

To commemorate the 50th year of modern computing and the Computer Society, the timeline on the following pages traces the evolution of computing and computer technology.

Timeline research by Bob Carlson, Angela Burgess, and Christine Miller.

Timeline design and production by Larry Bauer. We thank our reviewers: Ted Biggerstaff, George Cybenko, Martin Campbell-Kelly, Alan Davis, Dan O'Leary, Edward Parrish, and Michael Williams.

Timeline of Computing History

4000-1200 B.C. Inhabitants of the first known civilization in Sumer keep records of commercial transactions on clay tablets.



3000 B.C. The abacus is invented in Babylonia.

250-230 B.C. The Sieve of Eratosthenes is used to determine prime numbers.

About 79 A.D. The "Antikythera Device," when set correctly according to latitude and day of the week, gives alternating 29- and 30-day lunar months.



About 1300 The more familiar wireand-bead abacus replaces the Chinese calculating rods.

4000 B.C. — 1300

1612-1614 John Napier uses the printed decimal point, devises logarithms, and uses numbered sticks, or Napiers Bones, for calculating.



1622 William Oughtred invents the circular slide rule on the basis of Napier's logarithms.

1623 William (Wilhelm) Schickard designs a "calculating clock" with a gear-driven carry mechanism to aid in multiplication of multidigit numbers.



1666 In England, Samuel Morland produces a mechanical calculator that can add and subtract.

1642-1643 Blaise Pascal creates a gear-driven adding machine called the "Pascalene," the first mechanical adding machine.

BM Archives

1674 Gottfried Leibniz builds the "Stepped Reckoner," a calculator using a stepped cylindrical gear. 1801 A linked sequence of punched cards controls the weaving of patterns in Joseph-Marie Jacquard's loom.

1774 Philipp-Matthaus Hahn builds and sells a small number of calculating machines precise to 12 digits.

1777 The third Earl of Stanhope invents a multiplying calculator.

1786 J.H. Mueller envisions a "difference engine" but cannot get the funds to build it.



1674-1801

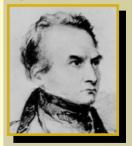


1811 Luddites destroy machinery that threatens to eliminate jobs.

1820 The Thomas Arithmometer, based on Leibniz' steppeddrum principle, is demonstrated to the French Academy of Science. It becomes the first mass-produced calculator and sells for many years.



1822 Charles Babbage begins to design and build the Difference Engine.



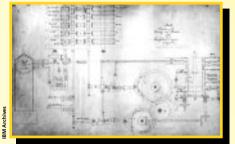


1832 Babbage and Joseph Clement produce a portion of the Difference Engine.

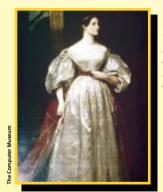
1829 William
Austin Burt patents
an awkward but
workable typewriter,
the first writing
machine in America.



1834-35 Babbage shifts his focus to designing the Analytical Engine.



1838 In January Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail demonstrate elements of the telegraph system.



1842-43 Augusta Ada, Countess of Lovelace, translates Luigi Menabrea's pamphlet on the Analytical Engine, adding her own commentary.

> 1844 Samuel Morse sends a telegraph message from Washington to Baltimore.

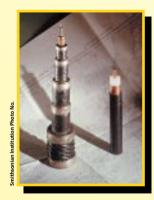
1847-49 Babbage completes 21 drawings for the second version of the Difference Engine but does not complete construction.



1854 George Boole publishes "An Investigation of the Laws of

Investigation of the Laws of Thought," describing a system for symbolic and logical reasoning that will become

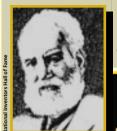
the basis for computer design.



1858 A telegraph cable spans the Atlantic Ocean for the first time and provides service for a few days.

1861 A transcontinental

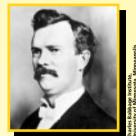
telegraph line connects the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.



1876 Alexander Graham Bell invents and patents the telephone. 1876-1878 Baron Kelvin builds a harmonic analyzer and tide predictor.



Smithsonian Institution



1882 William S. Burroughs leaves his bank clerk's job determined to invent an adding machine.



1893 The first four-function calculator is invented.

1895 Guglielmo Marconi transmits a radio signal.

1889 Herman Hollerith's Electric Tabulating System outperforms the competition and in the fall is selected for use in the 1890 census.



1901 The keypunch appears and changes very little over the next half century.

1896 Hollerith establishes the Tabulating Machine Company.



1904 John A. Fleming patents the

diode vacuum tube, setting the stage for better radio communication.

1906 Lee de Forest adds a third valve to control current flow to Fleming's diode to create the three-electrode vacuum tube.

