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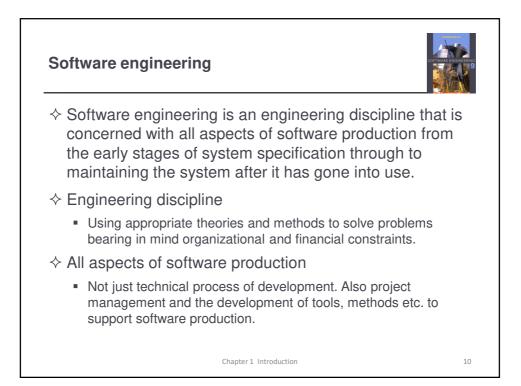
Frequently asked questions about software engineering

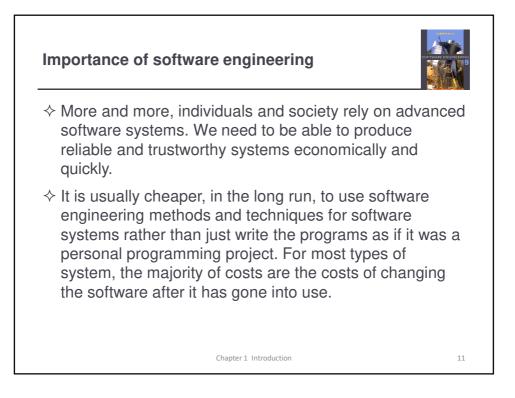


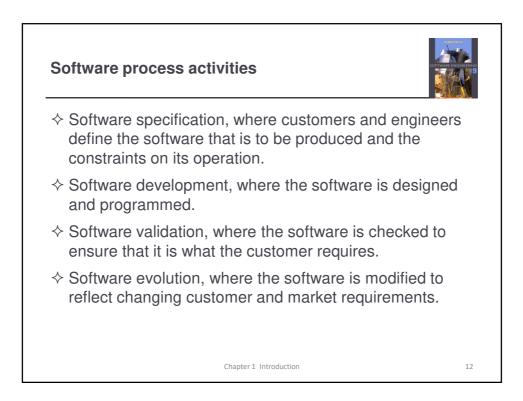
Question	Answer
What is software?	Computer programs and associated documentation. Software products may be developed for a particular customer or may be developed for a general market.
What are the attributes of good software?	Good software should deliver the required functionality and performance to the user and should be maintainable, dependable and usable.
What is software engineering?	Software engineering is an engineering discipline that is concerned with all aspects of software production.
What are the fundamental software engineering activities?	Software specification, software development, software validation and software evolution.
What is the difference between software engineering and computer science?	Computer science focuses on theory and fundamentals; software engineering is concerned with the practicalities of developing and delivering useful software.
What is the difference between software engineering and system engineering?	System engineering is concerned with all aspects of computer-based systems development including hardware, software and process engineering. Software engineering is part of this more general process.

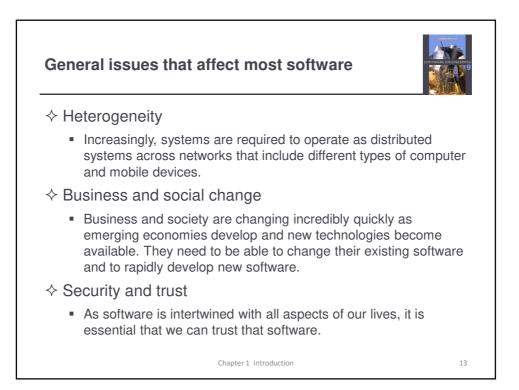
Frequently asked questions about software engineering	
Question	Answer
What are the key challenges facing software engineering?	Coping with increasing diversity, demands for reduced delivery times and developing trustworthy software.
What are the costs of software engineering?	Roughly 60% of software costs are development costs 40% are testing costs. For custom software, evolution costs often exceed development costs.
What are the best software engineering techniques and methods?	While all software projects have to be professionall managed and developed, different techniques are appropriate for different types of system. For example games should always be developed using a series of prototypes whereas safety critical control systems require a complete and analyzable specification to be developed You can't, therefore, say that one method is better that another.
What differences has the web made to software engineering?	The web has led to the availability of software service: and the possibility of developing highly distributed service based systems. Web-based systems development has led to important advances in programming languages and software reuse.
C	Chapter 1 Introduction

