William Stallings Computer Organization and Architecture 10th Edition

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Chapter 1

Basic Concepts and Computer Evolution

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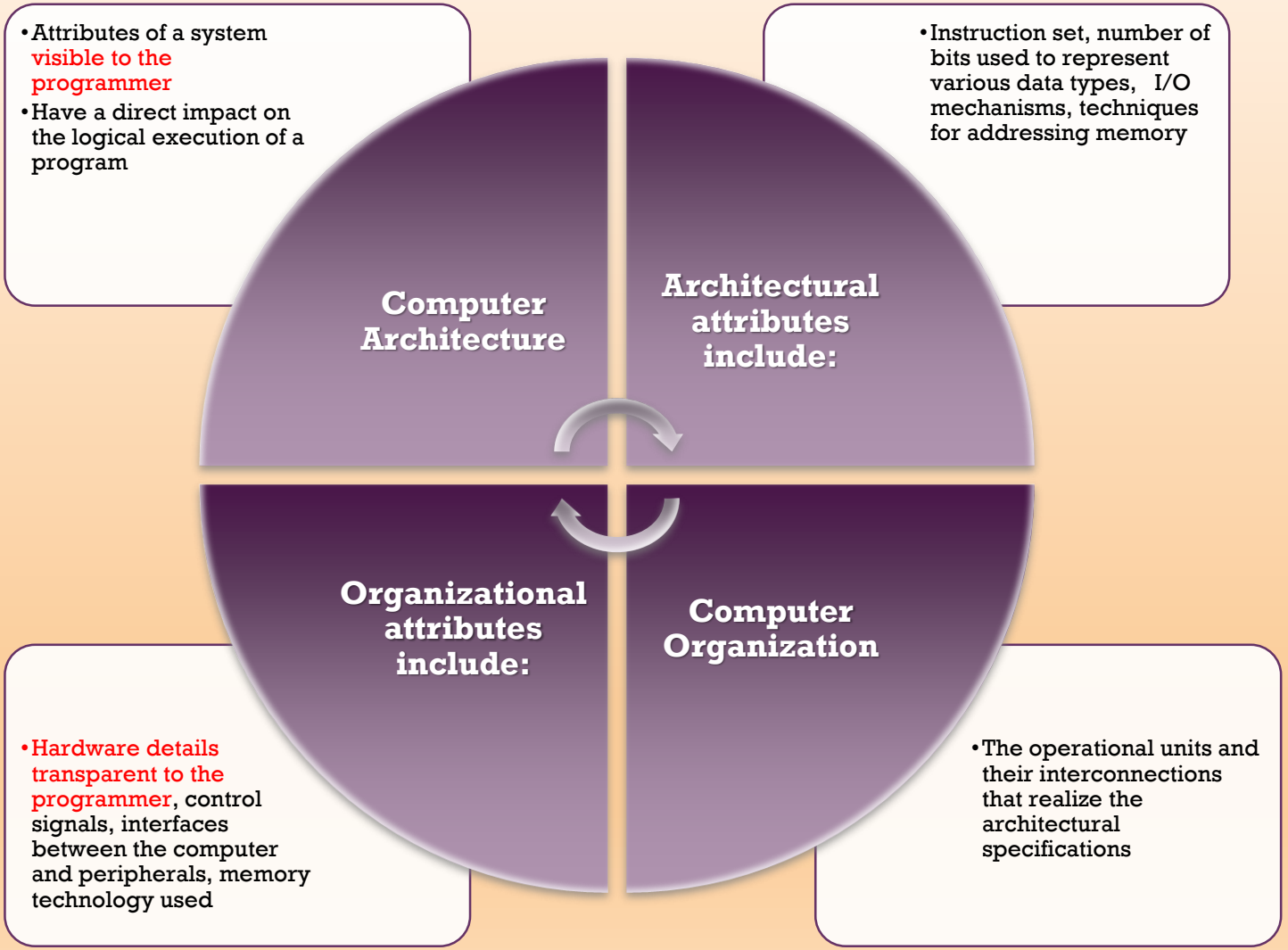
Computer Architecture

Computer Organization



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IBM System 370 Architecture

- IBM System/370 architecture
  - Was introduced in 1970
  - Included a number of models
  - Could upgrade to a more expensive, faster model without having to abandon original software
  - New models are introduced with improved technology, but retain the same architecture so that the customer's software investment is protected
  - Architecture has survived to this day as the architecture of IBM's mainframe product line

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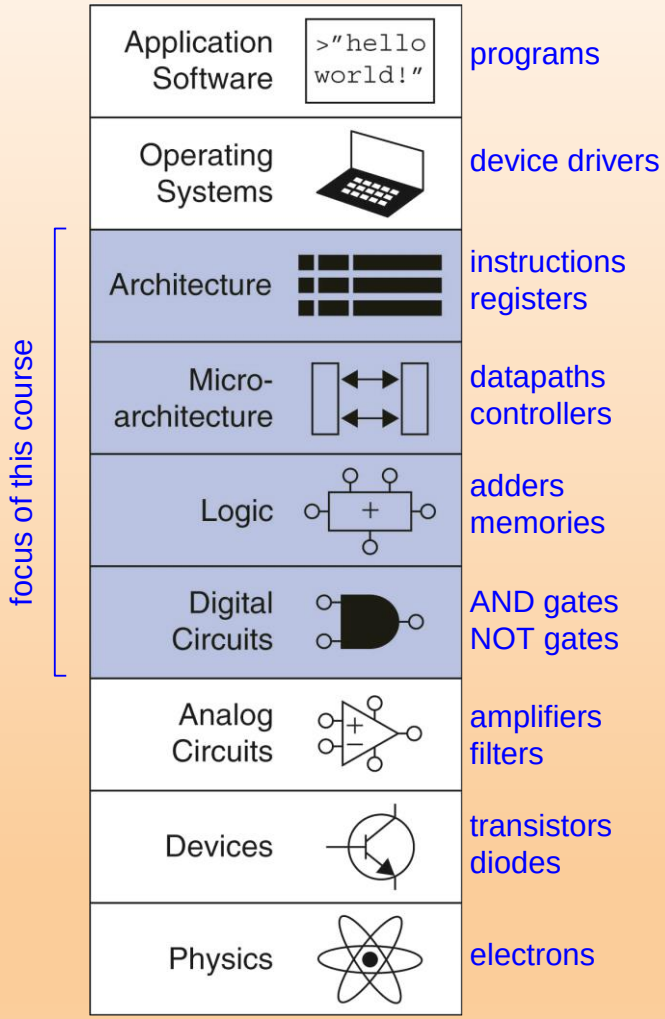
The Art of Managing Complexity

- Abstraction
- Discipline
- The Three –y's
  - Hierarchy
  - Modularity
  - Regularity

ELSEVIER

Abstraction

Hiding details when they aren't important



ELSEVIER

The Three -y's

- **Hierarchy**
  - A system divided into modules and submodules
- **Modularity**
  - Having well-defined functions and interfaces
- **Regularity**
  - Encouraging uniformity, so modules can be easily reused

ELSEVIER

Structure and Function

- A computer is a complex system; contemporary computers contain millions of Elementary electronic components. How, then, can one clearly describe them? The key is to recognize the hierarchical nature of most complex systems, including the computer
- Hierarchical system
  - Set of interrelated subsystems
- Hierarchical nature of complex systems is essential to both their design and their description
- Designer need only deal with a particular level of the system at a time
  - Concerned with structure and function at each level
- At each level, the designer is concerned with structure and function
- Structure
  - The way in which components relate to each other
- Function
  - The operation of individual components as part of the structure

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Function

- There are four basic functions that a computer can perform:
  - Data processing
    - Data may take a wide variety of forms and the range of processing requirements is broad
  - Data storage
    - Short-term
    - Long-term
  - Data movement
    - Input-output (I/O) - when data are received from or delivered to a device (peripheral) that is directly connected to the computer
    - Data communications – when data are moved over longer distances, to or from a remote device
  - Control
    - A control unit manages the computer's resources and orchestrates the performance of its functional parts in response to instructions

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Structure

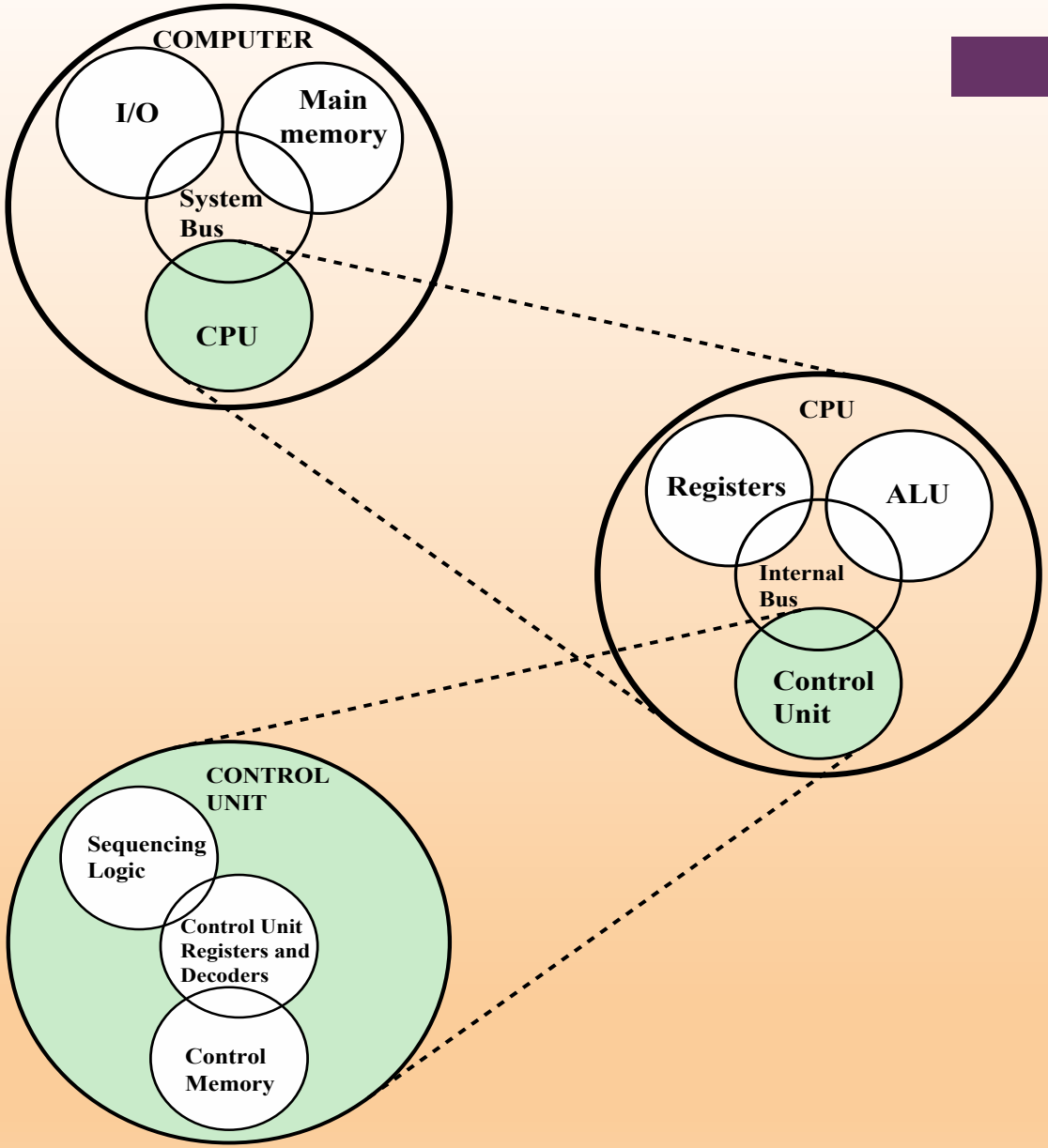

Figure 1.1 A Top-Down View of a Computer

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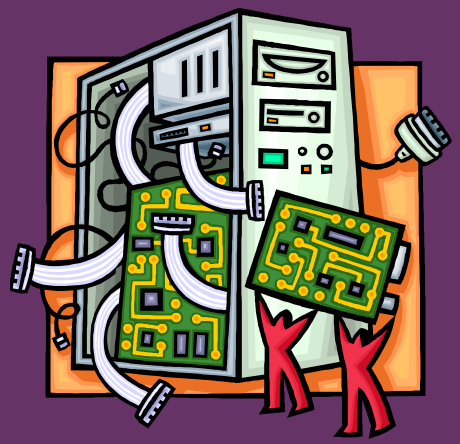
There are four main structural components of the computer:



- CPU – controls the operation of the computer and performs its data processing functions
- Main Memory – stores data
- I/O – moves data between the computer and its external environment
- System Interconnection – some mechanism that provides for communication among CPU, main memory, and I/O

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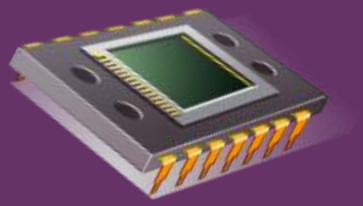
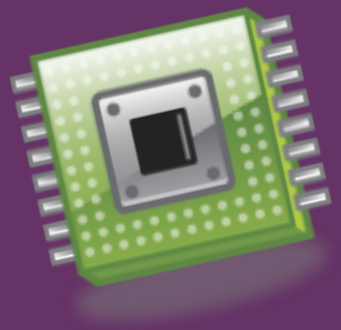
CPU

Major structural components:





- Control Unit
  - Controls the operation of the CPU and hence the computer
- Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU)
  - Performs the computer's data processing function
- Registers
  - Provide storage internal to the CPU
- CPU Interconnection
  - Some mechanism that provides for communication among the control unit, ALU, and registers

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Multicore Computer Structure

- Central processing unit (CPU)
  - Portion of the computer that fetches and executes instructions
  - Consists of an ALU, a control unit, and registers
  - Referred to as a processor in a system with a single processing unit
- Core
  - An individual processing unit on a processor chip
  - May be equivalent in functionality to a CPU on a single-CPU system
  - Specialized processing units are also referred to as cores
- Processor
  - A physical piece of silicon containing one or more cores
  - Is the computer component that interprets and executes instructions
  - Referred to as a *multicore processor* if it contains multiple cores

