

# Unit 1: Introduction to Computers

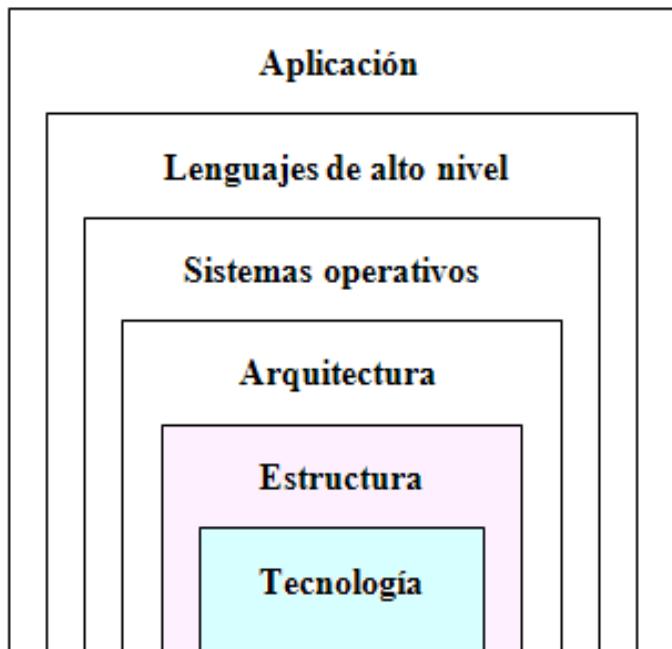
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- Abstraction levels in a computer
- Basic concepts
- Historical Evolution
- Von Neumann Architecture
- Instruction execution cycles
- Programming languages



# Abstraction levels in a computer

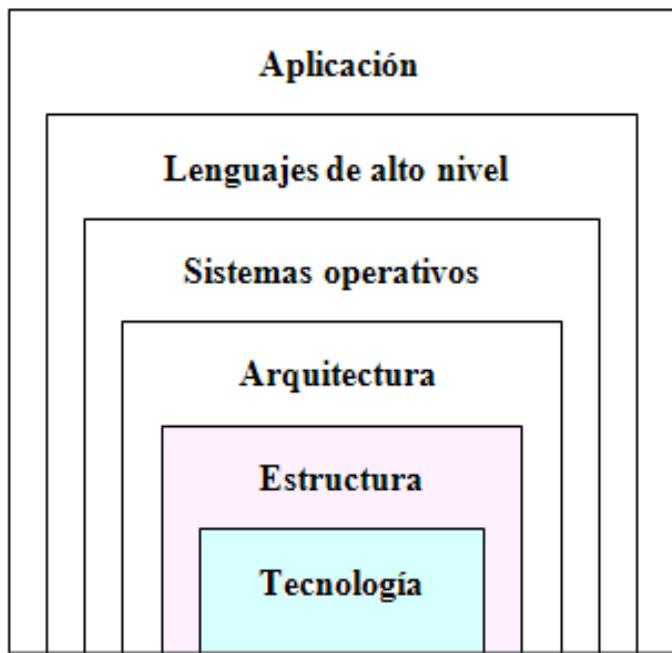
- Grado en Ingeniería Informática



Topic	Subject	Term
Estructura y tecnología de computadores	Fundamentos de tecnología de computadores	1º
	Estructura y organización de computadores	3º
Sistemas Operativos	Sistemas Operativos	2º
	Sistemas Operativos Avanzados	3º
Programación	Fundamentos de programación	1º
	Programación	1º
	Programación Avanzada	4º
	Ampliación de Programación Avanzada	6º
	Procesadores del Lenguaje	5º
Bases de Datos	Bases de Datos	4º
	Bases de Datos Avanzadas	5º

# Abstraction levels in a computer

- Grado en Sistemas de la Información



Topic	Subject	Term
Estructura y tecnología de computadores	Fundamentos de tecnología de computadores	1º
Sistemas Operativos	Sistemas Operativos	2º
Programación	Programación y estructuras de datos	1º, 2º, 3º
Bases de Datos	Bases de Datos	4º, 5º

# Abstraction levels in a computer

- Grado en Ingeniería de Computadores

Topic	Subject	Term
Estructura y tecnología de computadores	Fundamentos de Tecnología de Computadores Estructura y Organización de Computadores Electrónica	1º 3º 5º
Sistemas Operativos	Sistemas Operativos Sistemas Operativos Avanzados	2º 3º
Programación	Fundamentos de Programación Programación Avanzada Procesadores del Lenguaje	1º 4º 6º
Bases de Datos	Bases de Datos	4º
Arquitectura de Computadores	Arquitectura e Ingeniería de Computadores	5º

