

## "100" IT famous people

### Introductory remarks

The table includes c.a. 100 IT famous people. The matter of 100 (too a lot or too little) is a controversial one. I like such "round" numbers as the border because it forces more attentive selection. The list is arranged in the principle by names alphabetically, but sometimes the items are grouped on subject (e.g. structured programming, datawarehouse, electronic devices). The task of selection was not simple - the list contains mostly creative or innovative specialists.

### STATISTICS BY NATION (rough approximation)

USA - 86 (included - 12 by descent)  
UK - 15 (included 2 of other descent)  
Poland - 6 (plus 3 USA-Americans of Polish descent)  
Switzerland - 4  
Germany - 3 Norway - 3 Denmark - 3 Netherlands - 3  
France - 2 Japan - 2 Hungary - 2 (active in USA)  
Canada - 1 Finland - 1 Ireland - 1 Sweden - 1 Russia - 1 Ukraine - 1 Australia - 1  
Israel - 1 (1 achievement of 2 persons, plus several persons of Israeli descent in other countries)

1. **Abakanowicz Brunon** [ 1852 - 1900 ] 1878 r.- created first working integrator - device for calculating of integrals using graphical method. [Poland]
2. **Ada Byron** [ 1815 - 1852 ] Lady Lovelace [here exceptionally first-name on first place as this is popular "name tag" for this person]. The famous poet daughter. The inventor Babbage's good "spirit" . She wrote in the interesting notation the "plan of the working" for his machine (to enumerating Bernoulli's numbers ) and gained oneself from right this first programmer was had. [UK]
3. **Aiken Howard** [ 1900 - 1973 ] creator (in co-operation with Grace Hopper) of relay and lamp computers MARK at Harvard Univ. [USA]
4. **Amdahl Gene** [ 1922 - ] prominent creator of mainframe's architecture - first in IBM, and then in his own company [USA - Norway-Swedish descendant]
5. **Atanasoff John** [ (1903 - 1995) ] [USA - Bulgarian origin] i Berry Clifford [USA] they built the ABC (Atanasoff-Berry Computer) computer in Iowa Univ. 1937-42 in years( binary arithmetic, vacuum lamps were applied, capacitor memories)
6. **Babbage Charles** [ 1791 - 1871 ] creator of mechanical difference machine with advanced architecture. [UK]
7. **Bachman Charles** [ 1924 - ] creator of the "chain" data structures - IDS (Integrated Data Store) [USA]
8. **Backus John** [1924 - 2007] creator of FORTRAN language and Backus-Naur(Normal)-form - BNF notation [USA]
9. **Baran Paul** [ 1926 - 2011 ] [USA - Polish origin] In 1964 he published the work "He Distributed Communications", almost simultaneously with the Kleinrock's Leonard's book "Communication Nets" [USA]. Both are pioneer of the commutation of packets (packet switching), making up the basis of the internet transport of distributed servers. Independently from them the year later Davies Donald in National Physical Laboratory [UK] proposed the similar conception and designed in 1970 r. the distributed network MARK-I and applied as first the term "packet-switching". The standard X25 was set up in 1976 for this technology.
10. **Berners-Lee Tim** [ 1955 - ] Co-author (with Fielding Roy and Nielsen Henrik) of HTTP protocol(v.0.9), worked out in 1990 r. He published in internet first (1991) publicly accessible specification of language HTML based on SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language). In 1992 in CERN he created with Cailliau Robert World-Wide Web (WWW). [THE UK-SWITZERLAND]
11. **Boole George** [ 1815 - 1864 ] In 1847 he published first works in the field of symbolic logic. The In 1854 he formulated a logical system named then "boole-algebra", which was a good support of the binary computing. [USA]
12. **Bull Fredrik Rosing** [ 1882 - 1925 ] in 1919 r. he patented improved punched card system (in the relation to Hollerith system) [Norway]
13. **Bricklin Dan** [ - ] i **Frankston Bob** worked out in 1978 r first spreadsheet Visicalc [USA]
14. **Bush Vannevar** [ 1890 - 1974 ] In 1925 created an analog computer to solving differential equations. Copy of this computer built in MIT in 1930 year was used during II World War to calculate the tracks of artillery bullets [USA]
15. **Cerf Vinton Gray** and **Kahn Robert** engaged in DARPA brought in the serious contribution in the study of the TCP-IP technology [USA]
16. **Chomsky Noam** [ 1928 - ] In 1956 he published "Three models for the description of language" - that contains 3 the gradual model of formal grammars called "Chomsky Hierarchy", which unites the theory of calculations and formal languages [USA]
17. **Cocke John** [ - ] creator of computer architecture RISC [USA]
18. **Codd E.F** [ 1924 - 2003 ] In 1970 he presented the relational database model. He forged the term OLAP (online analytical processing) in 1993 and formulated twelve rules of this technology. [USA]
19. **Constantine Larry L.** [ 1943 - ], **Myers Glenford J.**, **Stevens Wane P.**, **Yourdon Edward Nash** [ [1944- ] [USA] in 70's decade (1974,1979) worked out the fundamentals of the structured programming, initiated by Dahl O., Dijkstra E.E. and Hoare C.O.R.
20. **Cook Stephen** , **Krap Richard** [USA], **Levin Leonid** [USA-Ukraine] - brought in on the beginning of 70' years serious contribution in the theory of the complexity of calculations particularly the type NP (Nondeterministic Polynomial)
21. **Couffignal Louis** [ 1902 - 1966 ] he proposed (probably after Leibniz) the binary system of the calculation, and tried to built innovatory electronic computer without the module of the memory. [France]
22. **Cowlishaw Mike** [ - ] In years 1979-1982 he worked out script interpretative language REXX (flag IBM product), treated by experts as the precursor of Tcl and Python languages , and proposed by the author as simpler and easier than popular PL1 [USA-UK?]

