

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). This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. 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. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. 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. 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. Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display. 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. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. 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. Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries.