

Languages and Compilers (SProg og Oversættere)

Lecture 2 Programming Language Evolution

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Learning goals

- Introduction to programming language design
- Overview of the evolution of programming languages

Why Are There So Many Programming Languages

- Why does some people speak French?
- Programming languages have evolved over time as better ways have been developed to design them.
 - First programming languages were developed in the 1950s
 - Since then thousands of languages have been developed
- Different programming languages are designed for different types of programs.

Why do people design new programming Languages?

- Most new languages are invented out of frustration!
 - “The decision to create a new programming language or to design an extension of an existing language is often a reaction to some language that the designer knows (and likes or dislikes)”
 - P. Sestoft 2012
- A few languages are created because somebody requested a new language
 - Fortran, C#, Swift, DART
 - All of you, because the study regulations says so 😊

Java	Python
<pre> public class Employee { private String myEmployeeName; private int myTaxDeductions = 1; private String myMaritalStatus = "single"; //----- constructor #1 ----- public Employee(String EmployeeName) { this(employeeName, 1); } //----- constructor #2 ----- public Employee(String EmployeeName, int taxDeductions) { this(employeeName, taxDeductions, "single"); } //----- constructor #3 ----- public Employee(String EmployeeName, int taxDeductions, String maritalStatus) { this.employeeName = employeeName; this.taxDeductions = taxDeductions; this.maritalStatus = maritalStatus; } ... </pre>	<pre> class Employee(): def __init__(self, employeeName, taxDeductions=1, maritalStatus="single"): self.employeeName = employeeName self.taxDeductions = taxDeductions self.maritalStatus = maritalStatus ... </pre> <hr/> <p>In Python, a class has only one constructor. The constructor method is simply another method of the class, but one that has a special name: <code>__init__</code></p>

Programming Language design

- Designing a new programming language or extending an existing programming language usually follows an iterative approach:
 1. Create ideas for the programming language or extensions
 2. Describe/define the programming language or extensions
 3. Implement the programming language or extensions
 4. Evaluate the programming language or extensions
 5. If not satisfied, goto 1

Programming Language design

1. Create ideas for the programming language or extensions
 - This subject is almost completely absent from literature!
2. Describe/define the programming language or extensions
 - We will spend quite a bit of time in this course and the SS
3. Implement the programming language or extensions
 - We will spend a lot of time on this subject.
4. Evaluate the programming language or extensions
 - is not usually covered in classic literature on Programming Languages and Compilers!
 - But you saw Sebesta's Language evaluation criteria in the last lecture
 - We shall see a some more later.

Table 1.1 Language evaluation criteria and the characteristics that affect them

Characteristic	CRITERIA		
	READABILITY	WRITABILITY	RELIABILITY
Simplicity	•	•	•
Orthogonality	•	•	•
Data types	•	•	•
Syntax design	•	•	•
Support for abstraction		•	•
Expressivity		•	•
Type checking			•
Exception handling			•
Restricted aliasing			•

How to create ideas for a new programming language or extensions ?

- Do a problem analysis!
 - Who needs the new language?
 - What is the purpose of the new language
 - What type of programs would we like to write?
 - Create some example programs
 - Even before you have defined the language you can create examples of programs as you would like them to look
- Take inspiration from other languages
 - Which languages do you know?
 - What do you like about these languages?
 - What do you dislike?
 - Look at languages you don't know!
 - Look at the history of programming languages

