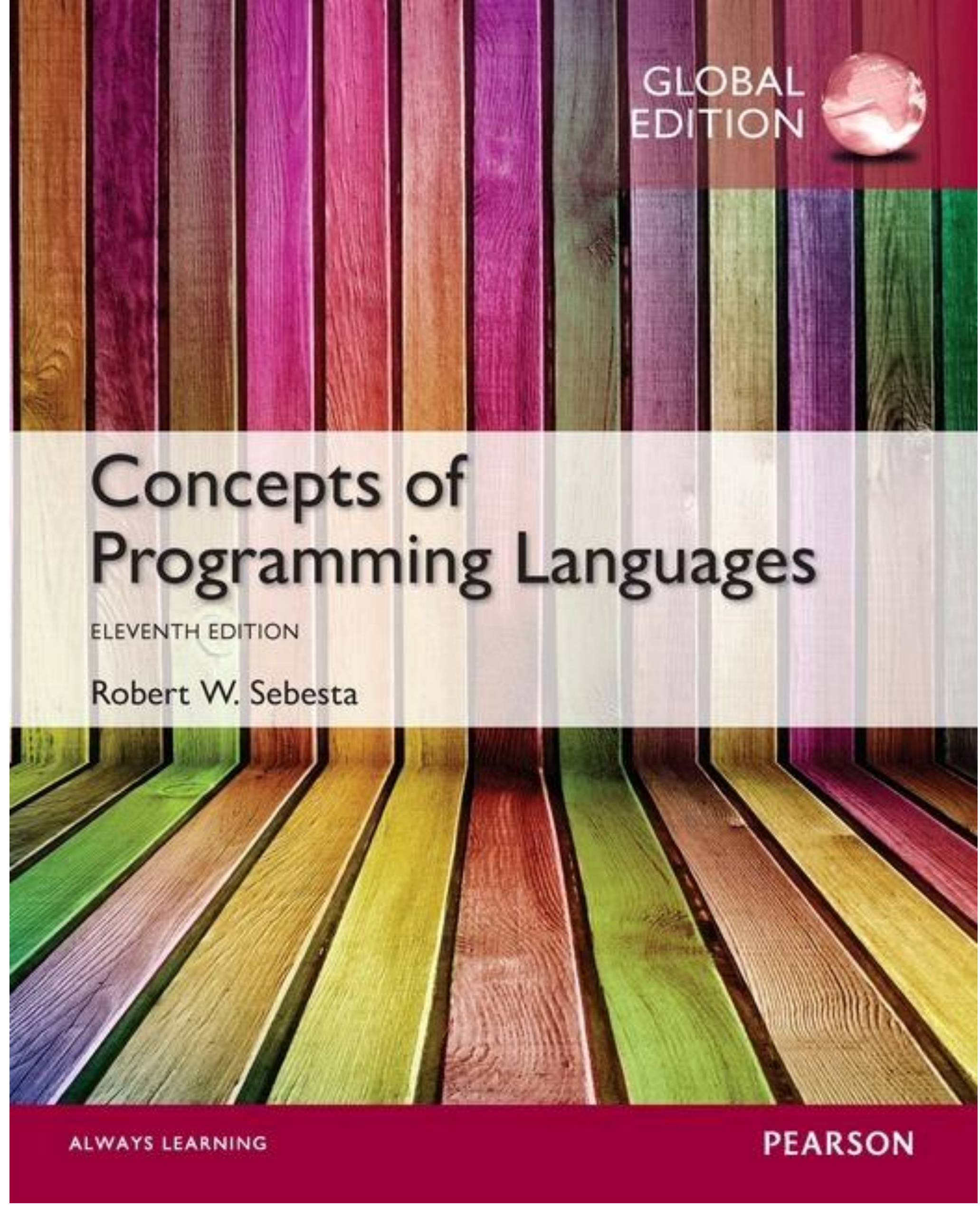
Chapter 2

Evolution of the Major Programming Languages



Chapter 2 Topics

- Zuse’s Plankalkül
- Minimal Hardware Programming: Pseudocodes
- The IBM 704 and Fortran
- Functional Programming: Lisp
- The First Step Toward Sophistication: ALGOL 60
- Computerizing Business Records: COBOL
- The Beginnings of Timesharing: Basic

