

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. Programming languages are essential for software development. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. However, readability is more than just programming style. Following a consistent programming style often helps readability. This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. 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. High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware. 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. Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards. 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. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming 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). Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. 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.