

**T**o commemorate the 50th year of modern computing and the Computer Society, the timeline on the following pages traces the evolution of computing and computer technology.

*Timeline research by Bob Carlson, Angela Burgess, and Christine Miller.* 

Timeline design and production by Larry Bauer. We thank our reviewers: Ted Biggerstaff, George Cybenko, Martin Campbell-Kelly, Alan Davis, Dan O'Leary, Edward Parrish, and Michael Williams.

#### **Timeline of Computing History**

4000-1200 B.C. Inhabitants of the first known civilization in Sumer keep records of commercial transactions on clay tablets.



**3000 B.C.** The abacus is invented in Babylonia.

**250-230 B.C.** The Sieve of Eratosthenes is used to determine prime numbers.

About 79 A.D. The "Antikythera Device," when set correctly according to latitude and day of the week, gives alternating 29- and 30-day lunar months.



About 1300 The more familiar wireand-bead abacus replaces the Chinese calculating rods.

#### 4000 B.C. — 1300

**1612-1614** John Napier uses the printed decimal point, devises logarithms, and uses numbered sticks, or Napiers Bones, for calculating.



1622 William Oughtred invents the circular slide rule on the basis of Napier's logarithms.

**1623** William (Wilhelm) Schickard designs a "calculating clock" with a gear-driven carry mechanism to aid in multiplication of multidigit numbers.

**1600**s



**1642-1643** Blaise Pascal creates a gear-driven adding machine called the "Pascalene," the first mechanical adding machine.

1666 In England, Samuel Morland produces a mechanical calculator that can add and subtract.



 Gottfried Leibniz builds the "Stepped Reckoner," a calculator using a stepped cylindrical gear. A linked sequence of punched cards controls the weaving of patterns in Joseph-Marie Jacquard's loom.

Philipp-Matthaus Hahn builds and sells a small number of calculating machines precise to 12 digits.

The third Earl of Stanhope invents a multiplying calculator.

J.H. Mueller envisions a "difference engine" but cannot get the funds to build it.



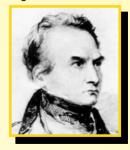
#### 1674-1801



1820 The Thomas Arithmometer, based on Leibniz' steppeddrum principle, is demonstrated to the French Academy of Science. It becomes the first mass-produced calculator and sells for many years.



**1822** Charles Babbage begins to design and build the Difference Engine.



**1811** Luddites destroy machinery that threatens to eliminate jobs.

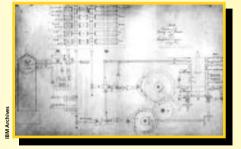
**1811 — 1822** 

**1832** Babbage and Joseph Clement produce a portion of the Difference Engine.

**1829** William Austin Burt patents an awkward but workable typewriter, the first writing machine in America.

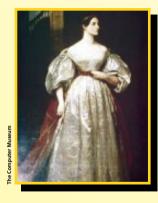


## **1834-35** Babbage shifts his focus to designing the Analytical Engine.



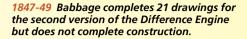
**1838** In January Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail demonstrate elements of the telegraph system.

1829 — 1838



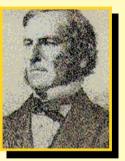
**1842-43** Augusta Ada, Countess of Lovelace, translates Luigi Menabrea's pamphlet on the Analytical Engine, adding her own commentary.

**1844** Samuel Morse sends a telegraph message from Washington to Baltimore.





**1854** George Boole publishes "An Investigation of the Laws of Thought,"



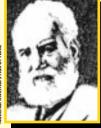
describing a system for symbolic and logical reasoning that will become the basis for computer design.

**1842 — 1854** 





1858 A telegraph cable spans the Atlantic Ocean for the first time and provides service for a few davs.

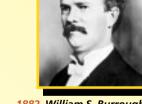


1861 A transcontinental telegraph line connects the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

1876 Alexander Graham Bell invents and patents the telephone.



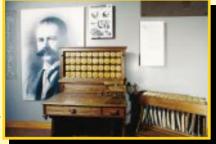
1876-1878 Baron Kelvin builds a harmonic analyzer and tide predictor.



1882 William S. Burroughs leaves his bank clerk's job determined to invent an adding machine.

Smithsonian Institution





**1893** The first four-function calculator is invented.

1895 Guglielmo Marconi transmits a radio signal.

**1889** Herman Hollerith's Electric Tabulating System outperforms the competition and in the fall is selected for use in the 1890 census.



1901 The keypunch appears and changes very little over the next half century.

**1896** Hollerith establishes the Tabulating Machine Company.

1889 — 1901

# e Computer Museu



diode vacuum tube, setting the stage for better radio communication.

1904 John

A. Fleming

1906 Lee de Forest adds a third valve to control current flow to Fleming's diode to create the three-electrode vacuum tube.

**1907** Gramophone music constitutes the first regular radio broadcasts from New York.

> 1908 British scientist Campbell Swinton describes an electronic scanning method and foreshadows use of the cathode-ray tube for television.

