

[Home](#) * [Engines](#) * CCCP



Flying USSR flag ^[2]

CCCP,
the Columbia Computer Chess
Program developed by a group of
students at [Columbia University](#),
[Steven M. Bellovin](#), [Aron
Eisenpress](#), [Andrew Koenig](#), and
[Ben Yalow](#), written in [PL/I](#). CCCP
played the [ACM 1971](#), where it ran
on [IBM 360/91](#) at Columbia
University. The project already
started during the [ACM 1970](#) in
collaboration with [Hans Berliner](#)
from [Carnegie Mellon University](#),
when [J. Biit](#) was operated through a
chess [GUI](#) written at Columbia for
the [IBM 2250 Display Unit](#). The
four students continued to develop
J. Biit, replacing the back end with
a much better set of algorithms,
evolving into CCCP (a pun on the
[Cyrillic](#) abbreviation for the
official name of the [Soviet Union](#),
Союз Советских
Социалистических Республик)
after one year of effort ^[1].

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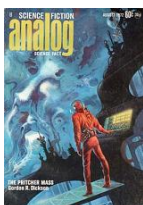
Selected Games

[ACM 1971](#), round 3, [CCCP](#) - [David](#) ^[3]

```
[Event "ACM 1971"]
[Site "Chicago USA"]
[Date "1971.08.04"]
[Round "3"]
[White "CCCP"]
[Black "David"]
[Result "1/2-1/2"]
```

```
1.e4 e6 2.d4 Nc6 3.Nc3 g5 4.Bb5 a6 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Be3 b5 7.Qh5 b4
8.Bxg5 Nf6 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.e5 Qg7 11.Ne4 Qxg2 12.Qf3 Qxf3 13.Nxf3
Bh6 14.Nf6+ Ke7 15.a3 bxa3 16.Rxa3 Rb8 17.O-O Rxb2 18.c4 a5 19.Rxa5
Rb3 20.Kg2 Rxf3 21.Kxf3 Bd2 22.Rc5 Bc3 23.Rxc6 Bb7 24.Nd5+ exd5
25.Rxc7+ Ke6 26.Rxb7 dxc4 27.Rb6+ Kf5 28.Rf6+ Kg5 29.Rg1+ Kh5
30.Rf5+ Kh6 31.Rf6+ Kh5 32.Rf5+ Kh6 33.Rf6+ Kh5 34.Rf5+ 1/2-1/2
```

The Computer Was a Fish



Analog, August 1972 ^[7]

In his essay *The Computer Was a Fish*, published in [Analog Science Fiction and Fact](#), August 1972 ^[4], [George R. R. Martin](#) mentions the [ACM 1971](#) and a computer chess program called CCCP, which had a certain [Mr. Benjamin Yalow](#) on the team ^[5]. The essay inspired [Charles E.](#) and [Charlie Wilkes](#) to write their program [The Fox](#) ^[6].

Namesake

- [CCCP](#) by [Pawel Koziol](#)

See also

- [Acronym](#)
- [Fish](#)

Publications

- [Andrew Koenig](#) (1978). *Light-Pen used in game*. [Personal Computing, Vol. 2, No. 5](#), pp. 112

External Links

- [Computing at Columbia Timeline](#)
- [Recollections of CUCC 1968-70 -The CCCP Chess Program](#)
- [CCCP - Wiktionary](#)
- [CCCP \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)

References

1. ↑ [Recollections of CUCC 1968-70 -The CCCP Chess Program](#)
2. ↑ [Flag of the Soviet Union](#), file from the [Prelinger Archives](#), which released it explicitly into the [public domain](#), using the [Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#)
3. ↑ [PGN Download NACCC](#) from [Computerschaak/Downloads/Games](#) hosted by [CSVN](#)
4. ↑ [George R. R. Martin](#) (1972). [The Computer Was a Fish](#). [Analog Science Fiction/Science Fact](#), August 1972
5. ↑ [The Drink Tank 319 - Hugo for Best Novel | Chris Garcia - Editors - James Bacon](#) (pdf)
6. ↑ [Computer Chess Newsletter, Issue 2](#) 1977 by [Douglas Penrod](#), [Charles F. Wilkes](#) pp. 6-9, Courtesy of [Peter Jennings](#), [pdf reprint](#) from [The Computer History Museum](#)
7. ↑ Cover art by [Frank Kelly Freas](#), supplied by [Visco](#), [Analog Science Fiction/Science Fact, August 1972](#)

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Andrew Koenig	Dec 22, 2017
Aron Eisenpress	Jul 8, 2012
Ben Yalow	Jan 21, 2013
CCCP	Jan 10, 2013
CCCP (US)	Dec 22, 2017
Charles F. Wilkes	Oct 6, 2014
Charlie Wilkes	Oct 6, 2014

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