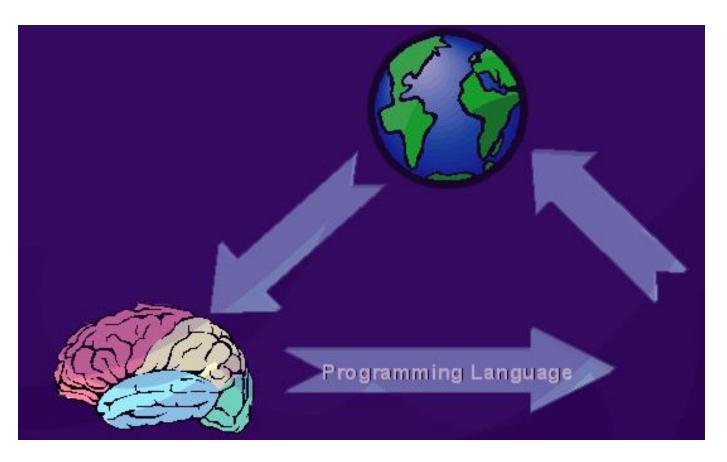
What is a programming language?



What is a programming language?

- Abstraction of virtual machine

```
int sum(int[] x) {
  int sum = 0;
  n = 0;
  while (n < x.length) {
    sum += x[n];
}
return sum;
}</pre>
00101010101010
11101010101010
00101010101010
...
```

What is a programming language?

-Donald Knuth:

>> Programming is the art of telling another human being what one wants the computer to do

```
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}
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}</pre>
00101010101010
11101010101110
00101010101010
...
```

Why program?

- ■Computer Programmable machine designed to follow instructions
- ■Program instructions in computer memory to make it do something
- ■Programmer person who writes instructions (programs) to make computer perform a task

So, without programmers, no program; without programs, computer cannot do anything

Programs and Programming Languages

- ■Program A sets of instructions to a computer to perform a task
- ■Programming Language a language used to write programs

Programming Languages Generations

- •Programming languages are characterized from what computer do and how close they are to what people do.
 - First generation machine language
 - ➤ Second generation assembly language
 - ➤ Third generation Language that use interpreter and compiler to translate to machine language
 - ➤ Fourth generation language that closer to human language

Programming Languages Generations

- •First and second generation:
 - Low-level: used for communication with computer hardware directly. Often written in binary machine code directly
- Third and Fourth generation:
 - High-level: Closer to human language

Programming Languages Generations

•Interpreter:

- a translator which translates one line of source code and instructs the computer to perform the result before translating another line of source code.

Compiler:

- a translator which translates all the source code and produce a complete machine language program.

First language

Ada Lovelace and Babbage and its nephew were writing programs for the project of difference engine, then the analytical engine, of Babbage.

In 1945, the german K. Zuse, inventor of the Z3 computer would have defined an evolved language for this engine (with arrays and records). Few documents on this language exist.

Assembly

Assemblers exist since the begin of computers. They associate a symbolic name to the machine-language code, for example:
add bx, 4
cmp [adr], 3
jmp address

Assembly programming is not longer frequently practiced, even for fast routines...

Autocoder - 1952

Alick E Glennie

This is a symbolic code.

IPL - 1956

Information Processing Language

A Newell, H Simon, JC Shaw

Low-level list processing language.

Fortran - 1954-1958

FORmula TRANslator system

John Backus and other researchers at IBM.

Language dedicated to mathematical calculations.

Lisp - 1958-1960

LISt Processing

Mac Carthy

Funtional language for list processing.

Algol - 1960 / Algol W - 1966 / Algol 68

ALGOrithmic Language

Defined by an international consortium of computer science specialists.

(no compiler found)

This was the fist universal language to be machine independent.

Cobol - 1960

COmmon Business Oriented Language.

Defined by a committee, the CODASYL, COnference on DAta SY systems Languages.

The committee under the Department Of Defense with manufacturers, universities and users, worked from May 1959 to April 1960.

Cobol - 1960

Classical procedural language aimed at enterprise management, in which a program is divided in 4 divisions: identification, environment, data, procedure, and they may be divided in sections. It was founded on data and a program must describe precisely the hardware and input/output data format.