> > 1904 — 1911

**1911** Dutch physicist Kamerlingh Onnes at Leiden University discovers superconductivity.

1911 Hollerith's Tabulating Machines Co. and two other companies combine to form C-T-R-

Calculating, Tabulating, and Recording Co.

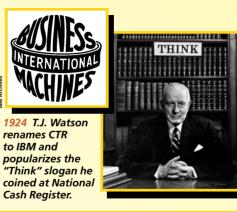




**1912** The Institute of Radio Engineers, which will eventually merge with other organizations to form the IEEE, is established. **1915** Use of microchips is foreshadowed as physicist Manson Benedicks discovers that the germanium crystal can be used to convert alternating current to direct current.

**1919** Eccles and Jordan, US physicists, invent the flip-flop electronic switching circuit critical to high-speed electronic counting systems.

**1920-1921** The word "robot" (derived from the Czech word for compulsory labor) is first used by Karel Câpek in his play RUR (Rossum's Universal Robots).



1912 — 1924

**1927** Herbert Hoover's face is seen on screen during the first demonstration of television in the US. Accompanying voice transmission uses telephone wires.

**1928** The quartz crystal clock makes possible unprecedented time-keeping accuracy.

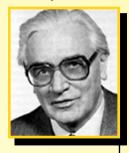
**1929** Color television signals are successfully transmitted.



**1930** The Differential Analyzer, devised by Vannevar Bush and colleagues at MIT, solves various differential equations.

> 1931 Reynold B. Johnson, a high school teacher in Michigan, devises a way to score multiple-choice tests by sensing conductive pencil marks on answer sheets. IBM later buys the technology.

**1934** In Germany, Konrad Zuse seeks to build a better calculating machine than those currently available.







**1935** *IBM* introduces not only the 601 multiplying punch-card machine but also an electric typewriter.

**1936** Konrad Zuse realizes that programs composed of bit combinations can be stored, and he files a patent application in Germany for the automatic execution of calculations, including a "combination memory."



**1937** Howard Aiken submits to IBM a proposal for a digital calculating machine capable of performing the four fundamental operations of arithmetic and operating in a predetermined sequence.

> **1937** Claude Shannon publishes the principles for an electric adder to the base two.

**1937** George Stibitz develops a binary circuit based on Boolean algebra.

1935 — 1937

3M Archiv





**1937** Alan Turing's paper "On Computable Numbers" presents the concept of the Turing machine.

1937 John Vincent Atanasoff spends the winter devising the principles for an electronicdigital computer.



**1938** William Hewlett and David Packard form Hewlett-Packard in a garage in Palo Alto, California. **1939** Working from October through November, John Vincent Atanasoff, with help from graduate student Clifford E. Berry, builds

a prototype electronic-digital computer that uses binary arithmetic.

**1938** Zuse completes the Z1 electromechanical binary computer and refines the design with the Z2.



1937-1939

**1940** Konrad Zuse completes the Z2, which uses telephone relays instead of mechanical logical circuits.

**1941** Zuse completes the Z3, the first fully functional program-controlled electromechanical digital computer.

**1943** On May 31, 1943, construction begins on the ENIAC at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering in Philadelphia. 1943 In December, Colossus, a British vacuum tube computer, becomes operational



at Bletchley Park through the combined efforts of Alan Turing, Tommy Flowers, and M.H.A. Newman. It is considered the first all-electronic calculating device. **1944** The Harvard Mark I (a.k.a. IBM Automatic Sequence Controlled Calculator [ASCC]), produced by Howard Aiken, is dedicated at Harvard University on August 7, 1944.



**1940 — 1944** 



1945 J. Presper Eckert and John Mauchly sign a contract to build the EDVAC (Electronic Discrete Variable Automatic Computer).

1945 By spring of

the year, ENIAC is

up and running.

**1945** John von Neumann introduces the concept of a stored program in a June 30 draft report on the EDVAC design.

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**1945** Zuse's Z4 survives World War II and helps launch postwar development of scientific computers in Germany. **1945** Working on a prototype of the Mark II, in the summer Grace Murray Hopper finds the first computer "bug," a moth that had caused a relay failure.

**1945** In July, Vannevar Bush's As We May Think is published in the Atlantic Monthly.

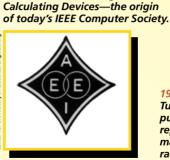
First actual case of





1946 ENIAC, designed by J. Presper Eckert and John Mauchly, is unveiled at the University of Pennsylvania on Februarv 14.

1946 Arthur Burks. Herman Goldstine, and John von Neumann write "Preliminary Discussion of the Logical Design of an Electronic Computing Instrument."



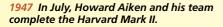
1946 The American Institute of Electrical Engineers establishes a Subcommittee on Large-Scale

1946 Alan publishes a

report on his design for ACE (Automatic Computing Engine), featuring random extraction of information.

