

SURF Research Talk, June 16, 2015

# Along for the Ride –

reflections on the past, present,  
and future of nanoelectronics

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“If someone from the 1950’s suddenly appeared today, what would be the most difficult thing to explain to them about today?”

“I possess a device in my pocket that is capable of assessing the entirety of information known to humankind.”

“I use it to look at pictures of cats and get into arguments with strangers.”

*Curious*, by Ian Leslie, 2014.

# transistors

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The basic components of electronic systems.



>100 billion transistors

# transistors

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"The **transistor** was probably the most important invention of the 20th Century, and the story behind the invention is one of clashing egos and top secret research."

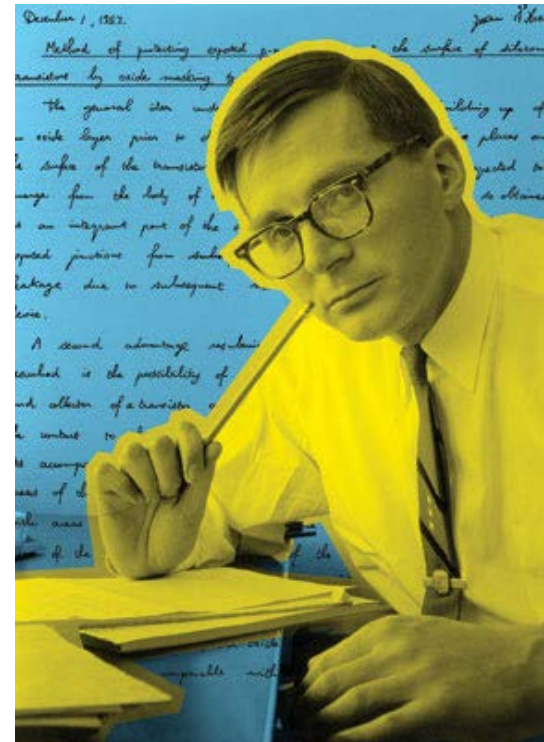
-- Ira Flatow, Transistorized!

<http://www.pbs.org/transistor/>

“The most important moment since mankind emerged as a life form.”

Isaac Asimov

(speaking about the “planar process” used to manufacture ICs -  
- invented by Jean Hoerni,  
Fairchild Semiconductor, 1959).



IEEE Spectrum Dec. 2007

Lundstrom June 2015

# Integrated circuits

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"In 1957, decades before Steve Jobs dreamed up Apple or Mark Zuckerberg created Facebook, a group of eight brilliant young men defected from the Shockley Semiconductor Company in order to start their own transistor business..."

Silicon Valley:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/silicon/>

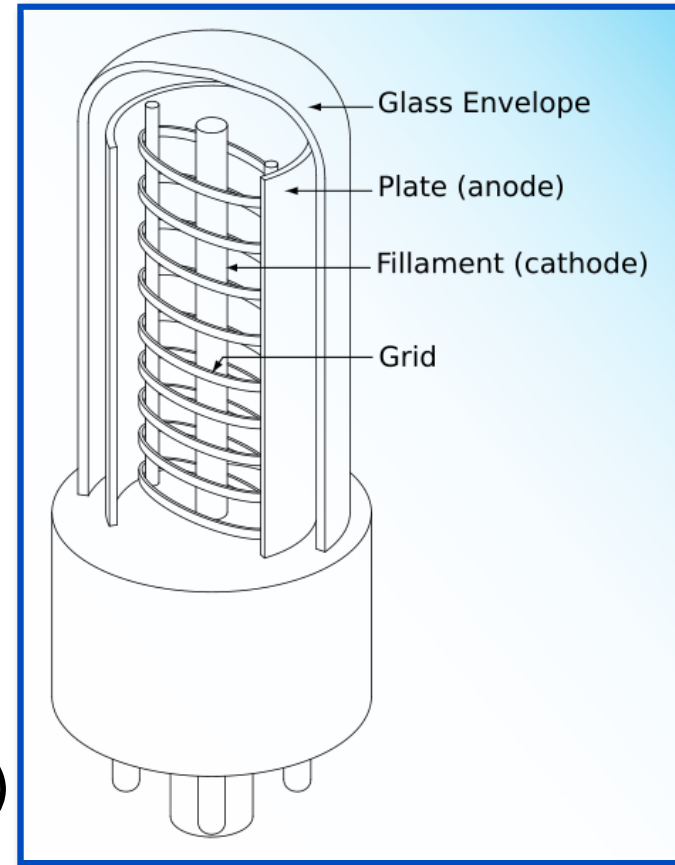
# a brief history of electronic devices...

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From the vacuum tubes until today.

# vacuum tubes

## Vacuum Tube



Edison effect (Edison, 1883)  
cathode rays (Thompson, 1897)  
diode (Fleming, 1904)  
triode (De Forest, 1905)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacuum\\_tube](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacuum_tube)



# vacuum tube electronics

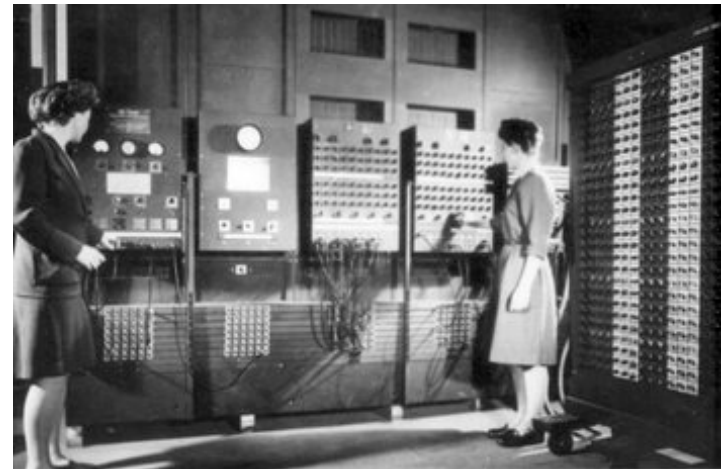
## Golden age of radio 1935 - 1950



<http://history.sandiego.edu/GEN/recording/images5/radio11.jpg>

## ENIAC

(1945, Mauchly and Eckert, U Penn)



<http://en.wikipedia.org>

17,468 vacuum tubes  
1000 sq. feet of floor space  
30 tons  
150 KW  
~50 vacuum tubes / day

# microelectronics

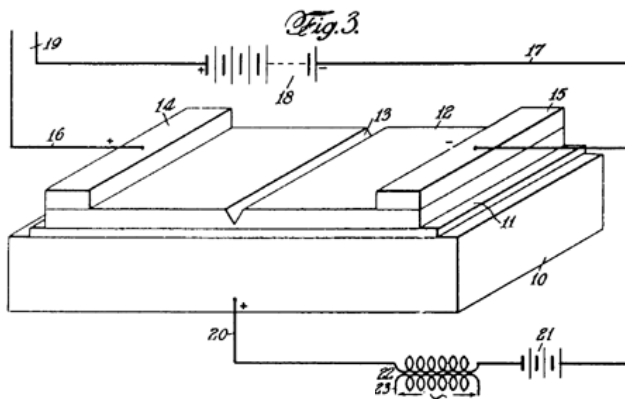
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*“Nature abhors the vacuum tube.”*

–J.R. Pierce, Bell Labs

# invention of the transistor

Field-Effect Transistor  
Lilienfeld, 1925  
Heil, 1935



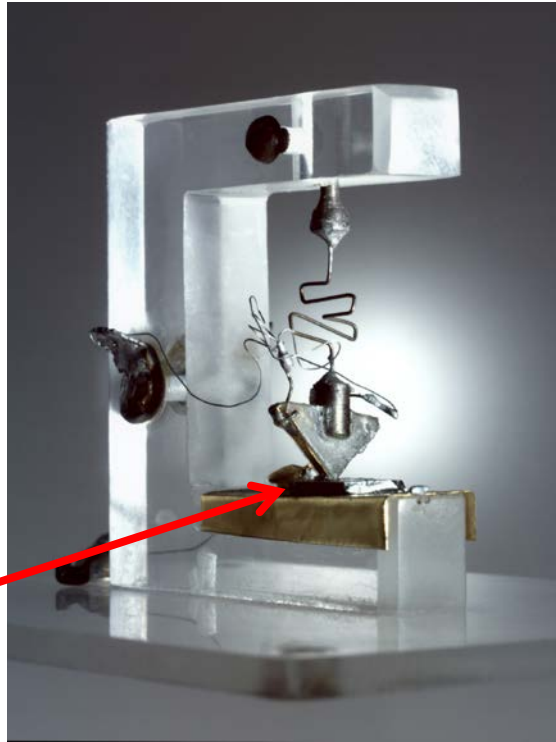
transistor



Bardeen, Brattain,  
Shockley, 1947

# the point contact transistor

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Purdue  
1930's – 1940's

Bell Labs 1947

# Purdue's semiconductor history



“Karl Lark-Horovitz is best known for turning the physics department of Purdue University, then a backwater school, into a research powerhouse. His personal research was in germanium and solid state science -- and if anyone had had a chance of inventing the transistor before Bell, it was Lark-Horovitz. As it was, the Purdue physics lab was probably only six to twelve months behind.”

