Miwa Yokoyama
Digital Preservation & Restoration
Prof. Mona Jimenez
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Apple Computer Timeline
1990s – Present

This Apple computer timeline emphasizes changes in operating system and processor most notably. Various computer models are cited to reflect advances in specifications. Not all models could be listed, but an attempt was made to list the ones associated with major breakthroughs or "firsts". Please view the accompanying Excel spreadsheet, "07f_1807_yokoyama_a1b.xls" for a color-coded graphical timeline.

1990 **OS 6.0.5 released in March** [7]

   • *Macintosh Classic* – 16 lbs – "all-in-one" [1,8]
      - Introduced October 15, 1990; discontinued September 14, 1992
      - OS 6.0.7 – 7.5.5
      - Processor: Motorola 68000
      - Speed: 8 mHz
      - RAM: 1MB
      - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
      - modem, printer
      - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, ADB, speaker (mono)
      - 9"built-in display, 1-bit, b/w
      - 512 x 342 pixels
      - later followed by Classic II (1991) [4]

   OS 6.0.6 and 6.0.7 released on October [7]

   • *Mac LC* – introduced October 1990 – 8.8 lbs [1,8]
      - Introduced October 15, 1990; discontinued March 23, 1992
      - OS 6.0.7 – 7.5.5
      - Processor: Motorola 68020
      - Speed: 16 mHz
      - RAM: 2MB
      - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
      - LC PDS slot
      - modem, printer
      - SCSI (DB-25), serial, ADB, Video (DB-15), Audio i/o, speaker (mono)
      - separate display
      - later followed by LC II (1992) [4]

1991 **OS 6.0.8 released in April** [7]

OS 7 introduced in May [7]

• *Powerbook 100* – introduced October 1991 – 5.1 lbs
Designed and manufactured by Sony for Apple – **first portable Mac** (after Mac
Portable) [1,8]

        - Introduced October 21, 1991; discontinued August 3, 1992
        - OS 7.1 – 7.5.5
        - Processor: Motorola MC 68000
        - Speed: 16 mHz
        - RAM: 2MB
        - internal floppy drive: none
        - modem, printer
        - SCSI (HDI-30), serial, ADB, Audio out, speaker (mono)
        - 1-bit 640x400 screen resolution, b/w
        - followed by many updated versions

1992   **OS 7.1 released in August** [7]
        • *Macintosh Quadra 950* – 36 lbs [1,8]
            - Introduced May 18, 1992; discontinued October 14, 1995
            - OS 7.1 – 8.1
            - Processor: Motorola 68040
            - Speed: 33 mHz
            - RAM: 4MB expandable to 256 MB
            - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
            - optical drive: 2x CD-ROM
            - 1 PDS slot, 5 NuBus
            - modem, printer, ethernet AAUI-15
            - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 2 ADB, Audio out stereo 8-bit mini, audio in
        mono 8-bit mini, speaker (mono), video out (db-15)
            - separate display

        • *Macintosh IIvx* – 35 lbs. [1,8]
First consumer Macintosh with a built-in CD-ROM drive and metal case. [8]
            - Introduced October 19, 1992; discontinued October 21, 1993
            - OS 7.1 – 7.6.1
            - Processor: Motorola 68030
            - Speed: 32 mHz
            - RAM: 4MB expandable to 68 MB
            - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
            - optical drive: optional 2x CD-ROM
            - 1 PDS slot, 3 NuBus
            - modem, printer
            - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 2 ADB, Audio out mono 8-bit mini, audio in

mono 8-bit mini, speaker (mono), video out (db-15)
- separate display

1993 **Power PC processor introduced**. [3]
- *Macintosh Colour Classic* – **first compact Macintosh computer with a color monitor** – 22.5 lbs. [1,8]
    - Introduced February 10, 1993; discontinued May 16, 1994
    - OS 7.0.1 – 7.6.1
    - Processor: Motorola 68030
    - Speed: 16 mHz
    - RAM: 2MB expandable to 10 MB
    - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
    - modem, printer
    - SCSI (DB-25), Audio out mono 8-bit mini, audio in mono 8-bit mini, speaker (mono), microphone (mono)

- *Newton Message Pad* released in August (PDA) [8]

1994 **OS 7.5 released** [7]

- *PowerMac 6100/60* – **first Macintosh desktop with Power PC processor** – 14 lbs [1,8]
    - Introduced March 14, 1994; discontinued January 3, 1995
    - OS 7.1.2 – 9.1
    - Processor: Power PC 601
    - Speed: 60/66 mHz
    - RAM: 8MB expandable to 72 MB
    - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
    - optical drive: optional 2x CD-ROM
    - PDS or 7" NuBus (AV card fills both)
    - modem, printer, ethernet AAUI-15
    - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 1 ADB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, speaker (mono), video out HDI-45
    - separate display

