



Desktop computer



Laptop



Netbook



Hybrid



Tablet



Smartphone

<http://www.computerhope.com>

TYPES OF COMPUTERS

Edited by:

Dr. Gajanana Prabhu B.

Assistant Professor

Department of P G Studies & Research in Physical Education

Kuvempu University

Classification of Computers

By Type

Analog

Digital

Hybrid

By Size

Micro

Mini

Mainframe

Super

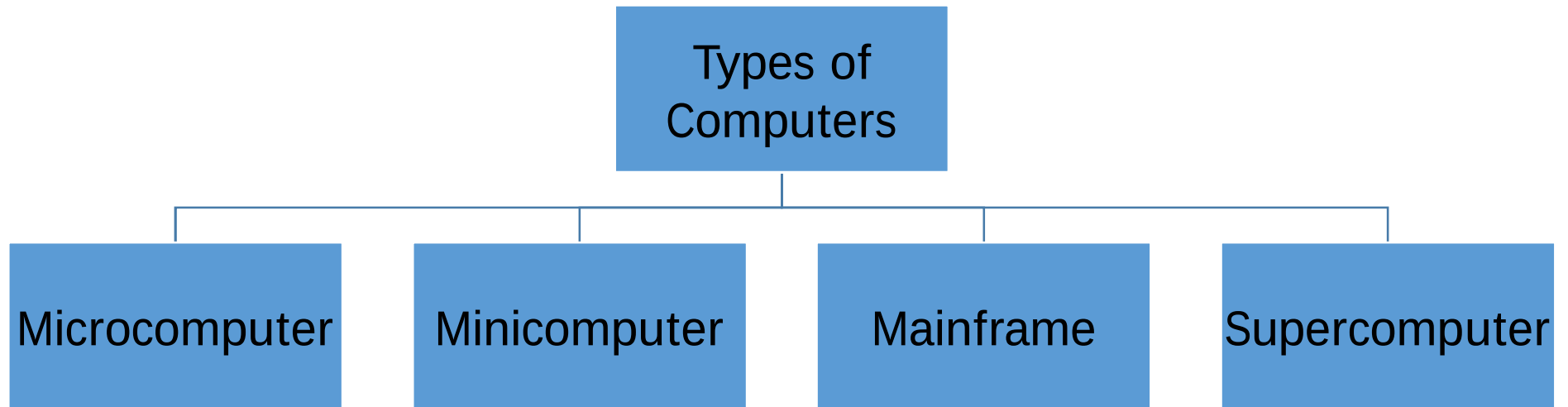
By Purpose

General
Purpose

Special
Purpose

VidyaGyaan.com

Types of Computers



MICROCOMPUTER

- Can be classified into:
 - Desktop PCs
 - sits on desks, rarely moved, large and bulky.
 - Memory capacity, graphics capacity and software availability vary from one computer to another Used both for business and home applications

MICROCOMPUTER

- Portable PCs
 - Can be moved easily from place to place
 - Weight may varies
 - Small PCs are popular known as laptop
 - Widely used by students, scientist, reporters, etc

Microcomputer Model

Desktop



Laptop



Notebook



Subnotebook



Palmtop



Microcomputer

- **Advantages**
 - Small size
 - Low cost
 - Portability
 - Low Computing Power
 - Commonly used for personal applications
- **Disadvantages**
 - Low processing speed

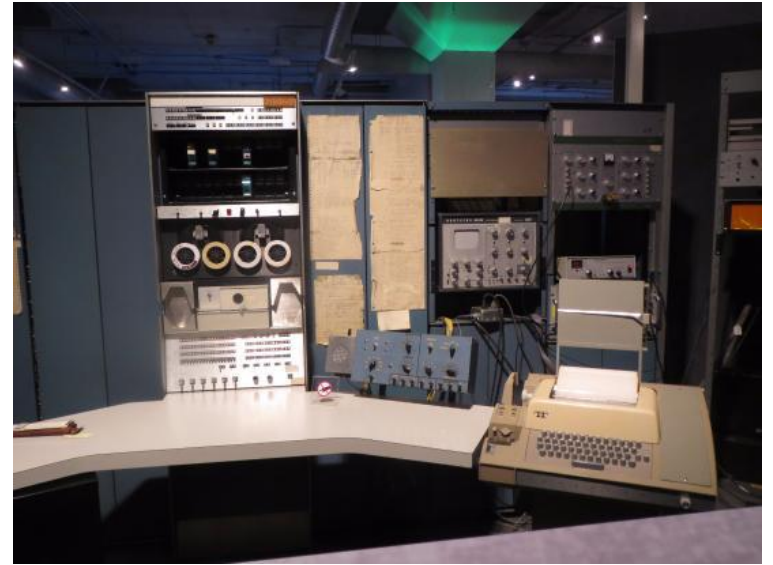
Uses of Microcomputer

- Word Processing
- Home entertainment
- Home banking
- Printing
- Surfing the internet
- etc

