

Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit. 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. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. 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. 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. However, readability is more than just programming style. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. However, readability is more than just programming style. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the *Book of Ingenious Devices*. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.