- *Quadra 610 (DOS Compatible)* – capable of running MS-DOS and Windows [4] -- 14 lbs. [1]
    - Introduced February 28, 1994; discontinued June 13, 1994
    - OS 7.1 – 8.0
    - Processor: Motorola 68040
    - Speed: 25 mHz
    - RAM: 4MB expandable to 68 MB
    - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive

- modem, printer, ethernet AAUI-15
- SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 2 ADB, Audio out mono 8-bit mini, audio in mono 8-bit mini, speaker (mono), pc game port
- separate display

1995 • *PowerBook 5300* – **first Power PC PowerBook – introduced August 25, 1995** – 6.2 lbs. [1,8]
        - Introduced August 25, 1995; discontinued late 1996
        - OS 7.5.2 – 9.1
        - Processor: Power PC 603e
        - Speed: 100 mHz
        - RAM: 8MB expandable to 64 MB
        - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
        - modem, printer, mic line in
        - SCSI (HDI-30), 1 serial, 1 ADB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in -- stereo 16-bit mini, speaker (mono), video (mini-15)

1996 **OS 7.5.5 Released** [7]
• *Performa 6400* – **first consumer-aimed mid-range computer** – 44.5 lbs [1,8]
        - Introduced August 1994; discontinued mid-1997
        - OS 7.5.3 – 9.1
        - Processor: Power PC 603e
        - Speed: 180/200 mHz
        - RAM: 8MB expandable to 136 MB
        - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
        - optical drive: optional 8x CD-ROM
        - expansion slots: 2 PCI, comm., video i/o, TV
        - internal modem, printer, speaker line in, headphone, remote control
        - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 1 ADB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, speaker (mono), built-in subwoofer, 2 geoports, video out (db-15)
        - separate display, Ethernet optional

1997 **January - OS 7.6 Released, July – OS 8 Released** [3]
• *PowerBook G3* – 7.5 lbs [1,8] – faster G3 processor
        - Introduced November 1997; discontinued May 1998
        - OS 8.0 – 9.1
        - Processor: Power PC 750 (G3)
        - Speed: 250 mHz
        - RAM: 32MB expandable to 160 MB
        - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
        - optical drive: 20x CD-ROM
        - expansion slots: 2 type II PC card (1 type III)

- printer, modem, speaker, headphone
- SCSI (HDI-30), 1 serial, 1 ADB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, speaker (stereo), microphone mono, Ethernet (10BaseT), video out (HDI-15)
- 16-bit, 800 x 600 screen resolution

• *PowerMac G3* – 33.1 lbs. [1,8]
      - Introduced November 1997; discontinued January 1999
      - OS 8.0 – 10.2.8
      - Processor: Power PC 750 (G3)
      - Speed: 233/266/300/333 mHz
      - RAM: 66MB expandable to 768 MB
      - floppy drive: 1.4 MB SuperDrive
      - optical drive: 24x CD-ROM, zip drive optional
      - expansion slots: 3 PCI, 1 personality
      - modem, printer, speaker line in, headphone
      - SCSI (DB-25), 2 serial, 1 ADB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, speaker (mono), video out (db-15), Ethernet (10baseT)
      - separate display

1998 • *iMac* – **first Apple computer with USB port & fastest selling computer in history** – 40 lbs. -- [3, 10]
      - Introduced August 1998; discontinued January 1999 [1,8]
      - OS 8.1 – 10.3.9
      - Processor: Power PC 750 (G3)
      - Speed: 233 mHz
      - RAM: 32MB expandable to 256 MB
      - no floppy drive
      - optical drive: 24x CD-ROM
      - internal modem, built-in speaker with stereo sound, headphone, Ethernet (10/100BaseT)
      - 2 USB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, microphone (mono)
      - 16-bit, 1024 x 768 screen resolution

1999 **June - OS 8.6 released, November – OS 9** [7]
• *PowerMac G3 (blue & white)* **- new Firewire connection** – 28.7 lbs [1,8]
      - Introduced January 1999; terminated December 1999
      - OS 8.5.1 – 10.4.11
      - Processor: Power PC 750 (G3)
      - Speed: 300/350/400/450 mHz
      - RAM: 64MB expandable to 1 GB
      - ATA bus, zip drive optional

- optical drive: 32x CD-ROM, DVD-ROM
- internal modem optional, built-in speaker, headphone, Ethernet (10/100BaseT)
- 2 USB, 2 Firewire, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini
- separate display

• *PowerMac G4 (PCI Graphics and AGP Graphics)* – faster processor – 28.7 lbs.
  - Introduced September 1999; discontinued December 1999 [1,8]
  - OS 8.6 – 10.4.1
  - Processor: Power PC 7400 (G4)
  - Speed: 350/400 mHz
  - RAM: 64MB expandable to 1 GB
  - optical drive: 24x CD-ROM, DVD/DVD-RAM available, ATA Bus
  - internal modem, speaker (mono), headphone, Ethernet (10/100BaseT)
  - 2 USB, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, audio in stereo 16-bit mini, microphone (mono), video (15-pin VGA)
  - 16-bit, 1024 x 768 screen resolution

