

Lecture 7

Computation

History of Data Science, Winter 2022 @ UC San Diego

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Announcements

- Homework 7 will be released tomorrow, and will be due **Sunday, March 6th at 11:59PM.**
- **Make sure to read homework solutions (posted on Campuswire)!**
 - Many misconceptions about the Law of Large Numbers.

Agenda

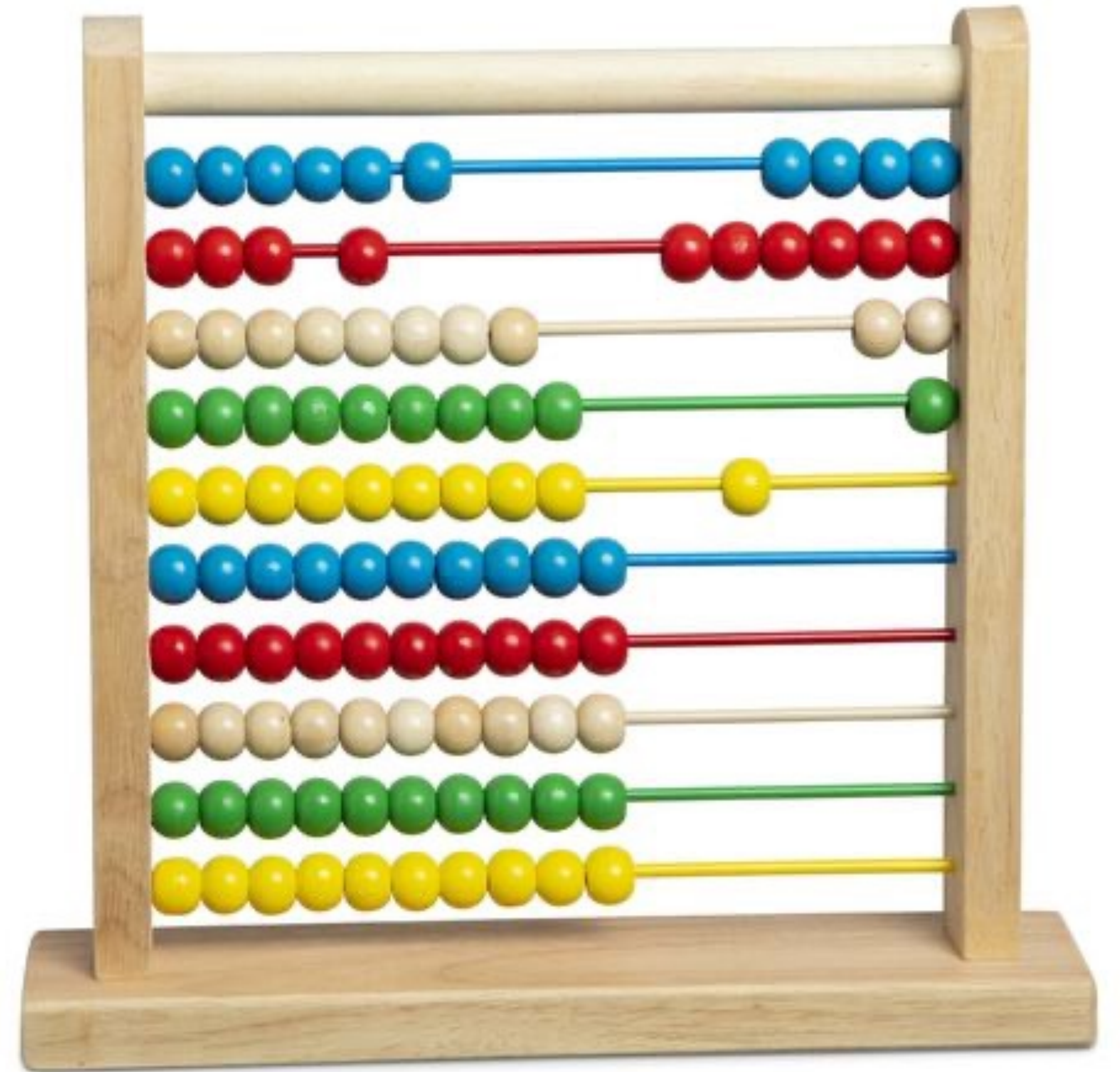
- Abacus and the binary number system.
- Babbages' engines and Ada Lovelace's first program.
- The ENIAC.
- Turing.
- Modern advances.

Origins

Abacus

3, 7

- The **abacus** is an early form of a calculator, used in Ancient Mesopotamia and China as early as 1900 BC¹.
 - Abacuses are still in use today!
- It can be used to evaluate addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division without needing symbolic arithmetic.
 - The number system we use today is known as the Hindu-Arabic number system, and dates to ~700 AD.
- See [this site](#) for a digital abacus.



1. <https://criticallyconsciouscomputing.org/history>

Computers

- In 1613¹, English poet Richard Braithwait published a book titled *The Yong Mans Gleanings*, which contains the earliest known reference to the word "computer".
- In it, a "computer" was defined as a **person** who performed arithmetic and algebraic operations.
- "Computer"s referred to people as recent as the mid-1900s.
 - Then, most computers were women, because they could be paid less than men.

1. <https://criticallyconsciouscomputing.org/history>

Leibniz and binary

- Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1664-1716) – one of the “creators of calculus” that we studied earlier in the course – is also credited for developing the **binary number system**.
 - There are two digits in binary – 1 and 0. “Bit” stands for “binary digit.”
- At the time, he had no practical use for it, but in modern computing all code is represented at a low-level in binary.
 - Transistors – the building block of computer processors – are like switches that can either be “on” (1) or “off” (0).
- One of this week’s readings contains a translation of his original work that discussed binary numbers, titled *“EXPLANATION OF BINARY ARITHMETIC, WHICH USES ONLY THE CHARACTERS 0 AND 1, WITH SOME REMARKS ON ITS USEFULNESS, AND ON THE LIGHT IT THROWS ON THE ANCIENT CHINESE FIGURES OF FU XI”*.

Number systems

- Our standard number system, base 10, has 10 digits: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

3429₁₀

- We can decompose the number ~~3249~~₁₀ as follows:

$$3429_{10} = 3 \cdot 10^3 + 4 \cdot 10^2 + 2 \cdot 10^1 + 9 \cdot 10^0$$

- Similarly, base 2 (i.e. binary) only has 2 digits: 0 and 1.
- To convert from binary to base 10, we can follow a similar procedure.

$$1001_{10} = 1 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0 = 8 + 1 = 9$$

Converting between binary and base 10

decimal
10

Example: Convert 324_{10} to binary.

$$324 = 256 + 64 + 4 = 2^8 + 2^6 + 2^2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 324 \\ -256 \\ \hline 68 \\ -64 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$$

101000100_2

Example: Convert 110001011_2 to base 10.

$$2^0 + 2^1 + 2^3 + 2^7 + 2^8 = 395$$

Binary arithmetic

- Arithmetic in binary largely works the same way that arithmetic in base 10 works.
- **Example:** multiply 10110_2 and 11_2 .

$$\begin{array}{r} 1011 \rightarrow 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^3 = 11 \\ + 1010 \rightarrow 10 \\ \hline 10101 \rightarrow 21 \\ \begin{array}{ccc} 2^4 & 2^2 & 2^0 \end{array} \rightarrow 21 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10110 \\ \times 11 \\ \hline 10110 \\ 10110X \\ \hline 100010 \end{array}$$

Symbols

10010010

8 bits = 1 byte

10000000 → -0
00001000 → 0

- We've looked at how base 10 numbers can be stored in binary.
- But base 10 numbers are not the only thing our computers need to store and work with.

• What about negative numbers? Decimals?

• Strings?

ASCII

$\text{ord}(\text{"A"}) \rightarrow 65$

• Colors?

$\text{ord}(\text{'a'}) \rightarrow 97$

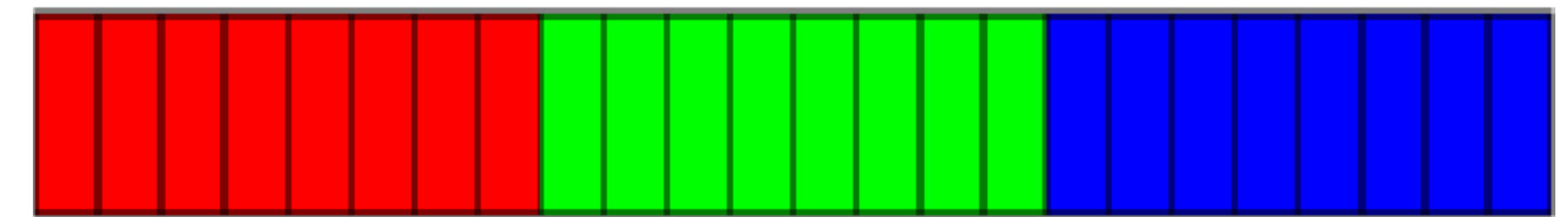
• All of these can be stored in binary as well.

RED: 0 - 255

GREEN: 0 - 255

BLUE: 0 - 255

24 bit Color



Red = 8 bits

Green = 8 bits

Blue = 8 bits

floating point

(132, 4, 105)

Boolean algebra

- George Boole (1815-1864) was an English mathematician.
- In 1854, he published *An investigation into the Laws of Thought, on Which are founded the Mathematical Theories of **Logic** and Probabilities*, in which he laid the foundations of **Boolean algebra**.
 - In Boolean algebra, there are two values – 1 (True) and 0 (False), and three operators – AND, OR, and NOT.
- Fun fact: at the age of 19, Boole created his own elementary school!

1st. Disjunctive Syllogism.

Either X is true, or Y is true (exclusive),	$x + y - 2xy = 1$
But X is true,	$x = 1$
Therefore Y is not true,	$\therefore y = 0$

Either X is true, or Y is true (not exclusive),	$x + y - xy = 1$
But X is not true,	$x = 0$
Therefore Y is true,	$\therefore y = 1$

2nd. Constructive Conditional Syllogism.

If X is true, Y is true,	$x(1 - y) = 0$
But X is true,	$x = 1$
Therefore Y is true,	$\therefore 1 - y = 0$ or $y = 1$.

3rd. Destructive Conditional Syllogism.

If X is true, Y is true,	$x(1 - y) = 0$
But Y is not true,	$y = 0$
Therefore X is not true,	$\therefore x = 0$

4th. Simple Constructive Dilemma, the minor premiss exclusive.

If X is true, Y is true,	$x(1 - y) = 0,$ (41),
If Z is true, Y is true,	$z(1 - y) = 0,$ (42),
But Either X is true, or Z is true,	$x + z - 2xz = 1,$ (43).

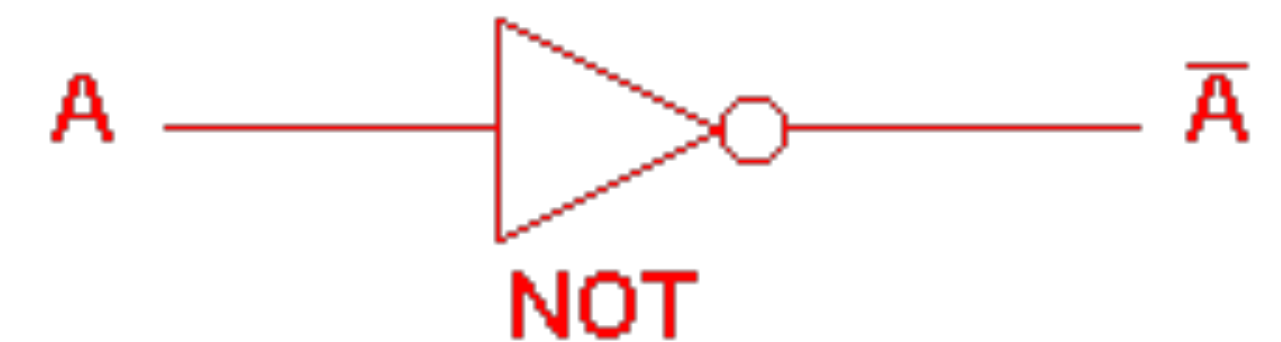
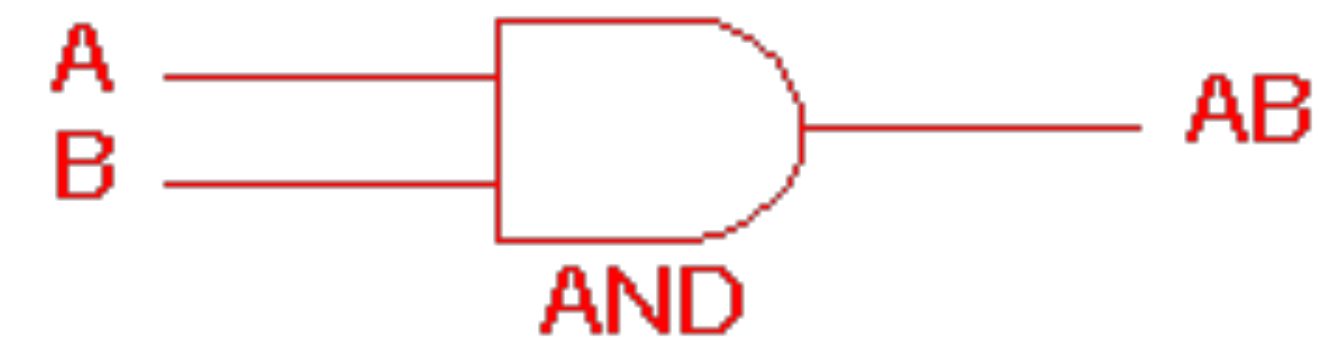
From the equations (41), (42), (43), we have to eliminate x and z . In whatever way we effect this, the result is

$$y = 1;$$

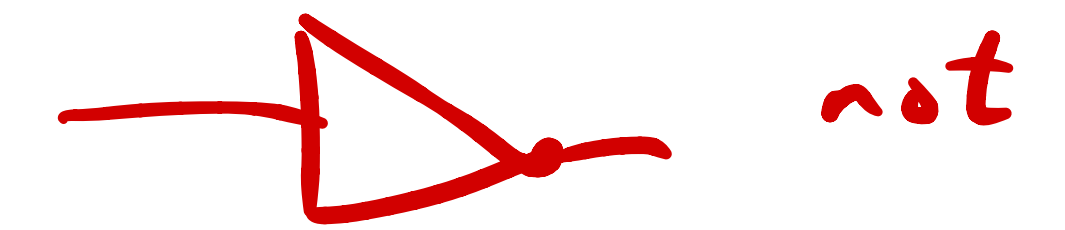
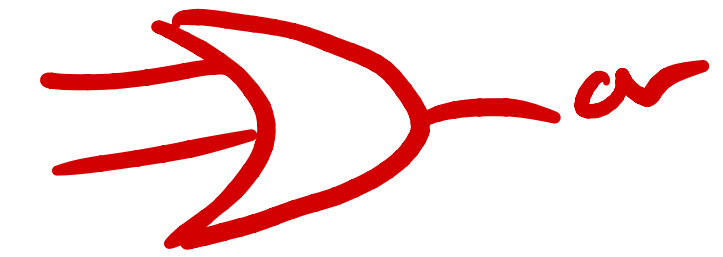
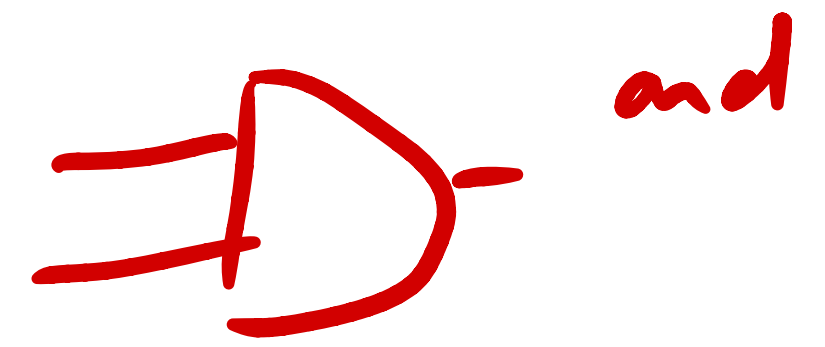
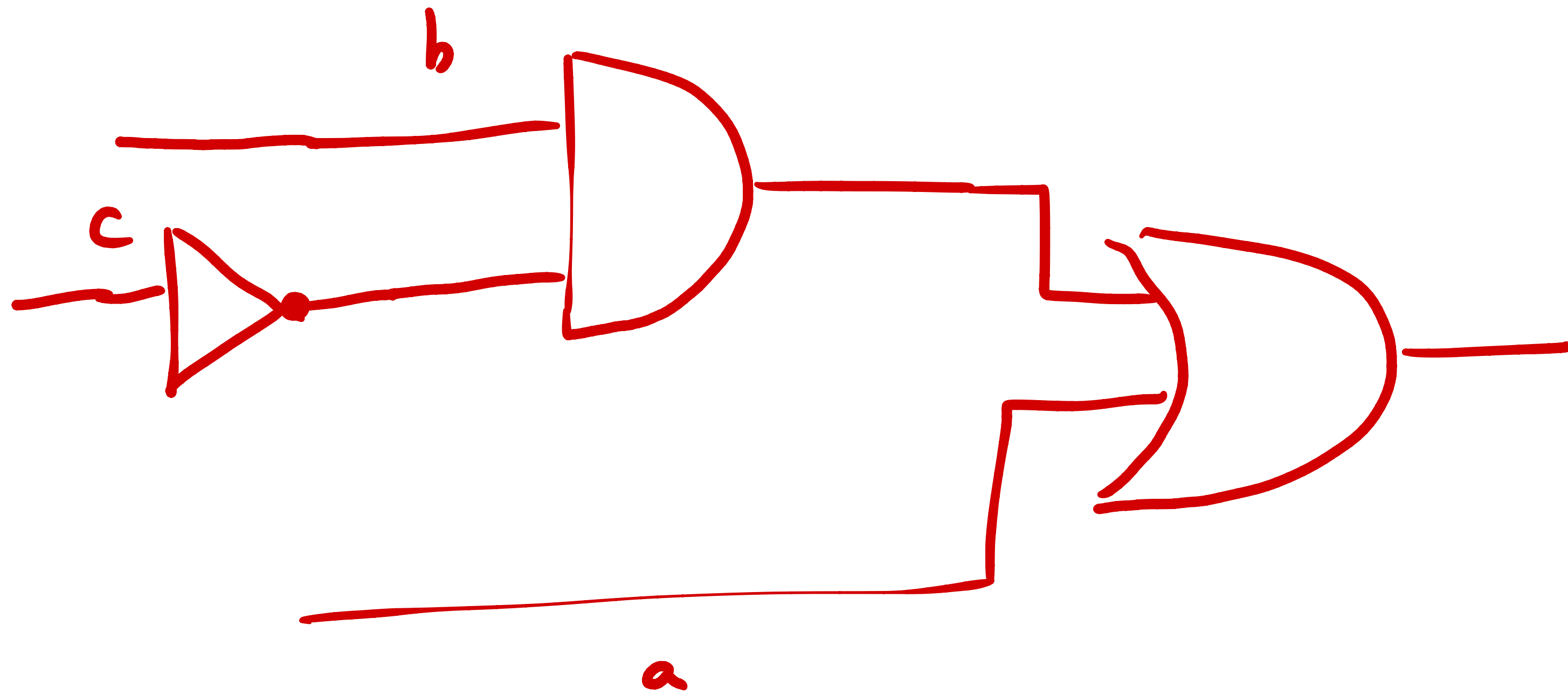
whence it appears that the Proposition Y is true.

Boolean algebra

- In Boolean algebra, there are two values – 1 (True) and 0 (False), and three operators – AND, OR, and NOT.
- All other operations can be constructed using a combination of these three operators.
- Circuits use Boolean algebra to control the flow of current.



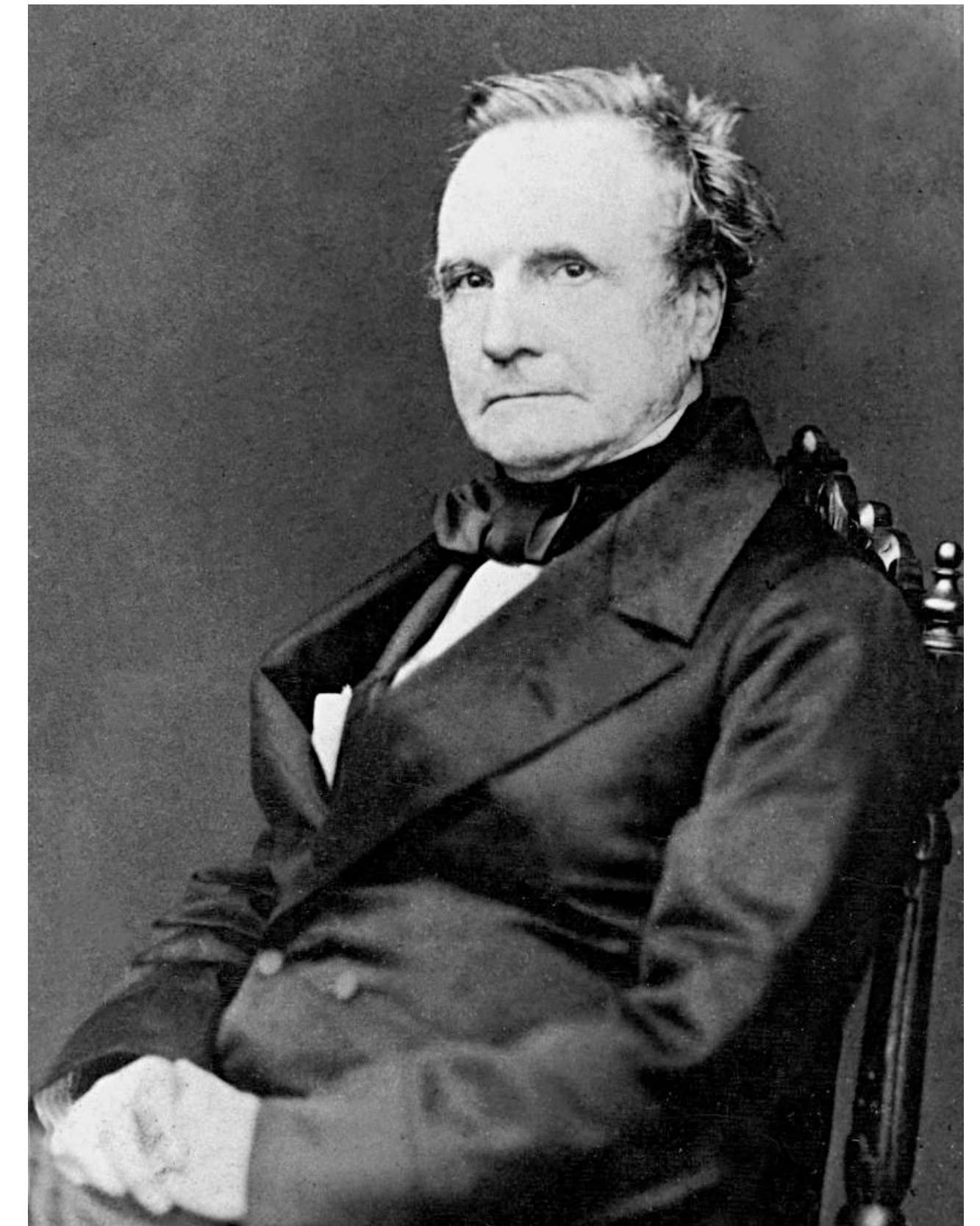
$a \text{ or } (b \text{ and not } c)$
 $a \vee (b \wedge \neg c)$



Babbage and Lovelace

Babbages' engines

- Charles Babbage (1791-1871) was an English mathematician and engineer, and is credited with designing the first mechanical computer.
- Babbage designed two types of "engines":
 - A **Difference Engine**, which used the method of finite differences to compute tables of polynomials, and
 - An **Analytical Engine**, which could carry out more sophisticated operations involving arithmetic, looping, and conditional statements.
- Neither engine was fully built during Babbage's lifetime, though he built prototypes.



Charles Babbage

Context for the Difference Engine

- Until the late 1900s, it was common to look at printed tables for logarithms and trig functions.
- The accuracy of these tables was crucial for geodesists, astronomers, and navigators, however these tables often contained errors.
- Babbage's goal was to create accurate tables that were generated using a machine.
- **Key Idea:** polynomials can be used to approximate any function.

→ Taylor series

$$f(x) = x^9 - 18x^7 + 16x^6 - 143x^2$$

The method of finite differences

Key Idea: in an n th degree polynomial, the n th differences are constant.

Example: $f(x) = x^2 - 5x + 10$

x	$f(x)$	Δ_1	Δ_2
1	6		
2	4	-2	
3	4	0	2
4	6	2	2
5	10	4	2
6	16	6	2

Example: $f(x) = x^2 - 5x + 10$

$$\rightarrow f'(x) = 2x - 5$$
$$\rightarrow f''(x) = 2$$

x	$f(x)$	Δ_1	Δ_2
1	6	-2	2
2	4	0	2
3	4	2	2
4	6	4	2
5	10	6	2
6	16	8	2

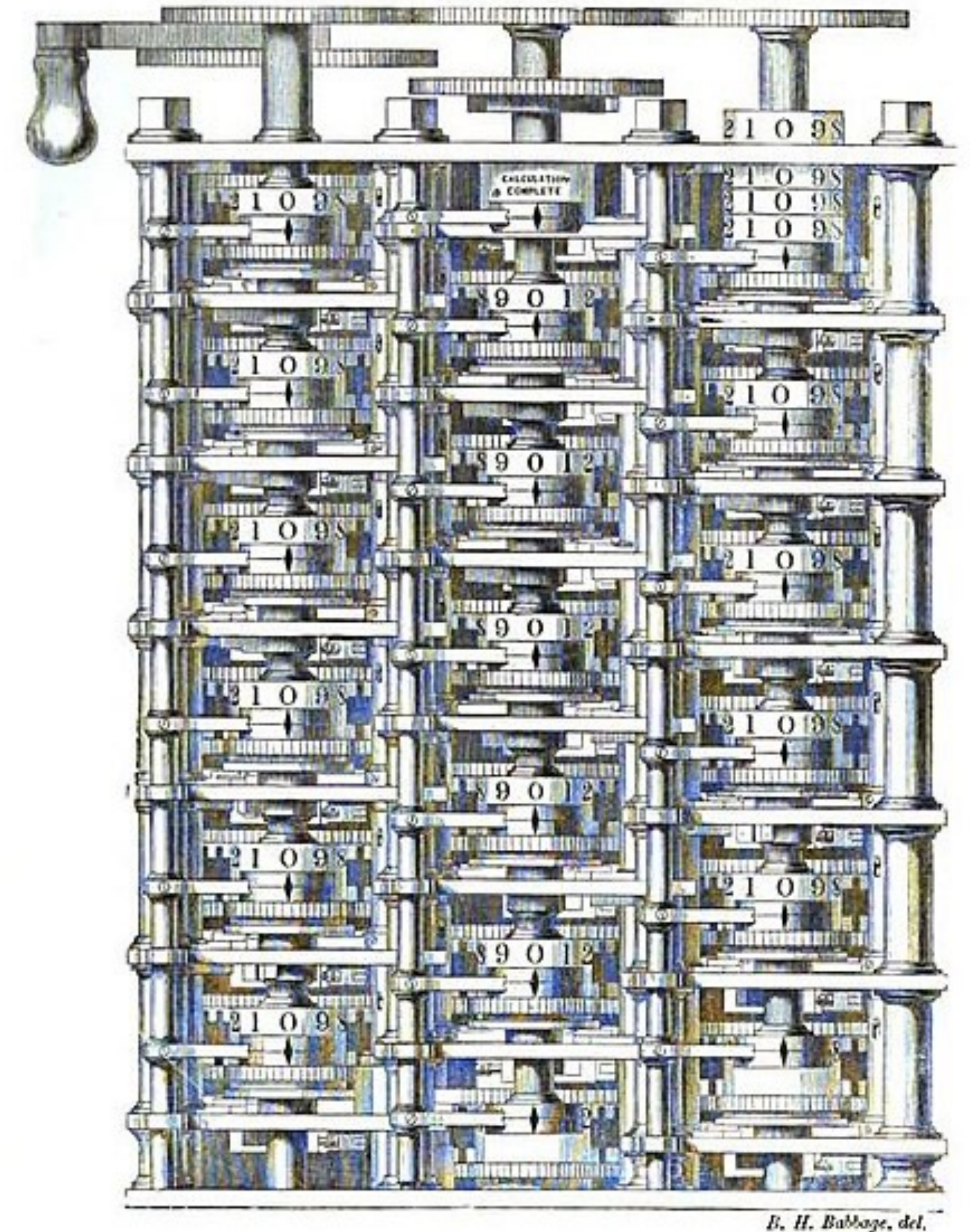
↑ only used addition!!!

