Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. However, readability is more than just programming style. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL). Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). 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.