

Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. Programming languages are essential for software development. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL). Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Allen Downey, in his book *How To Think Like A Computer Scientist*, writes: Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.