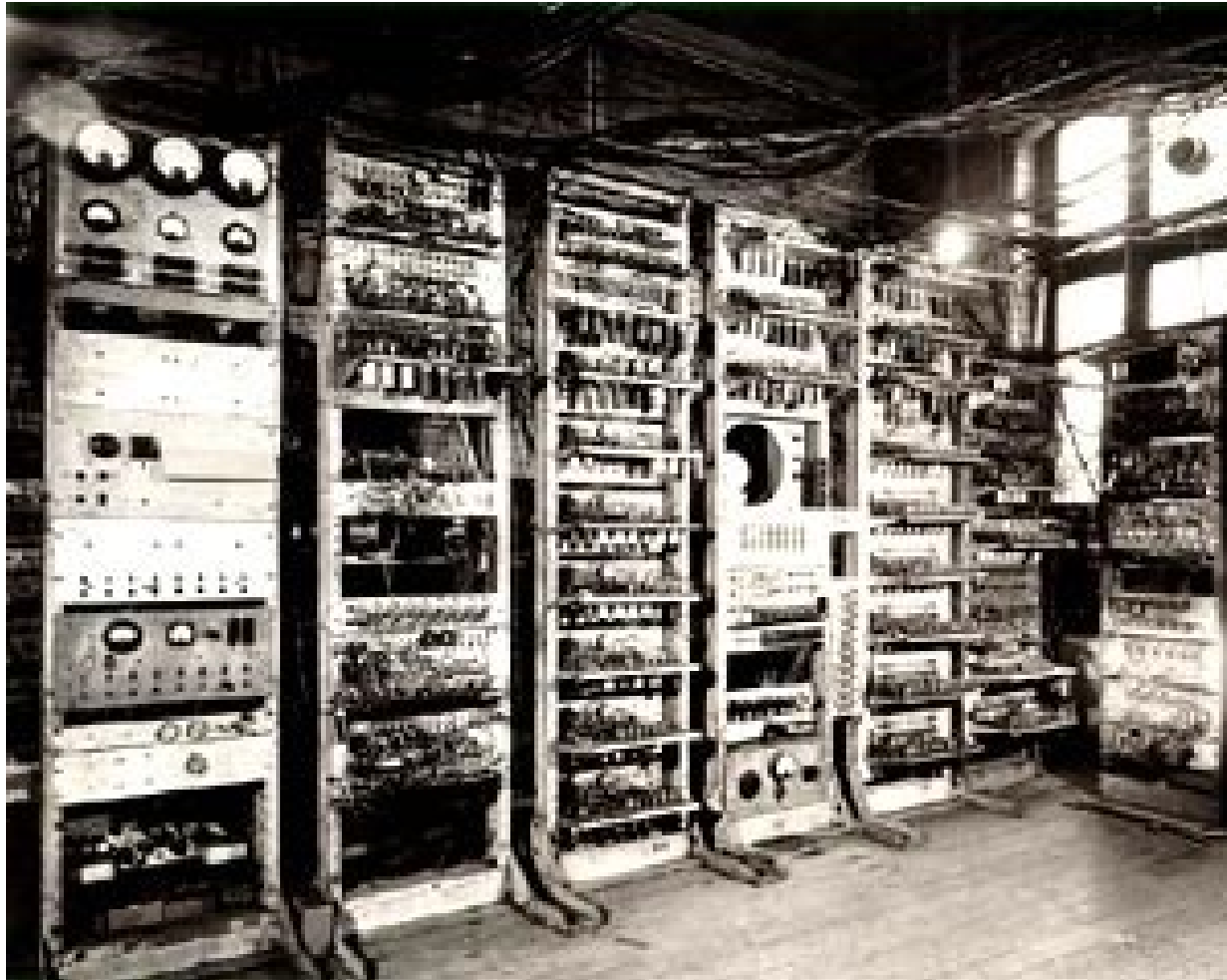
Programming Language History

1940s

The first electronic computers were monstrous contraptions

- Programmed in binary *machine code* by hand
- Code is not reusable or *relocatable*
 - *Each machine had its own machine language*
- Computation and machine maintenance were difficult:
 - cathode tubes regularly burned out
 - The term “*bug*” originated from a bug that reportedly roamed around in a machine causing short circuits

... in the beginning of time



Programming Language History

Late 1940s early 1950s

- *Assembly languages*

- invented to allow machine operations to be expressed in mnemonic abbreviations
- Enables larger, reusable, and re-locatable programs
- Actual machine code is produced by an *assembler*
- Early assemblers had a one-to-one correspondence between assembly and machine instructions
- Later: expansion of *macros* into multiple machine instructions to achieve a form of higher-level programming

Assembly
LOAD x
ADD R1 R2

; Hello World for Intel Assembler (MSDOS)

mov ax,cs

mov ds,ax

mov ah,9

mov dx, offset Hello

int 21h

xor ax,ax

int 21h

Programming Language History

Mid 1950s

- Fortran , the first higher-level language
 - Now programs could be developed that were machine independent!
 - Main computing activity in the 50s: solve numerical problems in science and engineering
 - Other high-level languages soon followed:
 - Algol 58 is an improvement compared to Fortran
 - Cobol for business computing
 - Lisp for symbolic computing and artificial intelligence
 - BASIC for "beginners"

C Hello World in Fortran

```
PROGRAM HELLO  
WRITE (*,100)  
STOP  
100 FORMAT (' Hello World! ' /)  
END
```

* Hello World in COBOL

```
*****  
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.  
PROGRAM-ID. HELLO.  
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.  
DATA DIVISION.  
PROCEDURE DIVISION.  
MAIN SECTION.  
DISPLAY "Hello World!"  
STOP RUN.  
*****
```

Programming Language History

1960s

- Structured Programming
 - Dijkstra, Dahl, and Hoare.
- Pascal, Niklaus Wirth (ETH, Zurich)
 - Modelled after Algol
 - No GOTO
 - Very strongly typed
 - Procedures nested inside each other
 - Designed for teaching programming
- Simula, Dahl and Nygaard (Norway)
 - The first language with objects, classes, and subclasses

{Hello world in Pascal}

```
program HelloWorld(output);  
begin  
    WriteLn('Hello World!');  
end.
```

Programming Language History

1970s

- C, Dennis Ritchie/Ken Thompson (Bell Labs)
 - Successor to B, which was stripped-down BCPL.
 - High-level constructs and low-level power
 - Flat name space for functions/procedures
- Ada, Jean Ichbiah (France)
 - Instigated by the Department of Defense
 - Designed for systems programming, especially embedded systems.

```
/* Hello World in C, Ansi-style */
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
int main(void)
```

```
{  
    puts("Hello World!");  
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;  
}
```

```
-- Hello World in Ada
```

```
with Text_IO;
```

```
procedure Hello_World is
```

```
begin
```