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Cache Memory

- Multiple layers of memory between the processor and main memory
- Is smaller and faster than main memory
- Used to speed up memory access by placing in the cache data from main memory that is likely to be used in the near future
- A greater performance improvement may be obtained by using multiple levels of cache, with level 1 (L1) closest to the core and additional levels (L2, L3, etc.) progressively farther from the core

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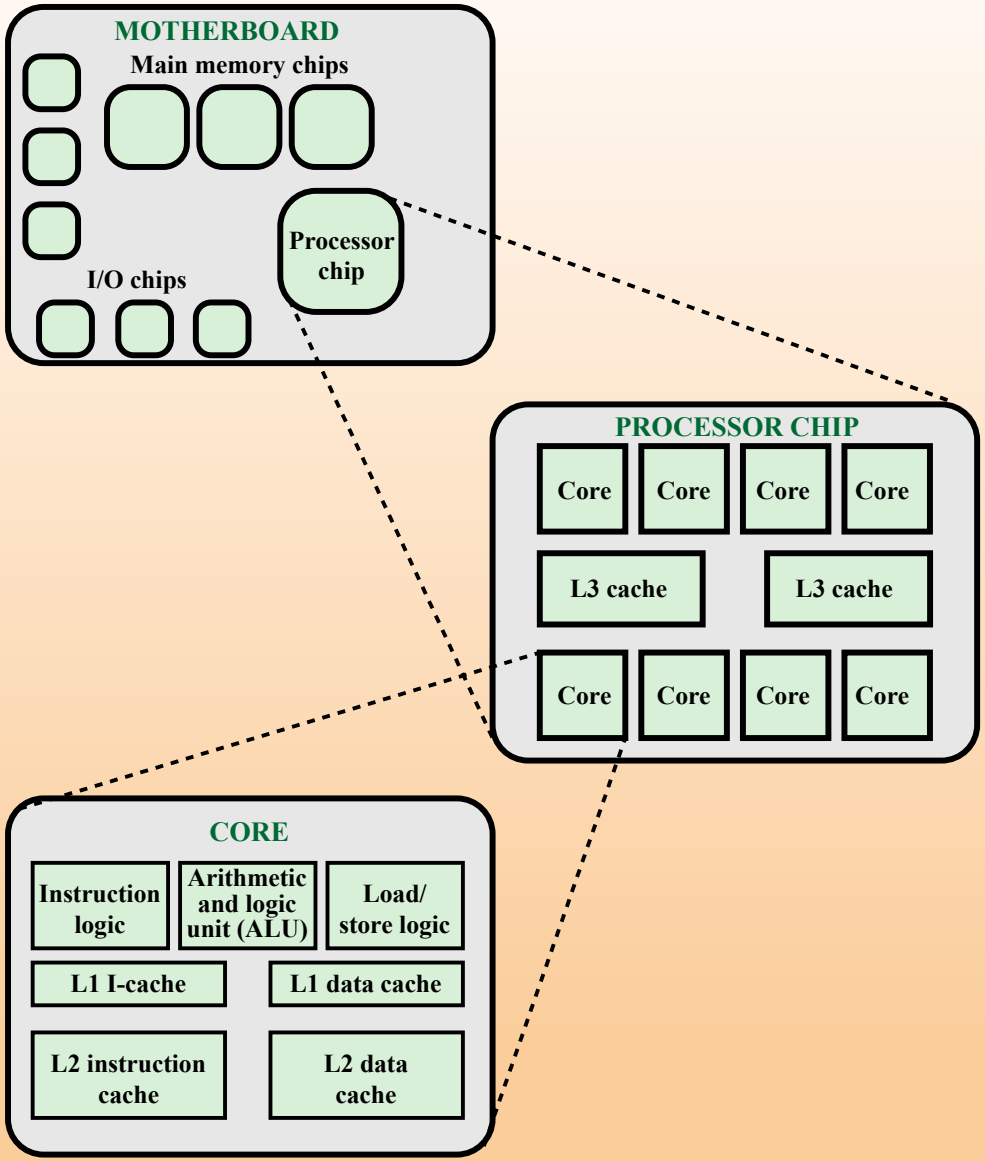

Figure 1.2 Simplified View of Major Elements of a Multicore Computer

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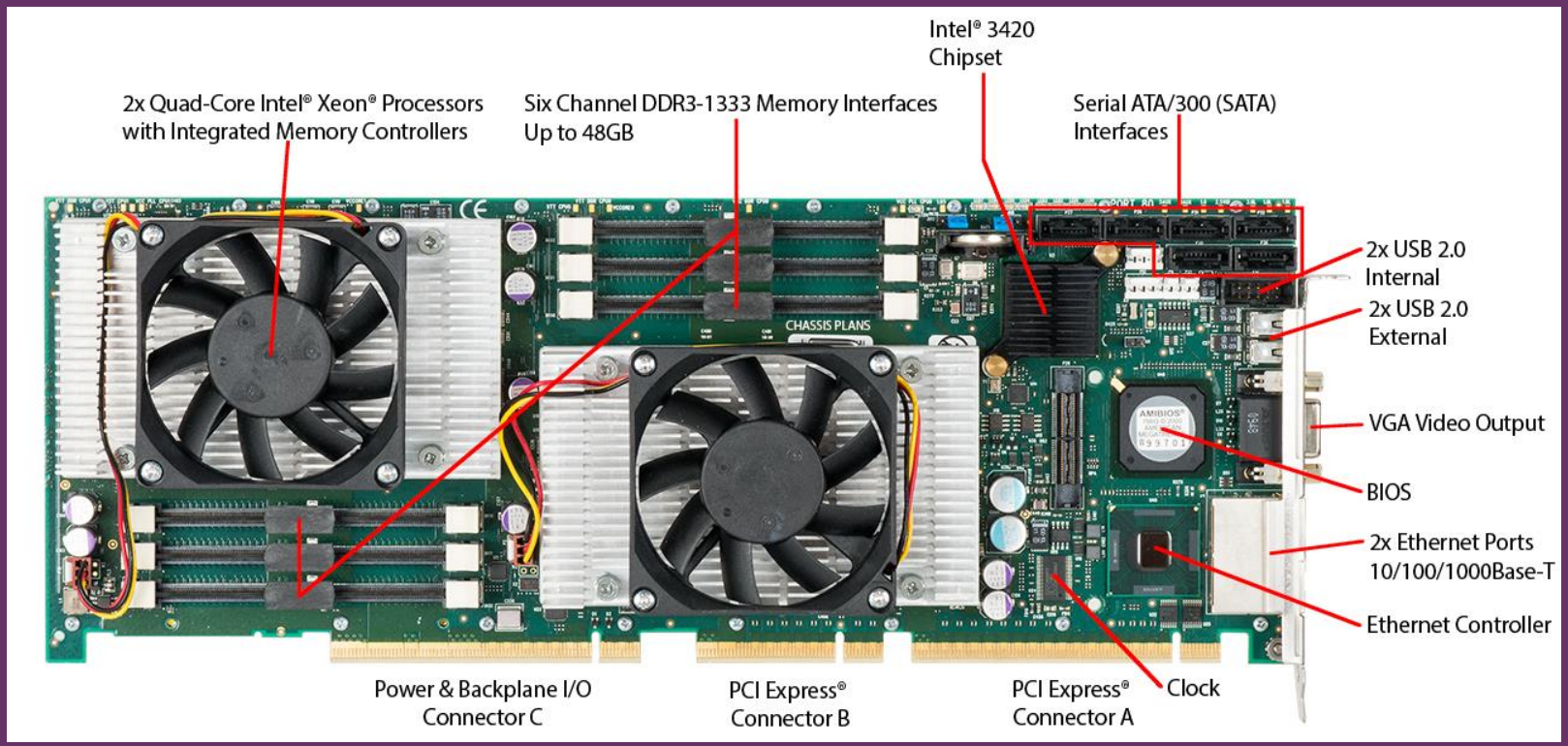

Figure 1.3

Motherboard with Two Intel Quad-Core Xeon Processors

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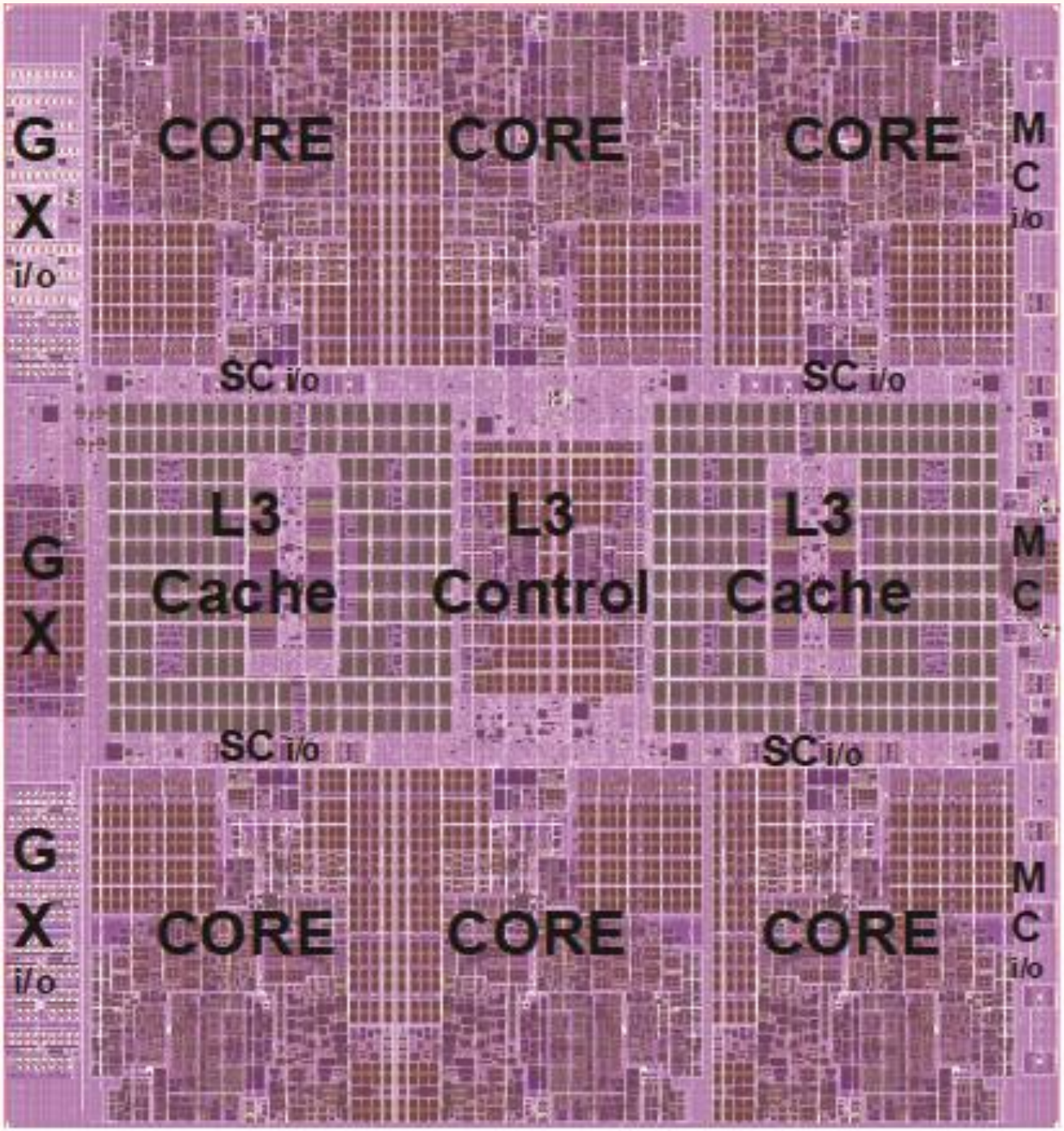

Figure 1.4

zEnterprise EC12 Processor Unit (PU) Chip Diagram

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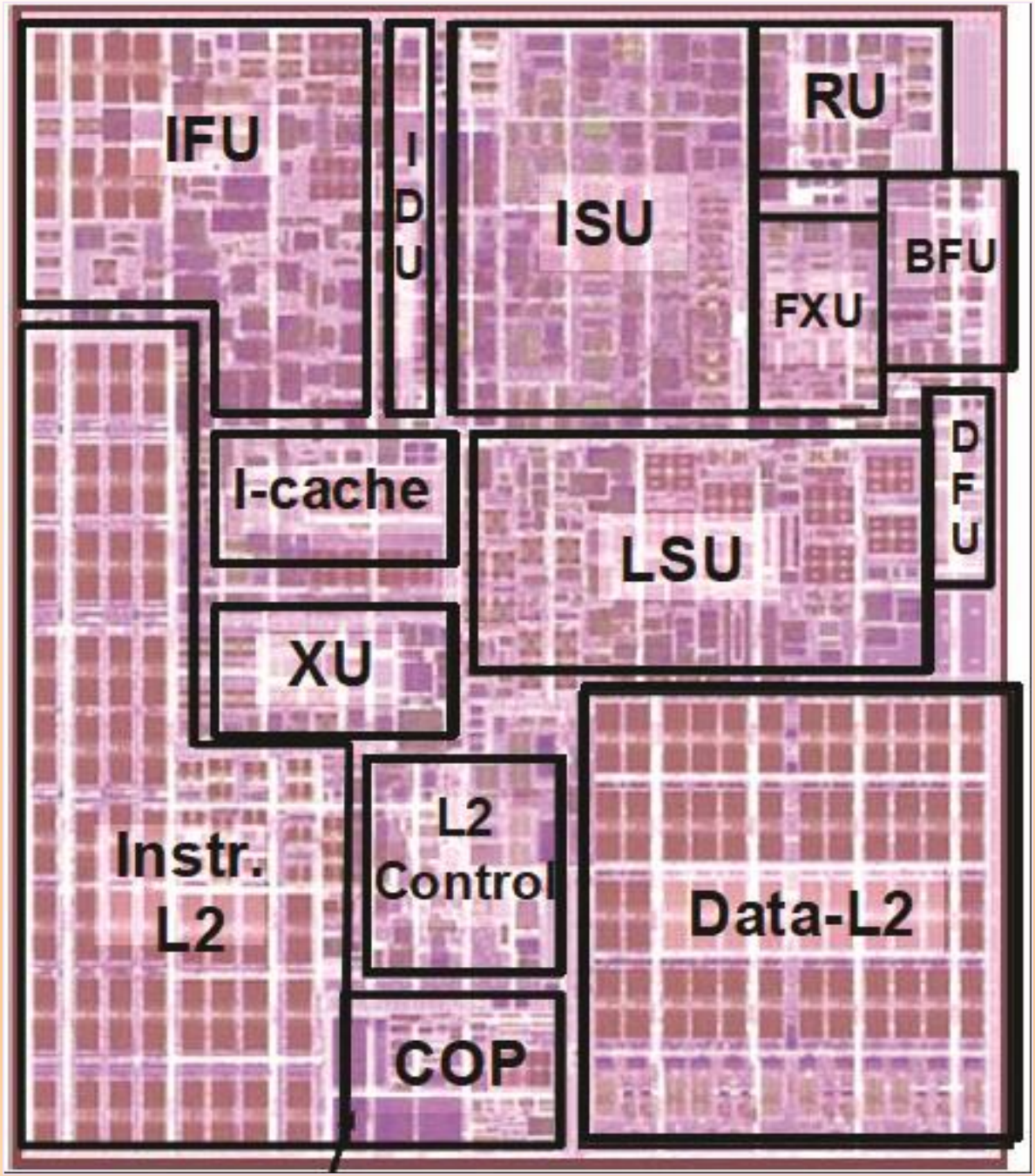