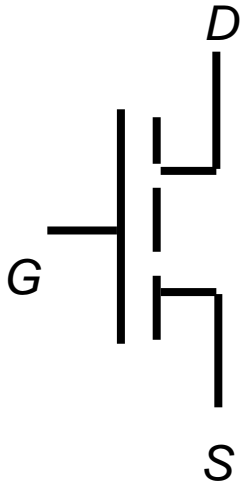
<http://www.pbs.org/transistor/album1/addlbios/lark.html>

1941: WWII: Semiconductor diode rectifiers

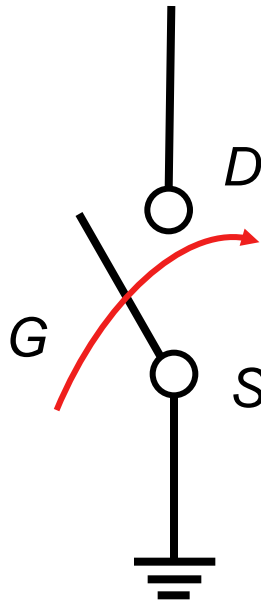
<http://www.computerhistory.org>

# transistors

symbol

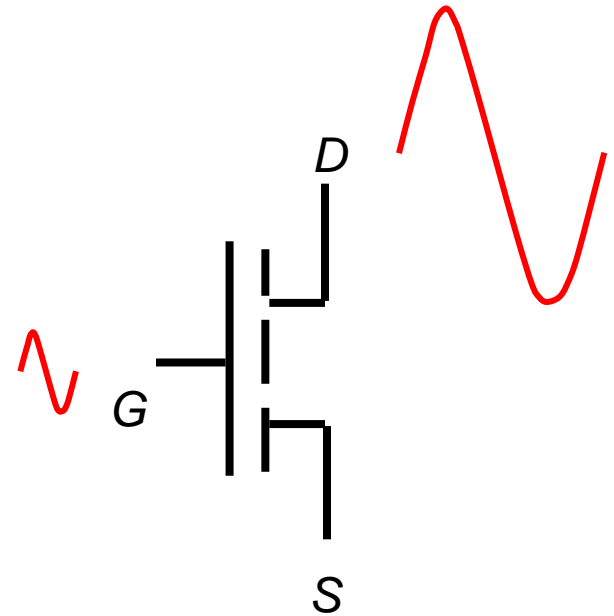


switch



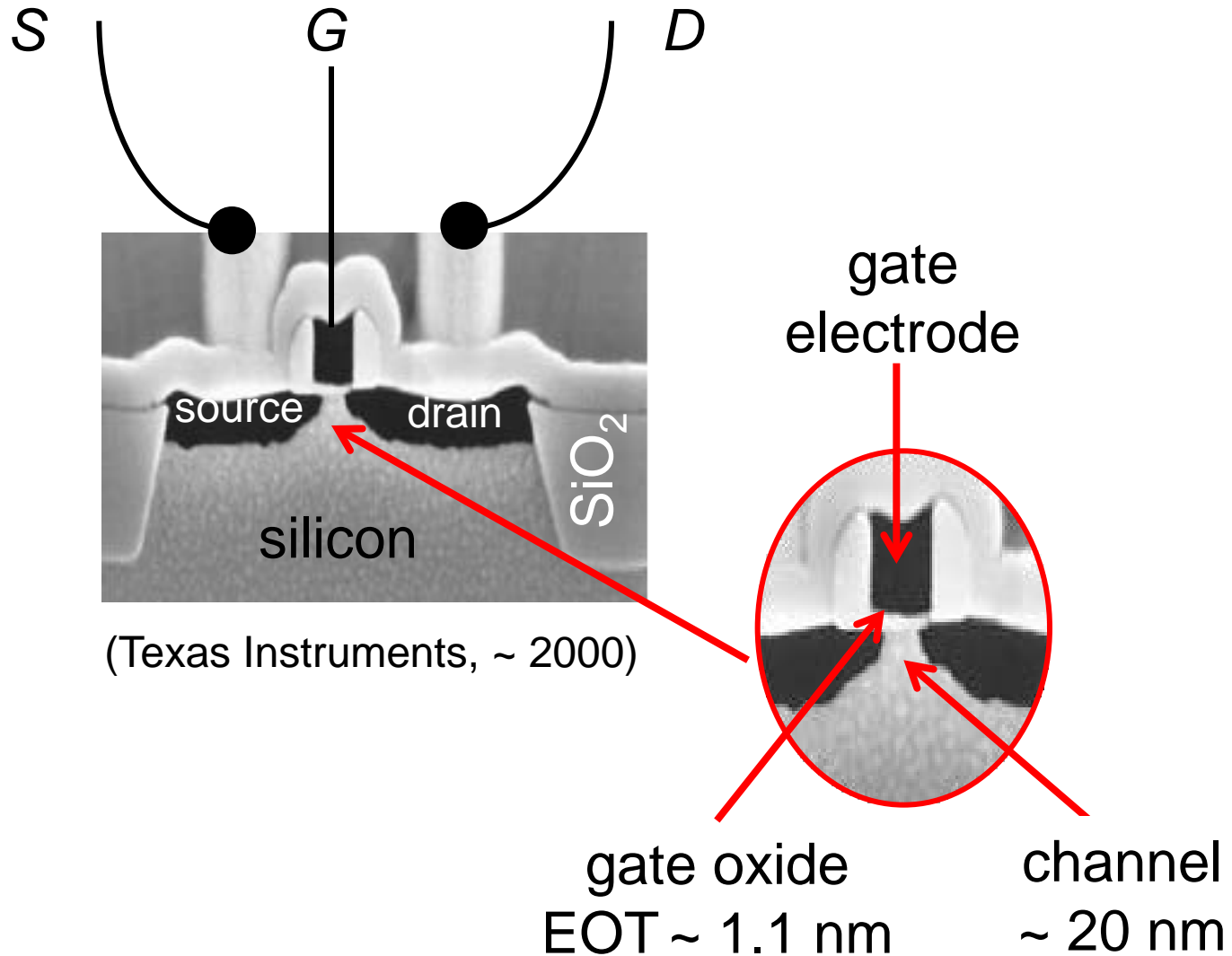
digital electronics

amplifier



analog electronics

# nanotransistors



# What is nanotechnology?

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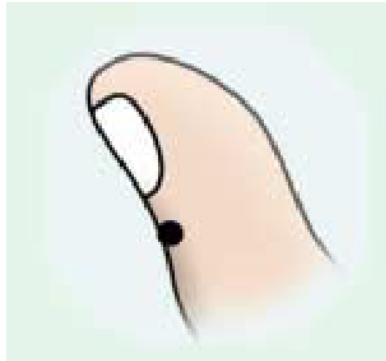


## Billions of nanometers

A two meter tall male is two billion nanometers.

## A million nanometers

The pinhead sized patch of this thumb is a million nanometers across.



## Nanometers

Ten shoulder-to-shoulder hydrogen atoms span 1 nanometer. DNA molecules are about 2.5 nanometers wide.



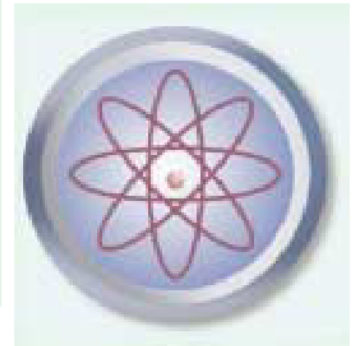
## Thousands of nanometers

Biological cells have diameters in the range of thousands of nanometers.



