Wild Romance



A Tale of Digital Passion

prologue

- ⇒ pre-1981 computers were for technicians
- post-1990 computers were for professionals
- ⇒ but in the 1980s they belonged to children

i. in the beginning



RESEARCH MACHINES 380Z A POWERFUL LOW COST COMPUTER

SPECIFICATIONS

The RESEARCH MACHINES 380Z is a general purpose computer. It has been developed for professional users, using the latest technology available. The system is designed and manufactured in Oxford, England by RESEARCH MACHINES LIMITED.

The RESEARCH MACHINES 380Z computer system is aimed at supporting the rapidly developing use of low cost computers in the following fields:

EDUCATION As a stand alone computer and as a terminal

SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING

INDUSTRIAL AND LABORATORY PROCESS-CONTROL

INSTRUMENTATION AND DATA LOGGING Z80 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE DEVELOP-MENT

DATA PROCESSING

The computing power now available on microprocessor based computers, and the range of software becoming available for them, is such that their performance is directly comparable to that of minicomputers.

The RESEARCH MACHINES 380Z includes VDU (visual display unit), cassette and keyboard interfaces, which means that it is not necessary to purchase a terminal or a teletype. The user only has to provide a domestic television and a suitable

cassette recorder. These and an ASCII encoded keyboard are plugged into sockets at the rear of the computer, and the system becomes fully operational.

CPU (Central Processing Unit)

The 380Z uses the Zilog Z80A microprocessor with a 4MHz clock. The bus is fully buffered and all I/O and memory in the system can be read by external devices by DMA (Direct Memory Access). WAIT state circuitry is included which can insert one wait state in every M1 cycle, or one wait state in every memory request cycle. The system is supplied with the latter option selected, so that relatively slow (500 nsec access time) peripherals can be connected to the bus. This gives an average cycle time approximately 60% faster than Z80 or 8080 systems operating with a 2MHz clock without wait states.

RAM (Random Access Memory)

The 380Z has sockets and circuitry for two blocks of dynamic RAM. Each block can either use 4K (4000) or 16K bit devices. 4K and 16K blocks can be mixed. Thus the basic 380Z can be supplied with up to 32K



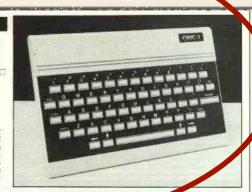
IEK RAM IEK ROM

LANGUAGE CASSETTE KEYBOARD DISPLAY INTERFACE GRAPHICS

SOUND

300 or 2400 band extra DOS
CWERTYY
CURSOR NUMERICO FUNCTO
TYPE
PARAV
SERIAL BUSY
USER 80
LINEV
RES 200 by 240
COLOUR 8 TEXT 28 by 40
3 champels

Notes. The Cric I is a 6502A based micro and is aimed at the ZX Spectrum market. A 42K model is available which has 64K RAM with I6K ROM overlaid. You can affect a printer, communications modem and you can have audio output through your hit. A manual comes with the machine, but make sure that you also get the errata took their goes with it. You can buy the Oric by mail order and the curyon of Oric Products International Ltd., Coworth Park Landon Boad, Nov. Berkshire SL5 7SE.



电影音响电影电影 ---------

16K PAM 16K ROM Sinclair BASIC 1500 baud LANGUAGE CASSETTE KEYBOARD DISPLAY INTERFACE GRAPHICS

SOUND

ZX SPECTRUM

| SCO band | DOS | OWERITY CURSOR | NUMERIC | FUNCT | TYN | MONITOR | SUPPLIED | SEPIALC | BUS |

£125

Notes. The Stoclar ZX Spectrum is a Z-80A based micro with a motified rubber keyboard. A 48K version is priced at \$175. A ZX printer is available and a ZX Microdrive and RS232 interface are expected. Available at High Street stores it is a very popular micro with a wide variety of commercial software to choose from plier is Sinclair Research. 6 Kings Parado, Cambridge

