

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES: A HISTORICAL VIEW

COBOL, JAVASCRIPT, PYTHON, FORTRAN, BASIC

1 FORTRAN

In late 1953, John W Backus proposed the idea of creating a more practical language than assembly language to his superiors at IBM (International Business Machines Corporation) for programming their IBM mainframe computer because the use of assembly language to write a code to represent complex calculations was a difficult and tiring process. IBM listened to his proposal and after 3 years in 1956, created Fortran, the worlds first programming language. It was finally released in 1957

In November 1954, the draft specifications of the IBM mathematical FORMular TRANslating system was finished. This is the first formal proposal for the language FORTRAN

In the month of October of 1956, the first manual for FORTRAN introduced

On April 1954, the first FORTRAN compiler was made

FORTRAN is mostly used by scientists and mathematicians for writing programs mostly dealing with numbers but it is not as popularly used for business purposes as opposed to COBOL

APPLICATION EXAMPLES

1. HEC-RAS U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1991 River Channel Water
2. MODFLOW USGS 1983 3D Ground-water flow model
3. ANSYS Dr. John Swanson 1970 finite element analysis, structural analysis

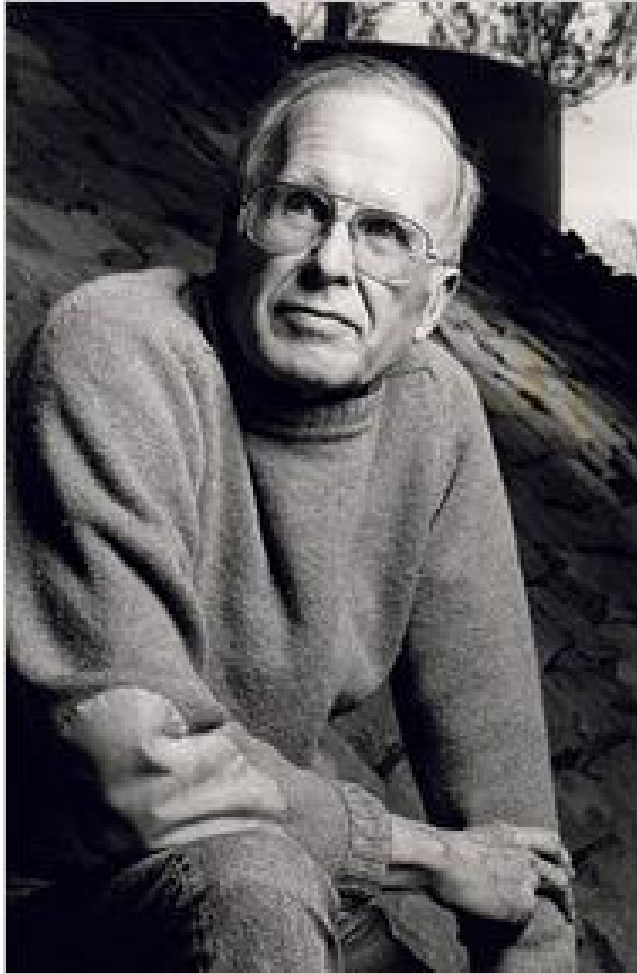


Figure 1: Image of the FORTRAN creator John W Backus

RELATED PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

1. C++
2. C
3. F sharp

AVAILABLE INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT (IDEs)

1. Eclipse-Photran Photran

2 COBOL

Cobol was designed in 1959. Grace hopper, inventor of FLOW-MATIC, CODASYL (the committee on data systems language), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) assisted in developing the language.

At that time, the cost of programming was increasing fast and becoming very expensive so on April 8 1959, Mary K Hawes called a formal meeting to address the issue on common business languages. The meeting consisted of

Grace Hoper, Saul Gorn and Jean Sammet.

They then requested for help from the department of defense (DOD) to sponsor them in making a new language for business. Charles A. Philips, director of the data system research staff at the DOD, listened and agreed with their idea and decided to sponsor them.

Cobol was designed by Grace Hopper, Norman Discount, Jean E. Sammet, Howard Bromberg, William Seldon, Gertrude Tierney, Vernon Reeves, with indirect reference to Grace Hoppers FLOW-MATIC



Grace Hopper

APPLICATIONS

COBOL is used in finance, business, and administrative systems for companies and governments

SIMILAR LANGUAGES

1. Python
2. C
3. Java

3 PYTHON

Python, arguably the most commonly used programming language, was developed later in the 1980s by Guido van Rossum at Centrum Wiskunde and

Informatica (CWI) in Netherland. Guido van Rossum, who helped in developing the ABC programming language, decided that ABC had some issues but he liked most of its features so he decided to fix the issues it had and create a better scripting language. He named the new and improved language Python gotten from a show he really liked called 'Monty Python's Flying Circus'. The language was then released in 1991



Guido Van Rossum

APPLICATIONS

1. Dropbox
2. Django
3. Scify
4. Flask

Similar languages

1. JavaScript
2. Java
3. PHP
4. Anaconda

IDE

- PyCharm
- Integrated Development Environment IDLE
- Spyder
- Eclipse

4 JavaScript

JavaScript was created in 1995 by Brendan Eich while he was at Netscape Communications. In 1994, Netscape Navigator was released and quickly became a very popular browser. Then, only static webpages were possible so to fix that, they added a scripting language to their Navigator. Netscape then hired Brendan Eich to create a new language less like other languages and similar to Java. It was first called LiveScript but then changed to JavaScript.



Brendan Eich

APPLICATIONS

1. Candy Crush
2. Facebook
3. linkedIn

SIMILAR LANGUAGES

1. Python
2. Java
3. Typescript
4. Ruby

IDEs

1. WebStorm
2. Eclipse
3. NetBeans
4. Komodo Edit

5 BASIC

BASIC (Beginners' All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code) was created by Thomas Eugene Kurtz and John George Kemeny who were mathematicians at Dartmouth to help teach undergraduates in the mid 1960s. It was developed to allow students to write simple computer programs and was initially based on FORTRAN II Dartmouth and Kurtzas developed a time sharing system called

Dartmouth time sharing system DTSS for short. They then simplified the interface so that it could be easily used by students but since writing programs want easy Kurtzas tried simplifying existing languages until they came to the conclusion to create a completely new language. That's how BASIC came to be.



Thomas Eugene Kurtz
and John George Kemeny

APPLICATIONS

- Microsoft Basic
- BASIC A+

SIMILAR LANGUAGES

- Gambas
- FreeBasic
- 83 PureBasic
- QB64

IDEs

- Geany
- Microsoft
- Visual c++
- MonoDevelop
- SharpDevelop



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