## Less than a nanometers

Individual atoms are up to a few tenths of a nanometer, in diameter.





# Transistors get started....

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transistors



Sony TR-63  
6-transistor  
shirt pocket radio  
1957

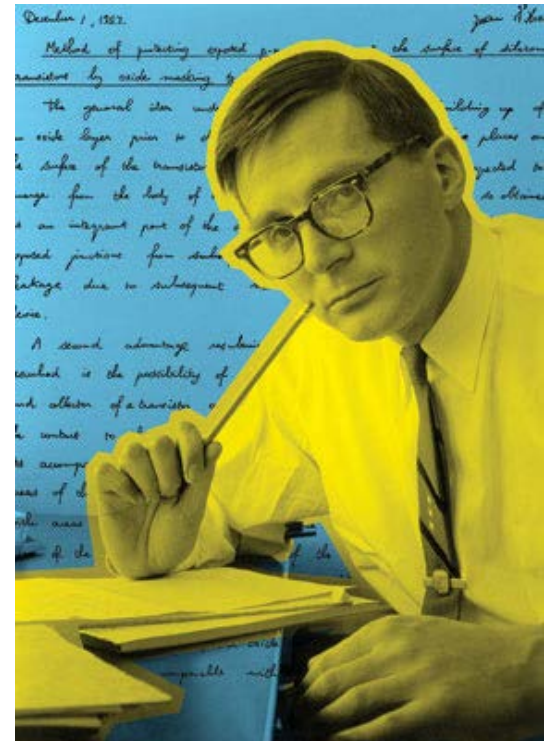


<http://www.sony.net/Fun/SH/1-6/h2.html>

“The most important moment since mankind emerged as a life form.”

Isaac Asimov

(speaking about the “planar process” used to manufacture ICs -  
- invented by Jean Hoerni,  
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IEEE Spectrum Dec. 2007

Lundstrom June 2015

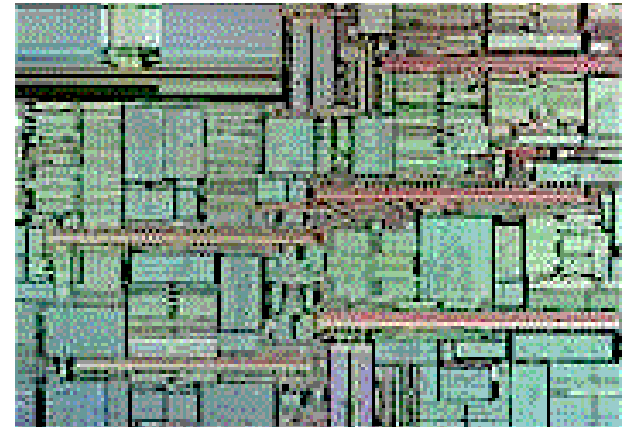
# “microelectronics”

integrated circuit



Kilby /Noyce, 1958/59

Intel 4004



Hoff (1971)

2300 transistors

$L = 10$  micrometers

$L = 10,000$  nanometers

# Frederick Terman

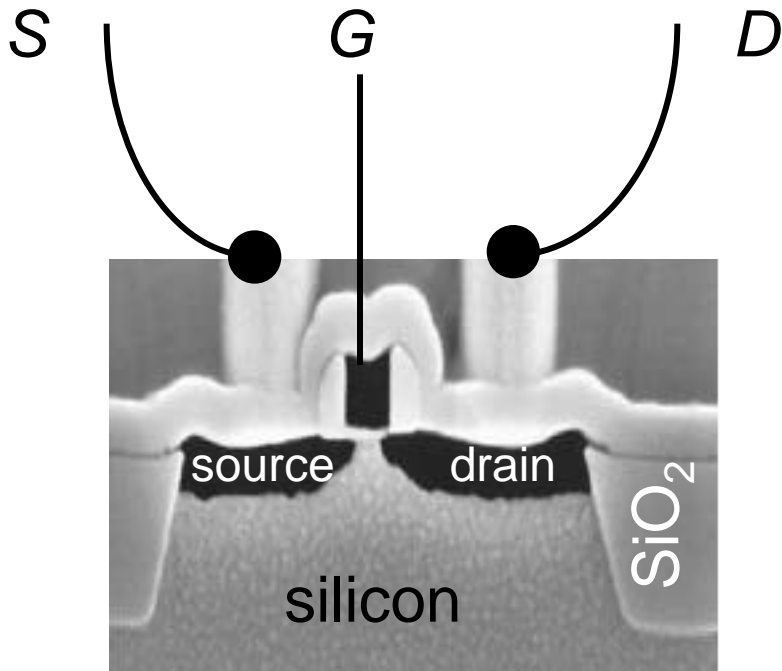
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“This new electronics lives close to the frontiers of science, and requires a high level of technical competence. It grows by the development of new products. It is characterized by the transistor and other solid-state devices.”

Frederick Emmons Terman, “Education – A Basic Component of the New Electronics – Including a Appraisal of Electronics in the Midwest,” Delivered at the luncheon of the 16th National Electronics Conference, Chicago, IL, October 12, 1960.

# discrete transistors

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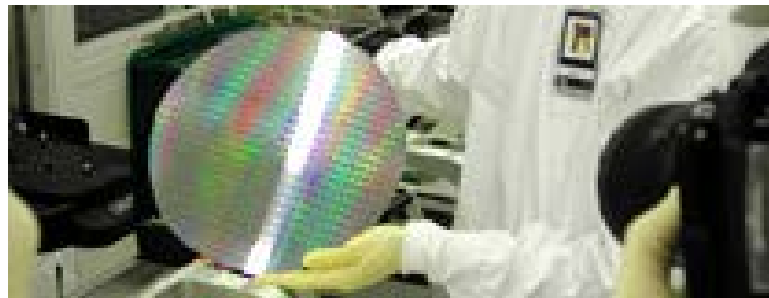
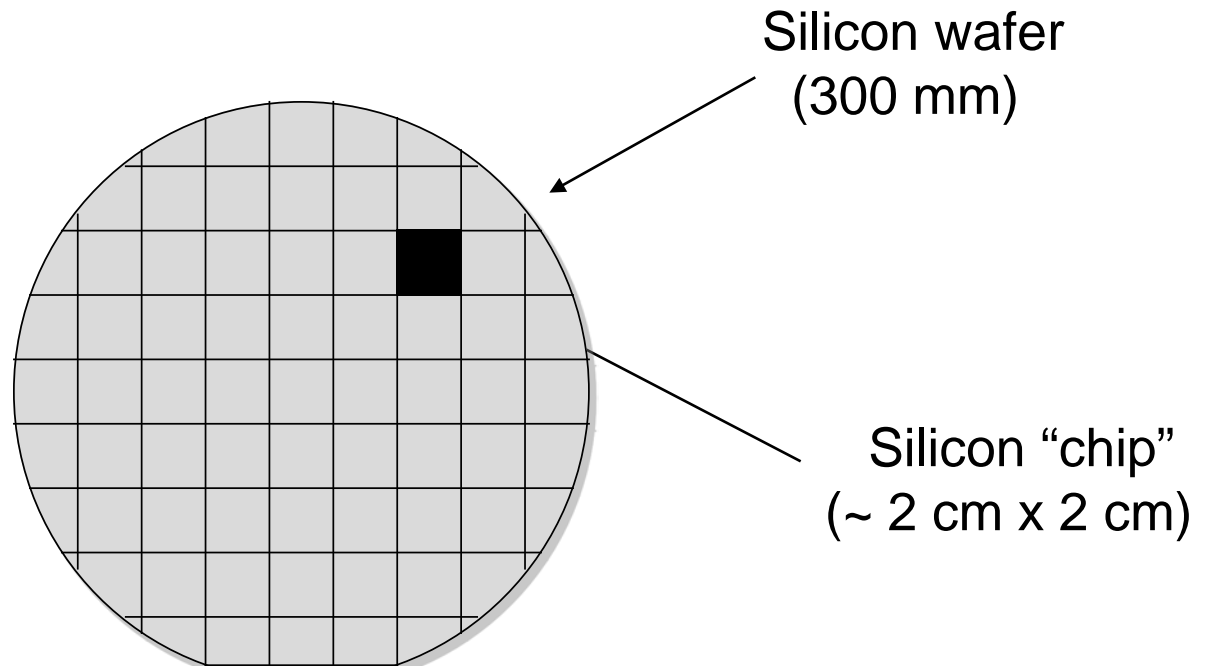


