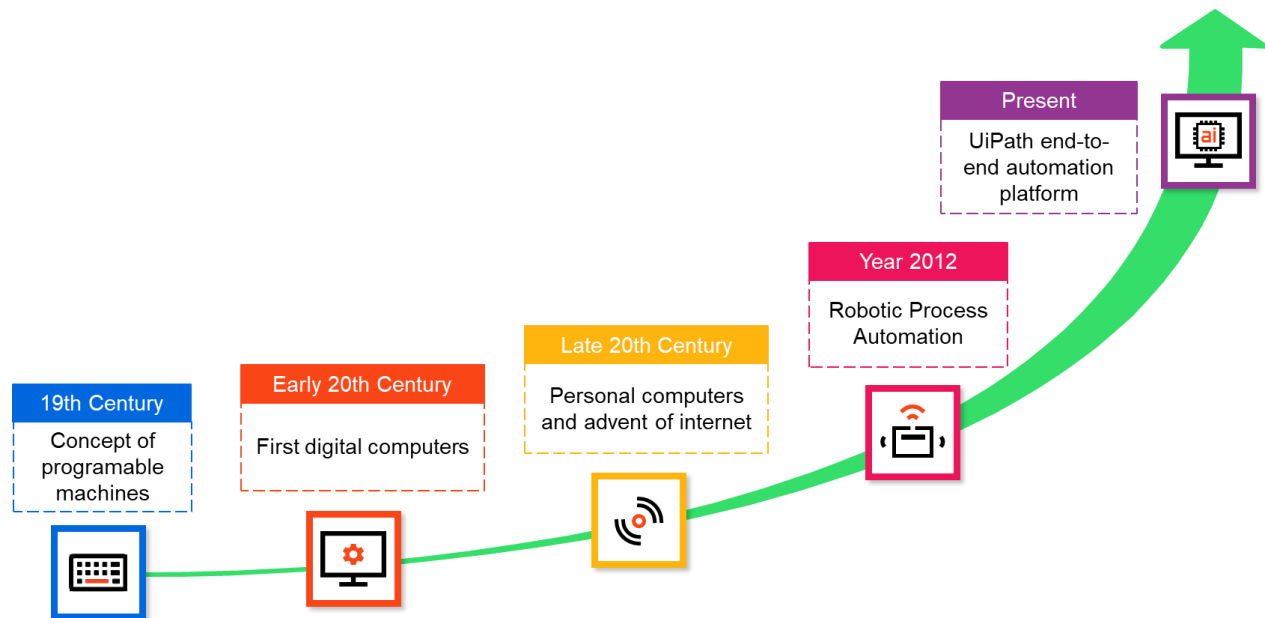**RPA Specialization**

Course 1: RPA Basics and Introduction to UiPath

History of Automation

Overview of History of Automation

In the **19th century**, the Industrial revolution brought along many advancements like the telegraph and telephone, and with them came the concept of programmable machines. This century witnessed the electrification of factories and the setting up of many production units, which created the need for centralized control.

The need for centralized control led to the fundamental steps of devising simple on/off mechanisms in the **20th century**. This need later led to the development of the first electronic digital computer, followed by personal computers and the Internet. In the latter half of the **20th century**, the advancements in data-storage technology, software to write computer programs, advances in sensor technology, etc., contributed to the progress in automation technology.

In the **21st century**, Robotic Process Automation (RPA) was introduced. RPA, in its early stage, was focused on automating repetitive and rules-based, un-intelligent tasks. We are witnessing RPA evolve with AI to develop cognitive automation in contemporary times.