

Programmable devices have existed for centuries. The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms). Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. However, readability is more than just programming style. The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. Programming languages are essential for software development. 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.