The diagram illustrates the layers of abstraction in a computer system. It features five concentric rectangles. The innermost rectangle is light blue and labeled 'Tecnología'. Moving outwards, the next rectangle is pink and labeled 'Estructura'. The third rectangle is light blue and labeled 'Arquitectura'. The fourth rectangle is pink and labeled 'Sistemas operativos'. The outermost rectangle is light blue and labeled 'Lenguajes de alto nivel'. At the very top of the outermost rectangle is the word 'Aplicación'.



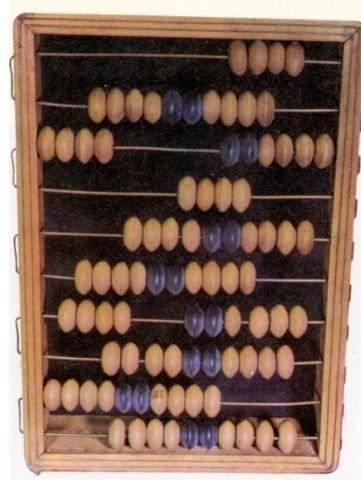
# Basic concepts

- **Computer:** machine that processes information
- **Information** in a computer:
  - **Bit** ⇒ Binary Digit: Basic information element ('0' or '1')
  - **Byte** ⇒ Group of 8 bits ('01101111')
- **Word** ⇒ Group of bits with which the computer works usually (8 bits, 16 bits, 32 bits or 64 bits)
  - **Units:**  $1\text{ K} \Rightarrow 2^{10} = 1024$   
 $1\text{ M} \Rightarrow 2^{10} \cdot 2^{10} = 1024\text{ K}$   
 $1\text{ G} \Rightarrow 2^{10} \cdot (2^{10} \cdot 2^{10}) = 1024\text{ M}$
- **Instruction:** Operation executed by the computer
- **Data:** Operand or result
- **Program:** Ordered instruction set that performs a task

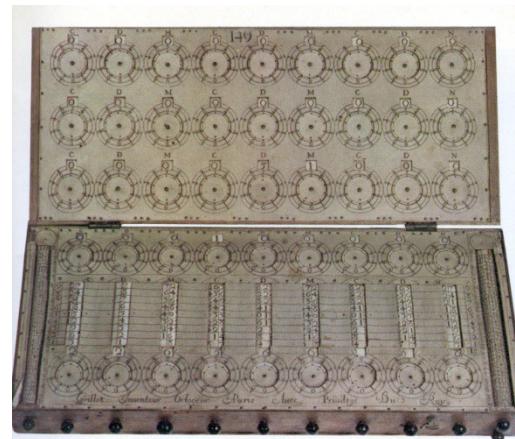
# Historical Evolution of Computers (I)

## Precedents

- Abacus: the first known invention to compute:
  - Origin: centuries III- IV BC.
- Pascal arithmetical machine
  - Developed by Blas Pascal (1642)
  - Set of gear wheels numbered from 0 to 9. When passing from 9 to 0, one wheel pushed the next wheel one decimal.
  - A memory system was included to store results



**Abacus**



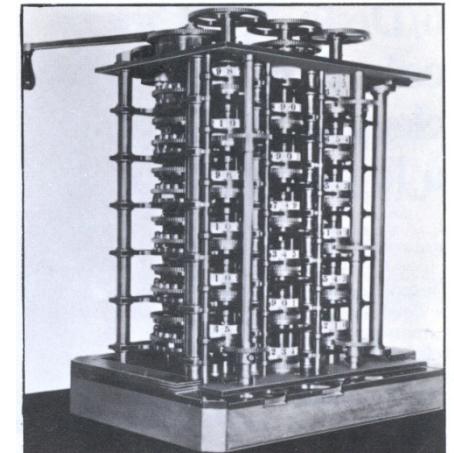
**Arithmetical  
machine**

# Historical Evolution of Computers (II)

## Precedents

- Leibnitz machine (1671)
  - It performed four arithmetical operations.
- Charles Babbage: Difference engine (1823) and analytical engine (1831):
  - Executes any operation without human intervention
  - It had a memory, arithmetic unit, gear system to transfer data, an input/output device
  - It used punched cards to be programmed
  - It was never built

