

The Antikythera Mechanism

An Ancient Greek bronze hand-powered mechanical device that calculated astronomical positions, is described as the oldest known example of an analogue computer.

Information Theory Unit

In 1900, off the coast of Antikythera, a Greek island on the edge of the Aegean Sea, Greek sponge divers found a Roman-era shipwreck where the Antikythera Mechanism was later found. The shipwreck dates to circa 65 B.C. and the sophisticated mechanism, which has intricate gears and dials, in addition to written inscriptions, could track the cycles of the Solar System.

Visit Source (the original research site):

<https://www.antikythera-mechanism.gr/project/overview>

Antikythera Mechanism - National Archaeological Museum, Athens



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A video (7 minutes, 16 seconds) from the Antikythera Mechanism Project can be found here:

Visit Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpLcnAipVRA&t=2s>

Researchers at the University College of London (UCL), known as the UCL Antikythera Research Team created a "...model that conforms to all the physical evidence and matches the descriptions in the scientific inscriptions engraved on the Mechanism itself," as stated by the lead author, Professor Tony Freeth (UCL Mechanical Engineering).

Learn more about their research here:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/2021/mar/experts-recreate-mechanical-cosmos-worlds-first-computer>

They have also produced a video, *The Antikythera Cosmos* (Copyright c/o Professor Tony Freeth) that highlights their research and the creation of the replica model. The video is a half-hour long and can be found here:

Visit Source: <https://vimeo.com/518734183>