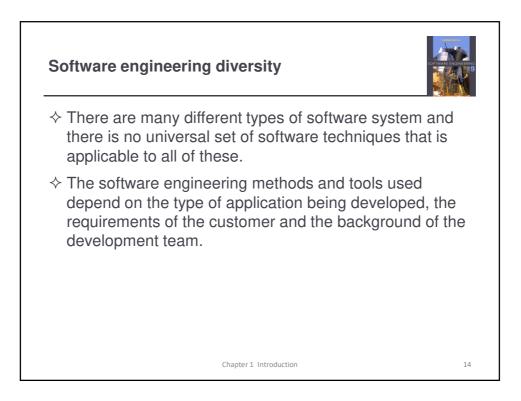
sential attributes of good software		
Product characteristic	Description	
Maintainability	Software should be written in such a way so that it can evolve to meet the changing needs of customers. This is a critical attribute because software change is an inevitable requirement of a changing business environment.	
Dependability and security	Software dependability includes a range of characteristics including reliability, security and safety. Dependable software should not cause physical or economic damage in the event of system failure. Malicious users should not be able to access of damage the system.	
Efficiency	Software should not make wasteful use of system resources such as memory and processor cycles. Efficiency therefore includes responsiveness, processing time, memory utilisation, etc.	
Acceptability	Software must be acceptable to the type of users for which it is designed. This means that it must be understandable, usable and compatible with other systems that they use.	