(Texas Instruments, ~ 2000)



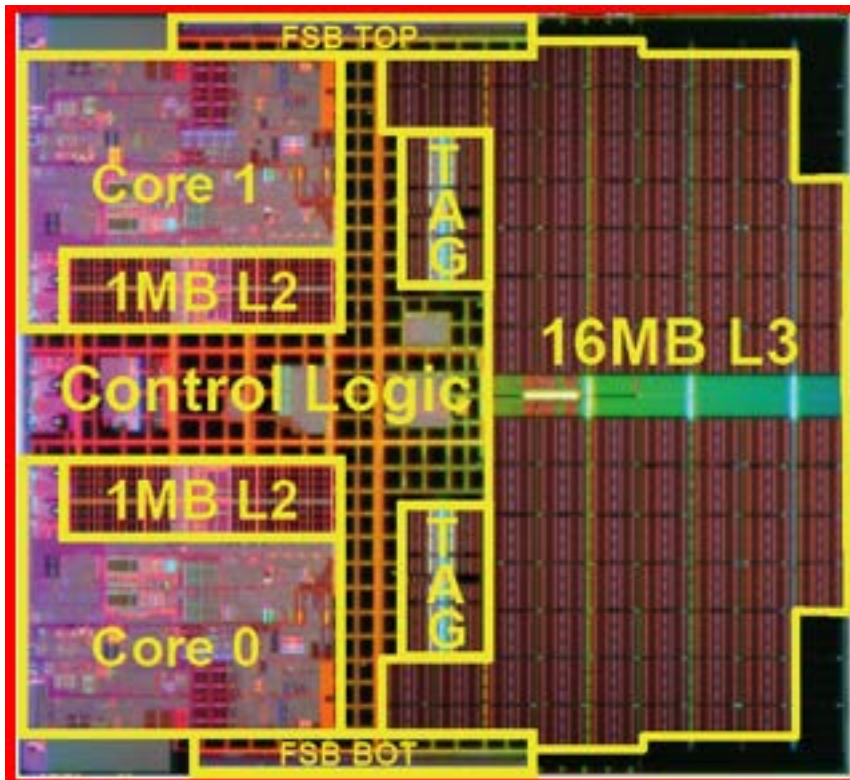
# microelectronics

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# CMOS microprocessor (65 nm technology)



# of transistors:	1.328B
# in logic core:	121M per core
size of chip:	435mm <sup>2</sup>
speed:	3.4 GHz
supply voltage:	1.25V
power dissipation:	150 W
amount of wire:	6000m
(source: ITRS)	

Rusu et. al. "A Dual-Core Multi-Threaded Xeon® Processor with 16MB L3 Cache", ISSCC, 2006

# outline

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Transistors

Integrated circuits

**The planar process**

**Moore's Law**

**Today's challenges**

**The future**



manufacturing integrated circuits:

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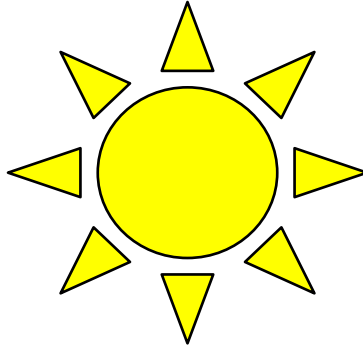
# How a CPU is Made (Global Foundries)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qm67wbB5Gml>

# optical lithography

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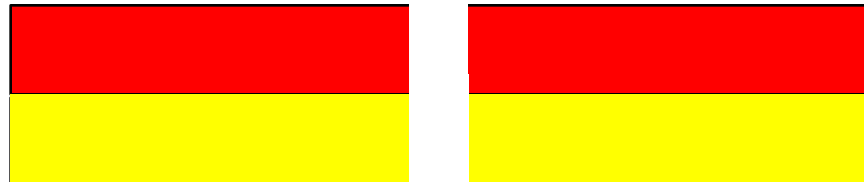
Illumination source



