

The Lessons I Learned from Bill Gates

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Microsoft – Circa 1983 to 1988



Discerning a vision for the future

- Microcomputer
- GUI
- Multimedia
- The Internet
- Think week

Vision circa 2007

- Globalization
- Accelerating pace of technology change

Key Drivers of Globalization

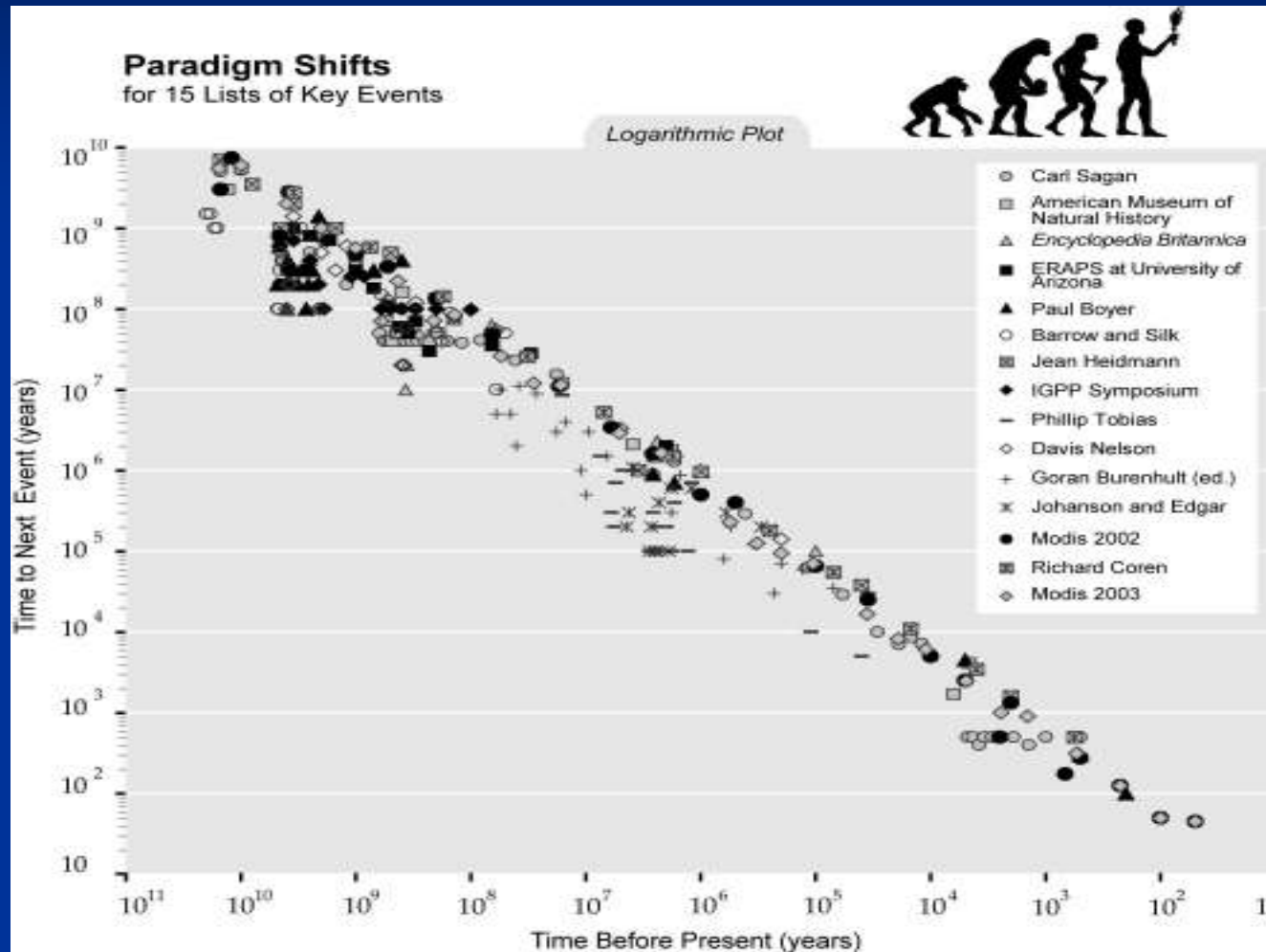
- Technological
- Political
- Economic

Six Epochs

- Physics and chemistry
- Biology and DNA – life
- Brains
- Technology
- Merger of human technology with human intelligence
- Post singularity: “The universe wakes up”

