



# Advent of the Internets

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**Geoff Nunberg**

**i103 History of Information**

April 9, 2015



# Where We Are

**year**

2015

1980

1950

1900

1800

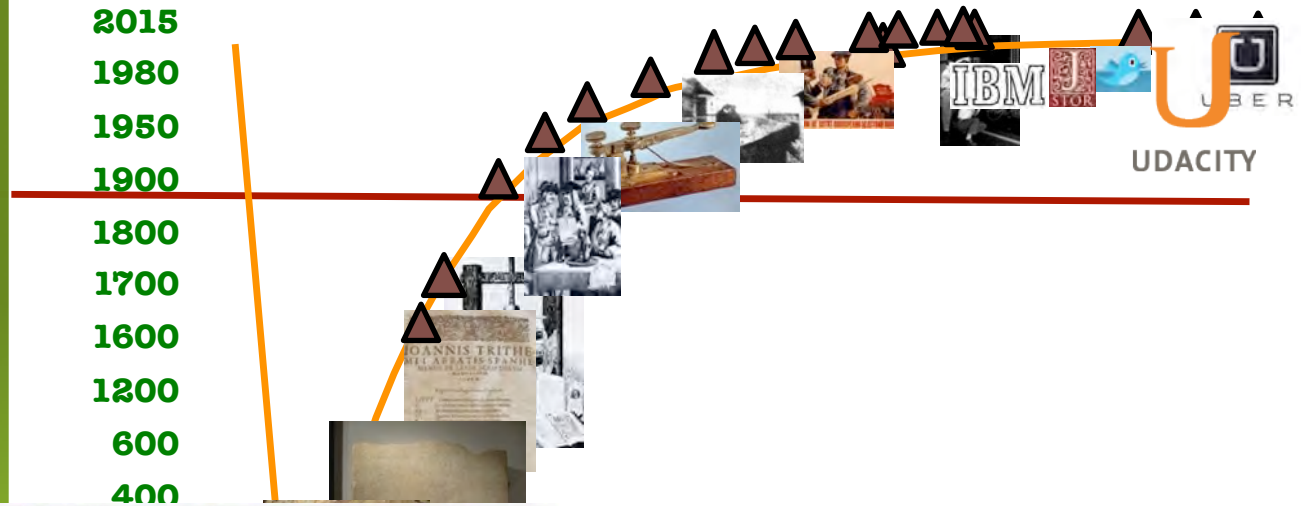
1700

1600

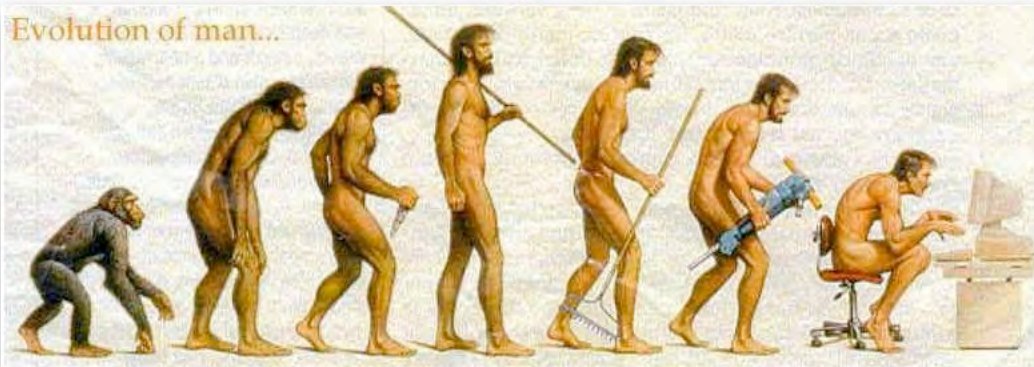
1200

600

400



Evolution of man...



4 5 6 7 8 10 11 12 13



# What Are We Talking About?

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The **Internet** is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet protocol suite ... to serve billions of users worldwide. It is a *network of networks*... linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless and optical networking technologies.

--a well-known infallible source of conventional wisdom

Cyberspace. A consensual hallucination experienced daily by billions of legitimate operators...A graphic representation of data abstracted from the banks of every computer in the human system. Unthinkable complexity. Lines of light ranged in the nonspace of the mind, clusters and constellations of data...

Wm. Gibson, "Burning Chrome" 1982



Visualization from Opte Project

Asia Europe/Africa

Latin America

North America

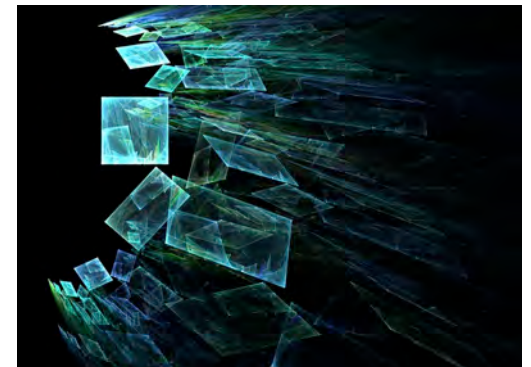
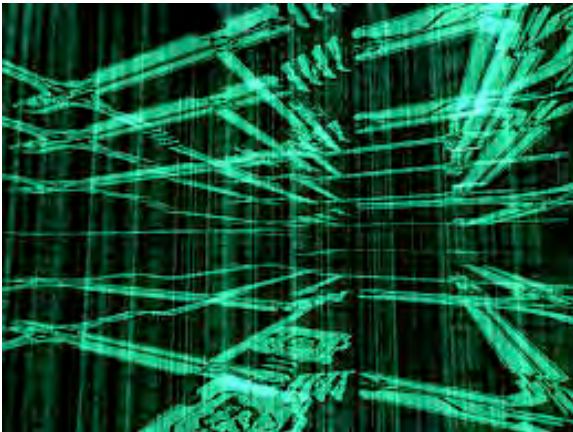
Private Networks (RFC1918)





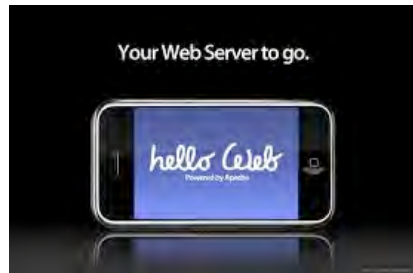
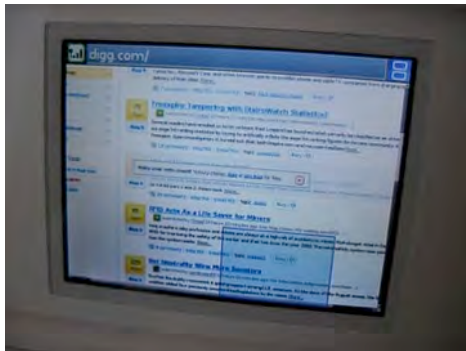
# (Why is it always night in cyberspace?)

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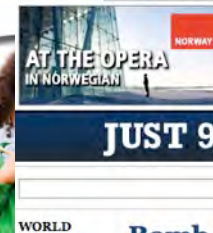
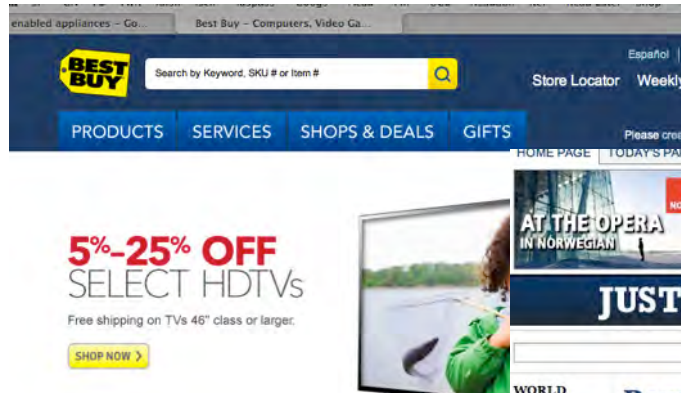
# What makes a "technology": Devices







# What makes for a "technology"?: Content



The New York Times

Tuesday, April 16, 2013 Last Update: 1:43 PM

JUST 99¢ for 4 WEEKS OF A DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

WORLD  
U.S.  
POLITICS  
NEW YORK  
BUSINESS  
DEALBOOK  
TECHNOLOGY  
SPORTS  
SCIENCE  
HEALTH  
ARTS

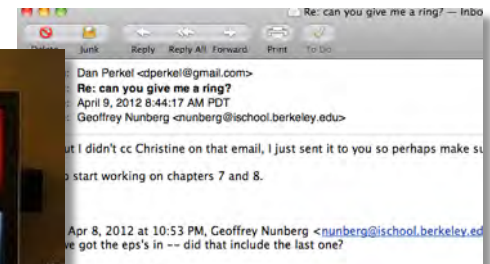
## Bomb Details Emerge in Boston Inquiry

Devices Said to Use Pressure Cookers Packed With Pellets

By KATHARINE Q. SEELYE and MICHAEL COOPER

48 minutes ago

The day after two explosions at the Boston Marathon killed three people and injured 176,



skype learn prices

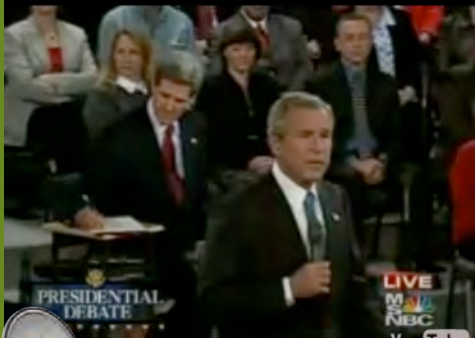
My account

Geoff Nunberg



# Looking for the Internet: W was right!

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Is the "internet":

a technology?

a network?

a set of applications & protocols?

a communication carrier?

a medium?

