

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. 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. 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. These compiled languages allow the programmer to write programs in terms that are syntactically richer, and more capable of abstracting the code, making it easy to target varying machine instruction sets via compilation declarations and heuristics. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. 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. 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. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. 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. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. 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. 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.