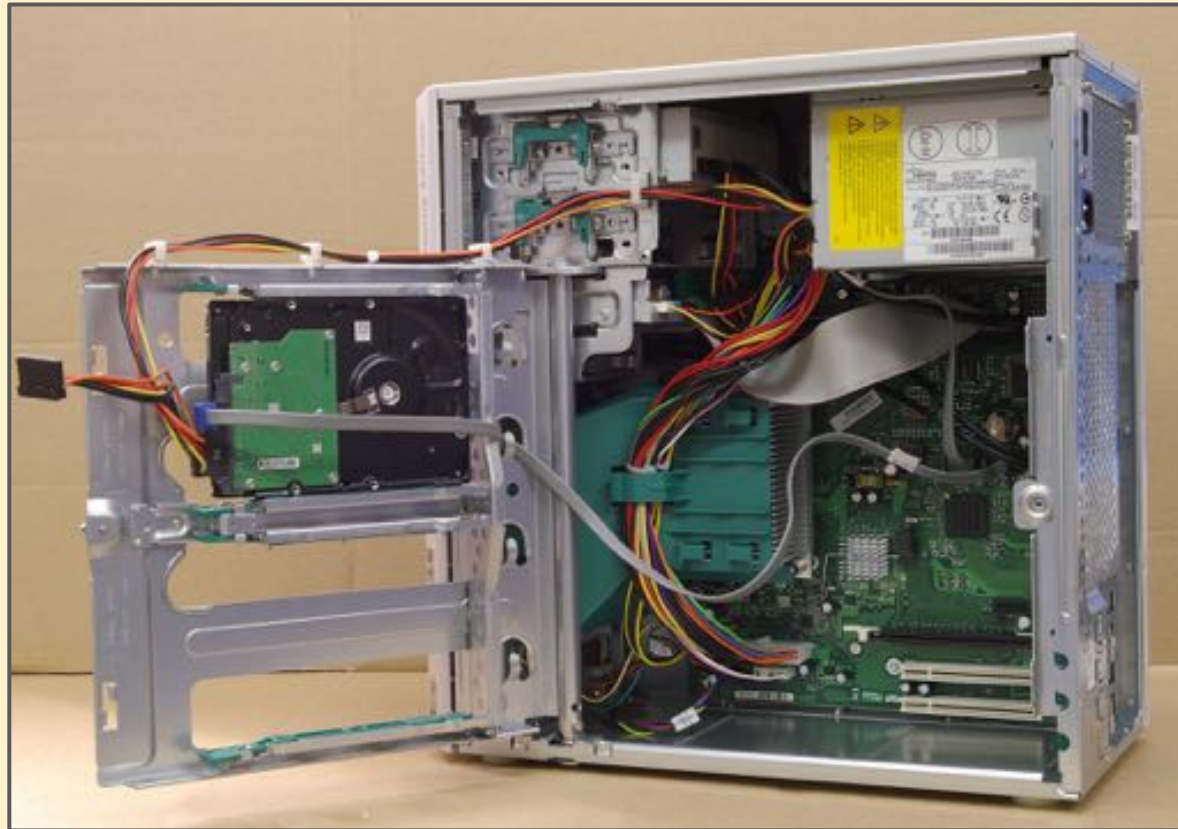


How computers work