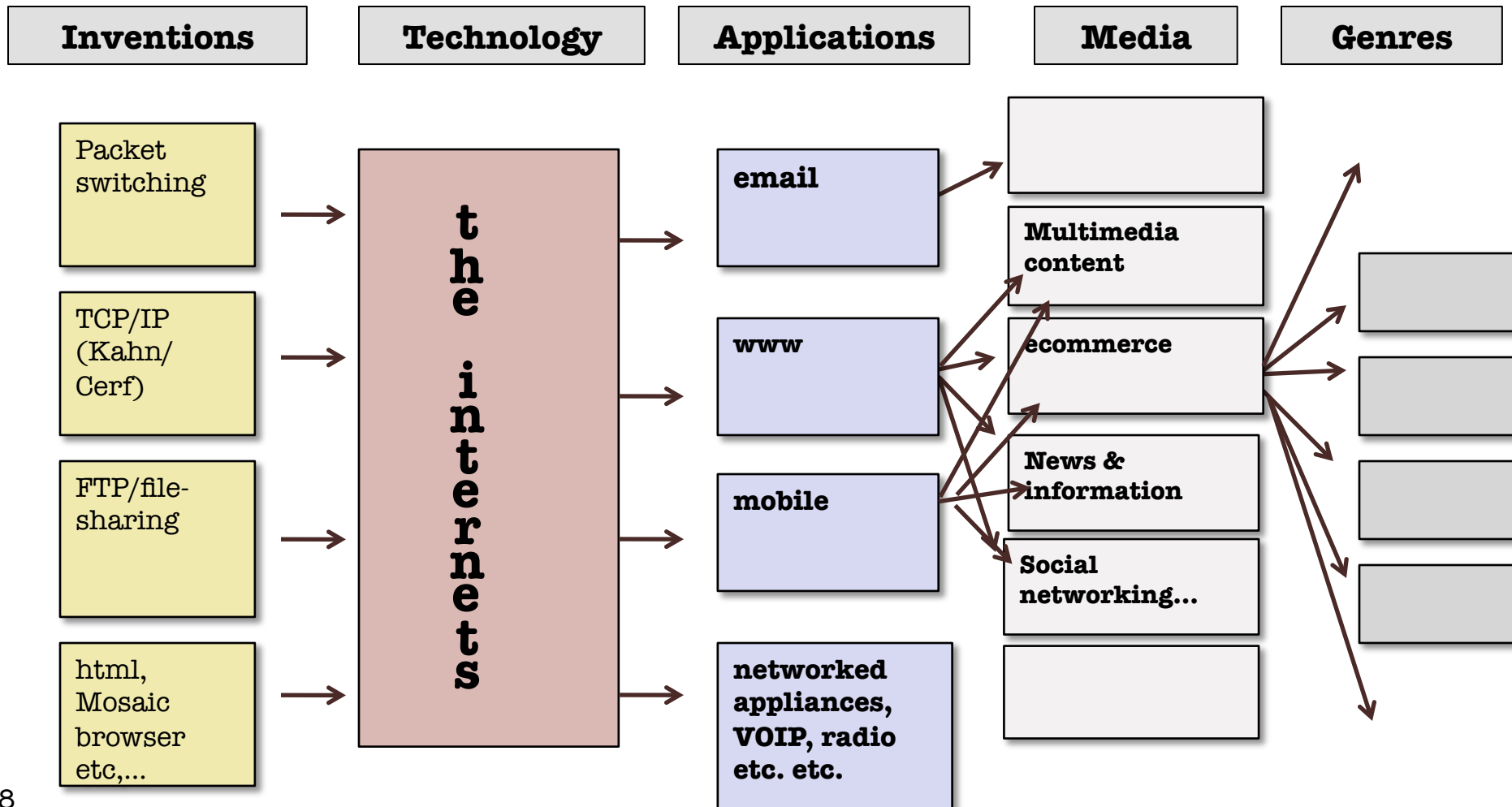
a collection of content?

a place?

YES



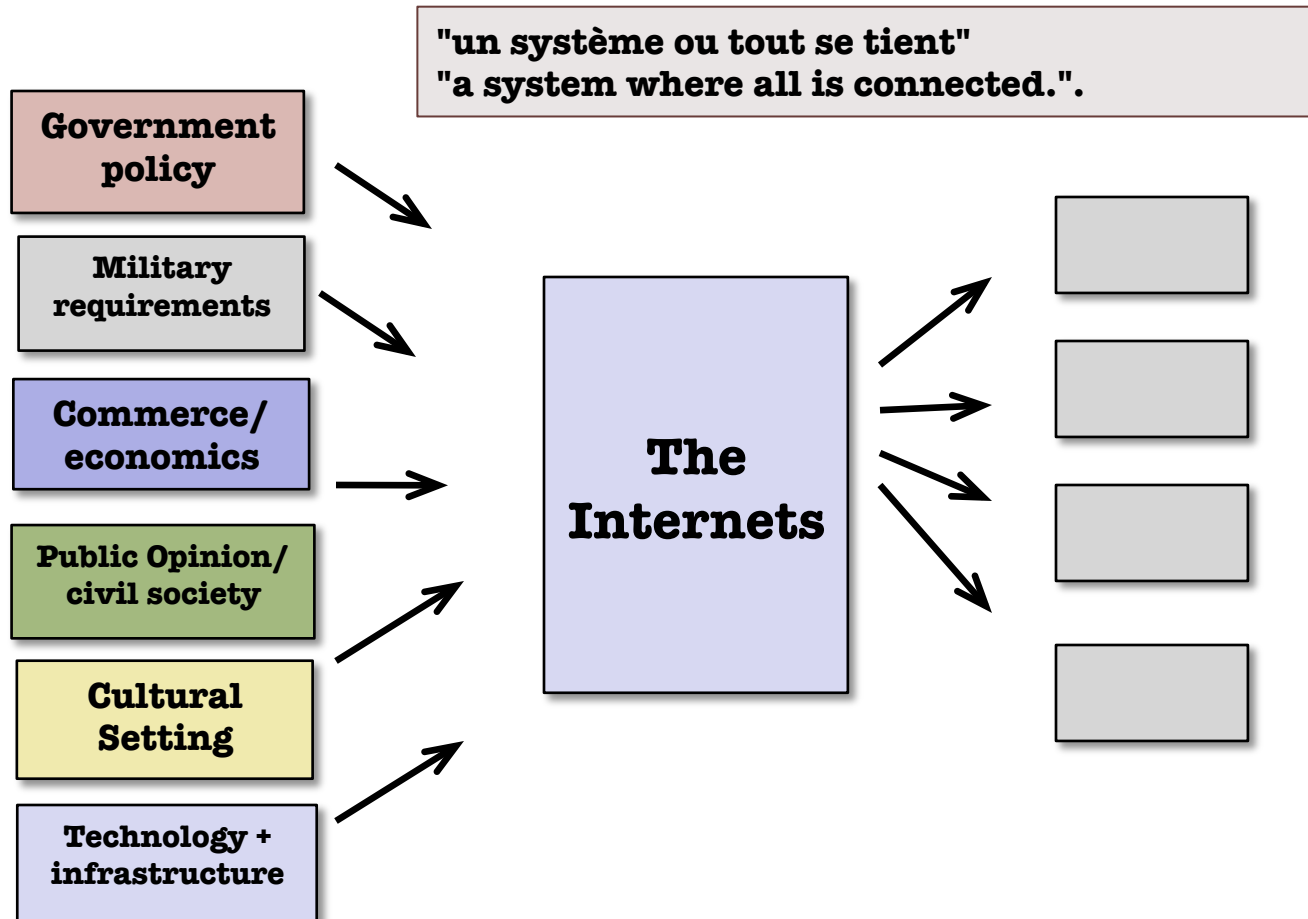
# Inventions, Technologies, Applications, Media







# Multiple Influences





# Beginnings

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*"a vast unintended  
consequence"*



# (some) Technological Bases of the Web

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## Chefertown and Baltimore, PACKET-BOAT.

THE Subscribers respectfully inform the public, that they continue running a Packet-Boat, which is now in excellent order. The Cabin is large and commodious, well calculated for the Accomodation of Passengers. Merchandise, Produce, &c. carried on the lowest Terms. From experience they can assuredly say, that the Packet is safe, and sails remarkably well --Will regularly leave Chefertown. every MONDAY at *Nine* o'clock, A. M. and set out from Baltimore, every THURSDAY, at *Nine* o'clock, A. M.

John Constable,

Master of said Boat, and one of the proprietors, will use all possible Diligence to accommodate Passengers, as well as be careful to execute, with punctuality, every trust committed to his charge.

JOHN CONSTABLE,  
JAMES PIPER.

*Chefertown, May, 17, 1793.*

Packet switching/communications protocols

Physical Networks

Addressing system

Hypertext transfer protocols

Browsers/ Graphical browsers

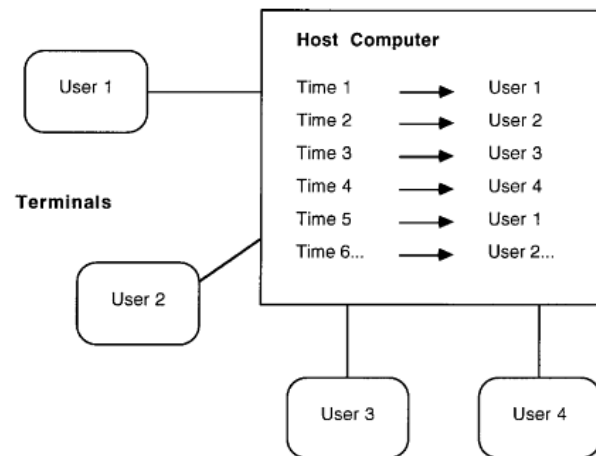
Indexing & search

Broadband



# Communicating

## intra-machine time-sharing





# Communicating

## different machines

Ethernet: computer to printer

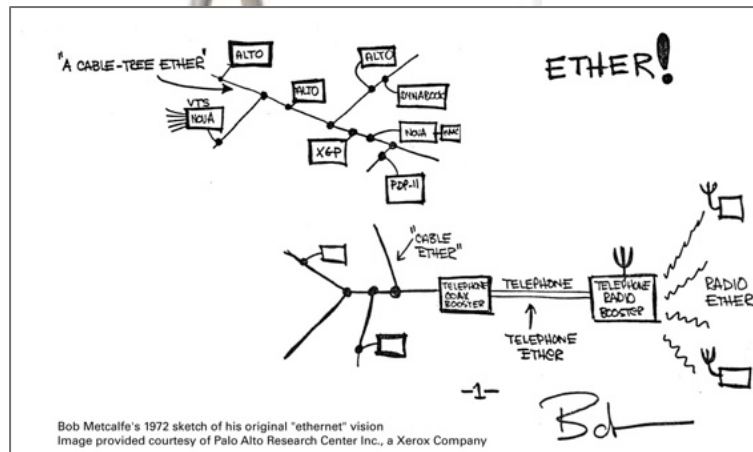
Hughes' tele  
1855



Edison Stock Ticker,  
1869



Bob Metcalfe at Xerox  
PARC in 1973





1962



1961



1960

# The Sixties Setting



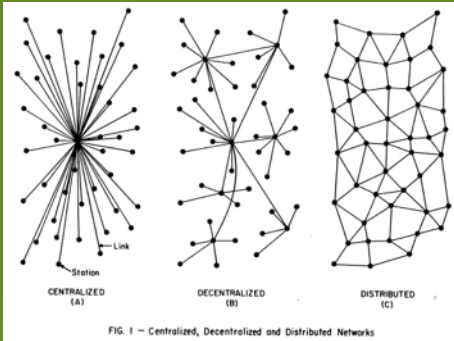
Doctor Strangelove (Stanley Kubrick), 1963