Figure 1.5

zEnterprise EC12 Core Layout

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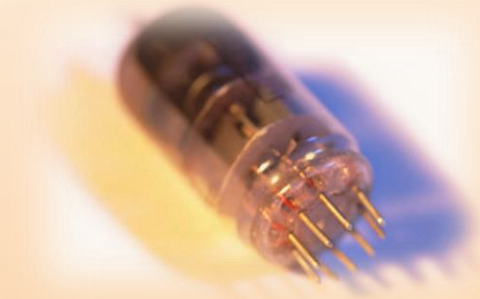
History of Computers

First Generation: Vacuum Tubes



- Vacuum tubes were used for digital logic elements and memory
- IAS computer
  - Fundamental design approach was the stored program concept
    - Attributed to the mathematician John von Neumann
    - First publication of the idea was in 1945 for the EDVAC
  - Design began at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies (IAS)
  - Completed in 1952
  - Prototype of all subsequent general-purpose computers

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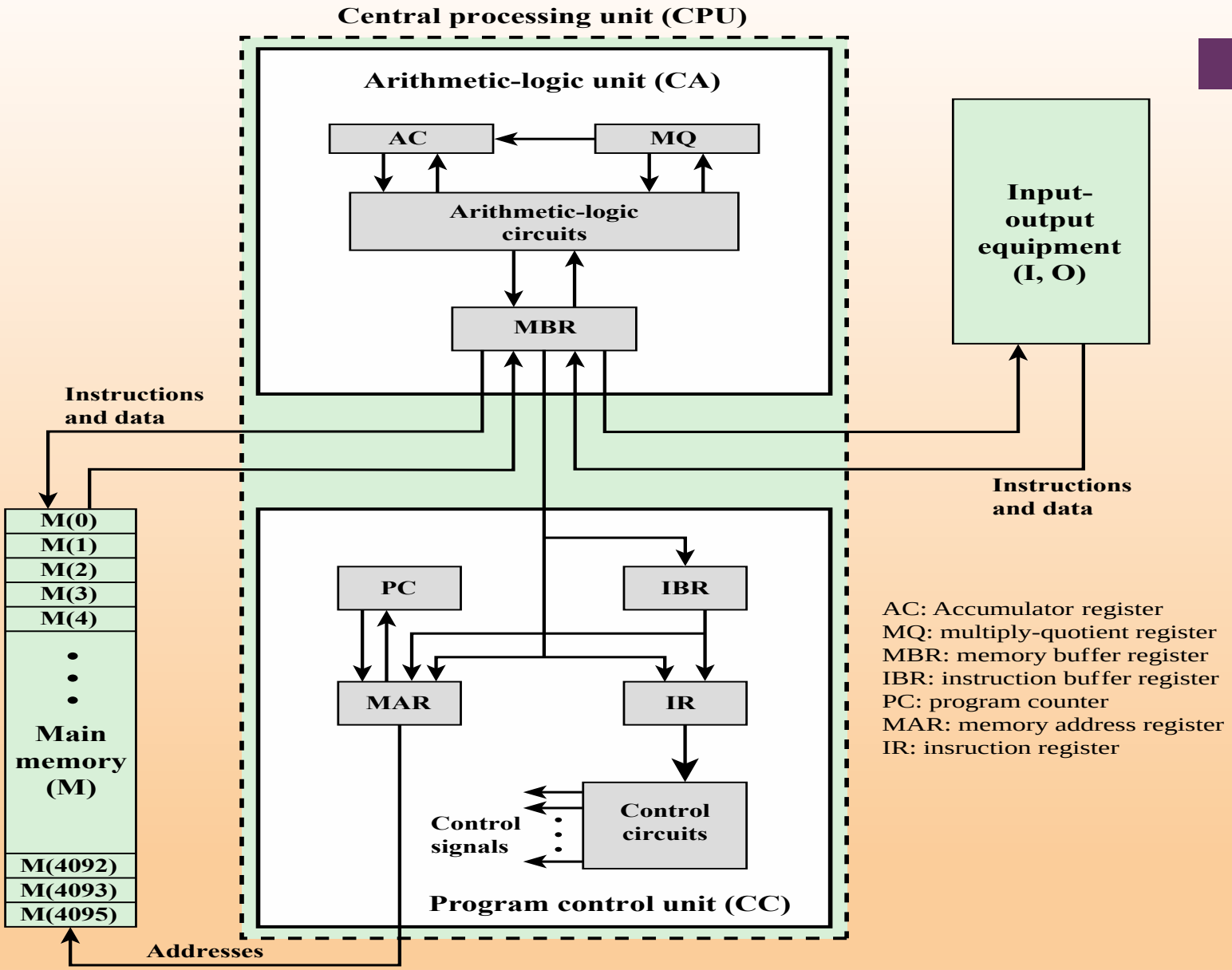

Figure 1.6 IAS Structure

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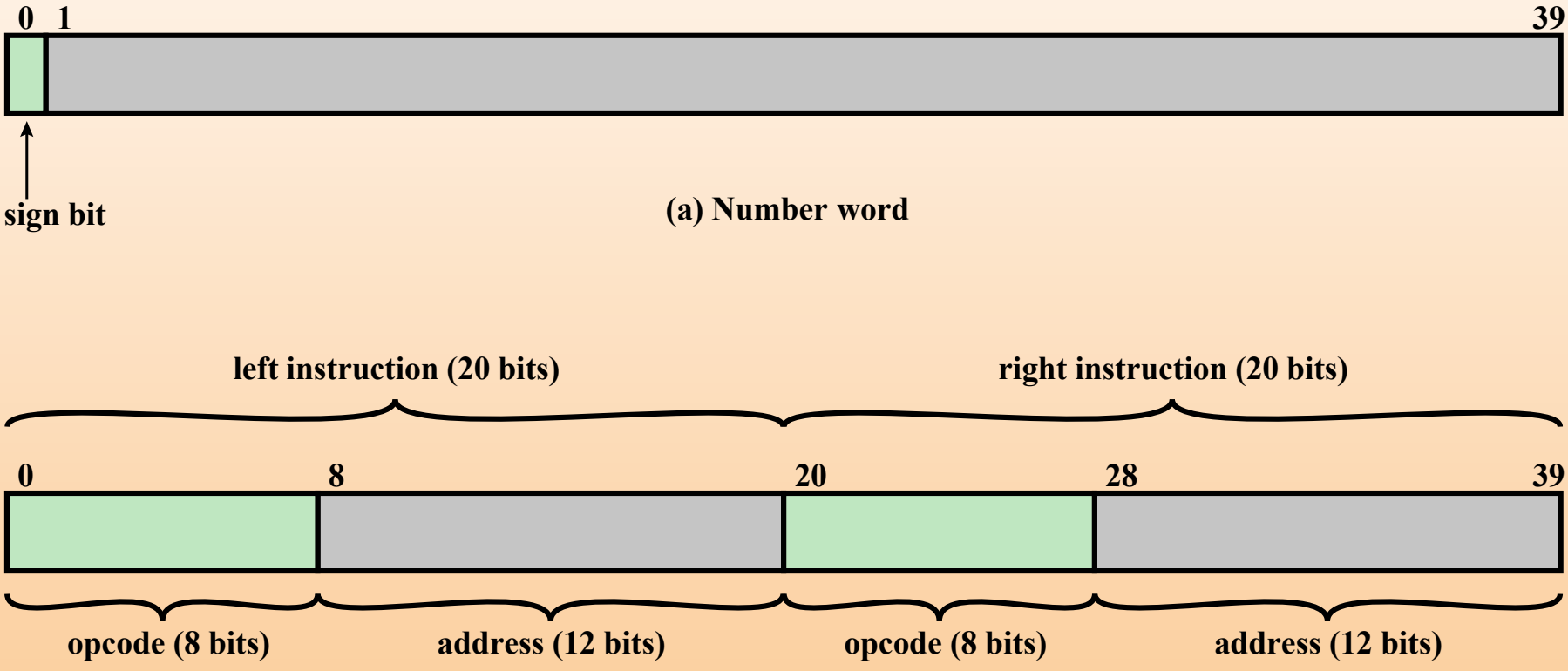

Figure 1.7 IAS Memory Formats

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Registers

Memory buffer register (MBR)	• Contains a word to be stored in memory or sent to the I/O unit • Or is used to receive a word from memory or from the I/O unit
Memory address register (MAR)	• Specifies the address in memory of the word to be written from or read into the MBR
Instruction register (IR)	• Contains the 8-bit opcode instruction being executed
Instruction buffer register (IBR)	• Employed to temporarily hold the right-hand instruction from a word in memory
Program counter (PC)	• Contains the address of the next instruction pair to be fetched from memory
Accumulator (AC) and multiplier quotient (MQ)	• Employed to temporarily hold operands and results of ALU operations

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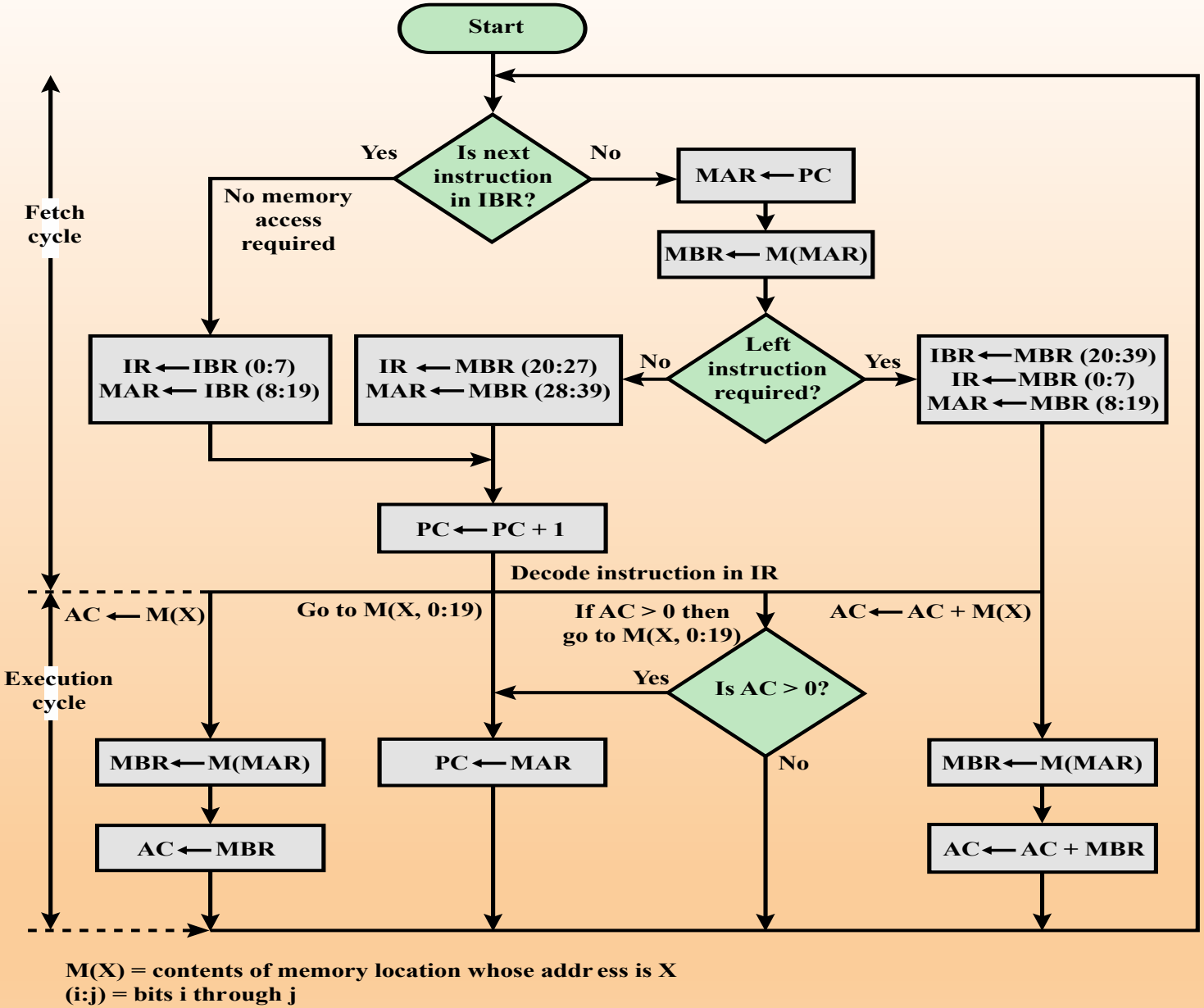

Figure 1.8 Partial Flowchart of IAS Operation

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Instruction Type	Opcode	Symbolic Representation	Description
Data transfer	00001010	LOAD MQ	Transfer contents of register MQ to the accumulator AC
	00001001	LOAD MQ,M(X)	Transfer contents of memory location X to MQ
	00100001	STOR M(X)	Transfer contents of accumulator to memory location X
	00000001	LOAD M(X)	Transfer M(X) to the accumulator
	00000010	LOAD –M(X)	Transfer –M(X) to the accumulator
	00000011	LOAD |M(X)|	Transfer absolute value of M(X) to the accumulator
	00000100	LOAD –|M(X)|	Transfer –|M(X)| to the accumulator
Unconditional branch	00001101	JUMP M(X,0:19)	Take next instruction from left half of M(X)
	00001110	JUMP M(X,20:39)	Take next instruction from right half of M(X)
Conditional branch	00001111	JUMP+ M(X,0:19)	If number in the accumulator is nonnegative, take next instruction from left half of M(X)
		JUMP+ M(X,20:39)	*If number in the accumulator is nonnegative, take next instruction from right half of M(X)*
Arithmetic	00000101	ADD M(X)	Add M(X) to AC; put the result in AC
	00000111	ADD |M(X)|	Add |M(X)| to AC; put the result in AC
	00000110	SUB M(X)	Subtract M(X) from AC; put the result in AC
	00001000	SUB |M(X)|	Subtract |M(X)| from AC; put the remainder in AC
	00001011	MUL M(X)	Multiply M(X) by MQ; put most significant bits of result in AC, put least significant bits in MQ
	00001100	DIV M(X)	Divide AC by M(X); put the quotient in MQ and the remainder in AC
	00010100	LSH	Multiply accumulator by 2; i.e., shift left one bit position
	00010101	RSH	Divide accumulator by 2; i.e., shift right one position
Address modify	00010010	STOR M(X,8:19)	Replace left address field at M(X) by 12 rightmost bits of AC
	00010011	STOR M(X,28:39)	Replace right address field at M(X) by 12 rightmost bits of AC

Table 1.1

The IAS Instruction Set

The IAS computer had a total of 21 instructions

(Table can be found on page 17 in the textbook.)