23. **Cray Seymour** [ 1925 - 1996] In 1957 he & Willam Norris founded CDC company and in 1972 - Cray Research. Author of innovative solutions of computers. [USA]
24. **Dahl Ole-Johan** [ - ] i **Nygaard Kristen** in 60' decade they developed object oriented language SIMULA [Norway]
25. **Dijkstra Edsger W** [ - ] Foundational work (1964) on concurrency, semaphores, mutual exclusion (mutex), deadlock (deadly embrace). Ideas about structured programming - e.g. harmfulness of GOTO command. [Netherlands]
26. **Eckert J. Presper** [ 1919 - 1995] and **Mauchly John** [ - ] Developers of ENIAC i UNIVAC computers [USA]
27. **Eich Brendan** [ 1961 - ] creator of JavaScript [USA]
28. **Ellison Larry** [ 1944 - ] -co-creator Oracle database, founder of Oracle Corporation [USA]
29. **Fleming John A.** [ - ] inventor (1904) of the lamp diode and the rectifier based on it. After him in 1907 Forest Lee invented the triode. In 1919 William Eccles and F. W. Jordan, later Otto Herbert Schmittthe invented the flip-flop (trigger, flip-flop) (). In 1947 W. Shockley, W. Brattain and J.Bardeen created first german-based transistor. [USA]
30. **Floyd Robert** [ 1936 - 2001]Prominent expert of the programming; the author of the method of stopping in the loop. [USA]
31. **Gates Bill** [ 1955 - ] Main founder of the Microsoft company[USA]
32. **Glennie Allec** [ - ] 1951 - AUTOCODE compiler (for Ferranti Mark1) - first compiler of the general use [UK]
33. **Gosling James** [ - ] as Green Team leader developed in 1991 the language Java (initially under the name OAK) [Kanada]
34. **Hamblin Charles** [ - ] 1957 - worked out the Opposite Polish Notation and built a first stack in New South Wales University of Technology. [Australia]
35. **Hoare Charles** Antony Richard [ 1934 - ] the algorithm of sorting quicksort, logic for verification of the correctness of programmes and CSP (Communicating Sequential Processes)language for specification of an interaction of the concurrent processes. [UK-Sri Lanka]
36. **Hewlett William** [ 1913 - 2001 ] i **Packard David** [ 1912 - 1996 ] 1938/1939 they founded HP (Hewlett Packard) company one of the first companies in Silicon Valley in the California [USA]
37. **Hoff Ted** [ - ] 1968 - the idea of the silicon processor; 1970-1971 Intel created first 4-bit microprocessor silicon 4004 (2,3 thousands of transistors, 100kHz) [USA]
38. **Holberton Francis** [ - ] 1949 - programs generator (for UNIVAC),with output of sort & merge programs [USA]
39. **Hollerith Herman** [ 1860 - 1929] Pioneer creator of punch card machines. 1896 - founded "Tabulating Machine Company" (TMC), which after fussion with several firms in 1924 became the IBM company. He was the prominent inventor with 38 patents. [USA - German origin]
40. **Hopper Grace Murray** [ 1906 - 1992 ] first programmer of MARK computers in Harvard Univ., the co - worker of Mauchly and Eckert in the building UNIVAC I, creator of first compiler (AO) in Remington Rand and co-author Flowmatic (B-0 language), which became as the basis for COBOL language. [USA]
41. **Ichbiah Jean** [ 1940 - 2007] the Main creator the language Ada [USA-French origin]
42. **Inmon Bill** [ 1945 - ] [USA]Best known as "The Father of Data Warehousing". He founded Pine Cone Systems, later named Ambeo in 1995 and Prism Solutions in 1991. He defined such features od datawarehouse as subject (product, customer) oriented, stability and integrity of data, decision (not transaction) orientation. He preferred solution of one central datawarehouse [USA]  
Other creators of datawarehousing methodology: **Kelly Sean**- [Ireland] and **Hadden Earl** [USA] creators of Hadden-Kelly methodology.  
**Kimball Ralph** [ - ] [USA] datawarehouse as a collection of datamarts.  
1972 - **Wurtz Jay& Karrash Rick** [USA]as students of Sloan Management School they developed theory of multidimensional database and later they zreated Express software using this feature.
43. **Iverson Kenneth E** [ - ] 1961-1962 he worked out the precise notation of complex sequential processes (located between the "lengthy" BNF notation and "anonymous" Chomsky notation). Iverson notation is also known under the name of the language APL (Array Processing Language) [USA]
44. **JERSZOW ANDRIEJ P.** [ 1931 - 1988] 1958 - he published the work "Programmirujuszczaja programma dla bystrodiestwujuszczzej elektronnoj scziotnoj masziny" - one of the first investigative works in the field of the automation of the programming [Russia]
45. **Jobs Steve** [ 1955-2011] co-founder (with Steve Wozniak i Ronald Wayne) of Apple Inc. [USA]
46. **Kemeny John - János György**[ (1926-1992)] [USA - Hungarian origin]] and Kurtz Thomas [ 1928 - ] [the USA] 1964 - In Dartmouth College they worked out the BASIC ( Beginner's All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) language for computer GE225.
47. **Kleinrock Leonard** [ - ] he worked out (independently from Paul Baran) the principles of the commutation of packets making up the basis of the exchange of the data among internet servers. [USA]
48. **Knuth Donald** [ 1938 - ] Author of the voluminous study "The Art of Computer Programming" and MMIX -set 64-bit RISC instructions. [USA]
49. **Langefors Börje** [ - ] 1966 - he published work "Theoretical analysis of information systems", 1977 - "Information systems theory", 1980 - "Infological models and information user view" [Sweden]
50. von **Leibniz Gottfried** [ - ] 1671 - he created mechanical calculator which executes the addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. He published the work in which the binary system of the calculation is mentioned. [Germany]
51. **Lerdorf Rasmus** [ - ] [Denmark-Greenland] 1994 - he created set of perl scripts named 'Personal Home Page Tools' for his own homesite. **Suraski Zeev** and **Gutmans Andi** [Izrael] in 1997 developed parser of it named PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor); 1999 - they developed ZEND engine.
52. **Łukasiewicz Jan** [ - ] - Polish notation [Poland]
53. **Łukasiewicz Leon** [ - ] creator of analog analyser of differential equations (1953) and the EOL language (Expression Oriented Language) [Poland]
54. **McCarthy John** [ 1927 - ] he coined an AI (Artificial Intelligence) term. 1956-1958 created LISP language (with list structures and recursion function with usage of modified Polish notation. [USA]
55. **Moore Charles H.** 1969 - he created language Forth in American National Radio-astronomical Observatory. PostScript comes into being in 1982 r under the influence of this language . [The USA] [USA]
56. **MOTO-OKA Tohru** [ - 1986] Expert of the computer architecture. The leader of the Japanese project "Computers 5 generation". [The Japan]
57. **Nakamatsu Yoshio** [ 1928 - ] 1950 - he built floppy disk in Imperial University Tokyo IBM takes over the Licence of the sale of floppy disk [the Japan]
58. **John Napier** [ - ] best known for his invention of logarithms. 1600 - methods of multiplying and dividing of small

