

The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems. 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. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. There are many approaches to the Software development process. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Programming languages are essential for software development. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. These compiled languages allow the programmer to write programs in terms that are syntactically richer, and more capable of abstracting the code, making it easy to target varying machine instruction sets via compilation declarations and heuristics. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.