Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users..  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
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.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research.  
  
 Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.