1907 Gramophone music constitutes the first regular radio broadcasts from New York.

1908 British scientist Campbell Swinton describes an electronic scanning method and foreshadows use of the cathode-ray tube for television. 1911 Hollerith's Tabulating Machines Co. and two other companies combine to form C-T-R—

Calculating, Tabulating, and Recording Co.

1911 Dutch physicist Kamerlingh Onnes at Leiden University discovers superconductivity.

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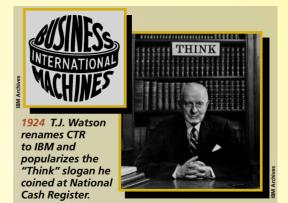


1912 The Institute of Radio Engineers, which will eventually merge with other organizations to form the IEEE, is established.

1915 Use of microchips is foreshadowed as physicist Manson Benedicks discovers that the germanium crystal can be used to convert alternating current to direct current.

1919 Eccles and Jordan, US physicists, invent the flip-flop electronic switching circuit critical to high-speed electronic counting systems.

1920-1921 The word "robot" (derived from the Czech word for compulsory labor) is first used by Karel Câpek in his play RUR (Rossum's Universal Robots).



1927 Herbert Hoover's face is seen on screen during the first demonstration of television in the US.
Accompanying voice transmission uses telephone wires.

1928 The quartz crystal clock makes possible unprecedented time-keeping accuracy.

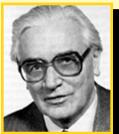
1929 Color television signals are successfully transmitted.



1930 The Differential Analyzer, devised by Vannevar Bush and colleagues at MIT, solves various differential equations.

1931 Reynold B. Johnson, a high school teacher in Michigan, devises a way to score multiple-choice tests by sensing conductive pencil marks on answer sheets. IBM later buys the technology.

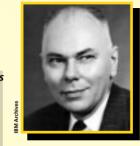
1934 In Germany, Konrad Zuse seeks to build a better calculating machine than those currently available.





1935 IBM introduces not only the 601 multiplying punch-card machine but also an electric typewriter.

1936 Konrad Zuse realizes that programs composed of bit combinations can be stored, and he files a patent application in Germany for the automatic execution of calculations, including a "combination memory."



1937 Howard Aiken submits to IBM a proposal for a digital calculating machine capable of performing the four fundamental operations of arithmetic and operating in a predetermined sequence.

1937 Claude Shannon
publishes the principles for an
electric adder to the base two.

1937 George Stibitz develops a binary circuit based on Boolean algebra.



1937 Alan Turina's paper "On Computable Numbers" presents the concept of the Turing machine.

1937 John Vincent Atanasoff spends the winter devising the principles for an electronicdigital computer.



1938 William Hewlett and David Packard form Hewlett-Packard in a garage in Palo Alto,

California.

1939 Working from October through November, John Vincent Atanasoff, with help from graduate student Clifford E. Berry, builds

a prototype electronic-digital computer that uses binary arithmetic.

1938 Zuse completes the Z1 electromechanical binary computer and refines the design with the Z2.



1940 Konrad Zuse completes the Z2, which uses telephone relays instead of mechanical logical circuits.

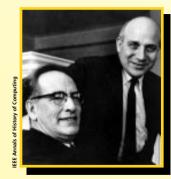
1941 Zuse completes the Z3, the first fully functional program-controlled electromechanical digital computer.

1943 On May 31, 1943, construction begins on the ENIAC at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering in Philadelphia. 1943 In December, Colossus, a British vacuum tube computer, becomes operational

at Bletchley Park through the combined efforts of Alan Turing, Tommy Flowers, and M.H.A. Newman. It is considered the first all-electronic calculating device. 1944 The Harvard Mark I (a.k.a. IBM Automatic Sequence Controlled Calculator [ASCC]), produced by Howard Aiken, is dedicated at Harvard University on August 7, 1944.



M Archives



1945 J. Presper Eckert and John Mauchly sign a contract to build the EDVAC (Electronic Discrete Variable Automatic Computer).

1945 By spring of the year, ENIAC is up and running.

1945 John von Neumann introduces the concept of a stored program in a June 30 draft report on the EDVAC design.

1945 Zuse's Z4 survives World War II and helps launch postwar development of scientific computers in Germany.



1945 Working on a prototype of the Mark II, in the summer Grace Murray Hopper finds the first computer "bug," a moth that had caused a relay failure.

1945 In July, Vannevar Bush's As We May Think is published in the Atlantic Monthly.



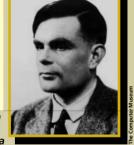
1946 ENIAC, designed by J. Presper Eckert and John Mauchly, is unveiled at the University of Pennsylvania on February 14.

1946 Arthur Burks. Herman Goldstine, and John von Neumann write "Preliminary Discussion of the Logical Design of an Electronic Computing Instrument."