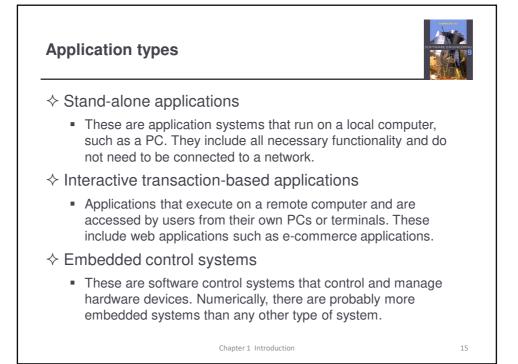


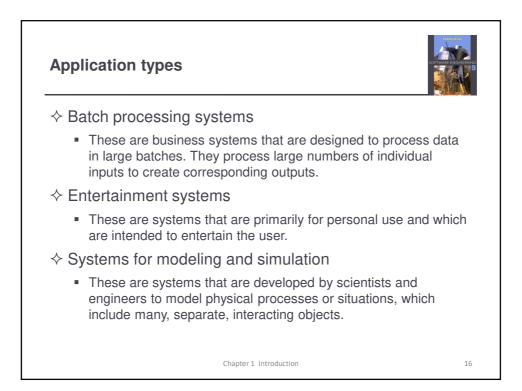


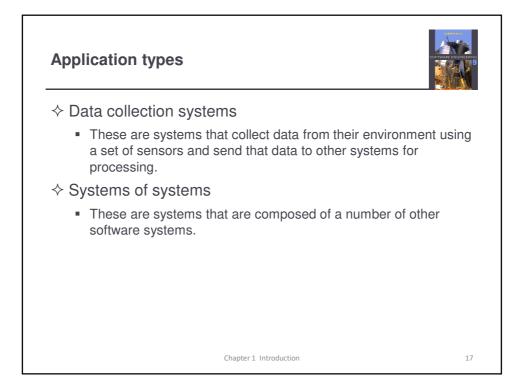


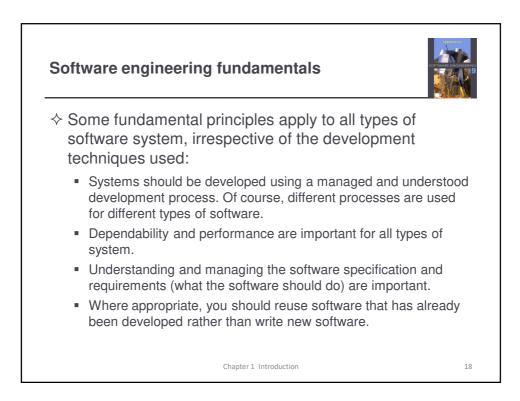


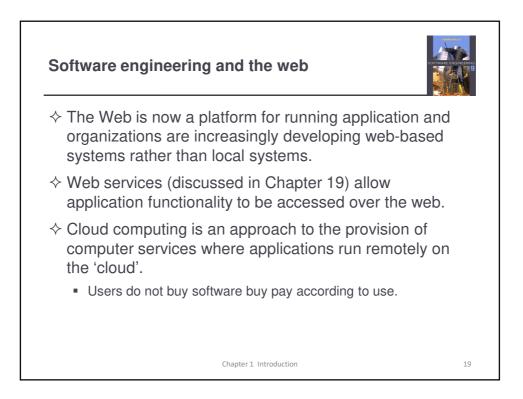


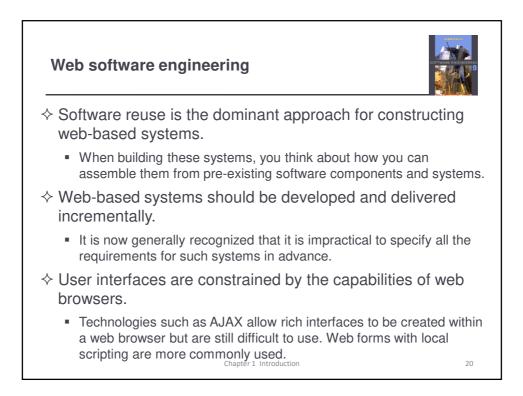


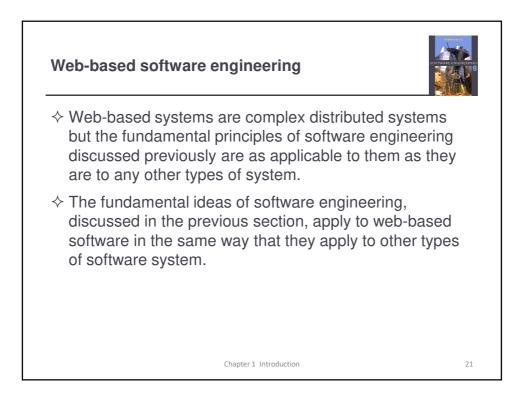


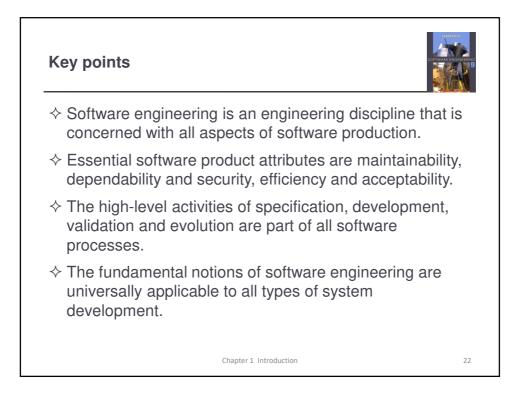


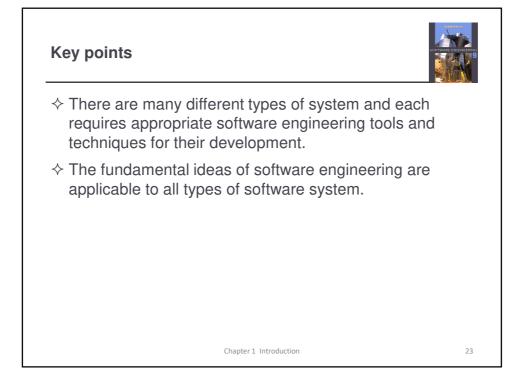


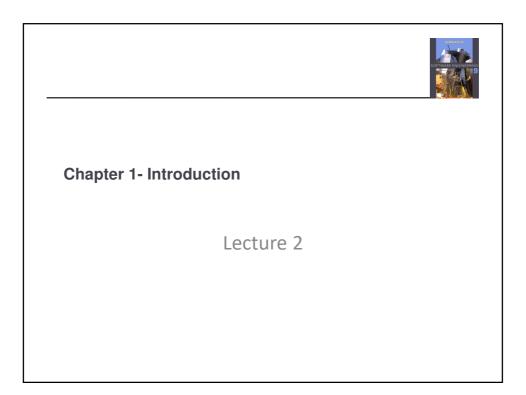








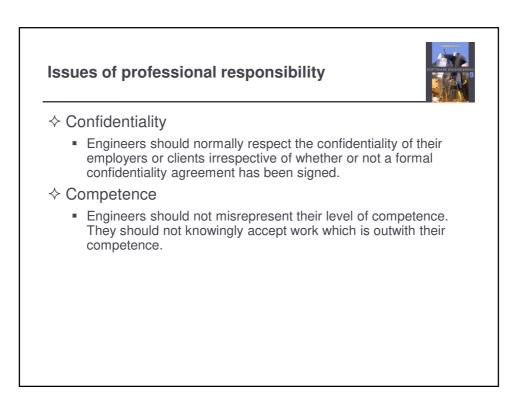