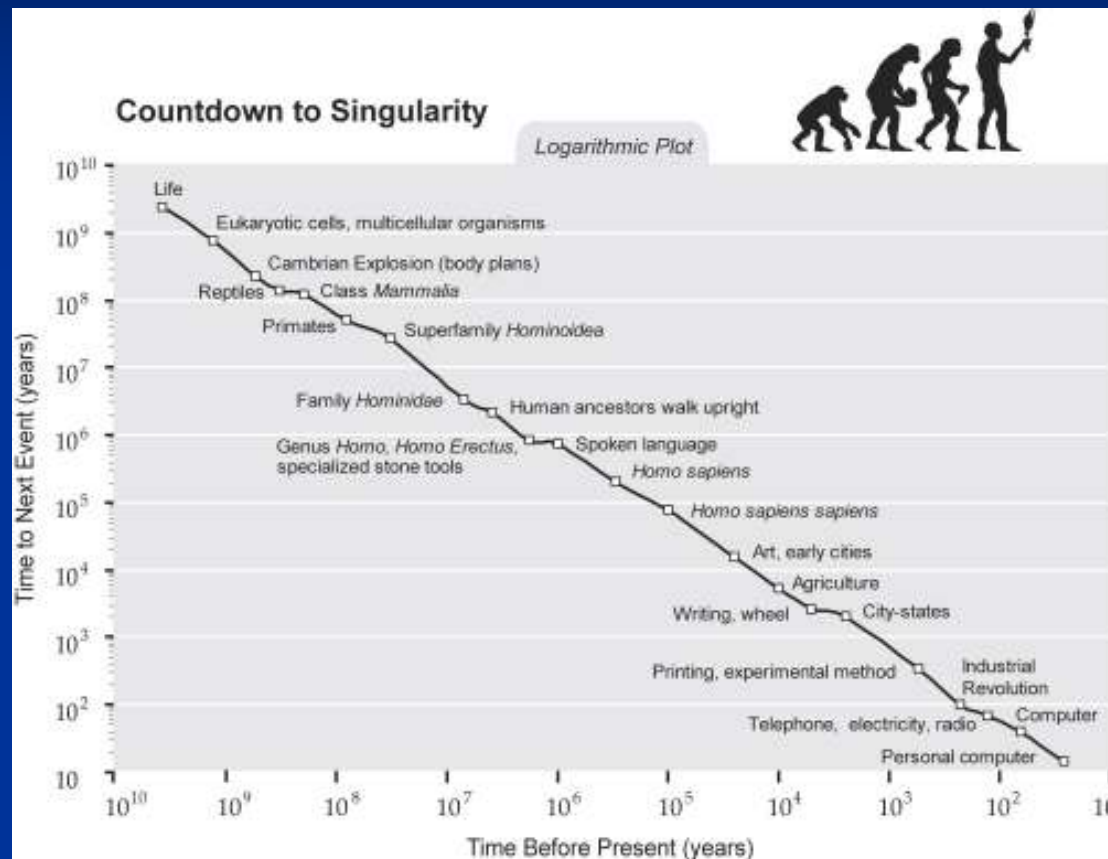
Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, pp7-33

