

Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Their jobs usually involve: Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Their jobs usually involve: Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. 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). Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.