Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. However, readability is more than just programming style. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. 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. Programming languages are essential for software development. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. 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. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. 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. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. 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. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.