

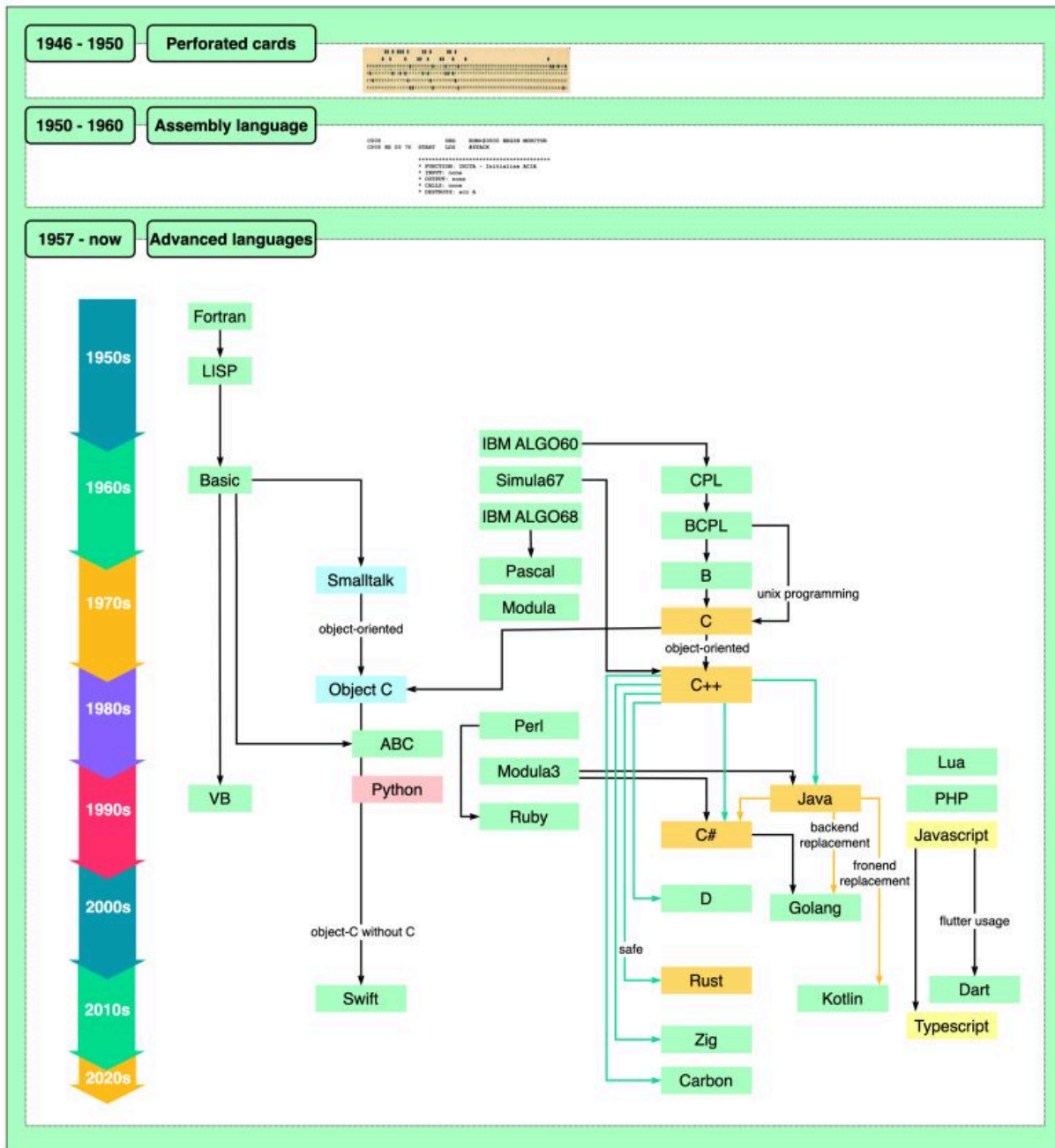
## C, C++, Java, Javascript, Typescript, Golang, Rust...

How do programming languages evolve for the past 70 years?

The diagram below shows a brief history of programming languages.

### C, C++, Java, Javascript, Typescript, Golang, Rust - A Brief History of Programming Languages

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Source: Tecent Engineering

- Perforated cards were the first generation of programming languages. Assembly languages, which are machine-oriented, are the second generation of programming languages. Third-generation languages, which are human-oriented, have been around since 1957.
- Early languages like Fortran and LISP proposed garbage collection, recursion, exceptions. These features still exist in modern programming languages.
- In 1972, two influential languages were born: Smalltalk and C. Smalltalk greatly influenced scripting languages and client-side languages. C language was developed for unix programming.
- In the 1980s, object-oriented languages became popular because of its advantage in graphic user interfaces. Object-C and C++ are two famous ones.
- In the 1990s, the PCs became cheaper. The programming languages at this stage emphasized security and simplicity. Python was born in this decade. It was easy to learn and extend and it quickly gained popularity. In 1995, Java, Javascript, PHP and Ruby were born.
- In 2000, C# was released by Microsoft. Although it was bundled with .NET framework, this language carried a lot of advanced features.
- A number of languages were developed in the 2010s to improve C++ or Java. In the C++ family, we have D, Rust, Zig and most recently Carbon. In the Java family, we have Golang and Kotlin. The use of Flutter made Dart popular, and Typescript was developed to be fully compatible with Javascript. Also, Apple finally released Swift to replace Object-C.

👉 Over to you: What's your favorite language and why? Will AI change the way we use programming languages?