Turing







**1947-48** The magnetic drum memory is introduced as a data storage device for computers.

> 1947 On December 23, Bell Labs management is informed by John Brattain that alon



informed by John Bardeen and Walter Brattain that along with William Shockley they have developed the first transistor.

**1947 — 1948** 



1948 Claude Shannon publishes "A Mathematical Theory of Communication." formulating the modern understanding of the communication process.



1948 On June 21, the Manchester Mark I, or "baby" machine, becomes the first operational stored-program digital computer. It used vacuum tube, or valve, circuits.

1948 Richard Hamming devises a way to find and correct errors in blocks of data. The Hamming code is subsequently used in computer and telephone switching systems.





**1948** The SSEC (Selective Sequence Electronic Calculator), using both electronics and relays, is dedicated on January 24.





1949 The Whirlwind computer. constructed under the leadership of Jav Forrester at MIT to be the first real-time computer, is placed in service during the third guarter. It contained 5.000 vacuum tubes.

**1949** EDSAC (Electronic Delayed Storage Automatic Computer), a stored-program computer built by Maurice Wilkes at Cambridge University, England, performs its first calculation on May 6.

**1949** Short Order Code, developed by John Mauchly, is thought to be the first high-level programming language.

**1950** The Pilot ACE is completed at England's National Physical Laboratory and runs its first program on May 10.

**1948 — 1950** 

**1950** Remington Rand buys the Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corporation.

**1950** The Standards Western Automatic Computer (SWAC), built under Harry Huskey's leadership, is dedicated at UCLA on August 17.

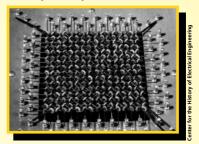
**1950** Alan Turing publishes an article in the journal Mind establishing the criteria for the Turing Test of machine intelligence.

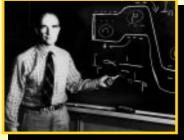


**1951** The first Univac I is delivered to the US Census Bureau in March.

1950-1951

**1951** Jay Forrester files a patent application for the matrix core memory on May 11.





**Bell Laboratories** 

**1951** William Shockley invents the junction transistor.

**1951** David Wheeler, Maurice Wilkes, and Stanley Gill introduce subprograms and the "Wheeler jump" as a means to implement them.

**1951** Betty Holberton creates a sort-merge generator, a predecessor of the compiler.

1951 Maurice Wilkes originates the concept of microprogramming, a technique providing an orderly approach to designing a computer system's control section.



**1951-1952** Grace Murray Hopper develops A-0, the first compiler.



## **1952** The EDVAC runs its first production program on January 28.



**1952** Illiac I is built at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; Ordvac is built by the US Army. Both use von Neumann architecture.

1952

1952 John von Neumann's IAS bit-parallel machine is completed in June for the Institute of Advanced Studies at Princeton, New Jersey.



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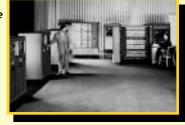
### **1952** Thomas Watson Jr. becomes president of IBM.



**1952** The Institute of Radio Engineers initiates the Transactions of the I.R.E. Electronics Group on Electronic Computers, a predecessor to the IEEE Transactions on Computers.

**1952** On television, a Univac I predicts the outcome of the presidential election and expands the public consciousness regarding computers.

**1952** The IBM 701—the Defense Calculator—is introduced in December.







1953 The IBM 650, known as the Magnetic Drum Calculator. debuts and becomes the first massproduced computer.

**1953** After several years of development, LEO, a commercial version of EDSAC built by the Lyons Company in the UK, goes into service.

**1953** Kenneth Olsen uses Jay Forrester's ferrite-core memory to build the Memory Test computer.

1953 — 1954

**1954** Earl Masterson's Uniprinter, or line printer, developed for computers, executes 600 lines per minute.



1954 Texas Instruments introduces the silicon transistor, pointing the way to lower manufacturing costs. **1954** The Univac **1103A** becomes the first commercial machine with a ferrite-core memory.

> 1956-57 IBM introduces and begins installing the RAMAC



(random-access method of accounting and control) for hard disk data storage.

1956 John McCarthy and Marvin Minsky chair a meeting at Dartmouth College at which the concept of artificial intelligence is developed.

**1956** Fuji Photo Film Co. in Japan develops a 1,700vacuum-tube computer for lens design calculations.

**1956** A Univac with transistors and designed for commercial use is introduced.

1954 — 1957

**1957** John Backus and colleagues at IBM deliver the first Fortran (formula translator) compiler to Westinghouse.

> c c Hello, world. c

> > Program Hello

implicit none logical DONE



DO while (.NOT. DONE) write(\*,10) END DO 10 format('Hello, world.') END **1957** The Atlas Guidance Computer from Burroughs, one of the first computers using transistors, helps control the launch of the Atlas missile.

**1957-1958** Gordon Moore, Robert Noyce, and others found Fairchild Semiconductor.

**1957** Japan's Electrotechnical Laboratory develops a transistor computer, the ETL Mark III, that uses 130 transistors and 1,700 diodes.



**1957** John McCarthy forms MIT's Artificial Intelligence Department. 1957 Control Data is incorporated on July 8.

**1957** Russia launches Sputnik I into orbit on October 4, and the "space race" begins.

**1957** Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. develops the Musasino-1, the first parametron computer. It uses 519 vacuum tubes and 5,400 parametrons—logic elements based on the principle of parametric excitation and invented by Eiji Goto in 1954.





**1958** Digital Equipment Corp. is founded.

**1958** At Texas Instruments, Jack Kilby develops a prototype semiconductor IC while Robert Noyce works separately on ICs at Fairchild Semiconductor.



**1958** The Whirlwind project is extended to produce an air traffic control system.



**1958** Bell's development of the modem data phone enables telephone lines to transmit binary data.



000100 TDENTIFICATION DIVISION. 000200 PROGRAM-TD. HELLOWORLD. 000300 DATE-WRITTEN.02/05/96 21:04. 000400\* AUTHOR JOHN JONES 000500 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION. 000600 CONFIGURATION SECTION. 000700 SOURCE-COMPUTER, RM-COBOL. 000800 OBJECT-COMPUTER. RM-COBOL. 000900 001000 DATA DIVISION. 001100 FILE SECTION. 001200 100000 PROCEDURE DIVISION. 100100 100200 MAIN-LOGIC SECTION. 100300 BEGIN. 100400 DISPLAY " " LINE 1 POSITION 1 ERASE EOS. 100500 DISPLAY "HELLO, WORLD." LINE 15 POSITION 10. 100600 STOP RUN. 100700 MAIN-LOGIC-EXIT. 100800 EXIT.



**1959** The Committee on Data Systems Languages (Codasyl) is formed to create Cobol (Common Business Oriented Language).

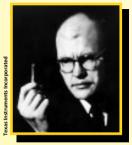
http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

; LISP (DEFUN HELLO-WORLD () (PRINT (LIST 'HELLO 'WORLD)))

**1959** John McCarthy develops Lisp (list processing) for artificial intelligence applications.

**1959** In June, Japan's first commercial transistor computer, NEC Corp.'s NEAC 2201, is demonstrated at an exhibition in Paris.

**1959** Xerox introduces the first commercial copy machine.



1959 Jack Kilby at Texas Instruments designs a flip-flop IC. **1959** On July 30, Robert Noyce and Gordon Moore file a patent application for integrated circuit technology on behalf of the Fairchild Semiconductor Corp.

**1959** UNESCO sponsors the first major international computer conference.

**1959** General Electric produces the GE ERMA to process checks in a banking application via magnetic ink character recognition.







Rand Corp.

**1960** Working at Rand Corp., Paul Baran develops the packet-switching principle for data communications.

```
BEGIN
FILE F (KIND=REMOTE);
EBCDIC ARRAY E [0:111];
REPLACE E BY "HELLO WORLD!";
WHILE TRUE DO
BEGIN
WRITE (F, *, E);
END;
END;
```

**1960** Standards for Algol 60 are established jointly by American and European computer scientists.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

**1960** The Livermore Advance Research Computer (LARC) by Remington Rand is designed for scientific work and uses 60,000 transistors.

**1960** At Cornell University, Frank Rosenblatt builds a computer—the Perceptron—that can learn by trial and error through a neural network. **1960** In November, DEC introduces the PDP-1, the first commercial computer with a monitor and keyboard input.





1961 Georg C. Devol patents a robotic device. which Unimation soon markets as the first industrial robot. It is first used to automate the manufacture of TV picture tubes.

1961 Fernando Corbató at MIT develops a way for multiple users to share computer time.

1961 IBM's 7030, or Stretch, computer is completed and runs faster than the 704. leading to further



about 30 times

exploration of

supercomputing.

**1962** Max V. Mathews leads a Bell Labs team in developing software that can design, store, and edit synthesized music.

**1962** Stanford and Purdue Universities establish the first departments of computer science.

**1962** *H.* Ross Perot founds Electronic Data Systems, which will become the world's largest computer service bureau. **1962** The first video game is invented by MIT graduate student Steve Russell. It is soon played in computer labs all over the US.



1962-1963

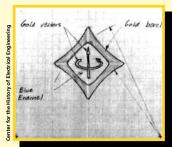
**1962** The Telstar communications satellite is launched on July 10 and relays the first transatlantic television pictures.

**1962** Atlas, considered the world's most powerful computer, is inaugurated in England on December 7. Its advances include virtual memory and pipelined operations.

**1963** On the basis of an idea of Alan Turing's, Joseph Weizenbaum at MIT develops a "mechanical psychiatrist" called Eliza that appears to possess intelligence. **1963** In January, Ivan Sutherland introduces Sketchpad, leading to the consolidation of computer graphics.