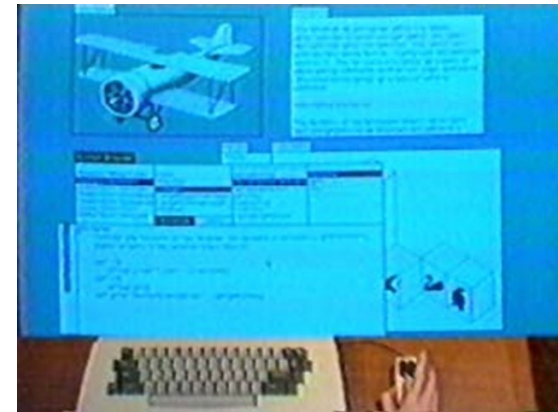
```
    Text_IO.Put_Line("Hello  
World!");
```

```
end Hello_World;
```

Programming Language History

1970s

- Smalltalk, Alan Kay, Adele Goldberg (Xerox PARC)
 - Graphics-rich
 - GUI
 - Fonts
 - Object-oriented
 - Everything is an object
 - Objects communicate through messages
- Scheme, Gerald Sussman & Guy Steele (MIT)
 - LISP with static scoping
- Prolog, Philippe Roussel (France)
 - Based on rules, facts, and queries.



"Hello World in Smalltalk"

Transcript show: 'Hello
World!'.

; Hello World in Scheme

(display "Hello, world!")
(newline)

% Hello World in Prolog

hello :- display('Hello
World!') , nl .

Programming Language History

1980s

- Object-oriented programming
 - Important innovation for software development
 - The concept of a class is based on the notion of data type abstraction from Simula 67 , a language for discrete event simulation that has classes but no inheritance
- 1979-1983: C++ Bjarne Stroustrup (Bell Labs)
 - Originally thought of as “C with classes”.
 - First widely-accepted object-oriented language.
 - First implemented as a pre-processor for the C compiler.

```
// Hello World in C++ (pre-ISO)
```

```
#include <iostream.h>
```

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
    cout << "Hello World!" << endl;
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Programming Language History

1980s

- Functional Programming
 - Extensive list of new concepts
 - Lazy vs. eager evaluation
 - Pure vs. imperative features
 - Parametric polymorphism
 - Type inference
 - (Garbage collection)
 - Hope
 - Clean
 - Haskell
 - SML
 - Caml

Programming Language History

1990s

- HTML, Tim Berners-Lee (CERN)
 - “Hypertext Markup Language”
 - Language of the World Wide Web.
 - A markup language, not a programming language.
- Scripting languages
 - PERL.
 - CGI or Apache module
 - Languages within Web pages
 - JavaScript, VBScript
 - PHP, ASP, JSP
- Java, James Gosling (Sun)

The evolution of Java

- 1993 Oak project at Sun
 - small, robust, architecture independent, Object-Oriented, language to control interactive TV.
 - didn't go anywhere
- 1995 Oak becomes Java
 - Focus on the web
- 1996 Java 1.0 available
- 1997 (March) Java 1.1 - some language changes, much larger library, new event handling model
- 1997 (September) Java 1.2 beta – huge increase in libraries including Swing, new collection classes, J2EE
- 1998 (October) Java 1.2 final (Java2!)
- 2000 (April) Java 1.3 final
- 2001 Java 1.4 final (assert)
- 2004 Java 1.5 (parameterized types, enum, ...)
- 2005 J2EE 1.5
- 2006 Java 6
- 2011 Java 7
- 2014 Java 8 (lambda expressions)
- 2017 Java 9 (expected 23.3.17, but released 21.9.17
 - REPL, process control, collections, streams, ...)
- 2018 Java 10 (March – Minor updates, GC interface, parallel GC)
- 2018 Java 11 (September - Local-variable syntax for lambda parameters, ZGC: a scalable low-latency GC)
- 2019 Java 12 (March)
- Java SE 13 (September 17, 2019)
- Java SE 14 (March 17, 2020) – preview of patternmatching
- Java SE 15 (September 15, 2020)



