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Cyberscience: Computational Science and the Rise of the Fourth Paradigm



Please see original comic regarding programming at
<http://abstrusegoose.com/secret-archives/under-the-hood>.

Honors 352, Class #0.9

August E. (Gus) Evrard, PhD

Fall 2010



open

image removed

Please see original image of a comic on the birth of the ENIAC at <http://abstrusegoose.com/17>.

1945: the original computer bug!

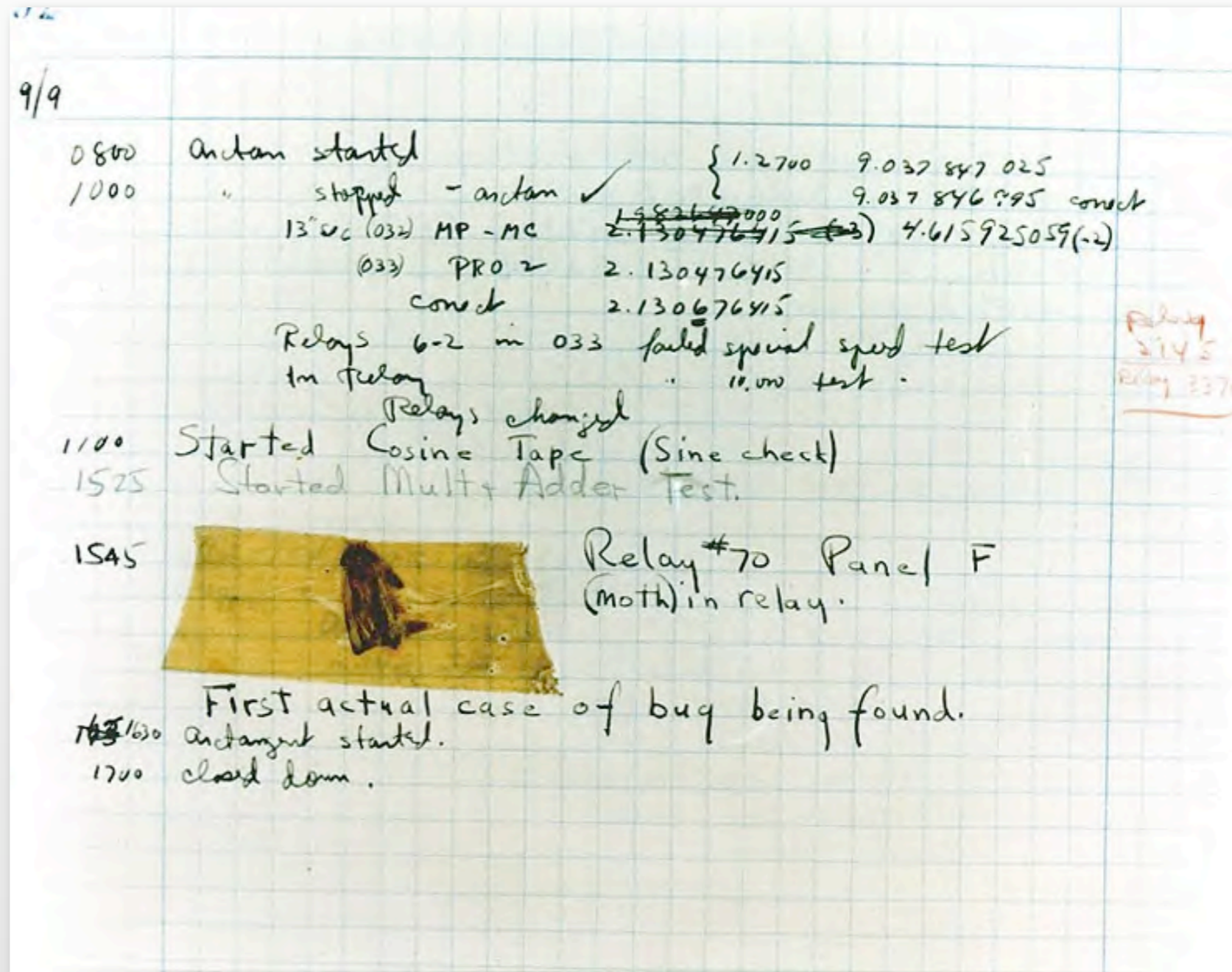
The First "Computer Bug" Moth found trapped between points at Relay # 70, Panel F, of the Mark II Aiken Relay Calculator while it was being tested at Harvard University, 9 September 1947. The operators affixed the moth to the computer log, with the entry: "First actual case of bug being found". They put out the word that they had "debugged" the machine, thus introducing the term "debugging a computer program". In 1988, the log, with the moth still taped by the entry, was in the Naval Surface Warfare Center Computer Museum at Dahlgren, Virginia, which erroneously dated it 9 September 1945. The Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History and other sources have the correct date of 9 September 1947 (Object ID: 1994.0191.01). The Harvard Mark II computer was not complete until the summer of 1947.