**1963** The American National Standards Institute accepts ASCII 7-bit code for information exchange.



**1963** The Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers merge to form the IEEE. **1963** The SAGE system for military defense is fully deployed at a total project cost of about \$8 billion. Many of its technological advances prove beneficial to the entire computer industry.

1963 At the University of California, Berkeley, Lotfi Zadeh begins work on fuzzy logic.







**1964** IBM announces the System/360 "third-generation" line of computers. **1964** Basic (Beginner's All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) is developed at Dartmouth by John Kemeny and Thomas Kurtz. It spawns many variations.

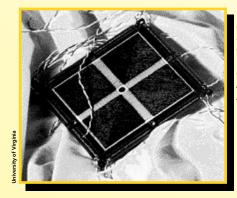
10 print "Hello World!" 20 goto 10

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

**1964** *IBM's seven-year-long Sabre project, allowing travel agents anywhere to make airline reservations, is fully implemented.* 







**1964** With a speed of 9 megaflops, Control Data Corp.'s CDC 6600, designed by Seymour Cray, claims the title of first commercially successful supercomputer.

> 1964 IBM develops a computeraided design system.

**1964** Doug Engelbart invents the mouse.

1964





**1965** DEC debuts the first minicomputer, the PDP-8, which used transistor circuitry modules.

**1965** Project MAC, a large collaborative time-sharing project, leads to the Multics operating system.

**1965** J.A. Robinson develops unification, the underpinning of logic programming and important to many of today's programming technologies.

> **1965** Maurice Wilkes proposes the use of a cache memory on the basis of an idea by Gordon Scarott.



**1965** At the University of Belgrade, Rajko Tomovic makes one of the earliest attempts to develop an artificial limb with a sense of touch.



#### http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

```
Begin
while 1 = 1 do begin
outtext ("Hello World!");
outimage;
end;
End;
```

**1967** Ole-Johan Dahl and Kristen Nygaard at the Norwegian Computing Centre complete a general-purpose version of the language Simula, the first object-oriented language.

**1967** Fairchild introduces its 3800 8-bit ALU chip.

**1967** At Texas Instruments, Jack Kilby, Jerry Merryman, and James Van Tassel invent a four-function handheld calculator.

**1967** Donald Knuth writes about algorithms and data structures as entities separate from the programs they are used in.

**1968** Edsger Dijkstra writes

1968 A conference

Science Committee

the term "software

engineering."

sponsored by the NATO

addresses the "software

crisis" and introduces



about the harmful effects of the goto statement, and interest in structured programming burgeons. **1968** The first computers to incorporate integrated circuits the B2500 and B3500—are introduced by Burroughs.

**1968** A Federal Information Processing Standard encourages use of the six-digit data format (YYMMDD) for information interchange, sowing the seeds of the "Year 2000 Crisis."

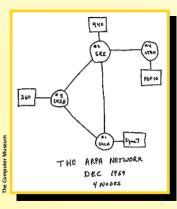


**1968** The Seymour Cray-designed CDC 7600 supercomputer achieves 40-megaflops performance.

**1968** The Rand Corp. presents a decentralized communications network concept to ARPA.

**1968** Robert Noyce, Andy Grove, and Gordon Moore establish Intel, which is incorporated on July 18.





**1969** Bell Labs withdraws from Project MAC, which developed Multic, and begins to develop Unix.

**1969** The RS-232-C standard is introduced to facilitate data exchange between computers and peripherals.

**1970** Shakey, developed at SRI International, is the first robot to use artificial intelligence to navigate.

**1969** The US Department of Defense commissions Arpanet for research networking, and the first four nodes become operational at UCLA, UC Santa Barbara, SRI, and the University of Utah. **1970** Winston Royce publishes "Managing the Development of Large Software Systems," which outlines the waterfall development method.



## **1969 — 1970**





**1970** Unix is developed at Bell Labs by Dennis Ritchie and Kenneth Thomson.

**1970** The Computer Group News becomes Computer, a monthly magazine for all Computer Society members.

**1970** RCA's MOS (metal-oxide semiconductor) technology promises cheaper and smaller ICs.

**1970** Xerox establishes the Palo Alto Research Center at Stanford University for computer research.

**1970** E.F. Codd describes the relational model.

**1970** The floppy disk and the daisywheel printer make their debut.



**1971** The team of Ted Hoff, S. Mazor, and F. Fagin develops the Intel 4004 microprocessor—a "computer on a chip." **1971** David Parnas describes the principle of information hiding.



1971 Don Hoefler writes a series of articles for Electronic

News called "Silicon Valley USA," using in print the name

that had been adopted to describe the area.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

Program Hello (Input, Output);

Begin
Writeln ('Hello World!');
End.