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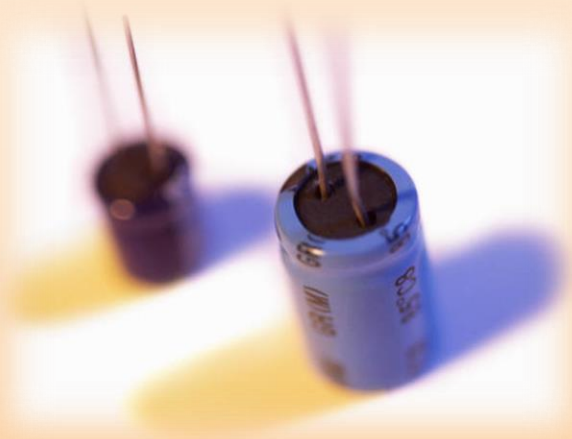
History of Computers
Second Generation: Transistors

- Smaller
- Cheaper
- Dissipates less heat than a vacuum tube
- Is a *solid state device* made from silicon
- Was invented at Bell Labs in 1947
- It was not until the late 1950's that fully transistorized computers were commercially available



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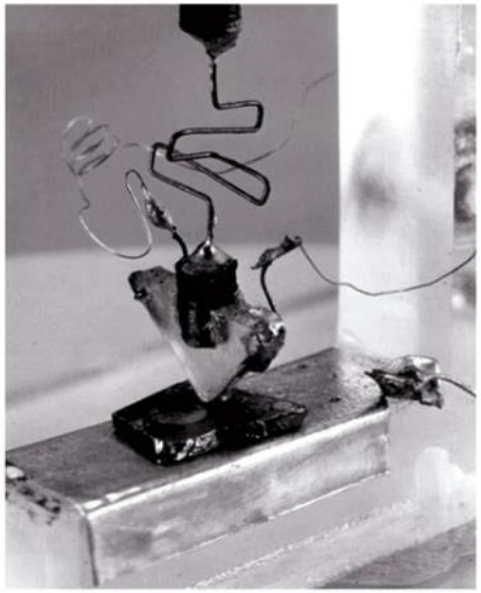
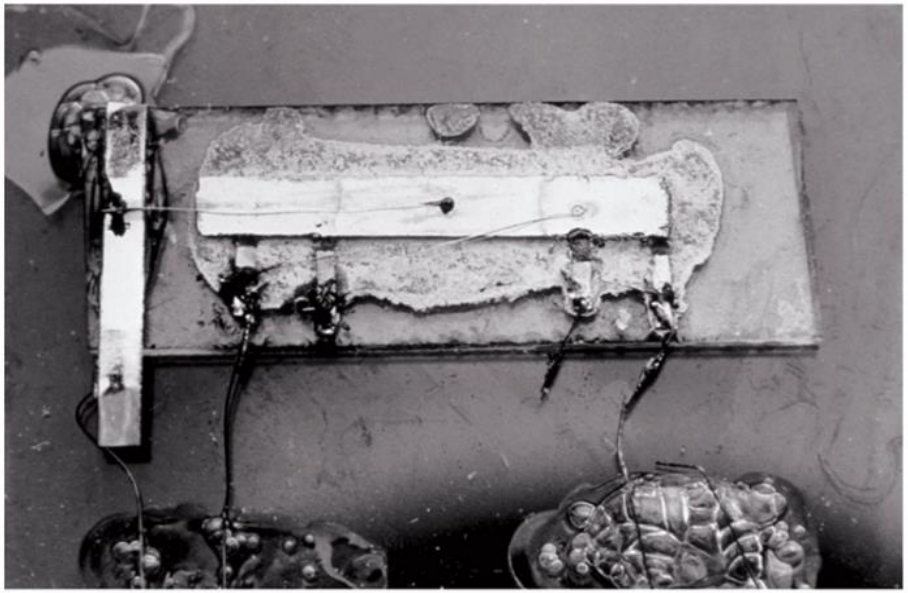
Transistor

First Transistor



(a)



(b)

FIG 1.2 (a) First transistor (Courtesy of Texas Instruments.) and (b) first integrated circuit. (Property of AT&T Archives. Reprinted with permission of AT&T.)

Bell Labs 1946

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Table 1.2
Computer Generations

Generation	Approximate Dates	Technology	Typical Speed (operations per second)
1	1946–1957	Vacuum tube	40,000
2	1957–1964	Transistor	200,000
3	1965–1971	Small and medium scale integration	1,000,000
4	1972–1977	Large scale integration	10,000,000
5	1978–1991	Very large scale integration	100,000,000
6	1991-	Ultra large scale integration	>1,000,000,000

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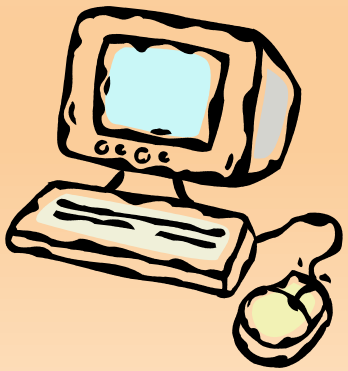
Second Generation Computers

- Introduced:
  - More complex arithmetic and logic units and control units
  - The use of high-level programming languages
  - Provision of *system software* which provided the ability to:
    - Load programs
    - Move data to peripherals
    - Libraries perform common computations



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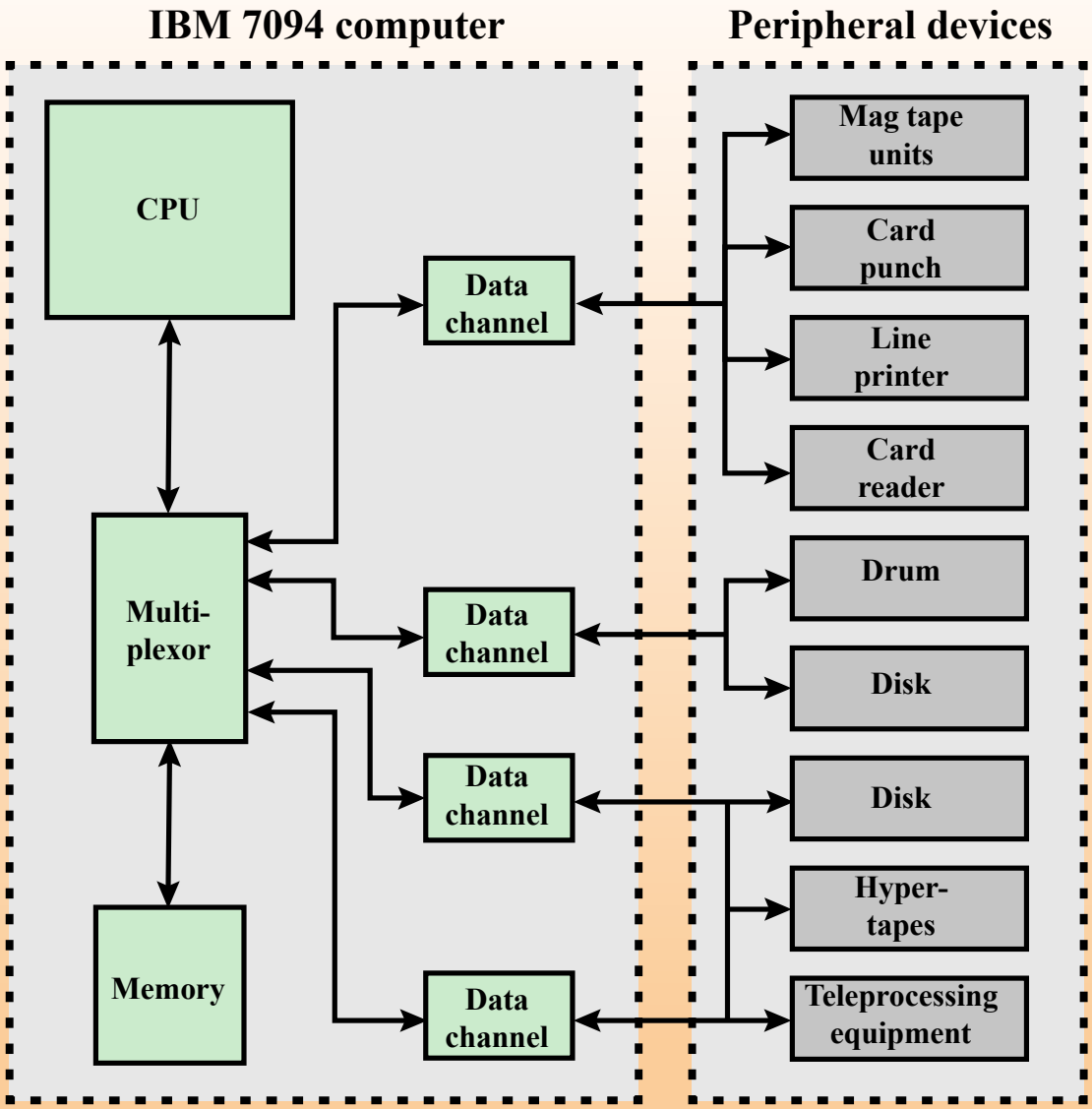

Figure 1.9 An IBM 7094 Configuration

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History of Computers

Third Generation: Integrated Circuits

- 1958 – the invention of the integrated circuit
- *Discrete component*
  - Single, self-contained transistor
  - Manufactured separately, packaged in their own containers, and soldered or wired together onto masonite-like circuit boards
  - Manufacturing process was expensive and cumbersome
- The two most important members of the third generation were the IBM System/360 and the DEC PDP-8

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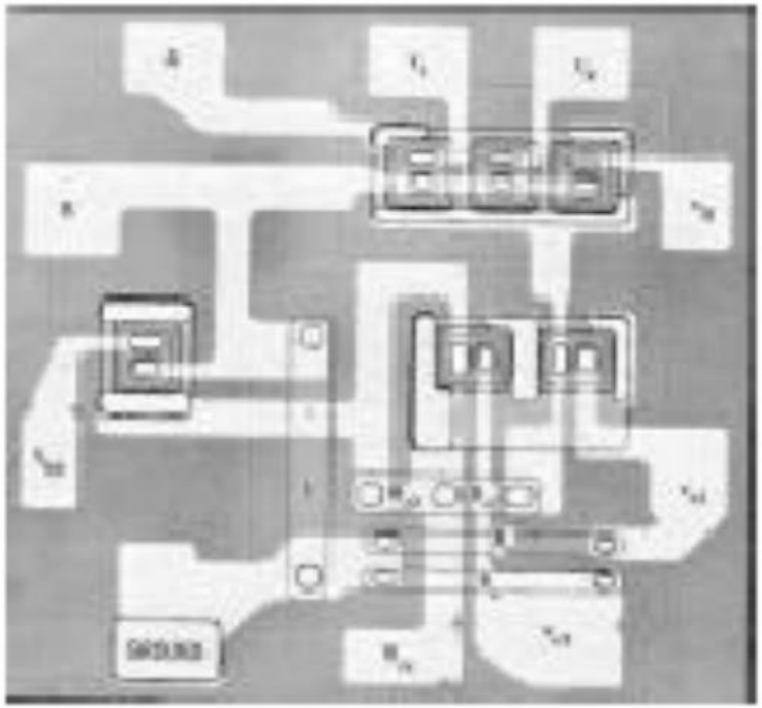
Integrated Circuit (IC)

