Loreen Henry

EPPS 6356 Data Visualization (Fall 2021)

Literate Programming

October 4, 2021

Literate programming was introduced by Donald E. Knuth, a Stanford University professor, who developed the methodology to make software easily understood by computer technology, programmers and anyone. He is known for writing *The Art of Computer Programming* during the 1960's to 1970's and more volumes are still in progress. He is also known for being the creator of the TeX computer typesetting system, a font language system in the family of computer typefaces.

Literate programming is considered to be one of the significant contributions to the technical nature of computing; it is an example of useful statistical and analytical tools and would use coding such as R or Python to make the steps more manageable. It is referred to as "unstructured programming" because it uses natural language to design computer programs and write code, combining programming language with a documentation language based on giving its logic in a natural language.

References

Knuth. Donald E. 1984. "Literate Programming." *The Computer Journal*, Volume 27, Issue 2, Pages 97–111, https://doi.org/10.1093/comjnl/27.2.97