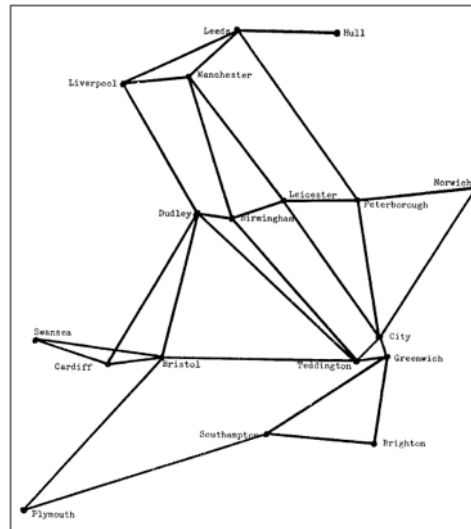


# Technological Foundations: Packet Switching

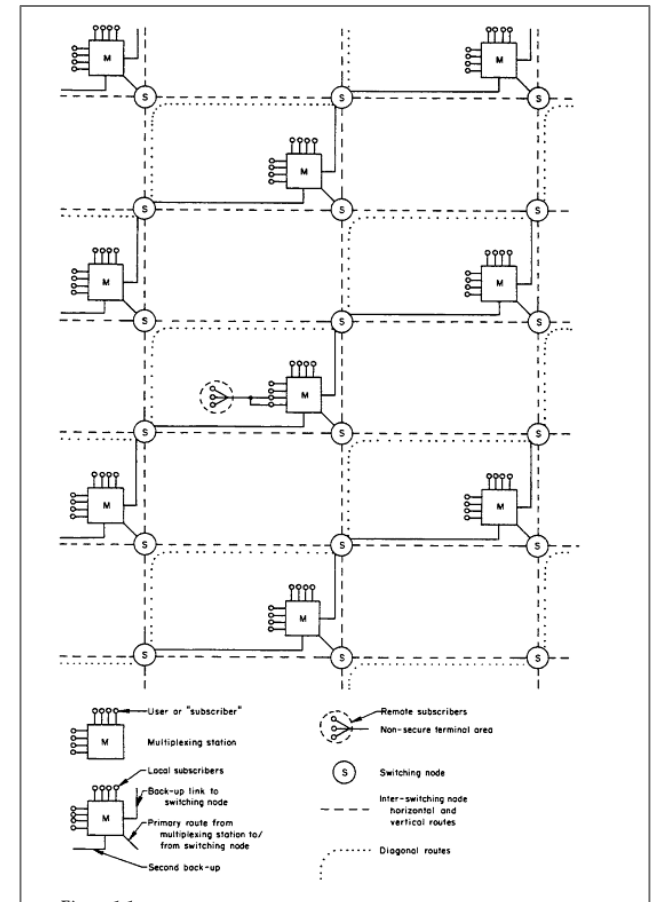
Switching ensures  
“survivability” but also  
maximizes network  
efficiency...



Paul Baran, "On Distributed  
Communications,  
1964 RAND report



Donald Davies proposed  
UK network 1967





# Technological Beginnings: 60s & 70s

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1971: File Transfer Protocol (FTP) permits easy exchange of files between sites.

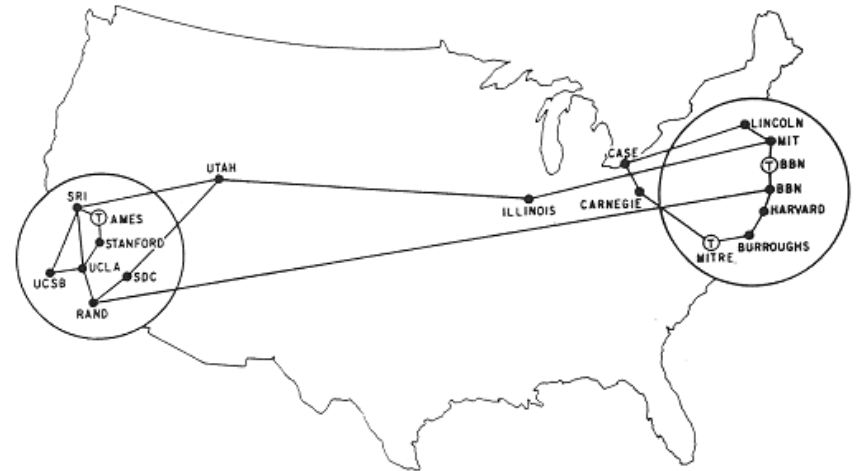
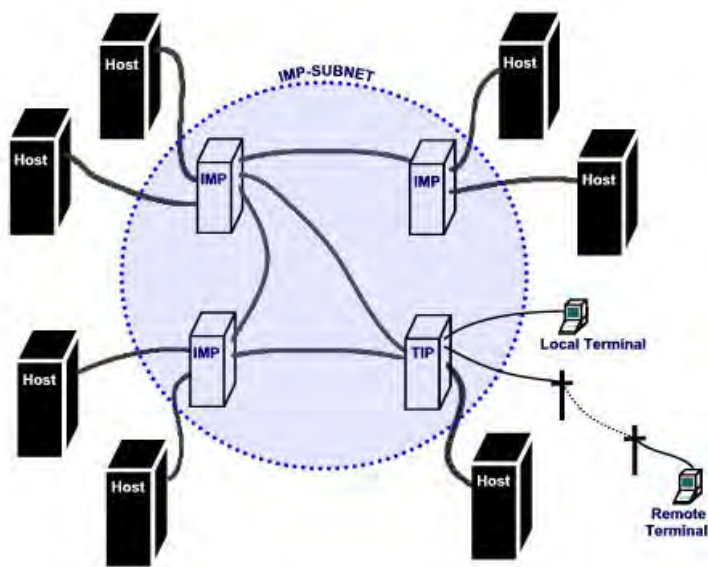
1974 Bob Kahn and Vin Cerf ("Father of the Internet") demonstrate Transfer Control Protocol (TCP), which enables machines to route & assemble data packets.)





# Technological Beginnings: The Arpanet

1969: ARPA (Advanced Research Projects Agency of DOD) (later DARPA) creates Arpanet, linking time-sharing computers at four (later 20) research sites by telephone lines. Communications handled by “subnet” of mincomputers called “Interface Message Processors” (IMPs).



MAP 4 September 1971

Arpanet 1971



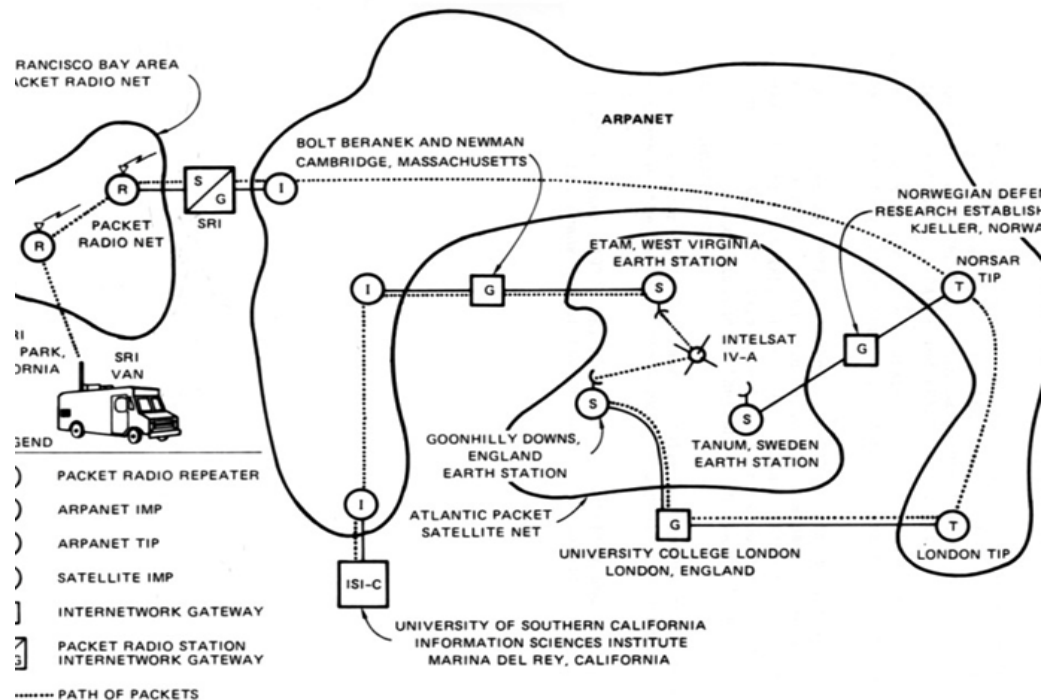
## Arpanet for Russkies





# The First "Internet": Proof of Concept

1977: Demonstration of internetworking from GG  
Bridge to Norway, London, via satellite to W.Va., &  
Menlo Park w/ no loss of signal





# Internet Development:80s

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1980's: NSF funds national backbone to connect computer research centers. Other gov't-funded networks (BITNET, CSNET) emerge.

1980 Usenet established at UNC Chapel Hill as “the poor man’s ARPANET.” User groups classified as comp., news., rec., talk., etc.

1980's: Commercial networks begin to emerge.

1983: Domain Name System (DNS) introduced to keep up with growing number of hosts, introduces domain names .com, .gov, .mil, .edu, etc.

“symbolics.com” is first .com registrant

Late 1980's: First Internet Service Providers emerge

1990: ARPANET shuts down

1991: NSF removes all restrictions on commercial use of Internet





# Internet Development:80s

1980's: NSF funds national backbone to connect computer research centers. Other gov't-funded networks (BITNET, CSNET) emerge.

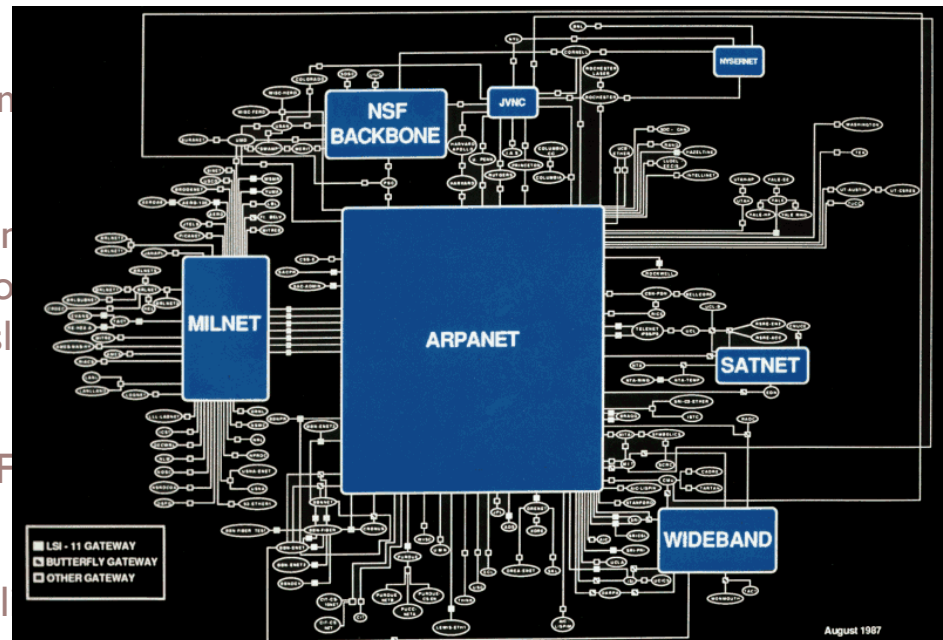
1980 Usenet established at UNC Chapel Hill as “the poor man’s ARPANET.” User groups classified as comp., news., rec., talk., etc.

