

Topic: ATLAS-SST – First Digital Microprocessor-driven Remote Control System

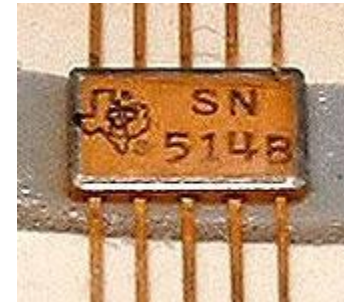


Presenter: **Dr. Božidar Levi**

October 2019

Integrated Circuits - appearance

- **First integrated circuit (IC)** appeared in the **years 1960/61.**
- **Fairchild Semiconductor** and **Texas Instruments**, independently succeeded to integrate a larger number of transistors and supporting electronics components, and packed them together into small-size chip.
- **Better performances** – a parasitic resistance, capacity and inductivity impact was significantly reduced.
- **Lower power consumption.**



Integrated circuit **SN514B** was a NOR/NAND logical gate. Its initial price was cca. \$400.-, and in 1963. this IC “travelled” through the space.



Integrated Circuits - continued

Technology development led to a larger-scale integration and delivery of **LSI** (large scale integration) i **VLSI** (very large scale integration) **integrated circuits**.



- Integrated circuits were packed into **DIL** (dual in line) ceramic or plastic packages – also known as **DIP** (dual in package).
- A common number of IC pins was 14 or 16, dependent of the IC type, and for complex VLSI ICs even larger.
- For power supply voltage **V_{cc}** and ground **GND**, two IC pins are provided.

Digital integrated circuits include **NAND/NOR** logical gates, **inverters**, **buffers**, **shift registers**, **counters** ... Among analog ICs focus was on the **operational amplifiers**.



April 1, 1974. – INTEL delivered first 4-bit microprocessor Intel 4004

15 Nov 1971	USA	The Intel 4004, the first commercially available microprocessor, is released. It contains the equivalent of 2,300 transistors and was a 4-bit processor. It is capable of around 60,000 instructions per second (0.06 MIPS), running at a maximum clock speed of 740 kHz.
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Intel introduces the first microprocessor

- Computers

The first advertisement for a microprocessor, the Intel 4004, appears in Electronic News. Developed for Busicom, a Japanese calculator maker, the 4004 had 2250 transistors and could perform up to 90,000 operations per second in four-bit chunks. Federico Faggin led the design and Ted Hoff led the architecture.



INTEL 8080 TIMELINE

1 Apr 1972	USA	8008 microprocessor released by Intel.
1 Apr 1974	USA	Introduction of the 8080. It ran at a clock frequency of 2 MHz and did 0.64 MIPS.
		
1976	USA	Introduction of the Intel 8085 chip. An improved version of the 8080, with a superset of the 8080s instruction set (only a couple of extra instructions). Single 5V power supply (while the 8080 needed several different voltages).
		

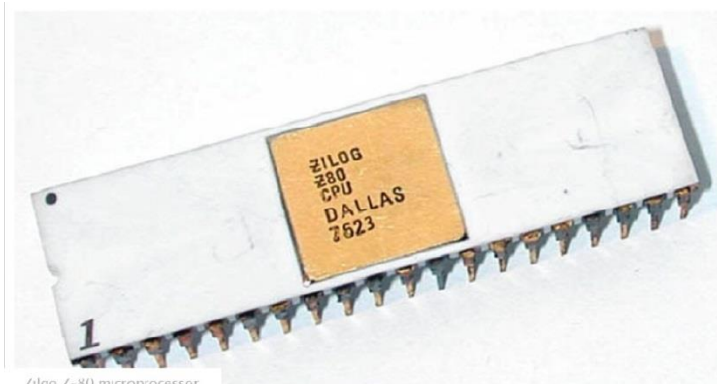


8-BIT MOTOROLA MICROPROCESSOR MC6800

1974	USA	<p>Motorola announces the MC6800 8-bit microprocessor.</p> <p>It is more easy to implement than the 8080 because it only needs a single power supply to operate and does not need support chips. Unlike the 8080 it is sold not as much as a general-purpose "number cruncher / computer" CPU core but more as a control processor for industrial control and as a peripheral processor.</p>
		



1976 - Intel and Zilog delivered a new mikroprocessor Z-80



Zilog Z-80 microprocessor

Intel 8080 and Zilog Z-80

Computers

Intel and Zilog introduced new microprocessors. Five times faster than its predecessor, the 8008, the Intel 8080 could address four times as many bytes for a total of 64 kilobytes. The Zilog Z-80 could run any program written for the 8080 and included twice as many built-in machine instructions.



