The iPod's Sweet 16!

Rohith Perumalla | 10/23/17

16 years ago to this day, Apple released the 1st generation iPod.

It was revolutionary, it had a whole 10GB of storage, a 90MHz processor, 32MB of RAM, a massive 2" Monochrome LCD display, would last 10 hours, had the amazing FireWire port, and was a slim and beautiful $4.02 \times 2.43 \times 0.78$ in (height x width x depth).

Looking back, that's not very impressive...

The newest iPhone, the iPhone X, that was announced a little less than a month ago and is the new Apple flagship can have up to a whopping 128GB + " ∞ " cloud storage, a 2.5GHz processor, 3GB of RAM, a 5.8" bezelless Super AMOLED capacitive touchscreen with 16M colors, up to 60 hours of music playback, has the impressive lightning port, and is a slim and beautiful 5.65 x 2.79 x 0.30 in (height x width x depth). But that's not all, the new iPhone has cellular capabilities, IP67 certification, speakers, Facial-ID, and many more features.

But the iPod isn't revolutionary for its hardware, but for what it represented. The iPod was the turning point in handheld consumer media devices, the iPod led to the iPod Touch, iPhone, and iPad. All world-renowned devices that have made millions of lives easier and better. The iPod shied away from traditional design ideas, it had a vibrant white face, and wasn't connected to the wall yet lasted 10 whole hours; all while retaining its amazingly small form factor.

In the past 16 years, we've progressed exponentially, the new A11 chip is 2700% faster than the original processor used in the iPod. We've made other major jumps with all the different parts involved; even the aluminum and glass used on the new devices are specially engineered for Apple products.

Now the one question remaining is: where to next?

A major point of thought is that the phone has decreased by almost