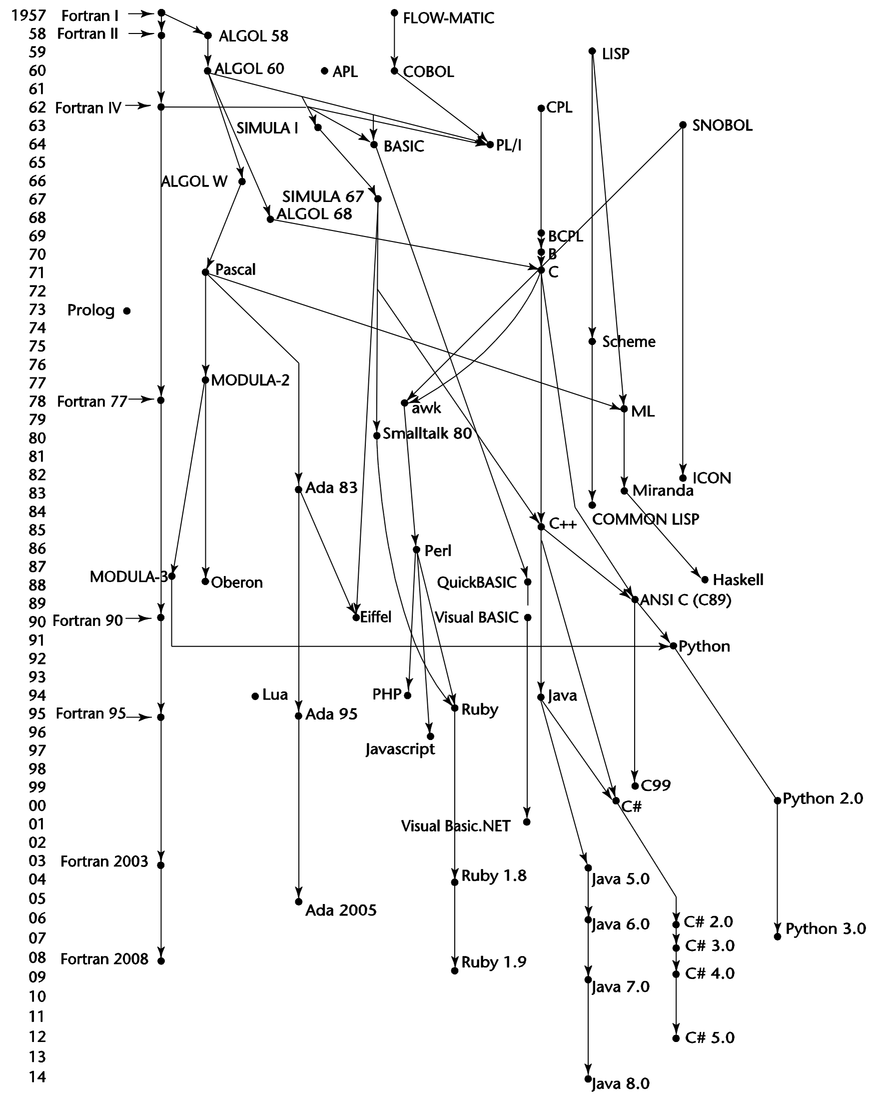
Chapter 2 Topics (continued)

- Everything for Everybody: PL/I
- Two Early Dynamic Languages: APL and SNOBOL
- The Beginnings of Data Abstraction: SIMULA 67
- Orthogonal Design: ALGOL 68
- Some Early Descendants of the ALGOLs
- Programming Based on Logic: Prolog
- History's Largest Design Effort: Ada

Chapter 2 Topics (continued)

- Object-Oriented Programming: Smalltalk
- Combining Imperative ad Object-Oriented Features: C++
- An Imperative-Based Object-Oriented Language: Java
- Scripting Languages
- The Flagship .NET Language: C#
- Markup/Programming Hybrid Languages