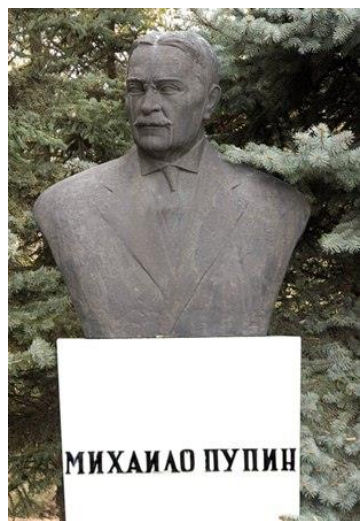
Institute Mihailo Pupin in Belgrade



- **Founded in 1959 as an independent scientific and research institute.**
- **Always at the top in areas of applied electronics, automatics, telecommunications and computer engineering.**
- **Open for new ideas and challenges.**
- **Leader in the IT fields in the country.**



Institute Mihailo Pupin in 1970-ties



- Educated and qualified staff.
- Oriented toward industry and its needs (especially toward electric-power industry).
- Worldwide connections – an efficient local implementation of new technologies.

NOTE: First implementation of integrated microprocessor in former Yugoslavia 1975/76 in electric-power industry.



ATLAS Remote Control Systems

- **ATLAS** – standard name for all generations of remote and local control systems (tele-information systems).
- More than a half century of development and manufacturing of remote control systems
- Transistors and discrete electronic ATLA systems since the year 1968.
- First digital microprocessor-driven ATLAS system in the years 1975/76.
- Nowadays – fifth generation of microprocessor-driven ATLAS systems.
- Complementary projects: SCADA (Supervisory, Control and Data Acquisition) and PLC (Programmable Logic Control) systems.
- Development and manufacturing of supporting devices, modules and components.



Years of 1974/75

- First commercially available 8-bit microprocessor Intel 8080 (April 1, 1974) – soon followed by Motorola MC6800 microprocessor.
- In the spring of 1975 Intel's brochure "From CPU to Software", which described 8080 microprocessor, arrived to the Institute.
- Decision to start with project of designing microprocessor-driven Remote Terminal Unit - RTU and Central Control Unit – CCU.
- Dilemma in a choice between two functionally similar integrated microprocessors: Intel 8080 and Motorola 6800
- The choice of Intel 8080 microprocessor and preparing of a specification to order needed components.
- Start of a hardware design in fall of 1975.



Why microprocessor Intel 8080

- **Technical description of two microprocessors: Intel 8080 and Motorola 6800 were very similar. Even MC6800 sounded somehow more comprehensive.**
- **For software development both manufacturers pointed to large commercial computer networks available at that time, to whom we hadn't have an access.**
- **Motorola was a well-known and respected company versus a "new-comer" on the market INTEL.**
- **While a choice of Motorola was closer to decide, INTEL delivered a development system Intellec MDS – a stand-alone computer that fully supported software development for the microprocessor 8080, making possible a buildup of a development environment in the Institute.**

There was no more dilemma – the decision was done: Intel 8080.



Development System Intellec MDS-80 (first phase)



In first phase the development environment included: **Intellec MDS-80** with a connected serial terminal **Teletype ASR-33**.

ASR-33 served as a console and input/output peripheral device.

Input: keyboard and mechanical paper tape reader (speed 10 char/sec)

Output: Printer and mechanical paper tape punch (speed 10 char/sec)



Development System Intellec MDS (second phase)



It was obvious that a more comfortable development environment was desperately needed.

Development system Intellec MDS-80 was extended with floppy diskettes, PROM programmer and soon with a video monitor. Teletype ASR-33 continued to serve as a printer. Later it was also replaced with another serial printer.

