**DS 100 Final Project: GitHub**

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DS 200-01-1 Data Science Applications

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2. Technology Reflection

**a. Can you share on why you are/were interested to study in this technology discipline (taking this DS 100 class or pursuing a major, minor, or certificate)?**

I was interested in studying this technology discipline because of my Data Science, Analytics, and Visualization (DSAV) major. This course, as per the university course catalog description, is meant to provide me with the foundations, overview, and history of technology and innovation for data scientists, computer scientists, students in a computational or technology program, and students who are not in any computational or technology program. Although I have been interested in computer hardware and software, I wasn’t well-versed in technology as a whole. DS 100 Data Science Applications seemed like a great fit for not only my major but for my overall hobbies and interests.

**b. Do you believe technology drives society or does society drives technology? Please explain your thoughts.**

I believe that society influences technological development, and that development goes on to influence society. In DS 100 we defined technology as an extension of oneself. When asked if the chicken or the egg came first, I believe that society must have influenced technology before technology was able to influence society. The internet, for example, is a technology that drives our society today. The internet has altered our society in many ways. It has enabled us to access an almost infinite amount of information, cultural exchange, and economic development (Giannelis, 2022). The internet is an accessible tool to anyone and can constantly be in the palm of our hands. Today, the internet has the power to drive our society through movements, trends, and other influencers such as social media.

However, the internet did not appear out of thin air. A major initial motivating factor for the creation of the internet was resource sharing- an example of society driving technology. An initial motivation for the internet was first invented for military purposes, In the 1960’s it offered a way of relaying packets of data and computing to the frontlines (Tarnoff, 2017). Shortly thereafter, in 1969, a computer network called Arpanet was created, which linked mainframes at universities, government agencies, and defense contractors around the country (Leiner et al., 2022). From there on out, the internet kept evolving into what we have today. The internet has now become a technology that drives our society, which was at first society driven.

**c. Is it possible to live a life or lifestyle without technology? Please explain your thoughts and provide any examples.**

I believe that it is possible to live a life without technology. I do not believe, however, that it is possible to live a quality lifestyle without it. At the beginning of this semester, we discussed technologies of the past, present, and future. At some point in time, humans must have lived without technology. Rather, we *must*have been able to live without it.

Furthermore, the earliest technology invented by humanity was stone tools. With these tools, humans were able to create the earliest weapons such as axes, hammers, and knives. Here, humanity shifted from hunting and gathering way of life. Technology has continued to advance ever since then. In the 21st century, technological advancements have provided us with an increasingly comfortable lifestyle than that of our predecessors. We as a society are constantly surrounded by technology. If technology were to disappear from our lives today society wouldn’t be able to survive. Without tools, the human race would struggle to survive. For the past 10,000 years, humans have lived entirely dependent on their skills in gathering food, hunting, and avoiding predators for life (Kennedy, 2019). Moreover, it is possible to live without technology, but not live a *life* or *lifestyle*without it.

**d. In your opinion, what is the next innovation or era in technology after this data-driven era?**

In my opinion, I believe that the next innovation or era in technology after this data-driven era is machine to machine communication. To make everything in our lives as efficient as possible, the technology we have will keep advancing until it reaches an extent of self-awareness. According to recent trends, artificial intelligence and machine learning continue to be in charge of many innovations regarding technology today. Artificial intelligence has already made its way to our traffic lights. A company called No Traffic has installed AI-based smart traffic lights at the intersections of Phoenix, Arizona in hopes to control the flow of traffic more smoothly (NoTraffic, 2022).

Concepts such as self-driving cars and virtual reality are no longer a thing of the past, as they currently exist in different shapes and forms. Although I am only 18 years old, I’ve seen the first iteration of the iPhone in 2007 to the iPhone 14 in 2022. I have experienced, firsthand, how technology has changed in the past 18 years. I don’t doubt that it will be just as different in 18 more years.

**References**

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