Removed caption read: Photo # NH 96566-KB
First Computer "Bug", 1945

9 September 1947(1947-09-09)

U.S. Naval Historical Center Online Library
Photograph NH 96566-KN

Courtesy of the Naval Surface Warfare Center,
Dahlgren, VA., 1988.



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last week's processing lab

* processing web site: processing.org

* wikipedia entries on programming

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_programming

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Programming_paradigm#History

* Hackers and Painters essay by Paul Graham

today

- * group project proposals

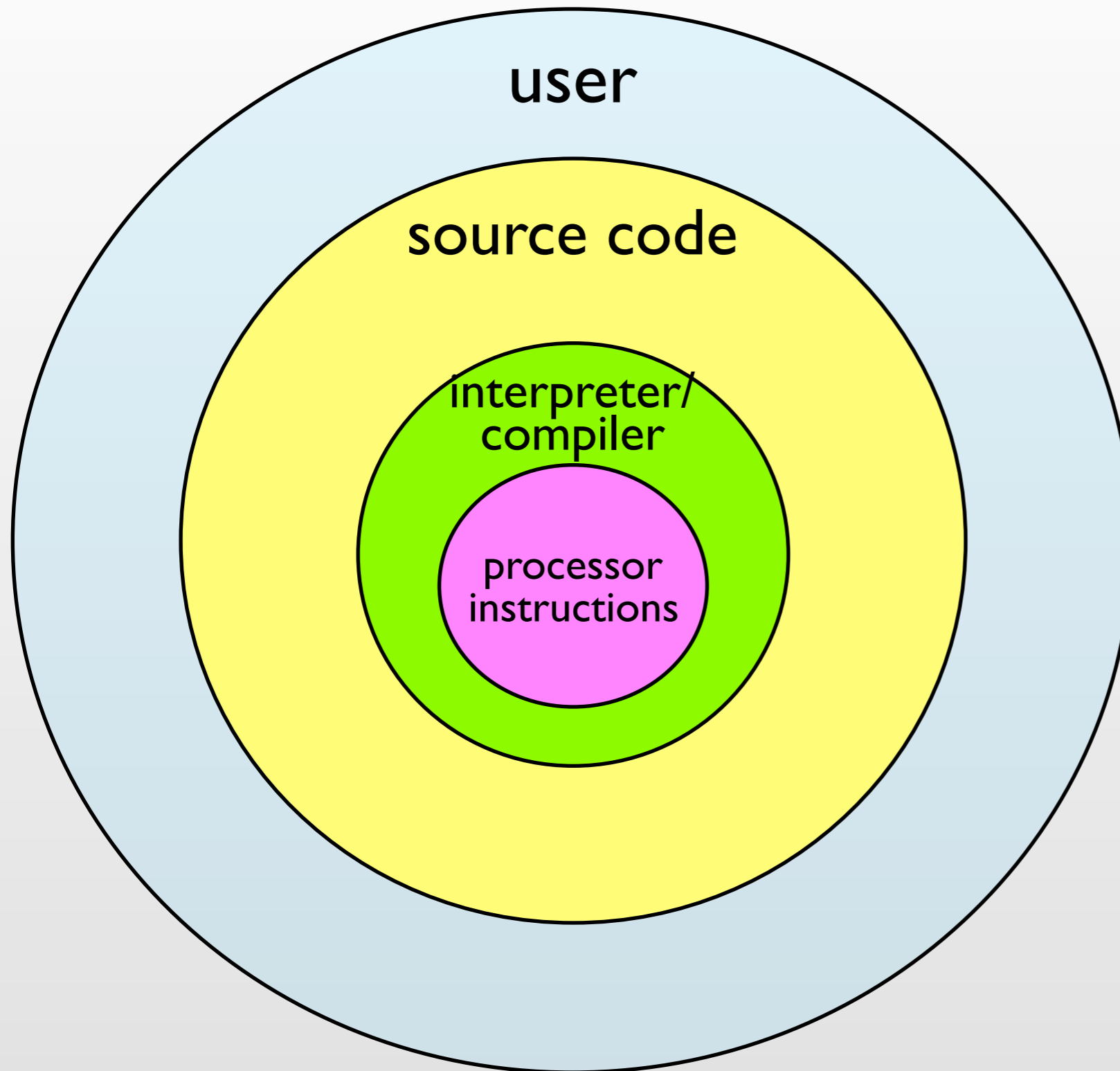
(if time - continue on Thursday)