Genealogy of Common Languages



Zuse's Plankalkül

- Designed in 1945, but not published until 1972
- Never implemented
- Advanced data structures
  - floating point, arrays, records
- Invariants

Plankalkül Syntax

- An assignment statement to assign the expression A[4] + 1 to A[5]

```
     | A + 1 => A
  V  | 4       5        (subscripts)
  S  | 1.n     1.n      (data types)
```

Minimal Hardware Programming: Pseudocodes

- What was wrong with using machine code?
  - Poor readability
  - Poor modifiability
  - Expression coding was tedious
  - Machine deficiencies--no indexing or floating point

For example, an ADD instruction might be specified by the code 14 rather than a connotative textual name, even if only a single letter. This makes programs very difficult to read.

Note: We call the languages discussed in this section pseudocodes because that's what they were named at the time they were developed and used (the late 1940s and early 1950s). However, they are clearly not pseudocodes in the contemporary sense.

Pseudocodes: Short Code

- Short Code developed by Mauchly in 1949 for BINAC computers
  - Expressions were coded, left to right
  - Example of operations:

```
01 -    06 abs value    1n (n+2)nd power
02 )    07 +            2n (n+2)nd root
03 =    08 pause        4n if <= n
04 /    09 (            58 print and tab
```

Pseudocodes: Speedcoding

- Speedcoding developed by Backus in 1954 for IBM 701
  - Pseudo ops for arithmetic and math functions
  - Conditional and unconditional branching
  - Auto-increment registers for array access
  - Slow!
  - Only 700 words left for user program

Pseudocodes: Related Systems

- The UNIVAC Compiling System
  - Developed by a team led by Grace Hopper
  - Pseudocode expanded into machine code
- David J. Wheeler (Cambridge University)
  - developed a method of using blocks of re-locatable addresses to solve the problem of absolute addressing

IBM 704 and Fortran

- Fortran 0: 1954 - not implemented
- Fortran I:1957
  - Designed for the new IBM 704, which had index registers and floating point hardware
  - This led to the idea of compiled programming languages, because there was no place to hide the cost of interpretation (no floating-point software)

  - Environment of development
    - Computers were small and unreliable
    - Applications were scientific
    - No programming methodology or tools
    - Machine efficiency was the most important concern

Design Process of Fortran

- Impact of environment on design of Fortran I
  - No need for dynamic storage
  - Need good array handling and counting loops
  - No string handling, decimal arithmetic, or powerful input/output (for business software)

Fortran I Overview

- First implemented version of Fortran
  - Names could have up to six characters
  - Post-test counting loop (**`DO`**)
  - Formatted I/O
  - User-defined subprograms
  - Three-way selection statement (arithmetic **`IF`**)
  - No data typing statements

Fortran I Overview (continued)

- First implemented version of FORTRAN
  - No separate compilation
  - Compiler released in April 1957, after 18 worker-years of effort
  - Programs larger than 400 lines rarely compiled correctly, mainly due to poor reliability of 704
  - Code was very fast
  - Quickly became widely used

Fortran II

- Distributed in 1958
  - Independent compilation
  - Fixed the bugs

Note: Without independent compilation, any change in a program required that the entire program be recompiled.

Fortran IV

- Evolved during 1960-62
  - Explicit type declarations
  - Logical selection statement
  - Subprogram names could be parameters
  - ANSI standard in 1966

Fortran 77

- Became the new standard in 1978
  - Character string handling
  - Logical loop control statement
  - `IF-THEN-ELSE` statement

Fortran 90

- Most significant changes from Fortran 77
  - Modules
  - Dynamic arrays
  - Pointers
  - Recursion
  - **`CASE`** statement
  - Parameter type checking

Latest versions of Fortran

- Fortran 95 – relatively minor additions, plus some deletions
- Fortran 2003 – support for OOP, procedure pointers, interoperability with C
- Fortran 2008 – blocks for local scopes, co-arrays, `Do Concurrent`

