

Public lecture: Computer Science

Thursday 17 March 2011

Computer (and Human) Perfection at Checkers

Professor Jonathan Schaeffer

Professor of Computer Science, University of Alberta

7pm at the Ron Cooke Hub, Heslington East, University of York



In 1989, the Chinook project began with the goal of winning the human World Checkers Championship. There was an imposing obstacle to success – the human champion, Marion Tinsley. Tinsley was as close to perfection at the game as was humanly possible.

To do better than Tinsley, the computer had to be perfect. In effect, it had to solve checkers.

Little did the project group know that their quest would take 18 years to complete. In this public lecture, Jonathan Schaeffer, the creator of Chinook, tells the story of the quest for computer, and human, perfection at the game of checkers.

Admission is free and open to all – no ticket required. For more information, email publiclectures@york.ac.uk or phone **01904 432622**