#### **1971** Niklaus Wirth develops Pascal, a predecessor to Modula-2.

1971 Ray Tomlinson of Bolt Beranek and Newman sends the first network e-mail message.

1971 The IEEE Computer Group becomes the IEEE Computer Society.







1972 Hand-held calculators become popular, making the slide rule obsolete.

**1972** Intel's 8008, the first 8-bit microprocessor, appears but is soon replaced by the 8080.

1972 Nolan Bushnell's Pong video game is so successful that he founds Atari.

#include main() for(;;) printf ("Hello World!\n");

1972 Dennis Ritchie develops C at Bell Labs, so named because its predecessor was named B.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml

Transcript show: 'Hello World';cr

1972 Smalltalk is developed by Xerox PARC's Learning Research Group, based largely on the ideas of Alan Kay.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml



**1972** Alain Colmerauer at the University of Marseille develops Prolog, which popularizes key logic programming concepts.

```
% HELLO WORLD Works with Sbp (prolog)
hello :-
```

printstring ("HELLO WORLD!!!!")

```
printstring ([])
printstring ([H|T]) :- put (H), printstring (T).
```

http://www.latec.doc/~acm/HelloWorld.shtm

**1972** Analytic complexity theory develops the idea of NP-completeness, showing that a large class of computing problems, such as the "traveling salesman problem," may be computationally intractable. **1972** Wang, VYDEC, and Lexitron all introduce word processing systems.

**1972** In Wimbledon, England, an experimental computerized axial tomography imager finds a brain tumor in a patient.



**1972** DEC's PDP 11/45 is introduced, its circuitry encased in chips.

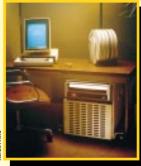




1972 Steve Wozniak builds a "blue box" tone generator to make free phone calls and sells them in the dorm at UC Berkeley. 1973 Researchers at Xerox PARC develop an experimental PC called Alto that uses a mouse, Ethernet, and a graphical user interface.

1973 Work begins on the Transmission Control Protocol at a Stanford University laboratory headed by Vinton Cerf.

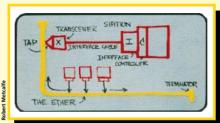
**1973** Alan Kay develops a forerunner of the PC. His "office computer," based on Smalltalk, employs icons, graphics, and a mouse.



1972 — 1973

**1973** Through a technique called largescale integration, 10,000 components are placed on a 1-sq-cm chip.

**1973** John Vincent Atanasoff is recognized as the creator of the modern computer when a federal judge invalidates Eckert and Mauchly's ENIAC patent.



**1973** Robert Metcalfe writes a memo on "Ether Acquisition," which describes the Ethernet as a modified Alohanet.

**1974** An article in Radio Electronics describes how to build a "personal minicomputer," the Mark-8.

**1974** At Xexoc PARC, Charles Simonyi writes the first WYSIWYG application, Bravo. **1974** A 4-Kbit D-RAM chip becomes commercially available.

**1974** In Stockholm, chess-playing computers engage in their first tournament. **1975** The first PC, an Altair 8800, available as a kit, appears on the cover of Popular Electronics in January.



**1975** Michael Jackson describes a method to treat a program's structure as a reflection of a problem's structure, a precursor to the Jackson System Development method.

1975 John Cocke works on the 801 project at IBM to develop a minicomputer with the yet-unnamed RISC architecture. 1975 Frederic Brooks writes

**1975** *IBM introduces the laser printer.* 



The Mythical Man-Month, which describes software development as "the mortal struggle of great beasts in the tar pits" and advises that adding more people to a late project only makes it later.



**1976** Gary Kildall develops the CP/M operating system for 8-bit PCs.

**1976** OnTyme, the first commercial e-mail service, finds a limited market because the installed base of potential users is too small.

**1976** The Cray-1 from Cray Research is the first supercomputer with a vectorial architecture.

**1976** IBM develops the ink-jet printer.



**1976** Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak design and build the Apple I, which consists mostly of a circuit board.





**1977** Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak incorporate Apple Computer on January 3.

**1977** The Apple II is announced in the spring and establishes the benchmark for personal computers.

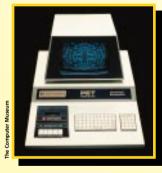
**1977** Several companies begin experimenting with fiber-optic cable.

**1977** Bill Gates and Paul Allen found Microsoft, setting up shop first in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



1977

Apple Computer, Inc.



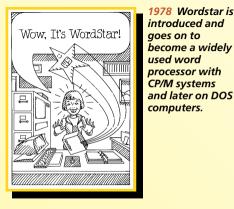
**1977** PCs from Tandy and Commodore come with built-in monitors and thus require no television hookup.





**1978** DEC introduces the VAX 11/780, a 32-bit computer that becomes popular for technical and scientific applications.





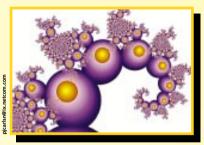
#### 1978 Wordstar is

introduced and 1978 Tom DeMarco's Structured Analysis and System Specification become a widely popularizes structured analysis.