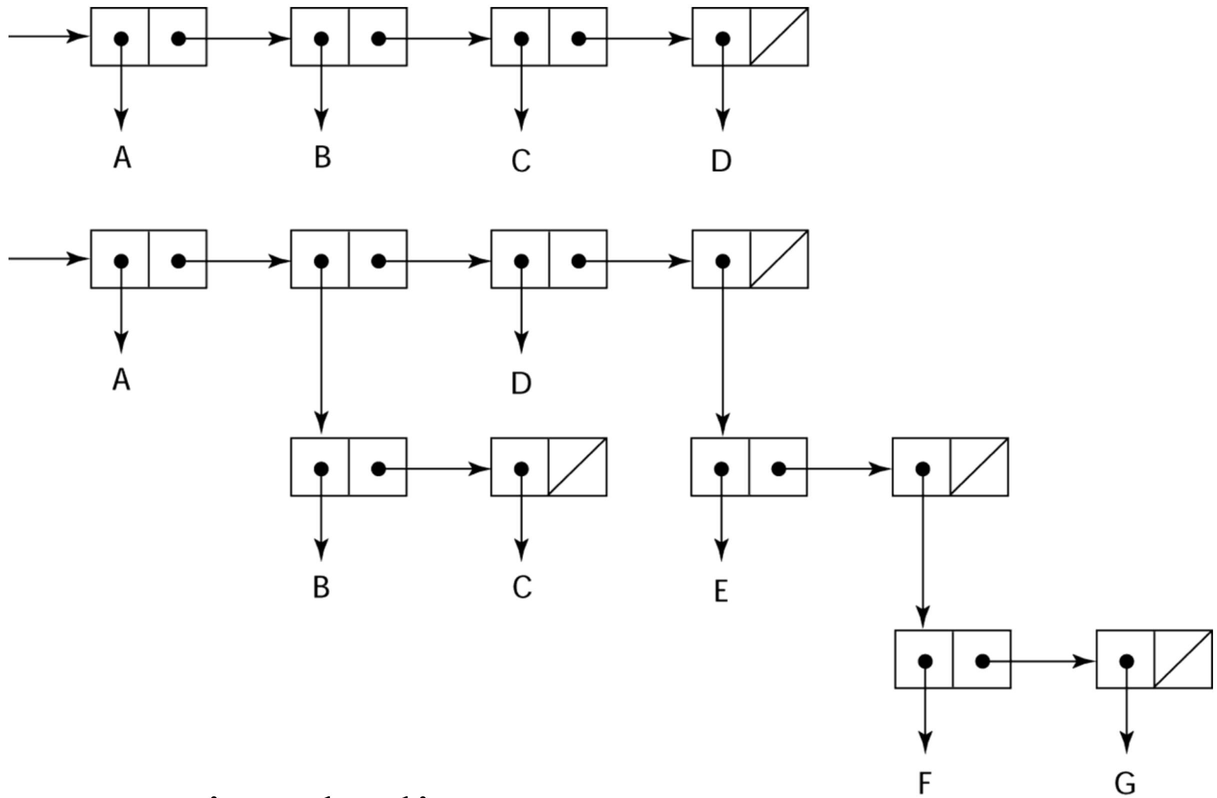
Fortran Evaluation

- Highly optimizing compilers (all versions before 90)
  - Types and storage of all variables are fixed before run time
- Dramatically changed forever the way computers are used

Functional Programming: Lisp

- LISt Processing language
  - Designed at MIT by McCarthy
- AI research needed a language to
  - Process data in lists (rather than arrays)
  - Symbolic computation (rather than numeric)
- Only two data types: atoms and lists
- Syntax is based on *lambda calculus*

Representation of Two Lisp Lists



Representing the lists **(A B C D)**
and **(A (B C) D (E (F G)))**

Lisp Evaluation

- Pioneered functional programming
  - No need for variables or assignment
  - Control via recursion and conditional expressions
- Still the dominant language for AI
- Common Lisp and Scheme are contemporary dialects of Lisp
- ML, Haskell, and F# are also functional programming languages, but use very different syntax