1946 The American Institute of Electrical Engineers establishes a Subcommittee on Large-Scale Calculating Devices—the origin of today's IEEE Computer Society.



1946 Alan Turing publishes a

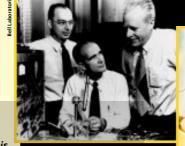


publishes a report on his design for ACE (Automatic Computing Engine), featuring random extraction of information.

1947 In July, Howard Aiken and his team complete the Harvard Mark II.



1947-48 The magnetic drum memory is introduced as a data storage device for computers.



1947 On December 23, Bell Labs

management is informed by John Bardeen and Walter Brattain that along with William Shockley they have developed the first transistor.

e Computer Mu



1948 Claude Shannon publishes "A Mathematical Theory of Communication." formulating the modern understanding of the communication process.



1948 On June 21, the Manchester Mark I, or "baby" machine, becomes the first operational stored-program digital computer. It used vacuum tube, or valve, circuits.

1948 Richard Hamming devises a way to find and correct errors in blocks of data. The Hamming code is subsequently used in computer and telephone switching systems.



1948 The SSEC (Selective Sequence Electronic Calculator), using both electronics and relays, is dedicated on January 24.





1949 The Whirlwind computer. constructed under the leadership of Jav Forrester at MIT to be the first real-time computer, is placed in service during the third quarter. It contained 5,000 vacuum tubes.

1949 EDSAC (Electronic Delayed Storage Automatic Computer), a stored-program computer built by Maurice Wilkes at Cambridge University, England, performs its first calculation on May 6.

1949 Short Order Code, developed by John Mauchly, is thought to be the first high-level programming language.

1950 The Pilot ACE is completed at England's National Physical Laboratory and runs its first program on May 10. 1950 Remington Rand buys the Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corporation.

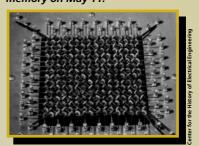
1950 The Standards Western Automatic Computer (SWAC), built under Harry Huskey's leadership, is dedicated at UCLA on August 17.

1950 Alan Turing publishes an article in the journal Mind establishing the criteria for the Turing Test of machine intelligence.

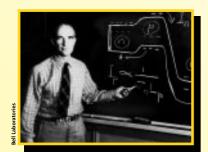


1951 The first Univac I is delivered to the US Census Bureau in March.

1951 Jay Forrester files a patent application for the matrix core memory on May 11.



1950-1951



1951 William Shockley invents the junction transistor.

1951 David Wheeler, Maurice Wilkes, and Stanley Gill introduce subprograms and the "Wheeler jump" as a means to implement them.

1951 Betty Holberton creates a sort-merge generator, a predecessor of the compiler.

1951 Maurice Wilkes originates the concept of microprogramming, a technique providing an orderly approach to designing a computer system's control section.



1951-1952 Grace Murray Hopper develops A-0, the first compiler.

1951-1952

1952 The EDVAC runs its first production program on January 28.



1952 Illiac I is built at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; Ordvac is built by the US Army. Both use von Neumann architecture.

1952 John von Neumann's IAS bit-parallel machine is completed in June for the Institute of **Advanced Studies** at Princeton, New Jersey.



te for Advanced Study

1952 Thomas Watson Jr. becomes president of IBM.



1952 The Institute of Radio Engineers initiates the Transactions of the I.R.E. Electronics Group on Electronic Computers, a predecessor to the IEEE Transactions on Computers.

1952 On television, a Univac I predicts the outcome of the presidential election and expands the public consciousness regarding computers.

1952 The IBM 701—the Defense Calculator—is introduced in December.





into service.

1953 The IBM 650, known as the Magnetic Drum Calculator. debuts and becomes the first massproduced computer.



1953 Kenneth Olsen uses Jay Forrester's ferrite-core memory to build the Memory Test computer.

1954 Earl Masterson's Uniprinter, or line printer, developed for computers, executes 600 lines per minute.

1954 Texas Instruments introduces the silicon transistor. pointing the way to lower manufacturing costs.



1953 After several years of development, LEO, a commercial version of EDSAC built by the Lyons Company in the UK, goes

1954 The Univac 1103A becomes the first commercial machine with a ferrite-core memorv.



1956-57 IBM introduces and begins installing the RAMAC

(random-access method of accounting and

control) for hard disk data storage.

1956 John McCarthy and Marvin Minsky chair a meeting at Dartmouth College at which the concept of artificial intelligence is developed.

1956 Fuii Photo Film Co. in Japan develops a 1,700vacuum-tube computer for lens design calculations.

1956 A Univac with transistors and designed for commercial use is introduced.

1957 John Backus and colleagues at IBM deliver the first Fortran (formula translator) compiler to Westinghouse.



1957 The Atlas Guidance Computer from Burroughs, one of the first computers using transistors, helps control the launch of the Atlas missile.