- rods known as Napier's bones. [UK-Scotland]
59. **Naur Peter** [ 1928 - ] Large contributor in defining Algol60. He proposed term "datalogy" instead of "computer science". [Denmark]
  60. **Nelson Theodor Holm** [ 1937 - ] 1960 - author of Xanadu project, consisting in the creation of the electronic global library of the literature and art of which the people used had the whole world through the net [there was still no internet then]. In 1995 he introduced term "hypertext" to sign versions and relations among library documents. [USA]
  61. Von **Neumann John** [ 1903 - 1957 ] [USA - Hungarian origin] In 1944-1945 years together with Mauchly and Eckert he defined the architecture the programmable computer in which storage in the memory was the main idea. Creator of the Theory of self-reproducing automata.
  62. **Noyce Robert** [ - ] [USA] 1959 - in Fairchild company he developed technique of thin connections on the silicon plate and created then first first integrated circuit on silicon. In the same of the year **Kilby J.** [ - ] [the USA] in Texas Instruments created integrated circuit on german. from . Also in the same year **Hoerni J.** [ - ] [the Switzerland] created planar technology of manufacturing integrated circuits.
  63. **Olsen Ken** [ 1926 - 2011 ] the founder and powerful "engine" of DEC company which begun the era of minicomputers. [USA]
  64. **Oughtred William** [ 1574 - 1660 ] 1621 - he built "logarithmic slide". tworzy suwak logarytmiczny. As interesting thing he first used X sign as multiplication symbol in work "Clavis Mathematicae". [UK]
  65. **Pascal Blaise** [ - ] 1642 - He in age 19 built mechanical adding machine. [France]
  66. **Page Larry** i **Brin Sergey** -cofounders of Google,Inc (1998 - the Silicon Valley in the rented garage).Google really came into being for money (\$100,000) of Andes Bechtolsheim from the Sun company. [USA]
  67. **Patterson John H.** [ - ] 1884 - he founded NCR - National Cash Register Company [USA]
  68. **Pawlak Zdzisław** [ 1926 - 2006 ] Rough sets theory. Idea of zero-address computers. Minus binary computing (applied in computer UMC-1) [Poland]
  69. **Pfleumer Fritz** [ - ] 1928 patent for magnetic tape [Niemcy]
  70. **Powers James** [ - ] creator of punched card system different from Hollerith system. [USA]
  71. **Richards Martin** [ - ] 1966-1967- Cambridge Univ & MIT he worked out probably under the influence of the language CPL (Strachey's authorship) in years he works out the syntax of the language BCPL (Basic Combined Programming Language) which was the base for a line of languages C. [UK]
  72. **Ritchie Denise** [ - ] 70-decade - he developed (under the influence of the language BCPL) in Bell. Lab. the C language and worked on the UNIX simultaneously. [the USA]
  73. **Rivest Ron, Shamir Adi** i **Adleman Leonard** 1978 - they worked out in MIT the RSA algorithm (with public key ) [USA]. They did not know the work the British mathematician **Cocks Clifford**, who in 1973 worked out the similar system of coding but to 1998 was kept in the exact secret. [UK]
  74. **Roberts Ed** [ 1942 - 2010 ] 1975 - he built computer Altair 8800, which was considered as first prototype of personal computer. [USA]
  75. **Ross Blake** [ - ] - main coauthor of Mozilla Firefox
  76. **van Rossum Guido** [ - ] -author of Python language. [Netherlands]
  77. **Russell Brian** He is a team leader in Nantucket Corp. dedicated to develop Clipper language and its compilers (1985,1987) dealing with .dbf files (dbase). 1978 - **Ratliff C. Wayne** was the creator of dbasell (initially called Vulcan). Later this product was selling by Ashton-Tate company. [USA]
