

Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. 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). By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages. 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. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm. 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. Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. 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. 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. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. 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. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.