1980's: Comm

1983: Domain  
number of ho  
servers trans

Late 1980's: F

1989: Austral



Internet 1987



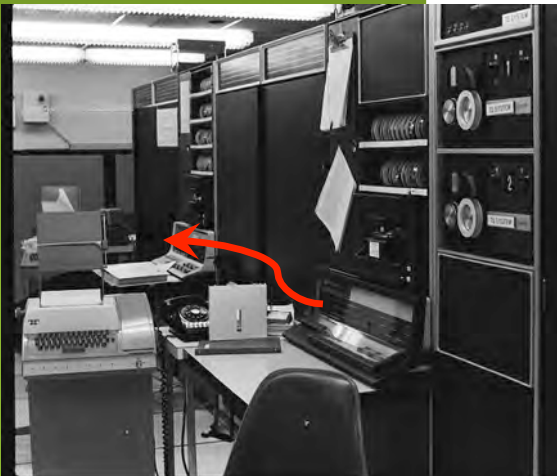
# The Origins of Email

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1971: First network email program created by Ray Tomlinson at Bolt, Beranek & Newman (BBN), with "USER@hostname.domain" addressing system.

1975: 1<sup>st</sup> email client MSG (permits "forward," "reply")

Email becomes ARPANET's most popular service ("unplanned, unanticipated, and mostly unsupported"—Admin. Report)

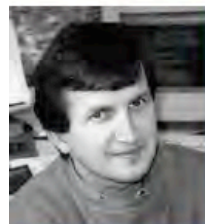




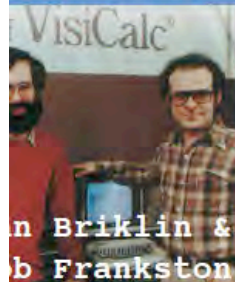
# Meanwhile....

changing perceptions

## killer apps

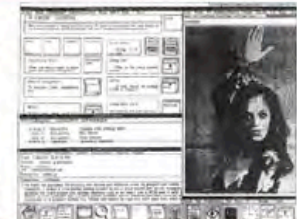
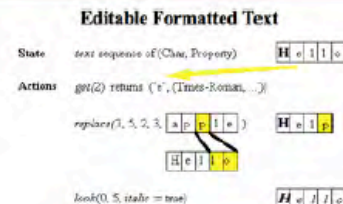


Charles Simonyi  
Xerox PARC



Dan Bricklin &  
Bob Frankston  
HBS

Bravo, 1974



Visicalc, 1978



MS-DOS Command Prompt

Command: BCDEF GHIJKLMNOP

	A	B	C	D	E
1) leap	1979	1980	1981	1982	
2) Sales	54321	57253	65728	72301	
3) Cost	42457	47882	52583	57841	
4) Profit	18864	11951	13146	14468	

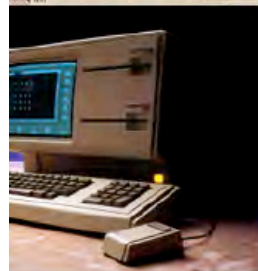
Lotus 1-2-3, 1983



Excel (for Mac), 1984



# Meanwhile....



## culture clash

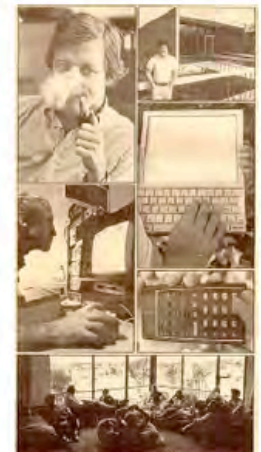
### home brew, fone freaks

1975 Altair

1976 Apple I

1983 Lisa

1984 Macintosh



Stewart Brand, "Fanatic Life and Symbolic Death Among the Computer Bums"

--Rolling Stone,  
7 December, 1972

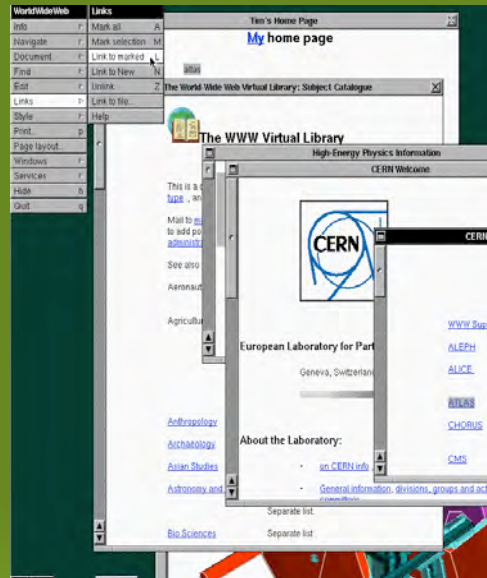


# The Emergence of the WWW

1945: Vannevar Bush writes "As We May Think" in *The Atlantic*; envisions Memex machine to follow links between documents on microfiche

1965: Ted Nelson coins the term "hypertext" to describe "compound documents" formed by links among documents

1990: Tim Berners-Lee of CERN coins the term "World Wide Web"; develops HTTP. protocol for transmitting hypertext documents between clients and servers.



Sir Tim

## World Wide Web

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area [hypermedia](#) information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a la

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an [executive summary](#) of the [Asked Questions](#).

### [What's out there?](#)

Pointers to the world's online information, [subjects](#), [W3 servers](#), etc.

### [Help](#)

on the browser you are using

### [Software Products](#)

A list of W3 project components and their current state. (e.g. [Line Mode](#), [X11 Viola](#), [NeXTStep](#), [Servers](#), [Tools](#), [Technical](#))

### [Technical](#)

Details of protocols, formats, program internals etc

### [Bibliography](#)

Paper documentation on W3 and references.

### [People](#)

A list of some people involved in the project.

### [History](#)

A summary of the history of the project.

### [How can I help?](#)

If you would like to support the web..

### [Getting code](#)

Getting the code by [anonymous FTP](#), etc.

**The First Web Page**





Hayes Smartmodem 1981

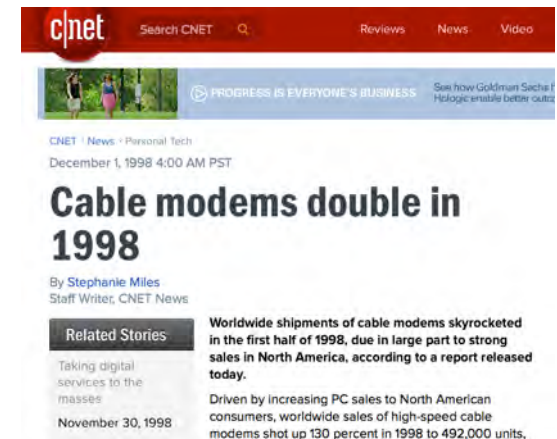


# The short happy life of proprietary services

Gated communities:

ca 1990-: Pay-based online services like AOL, CompuServe, and Prodigy market connectivity + proprietary content (games, chat rooms, e-commerce, instant messaging etc.)

By 1998, AOL has 15m. Members, but then...



But analog modems still 90% of market



# The Emergence of the WWW

2000: AOL merges w/ Time-Warner

2005: gives away free email acc'ts

2009 spun off by Time-Warner

2010 eliminates chat rooms

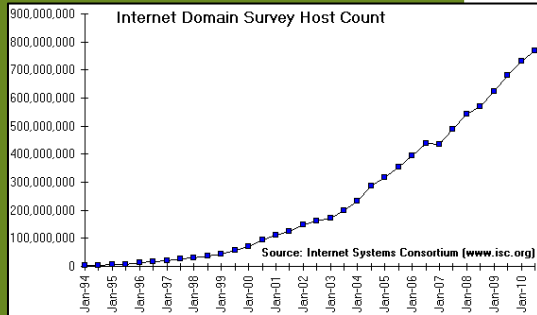
2011 acquires Huffington post

## AOL subscribers, 2001-2009





# Browsers!



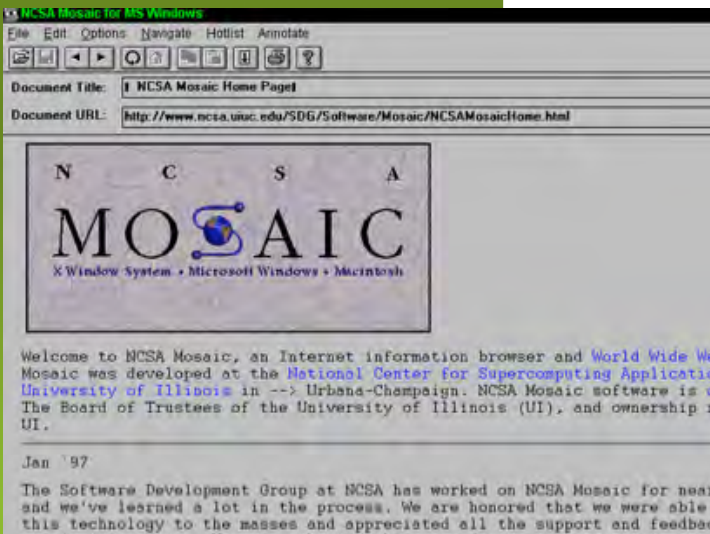
1993: Marc Andreessen's Mosaic browser released by NCSA, which runs on Windows and permits easy integration of graphics in Web pages.

CERN announces that W3 technology will be available free to everyone.

1994: Andreessen, now in private sector, releases Netscape Navigator browser.

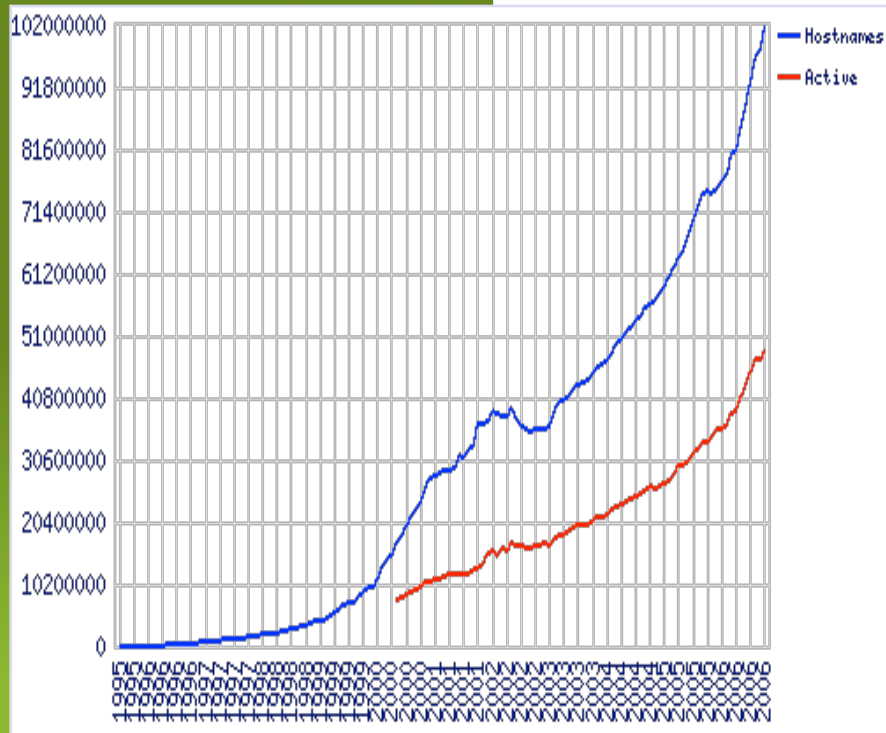
1995: Microsoft releases Internet Explorer bundled with Windows 95 to compete with Netscape.