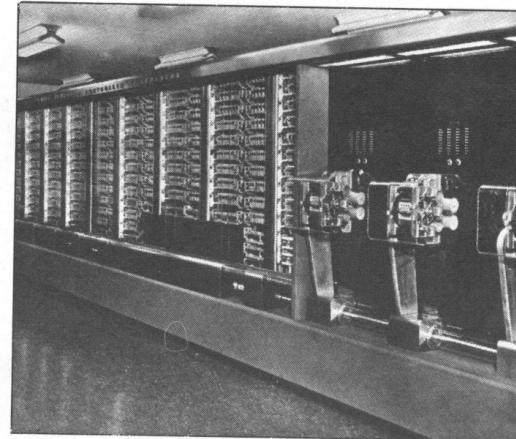
Difference engine



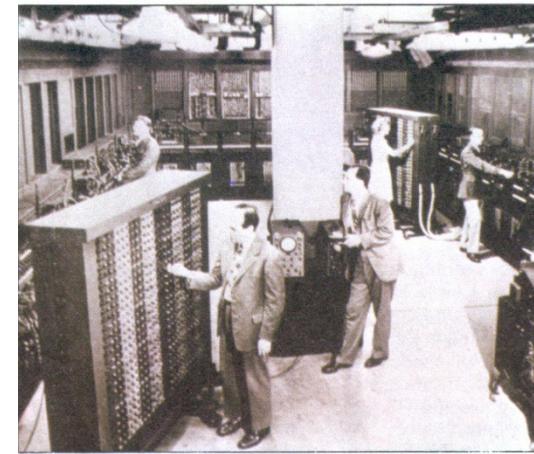
# Historical Evolution of Computers (III)

## 1<sup>a</sup> generation

- Experimental machines built with vacuum tubes
- Relay calculators: H. Aiken built MARK series
- 1941: ENIAC - Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator. Eckert y Mauchly  
General purpose computer with wired program



MARK I

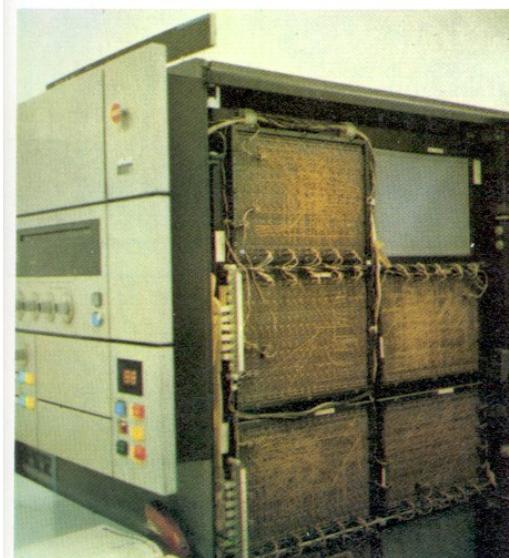
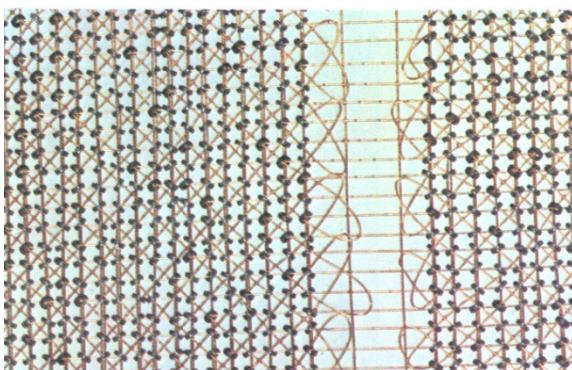


ENIAC

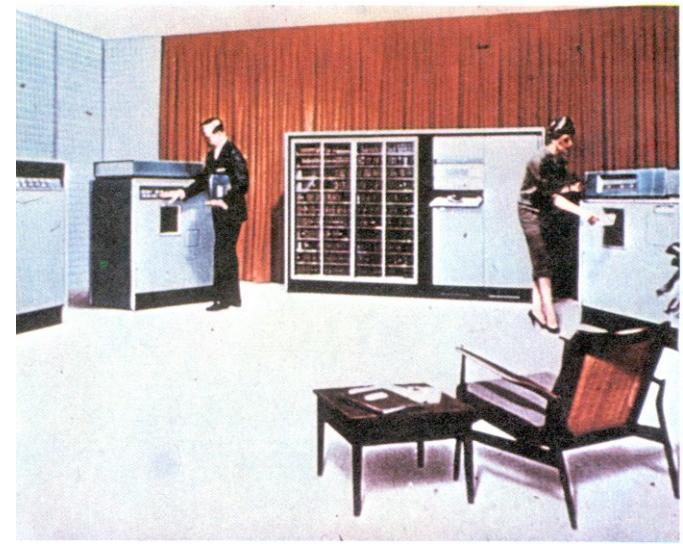
# Historical Evolution of Computers (IV)

## 2nd generation

- Comercial computers
- Built with transistors ⇒ smaller, less heat dissipation, greater reliability
- ferrite memories



Ferrite memories



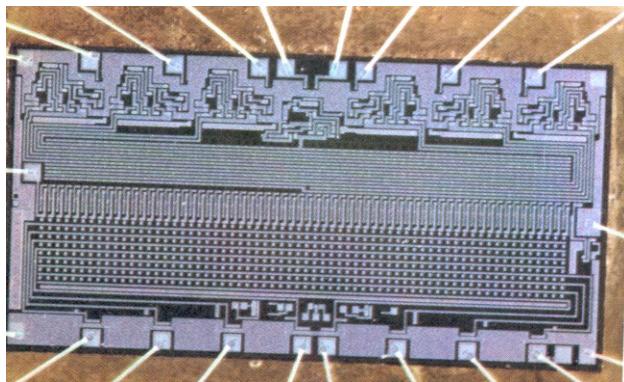
UNIVAC (2<sup>a</sup> gen.)

# Historical Evolution of Computers (V)

## 3rd generation

Families of computers: Minicomputers and supercomputers

Built with integrated circuits ⇒ smaller, cheaper, less heat dissipation



Integrated circuit



IBM serie 370 (3<sup>a</sup> gen.)

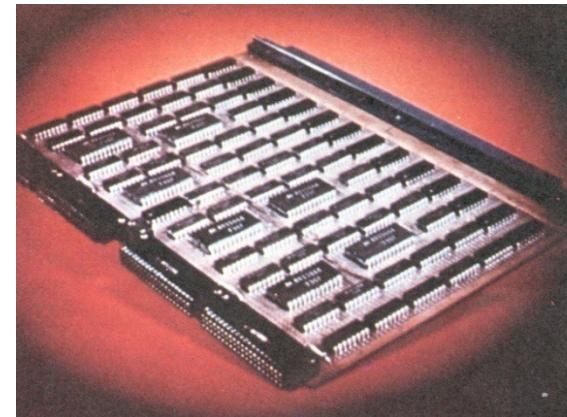
# Historical Evolution of Computers (VI)

## 4th generation

- Personal Computers (PC) and work stations.
- Other applications: household appliances, music and video..., etc.
- Built with microprocessors and semiconductor memories.  
1971: 1<sup>er</sup> microprocesador, INTEL 4004
- 80's ⇒ information processing
- 90's-00's ⇒ Communications (nets)



PC (4th gen.)



Semiconductor  
memory

# Historical Evolution of Computers (VII)

## 5th generation

- Microprocesador as basic element
  - Massive parallelism
  - Communication and connections among computers.
  - Internet, WWW, email...
- 
- **6th Generation?**

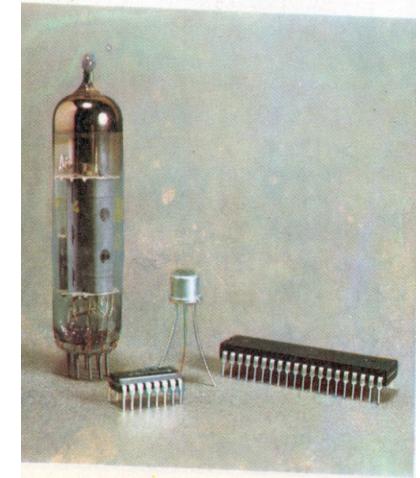
- Miniaturization
- Parallelism
- Clusters
- Smart phones