- 1958 Invention of the IC by Jack Kilby at Texas Instruments



Bipolar logic
1960's

ECL 3-input Gate
Motorola 1966

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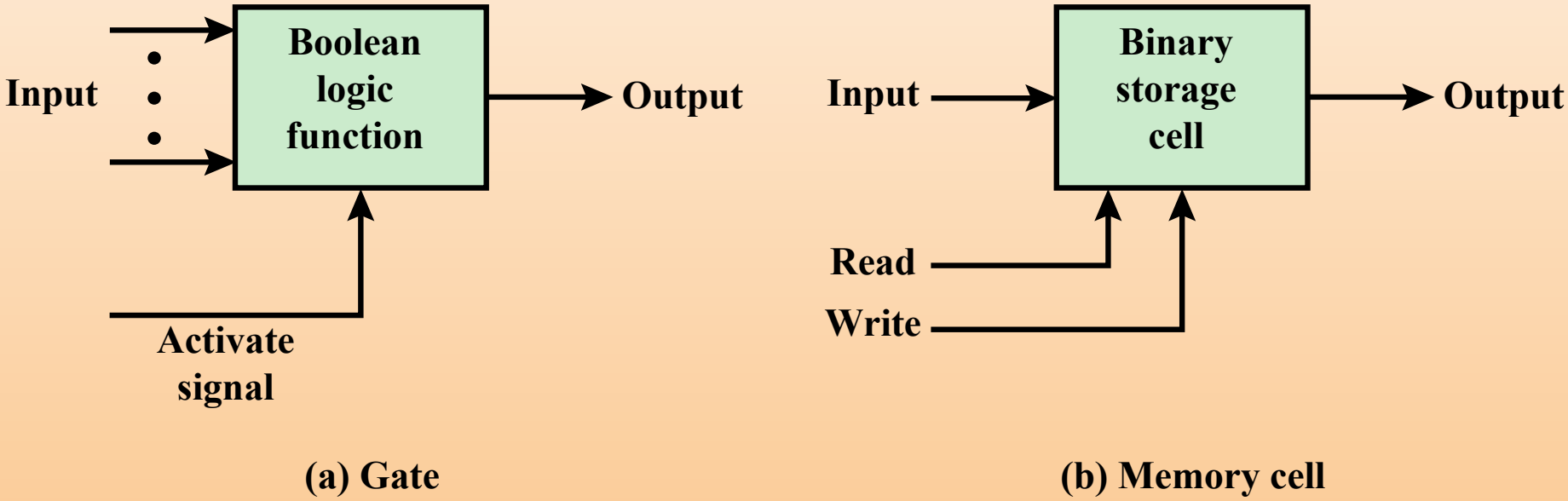

Figure 1.10 Fundamental Computer Elements

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Integrated Circuits

- Data storage – provided by memory cells
- Data processing – provided by gates
- Data movement – the paths among components are used to move data from memory to memory and from memory through gates to memory
- Control – the paths among components can carry control signals

- A computer consists of gates, memory cells, and interconnections among these elements
- The gates and memory cells are constructed of simple digital electronic components
  - Exploits the fact that such components as transistors, resistors, and conductors can be fabricated from a semiconductor such as silicon
  - Many transistors can be produced at the same time on a single wafer of silicon
  - Transistors can be connected with a processor metallization to form circuits

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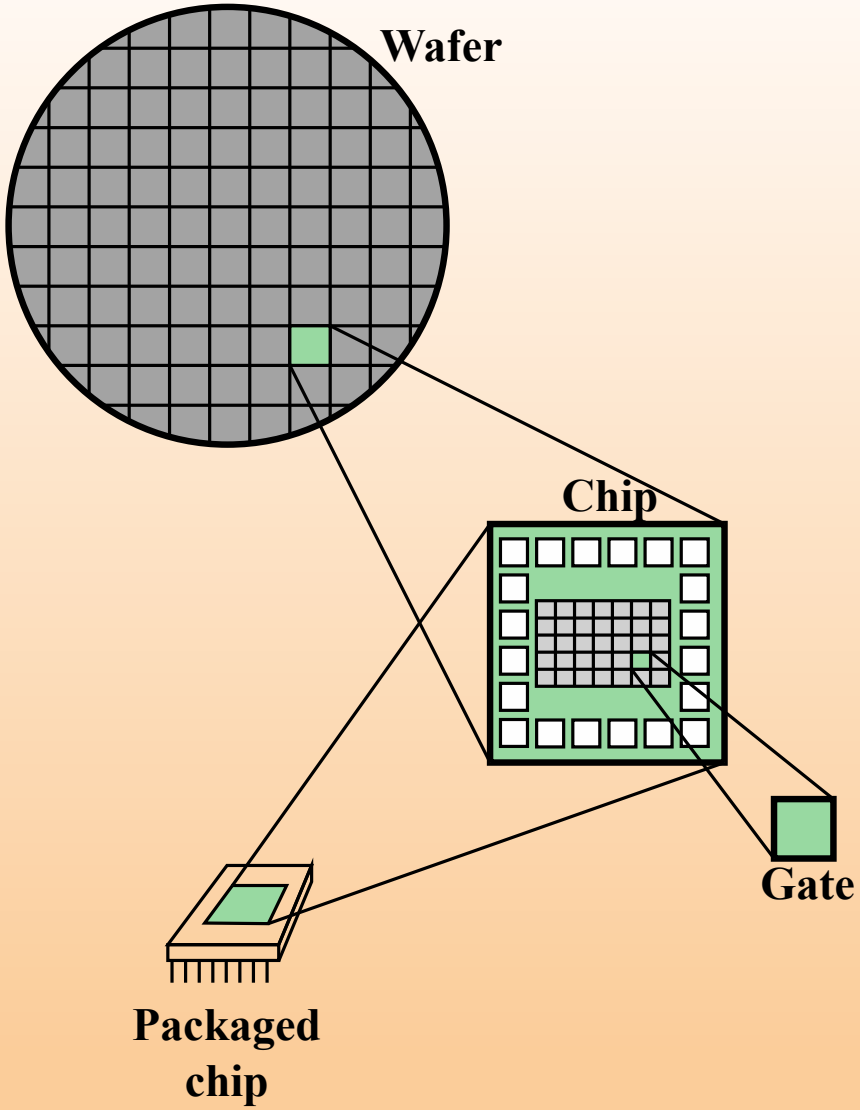

Figure 1.11 Relationship Among Wafer, Chip, and Gate

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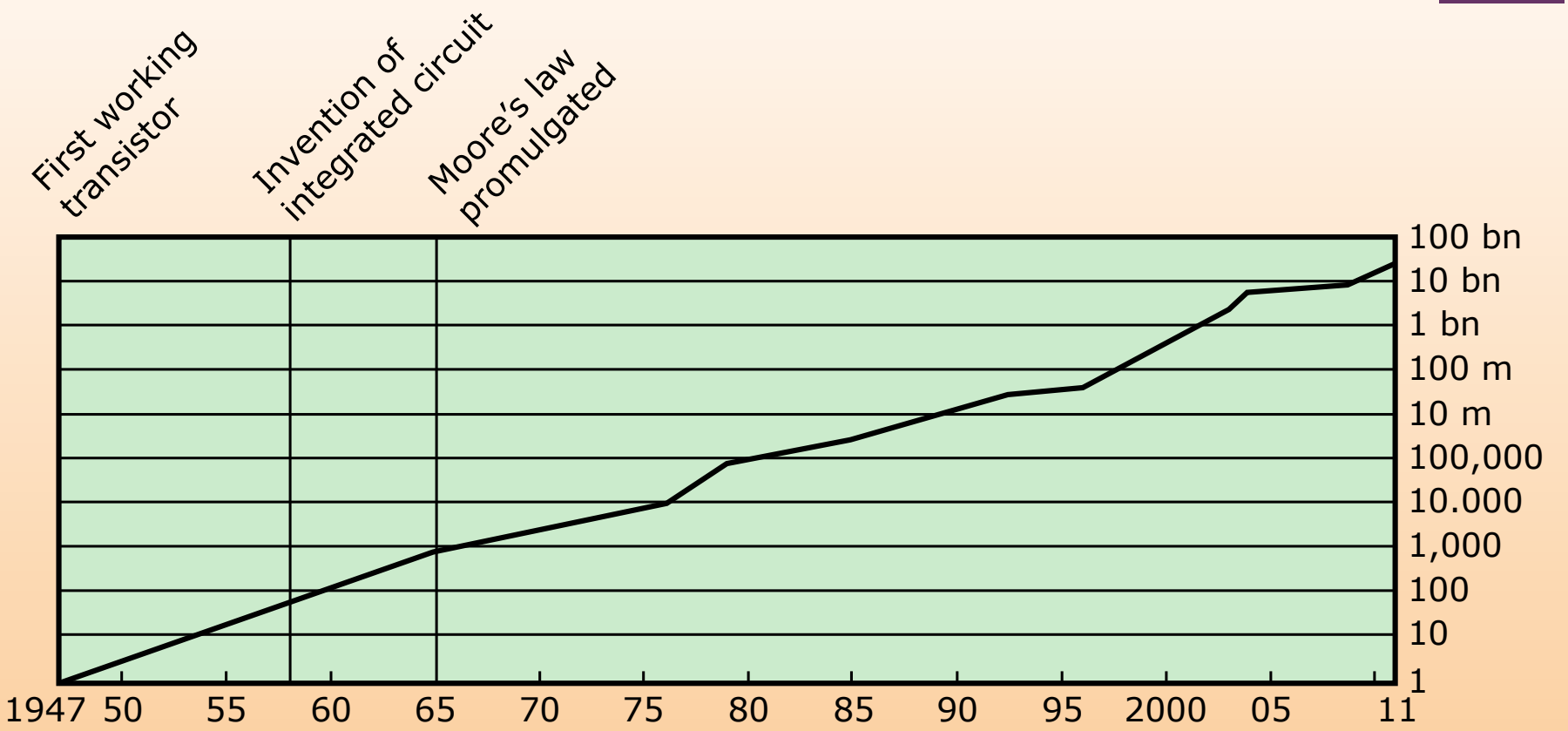

Figure 1.12 Growth in Transistor Count on Integrated Circuits (DRAM memory)

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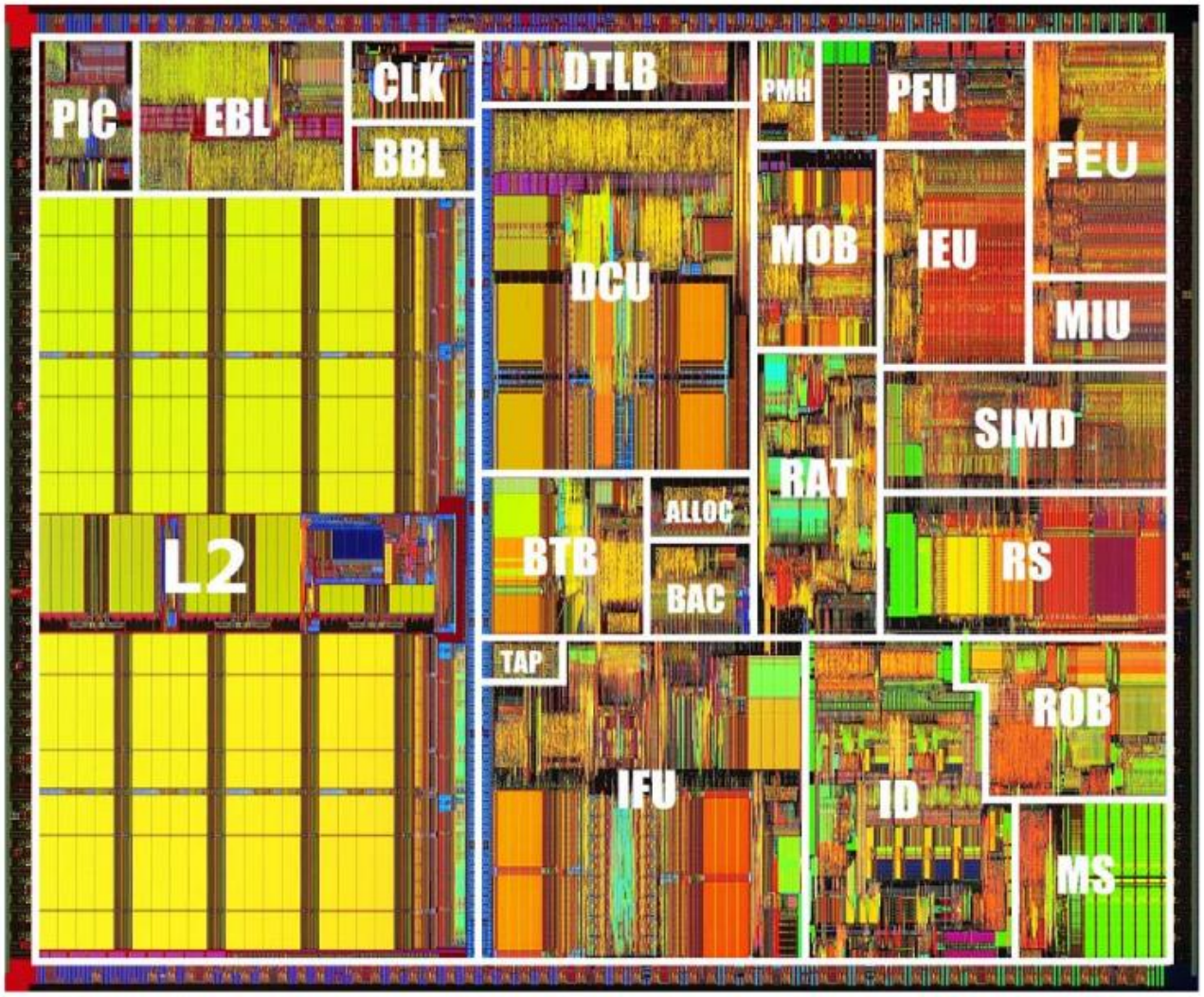
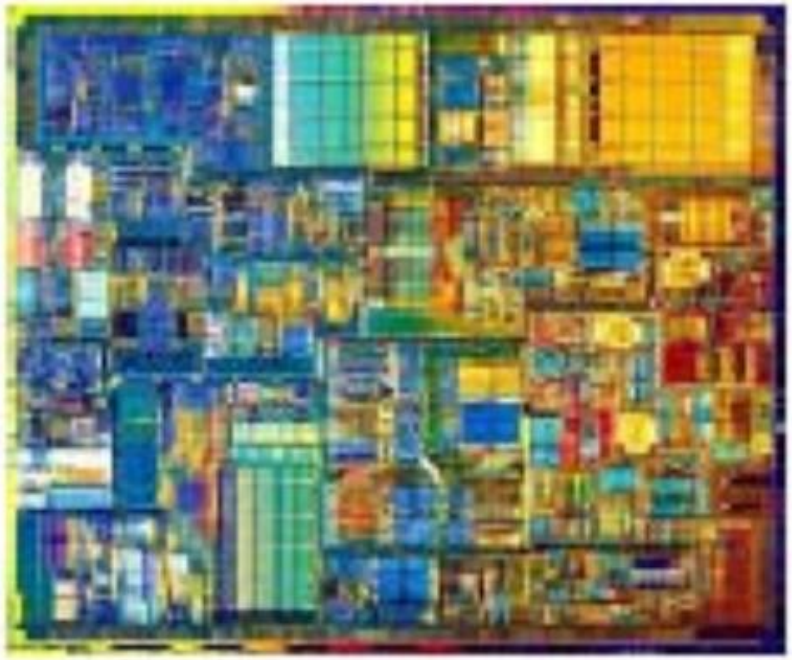
Pentium III