1995 AOL makes Internet available to all subscribers





# The Web Takes Off



1994-2005: Internet use increases rapidly, driven by email, E-commerce, news & information, pornography & gambling. By 2005 there are an estimated 100m Web sites.

~2000- Growth of broadband enables exchange of audio & video content; blogs and social networking sites proliferate, etc.

2005: 68 percent of American adults and 90 percent of American teenagers have used the Internet.



## PRICEY DOMAIN NAMES

VacationRentals.com 2007  
\$35m

Insure.com 2009 \$16m

Sex.com 2010 \$13m

Fb.com 2010  
by Facebook \$8.5m

Diamond.com 2006 \$7.5m

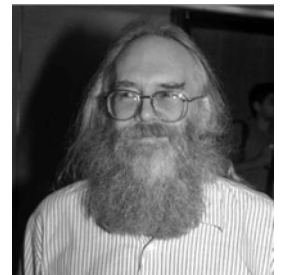
Beer.com 2004 \$7m

Slots.com 2003 \$5m

## Dot.comania

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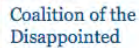
1998: Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) established to oversee assignment of domain names and IP addresses, formerly under control of US government.



Jon Postel



## 1 of 12



1 of 12



2 of 12

This weekend, hundreds of people from dozens of countries will gather in Singapore to

TOP STORIES IN OPINION

1 of 12

2 of 12



Coalition of the Disappointed



The Spending Bender Also Known as the '...

OPINION

## America's Internet Surrender

By unilaterally retreating from online oversight, the White House

By L. GORDON CROVITZ

March 18, 2014 6:56 p.m. ET

The Internet is often described as a miracle of self-regulation, which is almost



Jay Nordlinger - Blown Out, Part



The Editors - Ukraine and



Kevin D. Williams

ICANN may be opened up to the influence of nations that do not boast traditions of individual liberty and protected expression. *Nat. Review*

## FOX NEWS

Search foxnews.co

Opinion Home

Todd Starnes

Judith Miller

Juan Williams

KT McFarland

Dr. Keith Ablow

Karl Rove

Ric Grenell

TECH

ICA  
reve

By Erik Telfo

This is the Obama equivalent of Carter's decision to give away the Panama Canal —only with possibly much worse consequences.” A former Bush official

# Politics of ICANN

## NEW REPUBLIC

POLITICS

CULTURE

THE MAGAZINE

search...

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TECHNOLOGY

MARCH 24, 2014

**No, Barack Obama Isn't Handing Control of the Internet Over to China**  
The misguided freakout over ICANN

## What happens when U.S. hands off

BY LEE RAINIE | 6 COMMENTS



A screen shows a rolling feed of new

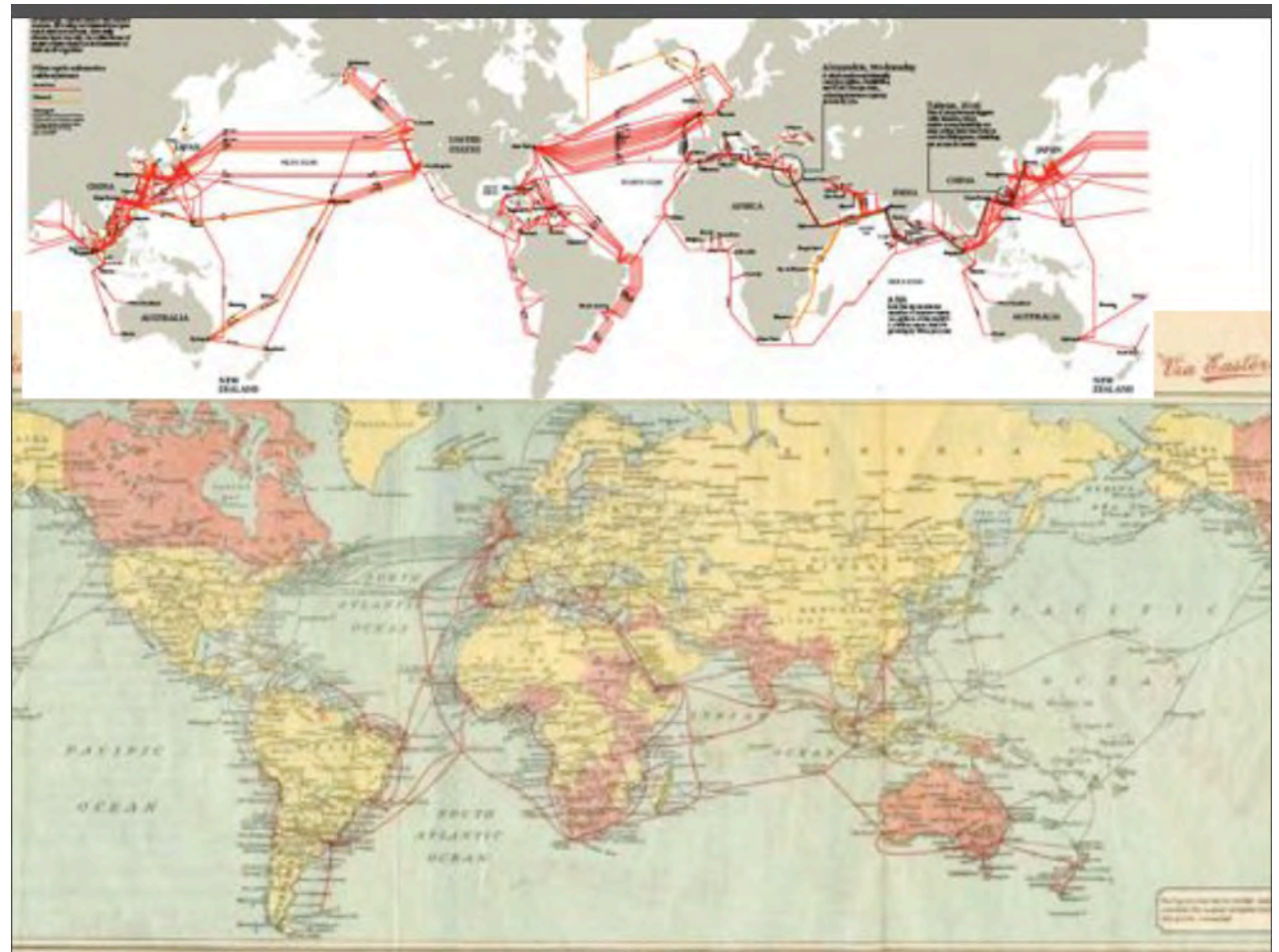
You may be reading this article at newrepublic.com, and if you are, you're here because your ISP, your operating system vendor, your browser maker and you are agreeing to map that name to this online place. Any could change it, notwithstanding actions of governments and institutions like ICANN. ...last week's news is simply about symbolism. Jonathan Zittrain, *The New Republic*

This weekend, hundreds of people from dozens of countries will gather in Singapore to





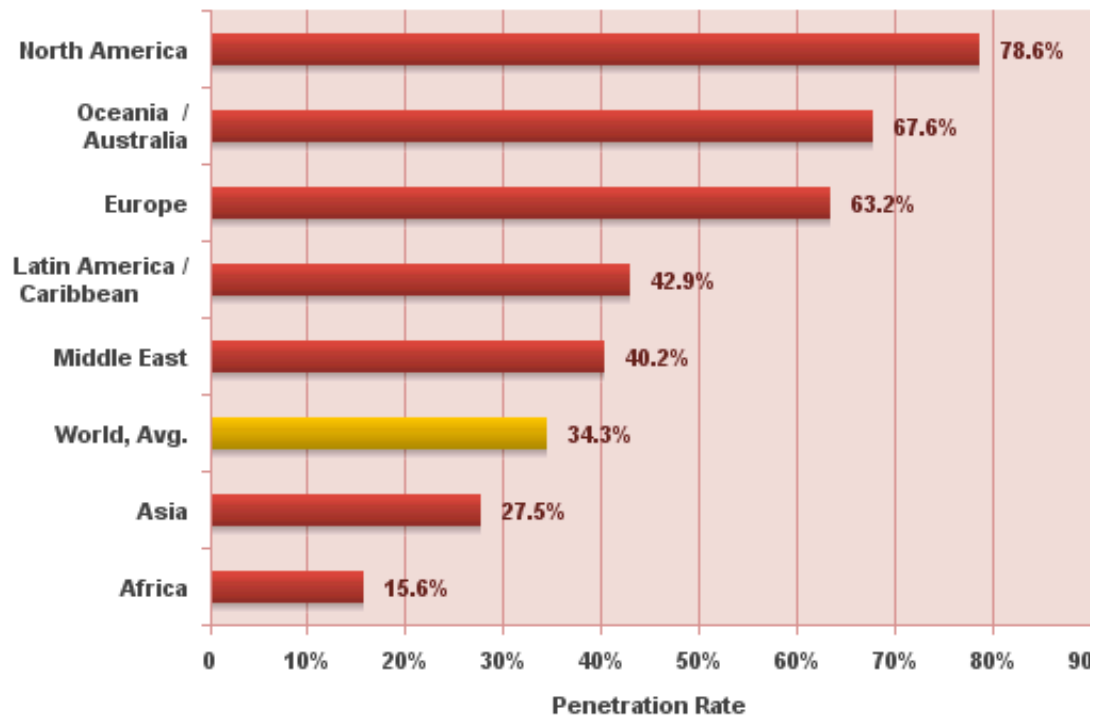
# The Wired World





# Disparities

**World Internet Penetration Rates  
by Geographic Regions - 2012 Q2**





## ...but not so fast

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But in much of world, desire for connectivity creates preference for fixed connections



Internet Café,  
Accra, Ghana





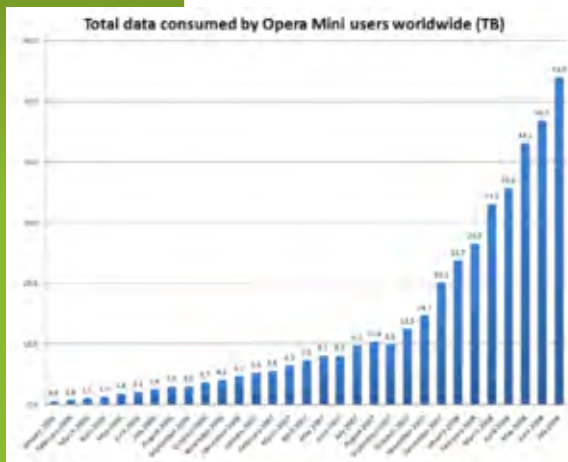
# Faster than we expected

## Cisco: mobile connections to hit 10 billion by 2016

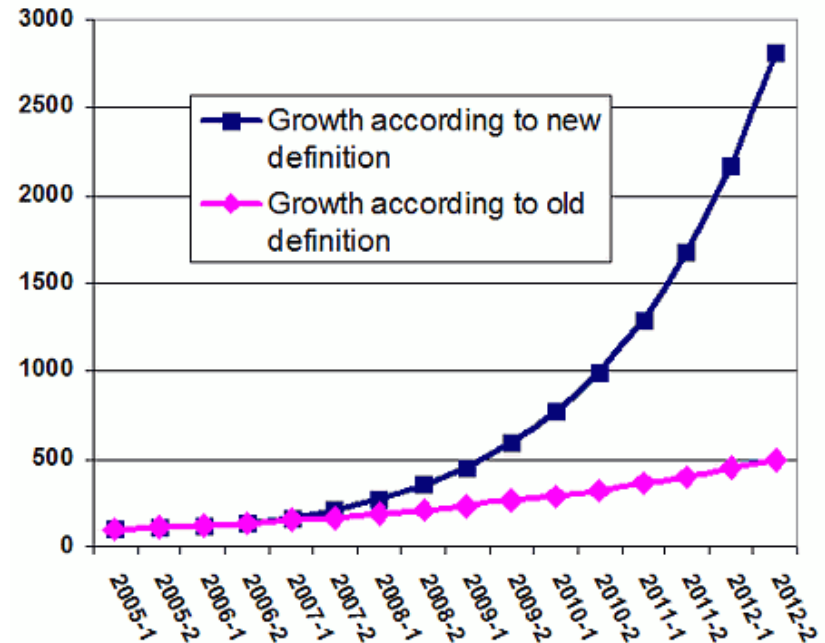
By: Dan Graziano | Feb 15th, 2012 at 12:30AM

0 Comments

Filed Under: [Mobile](#)



## Chinese Internet Users - 2 Growth Scenarios



**AMD: By 2015 half of world will have an Internet connection**



# The Internationalization of the Web

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Initial prevalence of English on the Web

1997 -- Nunberg & Schuetze survey of 2.3 million pages from Web crawl: 85 percent of content is in English, including about 35 percent of content in non-English speaking domains.

