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[Red Fox](#) in [Ystad](#), [Sweden](#) ^[3]

The Fox,

an early chess program written in [APL](#) by [Charlie Wilkes](#) from [The College of William & Mary](#) and his father and IBM-employee [Charles F. Wilkes](#), who were inspired by the [George R. R. Martin](#) essay [The Computer Was A Fish](#) in [Analog Science Fiction and Fact](#), August 1972 ^[1] concerning the early [ACM Tournaments](#). They soon started to write an own chess program, without knowledge of how others had to that point programmed. They invented their own equivalent to [alpha-beta](#) pruning. The Fox was a [Shannon Type B](#) program, where one may alter [depth](#) and width. In tournament mode, it made all possible [moves](#) for the first two [plies](#), it then [evaluated](#) and [pruned](#) to the best three apparent moves for three more plies, for a total depth of five plies. The Fox went wider at the second ply level in case of loss of [material](#) ^[2].

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Tournament Play

The Fox played the 4th [ACM 1973](#) on an [IBM 370/145](#) with a win against [Tech 2](#) in the first round, but suffered from too many users on their [timesharing system](#) on Monday, where they lost both games due to time forfeit.

Selected Games

[ACM 1973](#), round 1, [The Fox](#) - [Tech 2](#)

```
[Event "ACM 1973"]
[Site "Atlanta USA"]
[Date "1973.08.26"]
[Round "1"]
[White "The Fox"]
[Black "Tech 2"]
[Result "1-0"]
```

```
1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nxe4 6.O-
O Bc5+ 7.d4 Nxc3 8.bxc3 Bd6
9.Qe2+ Qe7 10.Bd2 O-
O 11.Qxe7 Nxe7 12.Rfe1 Nc6 13.Bd3 f6 14.Rab1 Rd8 15.Rb5 g5
16.Rf5 Be7 17.Rb5 d5 18.Rbb1 Bd6 19.h3 Kg7 20.Re2 Rb8 21.Kf2 g4 22.Ng1
Bd7 23.hxg4
Bxg4 24.Nf3 Rd7 25.Rh1 f5 26.Re6 1-0 {time}
```

See also

- [Comics](#)
- [Mammal](#)

External Links

The Fox

- [The Fox \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [T.H.E. Fox from Wikipedia](#)

- [The Fox \(brand\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [The Fox \(novella\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [The Fox \(1921 film\) from Wikipedia](#)

Misc

- [Fox \(disambiguation\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Fox from Wikipedia](#)
- [Red fox from Wikipedia](#)
- [Foxes in popular culture](#)
- [Reynard from Wikipedia](#)
- [Fox \(comics\) from Wikipedia](#)
- [Fox Feature Syndicate from Wikipedia](#)
- [The Fox and the Crow from Wikipedia](#)
- [Fix and Foxi from Wikipedia](#)
- [21st Century Fox from Wikipedia](#)
- [The Sweet](#) - [Fox On The Run](#), Promo Clip 1975, [YouTube](#) Video

References

1. [^] [George R. R. Martin](#) (1972). [The Computer Was A Fish](#). [Analog Science Fiction/Science Fact](#), August 1972
2. [^] [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](#)
3. [^] [Red Fox](#) in [Ystad](#), [Sweden](#), 2012, Photo by [Jonn Leffmann](#), [Wikimedia Commons](#), [Fox from Wikipedia](#)

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Page	Date Edited
ACM 1973	Jan 19, 2018
CCCP (US)	Dec 22, 2017
Charles F. Wilkes	Oct 6, 2014
Charlie Wilkes	Oct 6, 2014
Engines	Mar 10, 2018
The Fox	Feb 27, 2017

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