Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. 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. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. 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. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. 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. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. 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. Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly. 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. 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Programming languages are essential for software development. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. There are many approaches to the Software development process. Programmable devices have existed for centuries.