

Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances. 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. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. 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). Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. 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. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. 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. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. 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.