> 1978 Ron Rivest, Adi Shamir, and Leonard Adelman propose the RSA cipher as a public-key cryptosystem for enciphering digital transmissions.

1978 Intel's first 16-bit processor, the 8086, debuts.

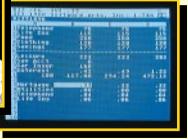
1978 — 1979



1979 Benoit Mandelbrot continues his research into fractals by generating a Mandelbrot set, derived from z(n + 1) =z(n) \* z(n) - (0).



**1979** The first electronic spreadsheet program, Don Bricklin's and Bob Franston's VisiCalc, is unveiled on May 11 and proves to be the "killer app" for early PCs.



**1979** *Motorola introduces the 68000 chip, which will later support the Macintosh.* 

**1979** Digital videodisks appear through the efforts of Sony and Philips.

1979

.



**1979** Cellular telephones are tested in Japan and Chicago.



1980 IBM selects PC-DOS from upstart Microsoft as the operating system for its new PC.

procdure hello is begin 1980 end Hello; After

### a long

development period, the Ada language emerges. Developed by the US Department of Defense, it is designed for process control and embedded applications.

http://www.latec.edu/~acm/HelloWorld.shtml with i o: use i o:

put ("Hello World!");

1980 Wayne Ratliff develops dBase II. the first version of a PC database program. It goes on to enjoy wide market success



1980 The Osborne 1 "portable" computer weighs 24 pounds and is the size of a small suitcase.



**1980** David A. Patterson at UC Berkeley begins using the term "reduced-instruction set" and, with John Hennessy at Stanford, develops the concept. **1981** Barry Boehm devises Cocomo (Constructive Cost Model), a software cost-estimation model.

**1981** Japan grabs a big piece of the chip market by producing chips with 64 Kbits of memory.

**1981** Xerox introduces a commercial version of the Alto called the Xerox Star.

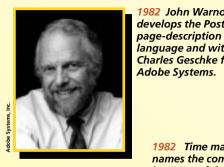


**1981** The open-architecture IBM PC is launched in August, signaling to corporate America that desktop computing is going mainstream.



1982 Columbia Data Products produces the first IBM PC "clone." Compag soon follows with its own version.

1982 Autodesk is founded and ships the first version of AutoCAD later that vear.



1982 Time magazine names the computer as its "Man of the Year."

1982 John Warnock develops the PostScript

language and with

1927

Charles Geschke founds Adobe Systems.



1982 The Cray X-MP (two Cray-1 computers linked in parallel) proves three times faster than a Crav-1.

**1982** Japan launches its "fifth generation" computer project, focusing on artificial intelligence.

**1982** Commercial e-mail service begins among 25 cities.

**1982** In November, Compaq unveils an IBM-compatible portable PC.



**1983** By including graphics such as pie charts and bar graphs, Lotus 1-2-3 does for the IBM PC what VisiCalc did for the Apple II.

1982 — 1983

**1983** A Josephson junction is developed on the basis of Brian Josephson's 1962 prediction, bringing higher speed and lower power dissipation to ICs.

**1983** The IBM PC-XT heads for market success, while the PC Junior faces quick extinction.

**1983** Completion of the TCP/IP switchover marks the creation of the global Internet.



1983 Though not destined for commercial success. Apple's Lisa, launched in May, shows what can be done with a mouse, icons, and pulldown menus.

1983 Thinking Machines Corp. and Ncube are founded, providing a boost to parallel processing.





1983 At AT&T Bell Labs. **Biarne Stroustrup continues** work on C++, an OO extension to C.

**1021** 



**1984** In January, the Macintosh is unveiled with a publicity campaign that includes an Orwellian-themed ad during the Super Bowl.

> **1984** Apple gives computer graphics a boost with its MacPaint program.

**1984** *MIDI* (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) standards are developed for interfacing computers and digital music synthesizers.



**1984** The CD-ROM, introduced by Sony and Philips, provides significantly greater storage capacity for digital data.

1984



**1984** *Motorola introduces the MC68020 with 250,000 transistors.*  **1984** A motion picture, The Last Starfighter, uses extensive supercomputer-generated graphics.

**1984** NEC manufactures a 256-Kbit chip, and IBM introduces a 1-Mbit RAM chip.

**1984** In Neuromancer, novelist William Gibson coins the term "cyberspace."

1984

1984 Beginning in August. Intel's 16-bit 80286 chip. installed in IBM's new PC AT, expands desktop computer capabilities.





**1985** Inmos introduces transputers, featuring concurrent processing architecture.

> **1985** The National Science Foundation establishes four national supercomputing centers.

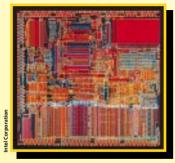
**1985** Supercomputer speeds reach 1 billion operations per second with the release of the Cray 2 and Thinking Machines' parallelprocessor Connection Machine.