Eng. Most common in N. Europe, less-developed nations

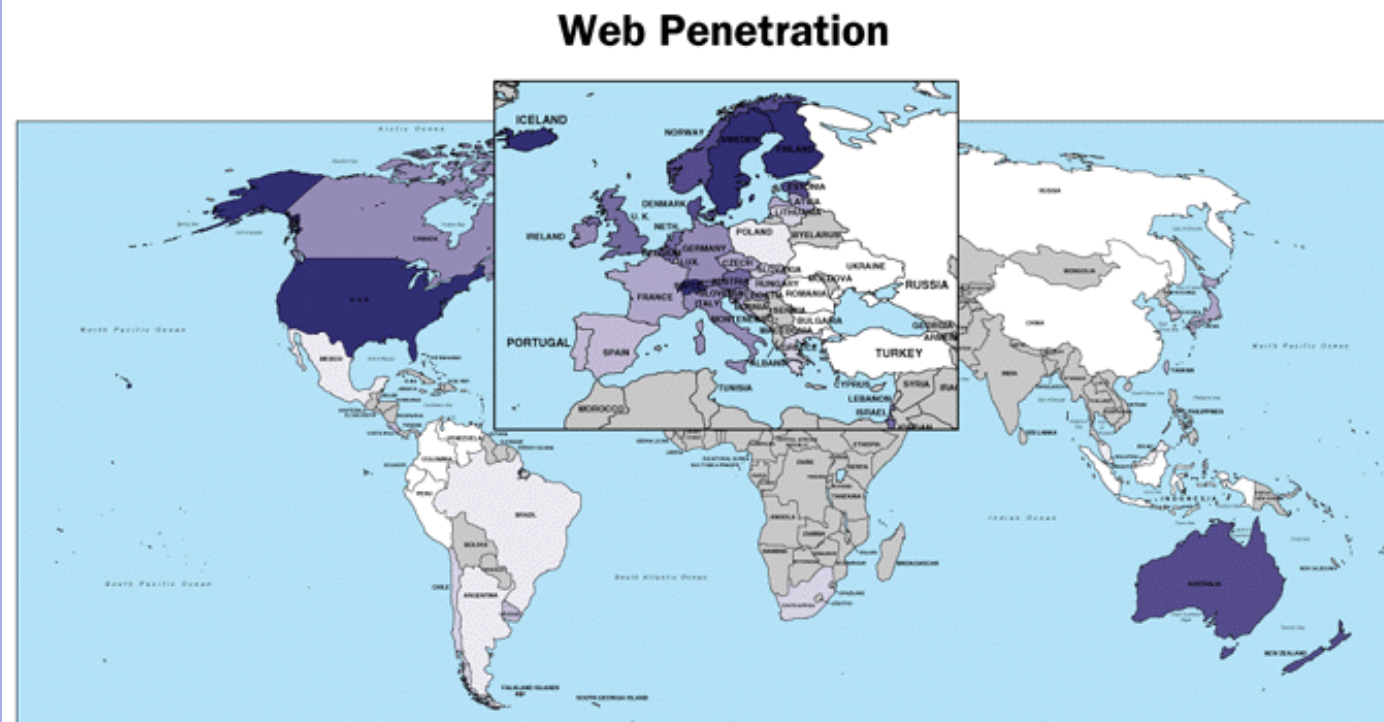
2000: Jack Xu Excite@Home; survey of around 600 million pages: 72% are in English



# The Internationalization of the Web

Relative size of Eng-speaking population in developed world

Cf. Web penetration, 1997





## Fears of English Hegemony...

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“The Web is the ultimate act of intellectual colonialism.”  
Director of Russian ISP, 1999

“Nearly 70 per cent of the world's Web sites are in English, at times crowding out voices and views.” Kofi Annan, 12-Jan-04



## And Anglophone Triumphalism...

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The Internet is "a great force for the Anglification of the planet."

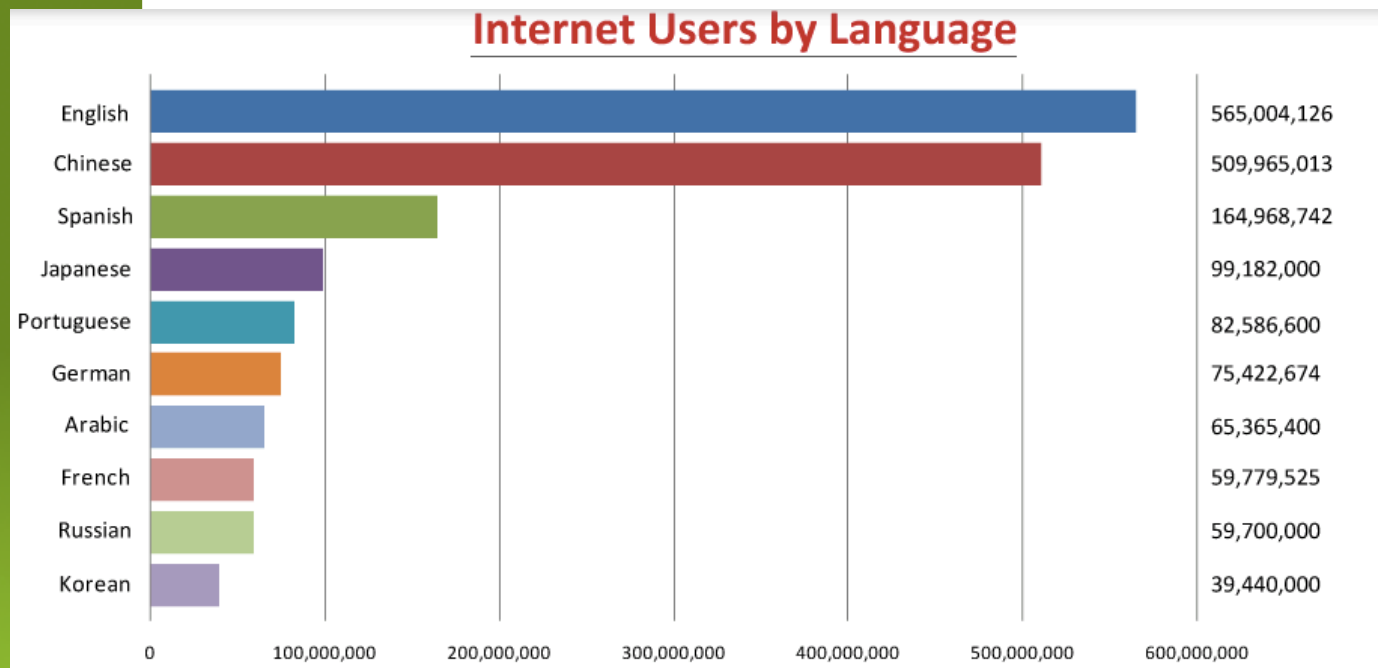
“[Thanks to the Internet,] English will be the native language of a majority of the world by some time in the next century.” Editor, *The Futurist*

"There is no retreat from English as the world language; no retreat from and English-speaking world." Sridath Ramphal, chairman of Commission on Global Governance, 1996





# Growth of Other Languages on the Web





# Internet Penetration Moves toward Equalization...

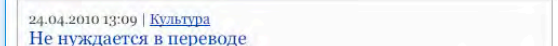
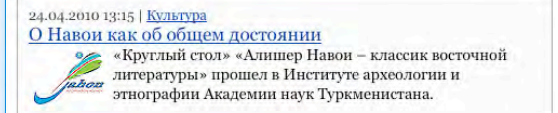
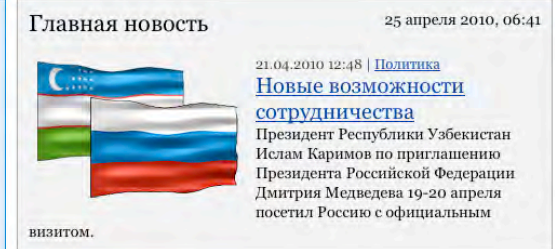
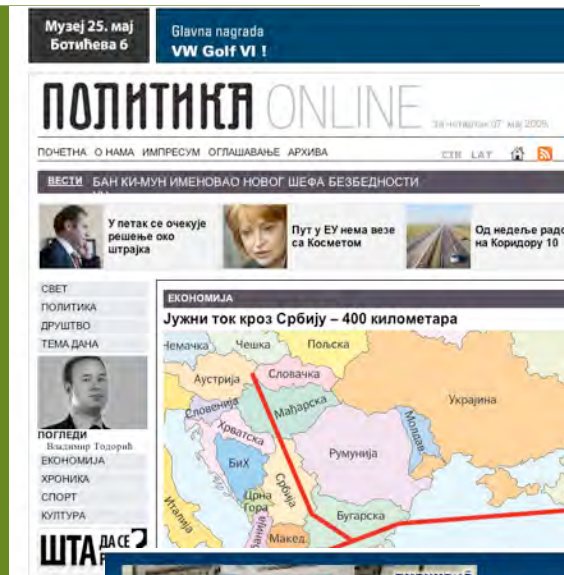
Penetration increases most sharply in Africa, Middle East, Latin America...