mask



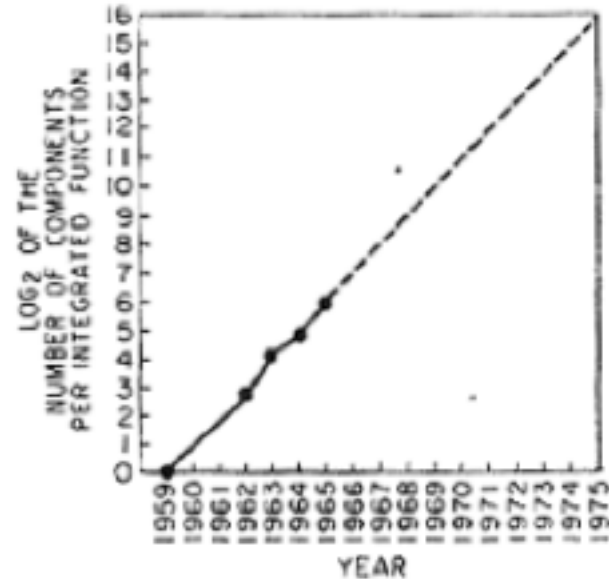
resist  
oxide



wafer



# Moore's Law

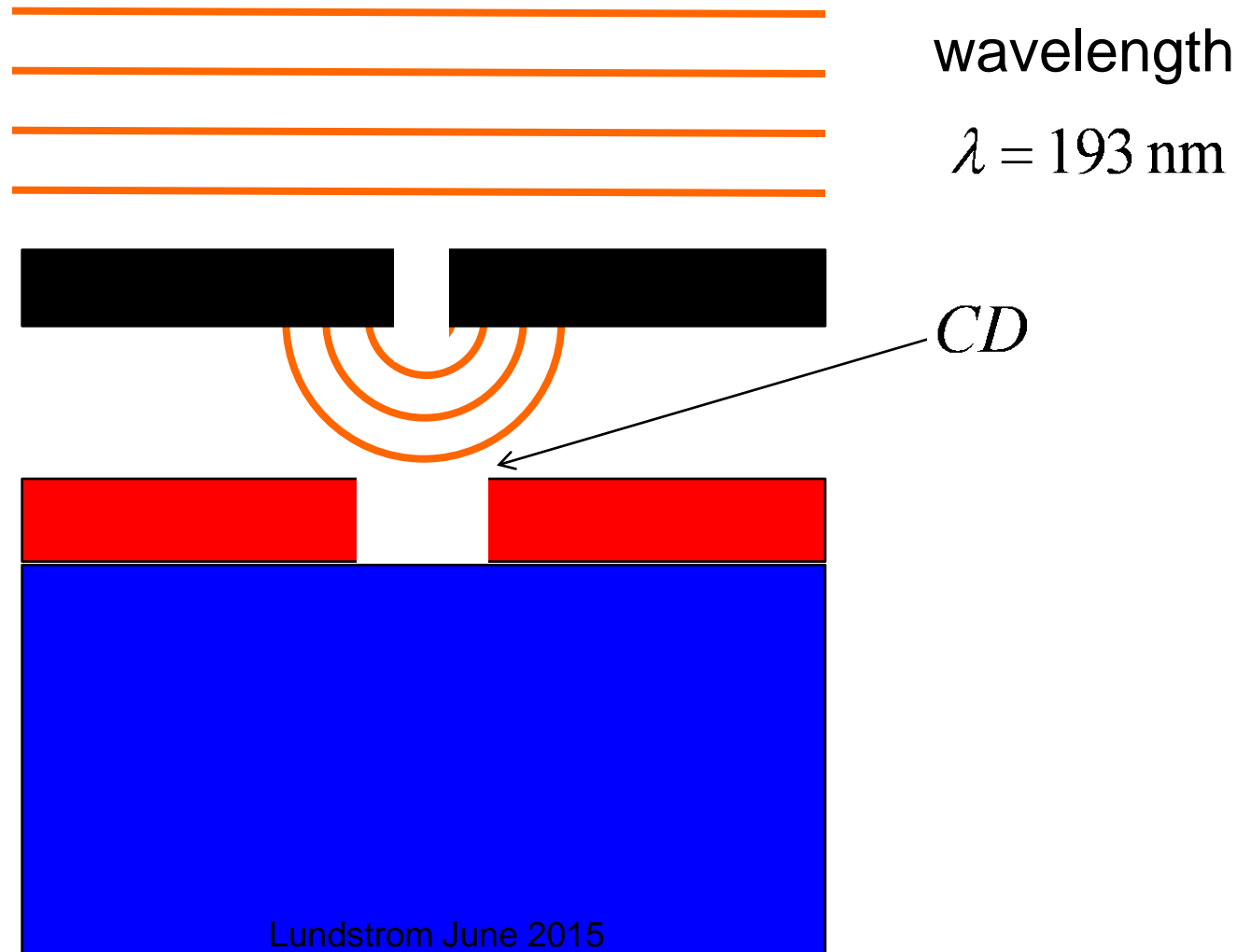


*Electronics*, vol. 38,  
April 19, 1965

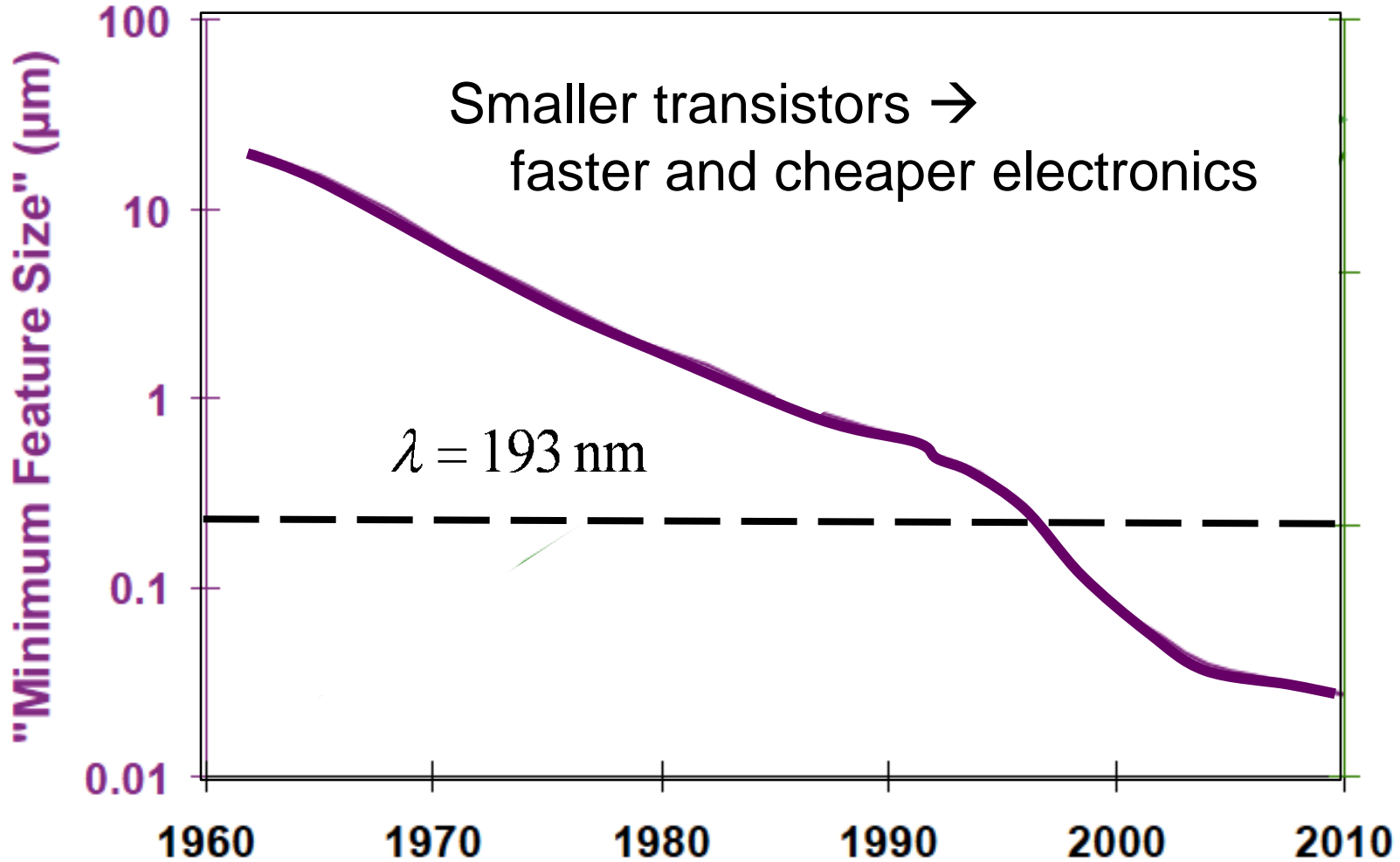
"The number of transistors incorporated in a chip will approximately double every 24 months."

-- Gordon Moore, Intel co-founder

# diffraction

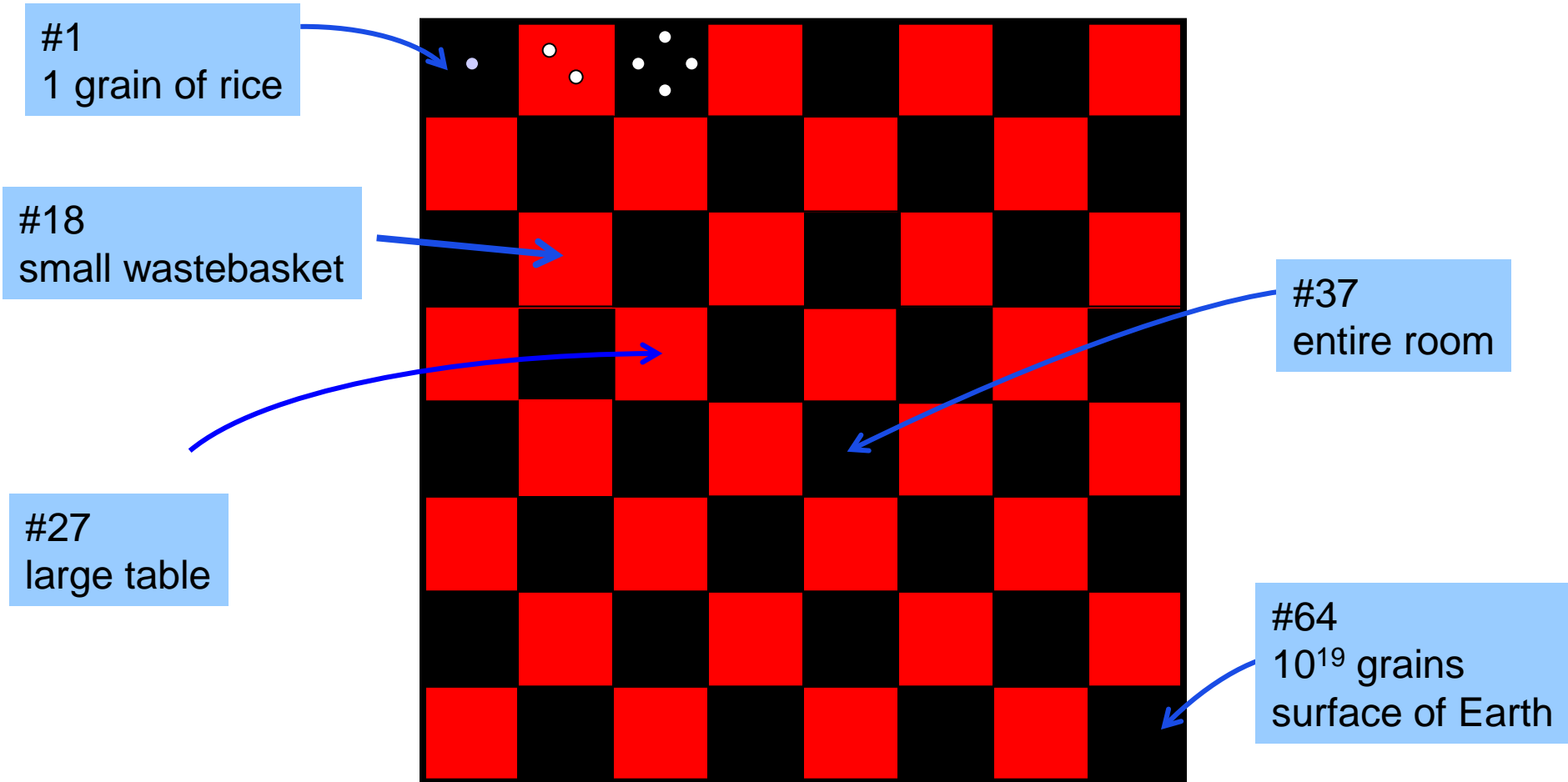


# Challenges: scaling



Source: Semiconductor Industry Association (ITRS and WTSS)

