



Introduction to Electrical and Computer Engineering

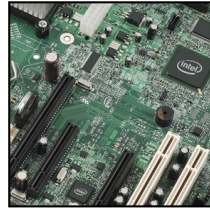
Christopher Batten

Associate Professor
School of Electrical
and Computer Engineering
Cornell University

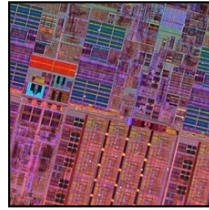
ENGRG 1050 Seminar
August 2022



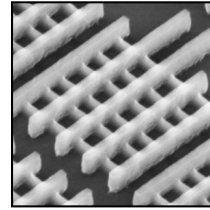
Power Systems



Computer Engineering



Electrical Circuits



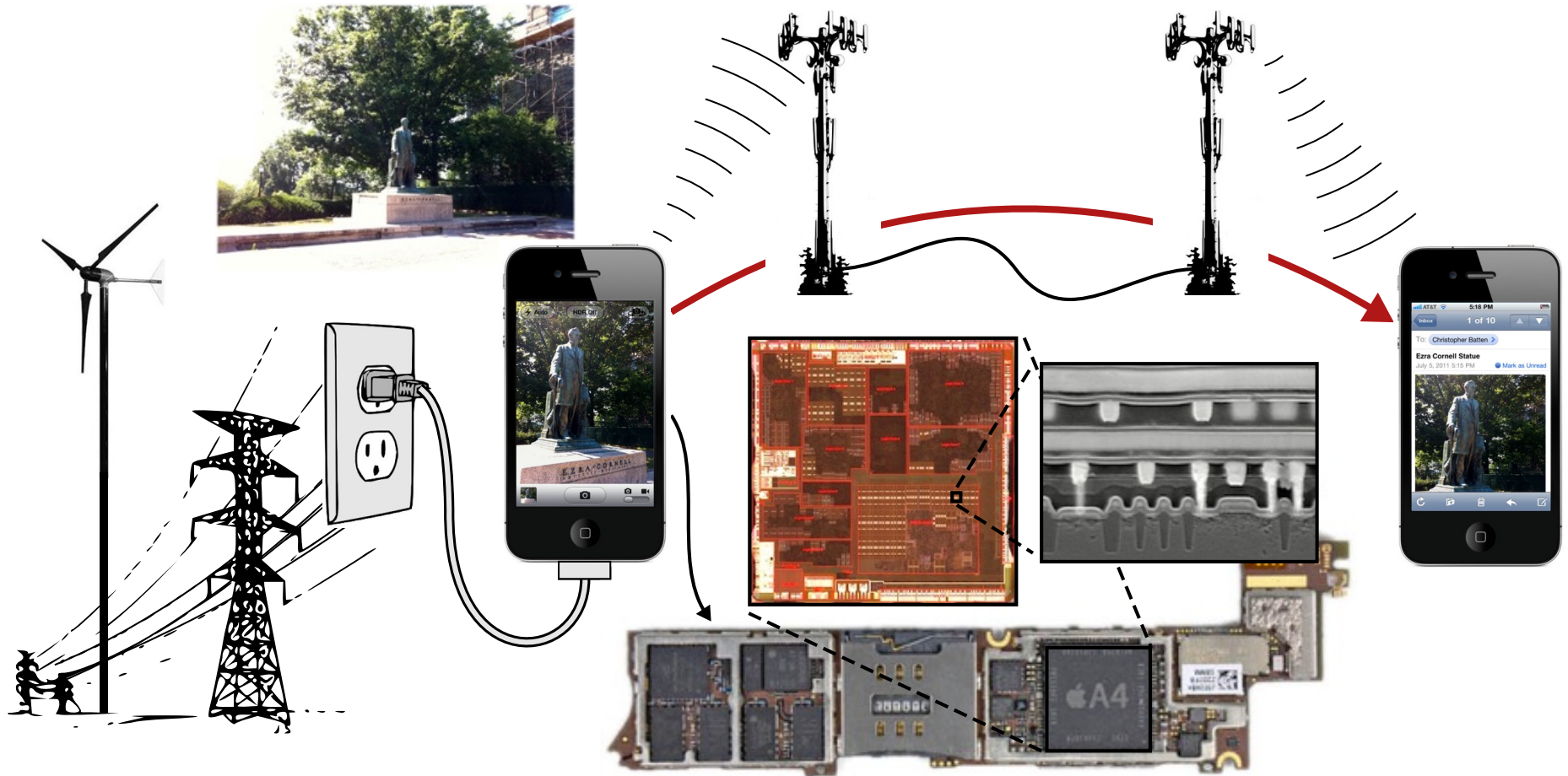
Electrical Devices



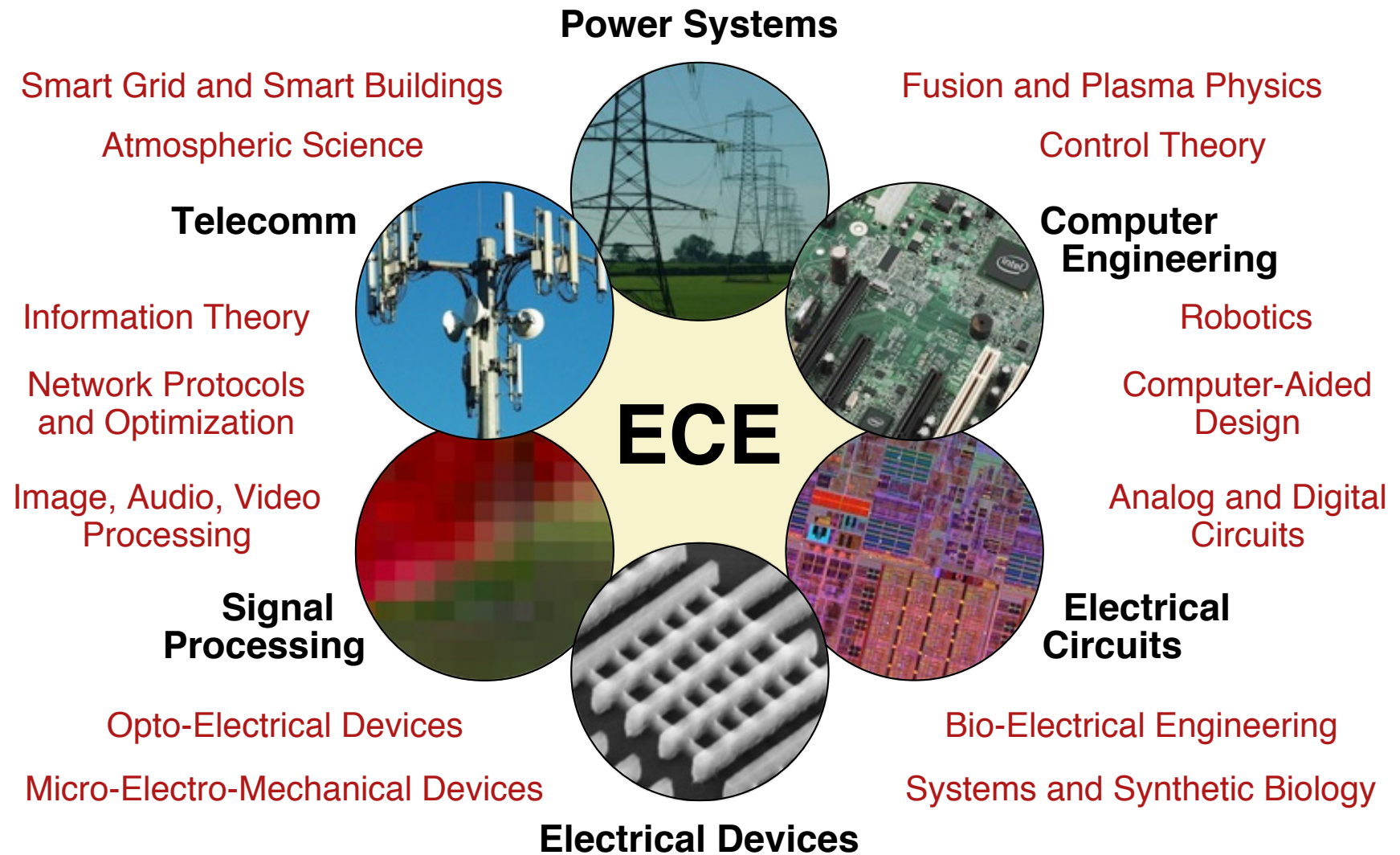
Signal Processing



Telecomm



ECE is the Study and Application of Electricity, Micro-Electronics, and Electro-Magnetism



ECE is everywhere!



What can one do with a background in ECE?

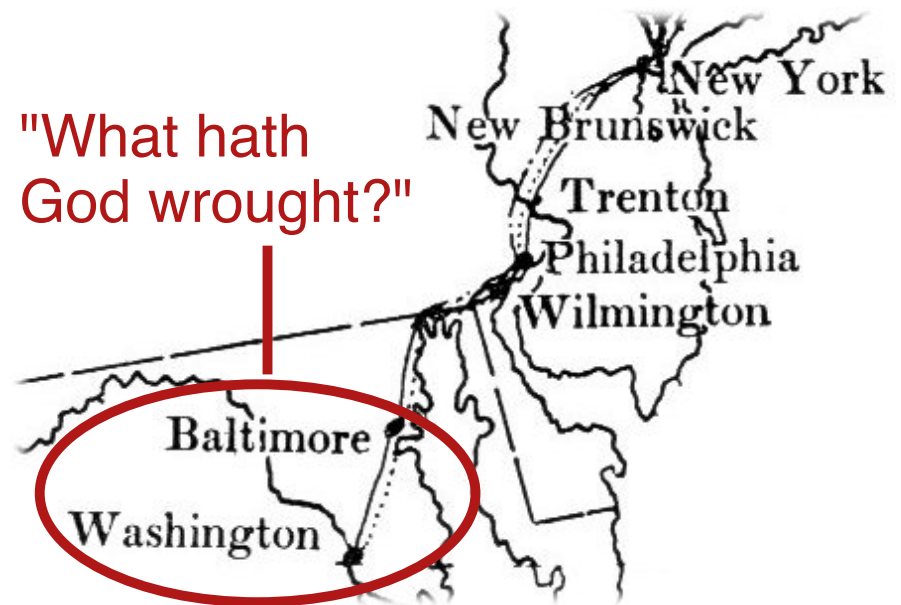
- ▶ **ECE Industry:** Intel, AMD, Analog Devices, NVIDIA, HP, Apple
- ▶ **General Engineering Industry:** GE, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon
- ▶ **Software Industry:** Microsoft, Facebook, Google, Amazon
- ▶ **Join a Startup:** Achronix, Hillcrest Labs
- ▶ **Research Lab:** Sandia National Labs, Draper Labs, NASA
- ▶ **Consulting:** McKinsey, Accenture, Deloitte, Booz Allen Hamilton
- ▶ **Finance:** Deutsche Bank, Capital One, UBS, Bloomberg
- ▶ **Graduate School:** Law School, Business School, Med School
- ▶ **Found a university!**

Cornell was founded because of ECE!

Samuel Morse invented the telegraph (a digital communication device), but needed help building the network



Ezra Cornell built the first telegraph line (the beginning of telecommunications), and invested in the Western Union Telegraph Co



Ezra Cornell's investments created the fortune that eventually enabled the founding of Cornell University

“Optional Homework”



- ▶ Visit the statue of Ezra Cornell on the Arts Quad
- ▶ Does something on the back of the statue relate to ECE?
- ▶ Take a picture with your cellphone and send it to your friend!
 - ▷ Power systems
 - ▷ Computer engineering
 - ▷ Electrical circuits
 - ▷ Electrical devices
 - ▷ Signal processing
 - ▷ Telecommunications

Computer Engineering

Power Systems

Smart Grid and Smart Buildings

Atmospheric Science

Fusion and Plasma Physics

Control Theory

Telecomm

Information Theory

Network Protocols
and Optimization

Image, Audio, Video
Processing

Signal Processing

Opto-Electrical Devices

Micro-Electro-Mechanical Devices

Electrical Devices

Computer Engineering

Robotics

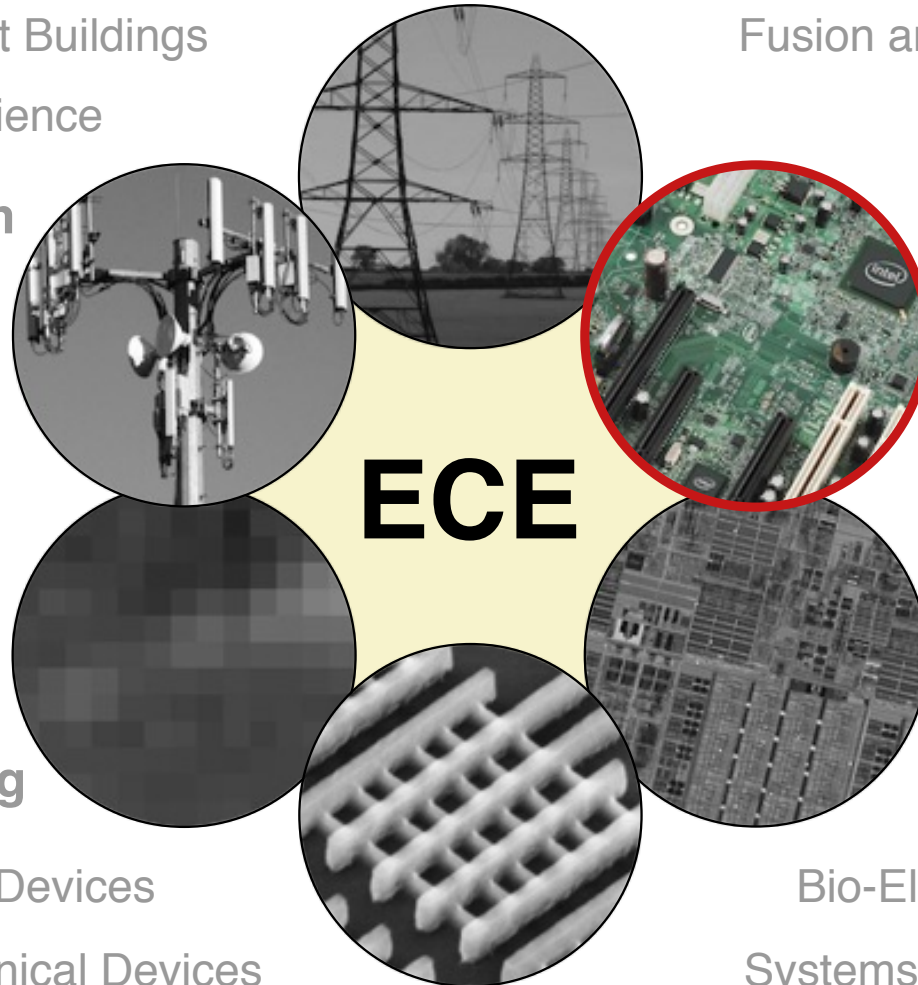
Computer-Aided
Design

Analog and Digital
Circuits

Electrical Circuits

Bio-Electrical Engineering

Systems and Synthetic Biology



The Computer Systems Stack

Application

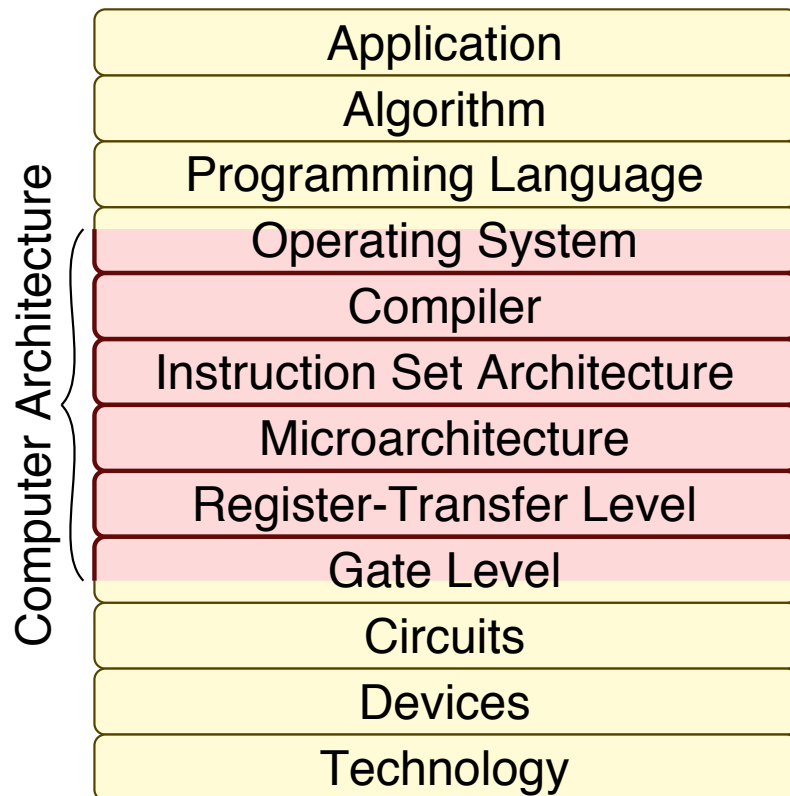


Gap too large to bridge in one step
(but there are exceptions,
e.g., a magnetic compass)



Technology

The Computer Systems Stack



Sort an array of numbers

2,6,3,8,4,5 -> 2,3,4,5,6,8

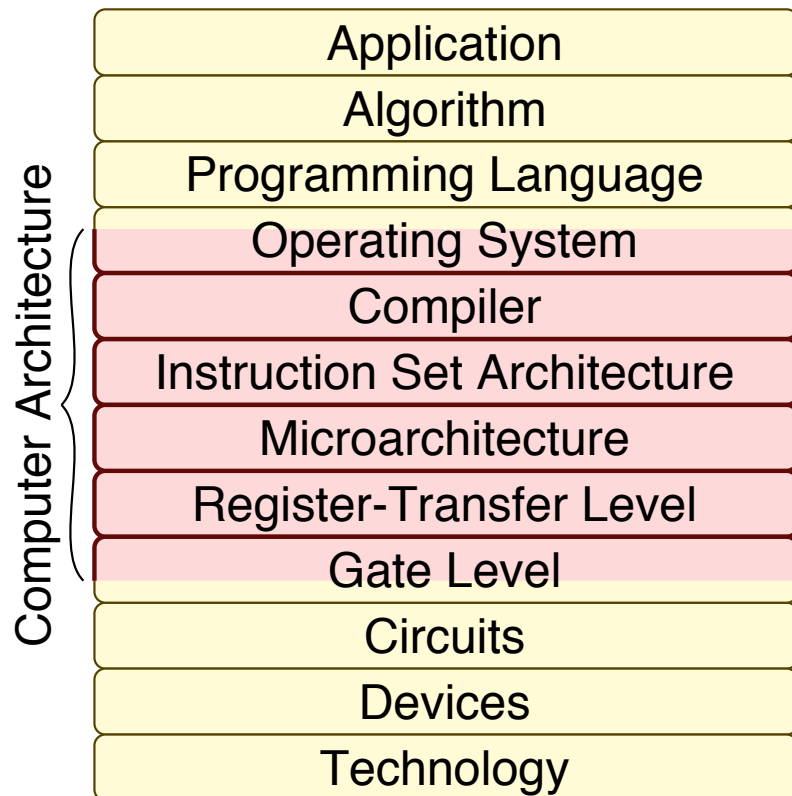
Out-of-place selection sort algorithm

1. Find minimum number in array
2. Move minimum number into output array
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 until finished

C implementation of selection sort

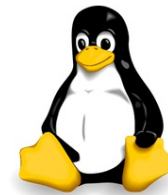
```
void sort( int* b, int* a, int n ) {
    for ( int idx, k = 0; k < n; k++ ) {
        int min = 100;
        for ( int i = 0; i < n; i++ ) {
            if ( a[i] < min ) {
                min = a[i];
                idx = i;
            }
        }
        b[k] = min;
        a[idx] = 100;
    }
}
```

The Computer Systems Stack



Mac OS X, Windows, Linux

Handles low-level hardware management



C Compiler

Transform programs into assembly

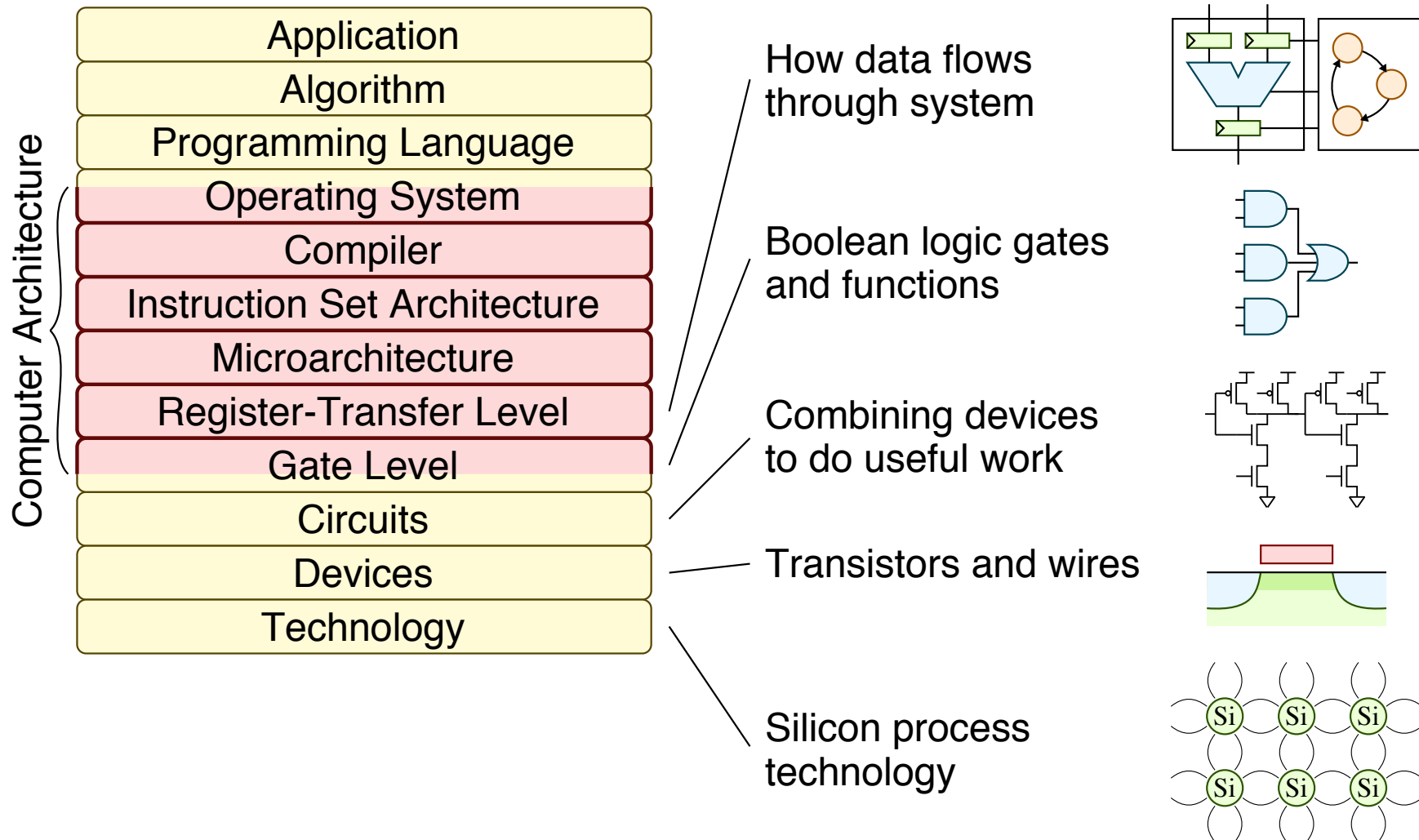
```
int a = b + c;
A[i] = a;           →      add r1, r2, r3
                        sw   r1, 0(r4)
```

RISC-V Instruction Set

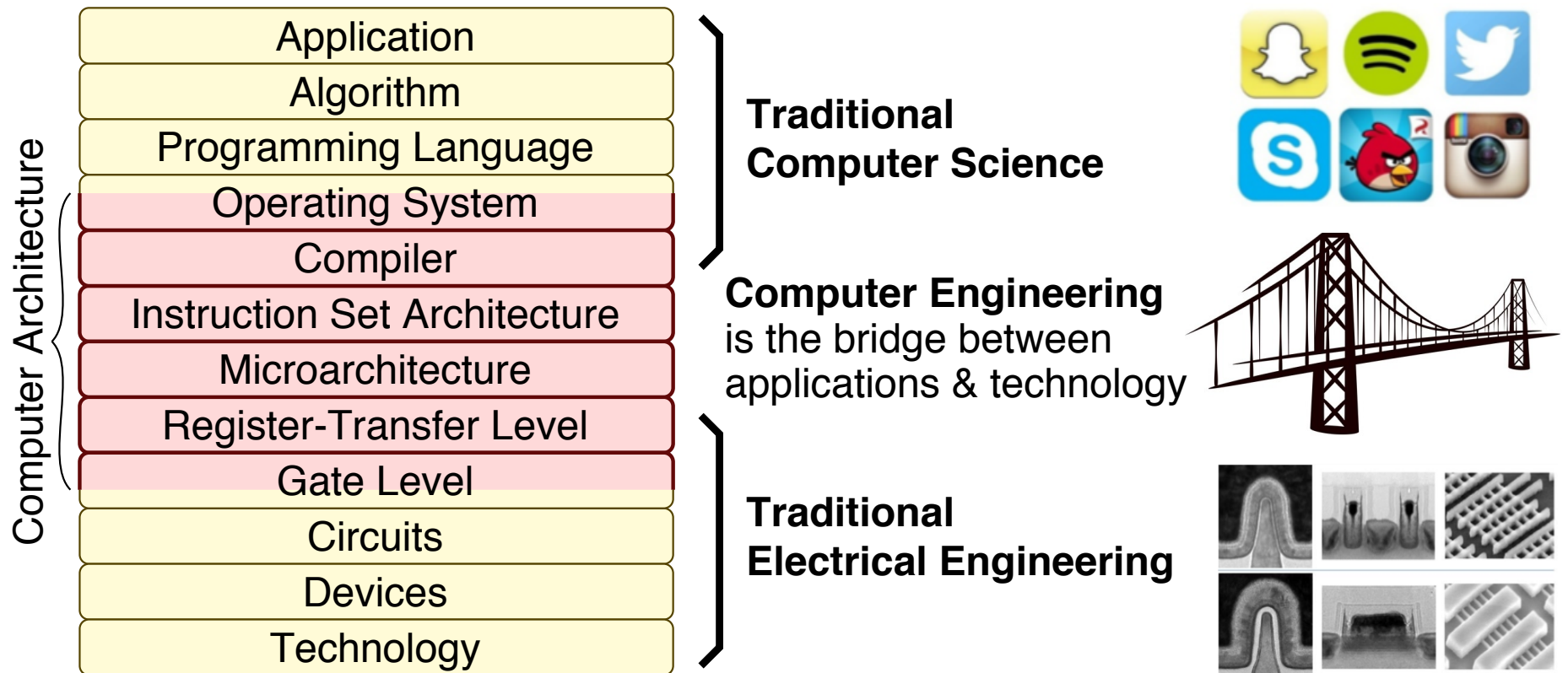
Instructions that machine executes

```
blez r2, done
addi r7, r0, 0
addi r1, r0, 99
addi r4, r1, 0
addi r3, r0, 99
lw   r5, 0(r4)
```

The Computer Systems Stack



Computer Systems: CS vs. EE vs. CE



In its broadest definition, computer engineering is the **development of the abstraction/implementation layers** that allow us to execute information processing **applications** efficiently using available manufacturing **technologies**

Application

Algorithm

PL

OS

Compiler

ISA

μ Arch

RTL

Gates

Circuits

Devices

Technology

Agenda

What is Computer Engineering?

Trends in Computer Engineering

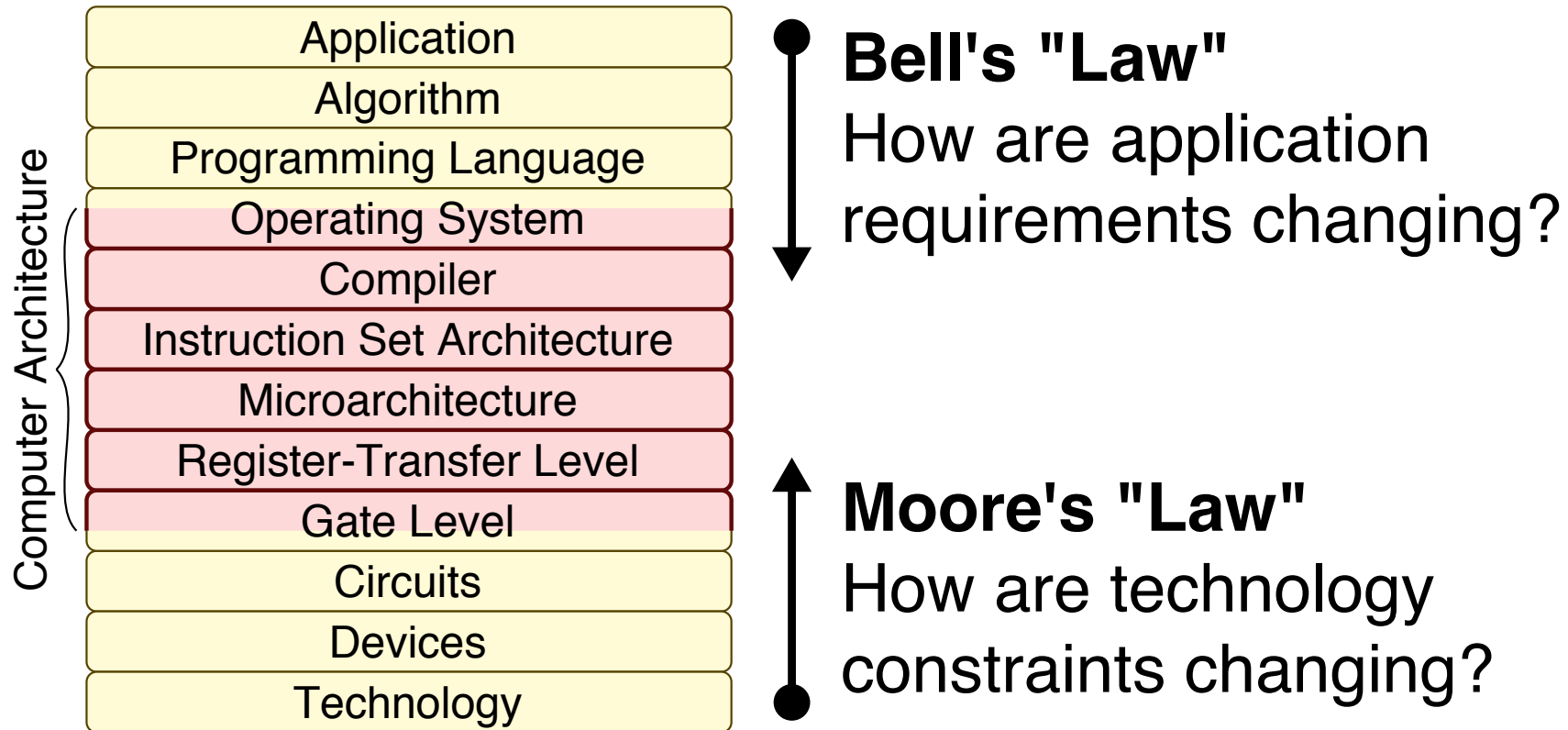
Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Trend #2: Moore's "Law"

Trend #3: The Specialization Era

Coursework in Computer Engineering

Trends in Computer Engineering



Gordon Bell's "Law" of Computer Classes

Effect of Technology on Near Term Computer Structures

Given certain components, hardware and software techniques, and user demands an accurate picture of computer development in the near future can be plotted.

by C. Gordon Bell,
Robert Chen
and Satish Rege

The development of computers has been influenced by three factors: the technology (i.e., the components from which we build); the hardware and software techniques we have learned to use; and the user (market). The improvements in technology seem to dominate in determining the possible resulting structures. Specifically, we can observe the evolution

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of four classes of computers:

1. The conventional medium and large-scale, general purpose computer (circa 1950). The price has remained relatively constant and the performance has increased, thereby increasing the effectiveness.
2. The minicomputer (circa 1965). The performance has been relatively constant, with only a factor of 10 increase from ~1960 to ~1970, and the price has decreased.
3. Very low cost, specialized digital systems, e.g., desk calculators (circa 1968). The basic technology cost has decreased to a price which makes mass production feasible.
4. New, very large structures based on a high degree of parallelism (circa 1971+). The packing density and the reliability of the technology has increased, thereby making large, parallel computer fabrication feasible. These highly specialized structures offer significant increase in the performance/cost ratio for certain, usually large problems.

The following sections will briefly discuss the evolution of computing structures in terms of the technology, and general techniques. Conventional computers and minicomputers will then be discussed as they represent two of the common computer structures. The next section will briefly

present desk calculators and other mass production digital systems, and the final section will outline several computers which utilize some form of parallel computation.