Programming Language History

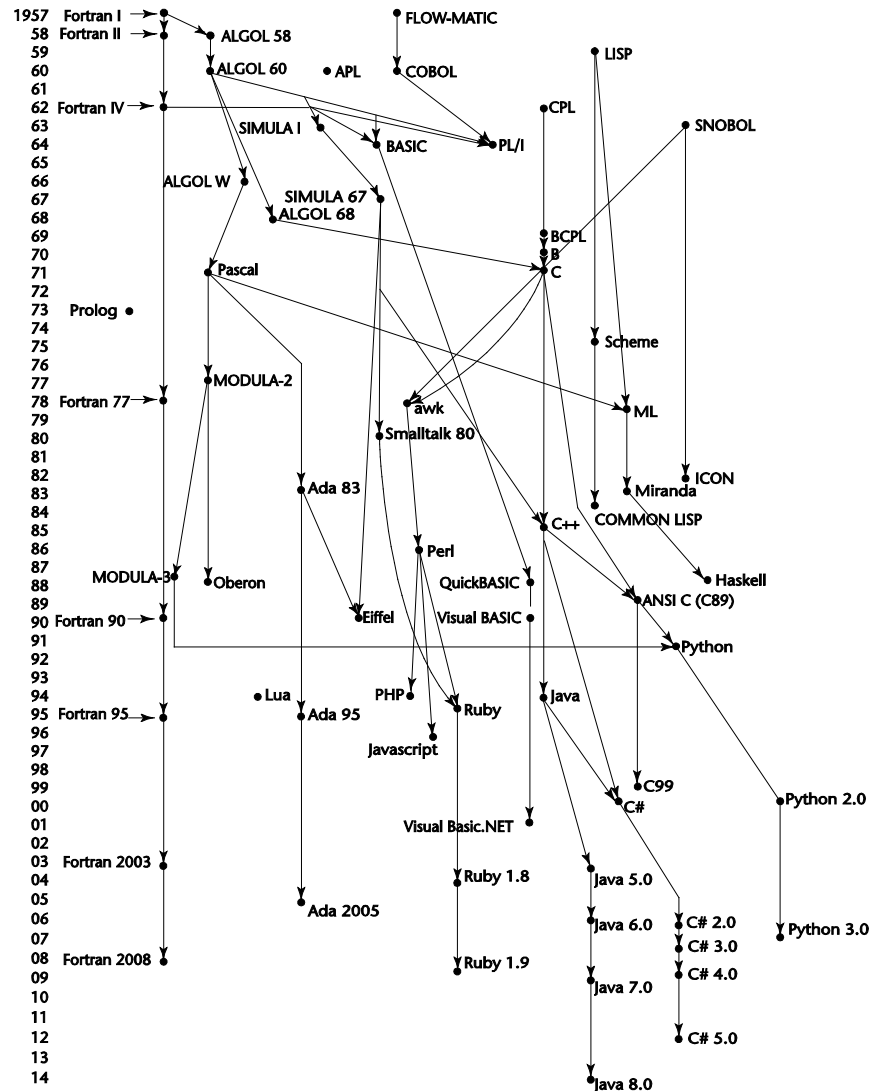
2000s

- XML
- Microsoft .NET
 - Multiple languages
 - C++
 - C#
 - Visual Basic
 - COBOL
 - Fortran
 - Eiffel
 - Common virtual machine (.Net CLR)
 - Web services