1957-1958 Gordon Moore, Robert Noyce, and others found Fairchild Semiconductor.

1957 Japan's Electrotechnical Laboratory develops a transistor computer, the ETL Mark III, that uses 130 transistors and 1,700 diodes.



1957 John McCarthy forms MIT's Artificial Intelligence Department.

1957 Control Data is incorporated on July 8.

1957 Russia launches Sputnik I into orbit on October 4, and the "space race" begins.

1957 Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. develops the Musasino-1, the first parametron computer. It uses 519 vacuum tubes and 5,400 parametrons—logic elements based on the principle of parametric excitation and invented by Eiji Goto in 1954.



1958 Digital Equipment Corp. is founded.

1958 At Texas Instruments, Jack Kilby develops a prototype semiconductor IC while Robert Noyce works separately on ICs at Fairchild Semiconductor.



1958 The Whirlwind project is extended to produce an air traffic control system.



1958 Bell's development of the modem data phone enables telephone lines to transmit binary data.

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000100 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
000200 PROGRAM-TD. HELLOWORLD.
000300 DATE-WRITTEN.02/05/96 21:04.
000400*
            AUTHOR JOHN JONES
000500 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
000600 CONFIGURATION SECTION.
000700 SOURCE-COMPUTER, RM-COBOL.
000800 OBJECT-COMPUTER. RM-COBOL.
000900
001000 DATA DIVISION.
001100 FILE SECTION.
001200
100000 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
100100
100200 MAIN-LOGIC SECTION.
100300 BEGIN.
100400
         DISPLAY " " LINE 1 POSITION 1 ERASE EOS.
100500
         DISPLAY "HELLO, WORLD." LINE 15 POSITION 10.
100600
         STOP RIN.
100700 MATN-LOGIC-EXIT.
100800
         EXIT.
```



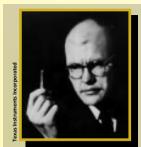
1959 The Committee on Data Systems Languages (Codasyl) is formed to create Cobol (Common Business Oriented Language).

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http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml
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1959 John McCarthy develops Lisp (list processing) for artificial intelligence applications.

1959 In June, Japan's first commercial transistor computer, NEC Corp.'s NEAC 2201, is demonstrated at an exhibition in Paris.

1959 Xerox introduces the first commercial copy machine.



1959 Jack Kilby at Texas Instruments designs a flip-flop IC.

1959 On July 30, Robert Noyce and Gordon Moore file a patent application for integrated circuit technology on behalf of the Fairchild Semiconductor Corp.

1959 UNESCO sponsors the first major international computer conference.

1959 General Electric produces the GE ERMA to process checks in a banking application via magnetic ink character recognition.



rles Babbage institute, University of Minnesot



1960 Working at Rand Corp., Paul Baran develops the packet-switching principle for data communications.

BEGIN
FILE F (KIND=REMOTE);
EBCDIC ARRAY E [0:11];
REPLACE E BY "HELLO WORLD!";
WHILE TRUE DO
BEGIN
WRITE (F, *, E);
END;
END.

1960 Standards for Algol 60 are established jointly by American and European computer scientists.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

1960 The Livermore Advance Research Computer (LARC) by Remington Rand is designed for scientific work and uses 60.000 transistors.

1960 At Cornell University, Frank Rosenblatt builds a computer—the Perceptron—that can learn by trial and error through a neural network.

1960 In November, DEC introduces the PDP-1, the first commercial computer with a monitor and keyboard input.





1961 Georg C. Devol patents a robotic device. which Unimation soon markets as the first industrial robot. It is first used to automate the manufacture of TV picture tubes.

1961 IBM's 7030, or Stretch, computer is completed and runs about 30 times faster than the 704, leading to further exploration of supercomputing.

1961 Fernando Corbató at MIT develops a way for multiple users to share computer time.

1962 Max V. Mathews leads a Bell Labs team in developing software that can design, store, and edit synthesized music.

1962 Stanford and Purdue Universities establish the first departments of computer science.

1962 H. Ross Perot founds Electronic Data Systems, which will become the world's largest computer service bureau. 1962 The first video game is invented by MIT graduate student Steve Russell. It is soon played in computer labs all over the US.



1962 The Telstar communications satellite is launched on July 10 and relays the first transatlantic television pictures.

1962 Atlas, considered the world's most powerful computer, is inaugurated in England on December 7. Its advances include virtual memory and pipelined operations.

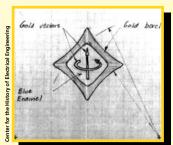
1963 On the basis of an idea of Alan Turing's, Joseph Weizenbaum at MIT develops a "mechanical psychiatrist" called Eliza that appears to possess intelligence.

1962-1963

1963 In January, Ivan Sutherland introduces Sketchpad, leading to the consolidation of computer graphics.

П	A	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	В	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
	С	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
	D	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
	E	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
	F	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
	G	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
	Н	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
	I	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
	J	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
	K	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
	L	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
	M	1	0	0	1	1	0	1
Ц	NT	4	0	^	4	4	7	

1963 The American National Standards Institute accepts ASCII 7-bit code for information exchange.



1963 The Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers merge to form the IEEE.

1963 The SAGE system for military defense is fully deployed at a total project cost of about \$8 billion. Many of its technological advances prove beneficial to the entire computer industry.

1963 At the University of California. Berkelev. Lotfi Zadeh beains work on fuzzy logic.





1964 IBM announces the System/360 "third-generation" line of computers.

1964 Basic (Beginner's All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) is developed at Dartmouth by John Kemeny and Thomas Kurtz. It spawns many variations.

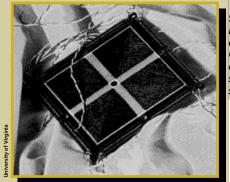
10 print "Hello World!"

20 goto 10

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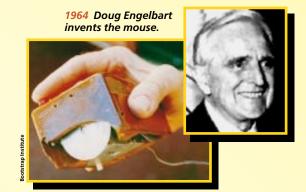
1964 IBM's seven-year-long Sabre project, allowing travel agents anywhere to make airline reservations, is fully implemented.





1964 With a speed of 9 megaflops, Control Data Corp.'s CDC 6600, designed by Seymour Cray, claims the title of first commercially successful supercomputer.

1964 IBM develops a computeraided design system.







1965 J.A. Robinson develops unification, the underpinning of logic programming and important to many of today's programming technologies.

er, itry

1965 Maurice Wilkes proposes the use of a cache memory on the basis of an idea by Gordon Scarott.



1965 At the University of Belgrade, Rajko Tomovic makes one of the earliest attempts to develop an artificial limb with a sense of touch.

1965 DEC debuts the first minicomputer, the PDP-8, which used transistor circuitry modules.

1965 Project MAC, a large collaborative time-sharing project, leads to the Multics operating system.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

```
Begin
   while 1 = 1 do begin
           outtext ("Hello World!");
           outimage;
   end;
End;
```

1967 Ole-Johan Dahl and Kristen Nygaard at the Norwegian Computing Centre complete a general-purpose version of the language Simula, the first object-oriented language.

1967 Fairchild introduces its 3800 8-bit ALU chip.

1967 At Texas Instruments, Jack Kilby, Jerry Merryman, and James Van Tassel invent a four-function handheld calculator.

1968 A conference sponsored by the NATO Science Committee addresses the "software crisis" and introduces the term "software engineering."

1967 Donald Knuth writes about algorithms and data structures as entities separate from the programs they are used in.

1968 Edsger Dijkstra writes

about the harmful effects of the goto statement, and interest in structured programming burgeons.

1968 The first computers to incorporate integrated circuits—the B2500 and B3500—are introduced by Burroughs.

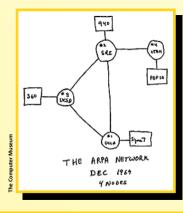
1968 A Federal Information Processing Standard encourages use of the six-digit data format (YYMMDD) for information interchange, sowing the seeds of the "Year 2000 Crisis."



1968 The Seymour Cray-designed CDC 7600 supercomputer achieves 40-megaflops performance.

1968 The Rand Corp. presents a decentralized communications network concept to ARPA.

1968 Robert Noyce, Andy Grove, and Gordon Moore establish Intel, which is incorporated on July 18.



1969 Bell Labs withdraws from Project MAC, which developed Multic, and begins to develop Unix.

1969 The RS-232-C standard is introduced to facilitate data exchange between computers and peripherals.

1970 Shakey, developed at SRI International, is the first robot to use artificial intelligence to navigate.

1970 Winston Royce publishes "Managing the Development of Large Software Systems," which outlines the waterfall development method.



1969 The US Department of Defense commissions Arpanet for research networking, and the first four nodes become operational at UCLA, UC Santa Barbara, SRI, and the University of Utah.





1970 Unix is developed at Bell Labs by Dennis Ritchie and Kenneth Thomson.

1970 The Computer Group News becomes Computer, a monthly magazine for all Computer Society members.

1970 RCA's MOS (metal-oxide semiconductor) technology promises cheaper and smaller ICs.

1970 Xerox establishes the Palo Alto Research Center at Stanford University for computer research.

1970 E.F. Codd describes the relational model.



1970 The floppy disk and the daisywheel printer make their debut.



1971 The team of Ted Hoff, S. Mazor, and F. Fagin develops the Intel 4004 microprocessor—a "computer on a chip."

1971 Don Hoefler writes a series of articles for Electronic News called "Silicon Valley USA," using in print the name that had been adopted to describe the area.

1971 David Parnas describes the principle of information hiding.



1971 Ray Tomlinson of Bolt Beranek and Newman sends the first network e-mail message.

Program Hello (Input, Output);

Begin
Writeln ('Hello World!');
End.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

1971 Niklaus Wirth develops
Pascal, a predecessor to Modula-2.



1971 The
IEEE Computer
Group
becomes the
IEEE Computer
Society.



1972 Intel's 8008, the first 8-bit microprocessor, appears but is soon replaced by the 8080.

1972 Nolan Bushnell's Pong video game is so successful that he founds Atari.

1972 Hand-held calculators become popular, making the slide rule obsolete.

main()

1972 Dennis Ritchie develops C at Bell Labs, so named because its predecessor was named B.

1972 Smalltalk is developed by Xerox PARC's Learning Research

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

#include

for(;;)

Transcript show: 'Hello World';cr

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

Group, based largely on the ideas of Alan Kay.

printf ("Hello World!\n");

1972 Alain Colmerauer at the University of Marseille develops Prolog, which popularizes key logic programming concepts.