Historical Background

The first generation vacuum tube technology (circa 1945 ~ 1960) computers were built to perform long, tedious arithmetic calculations. Because of their relatively poor cost/performance and high cost they were used mainly for calculations which would otherwise be impossible (e.g., in ballistic calculations). During this early period the standard of comparisons was desk calculator man years.

By the second generation, with transistor and better random access memory technology (circa 1960), the cost/performance had significantly improved. This made current computer applications (e.g., business and university computing) more feasible. The development of FORTRAN and other higher level languages also broadened the user base and provided demand for more computing power. User demands began to reach and overtake technology, and new techniques had to be adopted to raise performance levels beyond what the device technology provided. This led to concurrent use of input/output with program execution, which in turn led to more general multi-programming.

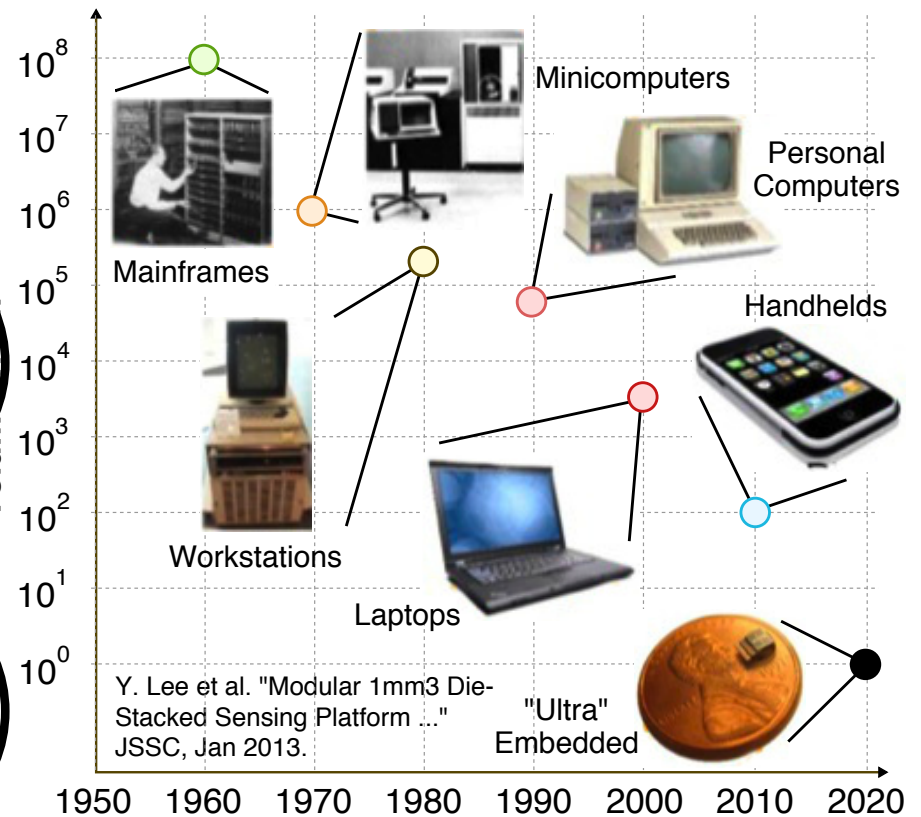
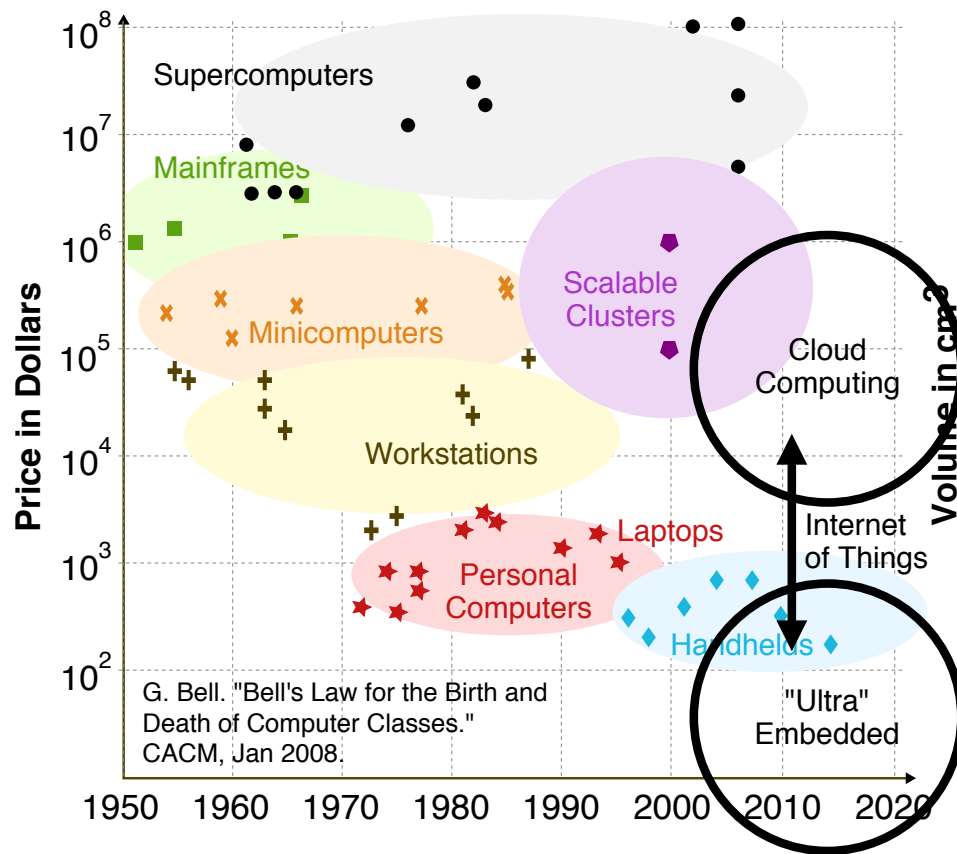
COMPUTER/MARCH/APRIL 1972/29



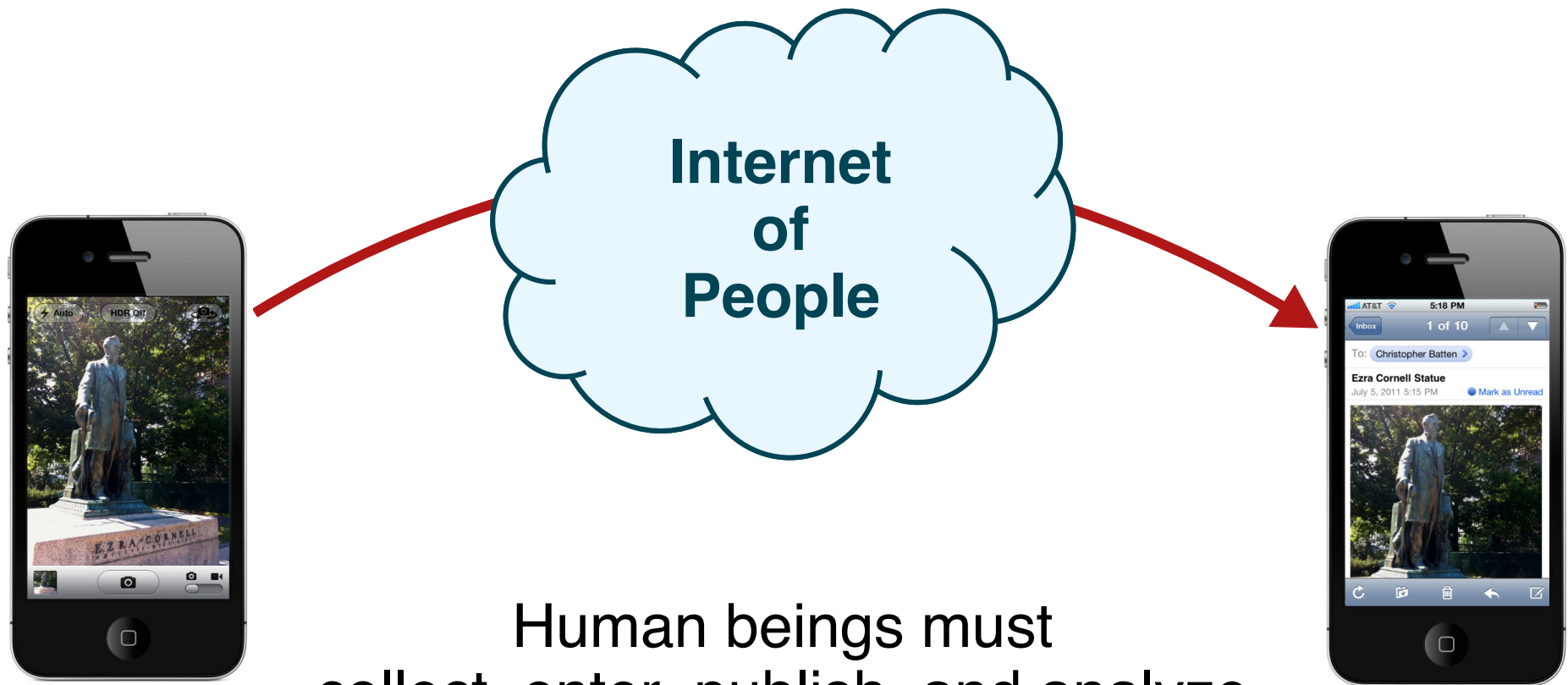
- ▶ Vice-President of Engineering at Digital Equipment Corporation
- ▶ Helped found Microsoft Research
- ▶ 1972 paper in IEEE Computer

Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Roughly every decade a new, smaller, lower priced computer class forms based on a new programming platform resulting in entire new industries

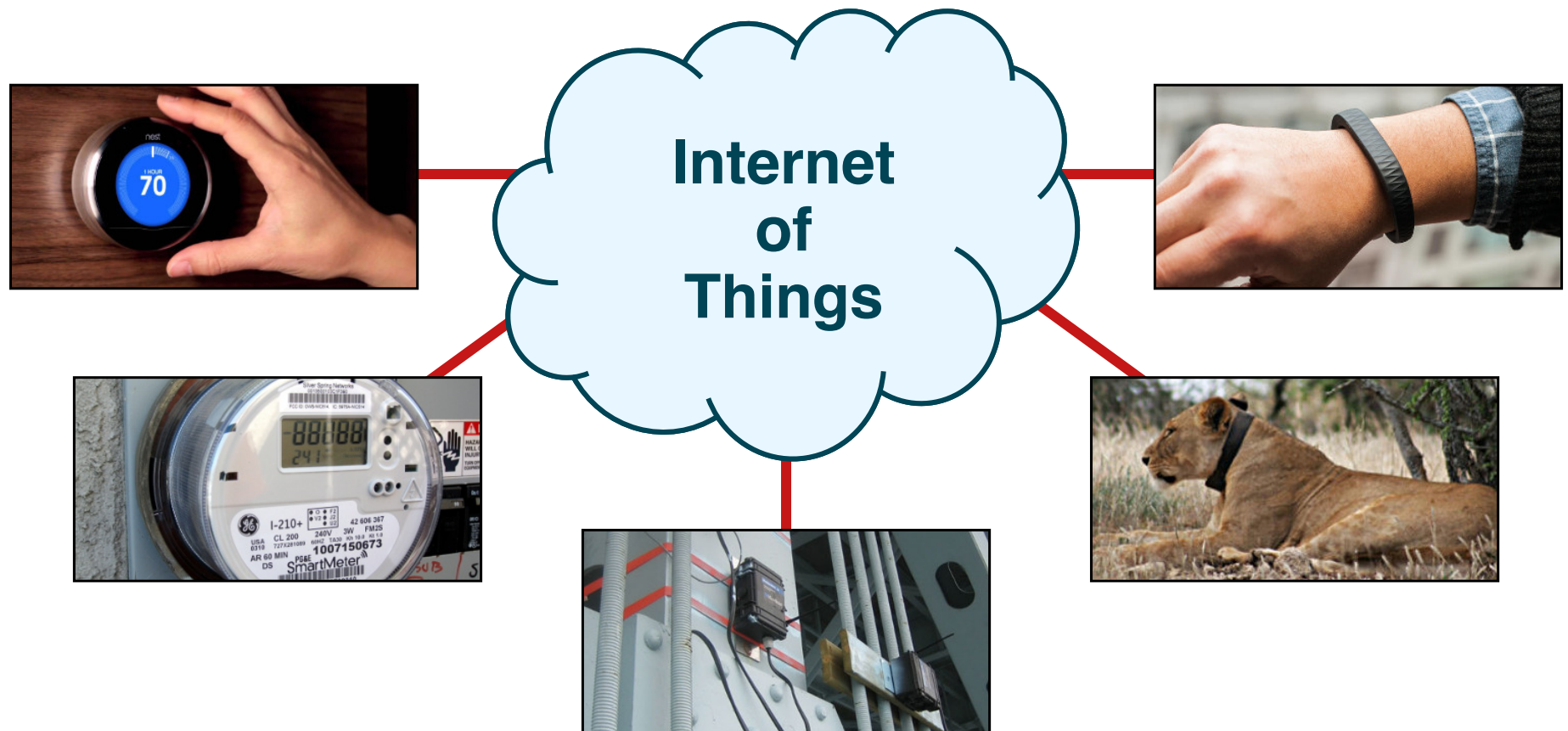


The “Traditional” Internet



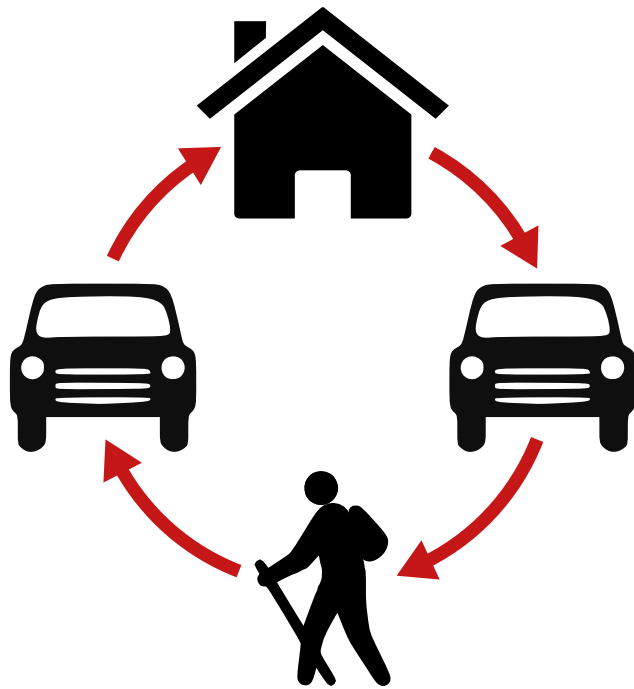
Human beings must collect, enter, publish, and analyze almost all of the information that is transmitted over the Internet

Emerging Trend Towards an Internet of Things

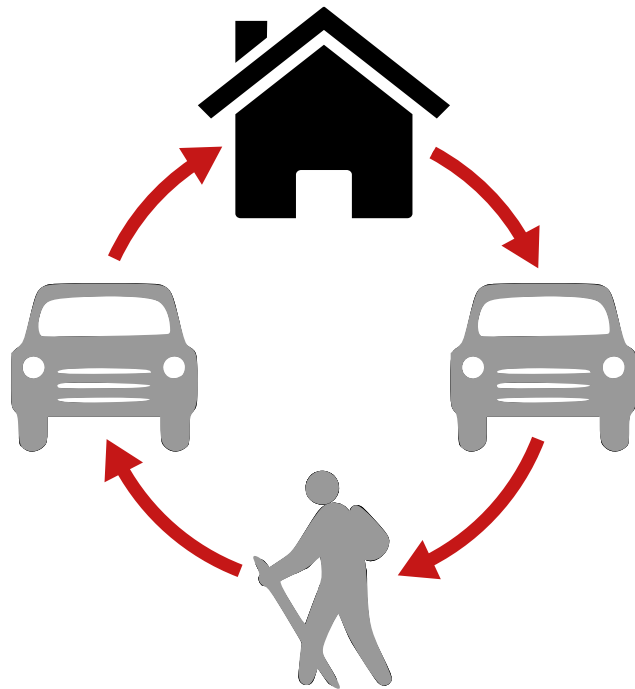


Interconnected "things" augmented with inexpensive embedded controllers, sensors, actuators to collect information and interact with the world

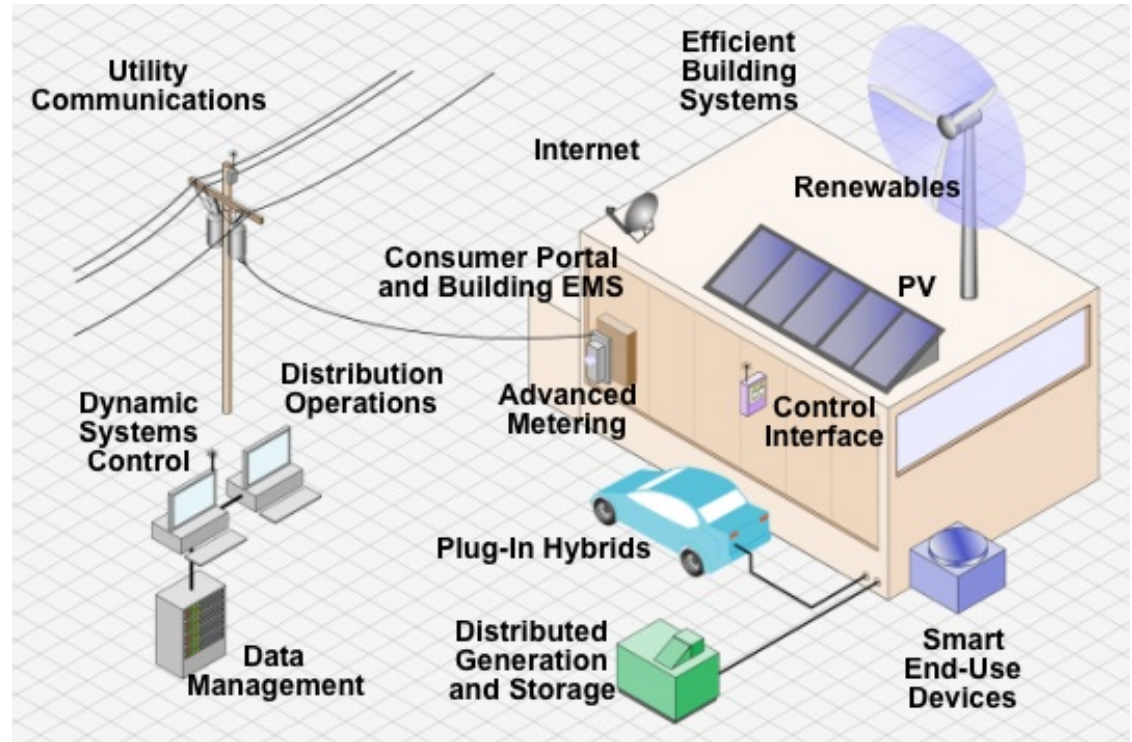
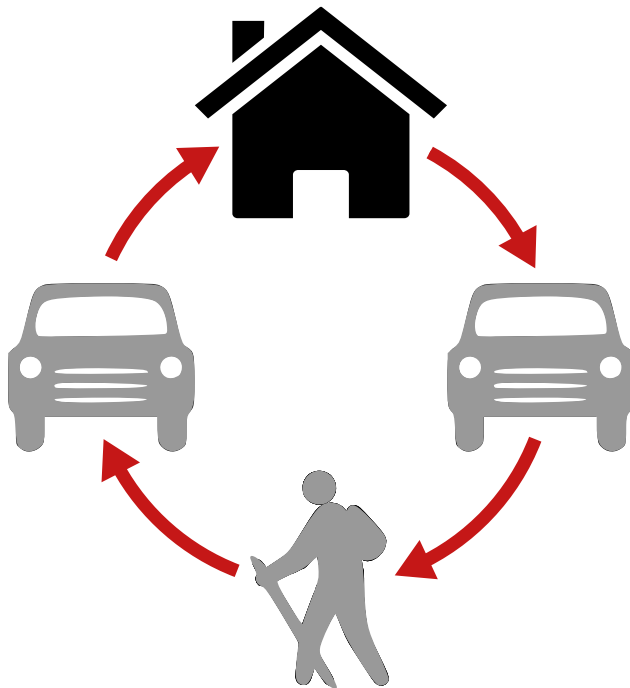
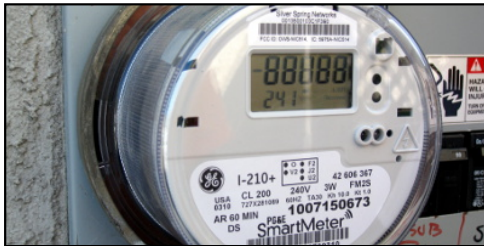
IoT Example: Spending the Day Hiking



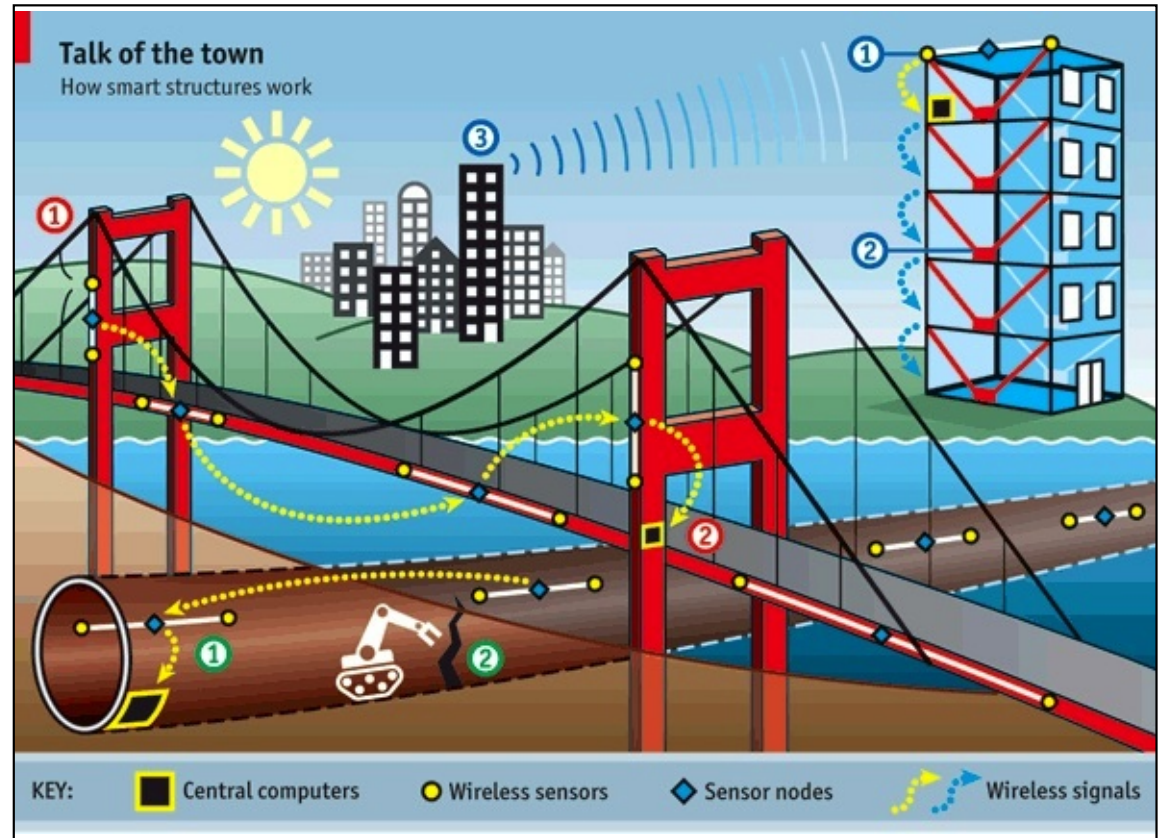
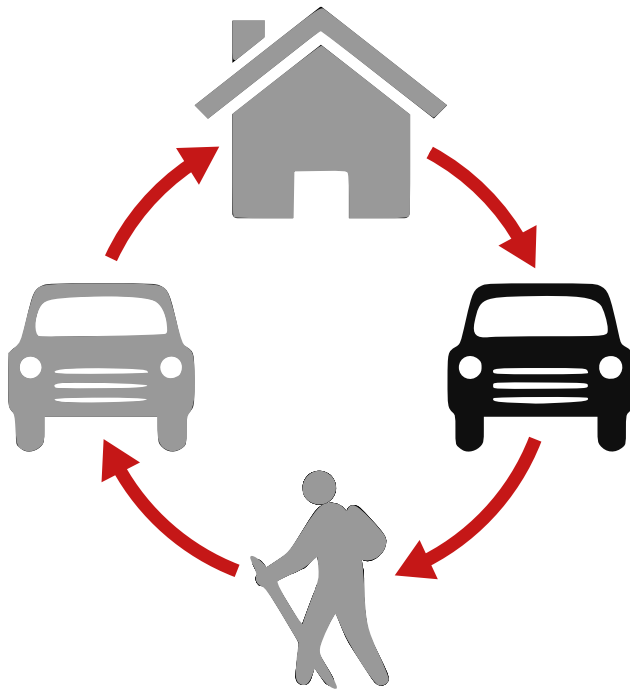
IoT Smart Home



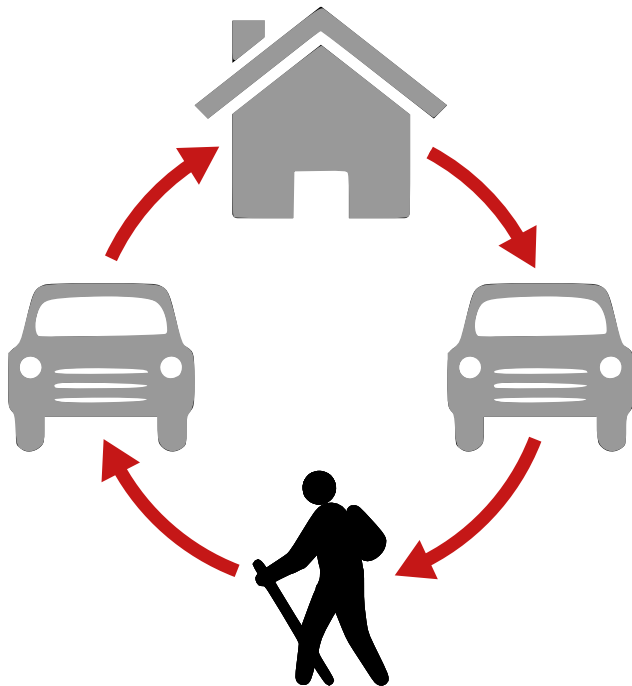
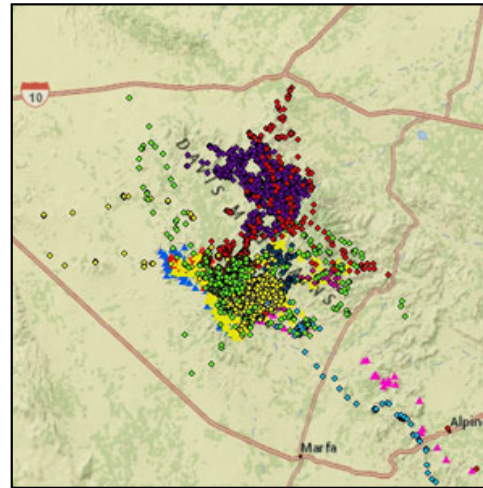
IoT Smart Power Distribution Grid



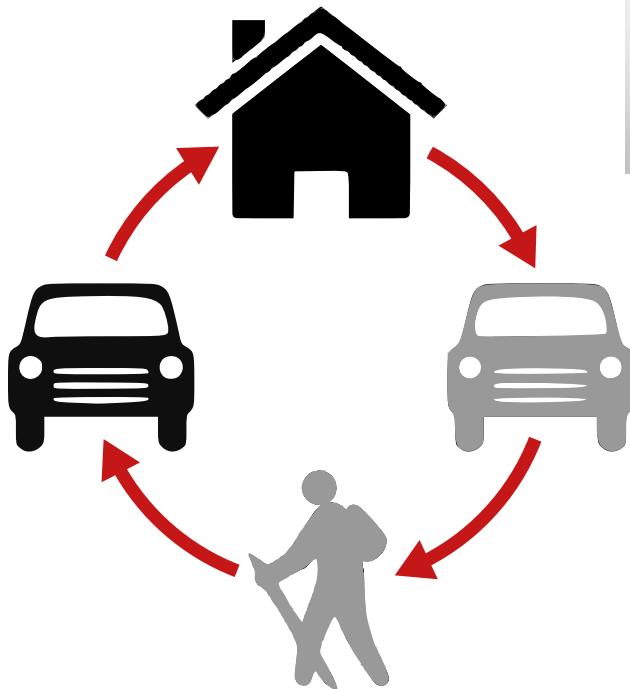
IoT Early Disaster Warning System



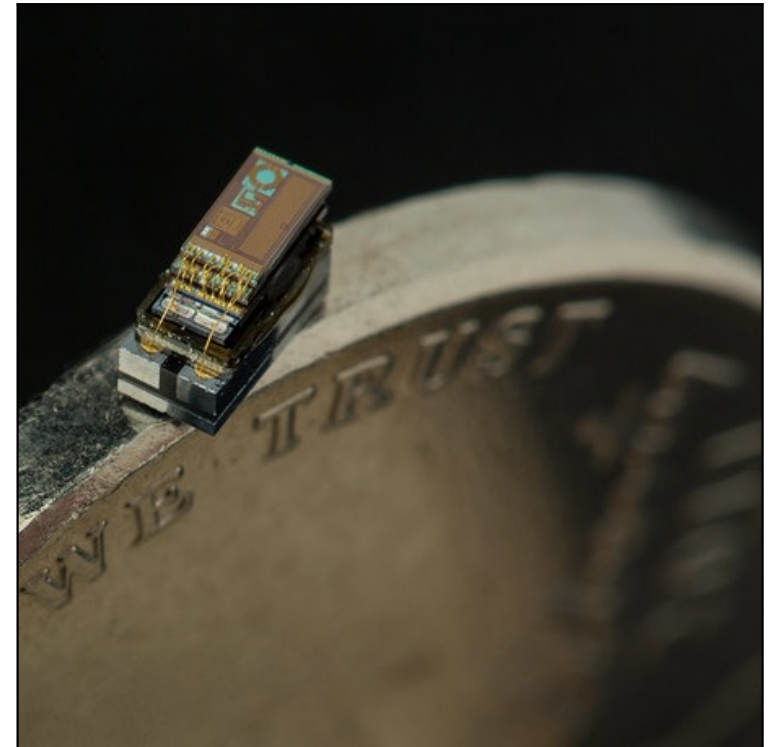
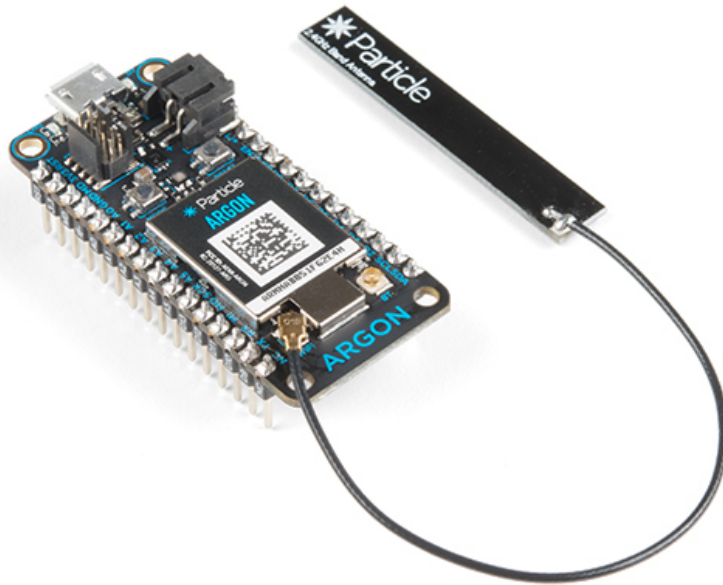
IoT Wildlife Tracking System



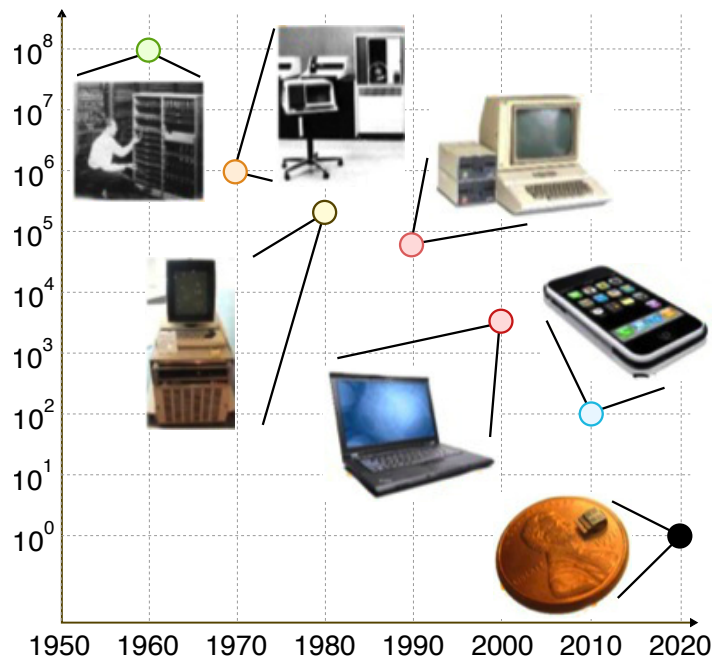
IoT Wearable Health Monitor



Activity #1: IoT Applications



- ▶ **Work in Pairs to Brainstorm Two Applications**
 - ▷ An application that could use the Particle Argon
 - ▷ An application that could use the Michigan Micro Mote



Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Bell's "Law" predicts an **Internet-of-Things**, and IoT cloud and embedded devices are increasingly demanding **more performance** and **better efficiency**

Gordon Moore's "Law" of Technology Scaling

The experts look ahead

Cramming more components onto integrated circuits

With unit cost falling as the number of components per circuit rises, by 1975 economics may dictate squeezing as many as 65,000 components on a single silicon chip

By Gordon E. Moore

Director, Research and Development Laboratories, Fairchild Semiconductor division of Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp.