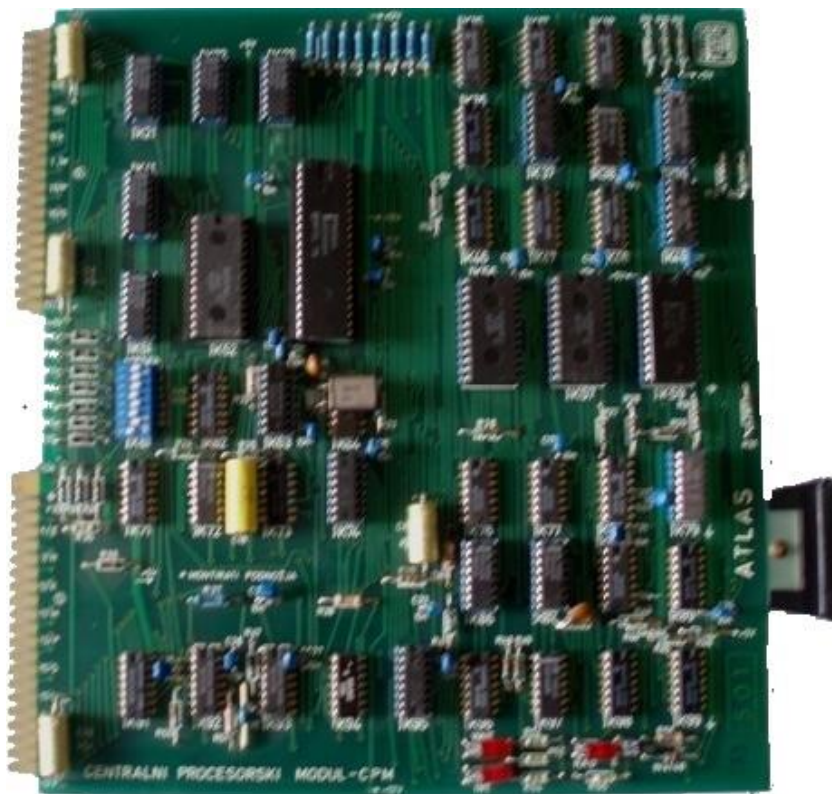


Project Realization: Functional Organization

- **Two functional parts:** central control unit and process interface
- **Central Control Unit == dedicated microcomputer**
- **Process Interface == dedicated interface toward process**
- **Modular hardware organization (module = printed circuit board - PCB)**
- **Program control with Central Control Unit (program stored in non-volatile PROM memory = system firmware).**



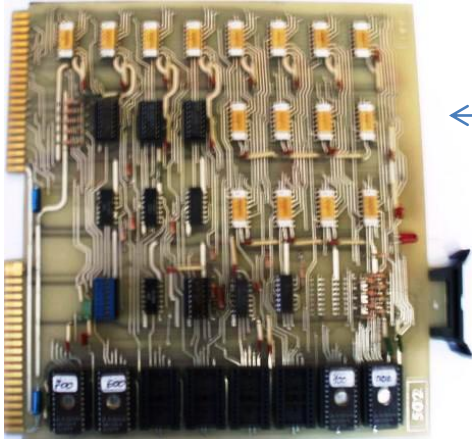
Project Realization: Hardware – Microprocessor Module



- **8-bit microprocessor Intel 8080**
- **Nested 8-level interrupt control**
- **Real-time Watch-dog Timer – WDT**

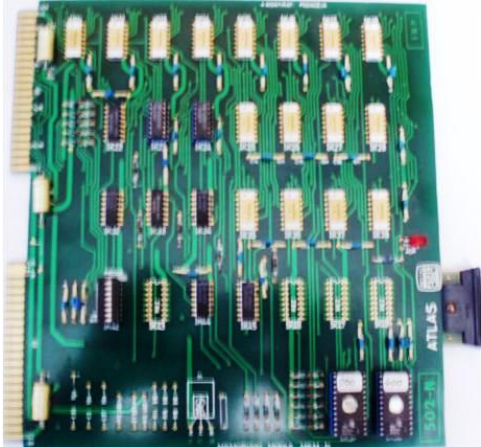
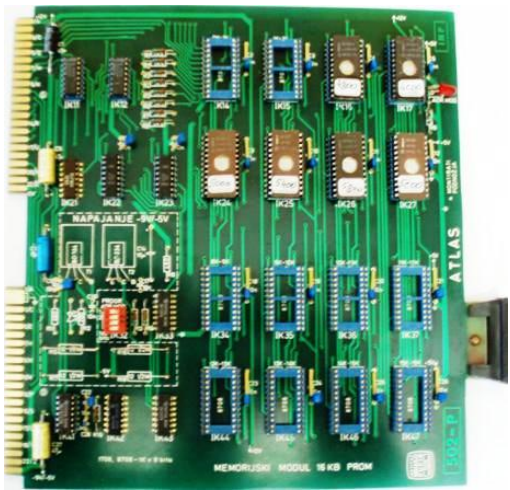


Project Realization: Hardware – Memory Modules



← 2KB RAM (16x1Kb ICs) +
2KB EPROM (8x256B ICs)

