Impacts of Computing:  
Learning Reflection

**What is your interest in “My Digital World in 24 Hours”?** (respond in 2-4 sentences)

After documenting all of the times I interacted with technology in the “My Digital World in 24 Hours” activity, it has sparked my interest in my now obvious excessive indulgence in technology. I may not have documented every occurrence of interaction with technology in an effort to not make my responses repetitive, but knowing what I could have written in the worksheet made me significantly more aware of how much I truly need technology and how much I take it for granted. A point made earlier in this class that is relevant to this interest is that technology has been made as solutions to problems. Therefore, I would like to know more about the needs and problems I have that have been requiring me to depend as much as I am on technology.

**What are the main points you have learned from this World?** (respond in 2-4 sentences)

Like the above, one of the main points I have learned from this world is that the human-technology relationship is seemingly strong and that we greatly take the existence of technology for granted. In fact, after the activity, I did attempt to refrain from my usage of some of my devices, but I soon realized that this is pretty much impossible. The other main point that I’ve learned is that technology is blatantly ubiquitous. It is incredibly difficult to day to day tasks without seeing technology or even do them without frequent interactions with technology.

**Give an example of an activity you were most successful in.** (respond in 2-4 sentences each)

Most of these activities doesn’t really have a “successful”/“unsuccessful” element to them because they are just normal day-to-day activities, but if I were to choose an activity that I was most successful in, it would probably be “Calculate margins for flipping items in the Grand Exchange in Old School RuneScape,” which is an entry repeated a few times throughout the day. To explain what this is, typically efficient flipping in this game requires dexterous use of the calculator and an understanding how items in the game fluctuate in the marker in order to make a lot of profit while spending a very little amount of time doing it in the game. I’d say this is the most successful activity that I put in the worksheet because the day I chose to do this worksheet was the first day in which I wrote functions on my calculator that calculate margins for items, and it turned out to drastically increase my profits for that day. Therefore, due to the good amount of productivity I was able to achieve with this calculator as well as the setup I was able to make for flipping in the future, I think this is the most fitting activity for this question.

**Give one example of an activity you could be more successful in and at least one specific idea for how you would engage differently in the future.** (respond in 2-4 sentences)

The activity that had a noticeable “unsuccessful” factor in it is the “Uploaded the test cases to the Neurips Blackbox optimization competition website” entry. This competition allows competitors to submit their algorithms 5 times every day, and I wasn’t very successful because none of the changes I made for my 5 submissions really changed the score my team got. A few ideas for how I would engage differently (I assume with technology for this question) in the future is to perhaps better communicate with my team in the application DingTalk to try to come up with more ideas and use the Google Scholar search engine to look up more research articles for ideas on what we could implement in our algorithm. Another idea I have is to continue using the application VSCode to identify potentially weak areas of the algorithm to better improve upon it.

**From doing this reflection I have learned/experienced…** (respond in 1-3 sentences)

From doing this reflection I have learned that technology is an integral part of our lives and we simply can’t live our lives without it, or at least be effective without it. Especially in the previous two questions, it’s pretty clear to me that the solution to engaging differently in the future is just to switch my approach to using technology or switch what I’m using; using something with technology generally seems to be the solution to my problems and perhaps everyone else’s problems. Thus, as indicated above, this reflection has opened me up to a new curiosity of what’s invoking my need for heavy use of technology.