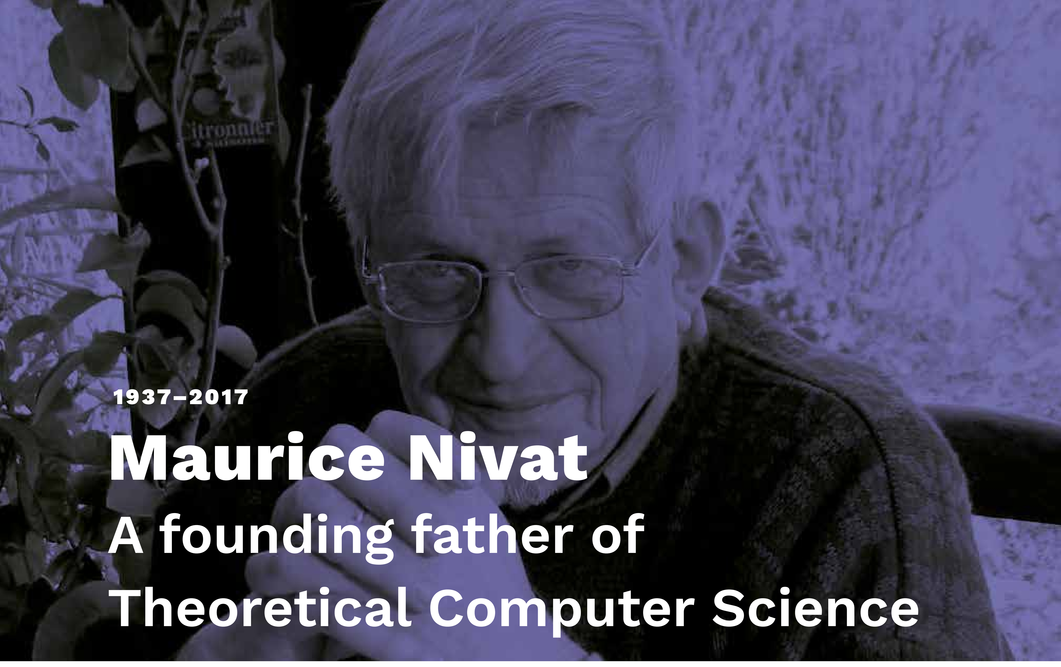


1937–2017

Maurice Nivat

A founding father of Theoretical Computer Science

As a mathematician he applied rigorous algebraic approaches to numerous domains, from formal languages to program semantics, from concurrent processes to discrete geometry.
As a scientific leader he undertook with incredible energy the mission of promoting study and research in the theory of computing.

EARLY YEARS

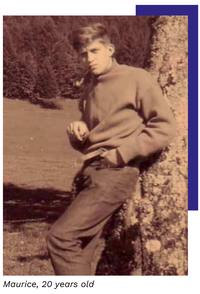
1937
Born in Clermont-Ferrand, France

1956
Enters *École Normale Supérieure*; his broad mindedness and originality flourish and he is the leader of a group of merry fellows which calls itself "Praesidium du Bordel Suprême"; he gets married and has his first son while still at ENS

1959
Begins work at Institut Blaise Pascal and gets acquainted with computers and programming languages

1969
Becomes professor at Université de Paris

Maurice (right) with siblings and Grandma



Maurice, 20 years old

FOUNDING THE EATCS

1971
With Louis Nolin and Marcel-Paul Schützenberger, presents a "charter" of theoretical computer science, called *Rapport préliminaire sur l'Informatique Théorique*; proposes to establish a collaboration with the main European universities and research centers

1972
- Organises the first International Colloquium on Automata, Languages and Programming (ICALP)
- Organises with Alfonso Caracciolo the Brussels meeting where the creation of the EATCS is approved

1973
Elected President of EATCS and edits *the first Bulletin of the EATCS*; founds the journal *Theoretical Computer Science*

Nivat (left) with Schützenberger at ICALP'72

FOSTERING FRENCH TCS

1973
Initiates the yearly *École de Printemps d'Informatique Théorique* bringing together younger researchers in pleasant historical places throughout France to learn about a topic in Theoretical Computer Science

1975
Founds the *Laboratoire d'Informatique Théorique et Programmation* (LITP), of which the *Institut de Recherche en Informatique Fondamentale* (IRIF) that organises ICALP'22 is a descendant

1992
Founds the *Association Française d'Informatique Théorique*, the French arm of EATCS

Decoration by Minister of Research Hubert Curien, 2002

Computer Science in Education

Throughout his career, Maurice fought for the introduction of computer science in education. His wish was finally fulfilled in 2021: an Agrégation d'Informatique (i.e., a contest to select Computer Science professors for high schools) was created.

1983 report on computer science education

Scientific Legacy

Maurice Nivat worked on many subjects: transductions, language theory, algebraic semantics, semantics of concurrency, infinite words, tilings... In each one, he had seminal ideas, and was able to direct his numerous students to the best-suited domains.