The future of integrated electronics is the future of electronics itself. The advantages of integration will bring about a proliferation of electronics, pushing this science into many new areas.

Integrated circuits will lead to such wonders as home computers—or at least terminals connected to a central computer—automatic controls for automobiles, and personal portable communications equipment. The electronic wrist-watch needs only a display to be feasible today.

But the biggest potential lies in the production of large systems. In telephone communications, integrated circuits in digital filters will separate channels on multiplex equipment. Integrated circuits will also switch telephone circuits and perform data processing.

Computers will be more powerful, and will be organized in completely different ways. For example, memories built of integrated electronics may be distributed throughout the

machine instead of being concentrated in a central unit. In addition, the improved reliability made possible by integrated circuits will allow the construction of larger processing units. Machines similar to those in existence today will be built at lower costs and with faster turn-around.

Present and future

By integrated electronics, I mean all the various technologies which are referred to as microelectronics today as well as any additional ones that result in electronics functions supplied to the user as irreducible units. These technologies were first investigated in the late 1950's. The object was to miniaturize electronics equipment to include increasingly complex electronic functions in limited space with minimum weight. Several approaches evolved, including microassembly techniques for individual components, thin-film structures and semiconductor integrated circuits.

Each approach evolved rapidly and converged so that each borrowed techniques from another. Many researchers believe the way of the future to be a combination of the various approaches.

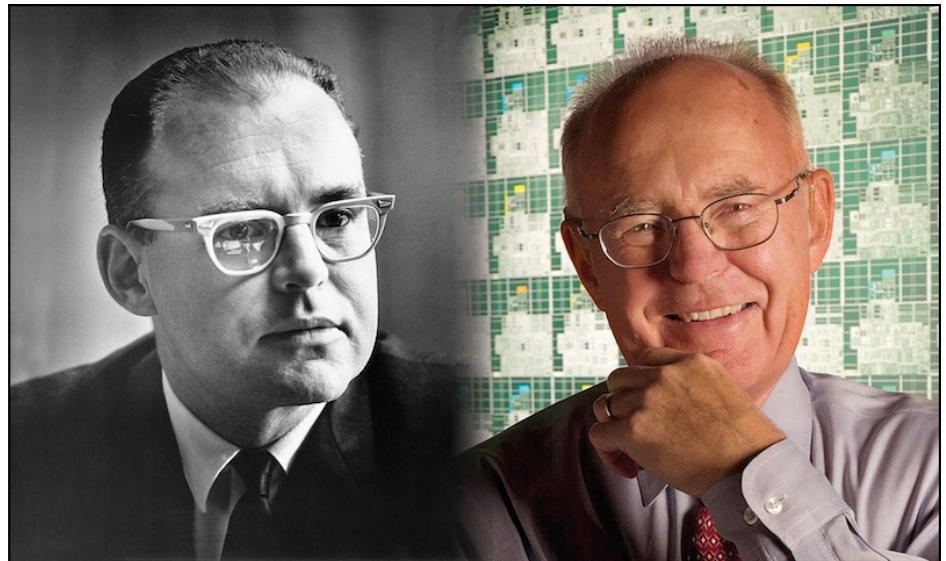
The advocates of semiconductor integrated circuitry are already using the improved characteristics of thin-film resistors by applying such films directly to an active semiconductor substrate. Those advocating a technology based upon films are developing sophisticated techniques for the attachment of active semiconductor devices to the passive film arrays.

Both approaches have worked well and are being used in equipment today.

The author

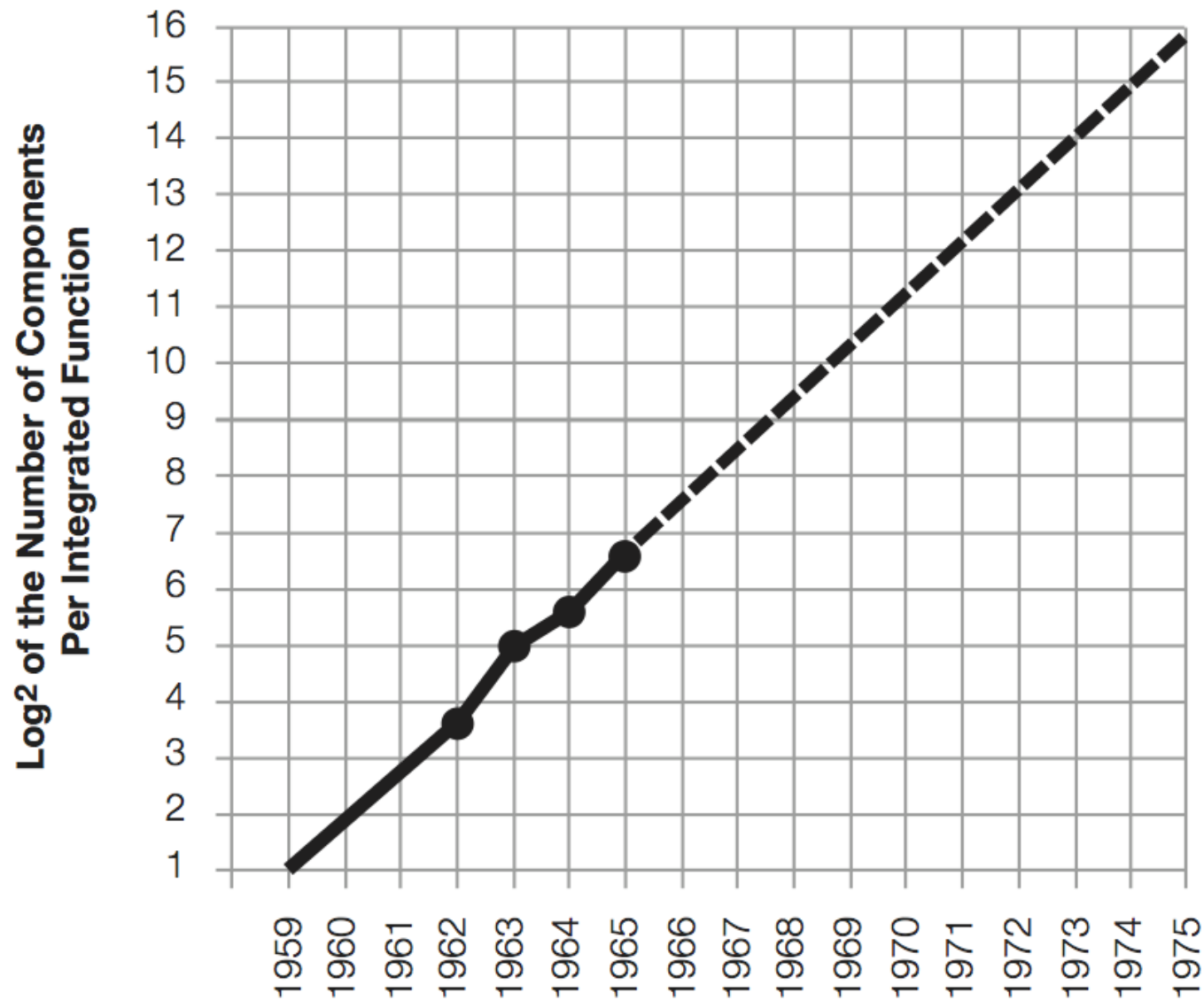
Dr. Gordon E. Moore is one of the new breed of electronic engineers, schooled in the physical sciences rather than in electronics. He earned a B.S. degree in chemistry from the University of California and a Ph.D. degree in physical chemistry from the California Institute of Technology. He was one of the founders of Fairchild Semiconductor and has been director of the research and development laboratories since 1959.

Electronics, Volume 38, Number 8, April 19, 1965

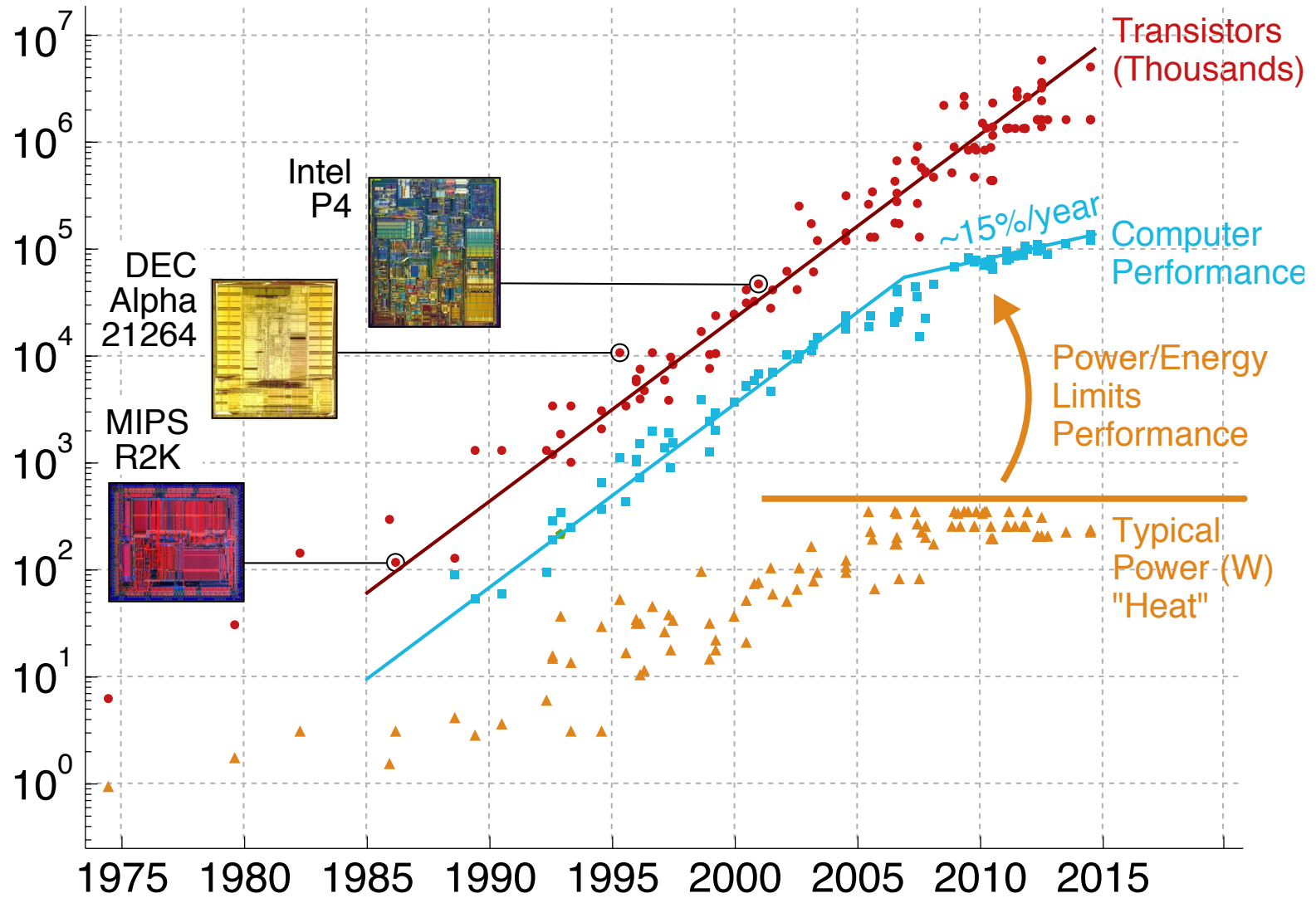


- ▶ Co-founder of Fairchild Semiconductor
- ▶ Co-founder of Intel Corp
- ▶ 1965 paper in Electronics Magazine

Gordon Moore's "Law" of Technology Scaling

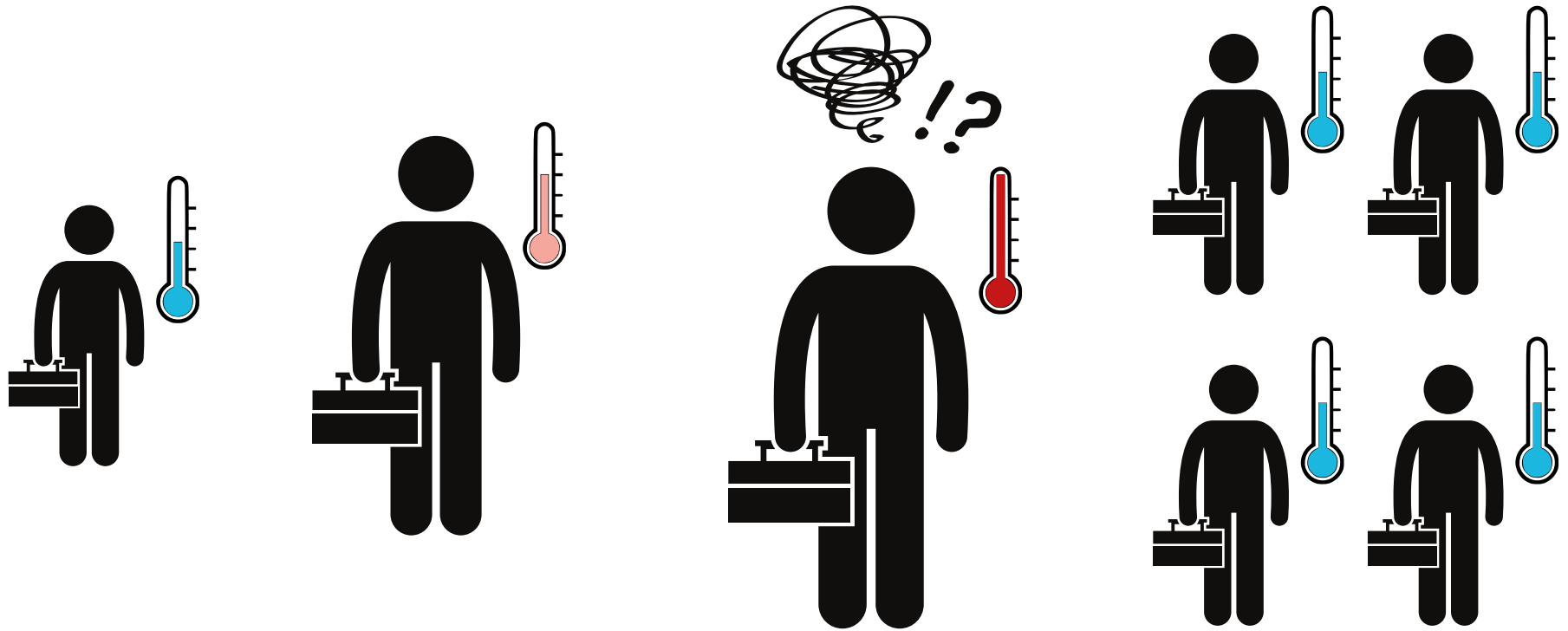


Trend #2: Moore's "Law"



Data collected by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, C. Batten