ACORN ATOM £150 2K RAM 8K ROM MEMORY LANGUAGE 8ASIC 300 band CASSETTE

KEYBOARD DISPLAY GRAPHICS

SOUND

OX Dend
extre DOS
OWERTY CURSOR NUMERIC FUNCTO
TV MONITOR SUPPLIED D
FARA SERIAL BUSY
BLOCK USER
LINE RES 256 by 192
CCLOUR 4 TEXT 16 by 32
Single channel

Notes. The Acorn ATOM is a 6802 based micro which has a rather unusual version of BASIC. It was one of the first machines that had a built-in assembler. The supplier is Acorn Computers, Fulbourn Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge.



000000000 2222

SHARP PC-1500 £169.95 MEMORY 35K RAM 16K ROM BASIC LANGUAGE OWERTY CURSORU NUMERIC FUNCTY
TVII MONITORU SUPPLIED
PARAL SERIAL BUSY
BLOCKU USERU
LINEU HES 120 by 32
COLOURU TEXT 26 by 1 DISC KEYBOARD DISPLAY INTERFACE GRAPHICS SOUND

Notes. The Sharp PC-1500 is an eight-bit CMOS based micro which is small enough to be easily hand-held with an LCD screen. Various additional are available including a plotter, prairier and interface, a case-te interface and plug-in chips, allowing the micro to be expanded to 11.5K. An applications and user manual come with the machine and the supplier is Sharp Electronics (UK) Ltd. Thorp Road, Newton Heath, Manchester M10.99E.

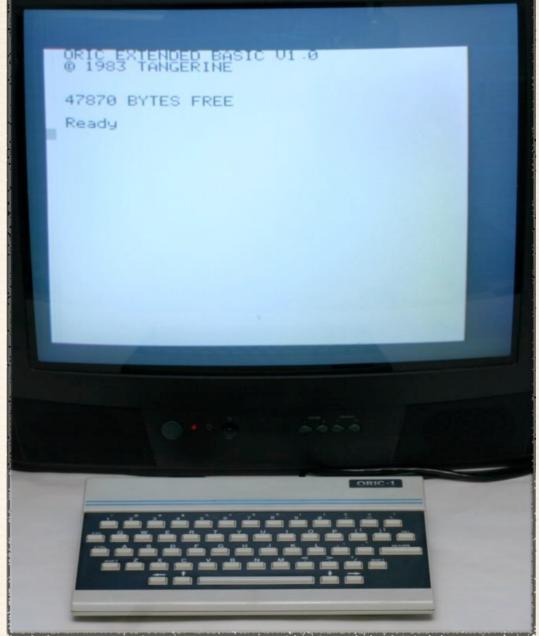
COMPUTING TODAY MAY 1983

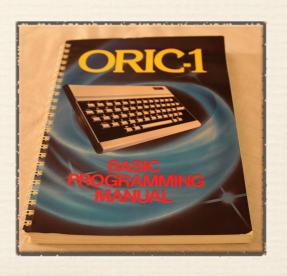


ORIC EXTENDED BASIC V1.1uk 1983 TANGERINE

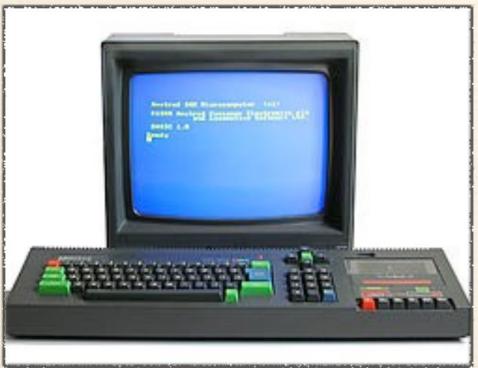
37631 BYTES FREE

Ready









Amstrad 64K Microcomputer (v1)

©1984 Amstrad Consumer Electronics plc
and Locomotive Software Ltd.

BASIC 1.0

Ready

colourful graphics

low-fi sound

cheap offline storage

system in ROM

booted into BASIC

ii. words & pictures

Elric sent his mind into twisting tunnels of logic, across endless plains of ideas, through mountains of symbolism and endless universes of alternate truths; he sent his mind out further and further and as it went he sent with it the words [...] words that few of his contemporaries would understand...

- Elric of Melniboné, Michael Moorcock

I love BASIC

simple but powerful

looks a bit like English

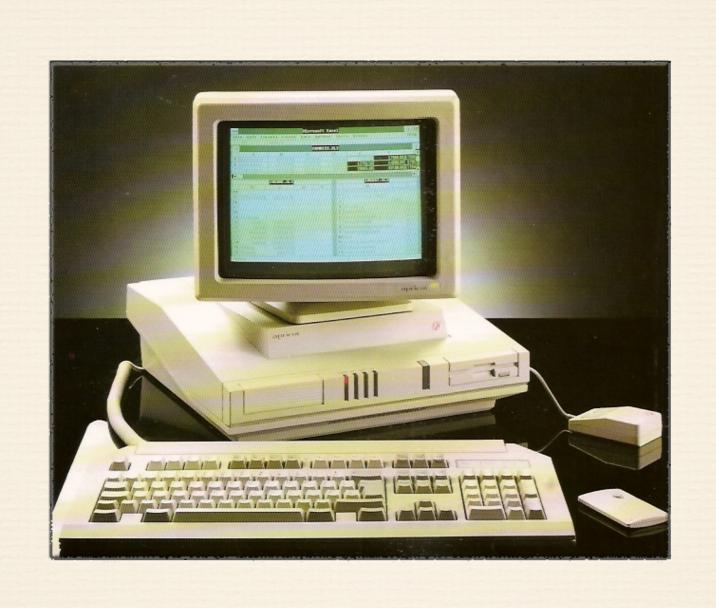
easy to think about

not an operating system

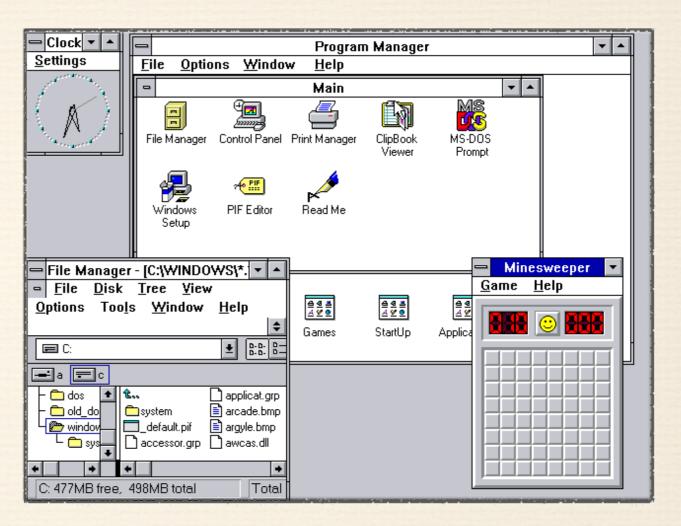
but fakes it well

easy to think about

iii. let's get serious







iii. hackers & gamers









Current date is Fri 10-14-2011
Enter new date (mm-dd-yy):
Current time is 21:02:27.52
Enter new time:

Microsoft(R) MS-DOS(R) Version 3.30

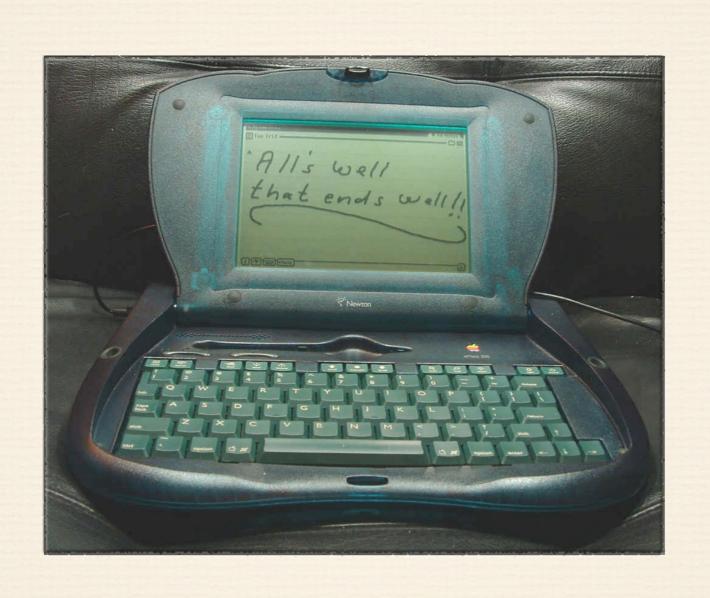
(C)Copyright Microsoft Corp 1981-1987

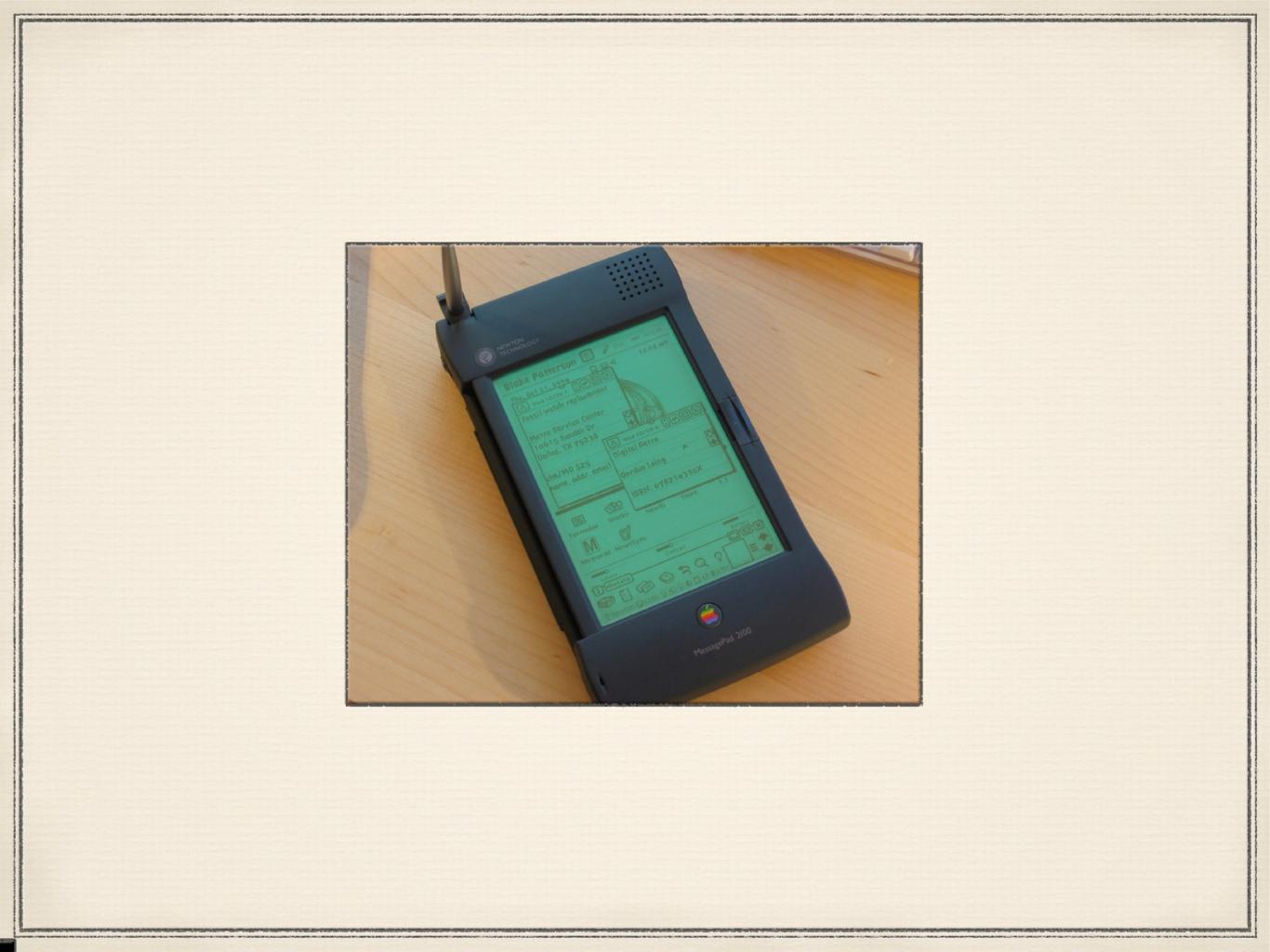


ILIST ZRUNG SLOADW 4SAUGW SCONTE 6, LIPTI 7TRONG STROFFS 9KEY OSCREEN



