

Table of Contents

[History of Computer Chess](#)

-

[Early Theorists](#)

[Famous Historic Computers and Programs](#)

[Famous Matches](#)

[Tournaments](#)

[People](#)

[Programming History](#)

[Museums](#)

[See also](#)

[Publications](#)

[Forum Posts](#)

[External Links](#)

[History of AI](#)

[History of Computer Chess](#)

[Computer Chess - A Movie](#)

[References](#)

[What links here?](#)

[Home](#) * **History**

History of Computer Chess

About ancient programs, computer chess pioneers and chess programming history.

Early Theorists



[Ernst Zermelo](#)
1871 - 1953



[Norbert Wiener](#)
1894 - 1964



[John von Neumann](#)
1903 - 1957



[Konrad Zuse](#)
1910 - 1995



[Alan Turing](#)
1912 - 1954



[Claude Shannon](#)
1916 - 2001

Famous Historic Computers and Programs

Computer - Program	Author(s)	year	Features
<u>El Ajedrecista</u>	<u>Leonardo Torres y Quevedo</u>		<u>1912</u> Electro-mechanical <u>KRK</u> Solver
<u>Turochamp</u>	<u>Alan Turing</u> , <u>David Champernowne</u>	<u>1948</u>	"paper machine"
<u>Machiavelli</u>	<u>Donald Michie</u> , <u>Shaun Wylie</u>	<u>1948</u>	"paper machine"
<u>Nemes' Chess Machine</u>	<u>Tihamér Nemes</u>		<u>1949</u> Design of electro-mechanical Mate-in-two Solver
<u>Shannon's Chess Machine</u>	<u>Claude Shannon</u>		<u>1950</u> Relay-based chess machine
<u>Mate-in-two</u>	<u>Dietrich Prinz</u>		<u>1951</u> Mate-in-two Solver
<u>MANIAC I</u>	<u>Stanislaw Ulam</u> et al.		<u>1956</u> <u>Los Alamos chess</u> 6*6 board

The Bernstein Chess Program	Alex Bernstein et al.	1958Shannon Type B
NSS Chess Program	Allen Newell , Cliff Shaw , Herbert Simon	1958Shannon Type B , Alpha-Beta approx.
Kotok-McCarthy-Program	Alan Kotok , John McCarthy et al.	1962Shannon Type B , Alpha-Beta
ITEP Chess Program	Georgy Adelson-Velsky et al.	1963 Shannon Type A , Alpha-Beta
The Greenblatt Chess Program	Richard Greenblatt et al.	1967Shannon Type B , Transposition Table , Opening Book
The Technology Chess Program	James Gillogly et al.	1970Shannon Type A , Pondering
Kaissa	Mikhail Donskoy et al.	1970Shannon Type A , Bitboards , Null Move Pruning
Chess 4.0	David Slate , Larry Atkin	1973Shannon Type A , Bitboards
Belle	Ken Thompson and Joe Condon	1978Shannon Type A , Chess Hardware
Cray Blitz	Robert Hyatt , Albert Gower , Harry Nelson	1983Shannon Type A , Dynamic Tree Splitting
HiTech	Hans Berliner et al.	1985Alpha-Beta or B* , Chess Hardware
Deep Thought	Feng-hsiung Hsu et al.	1986Shannon Type A , Chess Hardware

Famous Matches

- [Stanford-ITEP Match](#)
- [Levy versus Chess 1978](#)

- [Kasparov versus Deep Blue 1996](#)
- [Kasparov versus Deep Blue 1997](#)
[The Machine](#)

Tournaments

- [ACM North American Computer Chess Championship](#) since 1970
- [World Computer Chess Championship](#) since 1974

People

Pages with the tag "[pioneers](#)"

1. [Alan Turing](#)
2. [Alex Bernstein](#)
3. [Alexander Brudno](#)
4. [Alexander Kronrod](#)
5. [Allen Newell](#)
6. [Arthur Samuel](#)
7. [Christopher Strachey](#)
8. [Claude Shannon](#)
9. [Cliff Shaw](#)
10. [Dietrich Prinz](#)
11. [Donald Knuth](#)
12. [Donald Michie](#)
13. [Edward Feigenbaum](#)
14. [Edward Fredkin](#)
15. [Ernst Zermelo](#)
16. [Georgy Adelson-Velsky](#)
17. [Herbert Simon](#)
18. [Jack Good](#)
19. [John McCarthy](#)
20. [John Pasta](#)
21. [John von Neumann](#)
22. [Konrad Zuse](#)
23. [Leonardo Torres y Quevedo](#)
24. [Marvin Minsky](#)
25. [Mikhail Botvinnik](#)
26. [Mikhail R. Shura-Bura](#)
27. [Norbert Wiener](#)
28. [Stanislaw Ulam](#)
29. [Tihamér Nemes](#)