C# History

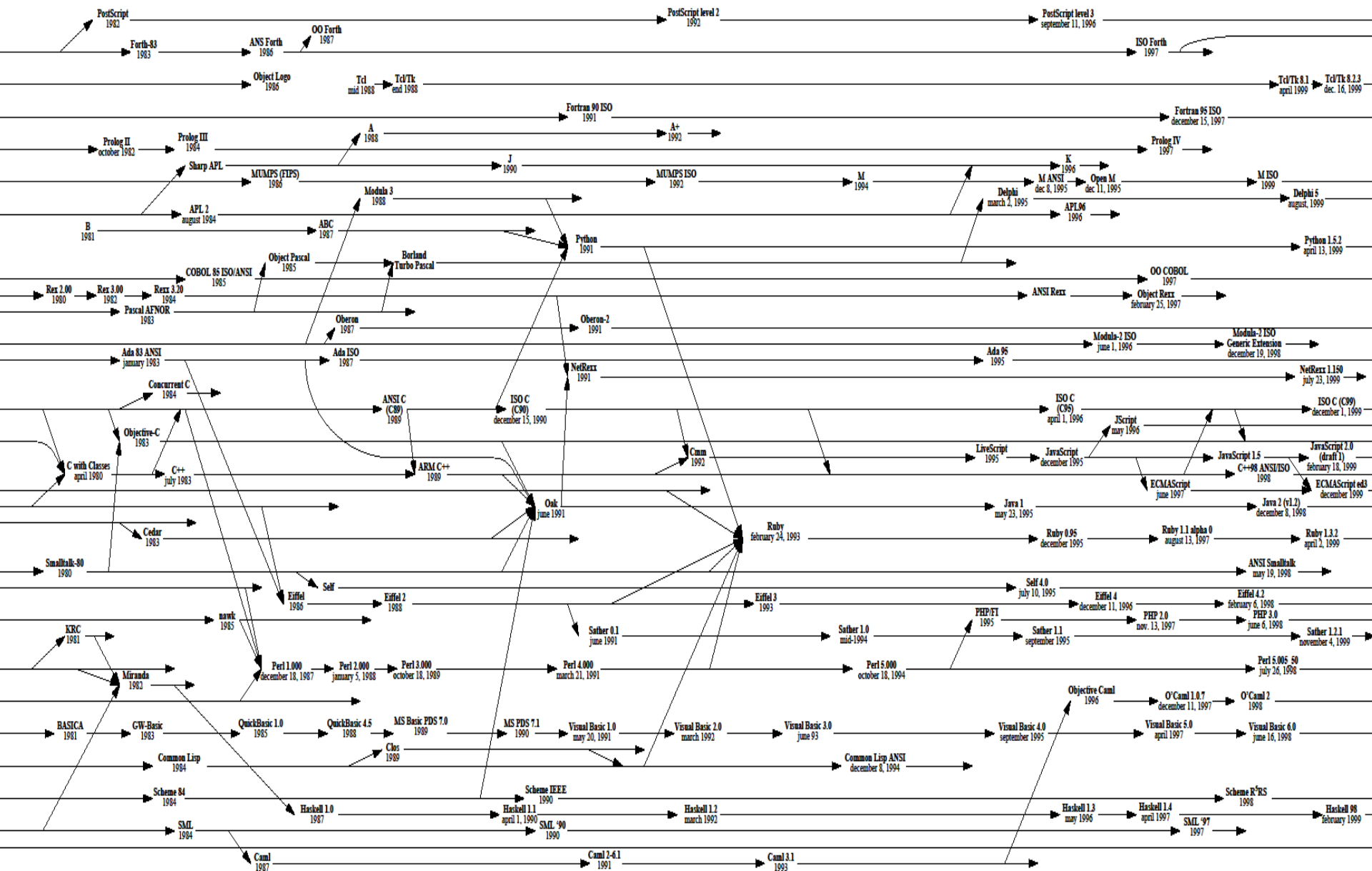
- 12/1998 – COOL project started
- 07/1999 – First internal ports to COOL
- 02/2000 – Named changed to C#
- 07/2000 – First public preview release
- 02/2002 – C# 1.0, VS.NET 2002
- 05/2003 – C# 1.1, VS.NET 2003
- 06/2004 – Beta 1 of C# 2.0 and VS 2005
- 04/2005 – Beta 2 of C# 2.0 and VS 2005
- 11/2005 – C# 2.0 VS 2005, C# 2.0 release
 - Generics, anonymous delegates, nullable types, iterators, partial classes
- 11/2006 – C# 3.0, VS 2008
 - (local type inference, lambdas, expression trees, LINQ)
- 04/2010 – C# 4.0, VS 2010
 - Type dynamics, named+optional parameters, co-/contra variant generics
- 08/2012 – C# 5.0, VS 2012
 - Async methods
- 06/2015 – C# 6.0, VS 2015
 - Await in catch/finally blocks, succinct null checking
- 2017 – C# 7.0, 7.1, 7.2, VS 2017
 - Pattern matching, Local functions, tuples
- 2018 – C# 7.3
 - Reassigning ref local variables, Using initializers on stackalloc arrays
- 2019 – C# 8
 - readonly struct members, default interface members, switch expressions, Property, Tuple, and positional patterns, using declarations
 - static local functions, Disposable ref struct, Nullable reference types, Indices and Ranges, Null-coalescing assignment, AsyncStreams
- 2020 – C# 9

Genealogy of Common Languages



[lang.pdf](#)