1985 With the development of Windows 1.0, Microsoft brings Macintosh-like features to DOS-compatible computers.

**1985** The Omnibot 2000 from Tony Kyogo can move, talk, and carry objects.

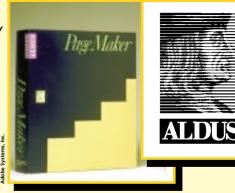




**1985** Paul Brainard's PageMaker becomes the first PC desktop publishing program and is widely used, first on the Macintosh and later on IBM compatibles.

1985

**1985** In October, Intel introduces the 80386 chip with 32-bit processing and on-chip memory management.



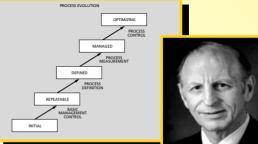
daha Suctame Inc

1986 An article in the Wall Street Journal helps to popularize the concept and term CASE, for computer-aided software engineering.

1986 The four-processor Cray XP performs 713 million floating-point operations per second.

1987 Experimental 4and 16-Mbit chips are introduced

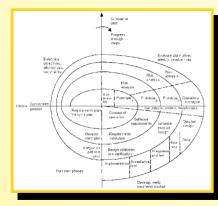
> 1987 Watts Humphrev (pictured) and William Sweet. of the Software Engineering Institute, publish a "process maturity framework," which becomes the



Capability Maturity Model, designed to help predict a developer's ability to produce reliable software.

1986 - 1987





**1988** Motorola's 32-bit 88000 series of RISC microprocessors offer processing speeds of up to 17 million instructions per second.

**1988** Graduate student Robert Morris Jr. reveals the need for greater network security by releasing a worm program into the Internet on November 2.

**1988** Barry Boehm publishes a description of the spiral model of software development, which recognizes the need to incrementally build systems. **1988** Steve Jobs' Next computer debuts but, despite advanced features, attracts too few buyers to compete in the market.



1988



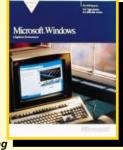
**1989** Tim Berners-Lee proposes the World Wide Web project to CERN (European Council for Nuclear Research).

> **1989** Intel's 80486 chip with **1.2** million transistors is introduced in April.

> > **1989** Seymour Cray founds Cray Computer Corp. and begins developing the Cray 3 using gallium arsenide chips.

1990 Microsoft introduces Windows 3.0 in May, intensifying

its legal dispute with Apple over the software's "look and feel" resemblance to the Macintosh operating system.





1989 The first set of SPEC

benchmarks is released, facilitating

machine performance comparisons

for scientific computation tasks.

**1990** Scientists at Bell Labs demonstrate the first all-optical processor on January 29.

**1990** Hewlett-Packard and IBM both announce RISC-based computers.

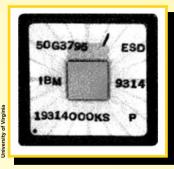
**1990** Intel's i486 and iPSC/860, and Motorola's 68040 become available.

**1990** Berners-Lee writes the initial prototype for the World Wide Web, which uses his other creations: URLs, HTML, and HTTP.

**1990** Arpanet is officially decommissioned.

**1991** The Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry abandons its program to build a fifth-generation computer and plans instead for a sixth-generation computer to be based on neural networks.

**1991** Cray Research unveils the Cray Y-MP C90 with 16 processors and a speed of 16 Gflops.

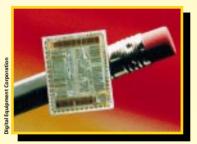


**1991** IBM, Motorola, and Apple's PowerPC alliance is announced on July 30.



**1992** After generating great concern in early March, the Michelangelo virus results in little actual damage.

**1992** In March, the first M-bone audio multicast is transmitted on the Net.



**1992** DEC introduces the first chip to implement its 64-bit RISC Alpha architecture.

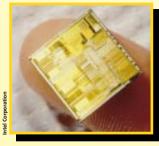
**1993** Apple releases the Newton, the



Apple Computer, Inc./John Lur

first popular personal digital assistant. It uses a stylus pen, and the first generation suffers from poor handwriting recognition.





**1993** Intel's Pentium is introduced in March.

C N S MOSAIC X Window System • Microsoft Windows • Macintosh

**1993** Students and staff at the University of Illinois' National Center for Supercomputing Applications create a graphical user interface for Internet navigation called NCSA Mosaic. **1994** In April, Jim Clark and Marc Andreesen found Netscape Communications (originally Mosaic Communications).

**1994** Leonard Adleman of the University of Southern California demonstrates that DNA can be used as a computing medium.

**1994** Netscape's first browser becomes available in September and creates a rapidly growing body of Web surfers.

1995 — 1994





programming language, unveiled in May, enables platformindependent application development. "Duke" is the first applet.



**1995** Windows 95 is launched on August 24 with great fanfare.

# **1996** The Intel Pentium Pro is announced.

**1996** The IEEE Computer Society celebrates its 50th anniversary.

## **1995 — 1996**