One way to address the power challenge



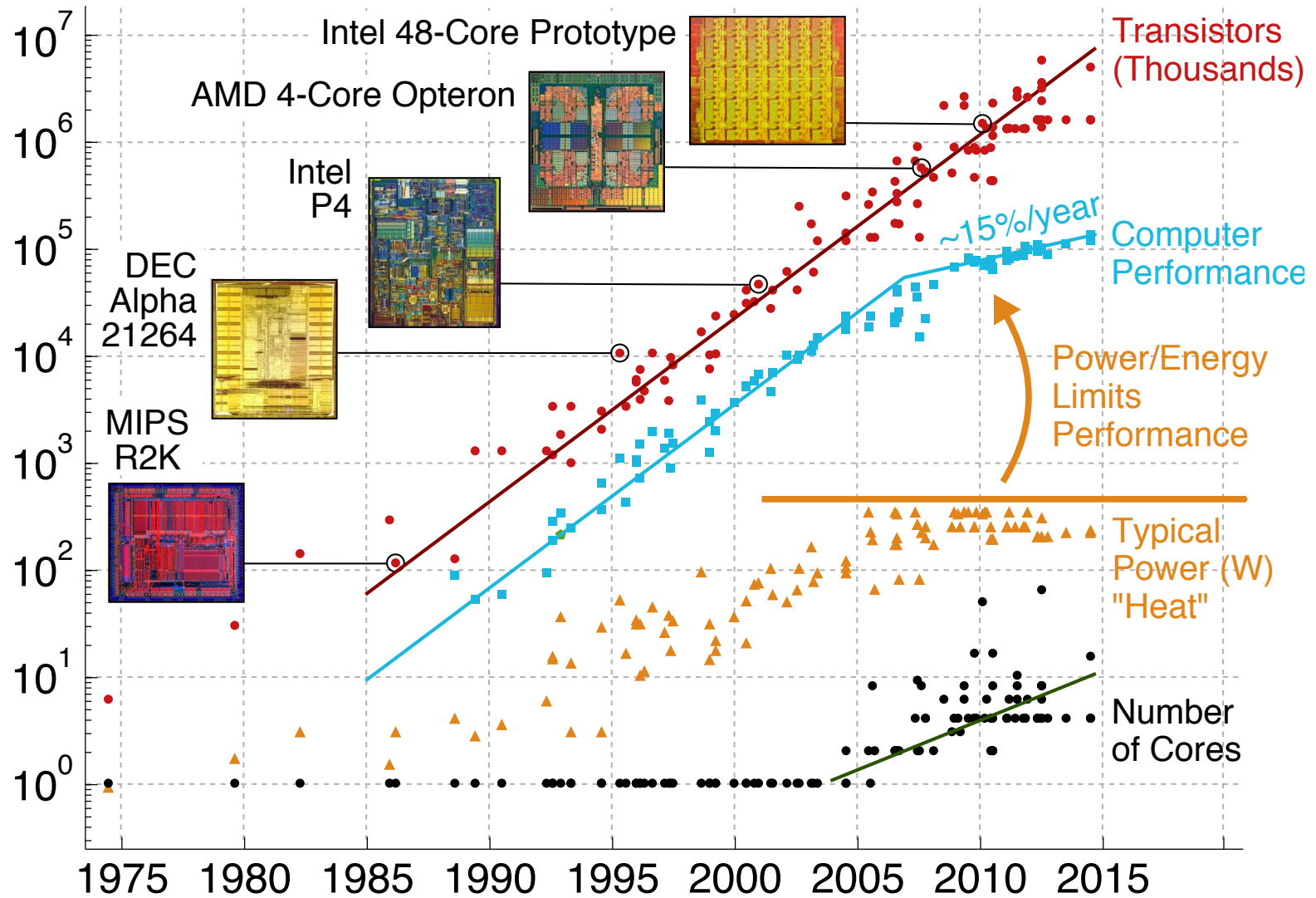
1980
single
simple
processor

1990

2000
single
complex
processor

2010
multiple
simple
processors

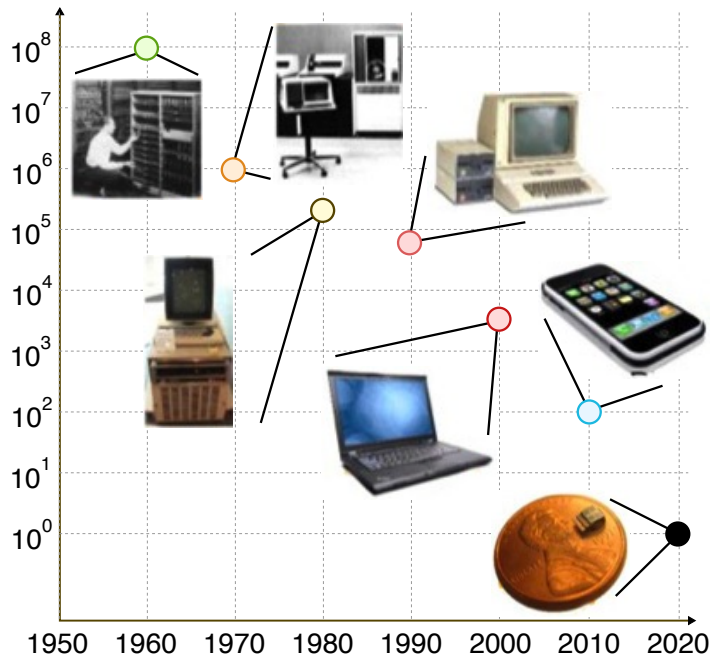
Transition to Multicore



Data collected by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, C. Batten

Activity #2: Sequential vs. Parallel Sorting

- ▶ **Application:** Sort 32 numbers
- ▶ **Simulated Computing System**
 - ▷ 1 student emulates a single-core processor
 - ▷ 4 students emulate a multi-core processor
- ▶ **Activity Steps**
 - ▷ 1. Discuss strategy with neighbors
 - ▷ 2. When instructor starts timer, flip over worksheet
 - ▷ 3. Sort 32 numbers as fast as possible
 - ▷ 4. Lookup when completed and write time on worksheet
 - ▷ 5. Raise hand for an instructor to take a look
 - ▷ 6. When everyone is finished, then analyze data

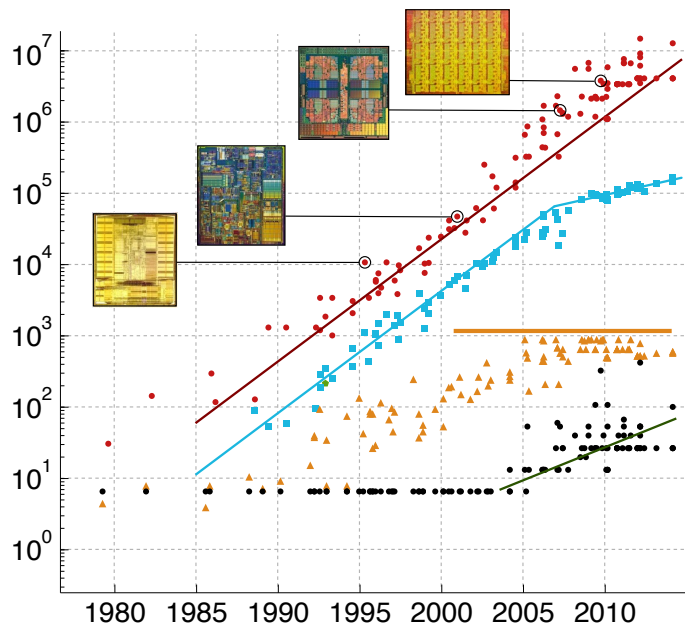


Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Bell's "Law" predicts an **Internet-of-Things**, and IoT cloud and embedded devices are increasingly demanding **more performance** and **better efficiency**

Trend #2: Moore's "Law"

Moore's "Law" predicts an **exponential** increasing number of transistors per chip, but **power limitations** have motivated a move to **multicore processors**



Unfortunately, multicore processors are not enough. What else can we do to use more transistors to meet the needs of IoT devices?

Application

Algorithm

PL

OS

Compiler

ISA

μ Arch

RTL

Gates

Circuits

Devices

Technology

Agenda

What is Computer Engineering?

Trends in Computer Engineering

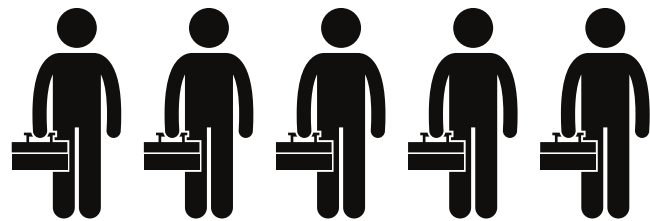
Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Trend #2: Moore's "Law"

Trend #3: The Specialization Era

Coursework in Computer Engineering

General Purpose



Specialized



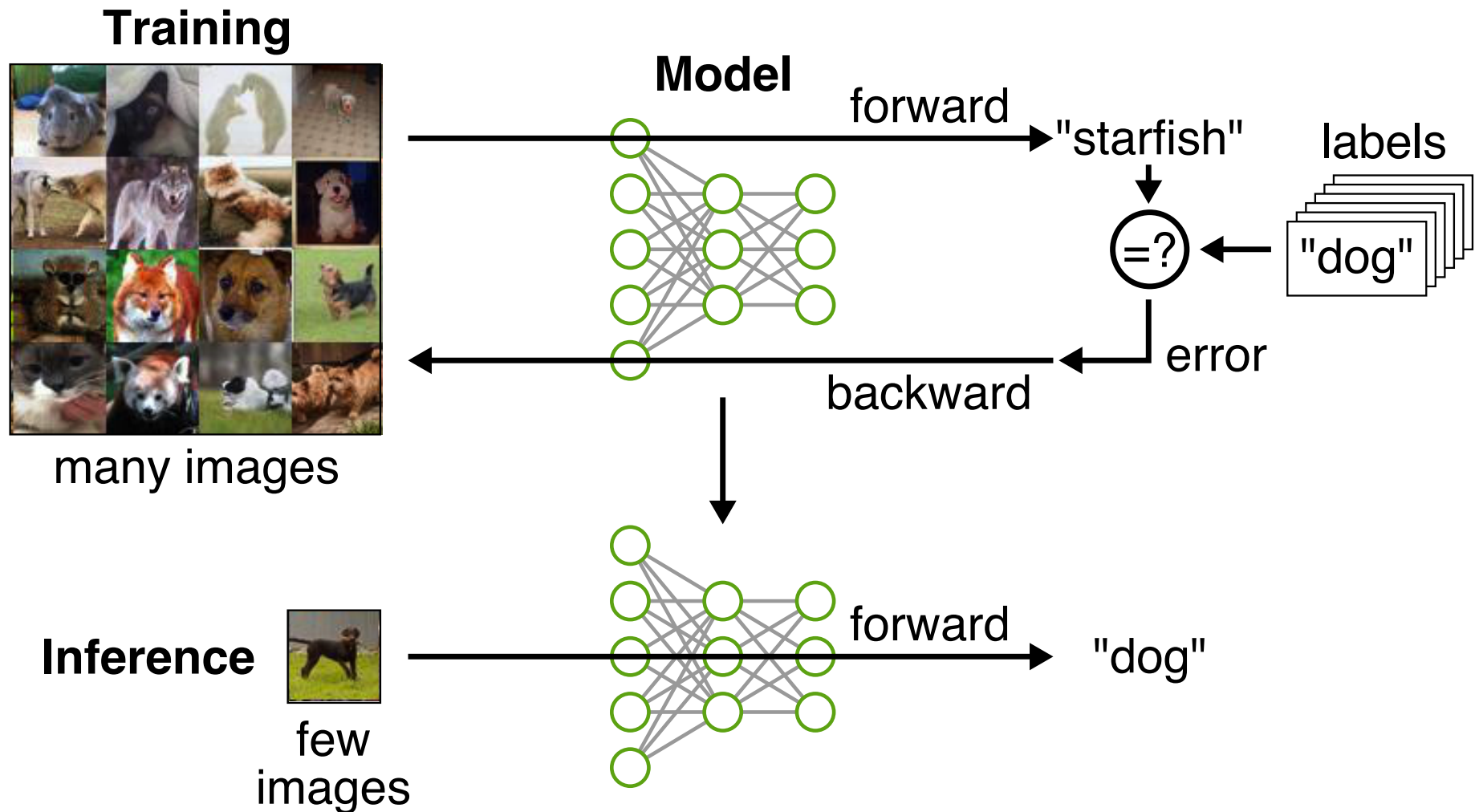
Example Application Domain: Image Recognition



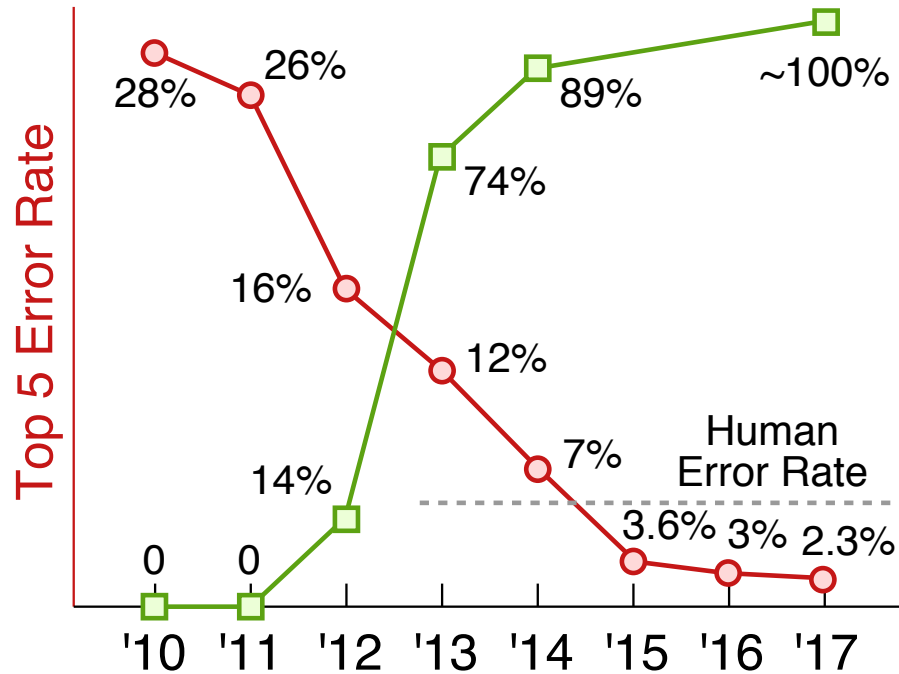
Starfish

Dog

Machine Learning: Training vs. Inference



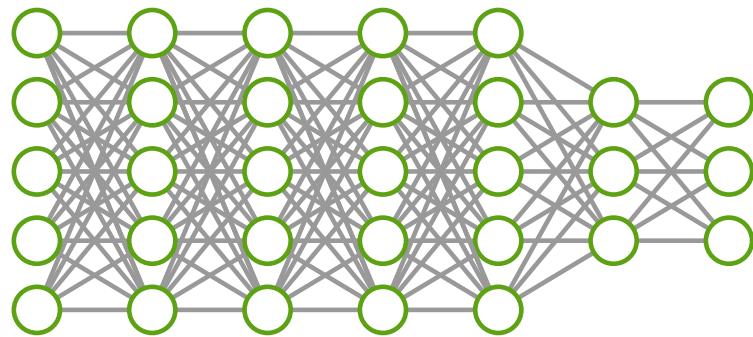
ImageNet Large-Scale Visual Recognition Challenge



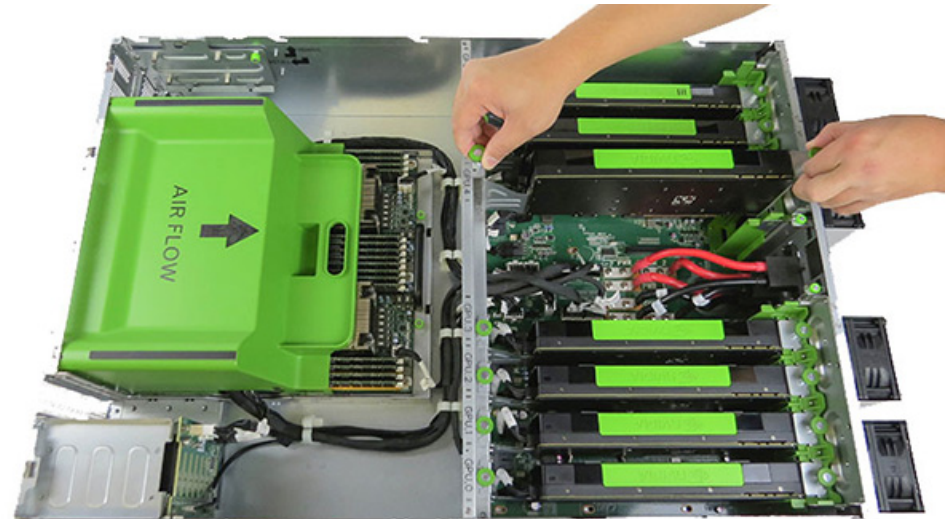
Entries Using GPUs



Hardware: Graphics Processing Units

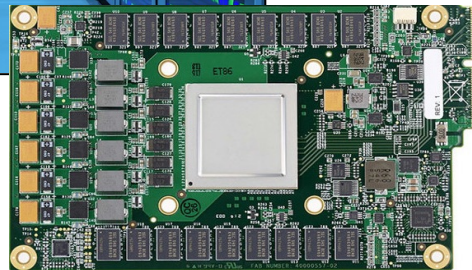


Software: Deep Neural Network



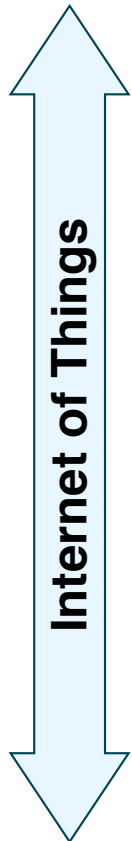
Hardware Specialization from Cloud to Embedded

Cloud Computing

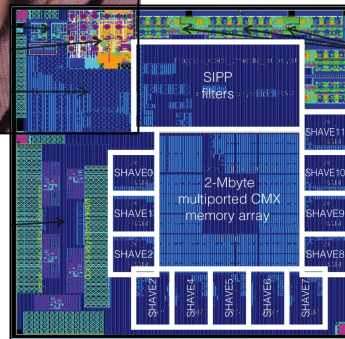


Google TPU

- ▶ Training can take weeks
- ▶ Inference has strict speed requirements
- ▶ Google TPU is custom chip to accelerate training and inference



Internet of Things

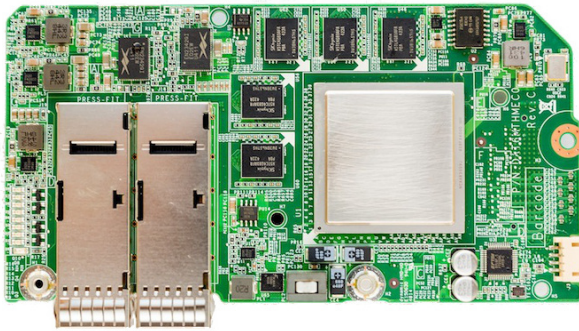


Movidius Myriad 2

- ▶ Vision processing requires significant computation
- ▶ Can easily drain the battery of embedded IoT devices
- ▶ Myriad 2 is custom chip to accelerate machine learning

Ultra-Embedded Computing

SW/HW Co-Design for Deep Learning and VR



Microsoft Catapult

- ▶ Custom FPGA board for accelerating Bing search and machine learning
- ▶ Accelerators developed with/by app developers
- ▶ Tightly integrated into Microsoft data center's and cloud computing platforms



Amazon Echo

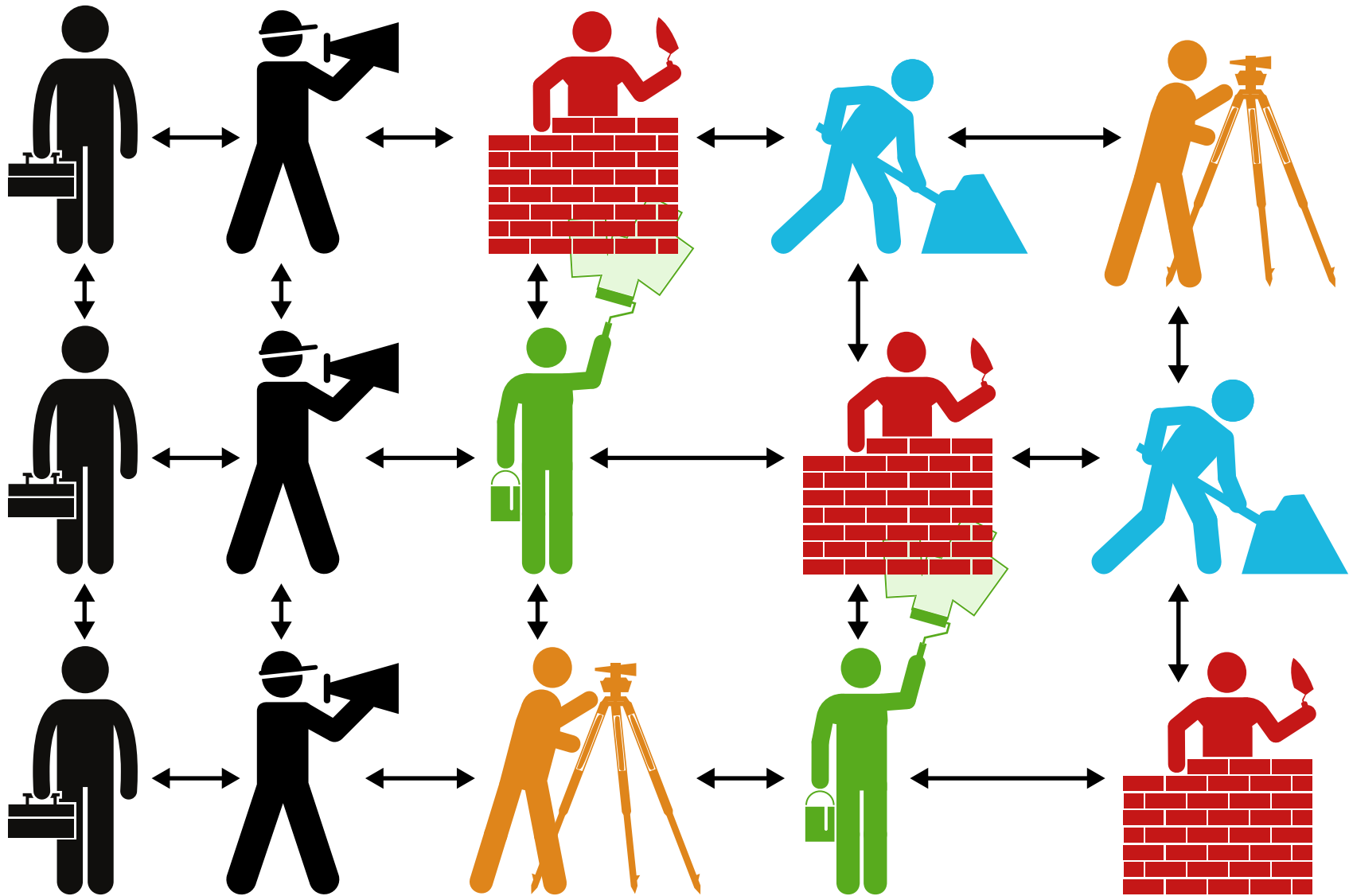
- ▶ Developing AI chips so Echo line can do more on-board processing
- ▶ Reduces need for round-trip to cloud
- ▶ Co-design the algorithms and the underlying hardware



Facebook Oculus

- ▶ Starting to design custom chips for Oculus VR headsets
- ▶ Significant performance demands under strict power requirements

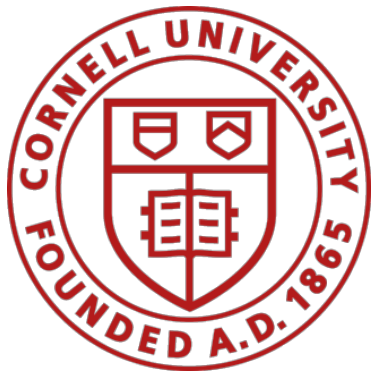
The Future of Computer Chips



The Celerity Open-Source 511-Core RISC-V Tiered Accelerator Fabric: Fast Architectures & Design Methodologies for Fast Chips

Scott Davidson, Shaolin Xie, Christopher Torng, Khalid Al-Hawaj
Austin Rovinski, Tutu Ajayi, Luis Vega, Chun Zhao, Ritchie Zhao
Steve Dai, Aporva Amarnath, Bandhav Veluri, Paul Gao, Anuj Rao
Gai Liu, Rajesh K. Gupta, Zhiru Zhang, Ronald G. Dreslinski
Christopher Batten, Michael B. Taylor.

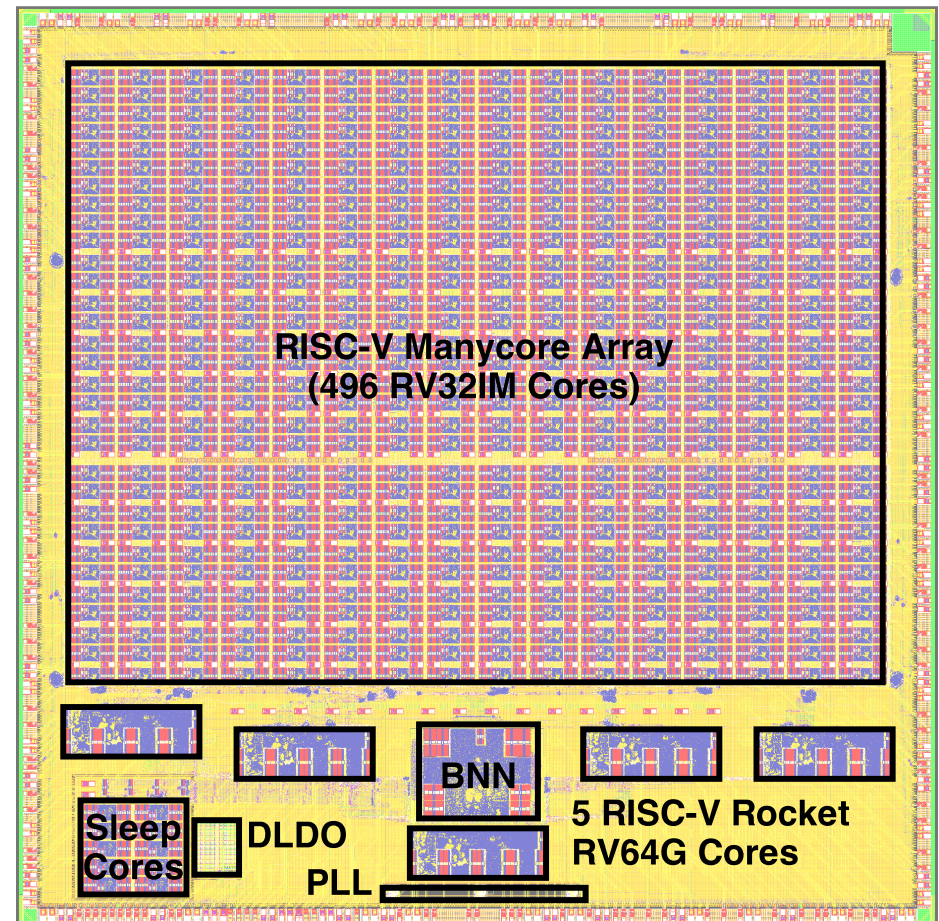
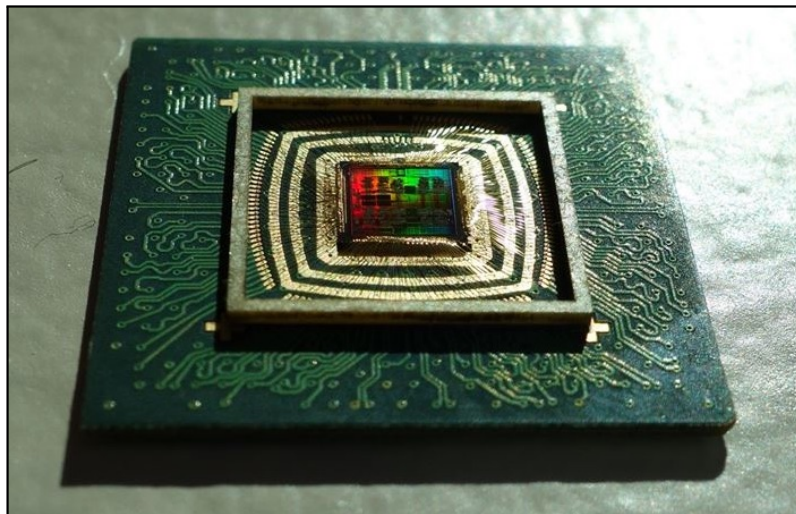
IEEE Micro, 38(2):3041, Mar/Apr. 2018

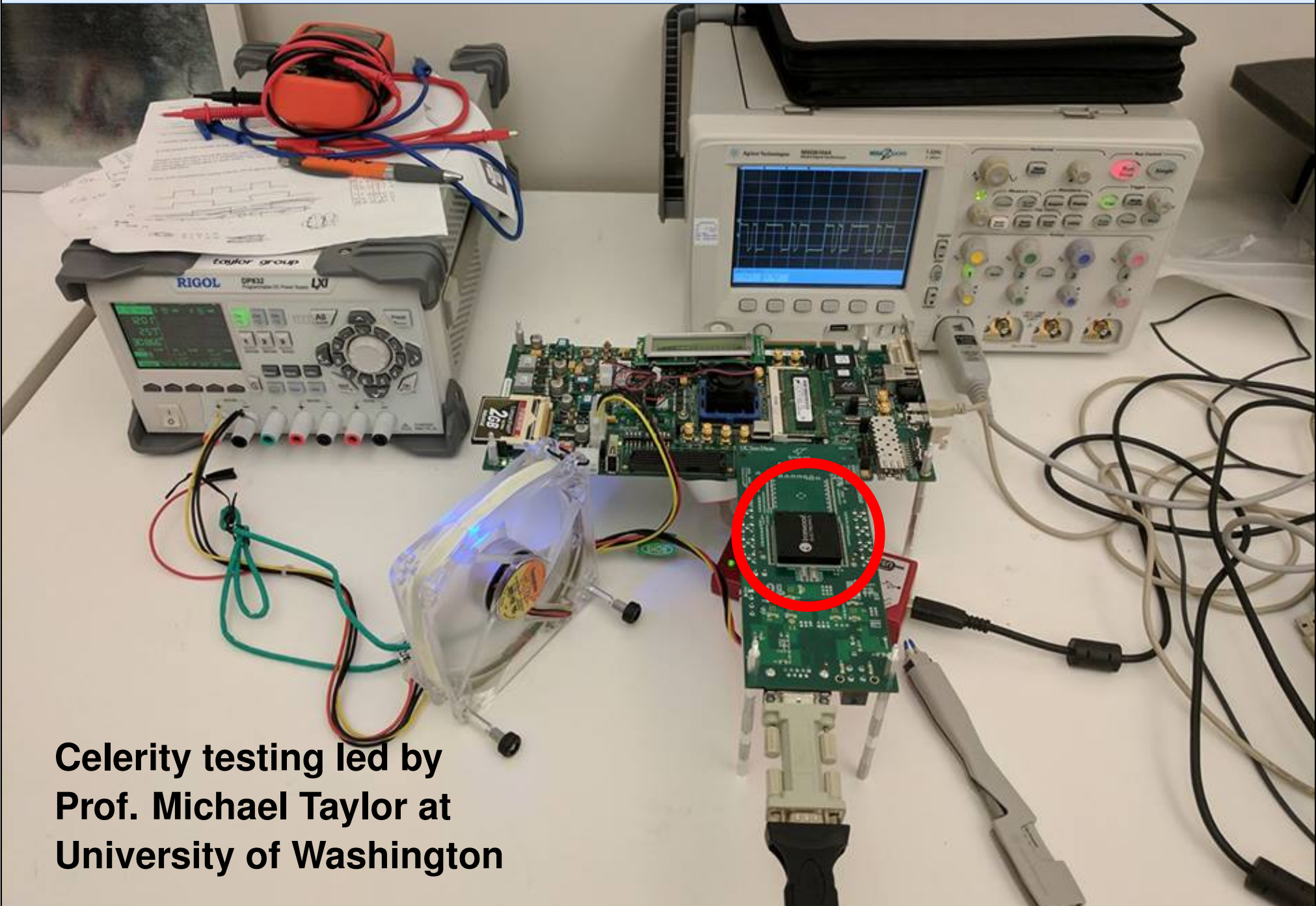


Celerity System-on-Chip Overview

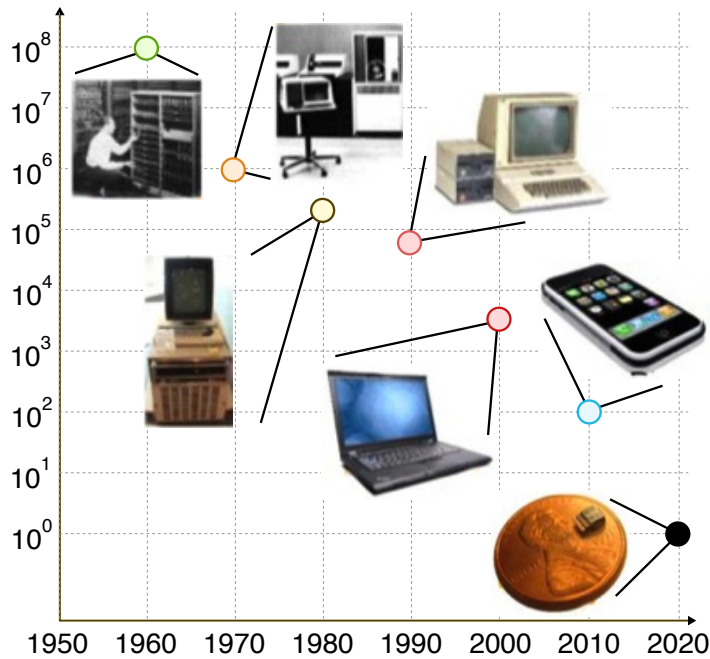
Target Workload: High-Performance Embedded Computing

