

NIELIT Gorakhpur

Course Name: O Level (2nd Sem)

Subject: ICT

Topic: Chipset

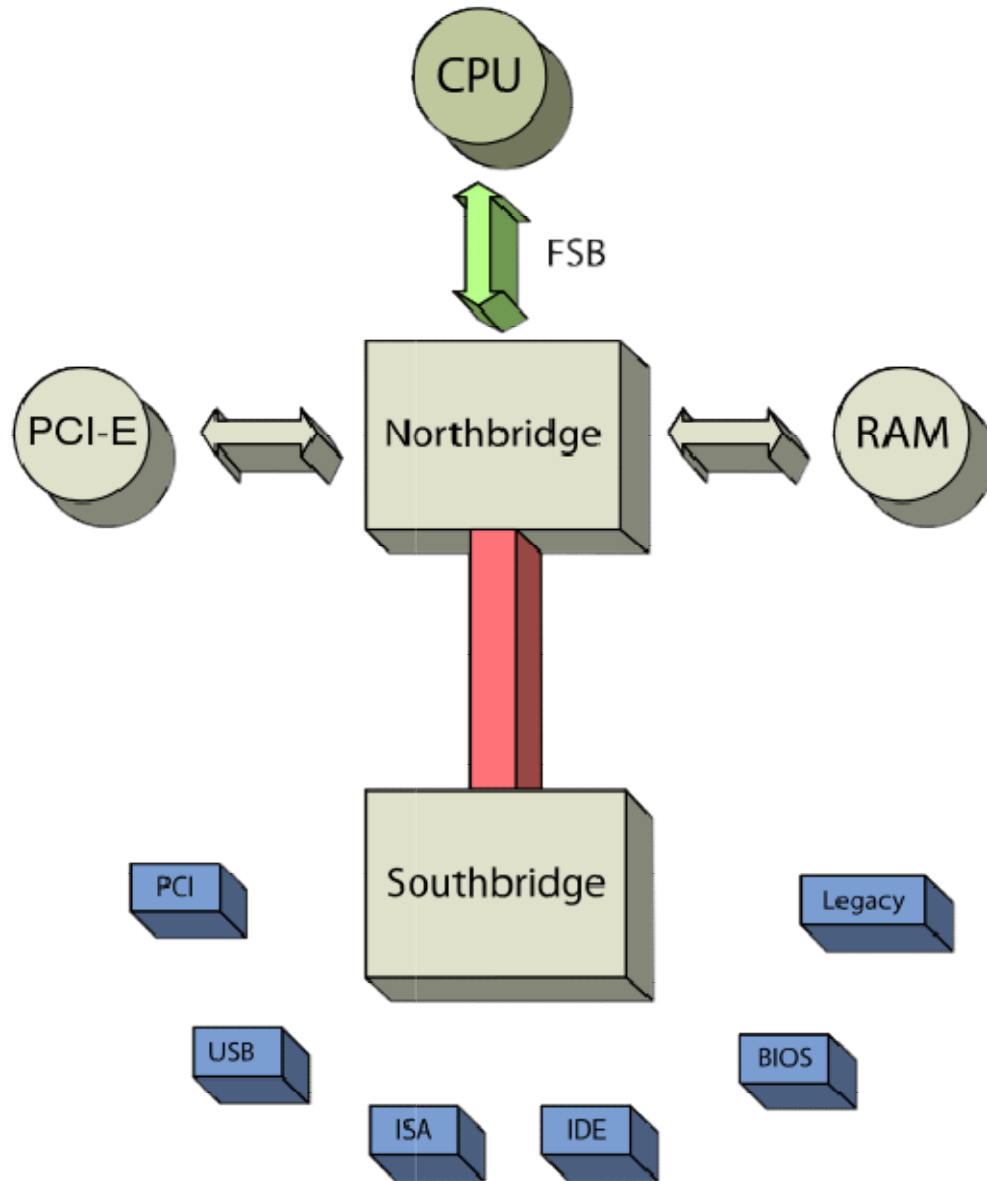
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Chipset:- A set of chips that provides the interfaces between all of the PC's subsystems. It provides the buses and electronics to allow the CPU, memory and input/output devices to interact. PC chipsets, which are housed on one to four chips, include built-in controllers for almost all common peripherals. The primary components on a PC motherboard are the PC chipset, CPU, memory, clock, buses and BIOS. Chipset handles the communication between various components such as CPU, peripherals, and buses. Northbridge and southbridge are two chips in the chipset.

Types of Chipset:-

Northbridge:-Northbridge is located in the northern section of the motherboard. It is also known as the host bridge. It is directly connected to the CPU, RAM, AGP, and PCI Express slots. If it is required for the CPU to communicate with AGP or PCI express slots etc., the communication occurs via the northbridge. Usually, northbridge operates at a faster speed as it connects to high-speed components in the computer.

Southbridge :-Southbridge is located in the southern section of the motherboard. It connects the components such as PCI bus slots, BIOS, SATA and IDE connectors and USB ports.



Conclusion:-

The difference between northbridge and southbridge is that northbridge is a chip in the chipset of a motherboard that directly connects to the CPU while Southbridge is a chip in the chipset of a motherboard that does not directly connect to the CPU. In brief, northbridge connects to faster components and southbridge connects to the slower components.

Exercise:-

1-Which chipset is directly connected to the CPU? Explain.

2- Write down the difference between northbridge and southbridge.