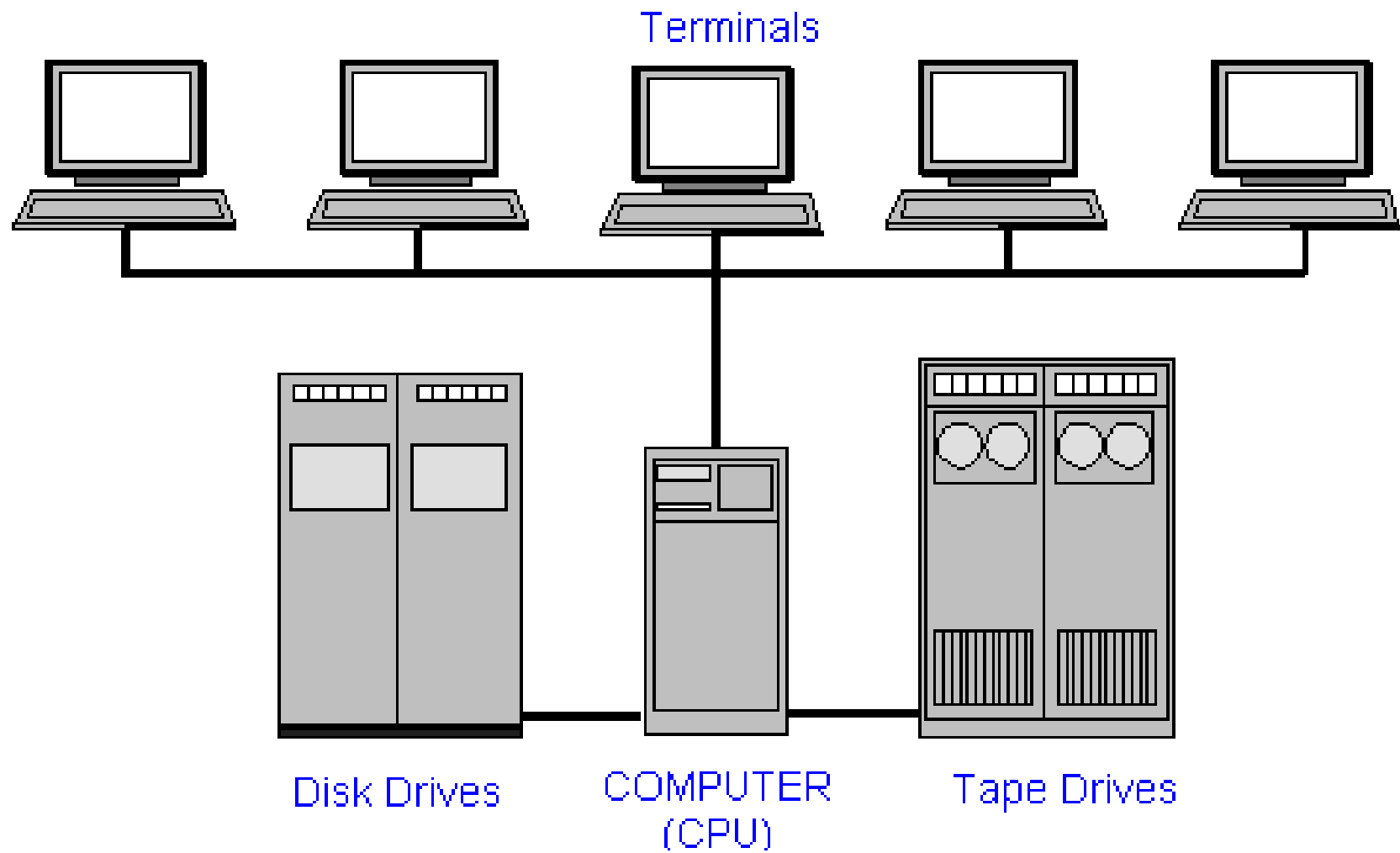
MINICOMPUTER

- Medium sized computer
- Also called the minis
 - e.g. IBM36, HP9000, etc
- Computing power lies between microcomputer and mainframe computer





From Computer Desktop Encyclopedia
© 1998 The Computer Language Co. Inc.



MiniComputer

- Characteristics
 - Bigger size than PCs
 - Expensive than PCs
 - Multi-User
 - Difficult to use
 - More computing power than PCs
 - Used by medium sized business organizations, colleges, libraries and banks.

Uses of Minicomputer

- Control of Automated Teller Machine (ATMs)
- Payroll
- Hospital patients registration
- Inventory Control for supermarket
- Insurance claims processing
- Small bank accounting and customer details tracking

Minicomputer

- Advantage

- Cater to multiple users
- Lower costs than mainframes

- Disadvantage

- Large
- Bulky

MAINFRAME

- Known as **enterprise servers**
- Occupies entire rooms or floors
- Used for centralized computing
- Serve distributed users and small servers in a computing network





Mainframe Computer



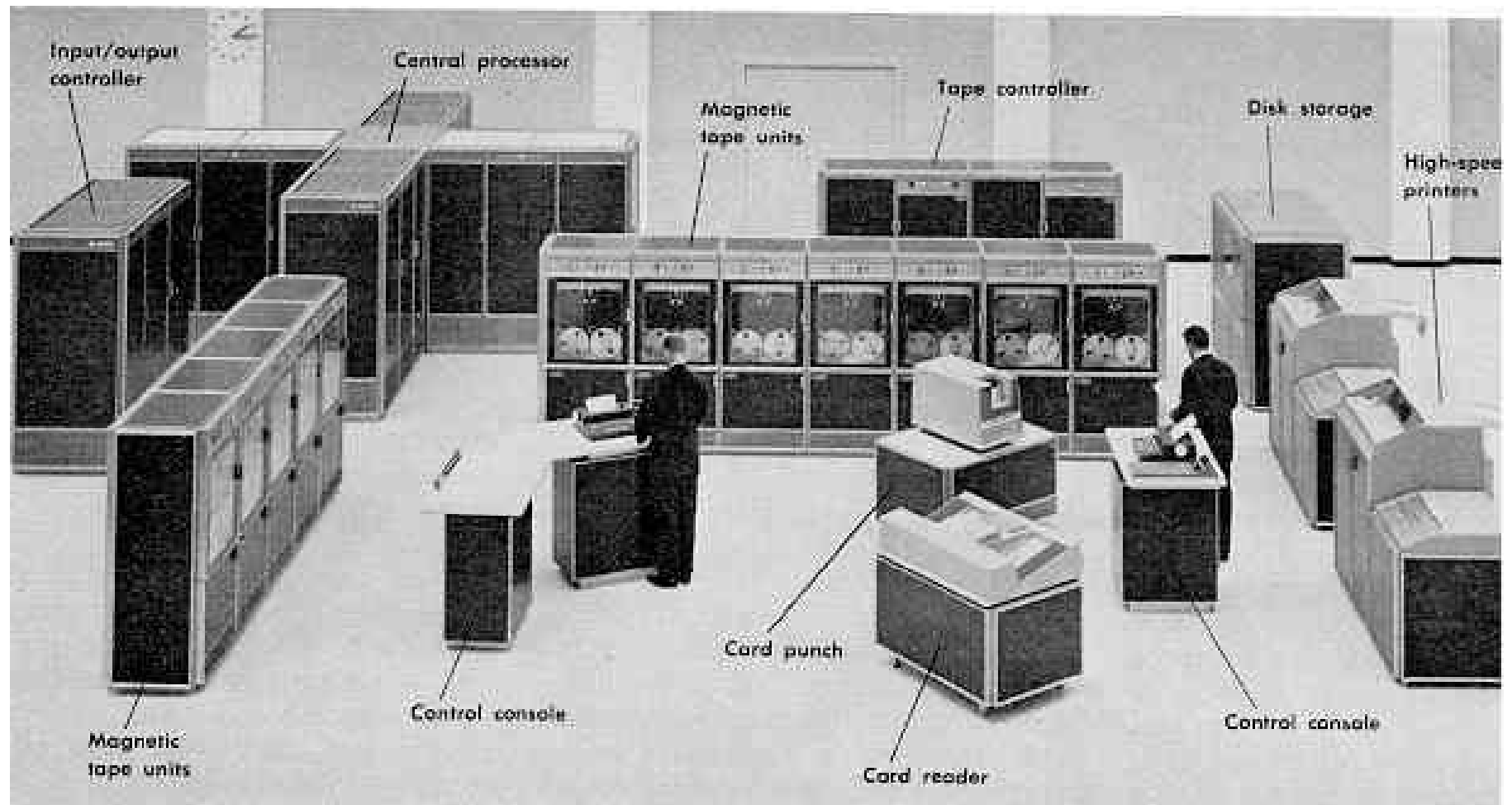


Main Frame

- Large, fast and expensive computer
- Cost Lakhs of Rupees
 - e.g. IBM3091, ICL39, etc
- Characteristics:
 - Bigger in size than minicomputers
 - Very expensive
 - Support a few hundred users simultaneously (Multi-Users)
 - Difficult to use
 - More computing power than minicomputers
 - Have to be kept in a special air-conditioned room
 - Used in big business organizations and government departments

Areas where mainframes are used

- Airline reservation
- Big banks with hundreds of branches located all over the world
- Big universities with thousands of enrollment
- Natural gas and oil exploration companies
- Space Vehicle control
- Weather forecasting
- Animated Cartoon
- Some mainframes are designed to be extremely fast and called super computers. It is used for space launching, monitoring and controlling.





Mainframe

- Advantage

- Supports many users and instructions
- Large memory

- Disadvantage

- Huge size
- Expensive

SUPERCOMPUTER

- Fastest and expensive
- Used by applications for molecular chemistry, nuclear research, weather reports, and advanced physics
- Consists of several computers that work in parallel as a single system









Super Computer

- Advantage
 - Speed
- Disadvantage
 - Generate a large amount of heat during operation