Info

- 28.1M transistors
- 0.18 micron, 6-layer metal CMOS
- 106 mm^2 die area
- 3-way superscalar, 256K L2 cache, 133 MHz I/O bus

Pentium IV



- **0.18-micron process technology (2, 1.9, 1.8, 1.7, 1.6, 1.5, and 1.4 GHz)**
  - Introduction date: August 27, 2001 (2, 1.9 GHz); ...; November 20, 2000 (1.5, 1.4 GHz)
  - Level Two cache: 256 KB Advanced Transfer Cache (Integrated)
  - System Bus Speed: 400 MHz
  - SSE2 SIMD Extensions
  - Transistors: 42 Million
  - Typical Use: Desktops and entrylevel workstations
- **0.13-micron process technology (2.53, 2.2, 2 GHz)**
  - Introduction date: January 7, 2002
  - Level Two cache: 512 KB Advanced
  - Transistors: 55 Million

Moore's Law

1965; Gordon Moore – co-founder of Intel

Observed number of transistors that could be put on a single chip was doubling every year

The pace slowed to a doubling every 18 months in the 1970's but has sustained that rate ever since

Consequences of Moore's law:

- **The cost of computer logic and memory circuitry has fallen at a dramatic rate**
- **The electrical path length is shortened, increasing operating speed**
- **Computer becomes smaller and is more convenient to use in a variety of environments**
- **Reduction in power and cooling requirements**
- **Fewer interchip connections**

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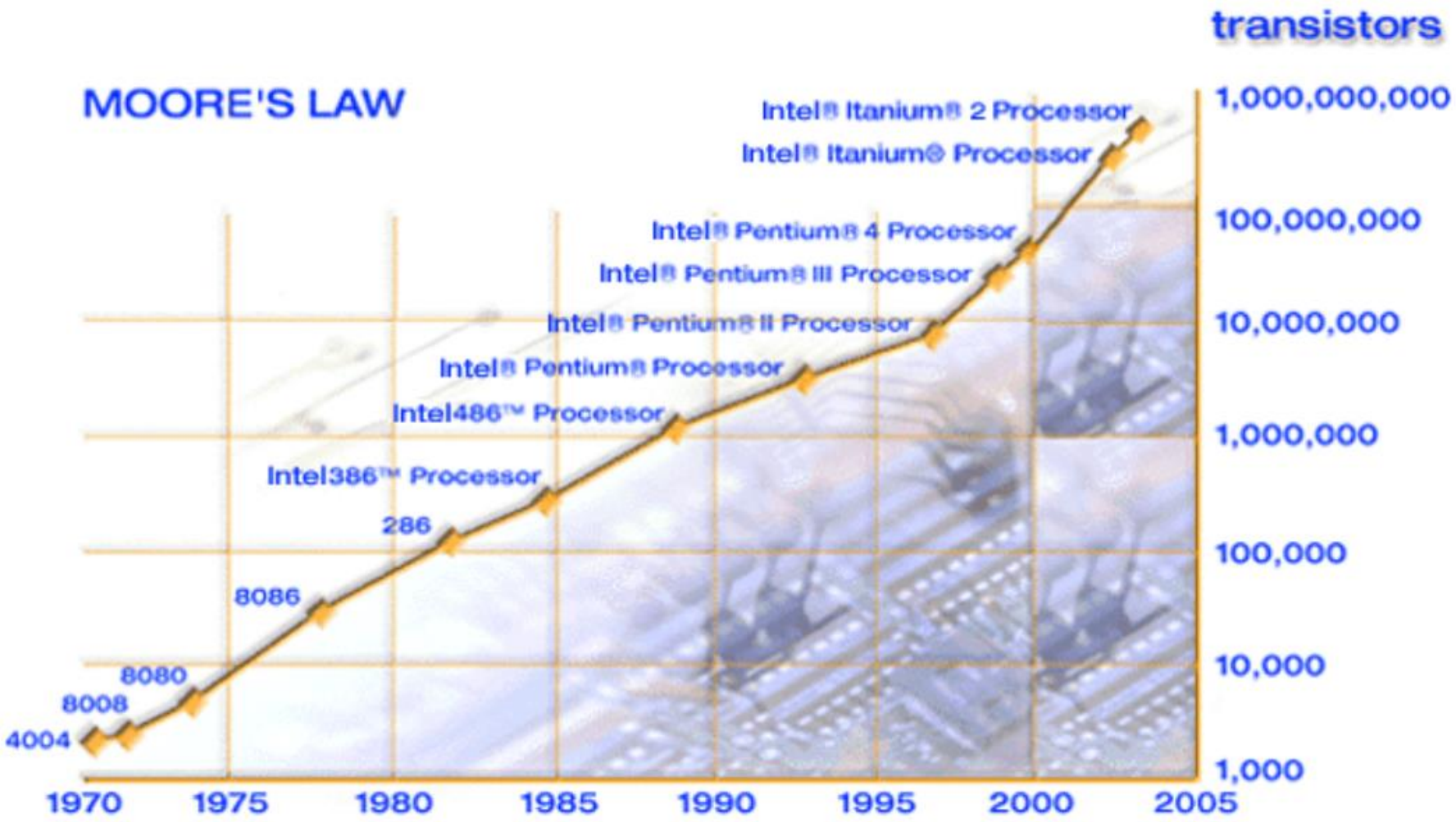
Change in Microprocessors



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IBM System/360

- Announced in 1964
- Product line was incompatible with older IBM machines
- Was the success of the decade and cemented IBM as the overwhelmingly dominant computer vendor
- The architecture remains to this day the architecture of IBM's mainframe computers
- Was the industry's first planned family of computers
  - Models were compatible in the sense that a program written for one model should be capable of being executed by another model in the series

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Family Characteristics

The concept of a family of compatible computers was both novel and extremely successful. A customer with modest requirements and a budget to match could start with the relatively inexpensive Model.

Similar or identical instruction set	Similar or identical operating system	Increasing speed
Increasing number of I/O ports	Increasing memory size	Increasing cost

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In the same year that IBM shipped its first System/360, another momentous first shipment occurred: PDP-8 from Digital Equipment Corporation(DEC).

At a time when the average computer required an air-conditioned room, the PDP-8. (dubbed a minicomputer by the industry, after the miniskirt of the day) was small enough that it could be placed on top of a lab bench or be built into other equipment. It could not do everything the mainframe could, but at $16,000, it was cheap enough for each lab technician to have one. In contrast, the System/360 series of mainframe computers introduced just a few months before cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

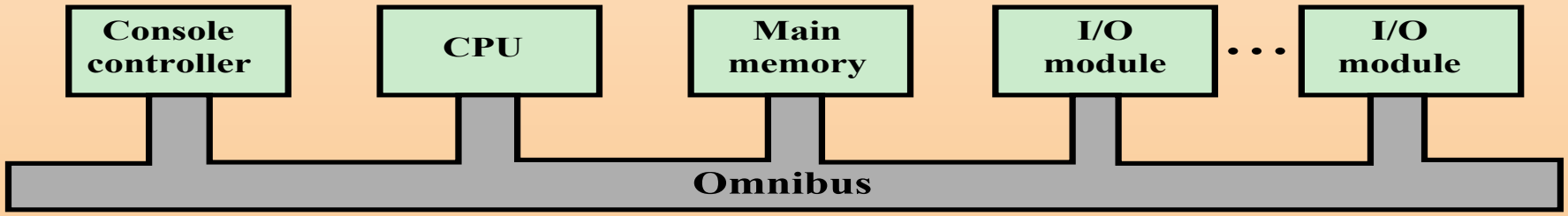

Figure 1.13 PDP-8 Bus Structure

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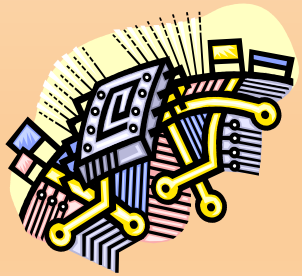
Later Generations

LSI
Large Scale Integration

VLSI
Very Large Scale Integration



Semiconductor Memory
Microprocessors

ULSI
Ultra Large Scale Integration

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Semiconductor Memory

In 1970 Fairchild produced the first relatively capacious semiconductor memory

- Chip was about the size of a single core
- Could hold 256 bits of memory
- Non-destructive
- Much faster than core

In 1974 the price per bit of semiconductor memory dropped below the price per bit of core memory

- There has been a continuing and rapid decline in memory cost accompanied by a corresponding increase in physical memory density
- Developments in memory and processor technologies changed the nature of computers in less than a decade

Since 1970 semiconductor memory has been through 13 generations

- Each generation has provided four times the storage density of the previous generation, accompanied by declining cost per bit and declining access time

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Microprocessors

- The density of elements on processor chips continued to rise
  - More and more elements were placed on each chip so that fewer and fewer chips were needed to construct a single computer processor
- 1971 Intel developed 4004
  - First chip to contain all of the components of a CPU on a single chip
  - Birth of microprocessor
- 1972 Intel developed 8008
  - First 8-bit microprocessor
- 1974 Intel developed 8080
  - First general purpose microprocessor
  - Faster, has a richer instruction set, has a large addressing capability

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Evolution of Intel Microprocessors

	4004	8008	8080	8086	8088
Introduced	1971	1972	1974	1978	1979
Clock speeds	108 kHz	108 kHz	2 MHz	5 MHz, 8 MHz, 10 MHz	5 MHz, 8 MHz
Bus width	4 bits	8 bits	8 bits	16 bits	8 bits
Number of transistors	2,300	3,500	6,000	29,000	29,000
Feature size (μm)	10	8	6	3	6
Addressable memory	640 Bytes	16 KB	64 KB	1 MB	1 MB

(a) 1970s Processors

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Evolution of Intel Microprocessors

	80286	386TM DX	386TM SX	486TM DX CPU
Introduced	1982	1985	1988	1989
Clock speeds	6 MHz - 12.5 MHz	16 MHz - 33 MHz	16 MHz - 33 MHz	25 MHz - 50 MHz
Bus width	16 bits	32 bits	16 bits	32 bits
Number of transistors	134,000	275,000	275,000	1.2 million
Feature size (μm)	1.5	1	1	0.8 - 1
Addressable memory	16 MB	4 GB	16 MB	4 GB
Virtual memory	1 GB	64 TB	64 TB	64 TB
Cache	—	—	—	8 kB

(b) 1980s Processors

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Evolution of Intel Microprocessors

	486TM SX	Pentium	Pentium Pro	Pentium II
Introduced	1991	1993	1995	1997
Clock speeds	16 MHz - 33 MHz	60 MHz - 166 MHz,	150 MHz - 200 MHz	200 MHz - 300 MHz
Bus width	32 bits	32 bits	64 bits	64 bits
Number of transistors	1.185 million	3.1 million	5.5 million	7.5 million
Feature size (μm)	1	0.8	0.6	0.35
Addressable memory	4 GB	4 GB	64 GB	64 GB
Virtual memory	64 TB	64 TB	64 TB	64 TB
Cache	8 kB	8 kB	512 kB L1 and 1 MB L2	512 kB L2

(c) 1990s Processors

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Evolution of Intel Microprocessors

	Pentium III	Pentium 4	Core 2 Duo	Core i7 EE 4960X
Introduced	1999	2000	2006	2013
Clock speeds	450 - 660 MHz	1.3 - 1.8 GHz	1.06 - 1.2 GHz	4 GHz
Bus width	64 bits	64 bits	64 bits	64 bits
Number of transistors	9.5 million	42 million	167 million	1.86 billion
Feature size (nm)	250	180	65	22
Addressable memory	64 GB	64 GB	64 GB	64 GB
Virtual memory	64 TB	64 TB	64 TB	64 TB
Cache	512 kB L2	256 kB L2	2 MB L2	1.5 MB L2/15 MB L3
Number of cores	1	1	2	6

(d) Recent Processors

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The Evolution of the Intel x86 Architecture

- Two common processor families are the Intel x86 and the ARM architectures
- Current x86 offerings represent the results of decades of design effort on complex instruction set computers (CISCs)
- An alternative approach to processor design is the reduced instruction set computer (RISC)
- ARM architecture is used in a wide variety of embedded systems and is one of the most powerful and best-designed RISC-based systems on the market

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Highlights of the Evolution of the Intel Product Line:

8080	8086	80286	80386	80486
• World's first general-purpose microprocessor • 8-bit machine, 8-bit data path to memory • Was used in the first personal computer (Altair)	• A more powerful 16-bit machine • Has an instruction cache, or queue, that prefetches a few instructions before they are executed • The first appearance of the x86 architecture • The 8088 was a variant of this processor and used in IBM's first personal computer (securing the success of Intel	• Extension of the 8086 enabling addressing a 16-MB memory instead of just 1MB	• Intel's first 32-bit machine • First Intel processor to support multitasking	• Introduced the use of much more sophisticated and powerful cache technology and sophisticated instruction pipelining • Also offered a built-in math coprocessor

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Highlights of the Evolution of the Intel Product Line:

Pentium

- Intel introduced the use of superscalar techniques, which allow multiple instructions to execute in parallel

Pentium Pro

- Continued the move into superscalar organization with aggressive use of register renaming, branch prediction, data flow analysis, and speculative execution

Pentium II

- Incorporated Intel MMX technology, which is designed specifically to process video, audio, and graphics data efficiently

Pentium III

- Incorporated additional floating-point instructions
- Streaming SIMD Extensions (SSE)

Pentium 4

- Includes additional floating-point and other enhancements for multimedia

Core

- First Intel x86 micro-core

Core 2

- Extends the Core architecture to 64 bits
- Core 2 Quad provides four cores on a single chip
- More recent Core offerings have up to 10 cores per chip
- An important addition to the architecture was the Advanced Vector Extensions instruction set

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Embedded Systems

- The use of electronics and software within a product
- Billions of computer systems are produced each year that are embedded within larger devices
- Today many devices that use electric power have an embedded computing system
- Often embedded systems are tightly coupled to their environment
  - This can give rise to real-time constraints imposed by the need to interact with the environment
    - Constraints such as required speeds of motion, required precision of measurement, and required time durations, dictate the timing of software operations
  - If multiple activities must be managed simultaneously this imposes more complex real-time constraints

