



Computerized Adaptive Assessment (CAA): The Way Forward

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Computerized Assessment Will Be Implemented in the Near Future

- Computers have become part of our society.
- Students are computer literate.
- As computers are implemented for educational testing, the use of the power of computers will likely improve the process.



Successful CAT Procedures Have Been Developed

- ASVAB, NCLEX, COMPASS, AccuPlacer, NWEA
- But, the implementations have taken time to develop and substantial resources were needed for the for successful completion
- One goal is to give realistic requirements for success



Success Requires

- A calibrated item pool
- Access to sufficient amounts of computer hardware
- Software to run the system and collect the data
- All of these require significant time and resources to accomplish



Technology Will Change

- Need to build change into the plans
- Computers are obsolete after five years
- There will be new developments in software systems and the psychometrics of testing
- We do not want to expend all of those resources and then have the system cease to function due to poor planning for technology change



My Dream of the Future

- Computers will become a common aspect of the classroom
- We can collect the results of regular activities in the classroom
- These results can be used to track student performance and formal testing will no longer be needed



Optimistic and Pessimistic

- Optimistic that computers will become pervasive and eventually have an important role in assessment at the elementary and secondary level
- Pessimistic that some of the current initiatives do not have sufficient time and resources to implement CAT so that it can be a success.