It introduced the RECORD data structure.

APL - 1964

A Programming Language

K Iverson.

Language using a mathematical notation, with lot of operators. A unique type, the array. Defined from 1957 to 1960, implemented in 1964.

Basic - 1964

Beginner's All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code

John Kemeny, Thomas Kurtz

Has been designed in 1963, to be easy to learn and has been implemented in 1964.

Basic - 1964

Bill Gate and Paul Allen have win an international contest by designing and implementing a fast and compact Basic.

Micro-computers were delivered with Basic in ROM until late 80.

Iswim - 1965

If You See What I Mean.

P. Landin

First purely functional language, in the mathematical sense. The first to use LAZY EVALUATION.

CPL

Combined Programming Language.

Cambridge and London Universities.

This was a combination of Algol 60 and functional language aimed at proof of theorems.

Complex, was not implemented. It was a step toward the design of the C language.

BCPL - 1965

Basic CPL.

Martin Richards

It has been intended to be a simplified version of CPL. Was using these control structures: FOR, LOOP, IF THEN, WHILE, UNTIL, REPEAT, REPEAT WHILE, SWITCH CASE, etc...

Pascal - 1970

Named from Blaise Pascal, french mathematician.

Niklaus Wirth.

Language aimed to ease the building of compilers, and to lead teaching by forcing to a structured programming.

C - 1973

C is the successor of B, which is the successor of BCPL.

Dennis Ritchie.

It was firstly destinated to program the UNIX operating system, but has become quickly universal thanks to its portability and speed.

Sql - 1970+

Standard Query Language

IBM

Language of query for relational databases. Successor of the Square language.

Awk - 1974

From the first letters of authors' names.

Aho, Kerninghan, Weinberger

Word processing language based on regular expressions, using a pattern-action principle.

Ada - 1980+

From the nickname of Ada Byron de Lovelace, first woman to program.

Designed by a committee.

Inspirated by Pascal and Algol W. Rather heavy. Introduces GENERICITY of algorithms and a kind of primitive object orientation, but will become really object oriented later.

Introduces PACKAGES, that are independent modules.

$$C++ 1981-1986$$

Bjarne Stroustrup.

Object oriented version of C.
Introduces OPERATOR OVERLOADING.
Methods may be inline.

Further, multiple inheritance and template (generic classes or functions) has been implemented.

Java - 1994

Java (coffee)

James Gosling and other programmers at Sun

Conceived at the beginning, in 1991, as an interactive language named Oak, was unsuccessful. But in 1994 has been rewritten for Internet and renamed Java.

PHP - 1995

Personal Home Pages Hypertext Processor

Rasmus Lerdorf

Multi-platform scripting language, embedded inside Html.

Scriptol - 2001

Scriptwriter Oriented Language

Denis Sureau

The most recent, the most powerful among procedural languages. Scriptol is either compiled in PHP or in C++ or native, giving it a great portability. It is both a language for applications, for scripting and to make dynamic web pages.

THE FUTURE

Some trends:

Scripting languages

- Several modern scripting languages offer a simple, natural syntax: NetRexx, Ruby, Python, Scriptol. Python is the most widely used for now. Scriptol just starts.

THE FUTURE

Internet languages

- These languages allows to embed code inside html page and thus to combine statements and data. Php, Asp, JavaScript are the most used ones. Future plateforms as .Net will allow any language to be embedded into data.

THE FUTURE

Markup languages

- The most recent trend is to turn xml documents into executables.
- Starting with version 4.1, scriptol embeds xml into scriptol sources as a data structure, that is usable by any statement in the source. That's is a next step beyond object-oriented programming.

THE FUTURE

- There are at least two projects to define statement as xml tags belong data and execute the xml code with an interpreter. SuperX++ and Steam-Water that uses conciseXML a simplified superset of xml and currently it has a Java interpreter (slow).

Conclusion

The .Net or compatible platforms will ease to put code inside data, but xml may be an alternative. C# will be a leader language of such platform at start, but its success will come that programmers are used with the C++ and Java syntax. As the platform allows to use any language with common resources, it will permit new and powerful languages to emerge. Other trends are higher level for languages, in programming by aspects, or by schemas with uml and further concepts.