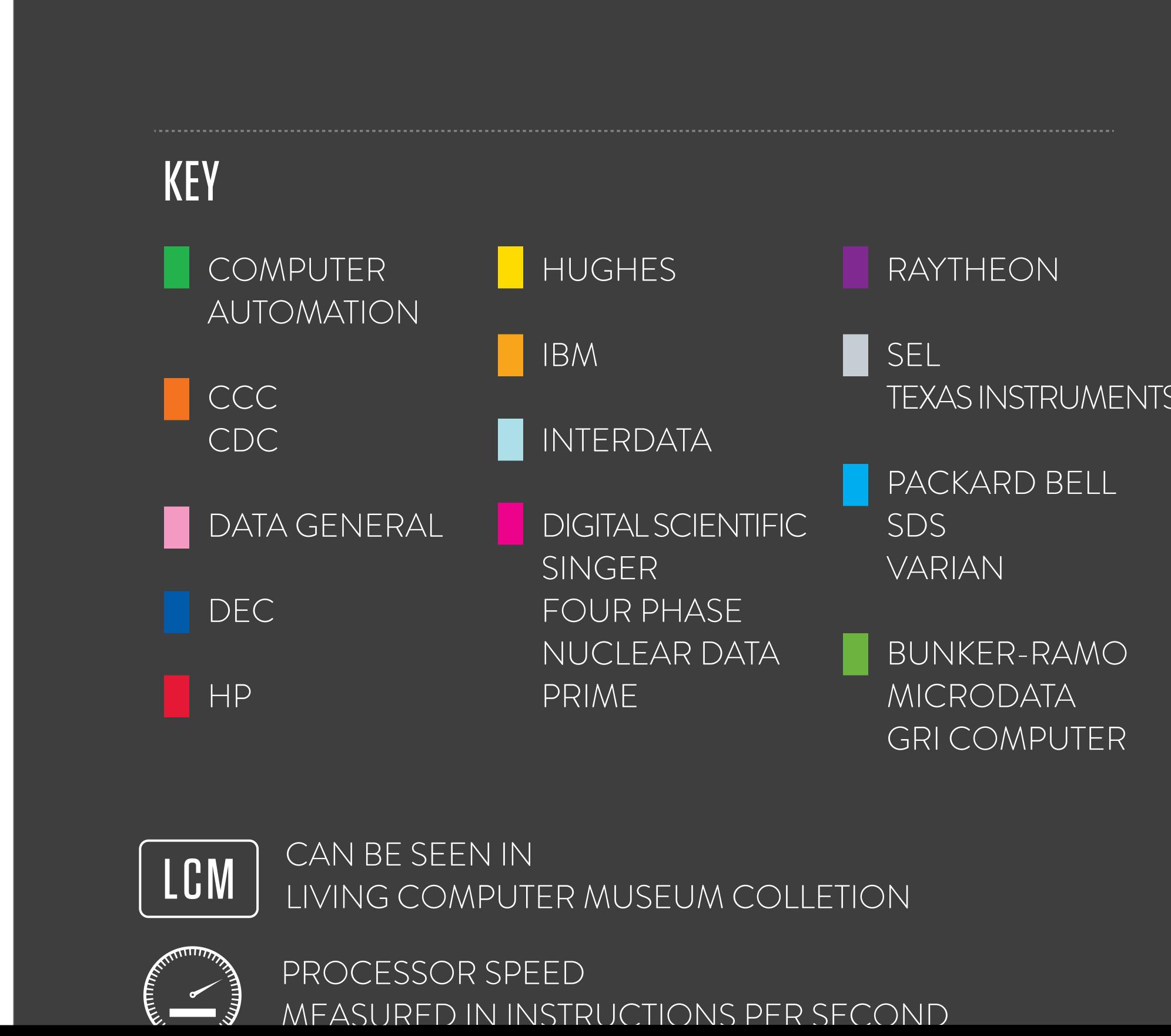
HISTORY OF MINICOMPUTERS

The first computers considered to be minicomputers, the DEC PDP-1 and the CDC 160A, were introduced in 1960, but the actual term was not applied to computers until 1970: In the era of the miniskirt and the Mini Cooper automobile, the PDP-8/e became the first machine to be labeled a minicomputer. The term has been applied in retrospect to a computer that fits the following general guidelines: It is intended for a single user or small group of users, it is physically small (at least compared to a mainframe system), and sells for a fraction of the price of a mainframe (often at least an order of magnitude less). Minicomputers were a separate cabinet that communicated with the user through a teleprinter or video terminal; later, the terms "workstation" and "personal computer" would apply to machines with integrated video interface and a directly-connected keyboard.

As market demands for computing power grew, minicomputers soon seemed less "mini", with some weighing hundreds of pounds and drawing considerable power. New categories such as "supermini" appeared in the trade press to describe these machines that often served a large number of people in an office or academic department. By comparison, mainframe computers supported a hundred users or more, through both timesharing and batch-processing services.