# Historical Evolution of Computers (VIII)

## Summary

Generation	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Characteristics					
Decades	1950 - 1960	1960 - 1970	1970 - 1980	1980 - 1990	1990 -200?
Technology	Vacuum tubes	Transistors	I.C. (SSI-MMI)	I.C (LSI)	I.C. (VLSI)
Machines	IBM 701	CDC 6600	PDP-8, PDP-11	Fujitsu M382 Cray X-MP	Alpha 21164 Pentium
Memory	Williams tubes magnetic tapes	ferrites	Integrated circuits, caches	Virtual memories	Multiple level cache
Languages	Machine	FORTRAM, COBOL, ALGOL, PL1	BASIC, PASCAL	High leevl	C, C++, Java
Product	Computer	comercial computer	Minicomputer	Microcomputer	Multiprocessor



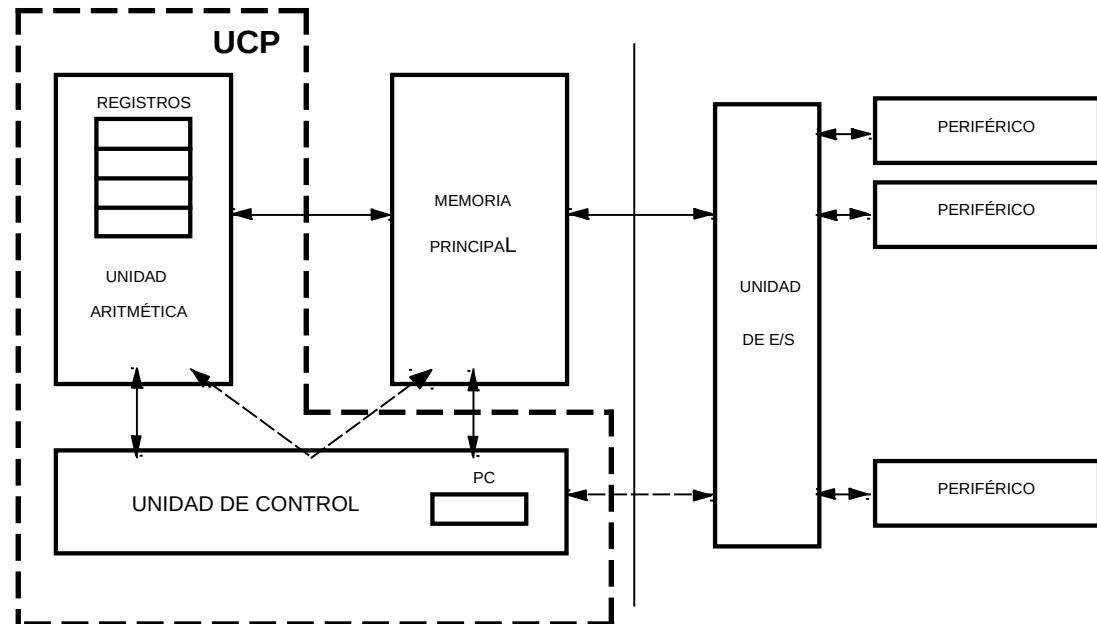
**Vacuum tube,  
transistor,  
integrated circuit**

# Von Neumann Architecture

- Developed 1945 by John von Neumann
- Executes machine instructions from a program stored in the memory

- Blocks:
  - Memory
  - Arithmetic-Logic Unit and registers
  - Control Unit
  - Input/Output unit

- **Buses** connect different parts:  
data bus, address bus, control bus



# Instruction execution cycles

## 1. Fetch

CU generates signals to read a instruction from memory in the direction pointed by the program counter PC

## 2. Decode:

CU receives instruction at IR and decodes it

## 3. Fetch operands:

CU reads, if neccessary, operands from memory or registers

## 4. Executions and store results

CU generates signals to execute instruction, and stores result in memory or registers

## 5. Program Counter update.

CU updates the program counter to point to the next instruction to be executed.

- sequential working
- sequence modification ↳ PC modification ↳ bifurcation or jump



# Programming languages (I)

## High level language:

- Set of instructions and syntax (PASCAL, C)
- portable** (same code compiles in different machines)

## Low level language

- **Machine language:**

Instructions are written in binary

- Difficult and a lot of mistakes ↴  
Solution: high level language  
and compile

- **Assembly language:**

Instructions are represented with symbolic names or mnemonics

- Each instruction correspond with a machine instruction



# Programming languages (II)

- High level language (example: PASCAL)

BEGIN

    Resta:= Minuendo - Sustraendo

END.

- Machine language and assembler (Example: i80x86)

A10000                  MOV AX, Minuendo

2B060200                  SUB AX, Sustrayendo

A30400                  MOV Resta, AX

- Traduction from high level program to machine language are carried on by compilers and interpreters:

