

Augusta Ada Byron King, Countess of Lovelace

Analyst, Metaphysician, and Founder of Scientific Computing

Born: London, England, December 10, 1815

Died: London, England, November 27, 1852

Colleague of Charles Babbage, who named the Analytical Engine.

Engine was to be a universal computer, “whose operations should themselves possess all the generality of algebraical notation[1].”

“Wanted to explain what the overall point was—as well as relate it, as she put it, to “large, general, & metaphysical views”[2].”

Devised world's first program by showing “steps through which the engine could compute the Numbers of Bernoulli [1].”

“At that time, as a woman, she couldn’t get access to the Royal Society’s library in London [2].”

Bibliography

[1] L. F. Menabrea “Sketch of the analytic engine invented by Charles Babbage,” *Bibliothèque Universelle de Geneve*, no. 82 (translated and annotated: A. A. Lovelace, 1842)

[2] S. Wolfram, *Idea Makers*. Wolfram Media, Inc., 2016.



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