- * review of processing lab posts

- * lecture: a brief history of programming

- * Thursday: reading quiz on-line (9am-11:55pm)

software as human-cpu interface



– user needs to instruct cpu

1940' s: write processor
(assembly) code directly

– 'high-level' codes emerge
to offer layers

1950' s: FORTRAN, BASIC
compiler translates

human-readable code into
machine instructions

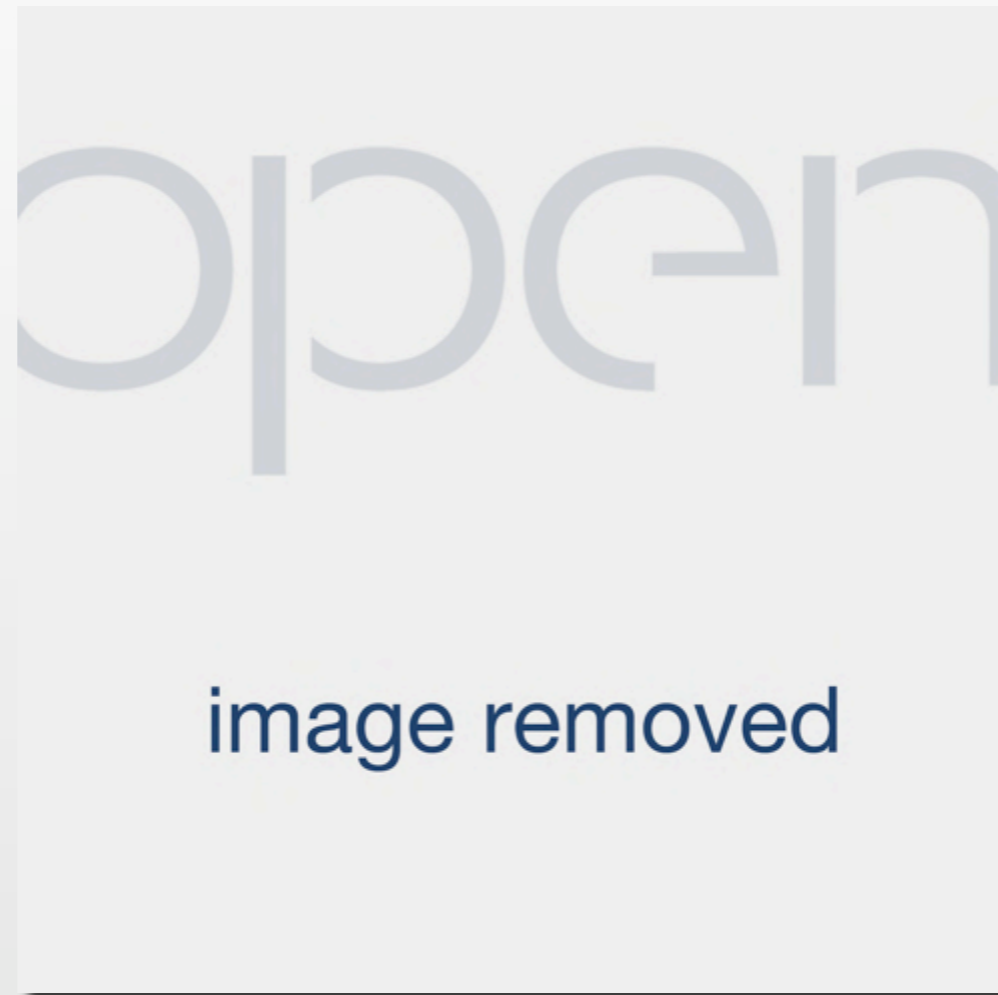
– time sharing /multi-tasking

1960' s: MIT' s CTSS

interleave tasks from
multiple users

memory and i/o device
management

1962: Michigan's MAD compiler



Please see original quote regarding the Michigan Algorithm Decoder at <http://www.multicians.org/thvv/7094.html>.

unix is born

- * 1964: Multics (Multiplexed Information and Computing Service) is overambitious failure
- * K.Thomson and Dennis Ritchie (Bell Labs) build UNICS (Uniplexed Information and Computing Services) with a decidedly anti-bloat perspective,
“build small neat things instead of grandiose ones.”

