

In 1936, when he was just twenty-four years old, Alan Turing wrote a remarkable paper in which he outlined the theory of computation, laying out the ideas that underlie all modern computers. This groundbreaking and powerful theory now forms the basis of computer science. In *Turings Vision*, Chris Bernhardt explains the theory, Turings most important contribution, for the general reader. Bernhardt argues that the strength of Turings theory is its simplicity, and that, explained in a straightforward manner, it is eminently understandable by the nonspecialist. As Marvin Minsky writes, The sheer simplicity of the theorys foundation and extraordinary short path from this foundation to its logical and surprising conclusions give the theory a mathematical beauty that alone guarantees it a permanent place in computer theory. Bernhardt begins with the foundation and systematically builds to the surprising conclusions. He also views Turings theory in the context of mathematical history, other views of computation (including those of Alonzo Church), Turings later work, and the birth of the modern computer. In the paper, *On Computable Numbers, with an Application to the Entscheidungsproblem*, Turing thinks carefully about how humans perform computation, breaking it down into a sequence of steps, and then constructs theoretical machines capable of performing each step. Turing wanted to show that there were problems that were beyond any computers ability to solve; in particular, he wanted to find a decision problem that he could prove was undecidable. To explain Turings ideas, Bernhardt examines three well-known decision problems to explore the concept of undecidability; investigates theoretical computing machines, including Turing machines; explains universal machines; and proves that certain problems are undecidable, including Turings problem concerning computable numbers.

Scotland: *The Road Divides*, *How To Tame a Lady*, *The Sociable Sciences: Darwin and His Contemporaries in Chile* (Palgrave Studies in the History of Science and Technology), *How to Become a Meme: [Novelty Notebook]*, *Without Warning [Library Binding]*, *Cemetery Inscriptions from the Towns of Wardsboro, Stratton, Jamaica and Dover...*, *Beautiful Buttons: A Memoir of Survival and Triumph*, *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya (7)* (Kadokawa Comics Ace 115-9) (2008) ISBN: 4047151483 [Japanese Import], *Othello, the Moore of Venice*, *The Daycare Bible: A Comprehensive Guide to Choosing a Daycare For Your Child, Birth to Age 3*,

Editorial Reviews. Review. A fascinating account of Alan Turing's epic research paper, which kicked off the entire computer revolution. I'm particularly impressed . *Turings Vision* has 73 ratings and 17 reviews. Peter said: Short but *Turings Vision: The Birth of Computer Science* Published May 13th by Mit Press.

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