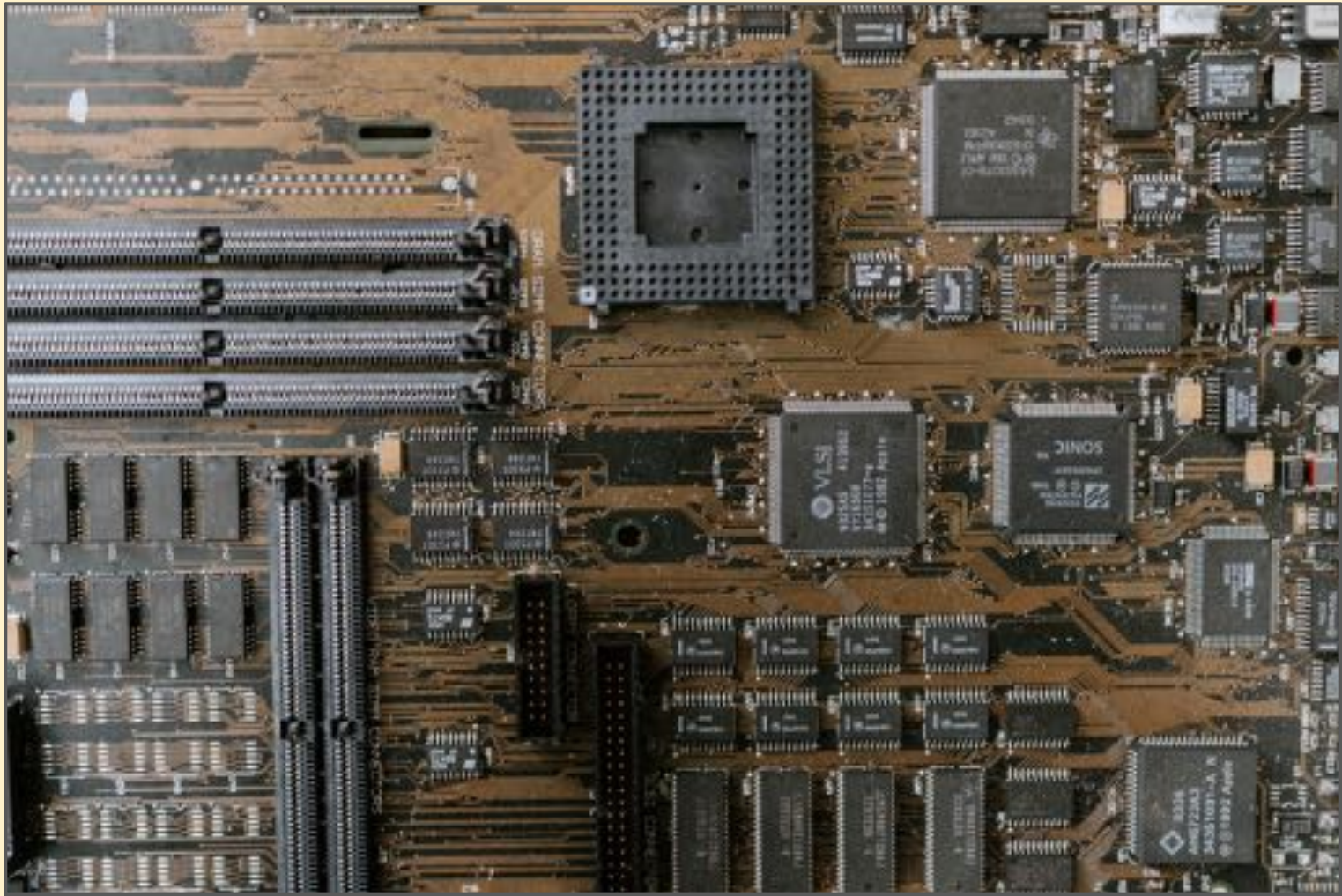
What's inside a computer?