four original elements: *kernel, shell, editor, assembler*

Please see original image of Bell logos at http://www.porticus.org/bell/bell_logos.html

- * early 1970' s: Unix spreads within AT&T
- * founding philosophy
 - Write programs that do one thing and do it well.
 - Write programs that work together.
 - Write programs that handle text streams because that is a universal interface.

linux and open source software

- * 1978: Bill Joy (Sun Microsystems founder) packages Berkeley Software Distribution (BSD) unix
 - enhanced editor (ex) and Pascal compiler
 - sends 30 free copies to other universities, labs

News spread around the Unix community about Bill Joy's Pascal system. As requests for the software arrived at Berkeley, Joy put together a package of tools and utilities he called the Berkeley Software Distribution, which later came to be known as BSD. Joy sent out in 1978 about thirty free copies of the software, which included the Pascal system and the ex text editor. As Peter Salus says, the essential elements of a collaborative culture as well as a primitive mechanism for software sharing and creation were now in place:

Something was created at BTL. It was distributed in source form. A user in the UK created something from it. Another user in California improved on both the original and the UK version. It was distributed to the community at cost. The improved version was incorporated into the next BTL release.

© FAIR USE Success of Open Source, pg 31.

- * 1980's: AT&T vs. BSD unix
 - \$100,000 annual license vs. "free" ???*
- * 1988: Open Software Foundation (OSF) fails to overcome AT&T monopoly but seeds cooperative era
- * 1991: Linus Torvalds releases **linux** shared programming development model
 - voluntary participation and voluntary selection of tasks*
- 1994: v1.0 release (today: v2.6.36 <http://www.linux.org/>)



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free software foundation and GPL

* 1984: Richard Stallman resigns from MIT, partly over inability to fix a XEROX printer

– starts backlash against proprietary software

kind of society you lived in as the technology you used. Proprietary software ran directly against the moral sentiments of a decent society. Stallman did not (and does not) accept the prior assumptions behind standard intellectual property rights arguments, about human motivations to create. Traditional, exclusionary property rights do not incentivize people to write good software, as mainstream intellectual property rights law would have it. Rather, imposing traditional property rights on software makes "pirates" out of neighbors who want to help each other. In this guise law effectively forbids the realization of a cooperating community.²⁹ Proprietary software was something to be opposed because it was a moral bad, regardless of whether it might in some cases be a practical good.

© FAIR USE Please see original quote from the book, [Success of Open Source](#), pg. 47.

* Stallman establishes Free Software Foundation

builds GNU = GNU's Not Unix

* GNU Public License (GPL)

copyleft : codes derived from GPL'ed code must also be GPL'ed

free software 'infects' other software with its licensing terms



GNU meaning of “free”

The Free Software Definition

We maintain this free software definition to show clearly what must be true about a particular software program for it to be considered free software. From time to time we revise this definition to clarify it. If you would like to review the changes we've made, please see the [History section](#) below for more information.

“Free software” is a matter of liberty, not price. To understand the concept, you should think of “free” as in “free speech,” not as in “free beer.”

Free software is a matter of the users' freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software. More precisely, it means that the program's users have the four essential freedoms:

- The freedom to run the program, for any purpose (freedom 0).
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 1). Access to the source code is a precondition for this.
- The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor (freedom 2).
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3). By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

software encodes algorithms

* scientific computing has many common tasks

sorting

matrix inversion

special function evaluation

solving roots of equations

spectral analysis (Fast Fourier Transform)