Example: $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + x - 1$

x	$f(x)$

Difference Engine

- Babbage's Difference Engines used the method of finite differences to evaluate polynomials, using only addition!
- He designed at least two difference engines – Difference Engine No. 1 and Difference Engine No. 2. The latter was designed to evaluate polynomials of degree 7 and used a fraction of the parts of No. 1, which could only evaluate polynomials of degree 6.
- Due to funding constraints, he was never able to fully construct these engines.



A sketch of part of a difference engine

Analytical Engine

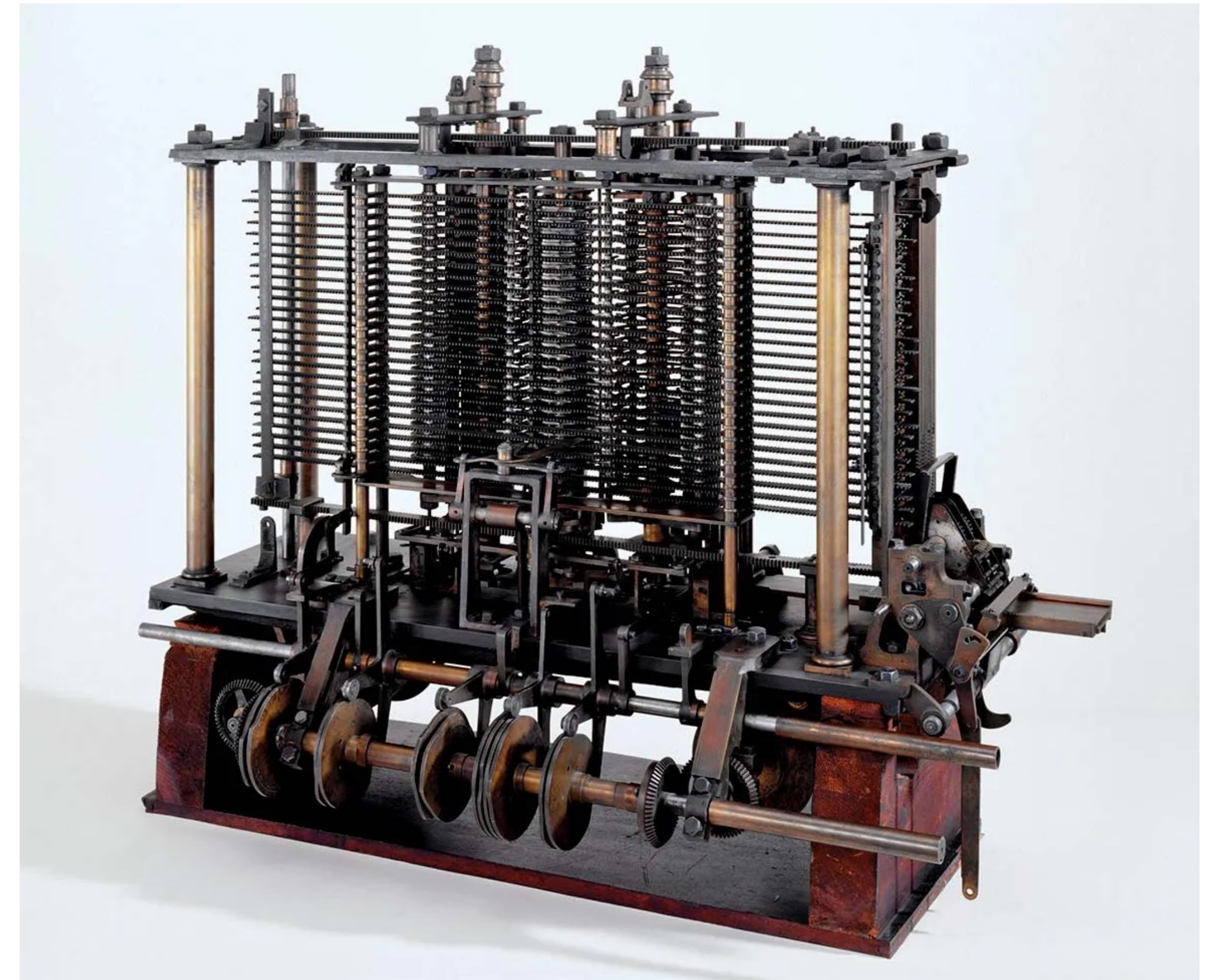
- After he devised Difference Engine No. 1, but before he devised Difference Engine No. 2, Babbage designed the more general **Analytical Engine**.
- The Analytical Engine could be programmed using **punch cards**.
- Babbage borrowed the punch card idea from Joseph Marie Jacquard, who created a loom for weaving textiles that read instructions from a punched card.



Punched cards used in a Jacquard loom

Analytical Engine

- The Analytical Engine is often called the “first computer” due to its design – it consisted of:
 - a **mill** for computation, → CPU
 - a **store** to hold values, → RAM
 - a **reader** to accept instructions, → keyboard
 - a **printer** to display results → screen



A partially complete Analytical Engine, consisting of a mill and a printer. ([source](#))

Ada Lovelace

English poet

- Ada Lovelace (1815-1852) was the daughter of Lord Byron and a friend of Charles Babbage.
- She worked closely with Babbage on the design of the Analytical Engine.
- She proposed a **series of steps** that the analytical engine could use to produce the sequence of Bernoulli numbers.
 - This is thought to be the first **computer program**, and hence Lovelace is the first **computer programmer**.
 - However, since the Analytical Engine was never built in their lifetimes, the program was never tested.



