Contents:

PREFACE 3

1. COMPUTERS - AN INTRODUCTION 5
   1.1 Brief historical review 5
   1.2 Computer generations 8
   1.3 Classification of computers 10

2. A PERSONAL COMPUTER AND ITS ARCHITECTURE 14
   2.1 Fundamentals of computer architecture 14
   2.2 Basic system of a PC 15
   2.3 Internal memory 18
   2.4 Microcomputer bus structure 20
   2.5 A Keyboard and a mouse 22
   2.6 A monitor 23
   2.7 Secondary storage units 26
   2.8 A printer 30
   2.9 Other peripheral devices 32

3. MICROPROCESSORS AND MICROPROCESSOR SYSTEMS 35
   3.1 Microprocessor architecture 35
   3.2 Instruction execution cycle 38
   3.3 Word length and operation speed 39
   3.4 Microprocessor instruction set 40
   3.5 Microprocessor systems 42
   3.6 Data transfers within a microprocessor system 42
      3.6.1 Data transfer between memory and CPU 42
      3.6.2 Data transfer between CPU and I/O devices. 43
      3.6.3 Data transfer between memory and I/O devices 46
      3.6.4 Data transfer between computers 47
   3.7 Microprocessor supporting chips 48
   3.8. Single-chip microprocessors 48
   3.9 Special types of microprocessors 49

4. INTEL MICROPROCESSORS 52
   4.1 Intel processor family-tree 52
   4.2 The Intel 8080 8-bit processor 56
   4.3 The Intel 8086 16-bit processor 57
   4.4 The Intel 80386 32-bit processor 58
   4.5 The 8051 microcontroller family 60

5. INPUT/OUTPUT INTERFACE CIRCUITS 63
   5.1 Units used in supporting hardware 63

5.2 The Intel 8255 programmable parallel interface 66
5.3 The Intel 8251 programmable serial interface 69
5.4 The Intel 8254 programmable timer/counter 70
5.5 The Intel 8259 programmable interrupt controller 73

6. DIGITAL INTERFACING 75
6.1 Basic output devices 75
6.2 Basic input devices 82
6.3 D.c. motors and stepper motors 87

7. A/D AND D/A CONVERSION 96
7.1 Principles of A/D and D/A conversion 96
7.2 D/A converters 98
7.3 A/D converters 99
7.4 Some ADC and DAC application examples 103

8. INTRODUCTION TO C LANGUAGE 110
8.1 Assembly language versus C language 110
8.2 An introductory example 111
8.3 How to use TURBO C environment 114
8.4 Introduction to C language 116
8.5 An example of a control task solved in C 124
8.6 Combining C and assembly language 125

9. COMPUTER SYSTEMS 131
9.1 Main areas of computer applications in manufacturing 131
9.2 Applications in measuring and instrumentation 133
9.3 Computer based process control systems 136
9.4 Computer applications in robotics 139