Scheme

- Developed at MIT in mid 1970s
- Small
- Extensive use of static scoping
- Functions as first-class entities
- Simple syntax (and small size) make it ideal for educational applications

Common Lisp

- An effort to combine features of several dialects of Lisp into a single language
- Large, complex, used in industry for some large applications

The First Step Toward Sophistication: ALGOL 60

- Environment of development
  - FORTRAN had (barely) arrived for IBM 70x
  - Many other languages were being developed, all for specific machines
  - No portable language; all were machine-dependent
  - No universal language for communicating algorithms
- ALGOL 60 was the result of efforts to design a universal language

Early Design Process

- ACM and GAMM met for four days for design (May 27 to June 1, 1958)

- Goals of the language
  - Close to mathematical notation
  - Good for describing algorithms
  - Must be translatable to machine code

ALGOL 58

- Concept of type was formalized
- Names could be any length
- Arrays could have any number of subscripts
- Parameters were separated by mode (in & out)
- Subscripts were placed in brackets
- Compound statements (**`begin ... end`**)
- Semicolon as a statement separator
- Assignment operator was :=
- **`if`** had an **`else-if`** clause
- No I/O – "would make it machine dependent"

ALGOL 58 Implementation

- Not meant to be implemented, but variations of it were (MAD, JOVIAL)
- Although IBM was initially enthusiastic, all support was dropped by mid 1959

ALGOL 60 Overview

- Modified ALGOL 58 at 6-day meeting in Paris
- New features
  - Block structure (local scope)
  - Two parameter passing methods
  - Subprogram recursion
  - Stack-dynamic arrays

  - Still no I/O and no string handling

ALGOL 60 Evaluation

- Successes
  - It was the standard way to publish algorithms for over 20 years
  - All subsequent imperative languages are based on it
  - First machine-independent language
  - First language whose syntax was formally defined (BNF)

ALGOL 60 Evaluation (continued)

- Failure
  - Never widely used, especially in U.S.
  - Reasons
    - Lack of I/O and the character set made programs non-portable
    - Too flexible--hard to implement
    - Entrenchment of Fortran
    - Formal syntax description
    - Lack of support from IBM

Computerizing Business Records: COBOL

- Environment of development
  - UNIVAC was beginning to use FLOW-MATIC
  - USAF was beginning to use AIMACO
  - IBM was developing COMTRAN

COBOL Historical Background

- Based on FLOW-MATIC
- FLOW-MATIC features
  - Names up to 12 characters, with embedded hyphens
  - English names for arithmetic operators (no arithmetic expressions)
  - Data and code were completely separate
  - The first word in every statement was a verb

COBOL Design Process

- First Design Meeting (Pentagon) – May 1959
- Design goals
  - Must look like simple English
  - Must be easy to use, even if that means it will be less powerful
  - Must broaden the base of computer users
  - Must not be biased by current compiler problems
- Design committee members were all from computer manufacturers and DoD branches
- Design Problems: arithmetic expressions? subscripts? Fights among manufacturers

COBOL Evaluation

- Contributions
  - First macro facility in a high-level language
  - Hierarchical data structures (records)
  - Nested selection statements
  - Long names (up to 30 characters), with hyphens
  - Separate data division

COBOL: DoD Influence

- First language required by DoD
  - would have failed without DoD
- Still the most widely used business applications language

The Beginning of Timesharing: Basic

- Designed by Kemeny & Kurtz at Dartmouth
- Design Goals:
  - Easy to learn and use for non-science students
  - Must be “pleasant and friendly”
  - Fast turnaround for homework
  - Free and private access
  - User time is more important than computer time
- Current popular dialect: Visual Basic
- First widely used language with time sharing
  - The time-sharing system would allow many users to log in at the same time, running programs remotely via terminals.

