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.  
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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
Programming involves tasks such as analysis, generating algorithms, profiling algorithms' accuracy and resource consumption, and the implementation of algorithms (usually in a particular programming language, commonly referred to as coding).  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine 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).  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.