

The History Behind Software Bugs

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What is a bug?

A bug in programming is described as:

"An error, flaw or fault in a computer program or system that causes it to produce an incorrect or unexpected result, or to behave in unintended ways – Wikipedia."

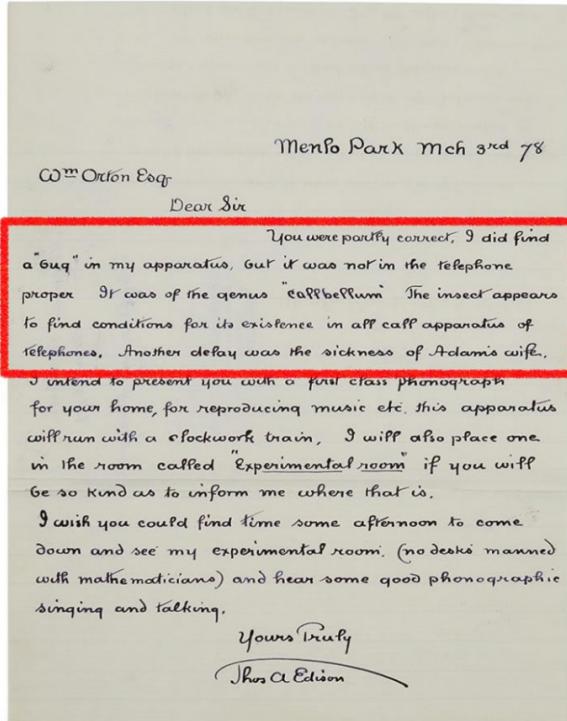
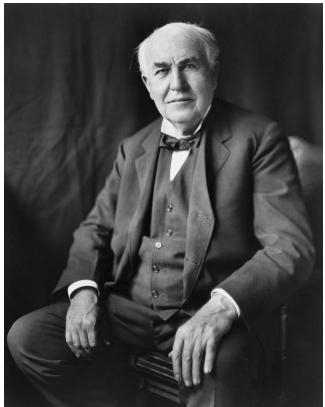
A bug can be

"anything from an infinite loop to a division by zero to using an uninitialised variable!"

These examples go to show how just a simple overlook could mean unwanted behaviours in your code.



Mechanical Malfunctions



- 1870 > Thomas Edison
- Mechanical malfunctions in hardware engineering



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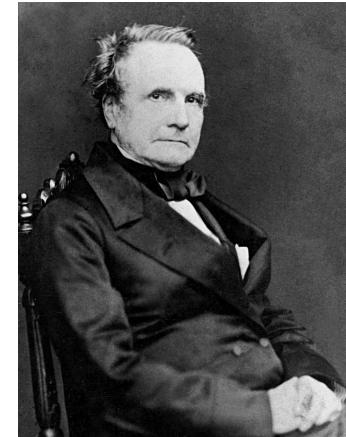
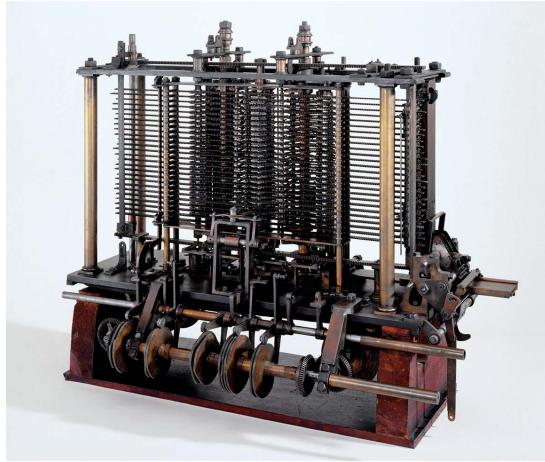
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Dept. CUK, Jackson Blvd. at Desplaines St., CHICAGO, ILL.





Actual bug

9/9

0800 Antran started

1000 " stopped - antran ✓ { 1.2700 9.037 847 025
13"cc (03) MP - MC 1.9821 9.037 846 995 connect
(03) PRO-2 2.13047645
cosine 2.13067645
Relays 6-2 in 033 failed special speed test
in relay Relay 2145
Relay changed Relay 3376

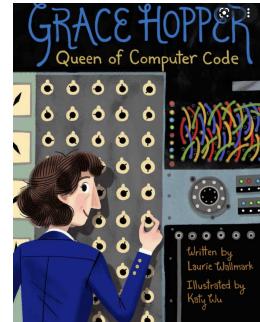
1100 Started Cosine Tape (Sine check)

1525 Started Multi Adder Test.

1545 Relay #70 Panel F
(moth) in relay.

1600 First actual case of bug being found.
antran started.

1700 closed down.



From Insects to disasters

