CSC 1200 Notes

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Textbook:

A Gift of Fire: Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing Technology, Sara Baase, 4th Edition, 2013.

Introduction

* The Pace of Change
  + 1940s: First computer was built
  + 1956: First hard-drive disk weighed a ton and stored five megabytes
  + 1991: Space shuttle had a one-megahertz computer. Ten years later, some automobiles had 100 megahertz computers. Speeds of several gigahertzes are now common
* Change and Unexpected Developments
  + Cell Phones
    - Relatively few in 1990’s. Approximately five billion worldwide in 2011
    - Used for conversations and messaging, but also for:
      * Taking and sharing pictures
      * Downloading music and watching videos
      * Checking email and playing games
      * Banking and managing investments
      * Finding maps
    - Smartphone apps for many tasks, including
      * Monitoring diabetes
      * Locating water in remote areas
    - Location tracking raises privacy concerns
    - Cameras in cell phones affect privacy in public and non-public places
    - Cellphones can interfere with solitude, quiet and concentration
    - Talking on cell phones while driving is dangerous
    - Other unanticipated negative applications: teenagers sexting, terrorists detonating bombs, rioters organizing looting parties
  + Kill Switches
    - Allow a remote entity to disable applications and delete files
    - Are in operating systems for smartphones
* Themes
* Ethics