



**Lab 1 – Mobile Phones: History, Manufacturer and Service Provider**

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MODE 4201 : Introduction to Mobile Development

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## Mobile Phone History: Past, Present and Future

Over 30 years since Motorola developed, "the bone," which boasted a talk time of 30 minutes, was approved for market. The device was approximately a foot long and weighed around eight times<sup>1</sup> more than the devices we use now. The history of mobile phones is what has brought us to the present and also into the future. All of which can only be fully understood by starting from the beginning and working forward.

### Past: 1980 – 2006

At the start of a cellphone production began in 1984 when Motorola introduced the first "commercial handheld cellular phone," the DynaTAC 800X, nicknamed "the brick." Phones remained bulky for quite some time, But by the 90s, they had lost some weight. Flip phones that could be carried in a pocket became the norm. Still, the other format was I'm much thinner- a more minor variation of its predecessor. In 2002 cameraphones dominated the market, and this added functionality increased consumer consumption<sup>2</sup>. Both the flip phone and the camera phones were sought by the younger generation, who began to popularize the use of texting.



Figure 1: Gordon Gecko (Michael Douglas) holding "the brick". (Oliver, 1987).

### Present: Post-2008

In 2007 Apple released the first iPhone, a little bulky compared to modern devices but much closer in design<sup>3</sup>. The device featured a touch screen, replacing the previously commonplace dial pad buttons. New functionalities included a Music player, web browsing, games, a personal calendar and many more. Smartphone. The new format has coined the smartphone, creating a unique niche within the mobile phone market.

Smartphone innovation continues to grow today with the addition of other technologies, and functionality from installable applications<sup>4</sup>. They have become the modern replacements for PDA devices. Many computing activities can be completed on the pocket-sized device in the palm of your hand.

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<sup>1</sup> (Films Media Group, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> (Boston Globe, 2014)

<sup>3</sup> (Boston Globe, 2014)

<sup>4</sup> (Rhoads, 2005)



Figure 2: Cher (Alicia Silverstone) and friends holding cellphones (Heckerling 1995).

## Future

Mobile phone innovations continue to; we are at one time communicating across distances, which was only seen in movies and TV shows such as Star Trek.

The future possesses unlimited possibilities for innovation and the development of mobile phones. Some technologies, such as AI, virtual reality, and augmented reality, are just a few of the results from the minds of engineers. Each possesses the possibility of further development within its own niche and possible extension through sci-fi technologies. This includes


ideas such as brainwave control, gesture control, and even holograms<sup>5</sup>. Additional engineering and refinement are needed for these. Still, they are possible future components in the next generation of mobile phones.

## Mobile Manufacturer

There are many manufacturers of mobile phones, with each one producing many different devices for purchase on the market. To narrow our analysis, we will look at my personal device.

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<sup>5</sup> (Films Media Group, 2015)

Device Details <sup>6</sup>	
Manufacturer	Samsung <sup>7</sup>
Phone model	<p>Galaxy A70</p> <p><i>Figure 3: (Best Buy Canada, n.d)</i></p> 
Price	\$393.89
Release Date	March 2019
Operating system	Android 9.0 "Pie" with One UI 1.1
Chipset	Snapdragon 675
Processor (CPU)	Octa core 2.0 GHz Kryo 460 Gold and 1.7 GHz Kryo 460 Silver
Memory (RAM)	8GB
Memory (internal)	128GB
Memory (external)	None – expandable up to 1 TB with microSD card
Display	6.7" Super AMOLED 1080 x 2400 (FHD+) with 16m colour depth
Camera (rear)	32.0 MP + 5.0 MP + 8.0 MP
Camera(front)	32.0 MP
GPS	GPS, GLONASS, Beidou, Galileo
Battery	4500 mAh
Battery(talk time)	up to 28 hours
Battery(standby)	Up to 128 hours
Network	GSM/HSPA/LTE
Synchronization with desktop/laptop	Smart Switch (PC version)
Voice enabled	Bixby
Browser	Chrome, Samsung Internet
Additional Features	
Video Recording	UHD 4K (3840 x 2160) @30fps
Sensors	Accelerometer, Fingerprint Sensor, Gyro Sensor, Geomagnetic Sensor, Hall Sensor, RGB Light Sensor, Proximity Sensor


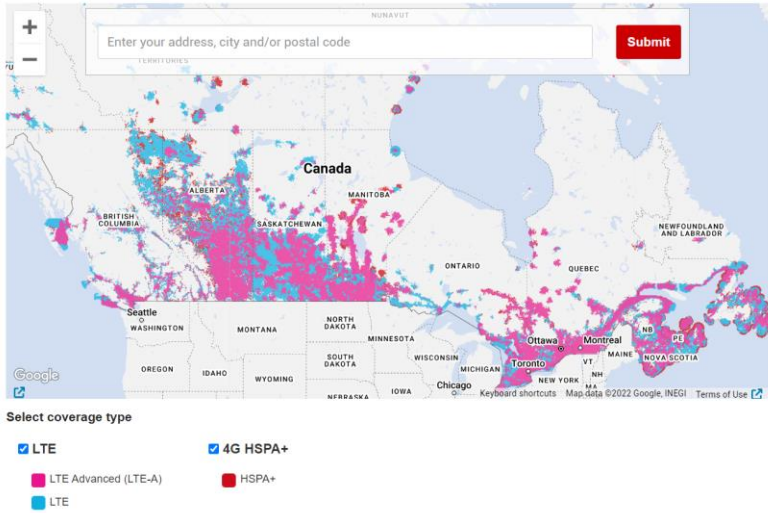
<sup>6</sup> (Samsung Galaxy A70 - Full Phone Specifications, n.d.)

<sup>7</sup> (Mobile Phones, Plans, Internet & More, n.d.)

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### Mobile Service Provider Plan

Unlike mobile manufacturers, there are only a few available within Canada. Much like before, we will be looking at my own service provider and the plan my mobile device currently possesses.

Plan Details	
Service provider	Virgin Mobile 
Plan	Gold 80 – 5GB
Calls	500 Anytime minutes , Standard LD Rate (to U.S. & CAN), unlimited evenings & weekends from 5PM, Canada-Wide Calling
Data	5GB
Messaging	Can-US/International Text, unlimited picture & video , unlimited incoming text
Global texting	Can-US/International Text
Voice mail	Voicemail 3
Call features	Call Display, call waiting, 3-way-calling
Service credits (free upgrades)	LoyaltyBonusData- 10GB 4G LTE
Fees	Additional data - \$10/100MB, Additional minutes – 60cents/min
Useage policy (Terms and Conditions)	<a href="https://www.virginplus.ca/en/support/legal-terms.html">https://www.virginplus.ca/en/support/legal-terms.html</a>
Coverage	 <p>Figure 4: (Virgin Plus, n.d.)</p>
Additional	



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