

wrap-up

chapter 1

give a concise summary of **Moor's standard account** of computer ethics.

chapter 1

What is a **policy vacuum**? Give an example and explain it using the standard account.

chapter 1

What is a **conceptual muddle**, and how do they get in the way of filling policy vacuums? Illustrate with an example.

chapter 1

What is **wrong** with the standard account of computer ethics? Identify at least two criticisms, and explain.

chapter 1

What are the two tenets of view referred to as «**technological determinism**»? What is the STS critique of each tenet?

chapter 1

What is wrong with thinking of technology as merely **material objects**?

chapter 1

What is **sociotechnical systems perspective**?

chapter 1

What is the difference between **micro-level** ethical issues and **macro-level** ethical issues? Give an example of each.

chapter 1

Why is the study of ethics and technology needed? Why is the study of ethics, and IT in particular, needed?

chapter 2

What do we mean when we say an ethical theory is rational?

chapter 2

What is the many/any fallacy? Invent your own example of this fallacy.

chapter 2

What is the difference between plagiarism and misuse of resources?

chapter 2

What is the difference between a consequentialist theory and non-consequentialist theory?

chapter 2

What is the problem of moral luck?

chapter 2

Why do businesses and governments often use utilitarian thinking to determine the proper course of action?

chapter 2

What is the difference principle?

chapter 2

How do descriptive (empirical) claims and prescriptive (normative) claims differ? Give examples of each kind of claim.

chapter 2

What is the categorical imperative? Give two examples of violations of the categorical imperative.

chapter 2

What is analogical reasoning? Give an example of how it could be used in computer ethics.

chapter 2

Right to life, negative or positive right?

chapter 2

Which of the following should be considered as legitimate positive rights?

K-12 ed

Higher ed

Housing

health care

Presidential candidate to receive fair time on TV

chapter 2

history class, quiz on the web, a-submit own work, b-open notes and textbook, c-at least 80% required to pass, retake if not successful, Mary, John, next to each other in comp. lab., John asks Mary help, "What is the difference if you tell me the answer, I look it up in the book, or I find out from the computer that my answer is wrong and retake the quiz? In any case, I'll end up getting the credit for the right answer.", Mary tells John the correct answer, discuss the morality of Mary's decision.

chapter 2

Kidney dialysis machines. Age, job, # of dependants, social usefulness of job, criminal record... when public, the criteria had been critisized. Discuss the morality.

chapter 2

Professor of sociology. Research on attitudes towards sex and sexual behavior among students. Students like him. He has no time to code data, seeks grad. asst. Help. Discuss the morality.

chapter 3

Why it is not accurate to say that communication on the Internet is anonymous?

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What is different or distinctive about the identity conditions on the Internet when compared to identity face-to-face?

chapter 3

What characteristics of IT (and the Internet) change the environment for plagiarism and plagiarism detection?

chapter 3

What characteristics of the Internet make censorship difficult?

chapter 3

How does the idea of «Internet addiction» stretch the traditional concept of addiction?

chapter 3

What are the benefits and harms of Internet censorship?

chapter 3

Should children be prevented from accessing some Web sites? Who should be responsible for the actions of children surfing the Web?

chapter 3

Should bloggers be given same rights as newspaper, magazine, or television journalists?

chapter 3

The convenience of Wikipedia makes it a popular reference for students. After several instances in which students cited incorrect information, however, the history Department of Middlebury College prohibited references to Wikipedia articles in papers or exams. Did the Middlebury history department go too far? What is the proper role, if any, for Wikipedia in academic research?

chapter 3

The income of companies providing persistent, online gaming depends on the number of subscribers they attract. Since consumers have a choice of many products, each company is motivated to create the best possible experience for its customers. Role-playing adventures have no set length. When playing one of these games, it's easy to spend more time on the computer than originally planned. Some subscribers cause harm to themselves and others by spending too much time playing these games. Should the designers of persistent online games bear some moral responsibility for this problem?

chapter 3

There is a thriving “real world” market for gold, artifacts, and avatars from virtual worlds such as World of Warcraft. In effect, rich Westerners are offshoring game-playing to Far East. Do you find this image disturbing?

chapter 4

How has computer and information technology changed information gathering practices?

chapter 4

Describe cases in which individuals would be harmed by inaccurate and/or irrelevant information. What is the alternative?

chapter 4

Is privacy a negative right or a positive right?

chapter 4

What does it mean when the author says privacy is a prudential right?

chapter 4

What is the difference between a public record and public information?

chapter 4

What are we referring to when we talk about a secondary use of data?

chapter 4

What is collaborative filtering? Who uses it?

chapter 4

What is the difference between privacy and anonymity?

chapter 4

Jury, pedestrian hit, black box indicates 45 mph, 4 eyewitnesses no more than 30 mph, which one do you believe and why?

chapter 4

Think about what you do when you get up in the morning. How would you act differently if you knew you were being watched? Would you feel uncomfortable? Do you think you would get used to being watched?

chapter 4

What special responsibilities do computer professionals have with respect to understanding and protecting the privacy rights of their fellow citizens?

chapter 5

Explain the kind of protection offered by copyright, trade secrecy and patents. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each for the developers of computer software?

chapter 5

What is Locke's labor theory? Why doesn't it necessarily apply to ownership of computer software?

chapter 5

When referring to copyrighted materials, what is meant by the term «fair use»?

chapter 5

Why are patents considered an unreliable way of protecting intellectual property rights in software?

chapter 5

The current legal system allows both proprietary software and open-source software to be distributed. What are the pros and cons of maintaining the status quo?

chapter 7

Explain the definition of negligence and its relation with responsibility

chapter 7

What is the difference between a data-entry and data retrieval error?

chapter 7

What is an embedded system? What is a real-time system?

chapter 7

What is a race condition in software? Why are race conditions difficult to debug?

chapter 7

What are the advantages of allowing software users to identify and report bugs? What are the disadvantages?

chapter 7

Why are computer simulations playing an increasingly important role in science and engineering?

chapter 7

What is the difference between validation and verification?

chapter 7

What is the difference between a model and computer simulation?

chapter 7

Name two different ways to validate a computer simulation.

chapter 8

Identify and describe four different meanings of responsibility

chapter 8

What is whistleblowing? What harms does it cause? What benefits it may provide?

chapter 8

The Challenger disaster led to deaths of seven astronauts and the loss of hundreds of million dollars worth of equipment. How much moral responsibility should each of the following groups hold for this tragedy: Morton Thiokol engineers, Morton Thiokol senior management, NASA management?

chapter 8

In the criminal proceedings resulting from the government's investigation fraud at the Micro-electronic Circuit Division, the jury found Hughes Aircraft guilty, but it found supervisor Donald LaRue not guilty. The jury felt LaRue was simply following orders from management. Was the jury's decision a just one?

chapter 8

You are one of the employees of a small, privately held company that produces mobile computer games. Everyone shares in the profits of the company. The company has been making mobile versions of popular board games for established game companies (e.g. Hasbro?). Business is steady, but profits have not been large. The marketing team says a first-person shooter game based on war in Syria would generate a huge amount of publicity for the company and could be highly profitable. Debate the morality of producing such a game.

references

