

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, 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability. Computer programmers are those who write computer software. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. 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. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). Programming languages are essential for software development. 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). 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. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. 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. For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. 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. Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.