# exponential growth

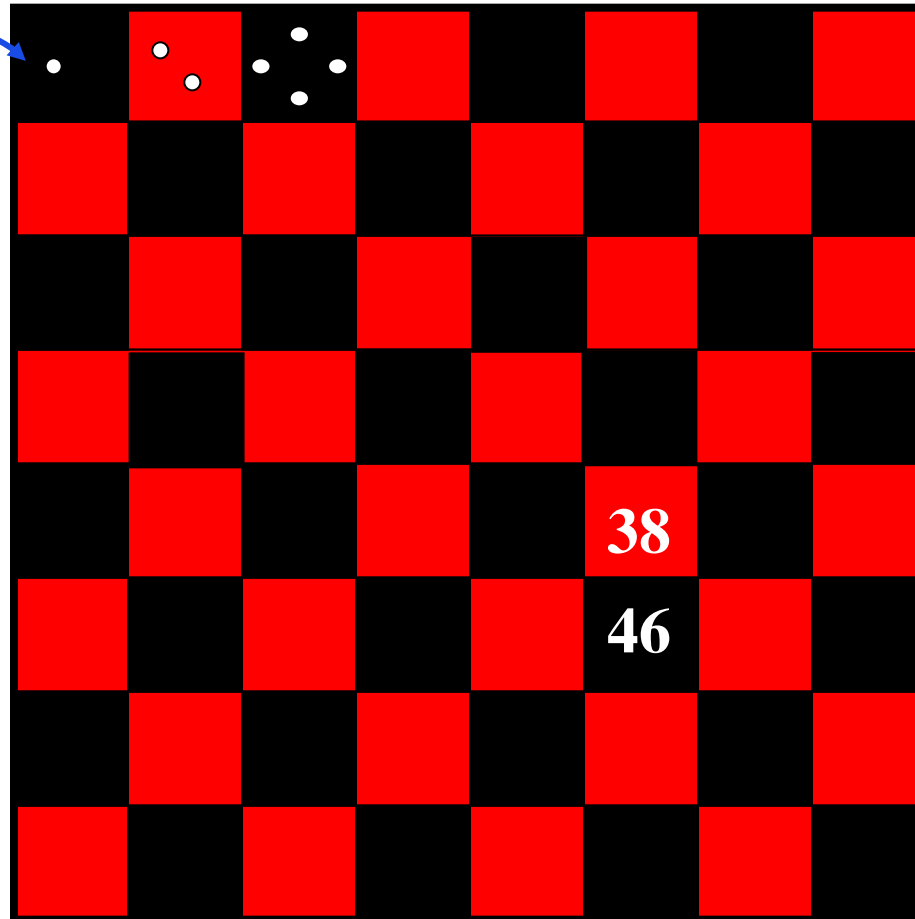


from "Digital Immortal," by R.W. Lucky, *New Republic*, Nov. 8. 1999

# exponential growth

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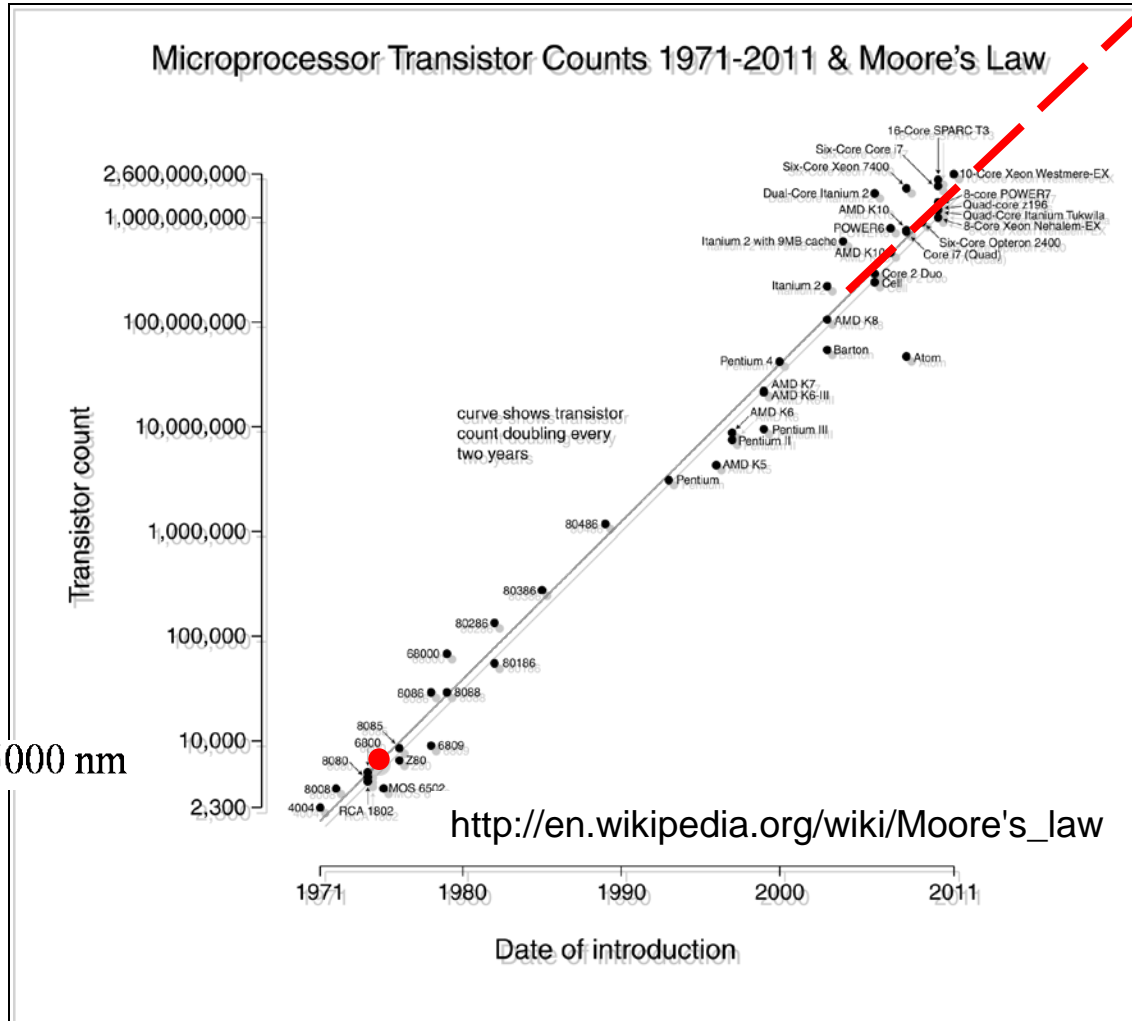
#1  
First transistor  
(1947)



# Moore's Law



$L = 5000 \text{ nm}$





# the dawn of 21<sup>st</sup> Century electronics: 2007

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CMOS transistors for logic  
III-V transistors for RF  
A/D and D/A convertors  
Digital Signal processor  
Microprocessor  
ROM and FLASH memory