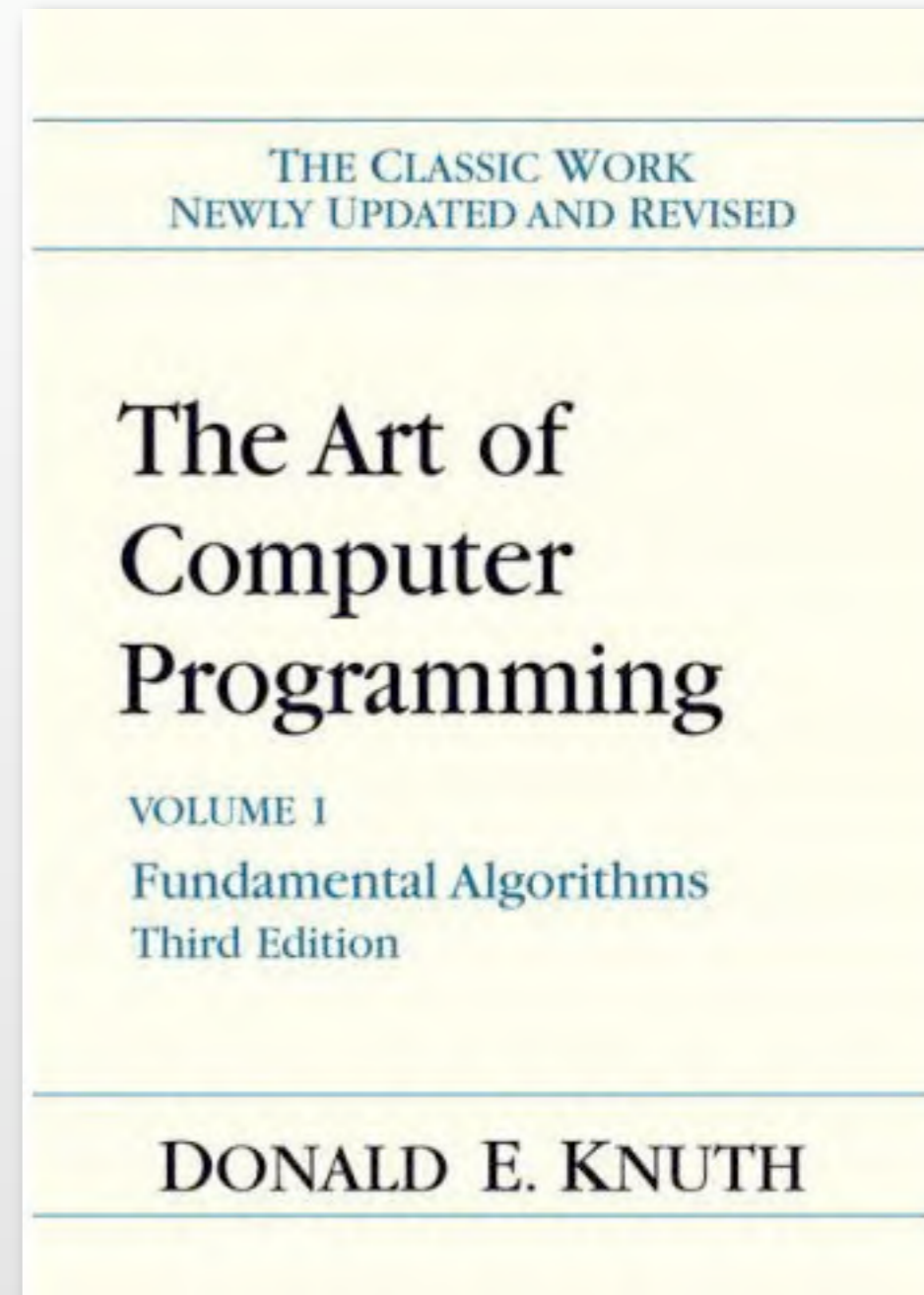
...

good software encodes these functions in a modular (flexible) manner

* practical implementations vary in style

choice of programming language

speed vs. accuracy constraints



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The Art of Programming is in mapping the algorithm to a particular situation in a manner that maximizes return while minimizing cost.

imperative vs. functional styles

Coding styles

[edit]

Imperative programs tend to emphasize the series of steps taken by a program in carrying out an action, while functional programs tend to emphasize the composition and arrangement of functions, often without specifying explicit *steps*. A simple example illustrates this with two solutions to the same programming goal (calculating [Fibonacci numbers](#)) using the same multi-paradigm language [Python](#).

```
# Fibonacci numbers, imperative style
N=10

first = 0    # seed value fibonacci(0)
second = 1   # seed value fibonacci(1)
fib_number = first + second    # calculate fibonacci(2)
for position in range(N-2):    # iterate N-2 times to give Fibonacci number N (for N > 2)
    first = second             # update the value of the two 'previous' variables
    second = fib_number
    fib_number = first + second # update the result value to fibonacci(position)
print fib_number
```

A functional version has a different feel to it:

```
# Fibonacci numbers, functional style
def fibonacci(N): # Fibonacci number N (for N >= 0)
    if N <= 1: return N    # base cases
    else: return fibonacci(N-1) + fibonacci(N-2) # recursively calculate fibonacci(N)

print fibonacci(10)
```

The imperative style describes the intermediate steps involved in calculating `fibonacci(N)`, and places those steps inside a [loop statement](#). In contrast, the functional style describes the mathematical equation that defines a `fibonacci(N)` number with respect previous numbers in the Fibonacci sequence, where intermediate calculation steps are calculated using [recursion](#).

