Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. 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. 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. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability. Auxiliary tasks accompanying and related to programming include analyzing requirements, testing, debugging (investigating and fixing problems), implementation of build systems, and management of derived artifacts, such as programs' machine code. Some of these factors include: The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills.

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. 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. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. There are many approaches to the Software development process. 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. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA. 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. 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.