The first microprocessor-based systems were often still referred to as minicomputers, and products from companies such as DEC tried to maintain the aesthetic of their long-successful product lines. The success of products like the Altair 8800 and Apple II quickly defined a new and distinct class of computers, and by the end of the 1980s minicomputers of whatever construction were passing into history.



| | | DDP-19 | DDP-116 DDP-124 | | | | | |
|--------|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| , | CCC | 160 DDP-25 | 2898550 | | | | | |
| | CDC | □ 156250□ DDP-24□ 160A | 2500000 DDP-224 DDP-516 | | | | | |
| | | 156250 | © 525000 © 1041666 NO | VA NOVA 800 NOVA 2 FCL | LIPSE S/100 NOVA 3 NOVA 4 | ECLIPSE MV/8000 FCLIPSE MV/4000 | ECLIPSE MV/7899 | |
| | DATA GENERAL | | 10 | | LIPSE S/100 NOVA 3 00000 1818182 | 4545454 | ECLIPSE MV/7899 3125000 FCI IPSF MV/15000 | |
| | | | | 1250000 250000 | | ECLIPSE MV/10000 7142857 | ■ ECLIPSE MV/15000 <a>☑ 11764706 | |
| d | | | | SUPER NOVA 2 1250000 ALDUA O ALDUA O | | COULT | | |
| | COMPUTER AUTOMATION | | PDC 808 PDC 816 | 216 808 ALPHA 16 NAKEI | ED MINI LSI 2 LSI 05 LSI 90 | SCOUT | | |
| | | | | ① 625000 ② 66666 | 5666 | DDD_11/99 DDD_11/9/ VAV_11/790 DDD_14/70 | VAY 9900 - DDD 11/00 - VAY 9900 - DDD 11/00 | VAY 7000 WODEL 100 |
| | DEC Digital Equipment Company | PDP-4 111111 | LINC-8 © 625000 DDD 7 | PDP-11/20 © 833333 PDD 05 PDD 11/45 | PDP-11/03 11/11 PDP-11/34 22222222 DDD 11/70 | PDP-11/23 2 3333333 2 1333333 2 1333333 3 2 3703704 4 1 1 705 | | |
| | | | PDP-8S ○ 571428 PDP-8S ○ 125000 ○ 62500 | 00 833333 0 1000000 | PDP-11/70 33333333 400000 | | PDP-11/53 15000000 VAX 6300 PDP-11/9 16666666 20200000 | 0000 |
| | | PDP-5 ○ 166667 | PDP-9 © 1000000 PDP-9L © 666667 | PDP-15 2 2500000 PDP-8M 3 833333 PDP-8M 2 2500000 | PDP-8A 0 666667 | VAX-11/780 VAX-11/750 5000000 | | VAX 10000 90909090 VAX 4000 MODEL 705A 111111111 |
| | | | PDP-8 © 625000 | | PDP-11/55 ② 3333333 ③ 3333333 | 1/04 VAX-11/782 | VAX 8650 2 18181818 2 18000000 2 18000000 35714 | |
| | | | | OP-12 25000 PDP-11/40 7142857 | PDP-15/XVM 1000000 | PDP-11/44 2 5555556 1 2500000 | VAX 8250 VAX 9000 | |
| | | | 2116-1 | 2100 21MX | X 1000 MODEL 80 | 12300000 | 0230000 | |
| | | | 625000 | 114-B 00000 2114-C 2114-C 3000 3000 5712486 25712486 | | 1000 I 1000A | | |
| e _ | | | | | 486 | © 571486 | | |
| | HUGHES | HCM-201 H33 | | HCM-231 | | | | |
| | | HCM-202 | H3118 H3324 HM4118 | H4400 | | HDFM | | |
| | | | 1130 1800 SYSTEM/360 MODEL 20 | CVCTEM/9 MODEL 10 | | | | |
| | | | | SYSTEM/3 MODEL 10 | SYSTEM/3 MODEL 15 | | | |
| | IBM International Business Machines | | 1130 ≥ 277778 | © 657895 SYSTEM/7 SYSTEM/7 | SYSIEM/3 MUDEL 15 © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 | | | |
| | IBM International Business Machines | | | © 657895 SYSTEM/7 2500000 © 65789 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 395 | | | |
| | IBM International Business Machines | | ■ MODEL 2 | © 657895 SYSTEM/7 2500000 MODEL 5 MODEL 5 1000000 1000000 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 895 ■ 8/32 © 3333333 | | | |
| | | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 | © 657895 SYSTEM/7 ≥ 2500000 MODEL 50 10000000 MODEL 80 MODEL 55 SYSTEM SYSTEM 10000000 10000000 MODEL 55 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 ○ 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 | | | |
| | | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 | © 657895 SYSTEM/7 2500000 MODEL 5 MODEL 5 1000000 1000000 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 ○ 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 | | | |
| | INTERDATA | | ■ MODEL 2 | SYSTEM/7 2500000 ■ MODEL 5 1000000 ■ MODEL 80 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ 1000000 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ 10000000 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 ○ 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 | 450 750 | | |
| | INTERDATA | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ⑤ 666667 | SYSTEM/7 2 2500000 ■ MODEL 5 ■ MODEL 50 ■ 1000000 ■ MODEL 80 ■ MODEL 55 ■ MODEL 85 ■ 1000000 ■ SYSTEM 10 ■ SYSTEM 10 ■ 300 © 1666667 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 © 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 13333333 ■ 400 © 16666667 | 450 750 | | |
| | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ⑤ 666667 | SYSTEM/7 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 ② 3333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 | ■ 450 ■ 750 ■ 550 | | |
| | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ⑤ 666667 | SYSTEM/7 2 2500000 ■ MODEL 5 ■ MODEL 50 ■ 1000000 ■ MODEL 80 ■ MODEL 55 ■ MODEL 85 ■ 1000000 ■ SYSTEM 10 ■ SYSTEM 10 ■ 300 © 1666667 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 © 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 13333333 ■ 400 © 16666667 | ■ 450 ■ 750 ■ 550 ■ 650 | | |
| FNITS | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ⑤ 666667 | SYSTEM/7 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 8/32 ② 3333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 | 450 750 550 650 | | |
| , ENTS | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME | | ■ MODEL 2 ② 333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ⑤ 666667 | SYSTEM/7 | TEM/3 MODEL 8 395 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ■ 500 ② 16666667 | 450 7 50 5 50 6 50 | | |
| ENTS | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME | | MODEL 2 | SYSTEM/7 2 2500000 ■ MODEL 50 ■ MODEL 80 ■ MODEL 70 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 74 ■ MODEL 85 ■ MODEL 8666667 ■ SYSTEM 10/70 ■ SYSTEM 1V/70 ■ SYSTEM 1V/70 ■ 16666667 ■ RAC-251 ■ RDS-5 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 395 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 18333333 ■ 400 ② 1666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 □ 500 ② 1666667 | ■ 450 ■ 750 ■ 550 ■ 650 | | |
| ENTS | DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME | | MODEL 2 ② 3333333 ■ MODEL 3 ③ 555556 ■ MODEL 4 ② 666667 MODEL 4 ② 6666667 MODEL 4 ② 666667 MODEL 4 ② 6666667 MODEL 4 ② 666667 MO | SYSTEM/7 | TEM/3 MODEL 8 395 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ■ 500 ② 16666667 | 450 750 550 650 | | |
| ENTS | INTERDATA DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME RAYTHEON | | MODEL 2 ② 3333333 ■ MODEL 3 ■ MODEL 4 ③ 6666667 MODEL 4 ③ 6666667 703 ⑤ 571429 ⑤ 111 440 ■ 520 ■ RAC-230 ■ RAC-250 ■ 810-A ■ 840-MP ⑤ 571429 ⑤ 810-B | SYSTEM/7 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 195 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 18333333 ■ 400 ② 1666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ■ 500 ② 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 | ■ 450 ■ 750 ■ 550 ■ 650 | | |
| ENTS | INTERDATA DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME RAYTHEON | 250 | MODEL 2 3333333 MODEL 3 5555556 MODEL 4 6666667 MODEL 4 66666667 MODEL 4 6666667 MODEL 4 6 | SYSTEM/7 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 195 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ■ 8/16 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ② 1666667 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-6 ③ 16666667 □ SYSTEM TEN 110-6 ③ 16666667 | 450 | | |
| ENTS | INTERDATA DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME RAYTHEON SEL TEXAS INSTRUMENTS PACKARD BELL PACKARD BELL | 250 | MODEL 2 3333333 MODEL 3 MODEL 4 MO | SYSTEM/7 SYSTEM MODEL 5 MODEL 15 MODEL 1000000 MODEL 15 MODEL 10000000 SYSTEM 10 SYSTEM 10/70 16666667 SYSTEM 10/70 16666667 RAC-251 404 RDS-5 1666667 17111 RAC-251 186 980 10000000 186 1960 10000000 186 1960 100000000 186 1960 100000000 1860 196 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 195 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ② 18333333 ■ 400 ② 1666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ■ 500 ② 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 ■ 1666667 | ■ 450 ■ 750 550 ■ 650 | | |
| NTS | INTERDATA DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC SINGER NUCLEAR DATA PRIME RAYTHEON SEL TEXAS INSTRUMENTS | 250 | MODEL 2 3333333 MODEL 3 5555556 MODEL 4 6666667 MODEL 4 66666667 MODEL 4 6666667 MODEL 4 6 | SYSTEM/7 | © 657895 TEM/3 MODEL 8 195 ■ 8/32 ② 33333333 ■ 5/16 ■ 6/16 ■ 7/32 ■ 8/16 ② 13333333 ■ 400 ② 16666667 TEM TEN 110-1,3,5 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-4 ② 1666667 ■ SYSTEM TEN 110-6 ③ 16666667 □ SYSTEM TEN 110-6 ③ 16666667 | 450 7 50 5 50 6 50 | | |