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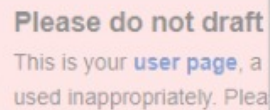
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"Infotech" redirects here. For the Indian company, see [Cyient](#).

Based on the storage and processing technologies employed, it is possible to distinguish four distinct phases of IT development: pre-mechanical (3000 BC — 1450 AD), **mechanical** (1450—1840), **electromechanical** (1840—1940), and **electronic** (1940 to present).^[3] This article focuses on the most recent period (electronic).

Information technology is also a branch of **computer science**, which can be defined as the overall study of procedure, structure,

General aspects

Related fields and sub-fields

Bibliometrics · Categorization · Censorship ·
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 $V \cdot T \cdot E$

Your text

{{Information science}}

`archive-url=https://web.archive.org/web/20120805042711/http://www.tcf.ua.edu/AZ/ITHistoryOutline.htm |url-status=dead }}.</ref> However, the term 'information technology' in its modern sense first appeared in a 1958 article published in the ''[[Harvard Business Review]]''; authors [[Harold Leavitt|Harold J. Leavitt]] and Thomas L. Whisler commented that "the new technology does not yet have a single established name. We shall call it information technology (IT)."<ref name="LeavittWhisler" /> Their definition consists of three categories: techniques for processing, the application of [[Statistics|statistical]] and mathematical methods to [[decision-making]], and the simulation of higher-order thinking through computer programs.<ref name="LeavittWhisler">{{citation |title=Management in the 1980s |url=http://hbr.org/1958/11/management-in-the-1980s |last1=Leavitt |first1=Harold J. |last2=Whisler |first2=Thomas L. |journal=Harvard Business Review |year=1958 |volume=11}}.</ref>`


```
{{main|History of computing hardware}}
```

Ideas of computer science were first mentioned before the 1950s under the [[Massachusetts Institute of Technology]] (MIT) and [[Harvard University]], where they had discussed and began thinking of computer circuits and numerical calculations. As time went on, the field of information technology and computer science became more complex and was able to handle the processing of more data. Scholarly articles began to be published from different organizations.<ref>{{Cite book|last=Slotten|first=Hugh Richard|url=http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acref/9780199766666.001.0001|title=The Oxford Encyclopedia of the History of American Science, Medicine, and Technology|date=2014-01-01|publisher=Oxford University Press|isbn=978-0-19-976666-6}}</ref>

[[Machine|Devices]] have been used to aid computation for thousands of years, probably initially in the form of a [[tally stick]].^[citation last=Schmandt-Besserat first=Denise title=Decipherment of the earliest tablets journal=Science year=1981 volume=211 issue=4479 pages=283-285 doi=10.1126/science.211.4479.283 pmid=17748027 bibcode=1981Sci...211..283S] The [[Antikythera mechanism]], dating from about the beginning of the first century BC, is generally considered to be the earliest known mechanical [[analog computer]] and the earliest known geared

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