  78. **Russell James** [ - ] inventor of CD disk [USD]
  79. **Rutishauser Heinz** [ 1918-1970 ] 1952 - in Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich he worked out the natural notation for mathematical expressions (e.g. loop for  $k=1$  (1) 10 ) and the compiler of this notation. [the Switzerland]
  80. **Shannon C.** [ - ] 1937 - he published a work how to build digital circuits using boole's algebra and binary system. 1948 - he created a theory of digital telecommunication. [USA]
  81. **Shockley Wiliam** [ 1910 - 1989 ] Leader of 8 inventors group ( W. Brattain, J. Bardeen, R.Noyce , G.E. Moore,... ) - creators of modern electronics (transistors, integrated circuits, microprocessors...) which created in 50-ties years the Silicon Valley (Shockley Semiconductor Lab.,Fairchild Semiconductors, Intel, ...) - 65 firms. [USA]
  82. **Stanhope Charles** [ 1753 - 1816 ] 1777 - he built mechanical calculator. In next years he was involved in idea of machine for logical operations. [UK]
  83. **Schickard Wilhelm** [ - ] 1623 - he built mechanical calculator-clock [Germany]
  84. **Slonimski Zelig** [ - ] 1843-1845 - he built mechanical calculating "instruments" (addition, subtraction, multiplication) in Petersburg [The Poland - the Israeli origin]
  85. **Stern Abraham** 1812-1817 he built calculator, "root extraction machine" i "calculating machine" [The Poland - the Israeli origin]
  86. **Stibitz Georg R** [ 1904 - 1995 ] 1937 - he developed at Bell Labs a circuit to add binary numbers, which led to a relay-based computer. His Complex Number Calculator, operational in 1940, was demonstrated remotely at a conference using a Teletype [USA]
  87. **Strachey Christopher** [ 1916 - 1975 ] 1959 - he presented a paper on time-sharing. 1963 - Leader of team from Cambridge and London Univ), which developed Combined Programming Language (CPL) being a base for new stream of programming (BPCL, C). [UK]
  88. **Stroustrup Bjarne** [ 1950 - ] Creator of C++ language. [Denmark]
  89. **Torvald Linus** [ - ] He developed operating system Linux in the own free time and on own home equipment ( the system Freax named initially -Free uniX but the name was altered on Linux-LINUS uniX)., which he made accessible in 1991. The guardian of the core of this system, the author of the system GIT for source maintenance.[Finland]
  90. **Tramiel-Tramielski-Trzmiel** [ - ] Founder of Commodore company [USA-Polish-Israeli origin]
  91. **Turing Alan** [ 1912 - 1954 ] 1937 - he published "He computable numbers" theoretical bases the process calculation (called Turing machine), the creator of the Automata-theory. He and Thomas Flowers managed team which creates the electronic lamp computer Colossus for decrypting of Enigma)- [UK]
  92. **Ulam Stanislaw** [ - ] 1946 - he worked out the Monte Carlo method of the calculations of for the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory working on the nuclear weapon. [The USA-POLISH origin]
  93. **Wall Larry** [ - ] 1987-1989 He developed PERL language (initially named "Pearl") very popular in CGI web software. [USA]
  94. **Watson Thomas John Watson, Sr.** [1874 – 1956] and **Watson Thomas John Jr.**[ 1914 - 1993 ] many years' standing - in total 58 years - presidents of IBM - the creators of the strategy of the firm [the USA]
  95. **Wilkes Maurice** [ - ] he managed the team which in Cambridge Computer Laboratory constructed the