```
% HELLO WORLD Works with Sbp (prolog)
hello :-
printstring ("HELLO WORLD!!!!")
printstring ([])
printstring ([H|T]) :- put (H), printstring (T).
```

1972 Analytic complexity theory develops the idea of NP-completeness, showing that a large class of computing problems, such as the "traveling salesman problem," may be computationally intractable.

http://www.latec.doc/~acm/HelloWorld.shtn

1972 Wang, VYDEC, and Lexitron all introduce word processing systems.

1972 In Wimbledon, England, an experimental computerized axial tomography imager finds a brain tumor in a patient.



1972 DEC's PDP 11/45 is introduced, its circuitry encased in chips.

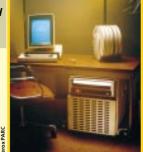


1972 Steve
Wozniak builds
a "blue box"
tone generator
to make free
phone calls
and sells them
in the dorm at
UC Berkeley.

1973 Researchers at Xerox PARC develop an experimental PC called Alto that uses a mouse, Ethernet, and a graphical user interface.

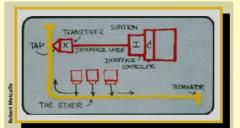
1973 Work begins on the Transmission Control Protocol at a Stanford University laboratory headed by Vinton Cerf.

1973 Alan Kay develops a forerunner of the PC. His "office computer," based on Smalltalk, employs icons, graphics, and a mouse.



1973 Through a technique called largescale integration, 10,000 components are placed on a 1-sq-cm chip.

1973 John Vincent Atanasoff is recognized as the creator of the modern computer when a federal judge invalidates Eckert and Mauchly's ENIAC patent.



1973 Robert Metcalfe writes a memo on "Ether Acquisition," which describes the Ethernet as a modified Alphanet.

1974 An article in Radio Electronics describes how to build a "personal minicomputer," the Mark-8.

1974 At Xexoc PARC, Charles Simonyi writes the first WYSIWYG application, Bravo. 1974 A 4-Kbit D-RAM chip becomes commercially available.

1974 In Stockholm, chess-playing computers engage in their first tournament.



PC. an Altair

as a kit,

in January.

1975 Michael Jackson describes a method to treat a program's structure as a reflection of a problem's structure, a precursor to the Jackson System Development method.

1975 John Cocke works on the 801 project at IBM to develop a minicomputer with the yet-unnamed RISC architecture.

1975 IBM introduces the laser printer.

1975 Frederick **Brooks writes**



The Mythical Man-Month, which describes software development as "the mortal struggle of great beasts in the tar pits" and advises that adding more people to a late project only makes it later.



1976 The Cray-1 from Cray Research is the first supercomputer with a vectorial architecture.

1976 Gary Kildall develops the CP/M operating system for 8-bit PCs.

1976 OnTyme, the first commercial e-mail service, finds a limited market because the installed base of potential users is too small.

1976 IBM develops the ink-jet printer.



1976 Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak design and build the Apple I, which consists mostly of a circuit board.



1977 Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak incorporate Apple Computer on January 3.

1977 The Apple II is announced in the spring and establishes the benchmark for personal computers.

1977 Several companies begin experimenting with fiber-optic cable.

1977 Bill Gates and Paul Allen found Microsoft, setting up shop first in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



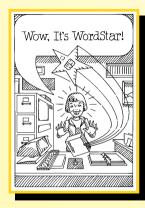


1977 PCs from Tandy and Commodore come with built-in monitors and thus require no television hookup.





1978 DEC introduces the VAX 11/780, a 32-bit computer that becomes popular for technical and scientific applications.



1978 Wordstar is introduced and goes on to become a widely used word processor with CP/M systems and later on DOS computers.

1978 Tom DeMarco's Structured Analysis and System Specification popularizes structured analysis.

1978 Ron Rivest, Adi Shamir, and Leonard Adelman propose the RSA cipher as a public-key cryptosystem for enciphering digital transmissions.

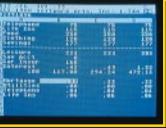
1978 Intel's first 16-bit processor, the 8086, debuts.



1979 Benoit Mandelbrot continues his research into fractals by generating a Mandelbrot set, derived from z(n + 1) = z(n) * z(n) - (0).



1979 The first electronic spreadsheet program, Don Bricklin's and Bob Franston's VisiCalc, is unveiled on May 11 and proves to be the "killer app" for early PCs.