WORLD INTERNET USAGE AND POPULATION STATISTICS JUNE 30, 2014 - Mid-Year Update						
World Regions	Population ( 2014 Est.)	Internet Users Dec. 31, 2000	Internet Users Latest Data	Penetration (% Population)	Growth 2000-2014	Users % of Table
<a href="#">Africa</a>	1,125,721,038	4,514,400	297,885,898	26.5 %	6,498.6 %	9.8 %
<a href="#">Asia</a>	3,996,408,007	114,304,000	1,386,188,112	34.7 %	1,112.7 %	45.7 %
<a href="#">Europe</a>	825,824,883	105,096,093	582,441,059	70.5 %	454.2 %	19.2 %
<a href="#">Middle East</a>	231,588,580	3,284,800	111,809,510	48.3 %	3,303.8 %	3.7 %
<a href="#">North America</a>	353,860,227	108,096,800	310,322,257	87.7 %	187.1 %	10.2 %
<a href="#">Latin America / Caribbean</a>	612,279,181	18,068,919	320,312,562	52.3 %	1,672.7 %	10.5 %
<a href="#">Oceania / Australia</a>	36,724,649	7,620,480	26,789,942	72.9 %	251.6 %	0.9 %
<a href="#">WORLD TOTAL</a>	7,182,406,565	360,985,492	3,035,749,340	42.3 %	741.0 %	100.0 %



# Space for Smaller Languages

Web encourages the spread of English....  
And maintenance and spread of smaller  
national, regional, and ethnic languages





# **The growth of broadband**

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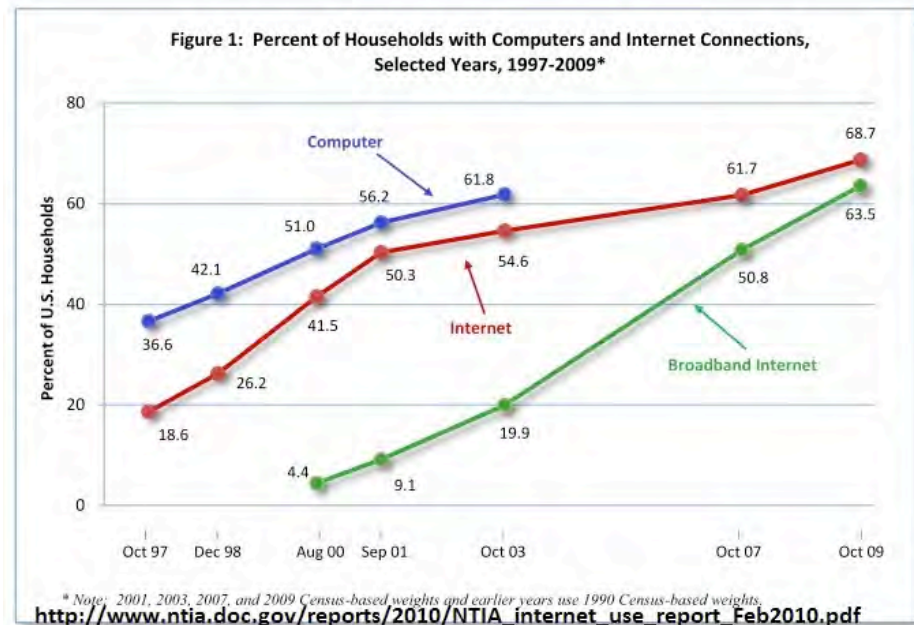
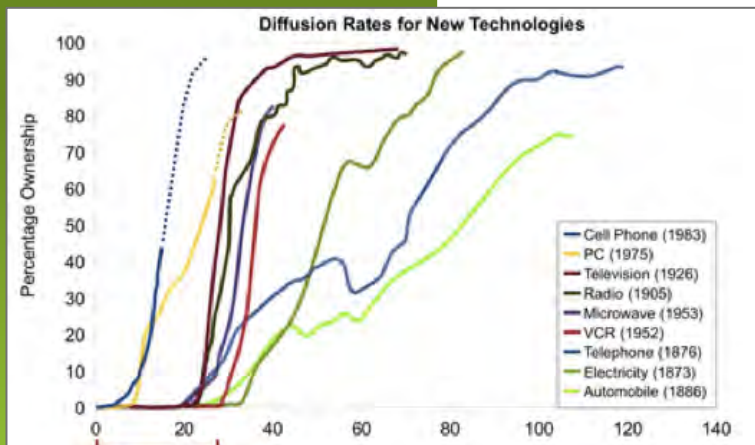


# The growth of broadband

US population w/ broadband access:

2000: 3%

2010: 66%







# The growth of broadband

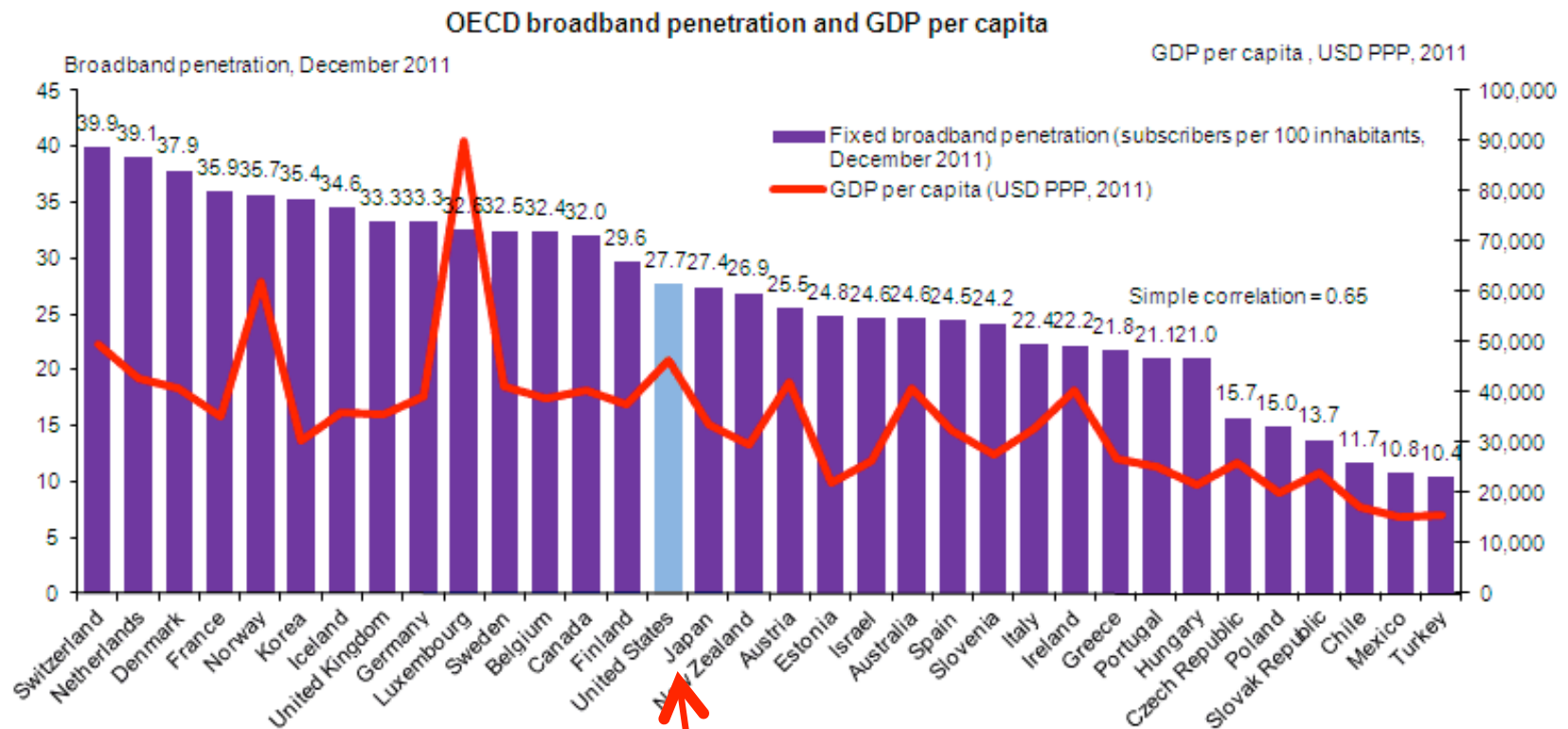
But US lags other developed nations...

Country	Q1 '12 Avg. Mbps	QoQ Change	YoY Change
— Global	2.6	14%	25%
1 South Korea	15.7	-1.5%	9.4%
2 Japan	10.9	21%	35%
3 Hong Kong	9.3	5.4%	1.3%
4 Netherlands	8.8	6.5%	18%
5 Latvia	8.8	18%	38%
6 Switzerland	8.1	11%	30%
7 Ireland	7.3	3.4%	30%
8 Czech Republic	7.1	6.2%	9.7%
9 Belgium	7.1	13%	16%
10 Finland	6.9	16%	39%
...			
12 United States	6.7	17%	29%

Figure 7: Average Measured Connection Speed by Country



# The growth of broadband



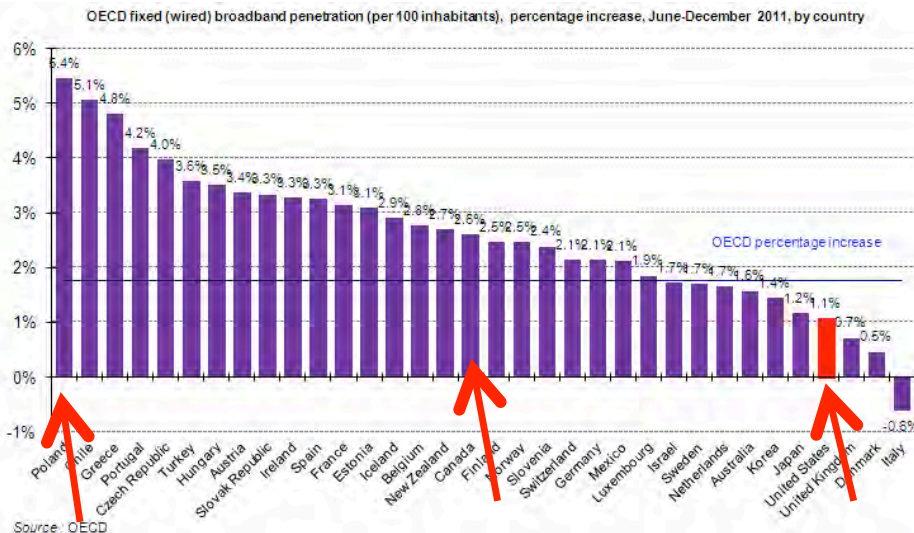
Source: OECD

US



# Slowing broadband growth

## Rate of growth in broadband



Poland

Canada

US

at&t / comcast / verizon

US broadband growth slows to a trickle with only 260,000 new connections

by Om Malik AUG. 14, 2012 - 8:11 AM PDT

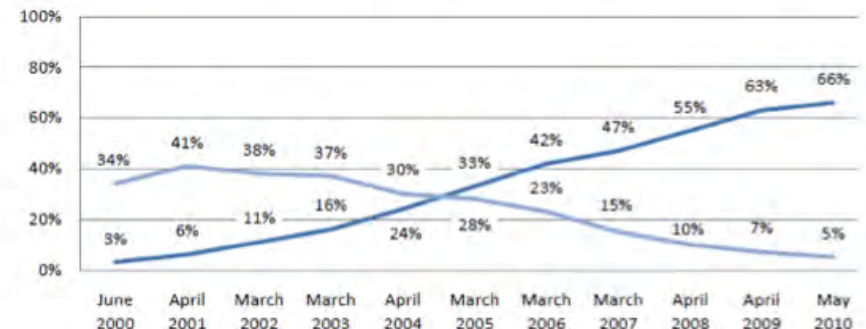
CNET > News > Internet & Media > Broadband growth slows in U.S.