- computer EDSAC - started in 1949 r - with the programmes kept in the memory. In years 1950-1951 he created the conception of microprogram kept in the memory of ROM implemented in computer EDSAC(2). *[UK]*
96. **Williams Freddie** [ - ] and **Kilburn Tom** 1946 - they invented the memory based on CRT lamp with capacity of 512-1024 bits. *[UK]*
  97. van **Wijngaarden Adriaan** [ 1916 - 1987 ] Co-author (with E.W. Dijkstra) first Dutch computers ARRA, ARMAC, X1. He worked out in 1968 vW-grammar to defining "infinite context-free grammars in and finite number of rules", used to ALGOL 68 definition. The the main author of ALGOL68. *[Netherlands]*
  98. **Wirth Niklaus** [ 1934 - ] The main author of several programming languages: ia Euler, Algol W, Pascal, Modula, Modula-2, Oberon *[Switzerland]*
  99. **Wozniak Steve** [ 1950 - ] cofounder (with Steve Jobs and Ronald Wayne) Apple Inc. Creator of Apple I i II computers. The owner of several patents (e.g. driver of the disc). *[The USA - the Polish origin]*
  100. **Viehe Frederick** [ - ] [USA] 1947 - he patented the ferrit core memory that was soon later created albo by **An Wang & Way-Dong Woo**. *[USA-CHINESE origin]*
  101. **Zuckerberg Mark** [ 1984 - ] - Creator of **Facebook** social communicator. *[USA]*
  102. **Zuse Konrad** [ 1910 - 1995 ] Pioneer inventor of computers. In years 1938-1939 he built the mechanical digital computer -Z1 and then mechanico-relay Z2. In 1941 entirely relay computer Z3 - first programmable computer ( improved in 1943 to 22 digital binary numbers). Computers work on the binary system and apply the floating-point. He developed in 1945 Plankalkul highlevel language used e.g. to write a chessgame program. *[Germany]*
  103. **Yang Jerry** [ 1968 - ] 1994 - cofounder - with David Filo - of the web portal "Jerry's Guide to the World Wide Web" renamed later into "Yahoo" *[the USA - the Taiwanese origin]*