2.8 Everything for Everybody: PL/I

- Designed by IBM and SHARE
- Computing situation in 1964 (IBM's point of view)
  - Scientific computing
    - IBM 1620 and 7090 computers
    - FORTRAN
    - SHARE user group
  - Business computing
    - IBM 1401, 7080 computers
    - COBOL
    - GUIDE user group

PL/I: Background

- By 1963
  - Scientific users began to need more elaborate I/O, like COBOL had; business users began to need floating point and arrays for MIS
  - It looked like many shops would begin to need two kinds of computers, languages, and support staff--too costly
- The obvious solution
  - Build a new computer to do both kinds of applications
  - Design a new language to do both kinds of applications

PL/I: Design Process

- Designed in five months by the 3 X 3 Committee
  - Three members from IBM, three members from SHARE
- Initial concept
  - An extension of Fortran IV
- Initially called NPL (New Programming Language)
- Name changed to PL/I in 1965

PL/I: Evaluation

- PL/I contributions
  - First unit-level concurrency
  - First exception handling
  - Switch-selectable recursion
  - First pointer data type
  - First array cross sections
- Concerns
  - Many new features were poorly designed
  - Too large and too complex

Two Early Dynamic Languages: APL and SNOBOL

- Characterized by dynamic typing and dynamic storage allocation
- Variables are untyped
  - A variable acquires a type when it is assigned a value
- Storage is allocated to a variable when it is assigned a value

APL: A Programming Language

- Designed as a hardware description language at IBM by Ken Iverson around 1960
  - Highly expressive (many operators, for both scalars and arrays of various dimensions)
  - Programs are very difficult to read
- Still in use; minimal changes

SNOBOL

- Designed as a string manipulation language at Bell Labs by Farber, Griswold, and Polensky in 1964
- Powerful operators for string pattern matching
- Slower than alternative languages (and thus no longer used for writing editors)
- Still used for certain text processing tasks

The Beginning of Data Abstraction: SIMULA 67

- Designed primarily for system simulation in Norway by Nygaard and Dahl
- Based on ALGOL 60 and SIMULA I
- Primary Contributions
  - Coroutines – a kind of subprogram
  - Classes, objects, and inheritance

Orthogonal Design: ALGOL 68

- From the continued development of ALGOL 60 but not a superset of that language
- Source of several new ideas (even though the language itself never achieved widespread use)
- Design is based on the concept of orthogonality
  - A few basic concepts, plus a few combining mechanisms

ALGOL 68 Evaluation

- Contributions
  - User-defined data structures
  - Reference types
  - Dynamic arrays (called flex arrays)

- Comments
  - Less usage than ALGOL 60
  - Had strong influence on subsequent languages, especially Pascal, C, and Ada

Pascal - 1971

- Developed by Wirth (a former member of the ALGOL 68 committee)
- Designed for teaching structured programming
- Small, simple, nothing really new
- Largest impact was on teaching programming
  - From mid-1970s until the late 1990s, it was the most widely used language for teaching programming

C – 1972

- Designed for systems programming (at Bell Labs by Dennis Richie)
- Evolved primarily from BCLP and B, but also ALGOL 68
- Powerful set of operators, but poor type checking
- Initially spread through UNIX
- Though designed as a systems language, it has been used in many application areas

Programming Based on Logic: Prolog

- Developed, by Comerauer and Roussel (University of Aix-Marseille), with help from Kowalski (University of Edinburgh)
- Based on formal logic
- Non-procedural
- Can be summarized as being an intelligent database system that uses an inferencing process to infer the truth of given queries
- Comparatively inefficient
- Few application areas

History's Largest Design Effort: Ada

- Huge design effort, involving hundreds of people, much money, and about eight years
- Sequence of requirements (1975–1978)
  - (Strawman, Woodman, Tinman, Ironman, Steelman)
- Named Ada after Augusta Ada Byron, the first programmer

Ada Evaluation

- Contributions
  - Packages – support for data abstraction
  - Exception handling – elaborate
  - Generic program units
  - Concurrency – through the tasking model
- Comments
  - Competitive design
  - Included all that was then known about software engineering and language design
  - First compilers were very difficult; the first really usable compiler came nearly five years after the language design was completed

Ada 95

- Ada 95 (began in 1988)
  - Support for OOP through type derivation
  - Better control mechanisms for shared data
  - New concurrency features
  - More flexible libraries
- Ada 2005
  - Interfaces and synchronizing interfaces
- Popularity suffered because the DoD no longer requires its use but also because of popularity of C++