Bernoulli numbers

- As you explore discover in this week's homework, the Bernoulli numbers are a sequence of rational numbers that arise when computing sums of the form

$$1^m + 2^m + 3^m + \dots + n^m$$



- Example sums:

- $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}n^2 + \frac{1}{2}n$

- $1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} = \frac{1}{3}n^3 + \dots$

- $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2}\right)^2 = \dots$

- The first 8 Bernoulli numbers:

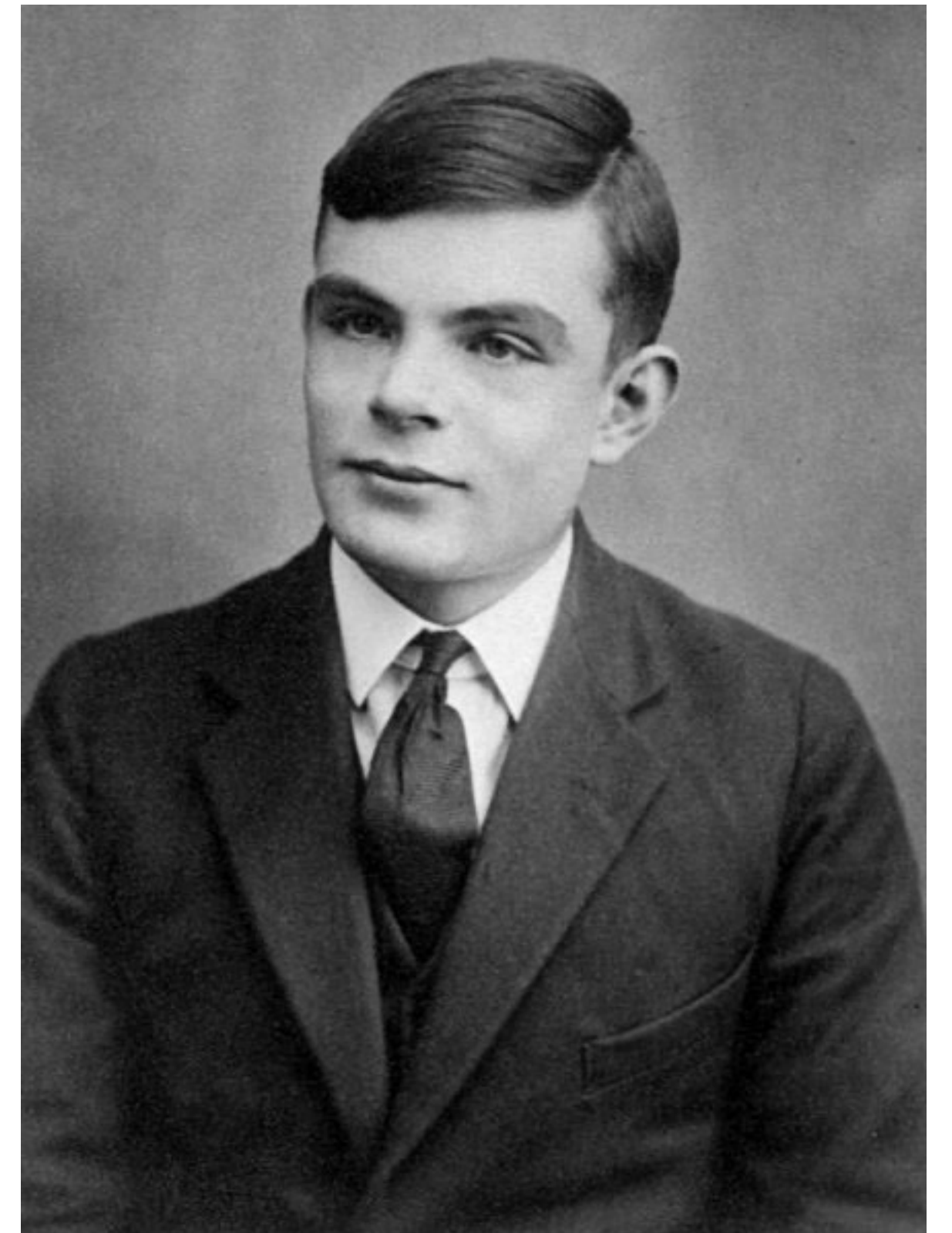
$$B_0 = 1, B_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, B_2 = \frac{1}{6}, B_3 = 0, B_4 = -\frac{1}{30}, B_5 = 0, B_6 = \frac{1}{42}, B_7 = 0, \dots$$

Early-to-mid 1900s

Turing

42 years

- Alan Turing (1912-1954) was an English mathematician, and is known as the founder of **theoretical computer science**.
 - The “Nobel Prize in CS” is called the Turing Award.
- He ideated the **Turing machine**, a mathematical model of a computer forms the basis of modern computation.
 - Big idea: there are computer programs that “don’t exist” (e.g. the Halting problem).
- He also helped crack the **Enigma**, a machine the Germans used during WWII to encrypt their morse code messages.
 - This helped shorten WWII by an estimated two years (saving 10s of millions of lives).