Programming History

- [History of Minimax](#)
- [History of Alpha-Beta](#)
- [History of Principal Variation Search](#)
- [History of Retrograde Analysis](#)
- [Bitboard History](#)
- [History of Null Move Pruning](#)

Museums

related to Computer Chess History:

- [The Computer History Museum](#)
- [Heinz Nixdorf MuseumsForum](#)
- [Russian Virtual Computer Museum](#)

See also

- [Mathematician](#)

Publications

- [Alexander Reinefeld](#) (2005). *Die Entwicklung der Spielprogrammierung: Von John von Neumann bis zu den hochparallelen Schachmaschinen*. [slides as pdf](#), Themen der Informatik im historischen Kontext Ringvorlesung an der [HU Berlin](#), 02.06.2005 (English paper, German title)
- [Jill Cirasella](#), [Danny Kopec](#) (2006). *The History of Computer Games*. [pdf](#)
- [Dag Spicer](#), [Kirsten Tashev](#) (2006). *The Quest to build a Thinking Machine - A History of Computer Chess*. [Core 5.1](#) a publication of [The Computer History Museum](#), [pdf](#)

Forum Posts

- [What Chess programs existed in the '60s?](#) by Pete Galati, [CCC](#), April 13, 2000
- [Computer Chess History, a lot of links inside](#) by [Vincent Lejeune](#), January 04, 2013
- [Checkmate: IBM's Deep Blue Team Discuss the World Comp Chess](#) by [Vincent Lejeune](#), July 30, 2013
- [Old programs CHAOS and USC](#) by Eugene Piercy, [CCC](#), July 11, 2015
[Re: Old programs CHAOS and USC](#) by [Dann Corbit](#), [CCC](#), July 11, 2015

External Links

History of AI

- [History of artificial intelligence from Wikipedia](#) » [Artificial Intelligence](#)
- [History of Artificial Intelligence](#) from [Stottler Henke, Inc.](#)
- [Short History of Computing, AI and Robotics](#) by Philipp Schaumann
- [The “Modern” History of Artificial Intelligence and Programs](#) from [Neuroscience Of Intelligence](#)
- [Early History Artificial Intelligence and Games](#)

History of Computer Chess

- [Classic Computer Chess - ... The programs of yesteryear](#) by [Carey](#), hosted by the [Internet Archive](#)
- [Computer chess chronology \(1729-2011\)](#) in Wikipedia
- [Core 5.1 Computer Chess](#) (pdf) from [The Computer History Museum](#)
- [Computer Chess: The Drosophila of AI](#) by [L. Stephen Coles](#), October 30, 2002, [Dr. Dobbs](#)
- [Chess Computers - The UK Story](#) from [Chess Computer UK](#) by [Mike Watters](#)
- [Computer Chess History Pages](#), CSVN
- [Competitions, Controversies, and Computer Chess](#) (pdf) by [Michael Brudno](#) (May 2000)
- [Les premiers automates](#), [blitzchess.fr](#) (French)
- [Historic Pictures](#) from the Rebel site of [Ed Schröder](#)
- [History of Computer Chess](#) from [The Computer History Museum](#)
- [The History of Computer Chess - an AI Perspective](#), September 08, 2005, [The Computer History Museum](#), [YouTube](#) Video no longer available ^[2]
[Murray Campbell](#), [Edward Feigenbaum](#), [David Levy](#), [John McCarthy](#), [Monty Newborn](#)
- [A Brief History of Computer Chess | The Best Schools](#) by [Erik J. Larson](#)
- ["20 Halbzüge nach 30 Millionen Jahren"](#) by [Stephan Oliver Platz](#), [ChessBase Nachrichten](#), November 20, 2017 (German) incorporated in
[TCEC: Superfinal Houdini vs Komodo](#) by [Stephan Oliver Platz](#), [ChessBase News](#), November 23, 2017 » [TCEC Season 10](#)