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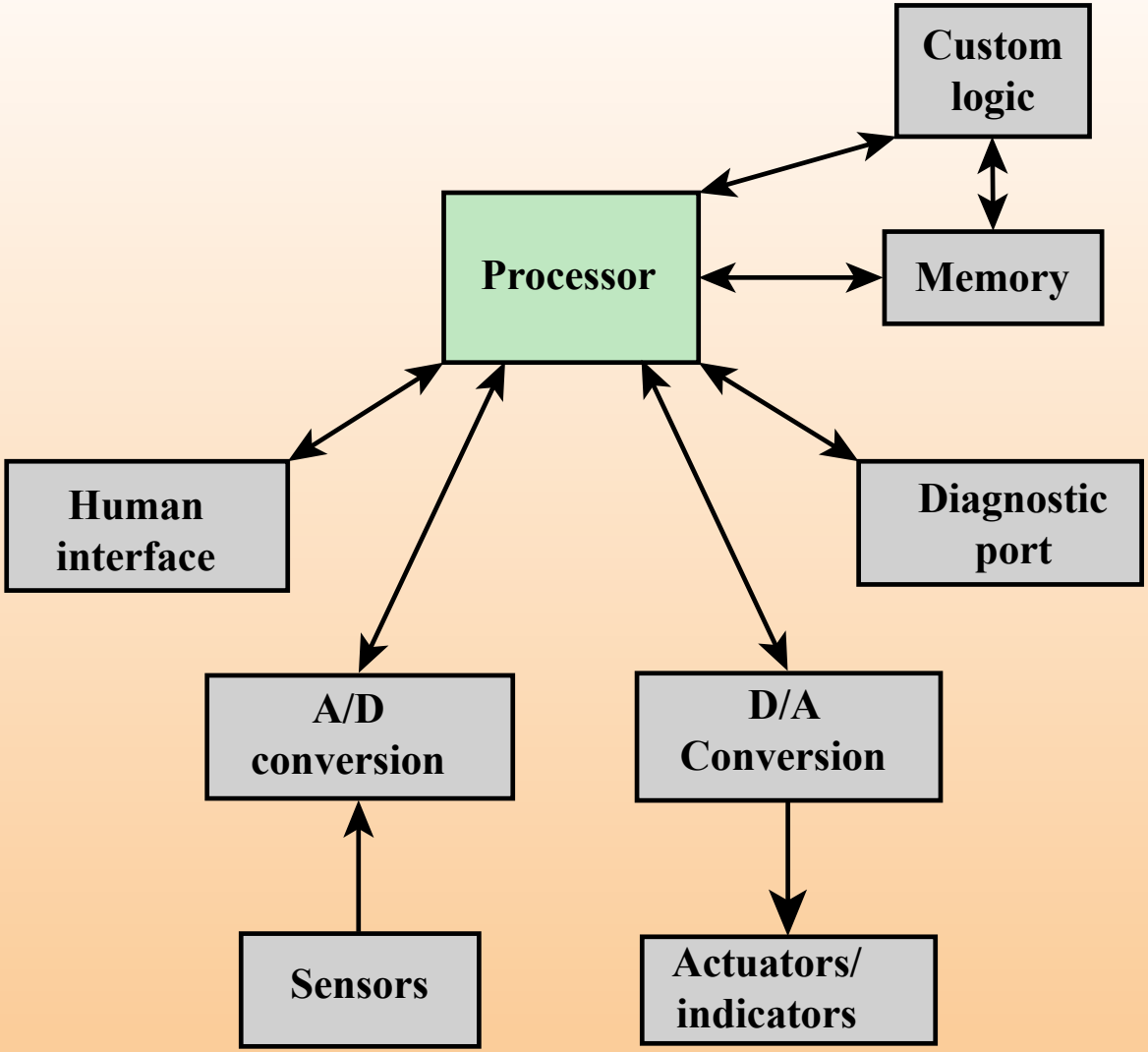

Figure 1.14 Possible Organization of an Embedded System

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The Internet of Things (IoT)

- Term that refers to the expanding interconnection of smart devices, ranging from appliances to tiny sensors
- Is primarily driven by deeply embedded devices
- With reference to the end systems supported, the Internet has gone through roughly fourGenerations of deployment culminating in the IoT:
  - Information technology (IT)
    - PCs, servers, routers, firewalls, and so on, bought as IT devices by enterprise IT people and primarily using wired connectivity
  - Operational technology (OT)
    - Machines/appliances with embedded IT built by non-IT companies, such as medical machinery, SCADA, process control, and kiosks, bought as appliances by enterprise OT people and primarily using wired connectivity
  - Personal technology
    - Smartphones, tablets, and eBook readers bought as IT devices by consumers exclusively using wireless connectivity and often multiple forms of wireless connectivity
  - Sensor/actuator technology
    - Single-purpose devices bought by consumers, IT, and OT people exclusively using wireless connectivity, generally of a single form, as part of larger systems
- It is the fourth generation that is usually thought of as the IoT and it is marked by the use of billions of embedded devices

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Embedded Operating Systems

Application Processors versus Dedicated Processors

- There are two general approaches to developing an embedded operating system (OS):
  - Take an existing OS and adapt it for the embedded application
  - Design and implement an OS intended solely for embedded use

- Application processors
  - Defined by the processor's ability to execute complex operating systems, , such as Linux, Android, and Chrome
  - Thus, the application processor id general-purpose in nature
  - An example is the smartphone – the embedded system is designed to support numerous apps and perform a wide variety of functions

- Dedicated processor
  - Is dedicated to one or a small number of specific tasks required by the host device
  - Because such an embedded system is dedicated to a specific task or tasks, the processor and associated components can be engineered to reduce size and cost

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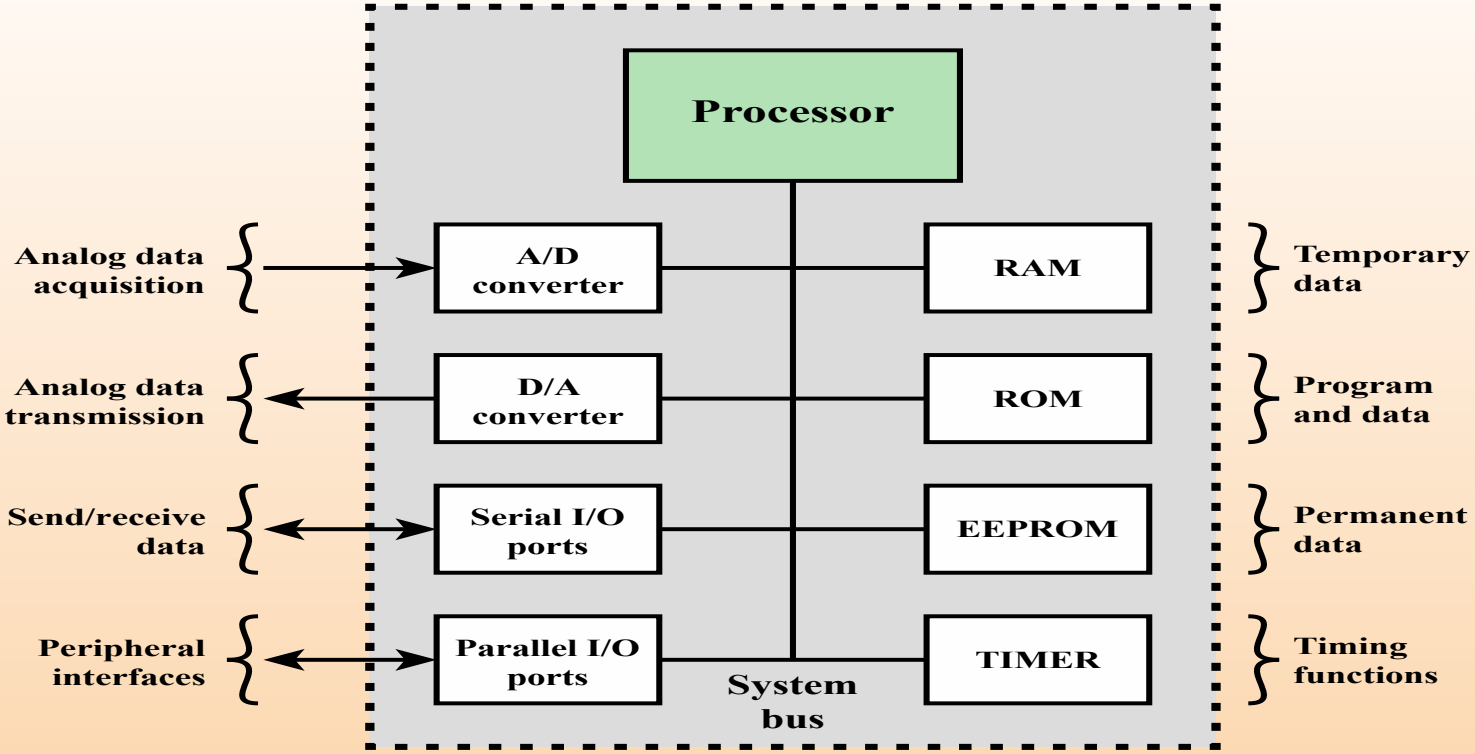

Figure 1.15 Typical Microcontroller Chip Elements

- Microprocessor: Processor on a chip
- Microcontroller is an entire computer on a chip, a microprocessor with on-chip memory and I/O.
- Billions of microcontroller units are embedded each year in myriad products from toys to appliances to automobiles. For example, a single vehicle can use 70 or more microcontrollers.

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Deeply Embedded Systems

- Subset of embedded systems
- Has a processor whose behavior is difficult to observe both by the programmer and the user
- Uses a microcontroller rather than a microprocessor
- Is not programmable once the program logic for the device has been burned into ROM
- Has no interaction with a user
- Dedicated, single-purpose devices that detect something in the environment, perform a basic level of processing, and then do something with the results
- Often have wireless capability and appear in networked configurations, such as networks of sensors deployed over a large area
- Typically have extreme resource constraints in terms of memory, processor size, time, and power consumption

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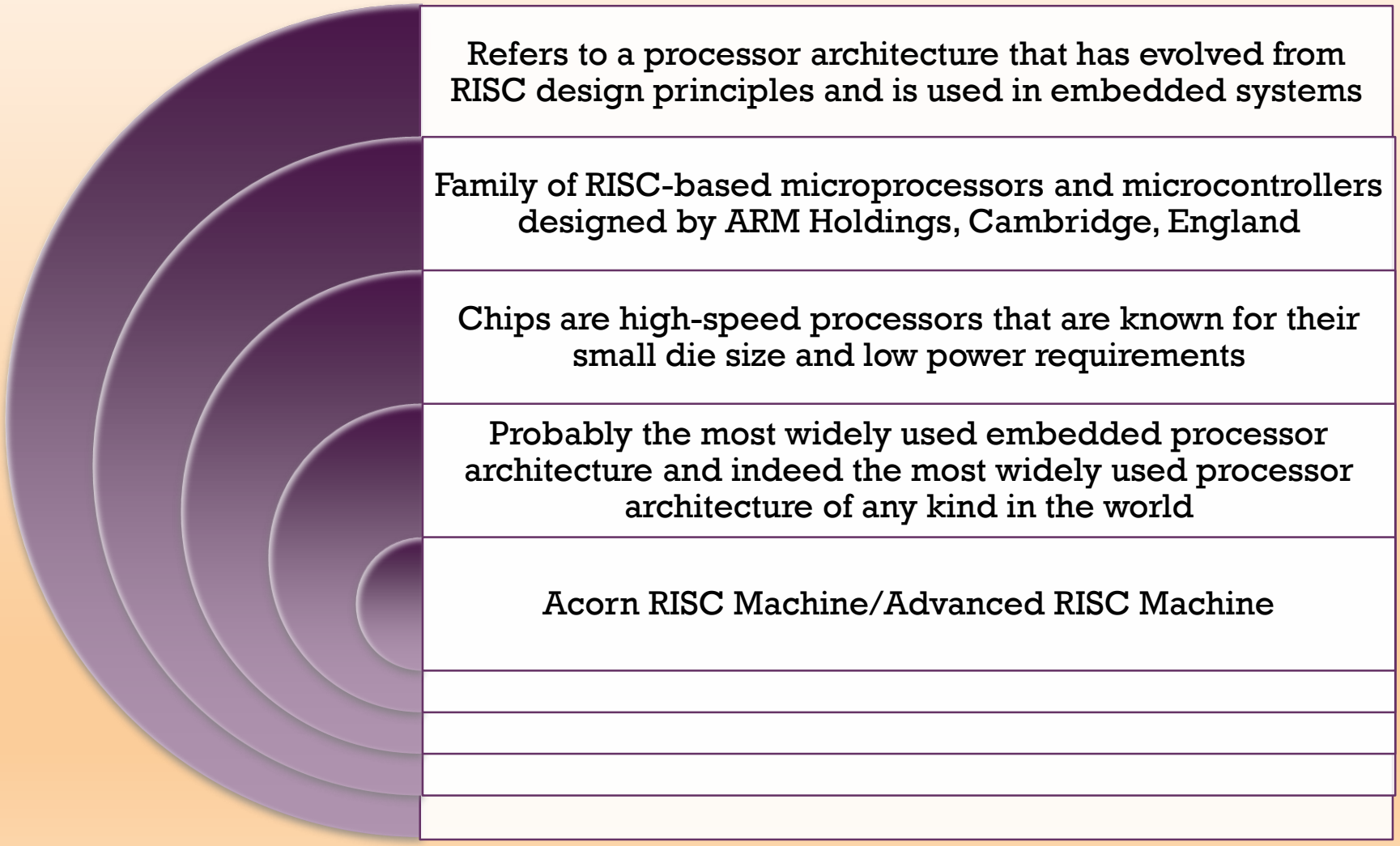
ARM



