

Computer History

Last updated 10/12/22

These slides review several historical steps in computer evolution

History

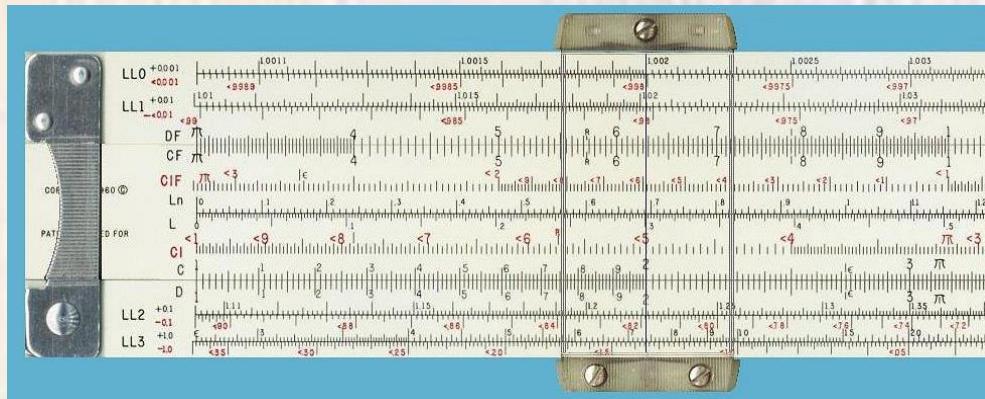
- Mechanical Devices

Abacus



History

- Mechanical Devices
- Slide Rule
 - Developed in the 1600s
 - Widely used until 1970s
 - Adapted to a broad range of approximate computations
 - Basic arithmetic, trig, logs, ...
 - Specialized applications developed (nuclear, space, military)



History

- Early Computers
- Harvard MK1
 - 1937-1944
 - Electromechanical
 - 50ft shaft
 - Hand Programmed



History

- Early Computers



<https://faculty-web.msoe.edu/johnsontimoj/ELE1601/files1601/eniac.mp4>



History

- Mini-Computers
- PDP8, LINC, PDP11, Vax11/780, Wang2200



History

- Personal Computers
- TRS80, Apple II, Commodore PET
 - Publically available – 1977
- IBM PC – 1981
 - Huge adoption
 - Software explodes
- Laptops – 1989
 - Mobility



History

- Personal Computers (video)

<https://faculty-web.msoe.edu/johnsontimoj/ELE1601/files1601/trs80.mp4>

History

- Personal Computing Devices
 - Tablets
 - Smart Phones
 - Smart Watches