Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Programming languages are essential for software development. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. 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. 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. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. 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. 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. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. 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. 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. 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. 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. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.