

Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. 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. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). 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. 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. 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. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. 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. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. 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. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.