Programming languages are essential for software development.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
The purpose of programming is to find a sequence of instructions that will automate the performance of a task (which can be as complex as an operating system) on a computer, often for solving a given problem.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
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.  
Relatedly, software engineering combines engineering techniques and principles with software development.  
The following properties are among the most important:  
  
 In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.