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Chapter 2 Software Basics



A program is a set of computer instructions that perform a particular task. That program can be written in assembler, a very low level computer language, or in a high level, machine independent language such as the C programming language. An operating system is a special program which allows the user to run applications such as spreadsheets and word processors. This chapter introduces basic programming principles and gives an overview of the aims and functions of an operating system.

2.1 Computer Languages

2.1.1 Assembly Languages

The instructions that a CPU fetches from memory and executes are not at all understandable to human beings. They are machine codes which tell the computer precisely what to do. The hexadecimal number *0x89E5* is an Intel 80486 instruction which copies the contents of the ESP register to the EBP register. One of the first software tools invented for the earliest computers was an assembler, a program which takes a human readable source file and assembles it into machine code. Assembly languages explicitly handle registers and operations on data and they are specific to a particular microprocessor. The assembly language for an Intel X86 microprocessor is very different to the assembly language for an Alpha AXP microprocessor. The following Alpha AXP assembly code shows the sort of operations that a program can perform:

```
ldr r16, (r15)      ; Line 1
ldr r17, 4(r15)     ; Line 2
beq r16,r17,100     ; Line 3
str r17, (r15)      ; Line 4
100:                ; Line 5
```

The first statement (on line 1) loads register 16 from the address held in register 15. The next instruction loads register 17

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Please see original image of screenshot of the Linux Kernel website at <http://en.tldp.org/LDP/tlk/tlk.html>.

tiobe.com ranking of computer languages

Ratings

The ratings are calculated by counting hits of the most popular search engines. The search query that is used is

+"<language> programming"

This search query is executed for the top 6 websites of Alexa that meet the following conditions:

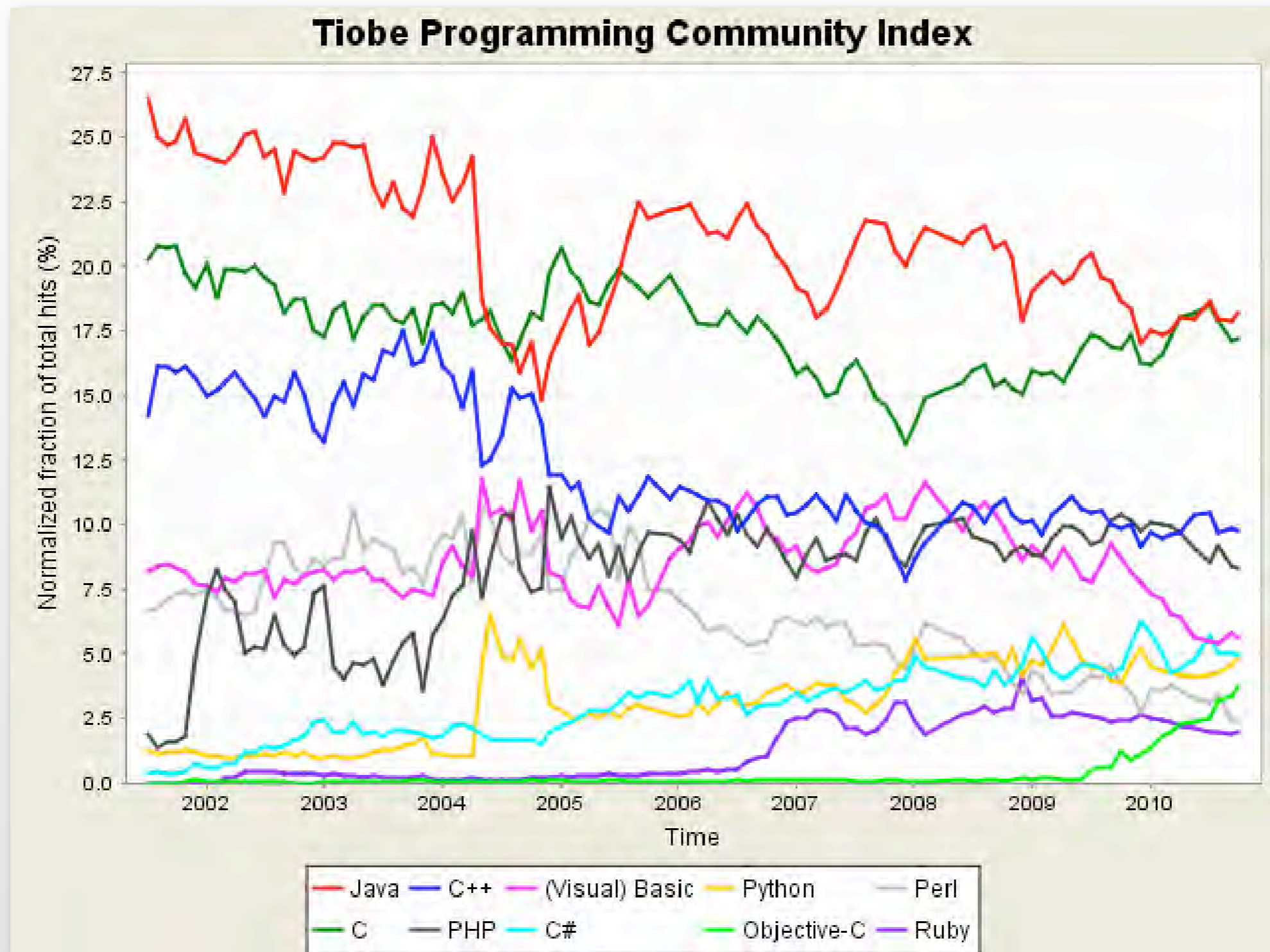
- * The entry page of the site contains a search facility
- * The result of querying the site contains an indication of the number of page hits

