

Plan for Today 12/1

- Last questions about Major Paper Final Version — **due Monday, December 4**
- LaTeX pitfalls
- More discussion of Op-Ed — due ***Monday***, December 11
- Discussion of Matthew D. Green and Alex Stamos's *New York Times* Op-Ed
- Small group brainstorming about Op-Ed topics

Major Paper Final Version

- Final Version of Major Paper due *Monday*, December 4.
- Take into account my feedback and peer feedback.
- Graded on a nine point scale:
 - Intermediate points between check-minus (3), check (6) and check-plus (9).
- **I am expecting more from the final version than I did from the draft.**
 - E.g., if you received a check-plus for the draft, you might receive significantly less than that if you simply handed in the draft as your final version.

Major Paper Checklist

- Your major paper will be eight–nine pages long (see below for the format) on a subject relating to computing and society.
- It should draw on six–eight sources, at least half of which should be scholarly (peer-reviewed journal or conference articles, or books).
- Your paper must have:
 - a strong introduction and conclusion;
 - a compelling contestable thesis, stated clearly in the introduction;
 - good transitions;
 - thoughtful claims backed up with strong evidence;
 - proper use of quotes and paraphrasing with accurate citations; and
 - a complete bibliography.

Use of LaTeX and BibTeX

- Your paper must be formatted using the LaTeX template `latex-in-CS115.tex`.
- Change the title and your name, and substitute your text for the example text.
- You will be building on the `.bib` file you created as part of your annotated bibliography.
- The example `bibtex-examp.bib` shows how to use different kinds of BibTeX entries (journals, books, papers from conferences, miscellaneous documents).
- Make sure each reference is correct and complete.

Use of LaTeX and BibTeX

- The template sets the font (12pt), margins and line spacing, and citation style.
- Don't change them.
- Don't introduce extra page breaks or indent the first paragraph of a section.
- Make good use of LaTeX sections (see the template for examples).
- Choose section titles carefully.
- Learn how punctuation marks are introduced using multiple characters in LaTeX (see the template for examples): “...”, “-”, “—” and “—”.

LaTeX Pitfalls

- Let's look at some example LaTeX pitfalls, and how to fix them.
- The buggy LaTeX and BibTeX files — and the resulting PDF — are on the course website.

Op-Eds

- In the last part of the course, we will be concerned with how computer scientists can communicate with lay people about topics in computer science with implications for society.
- We will focus on newspaper opinion pieces called “Op-Eds”.
- We will:
 - Read guides to writing effective Op-Eds.
 - Read several Op-Eds on computer science topics.
- You will:
 - Write an Op-Ed of your own.

Op-Eds

- The name “Op-Ed” comes from the original placement of these opinion pieces in newspapers—on the page **op**posite the **ed**itorial page.
- Op-Eds are written by outside contributors (not staff or regular columnists), and editors use them to bring in fresh perspectives on important issues.
- Computer scientists can use Op-Eds to educate and influence the public about developments in computing.
 - Such an Op-Ed will often be about the impact of computing on a societal issue.

Op-Eds

- Op-Eds are typically (source: Harvard Kennedy School):
 - short (typically 750-800 words);
 - focused, making a clear point;
 - engaging, drawing the reader in;
 - informed by research or experience;
 - written with a strong voice (authoritative, conversational, ...);
 - written in active voice with short paragraphs (even single sentences).

Op-Ed Structure

- Opening
 - *Hooks* reader's attention with "a strong claim, a surprising fact, a metaphor, a mystery, or a counter-intuitive observation".
 - Introduces the Op-Ed's *topic*, which is typically a problem needing a solution, thus creating tension that will later be resolved.
- Middle
 - Develops the Op-Ed's *theme*, its big idea, main point.
 - Backs up your claims with facts, logic, research, quotations, personal observations.
- Ending
 - Either resolves the tension of the essay (e.g., solves the problem) or points the way forward.
 - Leaves the reader with a final thought, epiphany or call to action.

Readings on Op-Eds

- Harvard Kennedy School, “How to Write an Op-Ed or Column”. https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/files/hks-communications-program/files/new_seglin_how_to_write_an_oped_1_25_17_7.pdf
- David Shipley, “And Now a Word From Op-Ed”, *New York Times*, February 1, 2004. <https://www.nytimes.com/2004/02/01/opinion/and-now-a-word-from-op-ed.html>. [On Piazza.]

Example Op-Eds on Computer Science Topics

[On Piazza]

- Matthew D. Green and Alex Stamos, “Apple Wants to Protect Children. But It’s Creating Serious Privacy Risks.”, *New York Times*, August 11, 2021. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/11/opinion/apple-iphones-privacy.html>.
- Nathan E. Sanders and Bruce Schneier, “How ChatGPT Hijacks Democracy”, *New York Times*, January 15, 2023. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/15/opinion/ai-chatgpt-lobbying-democracy.html>.
- Stuart Russell, “How to Stop Superhuman A.I. Before It Stops Us”, *New York Times*, October 8, 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/08/opinion/artificial-intelligence.html>.
- Gary Marcus and Ernest Davis, “No, A.I. Won’t Solve the Fake News Problem”, *New York Times*, October 20, 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/20/opinion/sunday/ai-fake-news-disinformation-campaigns.html>.

Your Op-Ed Assignment

- You will write a single Op-Ed.
 - Length: 750-800 words.
 - Topic: a connection between computer science and society.
- You can produce the PDF for your Op-Ed however you like.
- Due: Monday, December 11.
- Reading for class today:
 - Harvard Kennedy School, “How to Write an Op-Ed or Column”.
 - David Shipley, “And Now a Word From Op-Ed”.
 - Matthew D. Green and Alex Stamos, “Apple Wants to Protect Children. But It’s Creating Serious Privacy Risks.”

Discussion of Matthew D. Green and Alex Stamos's Op-Ed

- Matthew D. Green and Alex Stamos, “Apple Wants to Protect Children. But It’s Creating Serious Privacy Risks.”
- Who are the authors, and what is their expertise?
- What is the Op-Ed about?
- How does it measure up to the Op-Ed guidelines?

Brainstorming about Op-Ed Topics

- We're going to divide into groups of three or four and spend about twenty-five minutes brainstorming about potential Op-Ed topics
- Each group member should find a topic they are interested in
- Then we'll come back together and go around the room sharing topics