

It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code. 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. 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. Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code. 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. 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. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code. While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line. 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.