Based on these criteria currently Google, YouTube, Yahoo!, Live, Wikipedia and Blogger are used as search engines. Baidu should be part of this well but the TIOBE index calculator is not capable yet of dealing with Chinese characters. This facility will be added soon.

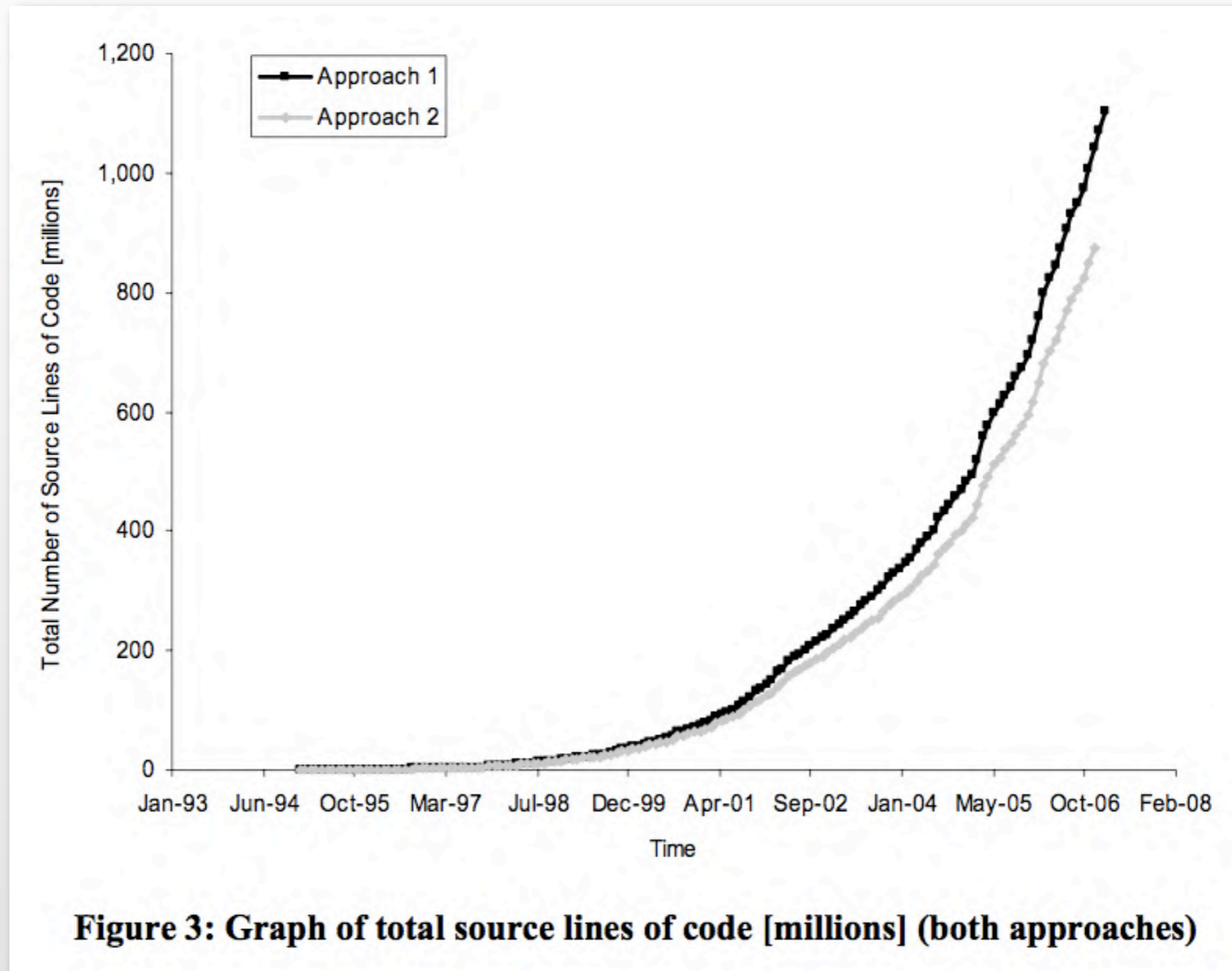
The number of hits determine the ratings of a language.