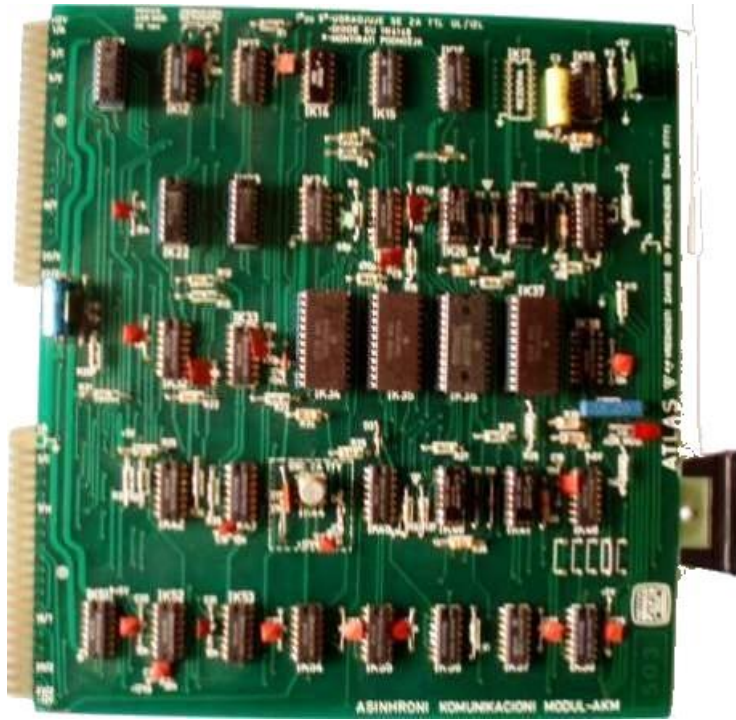
Upon delivery of 1KB EPROM ICs:
→ 16KB EPROM (16x1KB ICs)



← 2KB RAM (16x1Kb ICs) +
2KB EPROM (2x1KB ICs)



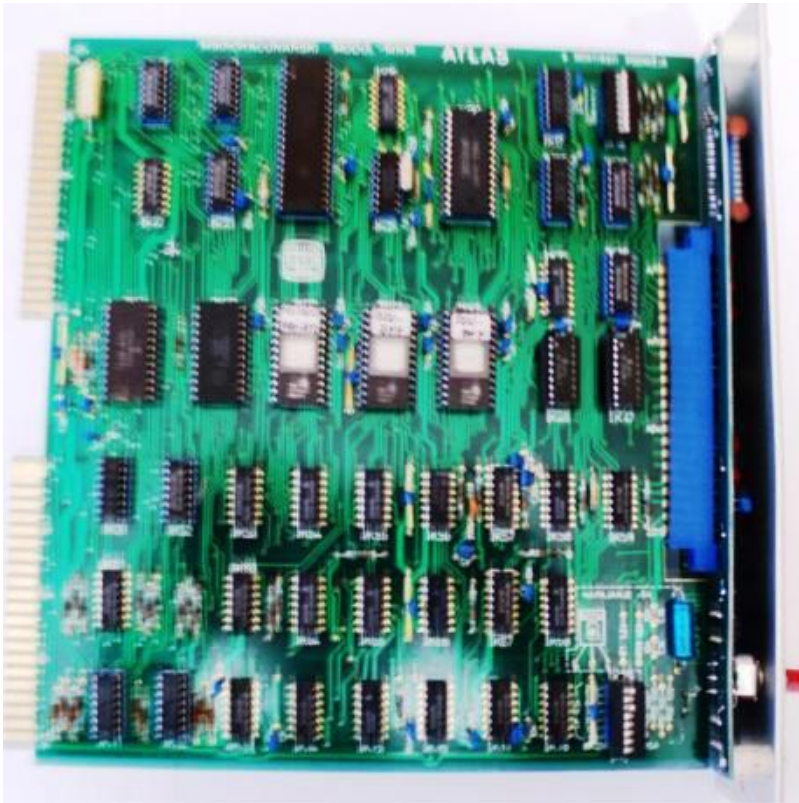
Project Realization: Hardware – Communication Module



- 4 asynchronous communication channels
- Motorola's asynchronous communication interface adapter – ACIA was used
- Program controlled byte data transmission (in octets)
- (1 start bit + 1 or 2 stop bits)



Project Realization: Hardware – Microcomputer Module



In 1979 an 8-bit microcomputer was designed as a single module:

- **8-bit microprocessor Intel 8080**
- **Memory: 1KB RAM + 3KB EPROM**
- **1 asynchronous communication channel (Motorola ACIA)**
- **Real-time Watch-dog Timer WDT**
- **Front panel (console)**



Project Realization: Hardware – Other System Modules

Other Central Control Unit Modules:

- Front panel with RTC (real-time clock) as MM interface
- Digital Input Controller (signals from process)
- Analog Input Controller with AD converter (measurements from process)
- Digital Output Controller (on-off commands)
- Universal Input / Output Controller (for synoptic control board)

Process Interface Modules:

- Digital Input Scanner (with optocoupler galvanic insulation)
- Analog Input Scanner (with flying capacitors)
- Digital Output Multiplexer (with command relays toward process)
- Digital Signal Multiplexer (for synoptic control board)
- DA Converter Multiplexer (for synoptic control board)
- Digital Command Scanner (for synoptic control board)



Project Realization: Software – Real Time Programming

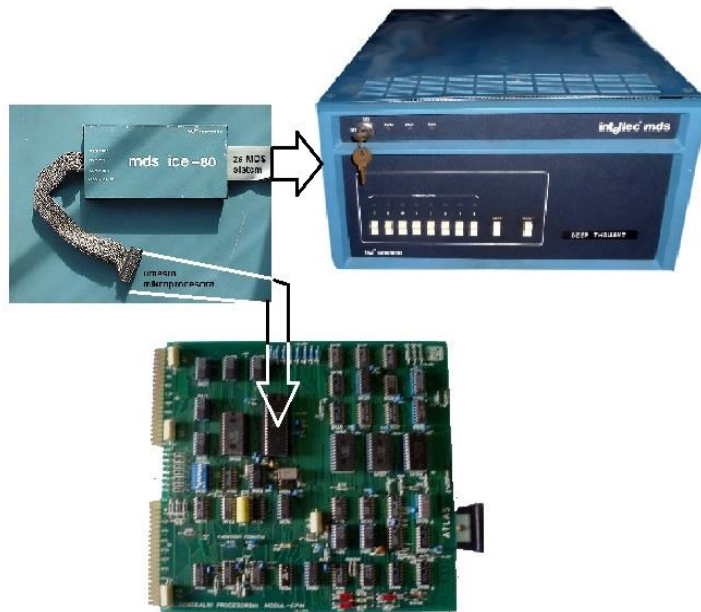
Designed hardware required a corresponding program support. There were many restrictions, primarily regarding program execution speed and available storage space (an extremely small-size PROM memory):

- The only available programming option was to do everything in **assembler language** (it is not an “user-friendly“ option, but it is close to hardware and efficient and economical in its control)
- There was no any **OS** available, especially any **RT OS** – everything had to be written “from zero”
- And the last but the most important: how to debug written software, how to figure-out what is causing a problem if something is going wrong? – how to figure-out between a **software bug** and **hardware malfunctioning**.