iv. teach the children

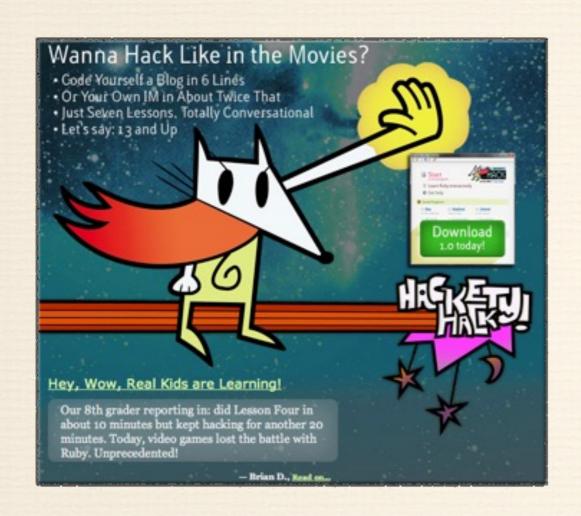




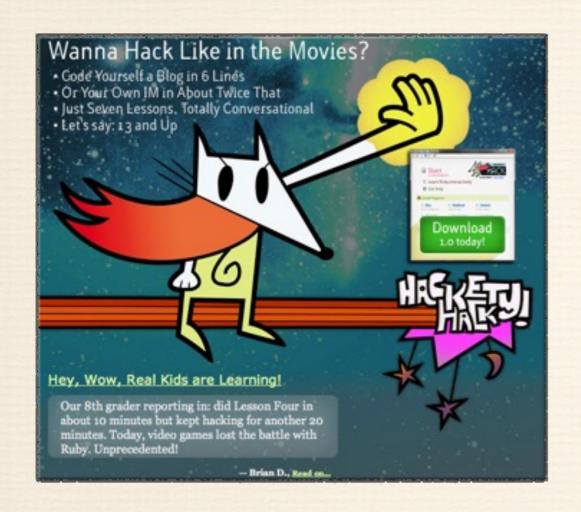


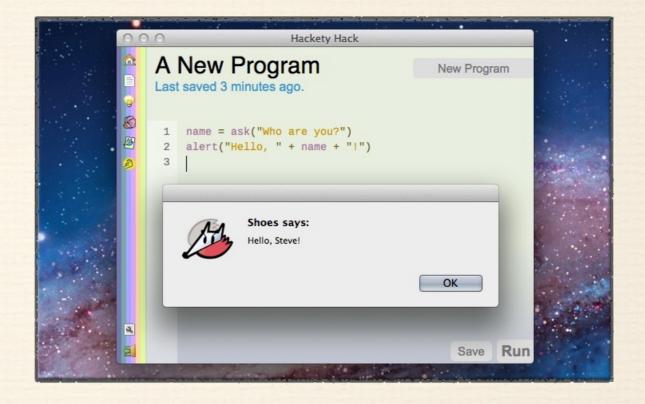


v. hackety hack hack









vi. a slice of raspberrypi