1979 Motorola introduces the 68000 chip, which will later support the Macintosh.

1979 Digital videodisks appear through the efforts of Sony and Philips.



1979 Cellular telephones are tested in Japan and Chicago.



1980 IBM selects PC-DOS from upstart Microsoft as the operating system for its new PC.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

1980 After with i_o; use i_o;
procdure hello is
begin
 put ("Hello World!");
end Hello;

a long development period, the Ada language emerges. Developed by the US Department of Defense, it is designed for process control and embedded applications.

1980 Wayne Ratliff develops dBase II, the first version of a PC database program. It goes on to enjoy wide market success



1980 The Osborne 1 "portable" computer weighs 24 pounds and is the size of a small suitcase.



1980 David A. Patterson at UC Berkeley begins using the term "reduced-instruction set" and, with John Hennessy at Stanford, develops the concept.

1981 Barry Boehm devises Cocomo (Constructive Cost Model), a software cost-estimation model.

1981 Japan grabs a big piece of the chip market by producing chips with 64 Kbits of memory.

1981 Xerox introduces a commercial version of the Alto called the Xerox Star.



1981 The open-architecture IBM PC is launched in August, signaling to corporate America that desktop computing is going mainstream.

1980-1981

1982 Columbia Data Products produces the first IBM PC "clone." Compaq soon follows with its own version.

1982 Autodesk is founded and ships the first version of AutoCAD later that year.



1982 John Warnock develops the PostScript page-description language and with Charles Geschke founds Adobe Systems.

1982 Time magazine names the computer as its "Man of the Year."



1982 The Cray X-MP (two Cray-1 computers linked in parallel) proves three times faster than a Cray-1.

1982 Japan launches its "fifth generation" computer project, focusing on artificial intelligence.

1982 Commercial e-mail service begins among 25 cities.

1982 In November, Compaq unveils an IBM-compatible portable PC.

1983 Peter Jandl Junior became a undergraduate student of Electrical Engineering at Unicamp.



1983 By including graphics such as pie charts and bar graphs, Lotus 1-2-3 does for the IBM PC what VisiCalc did for the Apple II.

1983 A Josephson junction is developed on the basis of Brian Josephson's 1962 prediction, bringing higher speed and lower power dissipation to ICs.

1983 The IBM PC-XT heads for market success, while the PC Junior faces quick extinction.

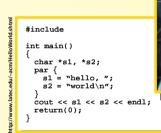
1983 Completion of the TCP/IP switchover marks the creation of the global Internet.



1983 Thinking Machines Corp. and Ncube are founded, providing a boost to parallel processing.

1983 Though not destined for commercial success. Apple's Lisa, launched in May, shows what can be done

with a mouse, icons, and pulldown menus.



1983 At AT&T Bell Labs. Biarne Stroustrup continues work on C++, an OO extension to C.



1984 In January, the Macintosh is unveiled with a publicity campaign that includes an Orwellian-themed ad during the Super Bowl.



1984 Apple gives computer graphics a boost with its MacPaint program.

1984 MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) standards are developed for interfacing computers and digital music synthesizers.



1984 The CD-ROM, introduced by Sony and Philips, provides significantly greater storage capacity for digital data.



1984 Motorola introduces the MC68020 with 250,000 transistors.

1984 A motion picture, The Last Starfighter, uses extensive supercomputer-generated graphics.

1984 NEC manufactures a 256-Kbit chip, and IBM introduces a 1-Mbit RAM chip.

1984 In Neuromancer, novelist William Gibson coins the term "cvberspace."

1984 Beginning in August. Intel's 16-bit 80286 chip. installed in IBM's new PC AT, expands desktop computer capabilities.





1985 Supercomputer speeds reach 1 billion operations per second with the release of the Cray 2 and Thinking Machines' parallel-processor Connection Machine.

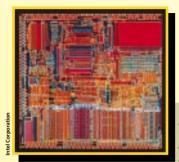
1985 Inmos introduces transputers, featuring concurrent processing architecture.

1985 The National Science Foundation establishes four national supercomputing centers.



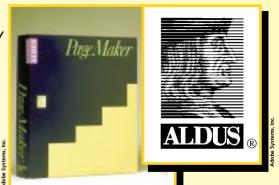
1985 With the development of Windows 1.0, Microsoft brings Macintosh-like features to DOS-compatible computers.