- ▶ 5×5 mm in TSMC 16 nm
- ▶ 385 million transistors
- ▶ 5 “large” processing cores
- ▶ 496 “small” processing cores
- ▶ 1 neural network accelerator for machine learning





Celerity testing led by Prof. Michael Taylor at University of Washington

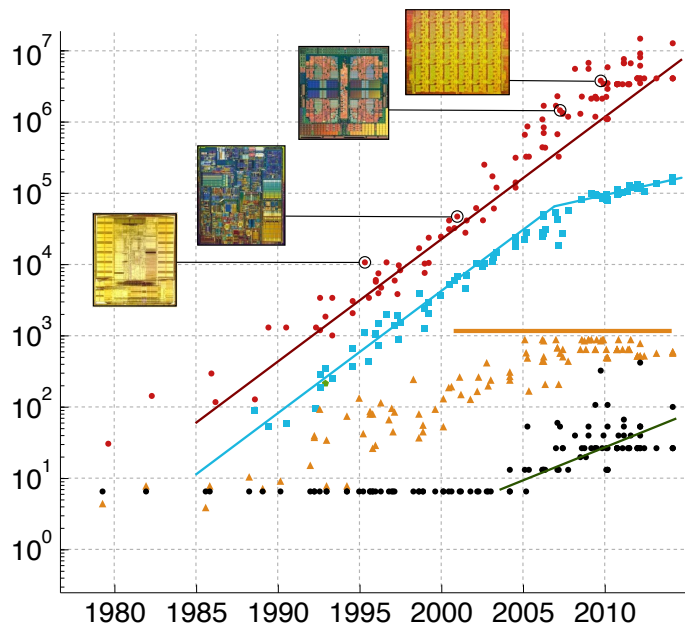


Trend #1: Bell's "Law"

Bell's "Law" predicts an **Internet-of-Things**, and IoT cloud and embedded devices are increasingly demanding **more performance** and **better efficiency**

Trend #2: Moore's "Law"

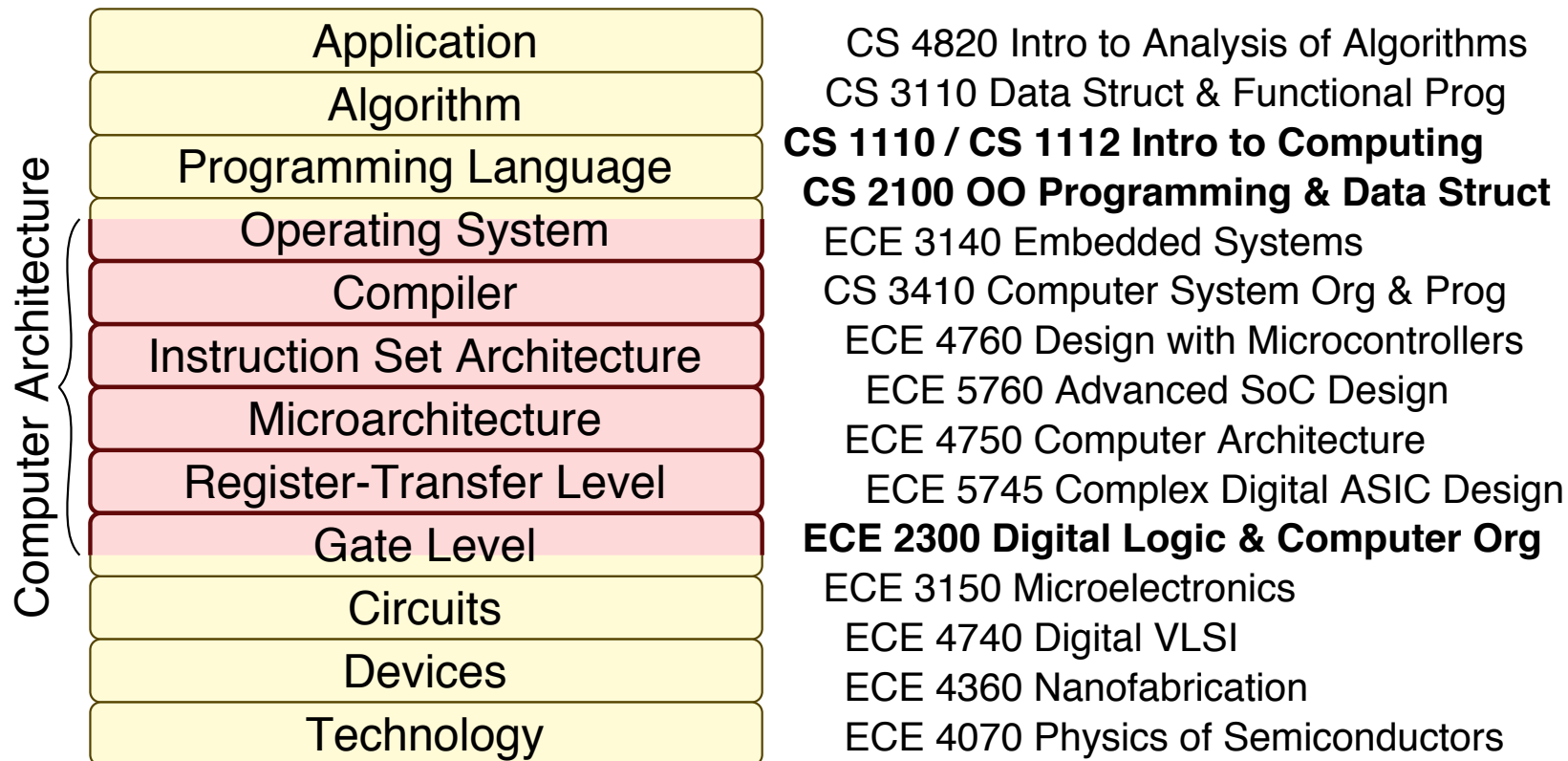
Moore's "Law" predicts an **exponential** increasing number of transistors per chip, but **power limitations** have motivated a move to **multicore processors**



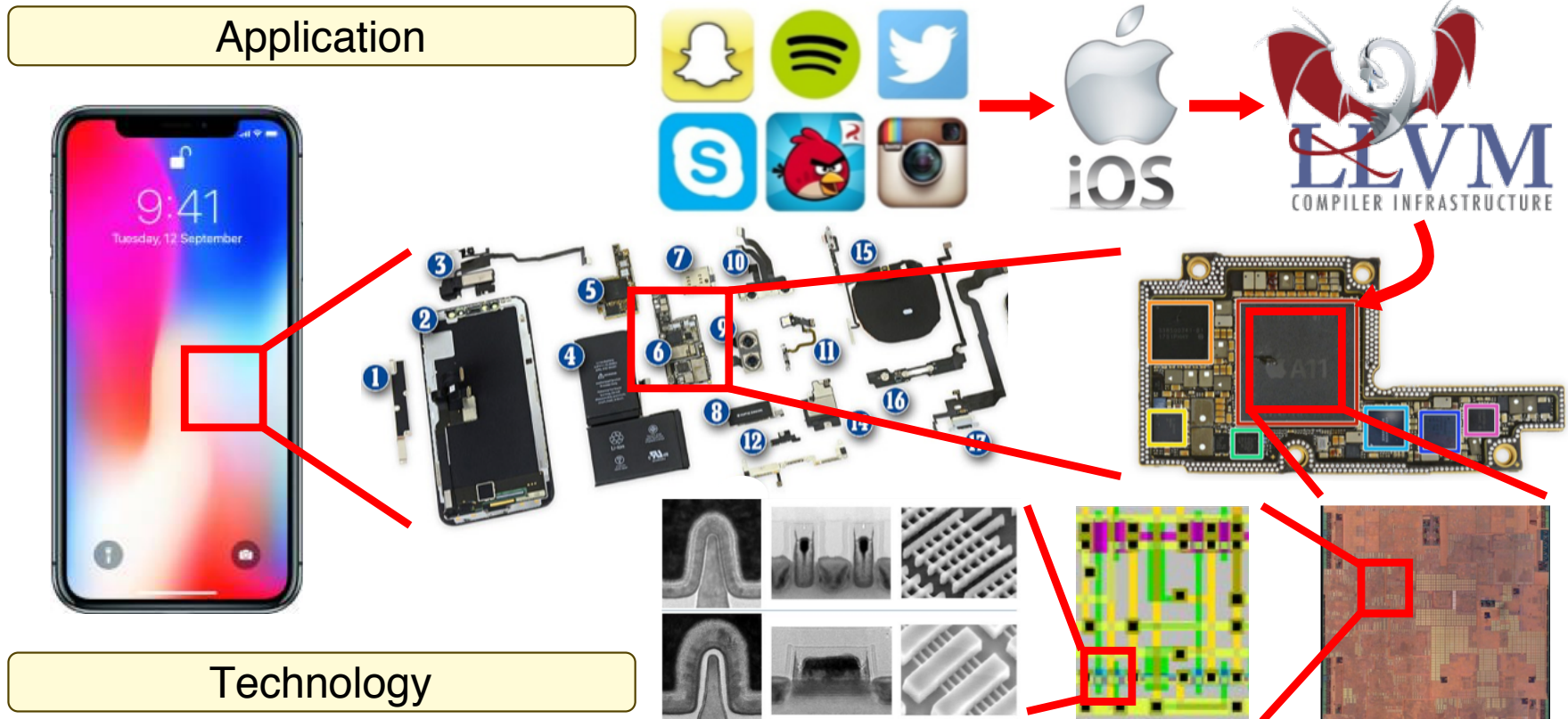
Trend #3: The Specialization Era

Hardware specialization can use the wealth of transistors to meet the needs of IoT

Courses Across the Computer Systems Stack



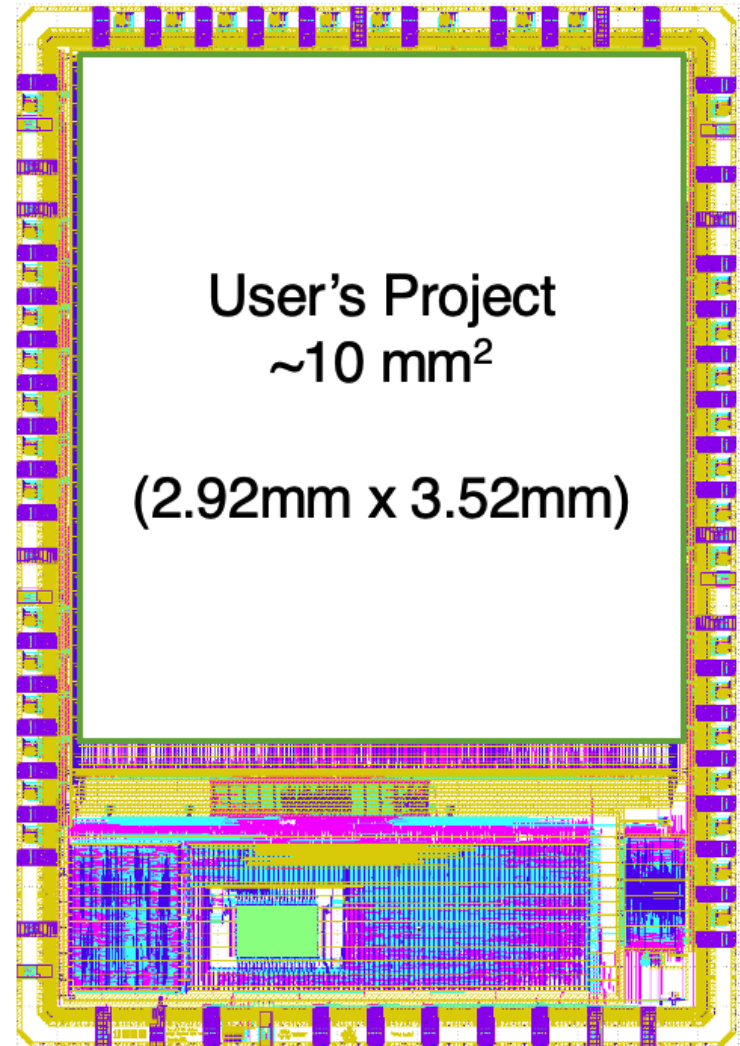
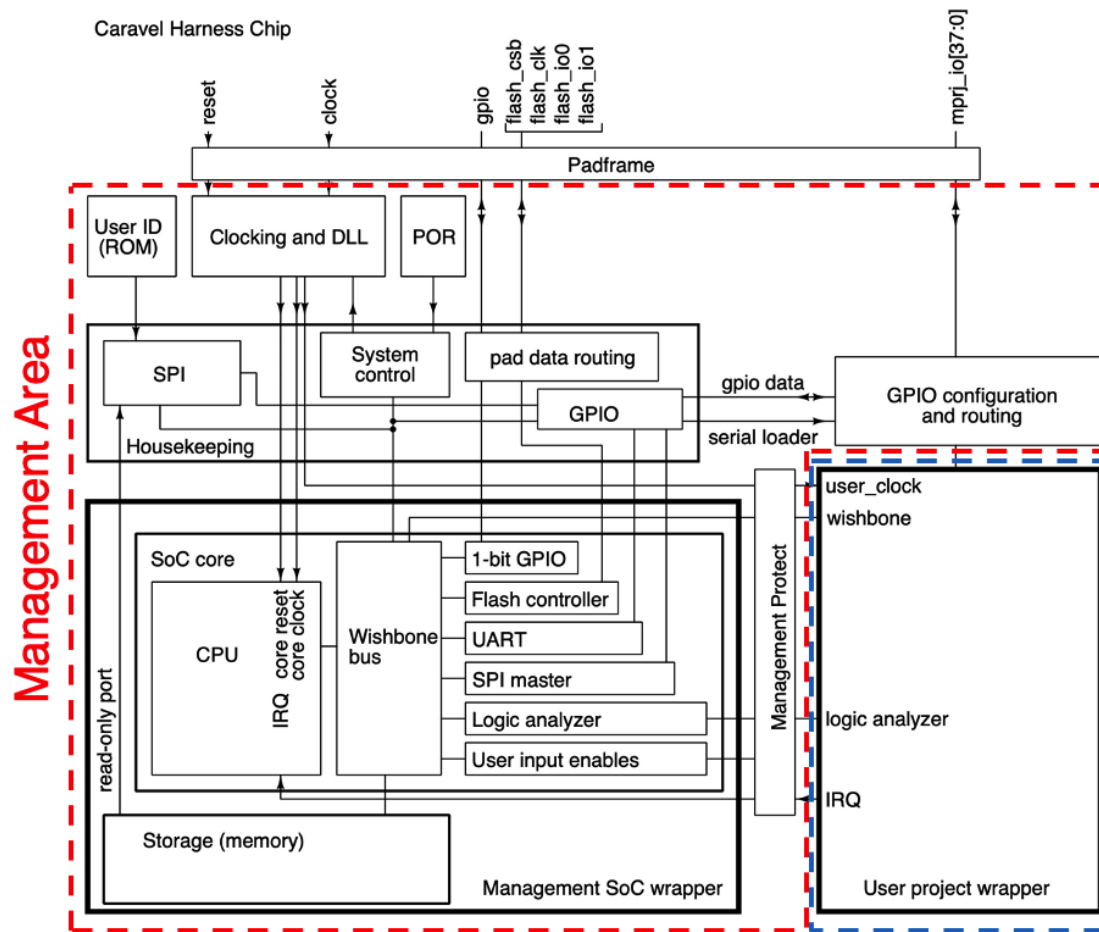
ENGRI 1210 Computing Tech Inside Your Smartphone



A fantastic ENGRI choice for students interested in computer science, electrical engineering, and/or computer engineering!

C2S2: Cornell Custom Silicon Systems Project Team

Three-year student-led project team to tapeout a custom chip in SkyWater 130nm to implement a proof-of-concept system for a campus partner



C2S2: Cornell Custom Silicon Systems Project Team

The C2S2 project team is
unique across the country!

Email c2s2-leaders-1@cornell.edu
for more information.