2000 • *PowerMac G4 Cube* - new case design (not successful) – 28.7 lbs. [1,8]
  - Introduced August 2000; discontinued July 2001
  - OS 9.0.4 – 10.4.11
  - Processor: Power PC 7400 (G4)
  - Speed: 450/500 mHz
  - RAM: 32MB expandable to 1.5 GB
  - optical drive: DVD-ROM or CD-RW
  - internal modem, speaker with stereo via USB amplifier, headphone, Ethernet (10/100BaseT), video out VGA/DVI, ADC, ATA Bus
  - 2 USB, 2 Firewire, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini with USB amplifier, airport optional
  - separate display

2001 **OS 10 officially released March 24th – a UNIX system**
iPod, portable digital musical player, introduced [3]
• *PowerBook G4* – titanium enclosure, only 1" thick – wider screen – 5.3 lbs. [1,8]
  - Introduced January 2001; discontinued October 2001
  - OS 9.1 – 10.5
  - Processor: Power PC 7410 (G4)
  - Speed: 400/500 mHz
  - RAM: expandable to 1 GB
  - optical drive: 6x DVD-ROM
  - internal modem, speaker stereo, microphone mono, Ethernet

(10/100BaseT), video out VGA, S-Video, ATA Bus
- 2 USB, 1 Firewire, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, airport optional
- 24-bit, 1152 x 768 screen resolution

2002 • *iMac (flat panel)* – redesigned iMac with 15-inch LCD screen – 21.3 lbs. [1,8]
Steve Jobs announced, "The CRT is officially dead." [8]
- Introduced January 2002; discontinued January 2003
- OS 9.2.2 – 10.5
- Processor: Power PC 7450 (G4)
- Speed: 700/800 mHz
- RAM: expandable to 1 GB
- optical drive: CD-RW/DVD-R "SuperDrive"
- internal modem, speaker mono microphone mono, Ethernet
(10/100BaseT), video out mini VGA (mirror only), ATA Bus
- 3 USB, 2 Firewire, Audio out stereo 16-bit mini, Pro Speaker, airport
optional
- 24-bit, 1024 x 768 screen resolution

2003 • *PowerMac G5* – new IBM processor – all Aluminum enclosure – 39.2 lbs. [1,8]
- Introduced June 2003; discontinued June 2004
- OS 10.2.8 – 10.5
- Processor: Power PC 970 (G5)
- Speed: 1.6/1.8/2x2.0 GHz
- RAM: expandable to 8 GB
- optical drive: 32x,16x,10x,8x,4x,2x CD-RW/DVD-RW
- internal modem, speaker stereo, microphone mono, Ethernet
(10/100/1000BaseT), video out DVI, ADC, S-Video, Serial ATA
- 3 (2.0) USB, 2 Firewire, 1 Firewire800, Audio out 2x stereo 16-bit mini,
optical S/PDIF, airport extreme optional, Bluetooth support
- 24-bit, 1152 x 768 screen resolution

2004 • *iMac G5* – housed in 2" thick LCD cinema display – 18.5 lbs. [1,8]
- Introduced August 2004; discontinued May 2005
- OS 10.3.5 – 10.5
- Processor: Power PC 970 (G5)
- Speed: 1.6/1.8 GHz
- RAM: expandable to 2 GB
- optical drive: 24x,16x,8x,4x,2x CD-RW/DVD-RW
- internal modem, speaker stereo, microphone mono, Ethernet
(10/100BaseT), video out mini VGA (mirror only), Serial ATA
- 3 (2.0) USB, 2 Firewire, Audio out stereo/optical 16-bit mini, audio in
stereo 16-bit mini, airport extreme optional, Bluetooth support
- 24-bit, 1440 x 900/1680x1050 screen resolution

2005 • *iPod Shuffle & iPod nano* introduced [8]
      • *iPod with video* introduced

2006 • *MacBook Pro* - **Intel dual core processor introduced** – 5.6 lbs. [1,8]
            - Introduced January 2006; discontinued October 2006
            - OS 10.4.4 – 10.5
            - Processor: Intel Core Duo
            - Speed: 1.83/2.0/2.16 GHz
            - RAM: expandable to 2 GB
            - expansion slot: ExpressCard/34
            - optical drive: CD-RW/DVD-RW SuperDrive
            - airport extreme, Bluetooth 2.0,, Ethernet (10/100/1000BaseT), video out
            dual link DVI, iSight camera, Serial ATA
            - 2 (2.0)USB, 1 Firewire, Audio in/out 16-bit stereo mini, optical S/PDIF,
            speaker stereo, microphone mono,
            - 24-bit, 1440 x 900 screen resolution, active matrix TFT

2007 *iPhone* introduced; **OS 10.5 "Leopard" released October 2007**

All photos courtesy of Apple.com web site.

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