

Workshop: Anatomy of a Personal Computer

Tutors: Andrei Petrovski* and Iain Bell*

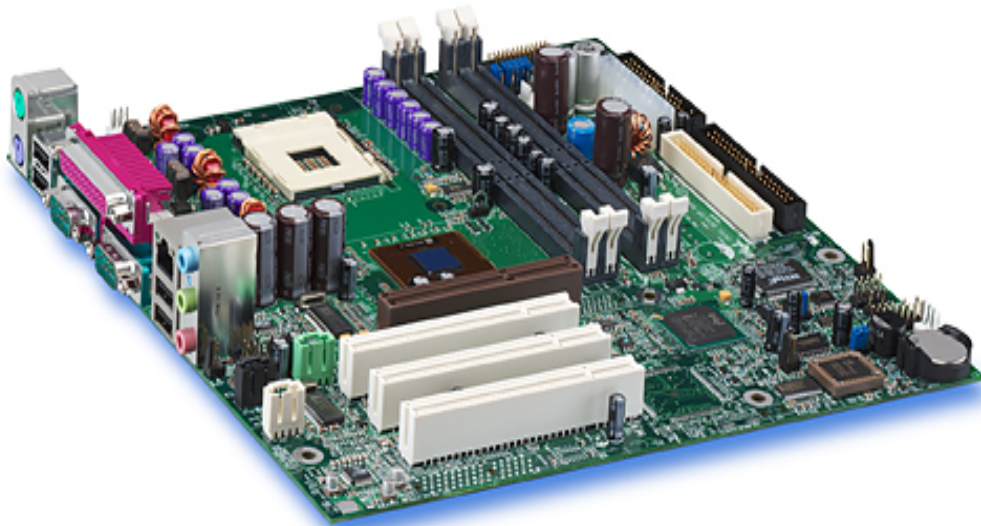
Pre-requisites: General familiarity with the main components of a PC

Necessary equipment: Some means of displaying PowerPoint slides, desk space for disassembling PC system blocks, distributed power supply (optional), PC monitors (optional)

Duration: ~ 2hours

This workshop aims at bringing to life various components of PC-based computer systems. The workshop consists of two main parts – theoretical and practical. During the first part a brief overview of computer systems is presented with a particular focus on the PC components used in the hands-on activities. Also, future trends in the development of these components, as well as some other technological advances of computer systems, will be mentioned.

The second part of the workshop is a practical session, which gives the participants a chance to assemble a personal computer from its constituent parts – memory, hard and floppy discs, and a CD-ROM. The practical session introduces a competitive element in the form of timing the process of assembling a PC and rewarding the most efficient group of participants. On request, the practical session may include a short quiz that is designed to reinforce the knowledge and skills acquired during the workshop.



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