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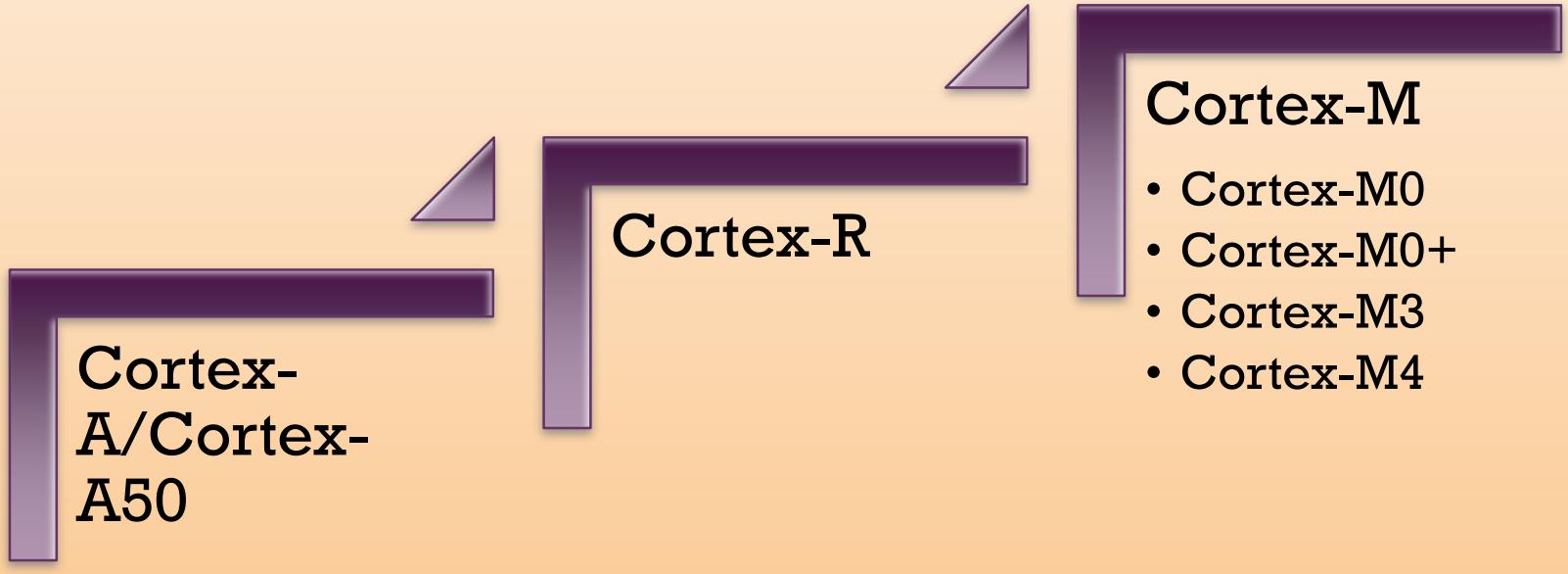
ARM Products



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The Cortex-A and Cortex-A50

- The Cortex-A and Cortex-A50 are application processors, intended for mobile devices such as smartphones and eBook readers, as well as consumer devices such as digital TV and home gateways (e.g., DSL and cable Internet modems).
- These processors run at higher clock frequency (over 1 GHz), and support a memory management unit (MMU), which is required for full feature OSs such as Linux, Android, MS Windows, and mobile OSs.
- An MMU is a hardware module that supports virtual memory and paging by translating virtual addresses into physical addresses; this topic is explored in Chapter 8.
- The two architectures use both the ARM and Thumb-2 instruction sets; the principal difference is that the Cortex-A is a 32-bit machine, and the Cortex-A50 is a 64-bit machine.

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Cortex-R

- The Cortex-R is designed to support real-time applications, in which the timing of events needs to be controlled with rapid response to events. They can run at a fairly high clock frequency (e.g., 200MHz to 800MHz) and have very low response latency.
- The Cortex-R includes enhancements both to the instruction set and to the processor organization to support deeply embedded real-time devices.
- Most of these processors do not have MMU; the limited data requirements and the limited number of simultaneous processes eliminates the need for elaborate hardware and software support for virtual memory.
- The Cortex-R does have a Memory Protection Unit (MPU), cache, and other memory features designed for industrial applications. An MPU is a hardware module that prohibits one program in memory from accidentally accessing memory assigned to another active program. Using various methods, a protective boundary is created around the program, and instructions within the program are prohibited from referencing data outside of that boundary.
- Examples of embedded systems that would use the Cortex-R are automotive braking systems, mass storage controllers, and networking and printing devices.

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Cortex-M series

Cortex-M series processors have been developed primarily for the microcontroller domain where the need for fast, highly deterministic interrupt management is coupled with the desire for extremely low gate count and lowest possible power consumption. As with the Cortex-R series, the Cortex-M architecture has an MPU but no MMU. The market for the Cortex-M includes IoT devices, wireless sensor/actuator networks used in factories and other enterprises, automotive body electronics, and so on.

There are currently four versions of the Cortex-M series:

■ Cortex-M0 :

Designed for 8- and 16-bit applications, this model emphasizes low cost, ultra low power, and simplicity. It is optimized for small silicon die size (starting from 12k gates) and use in the lowest cost chips.

■ Cortex-M0+ :

An enhanced version of the M0 that is more energy efficient.

■ Cortex-M3 :

Designed for 16- and 32-bit applications, this model emphasizes performance and energy efficiency. It also has comprehensive debug and trace

features to enable software developers to develop their applications quickly.

■ Cortex-M4 :

This model provides all the features of the Cortex-M3, with additional instructions to support digital signal processing tasks.

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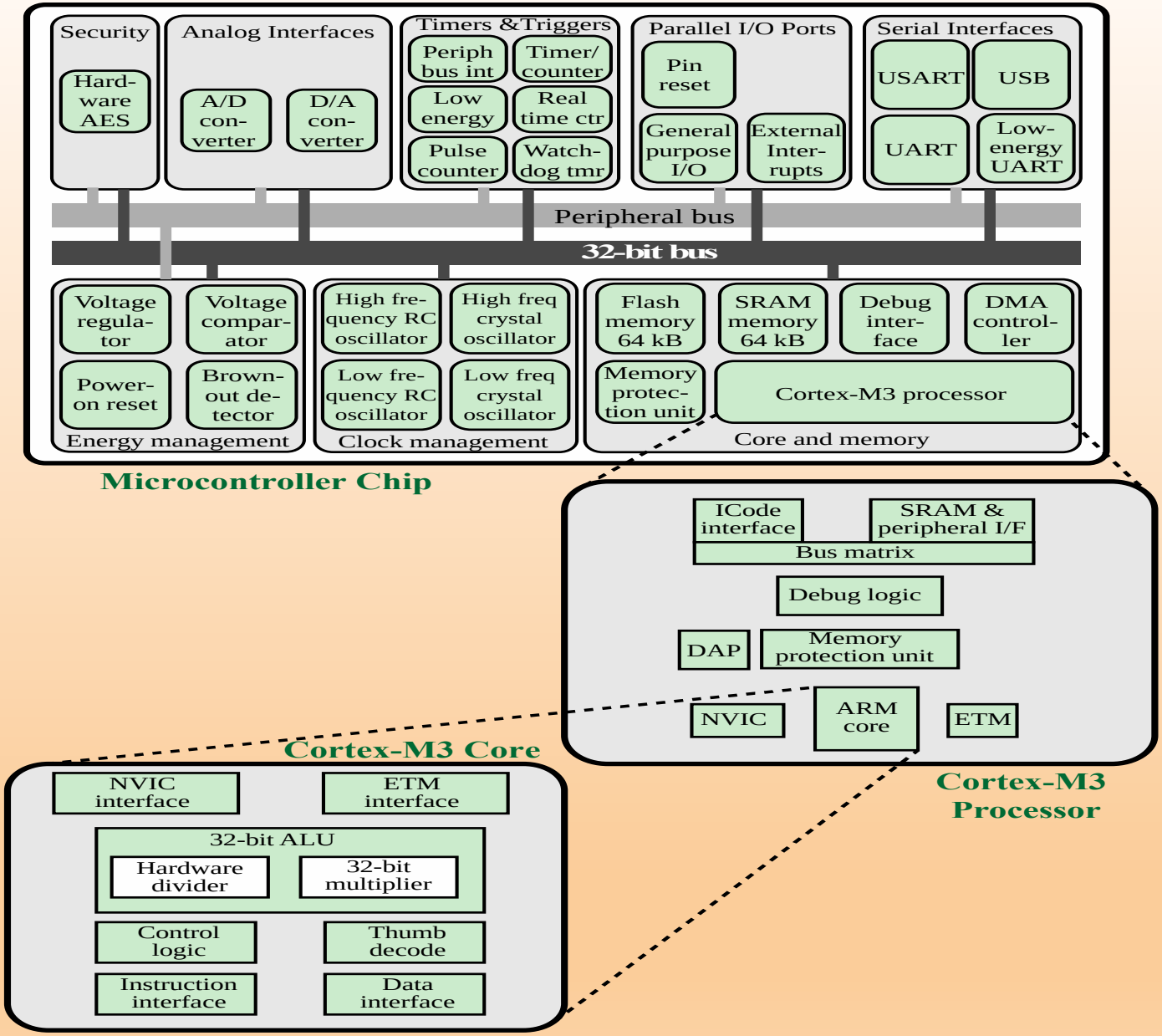

Figure 1.16 Typical Microcontroller Chip Based on Cortex-M3

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Cloud Computing

- NIST defines cloud computing as:

  > "A model for enabling ubiquitous, convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction."

- You get economies of scale, professional network management, and professional security management
- The individual or company only needs to pay for the storage capacity and services they need
- Cloud provider takes care of security

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Cloud Networking

- Refers to the networks and network management functionality that must be in place to enable cloud computing
- One example is the provisioning of high-performance and/or high-reliability networking between the provider and subscriber
- The collection of network capabilities required to access a cloud, including making use of specialized services over the Internet, linking enterprise data center to a cloud, and using firewalls and other network security devices at critical points to enforce access security policies

Cloud Storage

- Subset of cloud computing
- Consists of database storage and database applications hosted remotely on cloud servers
- Enables small businesses and individual users to take advantage of data storage that scales with their needs and to take advantage of a variety of database applications without having to buy, maintain, and manage the storage assets

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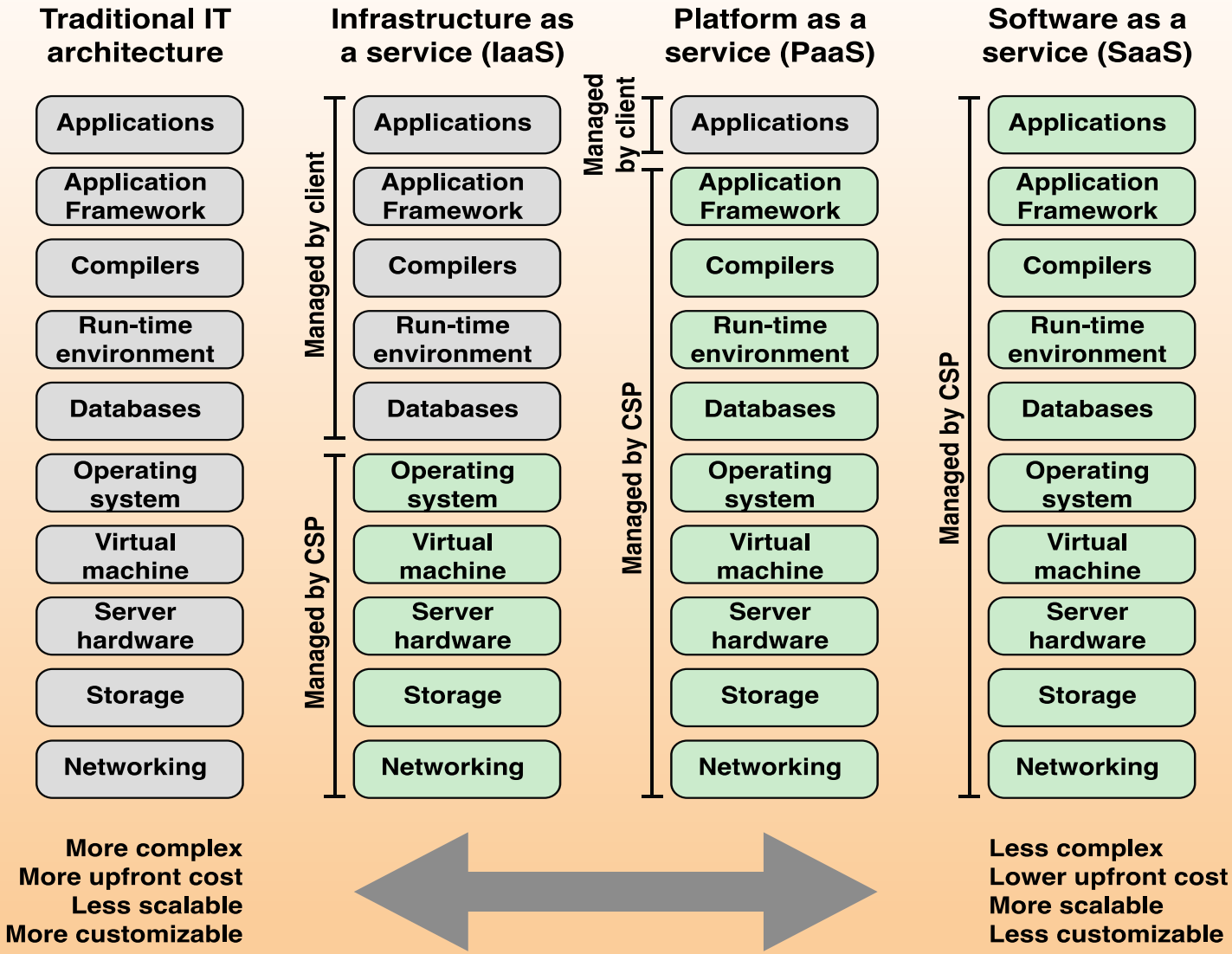

Figure 1.17 Alternative Information Technology Architectures

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Summary

Chapter 1

Basic Concepts and Computer Evolution

- Organization and architecture
- Structure and function
- Brief history of computers
  - The First Generation: Vacuum tubes
  - The Second Generation: Transistors
  - The Third Generation: Integrated Circuits
  - Later generations
- The evolution of the Intel x86 architecture
- Cloud computing
  - Basic concepts
  - Cloud services
- Embedded systems
  - The Internet of things
  - Embedded operating systems
  - Application processors versus dedicated processors
  - Microprocessors versus microcontrollers
  - Embedded versus deeply embedded systems
- ARM architecture
  - ARM evolution
  - Instruction set architecture
  - ARM products

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