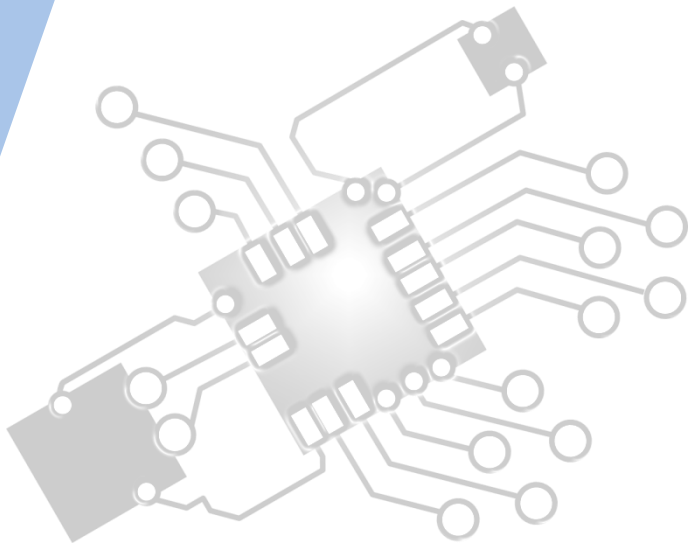
Computational thinking, problem-solving and programming: Introduction to programming

IB Computer Science



Content developed by
Dartford Grammar School
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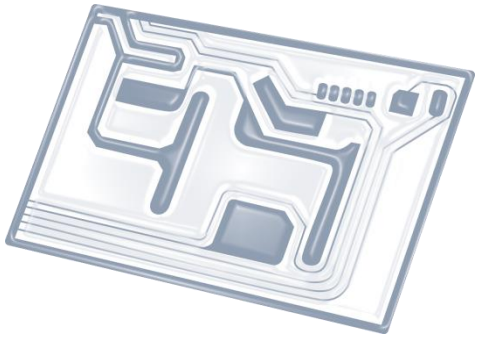
HL Topics 1-7, D1-4



1: System design

2: Computer Organisation

3: Networks

4: Computational thinking

5: Abstract data structures

6: Resource management

7: Control

D: OOP

HL & SL 4.3 Overview

Nature of programming languages

4.3.1 State the fundamental operations of a computer

4.3.2 Distinguish between fundamental and compound operations of a computer

4.3.3 Explain the essential features of a computer language

4.3.4 Explain the need for higher level languages

4.3.5 Outline the need for a translation process from a higher level language to machine executable code

Use of programming languages

4.3.6 Define the terms: variable, constant, operator, object

4.3.7 Define the operators =, ., <, <=, >, >=, mod, div

4.3.8 Analyse the use of variables, constants and operators in algorithms

4.3.9 Construct algorithms using loops, branching

4.3.10 Describe the characteristics and applications of a collection

4.3.11 Construct algorithms using the access methods of a collection

4.3.12 Discuss the need for sub-programmes and collections within programmed solutions

4.3.13 Construct algorithms using predefined sub-programmes, one-dimensional arrays and/or collections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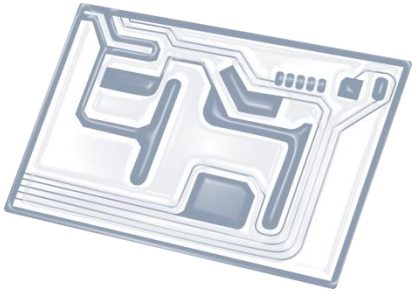
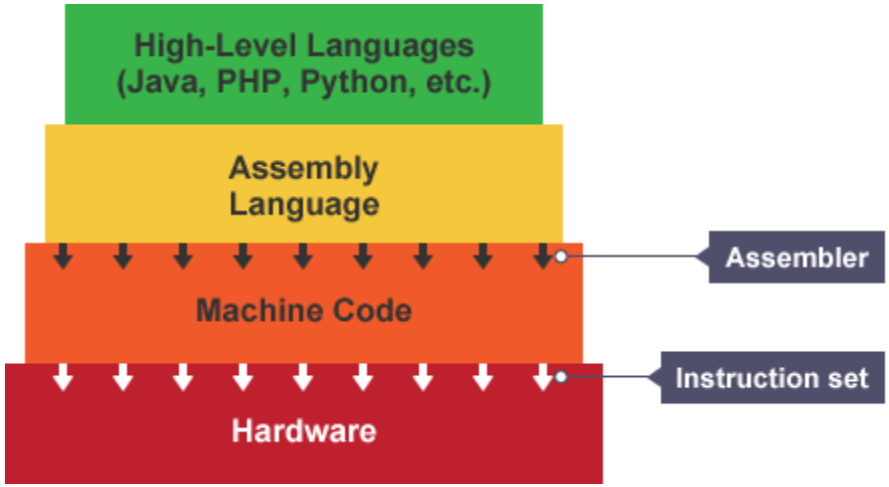


Topic 4.3.5

Outline the need for a **translation** process from a higher level language to machine executable code



```
age = int (input
      ("Enter your age: ") )

      if age < 17:
            print ("You are too young
                  to drive")
      else:
            print ("You are able to drive")
```

Program is written in high level language

Translator program

0	1	0	1		1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0		0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1		1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0		0	1	0	0

Machine code is produced

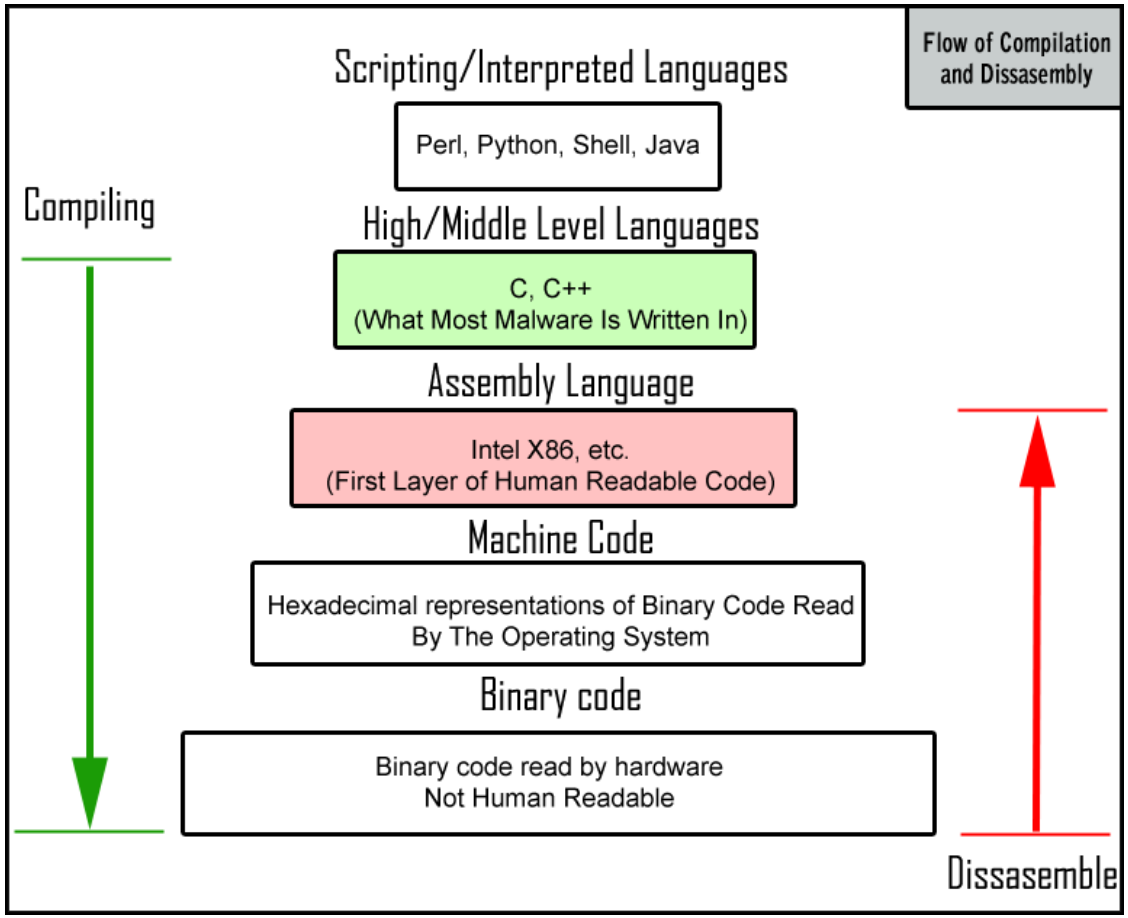
Video: Interpreter vs Compiler

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_C5AHaS1mOA#t=44

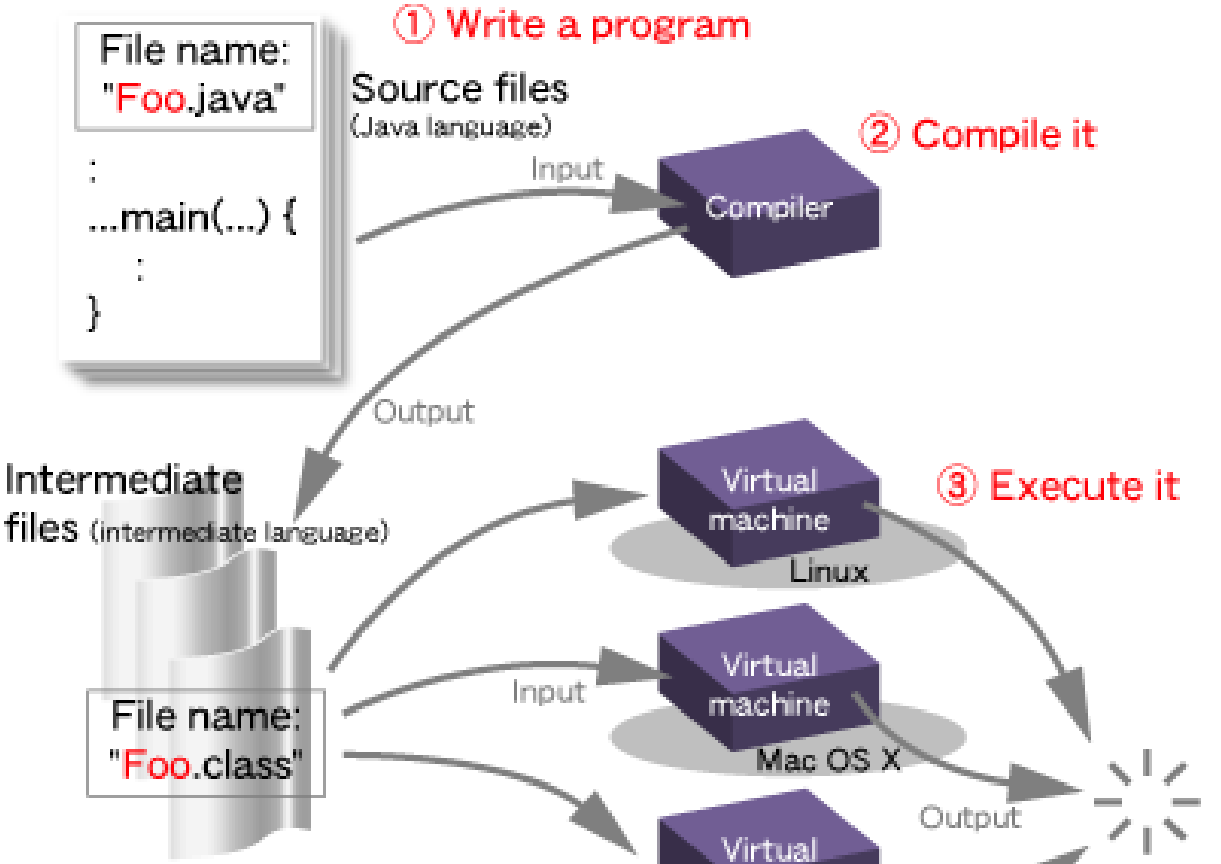
Key terms

- **Compiler -** If the translator translates a high level language into a lower level language (*done in a batch*)
- **Interpreter -** the translator translates a high level language into an intermediate code which will be immediately executed by the CPU (*done line by line*)
- **Assembler -** the translator translates assembly language to machine code (*mnemonics to binary*)

Levels of language



The Java 'process': VM!



- **Actually in many cases, a program is distributed in the form of a JAR file, which stands for Java ARchive file.**

Java virtual machine

- **Java applications run on a virtual machine** (the Java Virtual Machine or JVM).
- This virtual machine is installed on the computer (e.g. PC, Mac, Smart Phone, Ticket Machine) and allows the **same java co**de to be run on **many different types of hardware**.
- Even though the hardware **architecture** and **instruction sets** of each of these devices is different the virtual machine is the same.
- The trick is that the virtual machine software needs to **match the hardware** it will be installed on, so you need to get the correct version of the virtual machine, but once you have it then you can run **any java program**.
- This is **good for the java programmer** as he does not have to write lots of different versions of the program he is writing, for each of the devices he wants it to run on.
- After the java program is written it can be deployed to **any device** that has the Java Virtual Machine installed on it.