Position Oct 2010	Position Oct 2009	Delta in Position	Programming Language	Ratings Oct 2010	Delta Oct 2009	Status
1	1	=	Java	18.166%	-0.48%	A
2	2	=	C	17.177%	+0.33%	A
3	4	↑	C++	9.802%	-0.08%	A
4	3	↓	PHP	8.323%	-2.03%	A
5	5	=	(Visual) Basic	5.650%	-3.04%	A
6	6	=	C#	4.963%	+0.55%	A
7	7	=	Python	4.860%	+0.96%	A
8	12	↑↑↑↑	Objective-C	3.706%	+2.54%	A
9	8	↓	Perl	2.310%	-1.45%	A
10	10	=	Ruby	1.941%	-0.51%	A
11	9	↓↓	JavaScript	1.659%	-1.37%	A
12	11	↓	Delphi	1.558%	-0.58%	A
13	17	↑↑↑↑	Lisp	1.084%	+0.48%	A-
14	24	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Transact-SQL	0.820%	+0.42%	A-
15	15	=	Pascal	0.771%	+0.10%	A-
16	18	↑↑	RPG (OS/400)	0.708%	+0.12%	A-
17	29	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Ada	0.704%	+0.40%	A--
18	14	↓↓↓	SAS	0.664%	-0.14%	B
19	19	=	MATLAB	0.627%	+0.05%	B
20	-	↑↑↑↑↑↑↑↑	Go	0.626%	+0.63%	B

tiobe.com rank trends



growth of open source is ~exponential



~ | 1999 list from UM CIS 400

The Language Guide

Click on a language to find out more about it:

[Ada](#)
[Algol](#)
[APL](#)
[awk](#)
[Basic](#)
[C](#)
[C++](#)
[Cobol](#)
[Delphi](#)
[Eiffel](#)
[Euphoria](#)
[Forth](#)
[Fortran](#)
[HTML](#)
[Icon](#)
[Java](#)
[Javascript](#)
[Lisp](#)
[Logo](#)
[Mathematica](#)



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[Miranda](#)
[Modula-2](#)
[Oberon](#)
[Pascal](#)
[Perl](#)
[PL/I](#)
[Prolog](#)
[Python](#)
[Rexx](#)
[SAS](#)
[Scheme](#)
[sed](#)
[Simula](#)
[Smalltalk](#)
[Snobol](#)
[SQL](#)
[Visual Basic](#)
[Visual C++](#)
[XML](#)

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Slide 3: Please see original comic regarding programming at <http://abstrusegoose.com/secret-archives/under-the-hood>.

Slide 4: Please see original image of a comic on the birth of the ENIAC at <http://abstrusegoose.com/17>.

Slide 5, Quote (left): United States Navy

Slide 5, Image (right): United States Navy

Slide 8: A. E. Evrard, University of Michigan

Slide 9: Please see original quote regarding the Michigan Algorithm Decoder at <http://www.multicians.org/thvv/7094.html>.

Slide 10: Please see original image of Bell logos at http://www.porticus.org/bell/bell_logos.html

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Slide 14: The Art of Computer Programming, by Donald Knuth

Slide 15: "Functional Programming," Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Functional_programming, CC: BY-SA 3.0, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>.

Slide 16: Please see original image of screenshot of the Linux Kernel website at <http://en.tldp.org/LDP/tlk/tlk.html>.

Slide 17: "TIOBE Programming Community Index for September 2011," Tiobe, <http://www.tiobe.com/index.php/content/paperinfo/tpci/index.html>

Slide 18: "TIOBE Programming Community Index for September 2011," Tiobe, <http://www.tiobe.com/index.php/content/paperinfo/tpci/index.html>

Slide 19: Amit Deshpande and Dirk Riehle, "The Total Growth of Open Source," <http://dirkriehle.com/2008/03/14/the-total-growth-of-open-source/>

Slide 20: "The Language Guide," <http://groups.engin.umd.umich.edu/CIS/course.des/cis400/>