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Thomas Nitsche ^[2]

Thomas Nitsche, a German mathematician and computer scientist, former computer chess programmer, and along with [Elmar Henne](#) affiliated with [Proximic](#), a high performance contextual matching service. As student at the [University of Freiburg](#), Thomas Nitsche started computer chess programming in the early 70s. His program [Orwell](#) already played the first [First GI Computer Chess Tournament](#) 1975 in [Dortmund](#). When Nitsche went to the [Technical University of Munich](#), he started to write a parallel version of Orwell, called [Parwell](#), in collaboration with Elmar Henne and [Wolfram Wolff](#). Henne and Nitsche were most famous for their mighty [Mephisto](#) computers with the unique [Briquette](#) design, manufactured by [Hegener & Glaser](#) ^[1].

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Photos



Thomas Nitsche, [Ossi Weiner](#) and [Lars Hjörth](#), [WMCCC 1984](#) Glasgow ^{[3][4]}



Thomas Nitsche operating Mephisto III versus [Susan](#) and [Sofia Polgar](#) 1985 ^[5]



Thomas Nitsche with [CEO Philipp Pieper](#) ^[6]

Quotes

Quote from *Proximic to Syndicate Ads For* [Yahoo](#), [eBay](#) ^[7]:

The architect behind Proximic's contextual-matching engine is Thomas Nitsche, a German mathematician who won the world microcomputer chess title in 1984. Nitsche serves as Proximic's chief technical officer.

The computers Nitsche was turning into world-class chess champions in the 1980's had about 5 kilobytes of memory. He applied the same economical method of coding to Proximic's pattern-proximity technology, which boasts the ability to handle tens of millions of ads with only a fraction of the servers required in keyword-based systems with much smaller inventories.

See also

- [Elmar Henne](#)
- [Hegener & Glaser](#)
- [Mephisto \(H\)](#)
- [Orwell](#)
- [Parwell](#)
- [Technical University of Munich](#)

Selected Publications

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- Thomas Nitsche (1982). *A Learning Chess Program*. [Advances in Computer Chess 3](#)
- Thomas Nitsche (1983). *The Mephisto Concept. A "Humanlike" Thinking Chess Program*. [Computer Chess Digest Annual 1983](#)
- Thomas Nitsche (1984). [Das Mephisto 3-Projekt](#), [Schach-Echo](#) 7/1984 (German)

External Links

- [Thomas Nitsche's ICGA Tournaments](#)
- [Thomas Nitsche Projects](#)
- [Nitsche, Thomas & Henne, Elmar](#) from [Schachcomputer.info - Wiki](#)
- [Proximic brings new contextual search and advertising platform](#) from [PODTech home](#)
- Proximic video by [Robert Scoble](#), [YouTube](#) Video

References

1. [^](#) [Ab Dezember neuer Mikroschachcomputer für 350 Mark.: Mephisto unterm Weihnachtsbaum](#), October 7, 1979, [Computerwoche](#) 36/1979 (German)
2. [^](#) [László Lindner](#), A SZÁMÍTÓGÉPES SAKK KÉPEKBEN című melléklete - The pictures of the Beginning of Chess Computers
3. [^](#) [Was macht eigentlich Thomas Nitsche, der Mephisto III Programmierer?](#) by [Thorsten Czub](#)

(German)

4. [^](#) Photo by [Rainer Neuhausler](#), [Re: Who is that guy?](#) by [Rainer Neuhausler](#), [CCC](#), August 19, 2009
5. [^](#) [Hegener & Glaser \(Mephisto\)](#) from [ChessComputers.org](#)
6. [^](#) [Proximic - new contextual search](#)
7. [^](#) [Proximic to Syndicate Ads For Yahoo, eBay](#)
8. [^](#) [ICGA Reference Database](#) (pdf)

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