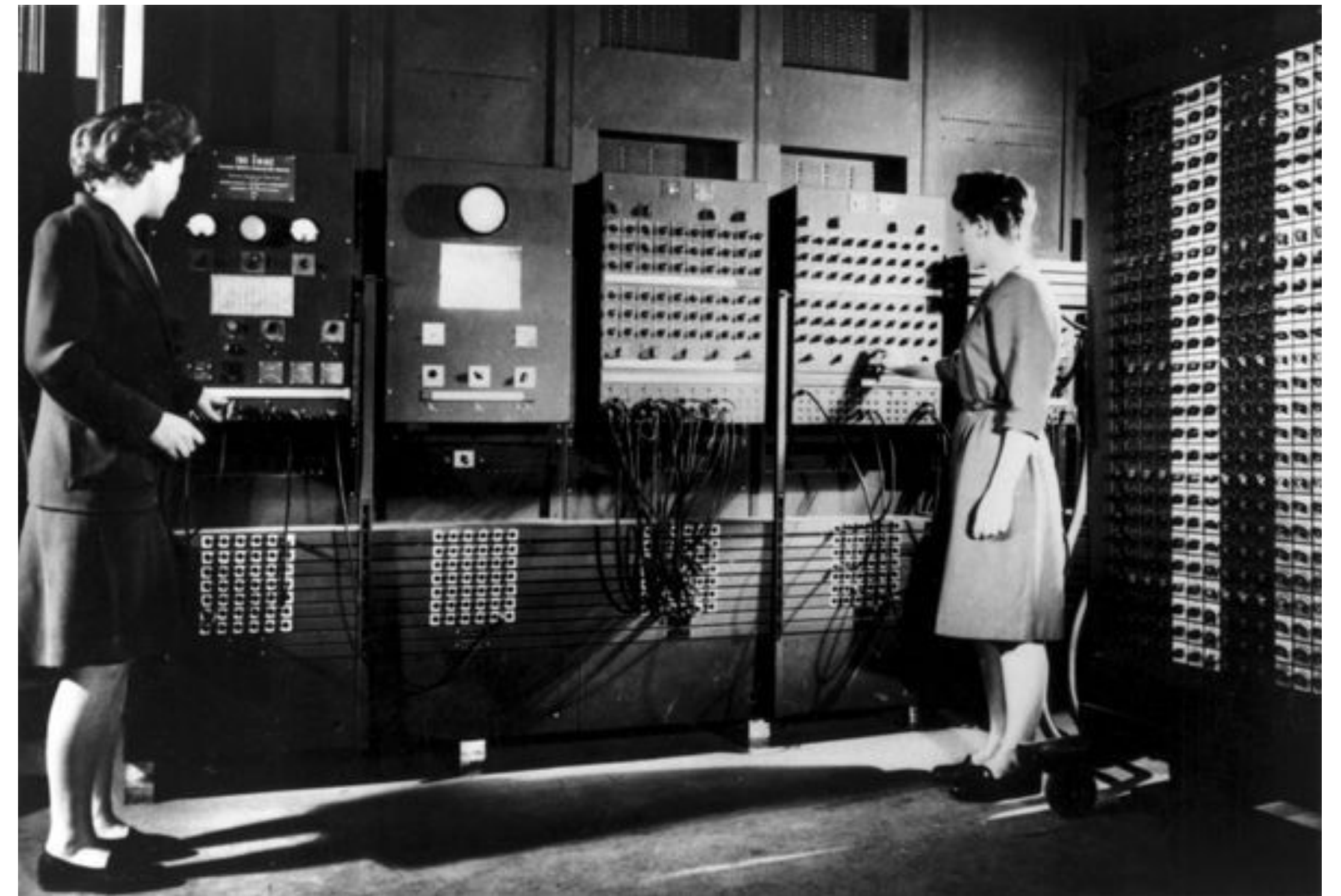




Bletchley Park, the headquarters of the Allies' codebreaking efforts during WWII.

ENIAC

- In 1945, ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator) was designed and built at the University of Pennsylvania by John Mauchly and John Presper Eckert.
 - It is the first “programmable, general-purpose electronic digital computer.” It could perform 5,000 additions per second.
 - It was massive – it took up 1800 square feet of space and weighed 30 tons.
 - The US Military funded the ENIAC project as it would help them quickly calculate artillery firing ranges (though the ENIAC was only completed just after WWII).



Jean Bartik and Frances Spence programming the ENIAC.

Hopper

- Grace Hopper (1906-1992) was an American computer scientist and Navy officer.
 - She earned her PhD in math at Yale, and was a programmer for the Harvard Mark I and II, an early electromechanical computer developed by IBM.
 - Afterwards, she joined the Eckert-Mauchly Computer Corporation, and while there she developed the idea of a programming language that looked like English, as the current method of programming was very symbol-heavy. The result was COBOL, which is still in use today !!
- Fun fact: she discovered the first "bug", which was a moth that snuck into the Harvard Mark II.



COBOL (Common Business-Oriented Language)

"It's much easier for most people to write an English statement than it is to use symbols. So I decided data processors ought to be able to write their programs in English, and the computers would translate them into machine code." – Hopper ([source](#))

Many banks and government agencies **still** rely on code written in COBOL.

```
1 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.  
2 PROGRAM-ID. ADD_NUMBERS.  
3 DATA DIVISION.  
4 FILE SECTION.  
5 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.  
6 01 FIRST-NUMBER PICTURE IS 99.  
7 01 SECOND-NUMBER PICTURE IS 99.  
8 01 RESULT PICTURE IS 9999.  
9 PROCEDURE DIVISION.  
10  
11 MAIN-PROCEDURE.  
12 DISPLAY "Here is the first Number "  
13 MOVE 8 TO FIRST-NUMBER  
14 DISPLAY FIRST-NUMBER  
15  
16 DISPLAY "Let's add 20 to that number."  
17 ADD 20 TO FIRST-NUMBER  
18 DISPLAY FIRST-NUMBER  
19  
20 DISPLAY "Create a second variable"  
21 MOVE 30 TO SECOND-NUMBER  
22 DISPLAY SECOND-NUMBER  
23  
24 *>COMMENT: COMPUTE THE TWO NUMBER AND PLACE INTO RESULT*  
25 COMPUTE RESULT = FIRST-NUMBER + SECOND-NUMBER.  
26  
27 DISPLAY "The result is:".  
28 DISPLAY RESULT.  
29 STOP RUN.  
30 END PROGRAM ADD_NUMBERS.  
31
```

That's all!