit-addressable area. It occupies RAM size from 20H to 2FH

### 3) General Purpose -

RAM area above bit addressable area from 30H to 7FH is general purpose RAM.