Project Realization: Software – ICE emulator

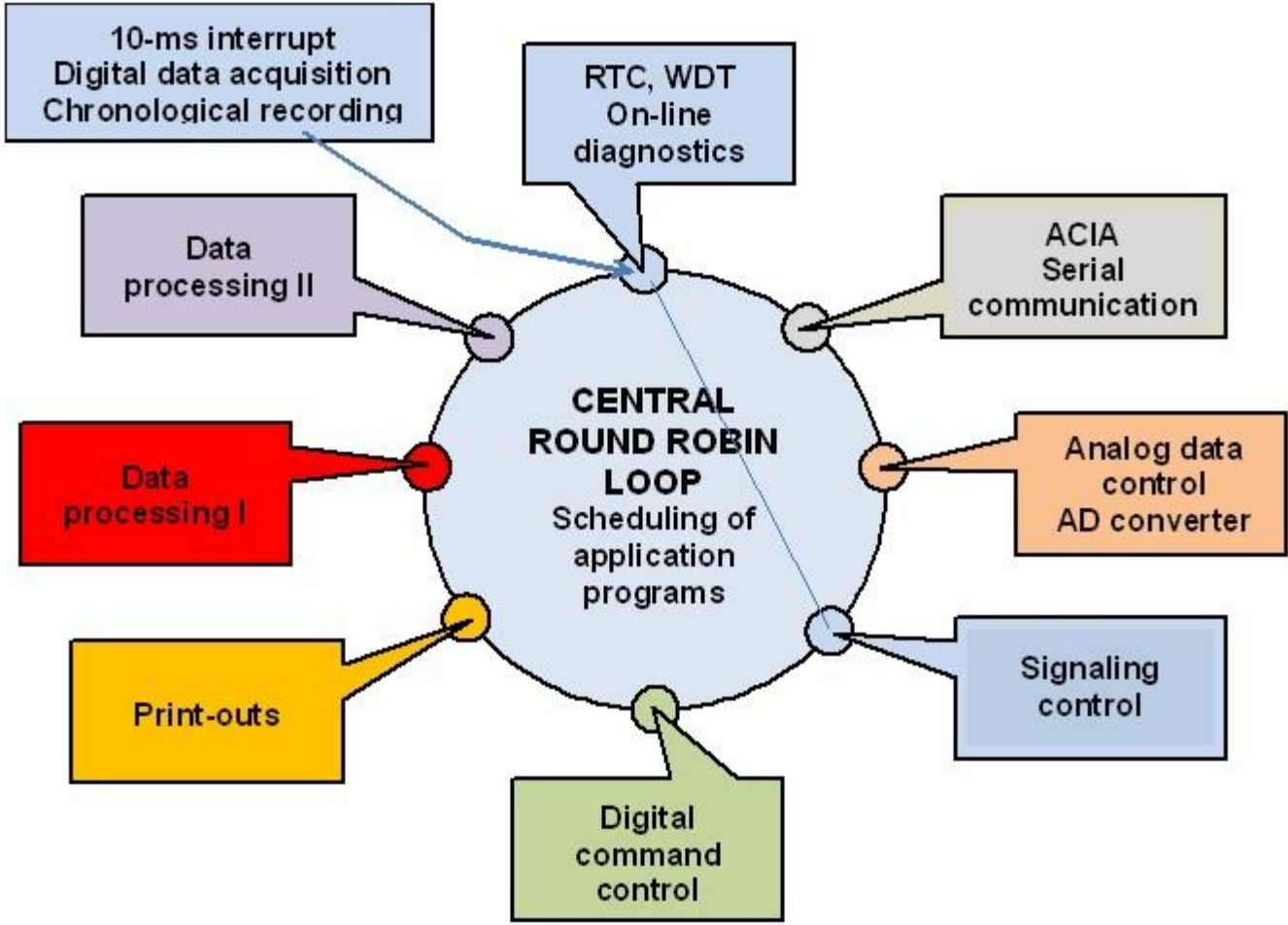
Soon INTEL delivered commercially available **ICE MDS-80** (in-circuit emulator), „an extraordinary“ tool for efficient program debugging (and much more than the program):



- ICE emulator connects the MDS development system with designed microprocessor module.
- Instead of microprocessor we simply plug in its socket a compatible ICE emulator cable connector.
- All processing resources of MDS development system are now used in the microprocessor emulation, providing a “comfortable” debugging of the designed module.