1995

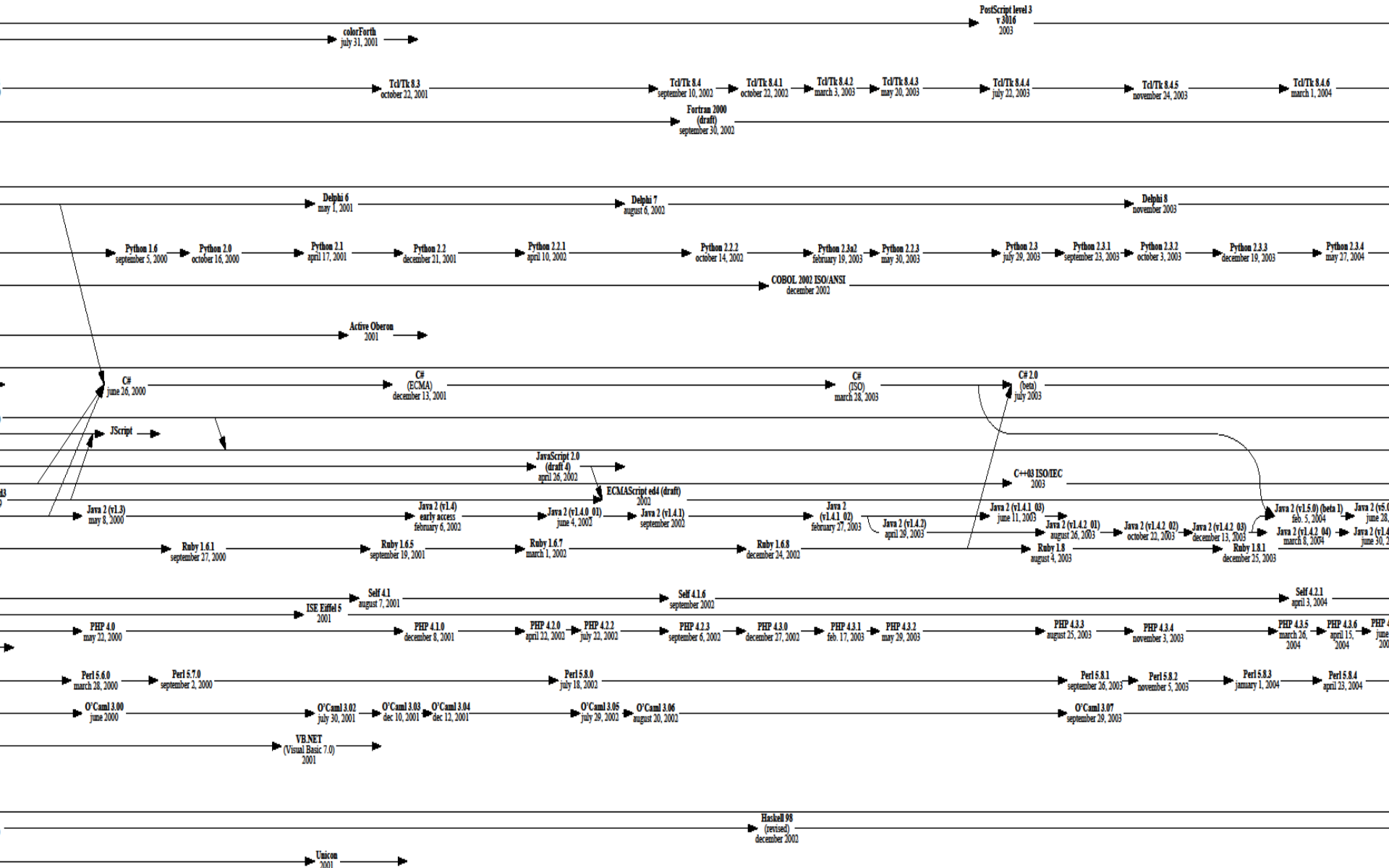


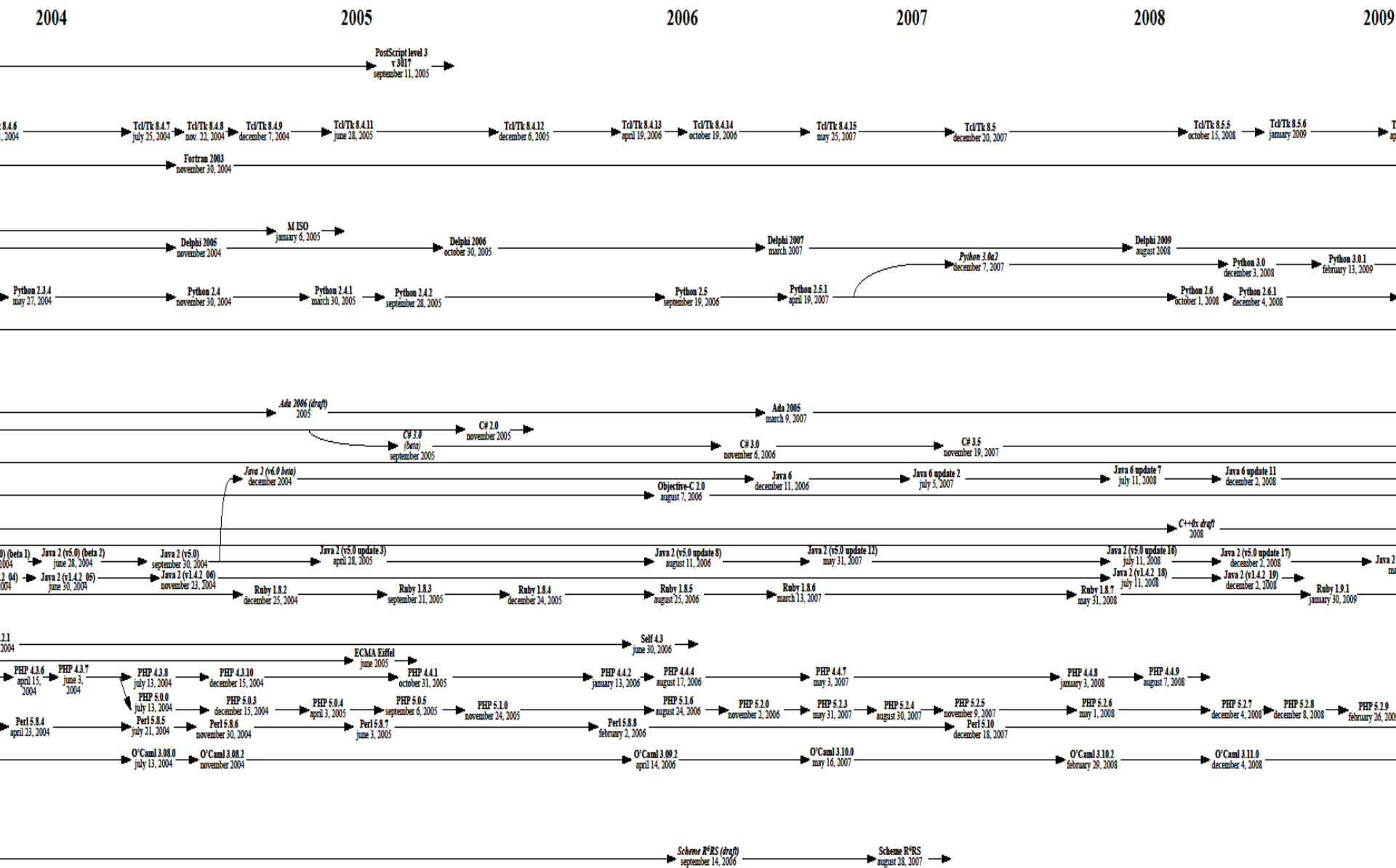
2000

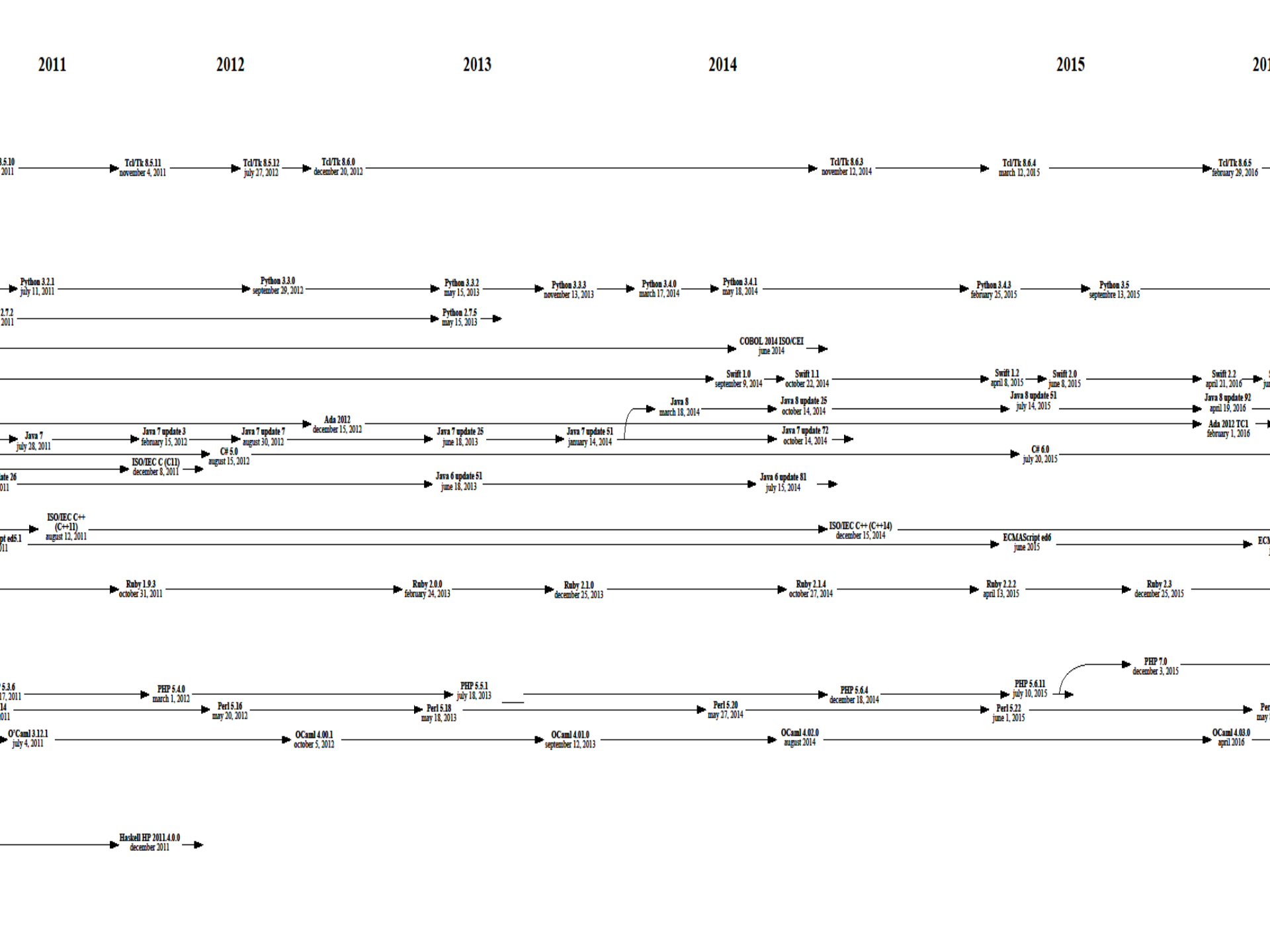
2002

2003

2004







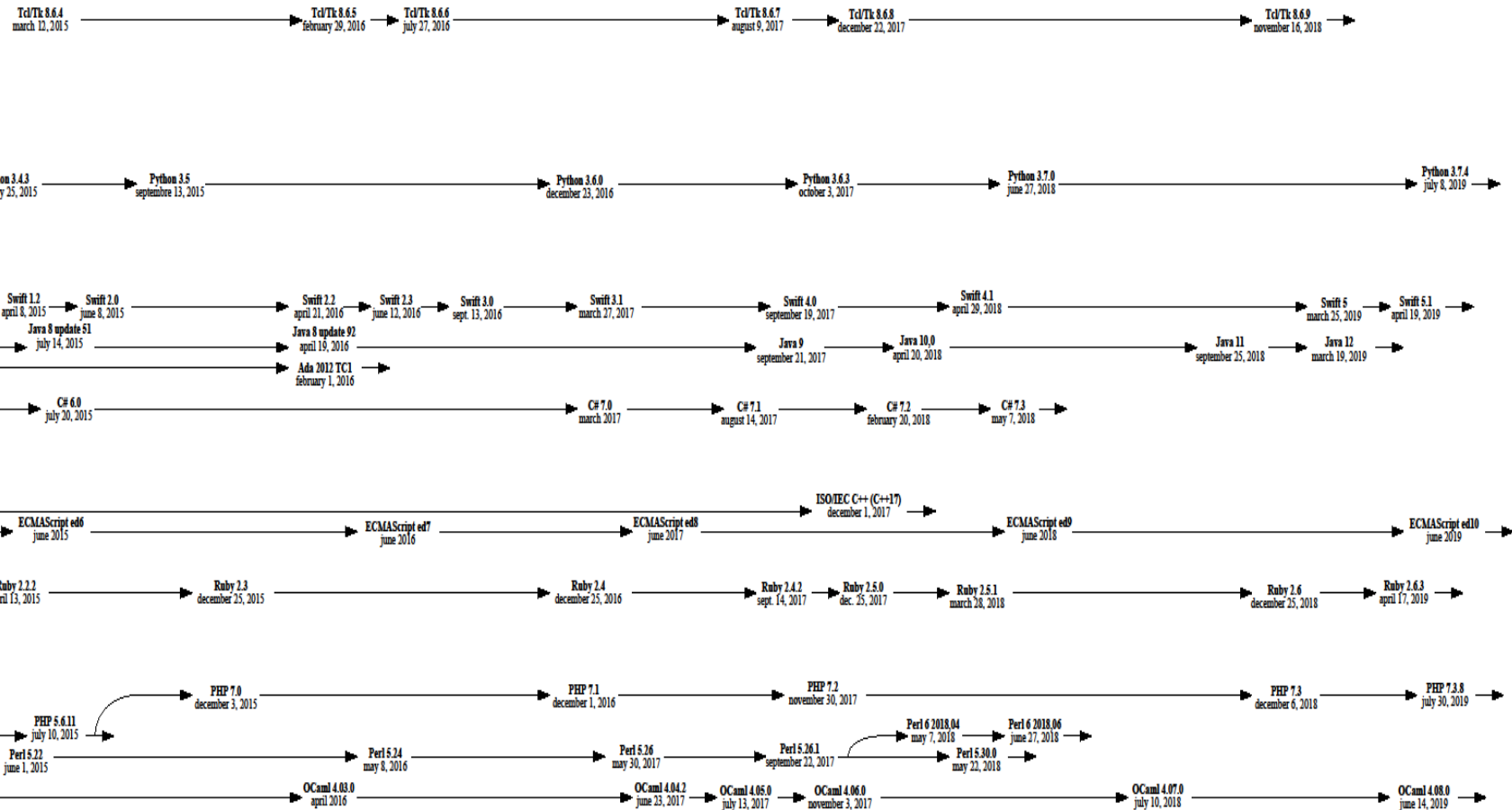
2015

2016

2017

2018

2019



Programming Language History

2010s

- Multi paradigm integration, especially OO+FP(+concurrency)
 - C#, C++ and Java
 - Python
 - Ruby
 - Groovy
 - Clojure
 - Fortress
 - Scala
 - O'Caml, F#
 - Haskell
 - Erlang
 - Swift, DART, RUST, Kotlin

```
-- Hello World in Haskell
```

```
main = putStrLn "Hello World"
```

```
%% Hello World in Erlang
```

```
-module(hello).
```

```
-export([hello/0]).
```

```
hello() ->
```

```
io:format("Hello World!~n", []).
```

```
// Hello world in Swift
```

```
println("Hello, world!")
```

```
// Hello world in Dart
```

```
main() {  
    print('Hello world!');  
}
```

```
// Hello world in Kotlin
```

```
fun main(args : Array<String>) {  
    println("Hello, world!")  
}
```

Three Trends

- Declarative programming languages in vogue again
 - Especially functional
- Dynamic Programming languages gained momentum, but ...
- Concurrent Programming languages came back on the agenda
 - Reactive programming
 - (a special kind of concurrent programming)

So what can you do in your projects?

- Look at code in the languages you know
- Use Sebesta's Language Evaluation criteria to those languages
- Look at code in languages you do not know
- Make a list of language features you like
- Make a list of language features you dislike
- Create some example programs

So how would you like to programme in 20 years?

DILBERT SCOTT ADAMS

