

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. However, readability is more than just programming style. 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. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. 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. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. 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. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties. 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. 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. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. 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*. Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. 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. 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 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. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.