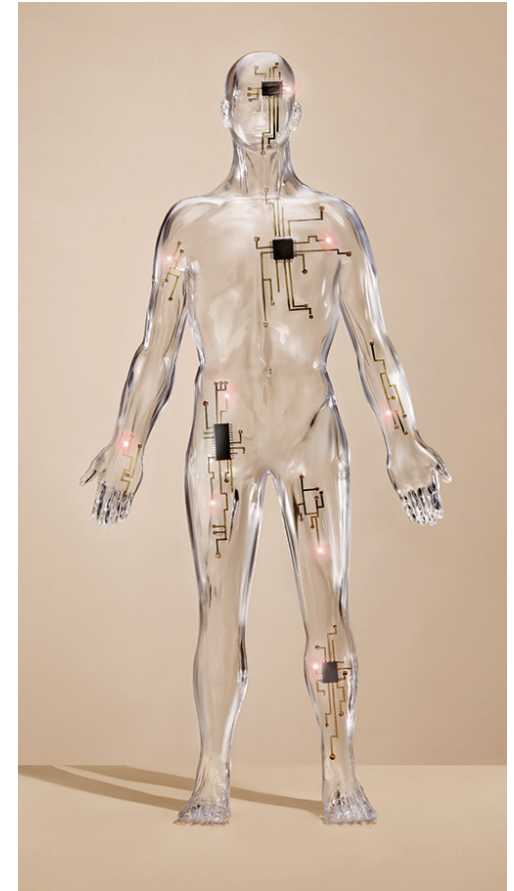
[www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)

CMOS imager  
Gyroscope  
MEMS devices  
Magnetometer  
Microphone, speaker  
LCD display and touch screen

# a technological threshold?

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- We Will End Disability by Becoming Cyborgs
- Robots Will Pave the Way to Mars
- Make Your Own World With Programmable Matter
- Digital Actors Go Beyond the Uncanny Valley
- The Rise of the Personal Power Plant
- Wearable Computers Will Transform Language
- Driverless Cars: Optional by 2024, Mandatory by 2044
- So, Where Are My Robot Servants?



“The Future We Deserve”, *IEEE Spectrum*, Jan. 2015.


# The World Is Fast

## Recent Elections Missed the Biggest Challenge of All


NOV. 4, 2014



**Thomas L.  
Friedman**

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 More

We've just had a nonsense midterm election. Never has more money been spent to think so little about a future so in flux. What would we have discussed if we'd had a serious election? How about the biggest challenge we're facing today: The resilience of our workers, environment and institutions.

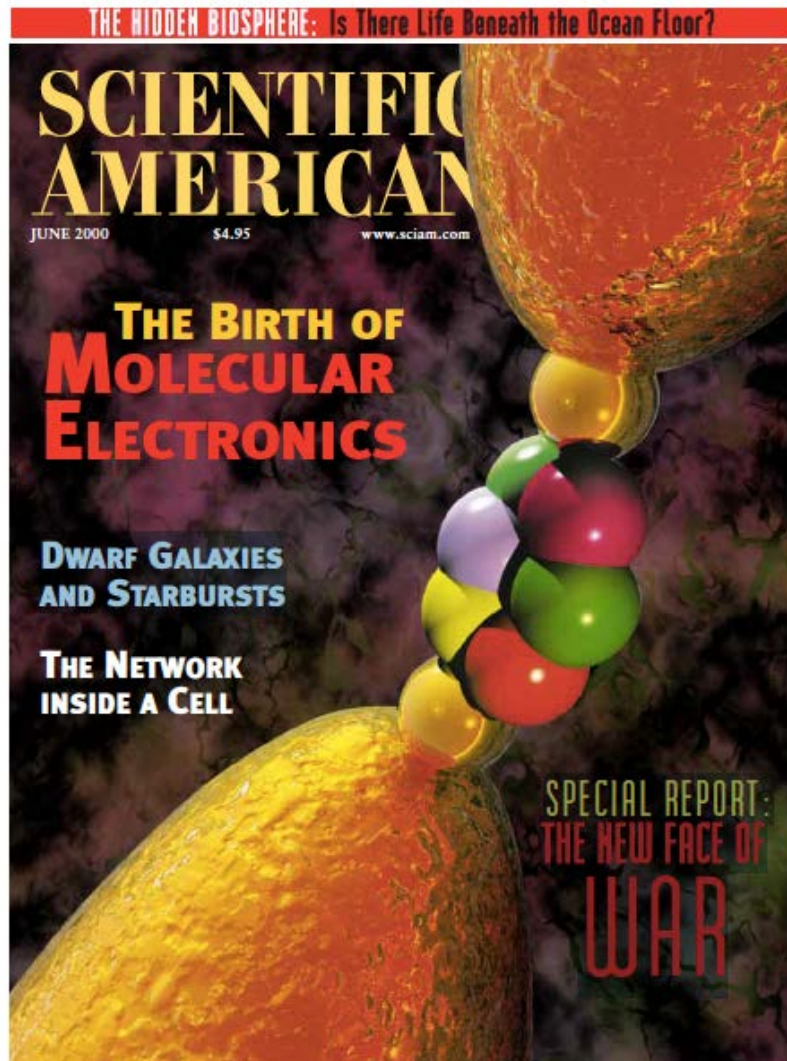
*The world is fast. The three biggest forces on the planet — the market, Mother Nature and Moore's Law — are all surging, really fast, at the same time.*

globalization, is tying economies more tightly together than ever before, making our workers, investors and markets much more interdependent and exposed to global trends, without walls to protect them.

Moore's Law, the theory that the speed and power of microchips will double every two years, is, as Andrew McAfee and Erik Brynjolfsson posit in their book, "The Second Machine Age," so relentlessly increasing the power of software, computers and robots that they're now replacing many more traditional white-collar jobs from June 2015, while spinning off new ones — all of which require more skills.

# The end of Moore's Law?

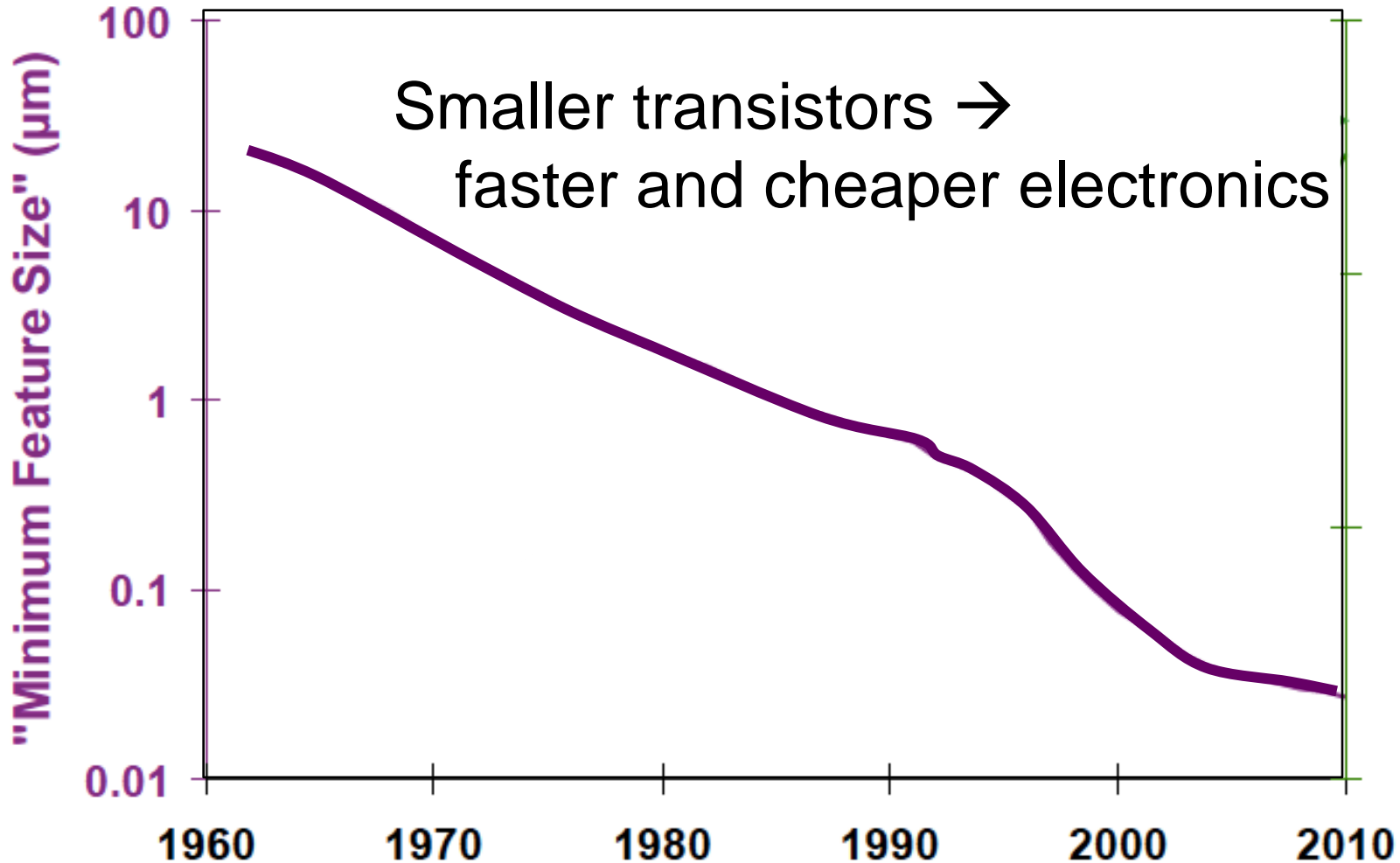
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**Molecular Electronics  
Will Change Everything**  
It's the dawn of a new  
technological revolution –  
and the death of silicon.”

(archive.wired.com)

# Challenges: scaling



Lundstrom June 2015

Source: Semiconductor Industry Association (ITRS and WTSS)



# Challenges: power

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personal electronics



server farms



“Power, pollution, and the Internet,” NY Times, Sept. 22, 2012

# Novel nanoelectronic devices

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Carbon nanotubes

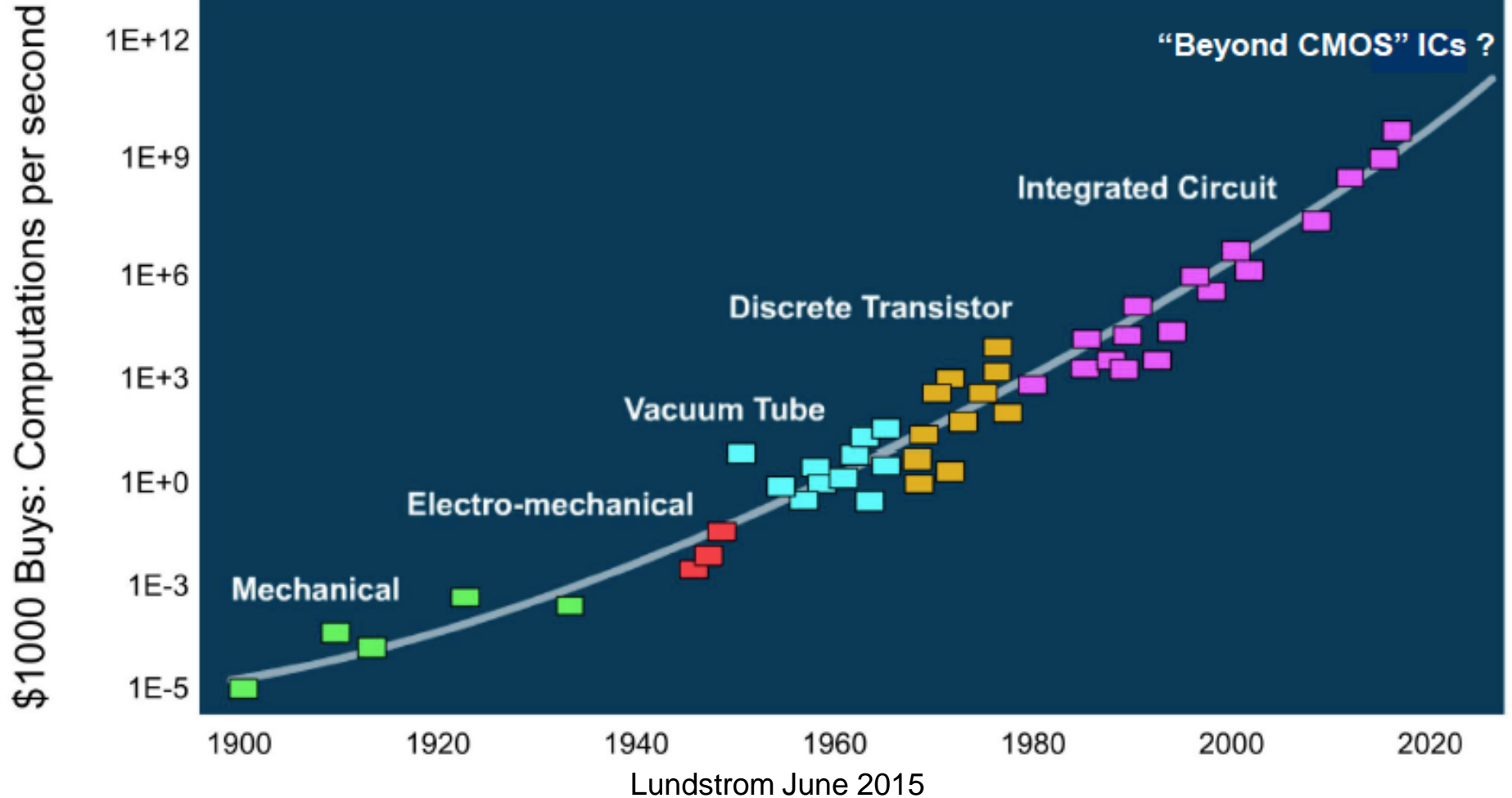
Graphene and 2D materials

Spintronics

Topological insulators

...

# What will it mean?





# The future of electronics?

# “Personal Computer without ICs”



*Scientists from the RAND Corporation have created this model to illustrate how a “home computer” could look like in the year 2004. However the needed technology will not be economically feasible for the average home. Also the scientists readily admit that the computer will require not yet invented technology to actually work, but 50 years from now scientific progress is expected to solve these problems. With teletype interface and the Fortran language, the computer will be easy to use.*

Source: Popular Mechanics, 1954

## Predicting the Great Achievements of the 21st Century

Looking at the technologies of 1914 might give a hint to the future

By Robert W. Lucky

Posted 25 Dec 2014 | 16:00 GMT

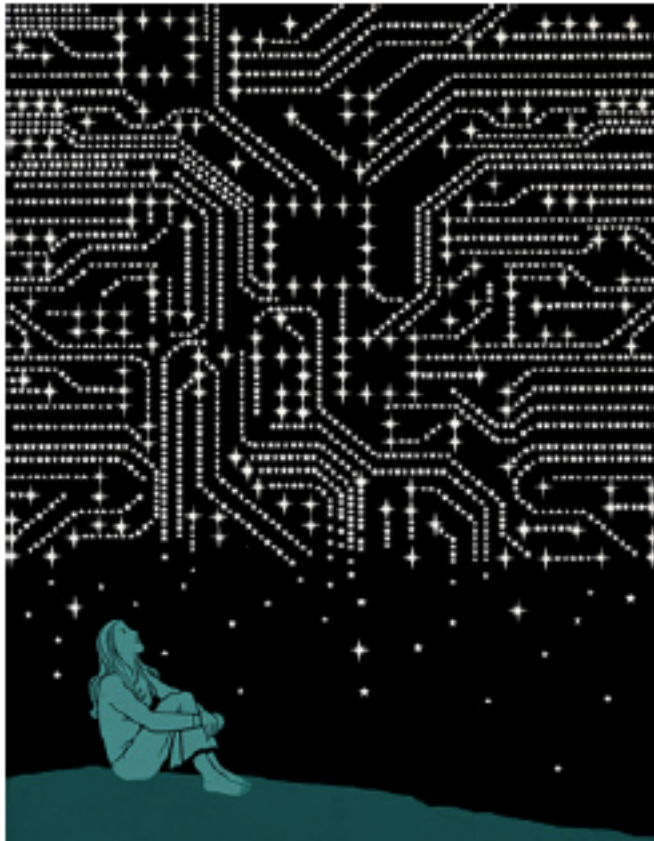


Illustration: Dan Page

“Think of what we knew in 1915 of the achievements that would come to be listed in 2000. It’s actually quite a bit.

- 1) Things that have already happened or are well under way.
- 2) Things we can anticipate – or should have.
- 3) Things we can’t possibly predict.

# Wrap-up

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Solid-state electronics (microelectronics / nanoelectronics) is one of the significant accomplishments in human history.

It transformed the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

It will have even greater impact in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

But there are many hard, interesting, and important research challenges to address.