Convergence of opinions on transformational events since the beginning of time



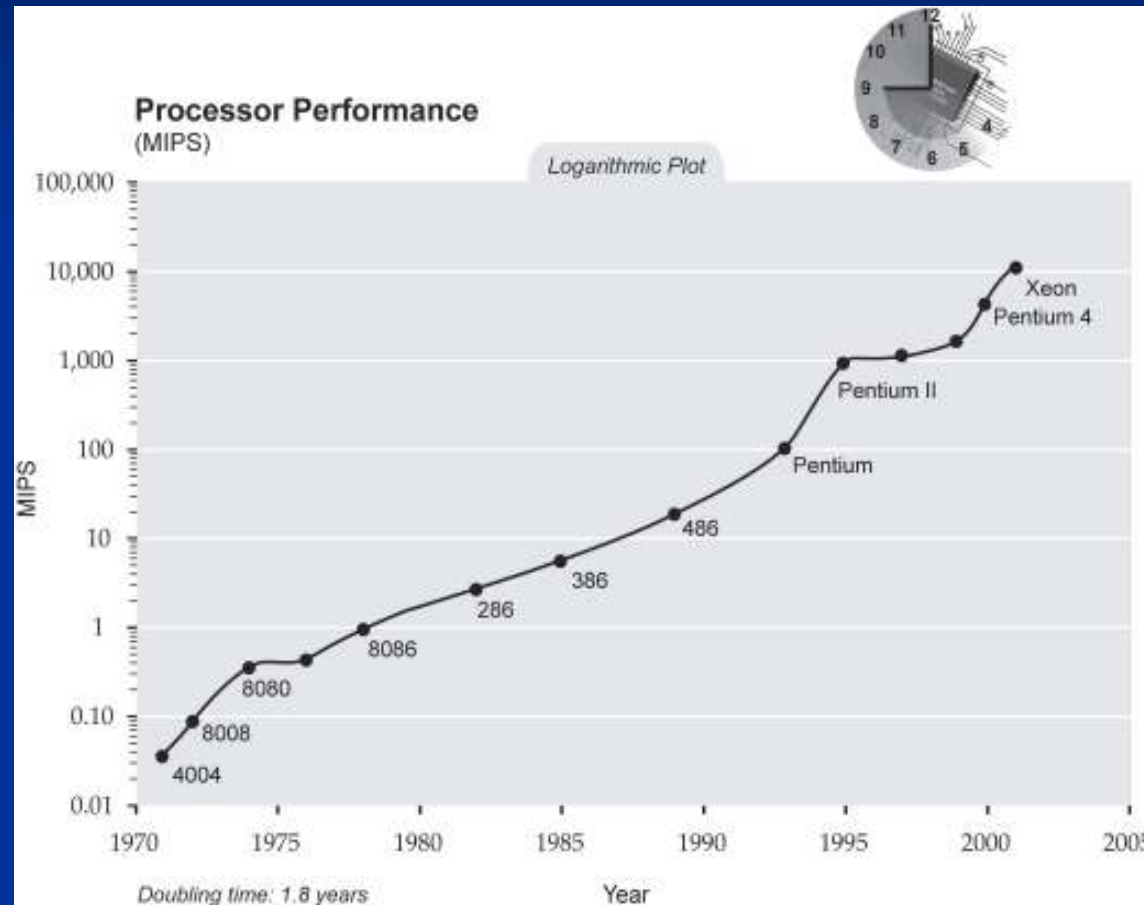
Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, p19

Theory of technological evolution: The law of accelerating returns



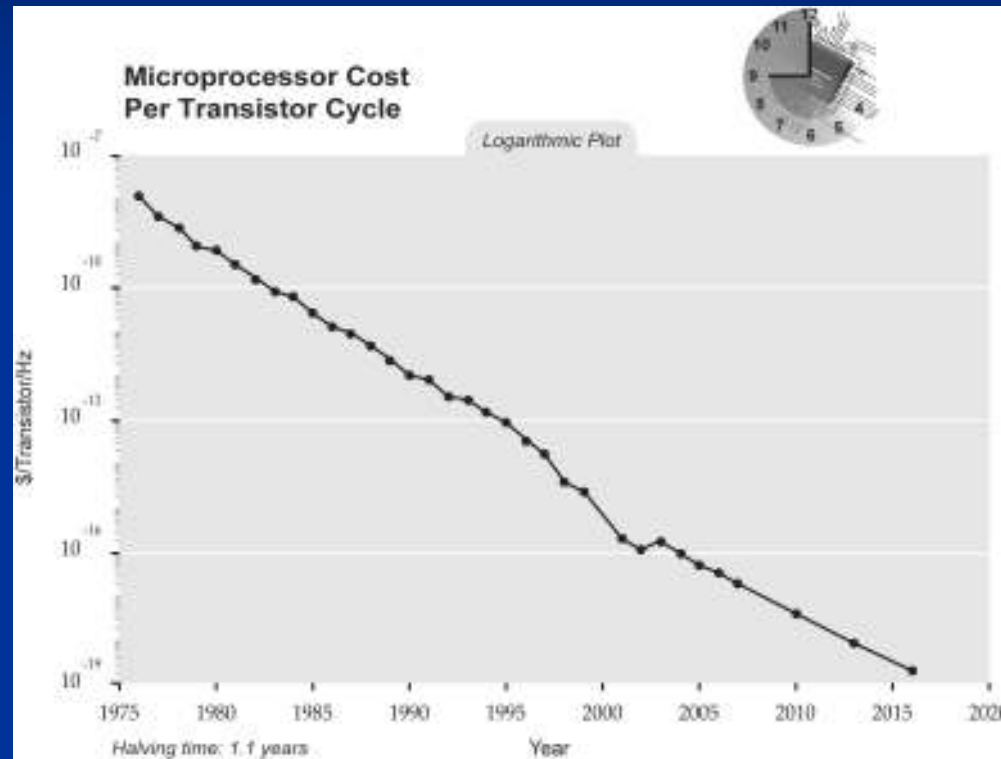
Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, p17