1985 The Omnibot 2000 from Tony Kyogo can move, talk, and carry objects.



1985 Paul Brainard's PageMaker becomes the first PC desktop publishing program and is widely used, first on the Macintosh and later on IBM compatibles.

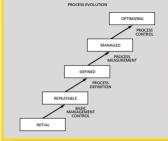
1985 In October, Intel introduces the 80386 chip with 32-bit processing and on-chip memory management.



1986 An article in the Wall Street Journal helps to popularize the concept and term CASE, for computer-aided software engineering.

1986 The four-processor Cray XP performs 713 million floating-point operations per second. 1987 Experimental 4and 16-Mbit chips are introduced.

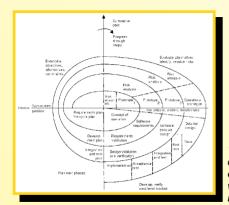
1987 Watts Humphrey
(pictured) and William
Sweet, of the Software
Engineering Institute,
publish a "process
maturity framework,"
which becomes the
Capability Maturity Model, designed to help predict





1986 — **1987**

a developer's ability to produce reliable software.



1988 Motorola's 32-bit 88000 series of RISC microprocessors offer processing speeds of up to 17 million instructions per second.

1988 Graduate student Robert Morris Jr. reveals the need for greater network security by releasing a worm program into the Internet on November 2

1988 Barry Boehm publishes a description of the spiral model of software development, which recognizes the need to incrementally build systems.

1988 Steve Jobs' Next computer debuts but, despite advanced features, attracts too few buyers to compete in the market.





1989 Tim Berners-Lee proposes the World Wide Web project to CERN (European Council for Nuclear Research).

1989 The first set of SPEC benchmarks is released, facilitating machine performance comparisons for scientific computation tasks.

1989 Intel's 80486 chip with 1.2 million transistors is introduced in April.

> 1989 Seymour Cray founds Cray Computer Corp. and begins developing the Cray 3 using gallium arsenide chips.

1990 Microsoft introduces Windows 3.0



in May, intensifying its legal dispute with Apple over the software's "look and feel" resemblance to the Macintosh operating system.

1990 Scientists at Bell Labs demonstrate the first all-optical processor on January 29.

1990 Hewlett-Packard and IBM both announce RISC-based computers.

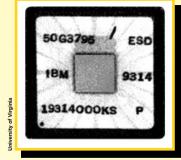
1990 Intel's i486 and iPSC/860, and Motorola's 68040 become available.

1990 Berners-Lee writes the initial prototype for the World Wide Web, which uses his other creations: URLs. HTML. and HTTP.

1990 Arpanet is officially decommissioned.

1991 The Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry abandons its program to build a fifth-generation computer and plans instead for a sixth-generation computer to be based on neural networks.

1991 Cray Research unveils the Cray Y-MP C90 with 16 processors and a speed of 16 Gflops.



1991 IBM, Motorola, and Apple's PowerPC alliance is announced on July 30.

1992 After generating great concern in early March, the Michelangelo virus results in little actual damage.

1992 In March, the first M-bone audio multicast is transmitted on the Net.

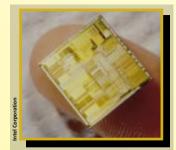


1992 DEC introduces the first chip to implement its 64-bit RISC Alpha architecture.



1993 Apple releases the Newton, the

first popular personal digital assistant. It uses a stylus pen, and the first generation suffers from poor handwriting recognition.



1993 Intel's Pentium is introduced in March.



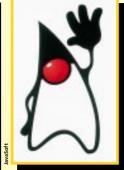
1993 Students and staff at the University of Illinois' National Center for Supercomputing Applications create a graphical user interface for Internet navigation called NCSA Mosaic.

1994 In April, Jim Clark and Marc Andreesen found Netscape Communications (originally Mosaic Communications).

1994 Leonard Adleman of the University of Southern California demonstrates that DNA can be used as a computing medium.

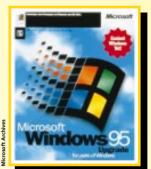
1994 Netscape's first browser becomes available in September and creates a rapidly growing body of Web surfers.





1995 Toy Story is the first full-length feature movie completely computer generated.

1995 The Java programming language, unveiled in May, enables platformindependent application development. "Duke" is the first applet.



1996 The Intel Pentium Pro is announced.

1996 The IEEE Computer Society celebrates its 50th anniversary.

1995 Windows 95 is launched on August 24 with great fanfare.