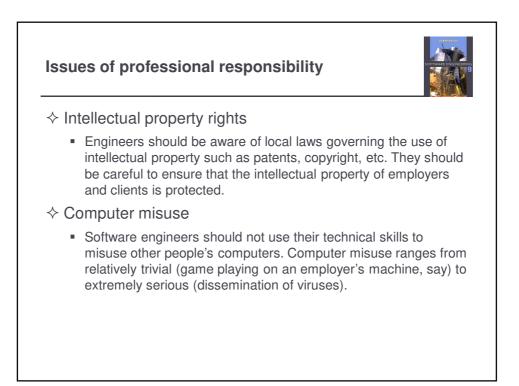


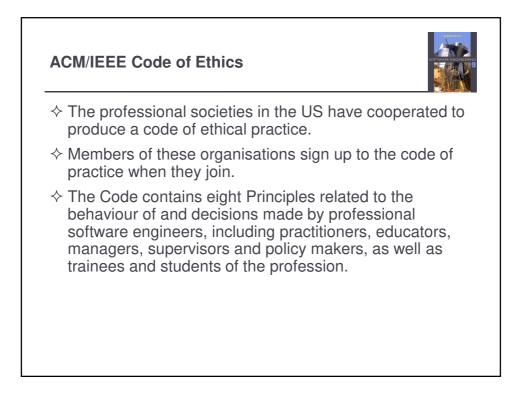




- ♦ Software engineering involves wider responsibilities than simply the application of technical skills.
- Software engineers must behave in an honest and ethically responsible way if they are to be respected as professionals.
- Ethical behaviour is more than simply upholding the law but involves following a set of principles that are morally correct.

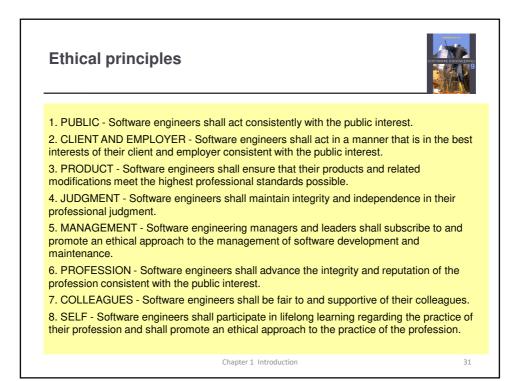


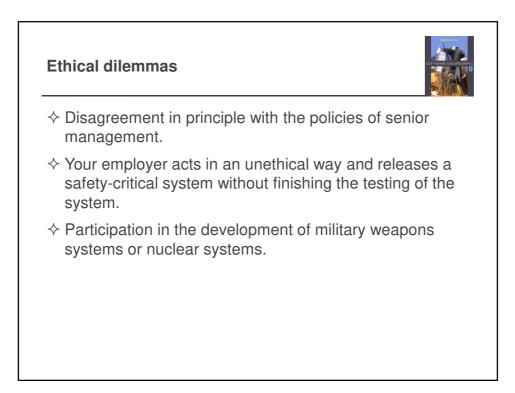


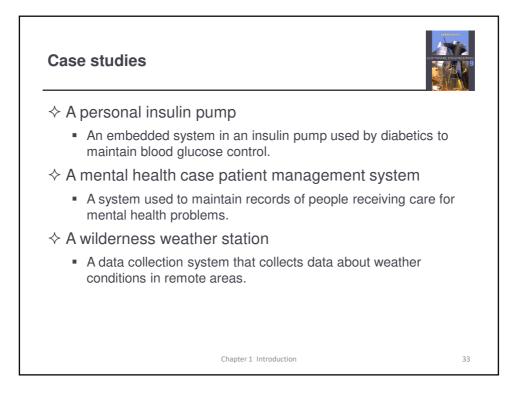


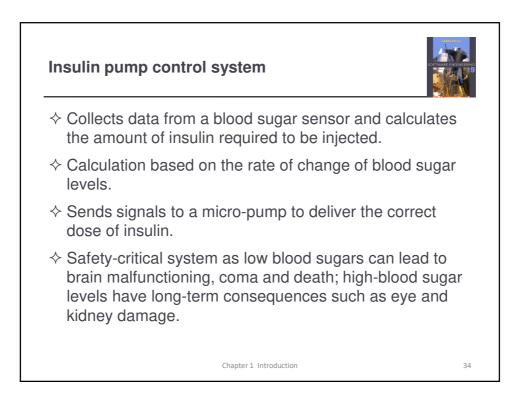


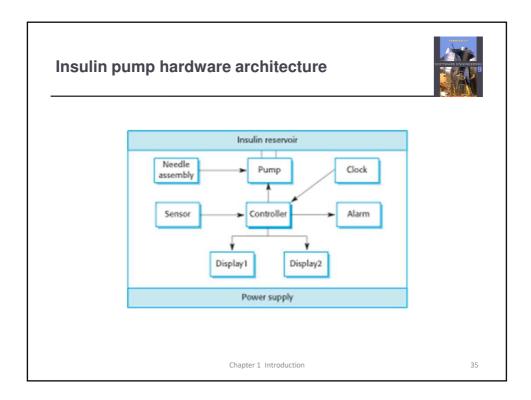
The ACM/IEEE Code of Ethics Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Professional Practice ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Task Force on Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices PREAMBLE The short version of the code summarizes aspirations at a high level of the abstraction; the clauses that are included in the full version give examples and details of how these aspirations change the way we act as software engineering professionals. Without the aspirations, the details can become legalistic and tedious; without the details, the aspirations can become high sounding but empty; together, the aspirations and the details form a cohesive code. Software engineers shall commit themselves to making the analysis, specification, design, development, testing and maintenance of software a beneficial and respected profession. In accordance with their commitment to the health, safety and welfare of the public, software engineers shall adhere to the following Eight Principles: Chapter 1 Introduction 30