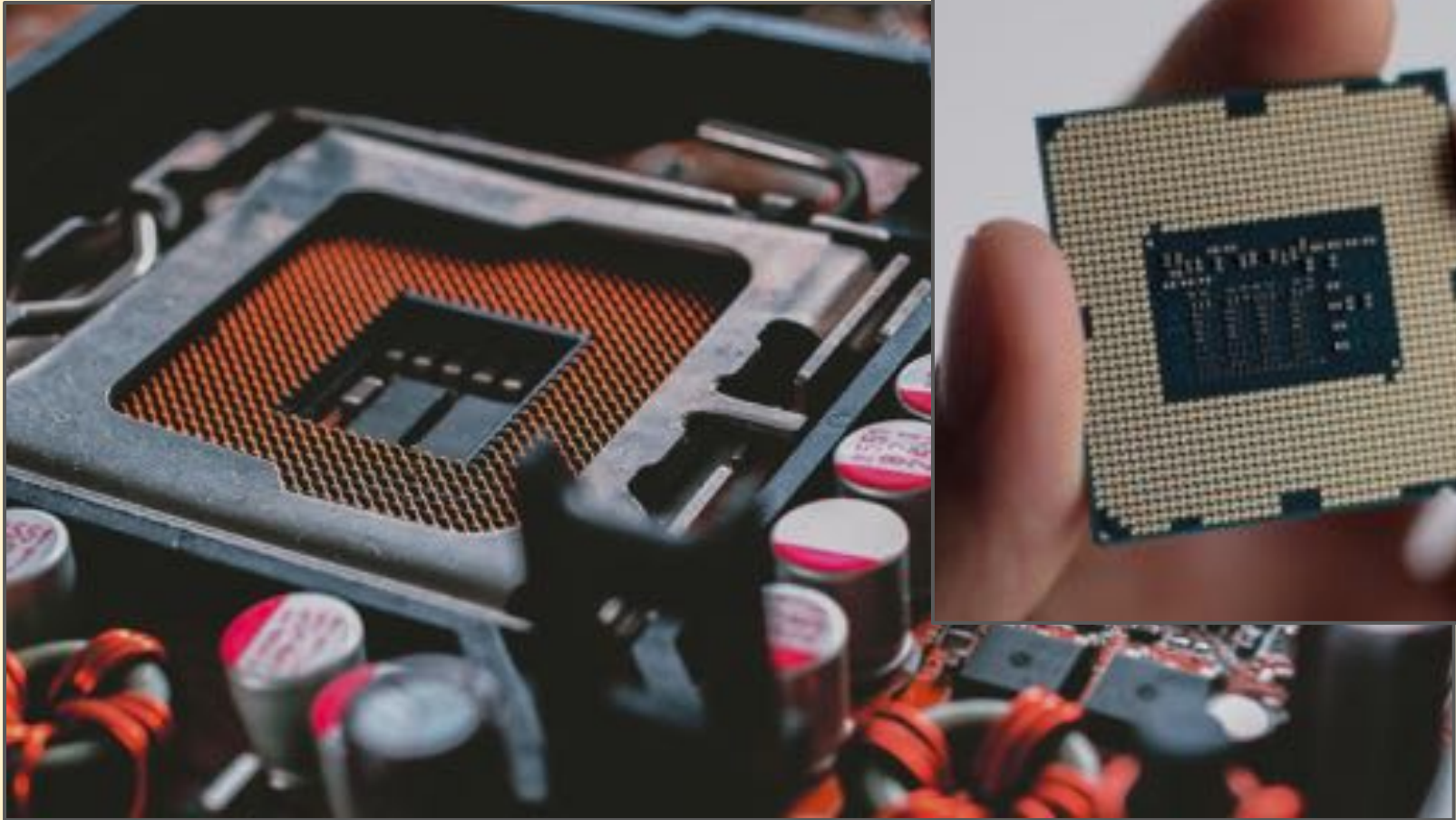


How computers work

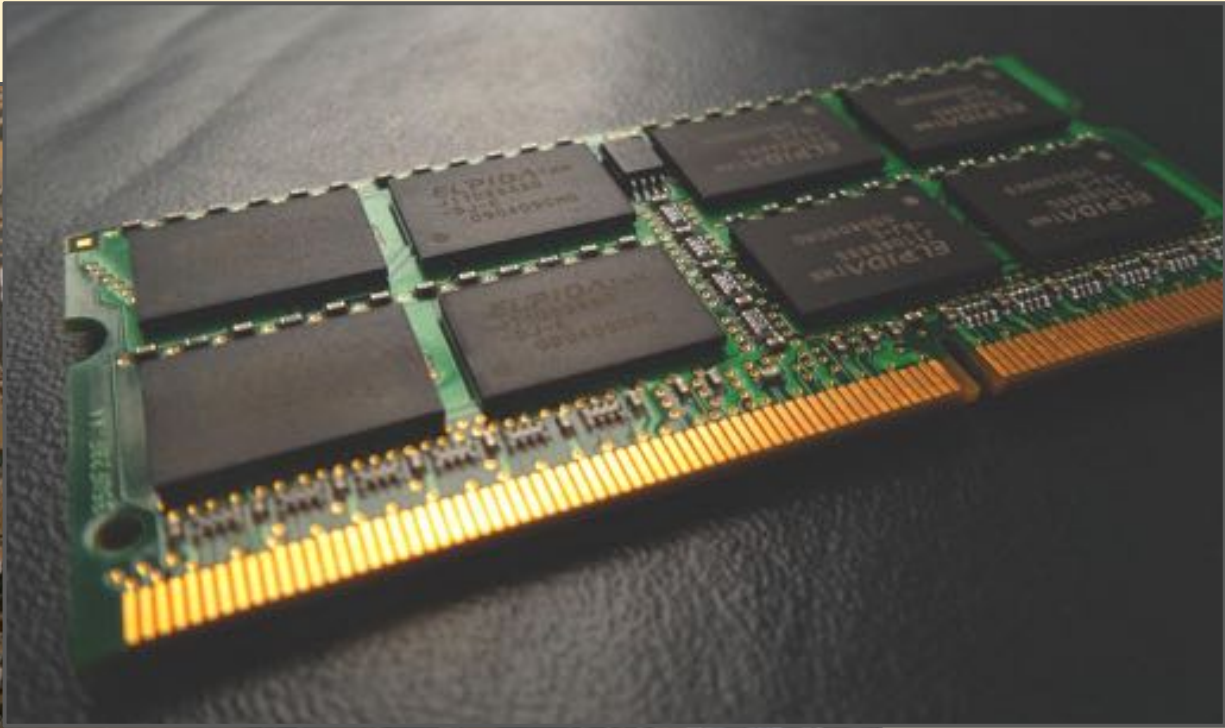
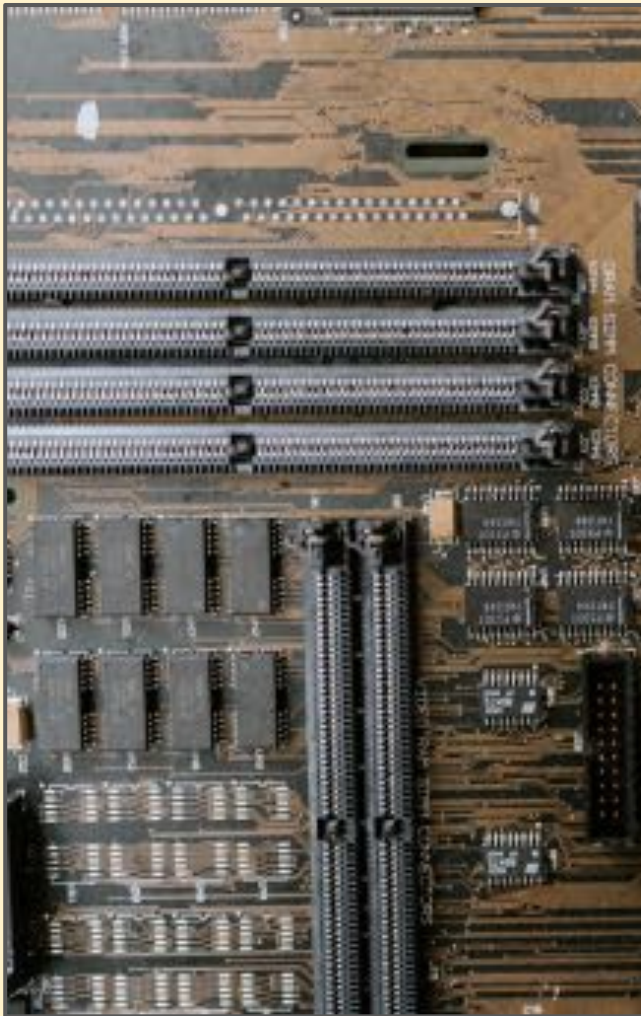
- motherboard
- Central Processing Unit (CPU)
- Random Access Memory cards (RAM)
- hard disk
- solid state drive (SSD)
- graphics processing unit (graphics card)
- power supply and fan



The motherboard is the central piece that everything else plugs in to



The **Central Processing Unit (CPU)** is the “chip” that makes everything work. This plugs in to the motherboard



Random Access memory is the memory the computer uses to process. RAM cards slot in to the motherboard



Hard Drives (left) and **Solid State Drives (SSD)** are used to store programs and data when the computer is turned off. Hard drives are bigger and cheaper. Solid State Drives are smaller but more expensive



Graphics Processing Units (GPU) allow powerful graphics to be displayed. They need lots of fans to cool them down and can be very expensive. It slots in to the motherboard



The Power Supply Unit provides electrical power to the computer at the right voltage. It usually includes a fan for cooling things down



Other devices have smaller versions of the same sorts of components. They usually use an SSD as they are smaller