Computer Chess - A Movie

- [Computer Chess"](#) by [Andrew Bujalski](#) - [Media, Visual Arts - USA Projects - Artist Fundraising & Advocacy](#) » [ACM North American Computer Chess Championship](#)
- [Computer Chess - A Movie](#) by [Andrew Bujalski](#), [Sundance Film Festival](#), 2013 ^[3]
- [Berlin Film Festival 2013: 'Computer Chess' review](#) ^[4] ^[5] ^[6]
- [Computer Chess - Festival Program | Sundance Institute](#)
- [Computer Chess | Facebook](#)
- [Computer Chess Official Trailer 1 \(2013\) - Comedy Movie HD](#), [YouTube](#) Video
- [Checkmate: Members of IBM's Deep Blue Team Discuss the World of Computer Chess](#), June 1, 2013 » [Murray Campbell](#), [Deep Blue](#)

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1. [^] [Re: Old programs CHAOS and USC](#) by [Dann Corbit](#), [CCC](#), July 11, 2015

2. [^ An Oldie but a Goodie](#) by [Stuart Cracraft](#), [CCC](#), August 16, 2008
3. [^ Computer Chess – the movie](#), [ChessBase News](#), January 21, 2013
4. [^ Berlin International Film Festival - Wikipedia](#)
5. [^ they made a movie about us...](#) by [Thorsten Czub](#), [CCC](#), February 15, 2013
6. [^ Computer Chess | Film | Kritik | critic.de](#) (German)

What links here?

Page	Date Edited
ACM North American Computer Chess Championship	Jun 13, 2015
Alan Kotok	Sep 21, 2014
Alan Turing	Feb 8, 2017
Alex Bernstein	Jan 2, 2016
Alexander Brudno	Apr 9, 2018
Allen Newell	Jun 12, 2017
Alpha-Beta	Jan 28, 2018
Arthur Samuel	May 29, 2016
Bill Wall	Mar 18, 2016
CGW 2007	Jan 2, 2017
Chess	Jan 21, 2018
Chess (Program)	Dec 22, 2017
Claude Shannon	Apr 30, 2016
David Levy	Jan 3, 2017
Deep Blue	Aug 1, 2017
Dietrich Prinz	Oct 14, 2016
Donald Knuth	Aug 29, 2016
Edward Feigenbaum	Jan 3, 2016
El Ajedrecista	Feb 25, 2015
Ernst Zermelo	Sep 8, 2014
Evgeniy Korniloff	Nov 22, 2015
Gerd Isenberg	Apr 4, 2016
Heinz Nixdorf MuseumsForum	Sep 6, 2015
Herbert Simon	Feb 11, 2016
History	Jan 2, 2018
Home	Jul 2, 2018
Jean-Christophe Weill	Dec 17, 2016
Jill Cirasella	Apr 16, 2015
John McCarthy	Jan 5, 2017
John Pasta	Feb 22, 2015
John von Neumann	May 8, 2017
Kaissa	Apr 9, 2018
Kasparov versus Deep Blue 1997	Aug 1, 2017
Konrad Zuse	Apr 30, 2015
Kotok-McCarthy-Program	Jul 14, 2015

Page	Date Edited
MANIAC I	Nov 17, 2016
Mate-in-two	Oct 14, 2016
Mathematician	Apr 9, 2018
Mikhail Botvinnik	Jul 15, 2017
Monroe Newborn	Dec 23, 2017
Murray Campbell	Jun 2, 2017
Norbert Wiener	Oct 6, 2013
Pioneers	Nov 4, 2010
Rahul A. R.	Jan 22, 2017
Russian Virtual Computer Museum	Sep 8, 2013
Search	Feb 1, 2018
SharpChess	Jun 6, 2017
space.menu	Oct 9, 2015
Stanford-ITEP Match	Apr 9, 2018
Stanislaw Ulam	Aug 11, 2016
Stephan Oliver Platz	Dec 14, 2017
Stuart Cracraft	May 19, 2017
The Computer History Museum	Aug 9, 2017
Tihamér Nemes	Sep 11, 2014
Timeline	Jan 3, 2018
World Computer Chess Championship	Mar 6, 2018

[Up one level](#)