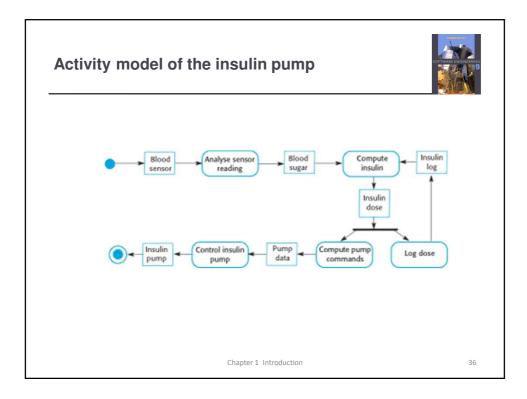


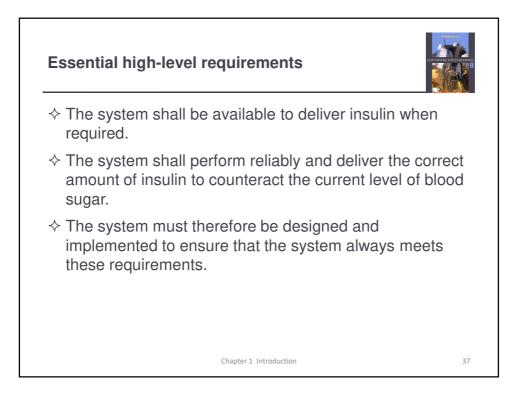


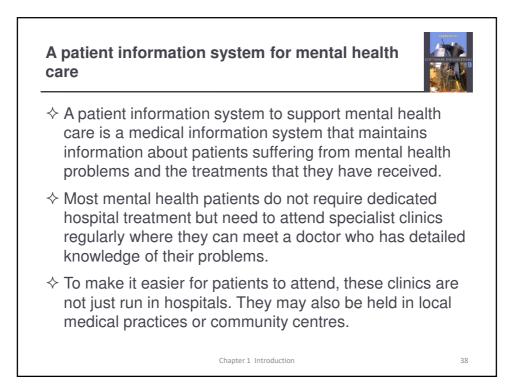


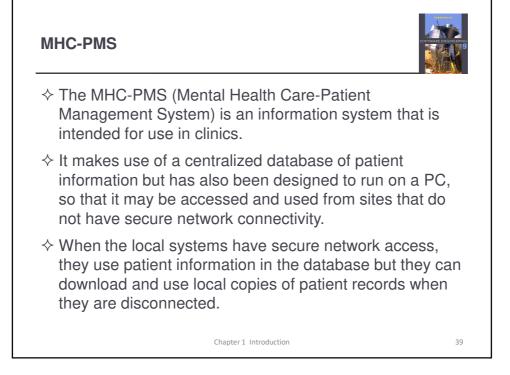


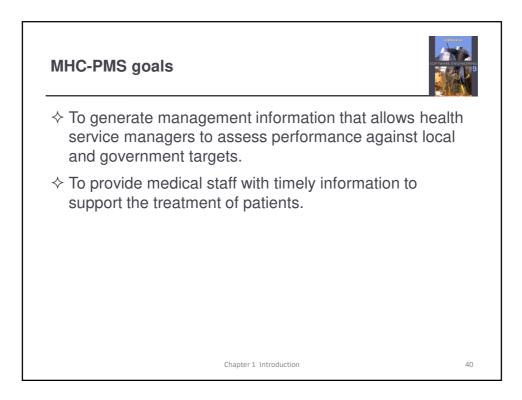


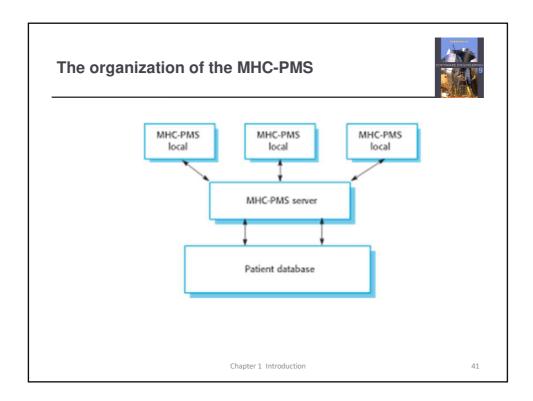


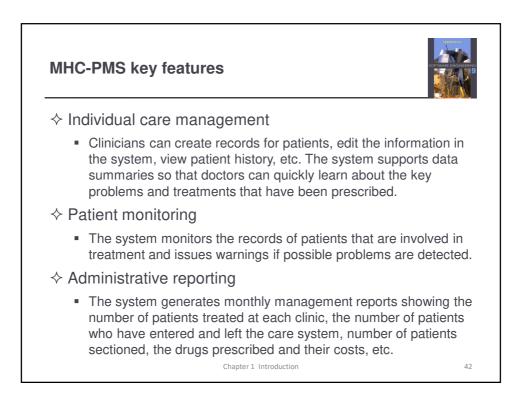


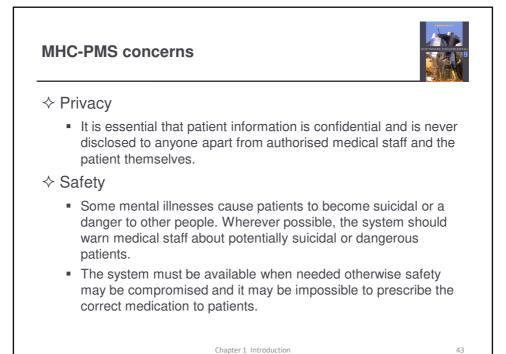












Wilderness weather station ♦ The government of a country with large areas of wilderness decides to deploy several hundred weather stations in remote areas. ♦ Weather stations collect data from a set of instruments that measure temperature and pressure, sunshine, rainfall, wind speed and wind direction. The weather station includes a number of instruments that measure weather parameters such as the wind speed and direction, the ground and air temperatures, the barometric pressure and the rainfall over a 24-hour period. Each of these instruments is controlled by a software system that takes parameter readings periodically and manages the data collected from the instruments. \diamond Chapter 1 Introduction 44

