Introduction To Programming
Basic algorithmic thinking

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History

History

The concept of algorithm has existed since antiquity. Arithmetic algorithms, such as a **division algorithm**, was used by ancient Babylonian mathematicians c. 2500 BC and Egyptian mathematicians c. 1550 BC.

Greek mathematicians later used algorithms in the **sieve of Eratosthenes** for finding prime numbers, and the **Euclidean algorithm** for finding the greatest common divisor of two numbers.

History

The word algorithm itself is derived from the 9th-century Persian mathematician Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Khwarizmi, Latinized **Algoritmi**.
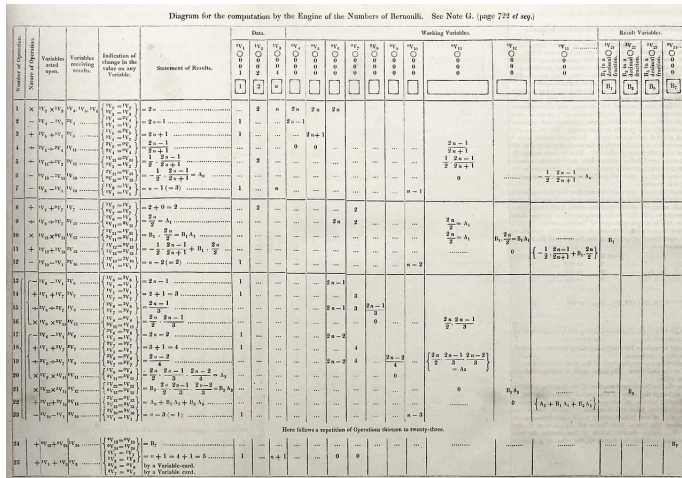
History

- 19th century
- Mathematician and writer
- First published algorithm

Augusta Ada King, Countess
of Lovelace

History

Ada Lovelace's diagram from "note G", the first published computer algorithm.

Diagram for the computation by the Engine of the Numbers of Bernoulli. See Note G. (page 722 et seq.)

Algorithms

Definition

A finite sequence of well-defined (unambiguous) instructions is called an **algorithm**.