

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. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. 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. Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. 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). Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). There are many approaches to the Software development process. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries.