UDK 004.42:8111.111
WOMEN IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

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There is an opinion in society that the formal sciences are for men. However, the origin of such a promising and rapidly growing sphere as programming was put by a woman, Ada Lovelace. She was the first to see the potential of the machine invented by her friend Charles Babbage and wrote the first programs demonstrating the abilities of the invention.

The development of programming began in the 1940s, when many men went to the front, and women were forced to take on the rest of the work. Advanced female mathematicians were practically used as human computers to run ballistic trajectories by the US government.

After WW2, computers became more used out of the military, first software companies opened, and still, women were the majority of staff working with the computers. What happened in the mid-eighties? A job for the Boomers that satisfied their working conditions quickly became unavailable, and office work became a priority.

Computer games were advertised on TV for only boys. As a result, the guys understood the computer work better than girls from an early age. All this led to the fact that men began to get a job as programmers, because at that time, employers were more likely to accept applications from male candidates.

Despite all the difficulties, programming is starting to attract more and more women again: by 2026 it should be 19 %.

According to a recent study of data from GitHub, women's coding suggestions are more likely to be approved and shared on the site over men's. So, it is only a matter of time before the women take over the field they formed again.