Increasing microprocessor performance



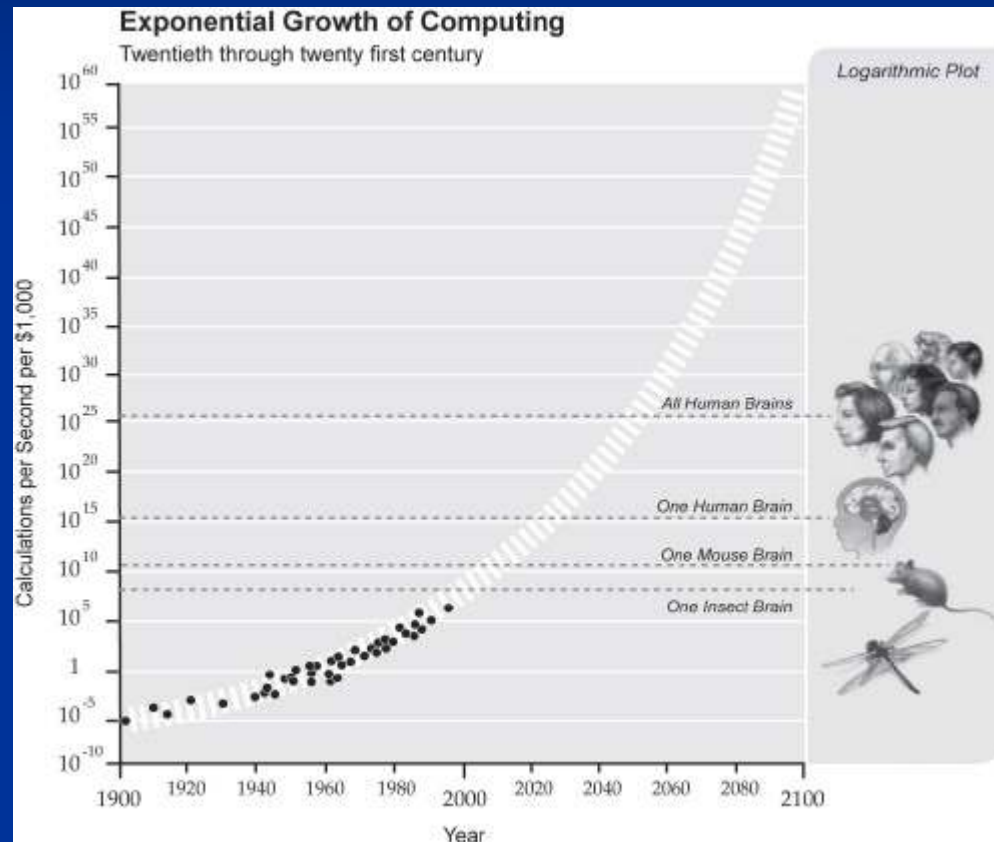
Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, p64

Decreasing cost of computing



Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, p62

Computational power that exceeds the human brain



Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*, p70

Key milestones

- Super computer that exceeds processing power of human brain by 2013 (within 7 years)
- \$1,000 (3,000 PLN) microcomputer that exceeds processing power of human brain by 2020 (within 14 years)
- Computers will pass the Turing Test by the end of the 2020's (within 24 years)
- By mid-2040's non-biological intelligence will overshadow biological intelligence by a factor of a billion

Source: Ray Kurzweil, *The Singularity is Near*

The implications

- Three Revolutions (GNR)
 - Genetics
 - Nanotechnology
 - Robotics
- Understand how the body functions
- Assembly and manipulation at molecular level
- Medicine and health
- Food and energy

Lesson #1

Discerning a vision for the future

Constructing your vision

- Ask yourself two questions:
 - What will happen in the future?
 - How can I play in it?
- Read, read, read
- Think week
- Go to conferences and meet people you don't know

Lesson #2

Build products that your customers want to buy; not necessarily what you want to sell to them

Lesson #3

Face your fears directly

Lesson #4

There's more to life than making money

Lesson #5

The “cubic centimeter” of opportunity....

.....a short lived moment in time when opportunity presents itself....

.....you need to decide whether to take advantage of it....

.....if you delay, the opportunity will be lost forever.....

Dziękuję bardzo