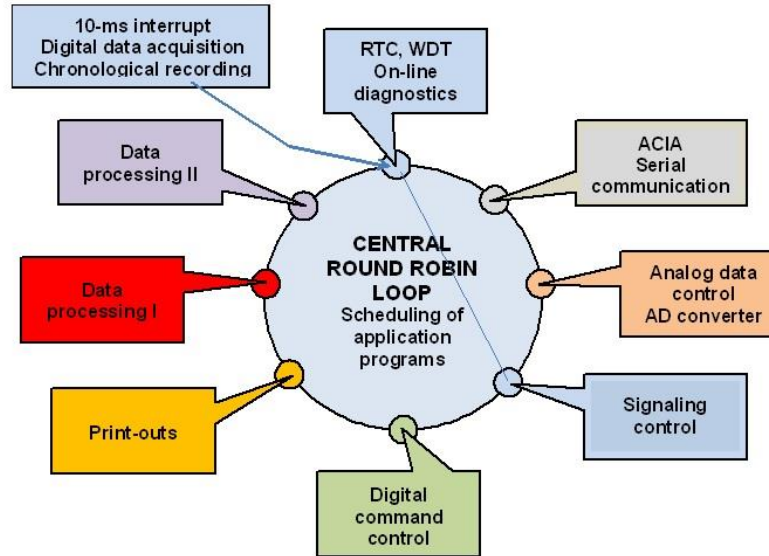


Project Realization: Software – Concept



Project Realization

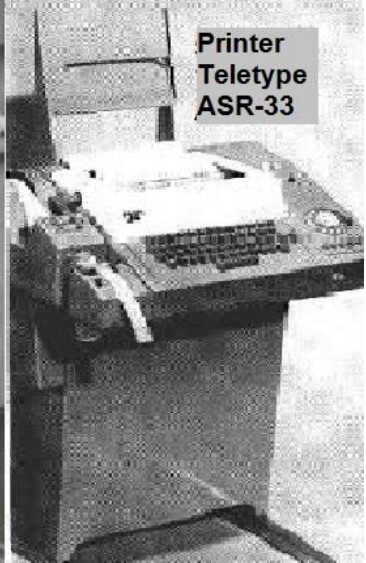
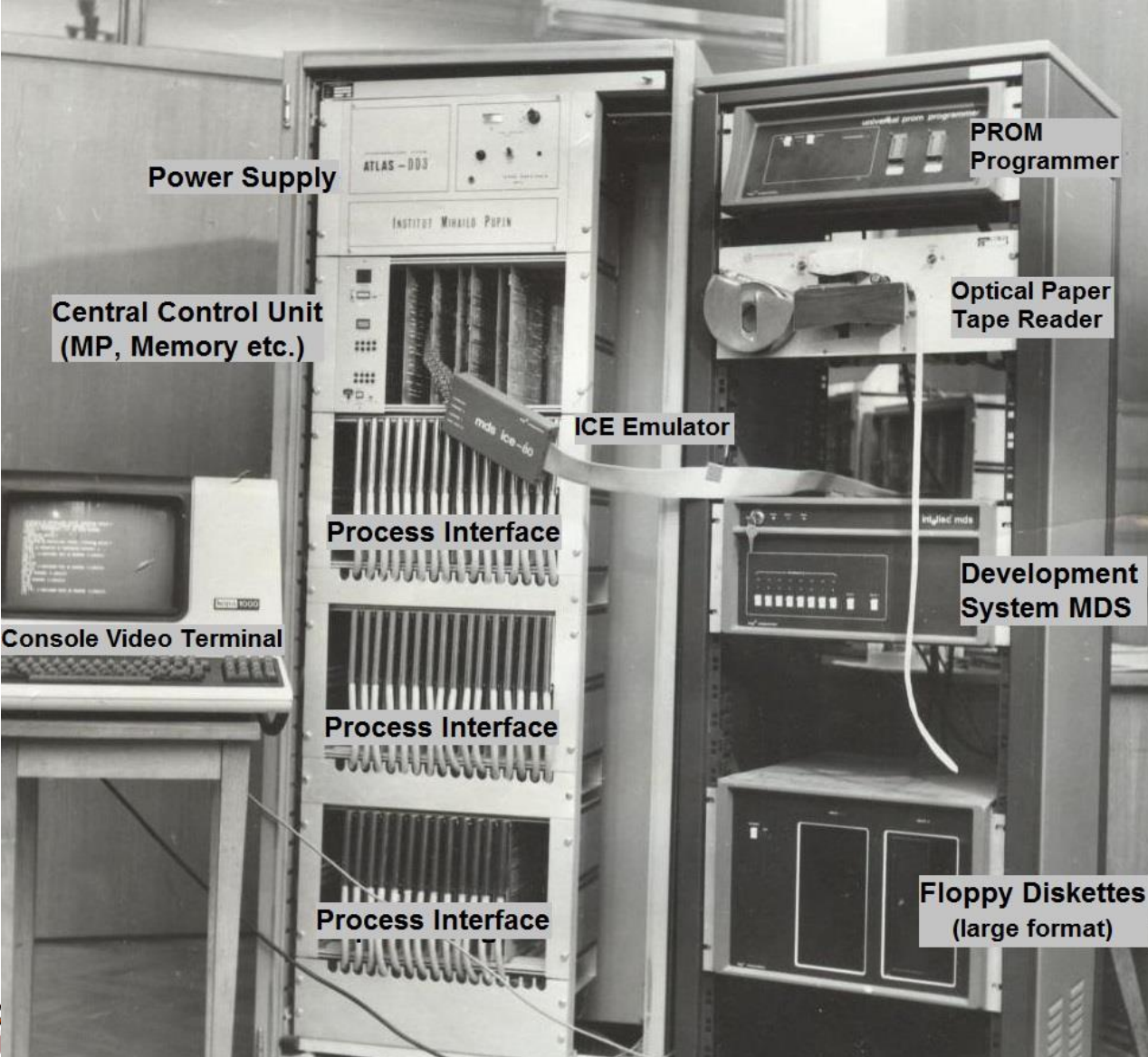
Software – Concept (commented)



