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Rolf C. Smith,

an American computer scientist and early chess programmer. Along with [Franklin D. Ceruti](#), Rolf C. Smith co-authored the chess program [Schach](#), which competed at the first three [ACM North American Computer Chess Championships](#), the [ACM 1970](#), [ACM 1971](#) and the [ACM 1972](#). Already written in 1968 as part of the requirements for the degree of Master of Computer Science at the [Texas A&M University](#) under advisor [Dan D. Drew](#), its development continued by [Captain](#) Franklin D. Ceruti and Captain Rolf C. Smith, [U.S. Air Force](#), during the time of the [Vietnam War](#) in [South Vietnam](#) and [Thailand](#), as mentioned by Smith in the [ACM 1971](#) panel session ^[1].

R.C. Smith

Programmer R.C. Smith from [Englishtown, New Jersey](#), author of the [R. Smith's Chess Explorer 1](#) (RSCE-1) written in [Cobol](#), submitted to the [USCF](#) for evaluation, and subject of an 1978 [Computerworld](#) article ^[2], who had no knowledge what work had already be done in that field, is therefor likely not the same person. RSCE-1's purpose was not to play games, but position analysis, to find [mates](#), and to perform a move path enumeration of up to three [plies](#), later dubbed [Perft](#), with [Perft\(3\) result](#) of 8,902 from the [initial position](#) already mentioned ^[3].

Programs

- [Schach](#)

Publications

- [Ben Mittman](#), [Rolf C. Smith](#) et al. (1971) [Computer Chess Programs \(Panel\)](#). pdf from [The Computer History Museum](#)

References

1. [^] [Ben Mittman](#), [Rolf C. Smith](#) et al. (1971) [Computer Chess Programs \(Panel\)](#). pdf from [The Computer History Museum](#)
2. [^] [Written in Cobol - Program Written as Chess Buff's Research Aid](#) by Brad Schultz, [Computerworld](#), April 17, 1978, Page 37
3. [^] [Perft\(3\) from 1978, with a twist!](#) by [Steven Edwards](#), [CCC](#), December 08, 2011

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