## Broadband growth slows in U.S.

Following years of double-digit gains, broadband adoption has slowed with 66 percent of Americans using a high-speed connection at home, says Pew Internet.

## Broadband and Dial-up Adoption, 2000-2010

% of American adults who access the internet via dial-up or broadband, over time.





# Is broadband a public utility?



Types of broadband access:

Copper wire (DSL, phone lines)

Cable

Fiber optic

Wifi

(satellite)

...while “blazing fast” broadband might be important for some users, broadband speeds in the US are plenty fast enough to satisfy most users. Forbes

TIME

TECH POLICY

## Is Broadband Internet Access a Public Utility?

By Sam Gustin @samgustin | Jan. 09, 2013 | 33 Comments

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[Read Later](#)

Should broadband Internet service be treated as a basic utility in the United States, like electricity, water, and traditional telephone service? That's the question at the heart of an important and provocative new book by Susan Crawford, a tech policy expert and professor at Cardozo Law School. In *Captive Audience: The Telecom Industry and Monopoly in the New Gilded Age*, released Tuesday by Yale University Press, Crawford argues



Courtesy of Yale University Press

Forbes

## 10 Reasons To Be More Optimistic About Broadband Than Susan Crawford Is

[Geoffrey Manne](#), Subscriber



# Is broadband a public utility?



“In Seoul, when you move into an apartment, you have a choice of three or four providers selling you symmetric fiber access for \$30 per month, and installation happens in one day,” Susan Crawford

The wireless industry claims that there is extensive competition in the U.S., including four nationwide operators and seven providers..., but that’s like claiming that the New York Giants and the Tappan Zee High School team both play football.

TIME

TECH POLICY

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Courtesy of Yale University Press






# Is broadband a public utility?

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**Forbes**

3/02/2013 @ 4:40PM | 7,490 views

**10 Reasons To Be More Optimistic About Broadband Than Susan Crawford Is**

 **Geoffrey Manne**, Subscriber

...given the entrenched influence of these companies in Washington, D.C., many — if not most — of her policy prescriptions seem a tad far-fetched. Is the U.S. government about to mandate low-cost broadband Internet access for all Americans? It's not likely any time soon. Time.

...while “blazing fast” broadband might be important for some users, broadband speeds in the US are plenty fast enough to satisfy most users.  
Forbes

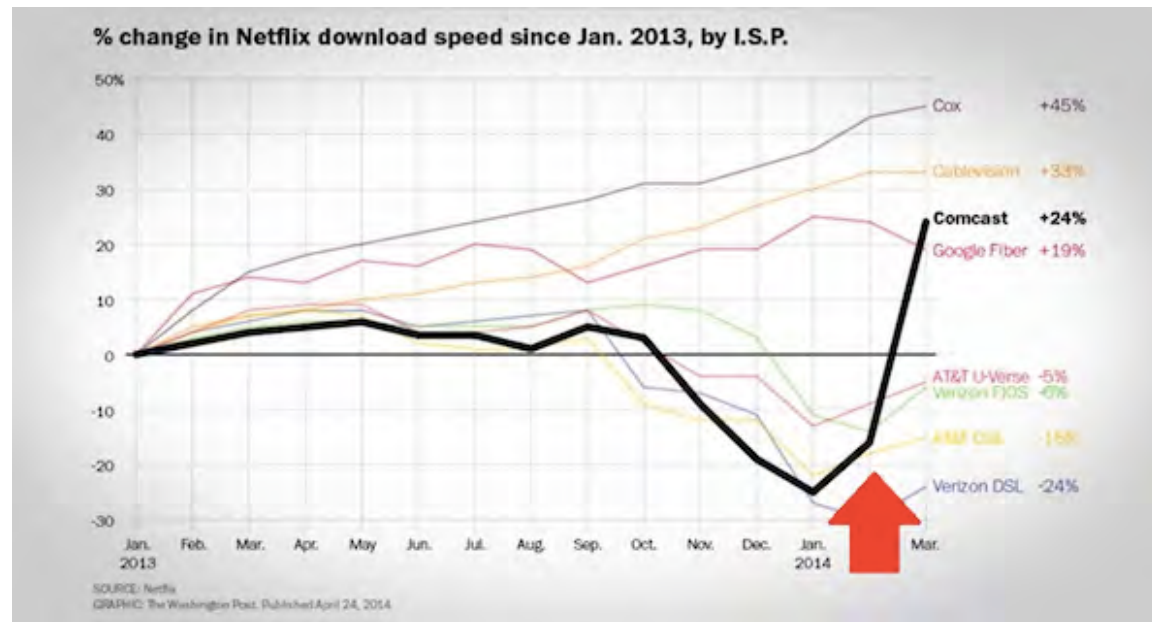
**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

**The Joys Of Oligopoly**



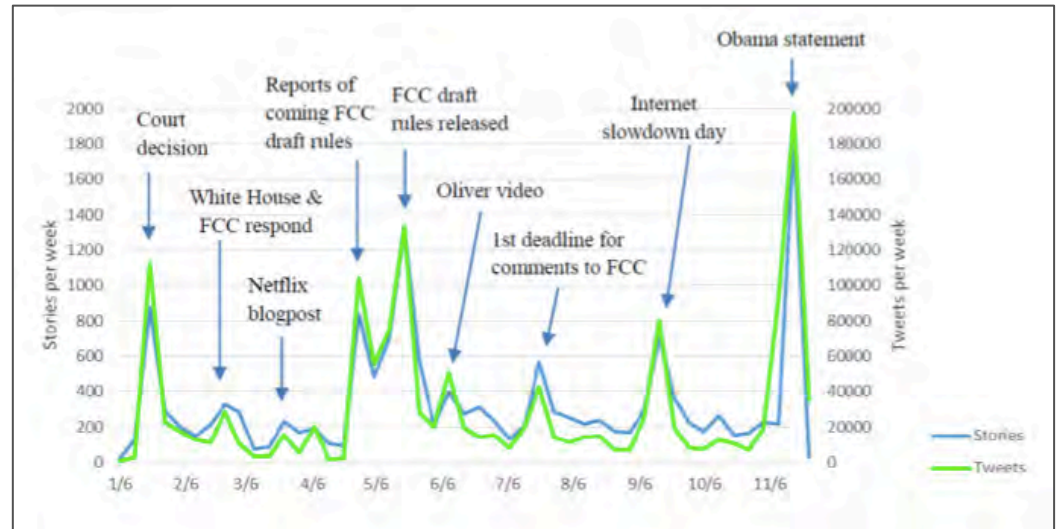
# The Net Neutrality Kerfuffle

Fast lanes and slow?





# The Internet Fights Back



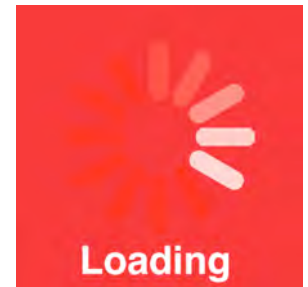
BATTLEFORTHENET WHAT INFOGRAPHIC SITES APPS EVERYONE WHY LETTER

Fork me on GitHub

## Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> is the Internet Slowdown

Cable companies want to slow down (and break!) your favorite sites, for profit. To fight back, let's cover the web with symbolic "loading" icons, to remind everyone what an Internet without net neutrality would look like, and drive record numbers of emails and calls to lawmakers.

[Look what we just did together.](#) Are you in?





# The battle joined

## Carly Fiorina: Obama's net neutrality failure

By Carly Fiorina

Updated 8:45 AM ET, Tue April 7, 2015



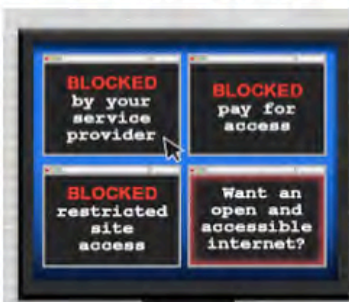
Net neutrality proponents did a masterful job of marketing it with the help of late-night hosts and political spin, arguing that it would level the Internet playing field. The truth, however, is that it will insert Washington bureaucracy and control into the 21st century's greatest success story.

### Net Neutrality

President Obama's Plan for a Free and Open Internet



### The ACLU Answers the Key Questions



#### ***Protect your right to access what you want and how you want it on the Internet***

The Internet has become so much a part of the lives of most Americans that it is easy to imagine that it will always remain the free and open medium it is now. We'd like to believe it will remain a place where you can always access any lawful content you want, and where the folks delivering that content can't play favorites because they disagree with the message being delivered or want to charge more money for faster delivery.

But there are no such guarantees.

If the government doesn't enforce this open internet... and the "net neutrality" principles that





# The FCC Rules



## Open Internet

Maintaining a Fast, Fair, and Open Internet.

An Open Internet means consumers can go where they want, when they want. This principle is often referred to as Net Neutrality. It means innovators can develop products





## Readings for April 14

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Auletta, Ken. 2010. "Publish or Perish." *The New Yorker*, April 26.

Hughes, Evan. 2013. "Book Publishers Scramble to Rewrite Their Future." *Wired*, March 19.

Carr, Nicholas. 2014. "The ebook equilibrium," Rough Type blog post, June 6.

Additional:

Carr, Nicholas. 2013. "The flattening of ebook sales." Rough Type blog post, Aug. 5

Darnton, Robert. 2009. "Google and the Future of Books," *The New York Review of Books*, Feb. 12, 2009. (See also letters in response.)



# Readings for April 16, 1

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## Required Reading

Jones, Feminista. 2013. "Is Twitter the underground railroad of activism?" *Salon*. July 17.

Kaba, Mariame and Smith, Andrea. 2014. "Interlopers on social media: feminism, women of color and oppression," *Truth Out*. February 1.

Lenzo, Brian. 2013. "Will the revolution be tweeted?" ISR. July 17. Read: From "Facebook revolution or Wall Street hype?" to the end.

Loza, Susana. 2014. "Hashtag Feminism, #SolidarityIsForWhiteWomen, and the Other #FemFuture," *Ada: A Journal of Gender, New Media, and Technology*. July 21.

McKenzie, Mia. 2014. "On Ferguson Protests, the Destruction of Things, and What Violence Really Is (And Isn't)," *Black Girl Dangerous*. November 26.

Reflect back on your responses and class discussion around "Black Lives Matter" demonstrations and how media portrayals of "riots" and "violence" are racialized



## Readings for April 16, 2

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Additional readings:

Watch "Asmaa Mahfouz & the YouTube Video that Helped Spark the Egyptian Uprising," February 8, 2011.

Read: StudentNation (various students). 2015. "From Selma to Madison, a Generation Demands Justice," March 16.



## Assignment for April 16

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The readings from Jones, Kaba and Smith, and Loza focus on social media technology as a powerful social change resource for marginalized groups (whether based on race, gender, sexuality, ability, citizenship, and/or class). Whilst readings from McKenzie and Lenzo suggest that social media technology uses the same racialized portrayals (“Ferguson protesters are violent rioters”) and over-simplified narratives (“Facebook=revolution”) as mainstream media. Referencing both perspectives, use specific examples to show whose argument is more convincing. What implications might these arguments have for social issues that you care about?