- **Central round-robin distributor with connected points for application programs and WDT control (watch-dog timer).**
- **10-ms high-priority interrupt program controls RTC (real-time clock) and enables real-time program execution and remote communication.**
- **Application data acquisition and data delivery programs control process interface hardware.**
- **Application data processing programs, program for printing, etc.**
- **On-line diagnostics programs.**



Project Realization: Digital Workshop



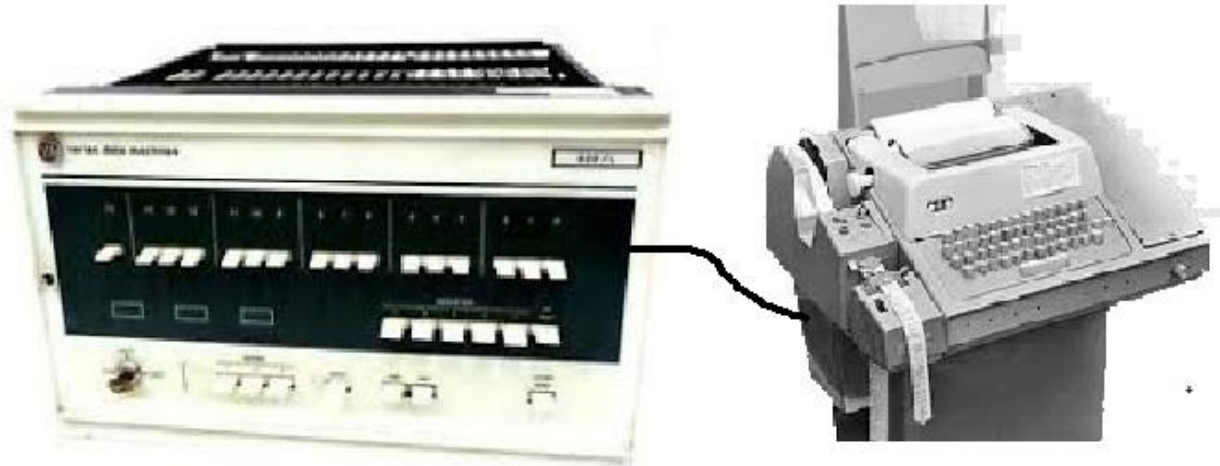
CONCLUSION

- Project “**Microprocessor-driven Remote Control System ATLAS**“ turn to be very successful.
- A significant number of this generation ATLAS systems were built-up and delivered to customers (mostly to electric-power industry).
- At the same time, **ATLAS** triggered other compatible development projects in Institute: **SCADA (Supervisory, Control and Data Acquisition) Systems, PLC (Programmable Logic Control) Systems** and others ...

And last but not the least, there were several important pre-conditions for a successful project completion. These were, for sure, the accumulated knowledge and experience from previous similar projects: **Monitoring and control of the Danube left bank pumping stations** (hardware-wise) and **System for monitoring and chronological event recording in HP Djerdap 1** (software-wise).



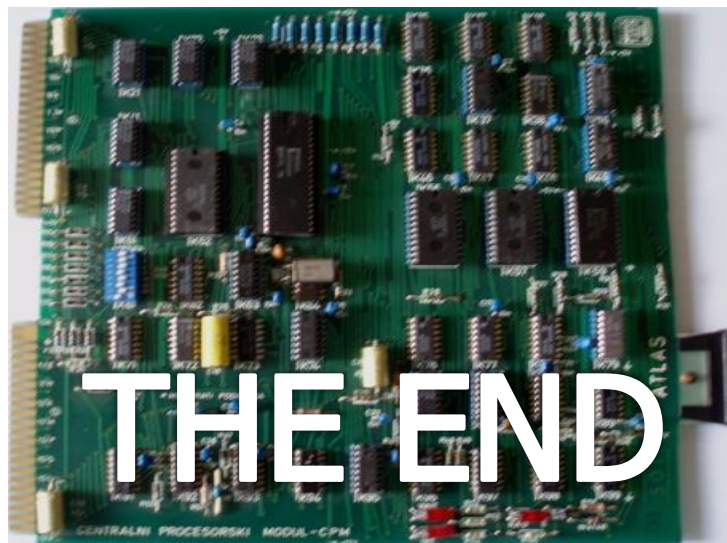
System for Monitoring and Chronological Event Recording in HP Djerdap 1



- **First process mini-computer VARIAN 620i in an electric-power site in former Yugoslavia.**
- **The slide presents the system computer part in both, development and operational environment.**
- **Installed and put in operation in 1970/71.**



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