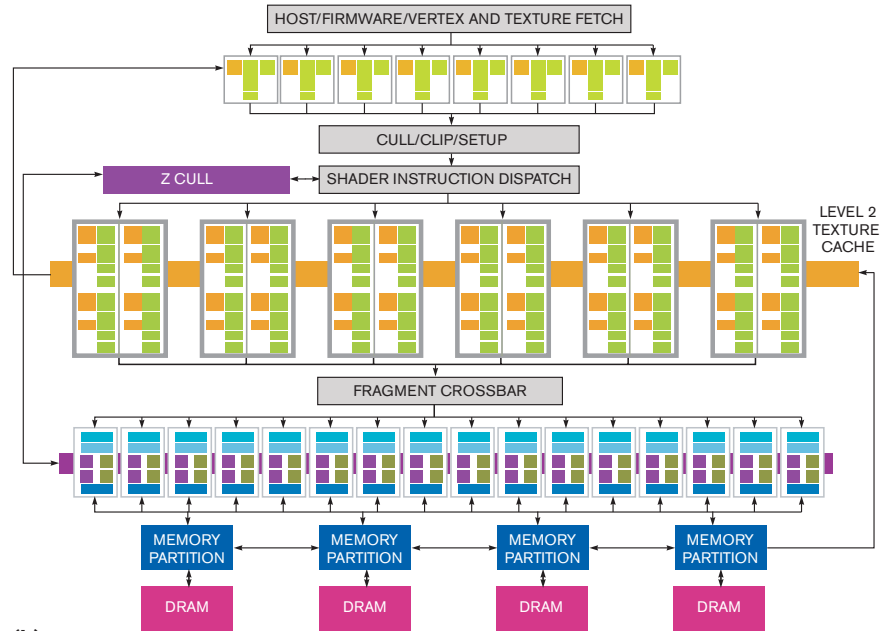
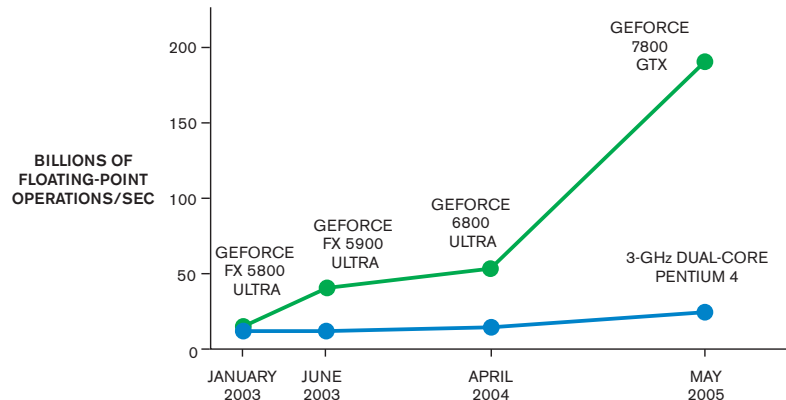


(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 2 Single-core-to-multicore-CPU evolutions (a, courtesy Intel), paced by graphics-chip transformations from hard-wired state machines to software-programmable processors (b, courtesy Nvidia) bring the formerly symbiotic partners into more direct competition. Because a GPU need not to devote a high percentage of its die area to cache and control circuitry, it's more computationally efficient than its CPU counterpart (c, courtesy Nvidia).