Object-Oriented Programming: Smalltalk

- Developed at Xerox PARC, initially by Alan Kay, later by Adele Goldberg
- First full implementation of an object-oriented language (data abstraction, inheritance, and dynamic binding)
- Pioneered the graphical user interface design
- Promoted OOP

Combining Imperative and Object-Oriented Programming: C++

- Developed at Bell Labs by Stroustrup in 1980
- Evolved from C and SIMULA 67
- Facilities for object-oriented programming, taken partially from SIMULA 67
- A large and complex language, in part because it supports both procedural and OO programming
- Rapidly grew in popularity, along with OOP
- ANSI standard approved in November 1997
- Microsoft's version: MC++
  - Properties, delegates, interfaces, no multiple inheritance

A Related OOP Language

- Objective-C (designed by Brad Cox – early 1980s)
  - C plus support for OOP based on Smalltalk
  - Uses Smalltalk's method calling syntax
  - Used by Apple for systems programs

An Imperative-Based Object-Oriented Language: Java

- Developed at Sun in the early 1990s
  - C and C++ were not satisfactory for embedded electronic devices
- Based on C++
  - Significantly simplified (does not include **`struct, union, enum`**, pointer arithmetic, and half of the assignment coercions of C++)
  - Supports *only* OOP
  - Has references, but not pointers
  - Includes support for applets and a form of concurrency

Java Evaluation

- Eliminated many unsafe features of C++
- Supports concurrency
- Libraries for applets, GUIs, database access
- Portable: Java Virtual Machine concept, JIT compilers
- Widely used for Web programming
- Use increased faster than any previous language
- Most recent version, 8, released in 2014

Scripting Languages for the Web

- Perl
  - Designed by Larry Wall—first released in 1987
  - Variables are statically typed but implicitly declared
  - Three distinctive namespaces, denoted by the first character of a variable's name
  - Powerful, but somewhat dangerous
  - Gained widespread use for CGI programming on the Web
  - Also used for a replacement for UNIX system administration language
- JavaScript
  - Began at Netscape, but later became a joint venture of Netscape and Sun Microsystems
  - A client-side HTML-embedded scripting language, often used to create dynamic HTML documents
  - Purely interpreted
  - Related to Java only through similar syntax
- PHP
  - PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor, designed by Rasmus Lerdorf
  - A server-side HTML-embedded scripting language, often used for form processing and database access through the Web
  - Purely interpreted

Scripting Languages for the Web

- Python
  - An OO interpreted scripting language
  - Type checked but dynamically typed
  - Used for CGI programming and form processing
  - Dynamically typed, but type checked
  - Supports lists, tuples, and hashes
- Ruby
  - Designed in Japan by Yukihiro Matsumoto (a.k.a, “Matz”)
  - Began as a replacement for Perl and Python
  - A pure object-oriented scripting language
    - All data are objects
  - Most operators are implemented as methods, which can be redefined by user code
  - Purely interpreted

Scripting Languages for the Web

- Lua
  - An OO interpreted scripting language
  - Type checked but dynamically typed
  - Used for CGI programming and form processing
  - Dynamically typed, but type checked
  - Supports lists, tuples, and hashes, all with its single data structure, the table
  - Easily extendable

The Flagship .NET Language: C#

- Part of the .NET development platform (2000)
- Based on C++ , Java, and Delphi
- Includes pointers, delegates, properties, enumeration types, a limited kind of dynamic typing, and anonymous types
- Is evolving rapidly

Markup/Programming Hybrid Languages

- XSLT
  - eXtensible Markup Language (XML): a metamarkup language
  - eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformation (XSTL) transforms XML documents for display
  - Programming constructs (e.g., looping)

- JSP
  - Java Server Pages: a collection of technologies to support dynamic Web documents
  - JSTL, a JSP library, includes programming constructs in the form of HTML elements

Summary

- Development, development environment, and evaluation of a number of important programming languages
- Perspective into current issues in language design