Communication Networks

Spring 2017





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The Internet An *exciting* place

8 billion

8 billion

estimated* # of Internet connected devices in 2016

11.6 billion

estimated* # of Internet connected devices in 2021

~3 exabytes

estimated* daily global IP traffic in 2016





~3 exabytes

estimated* daily global IP traffic in 2016

~6 exabytes

estimated* daily global IP traffic in 2020

A few Internet services you *might* have heard of...



















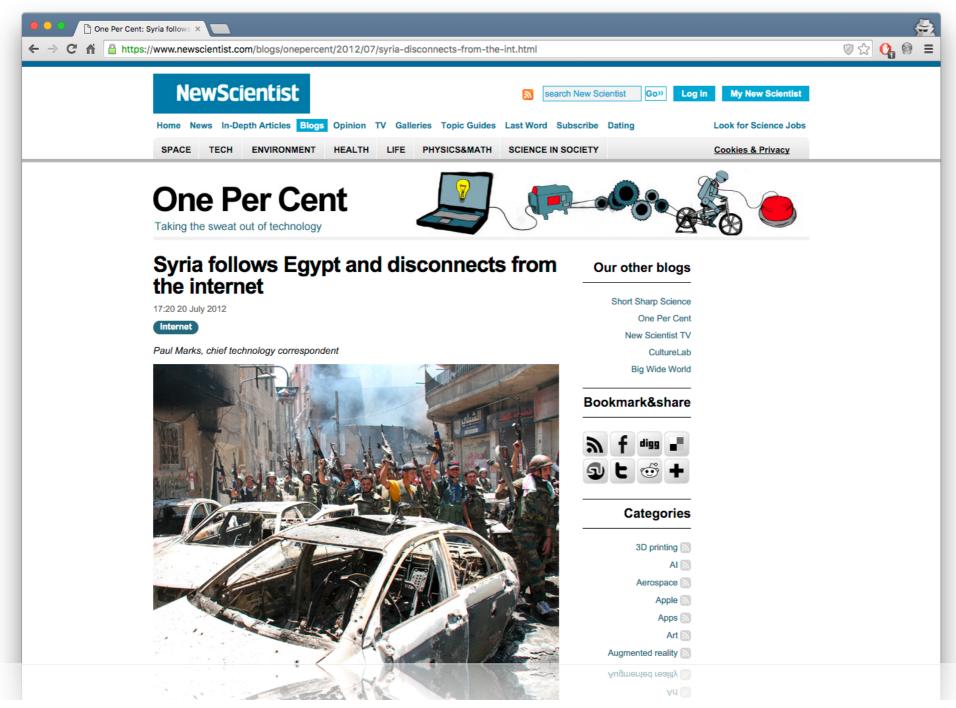






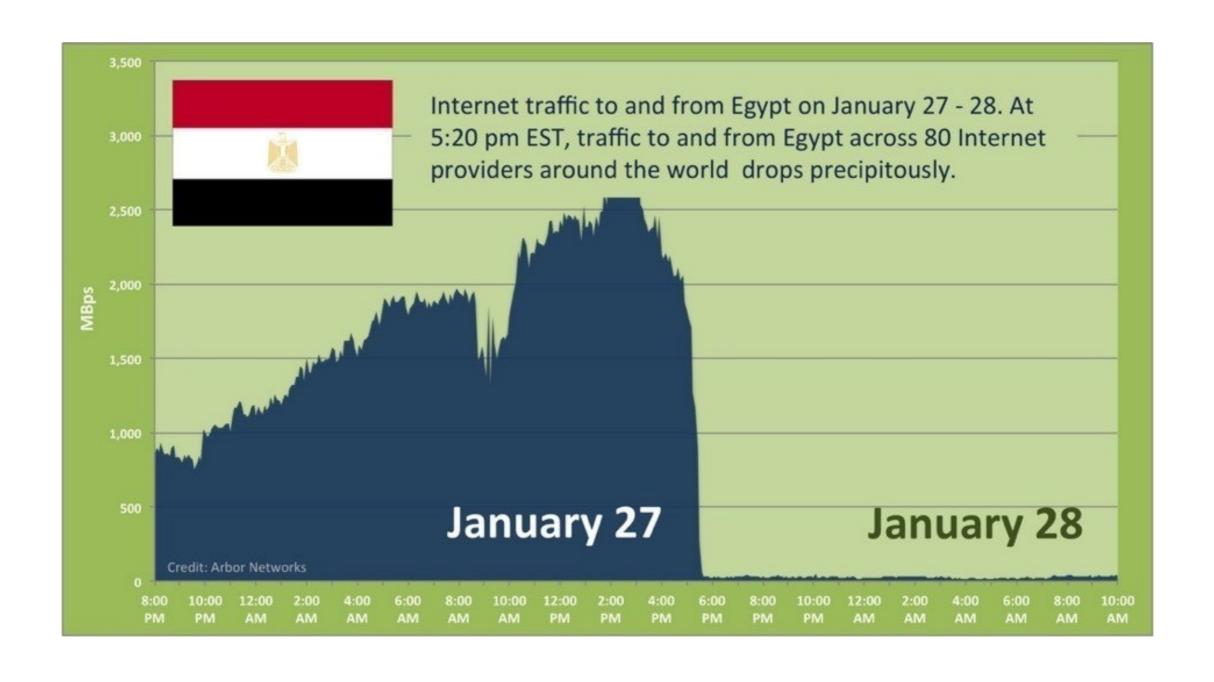
The Internet A tense place

Countries get disconnected



Also check: http://research.dyn.com/2012/11/could-it-happen-in-your-countr/

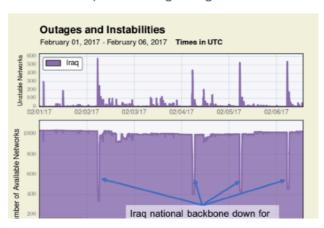
Internet traffic to/from Egypt in January 2011



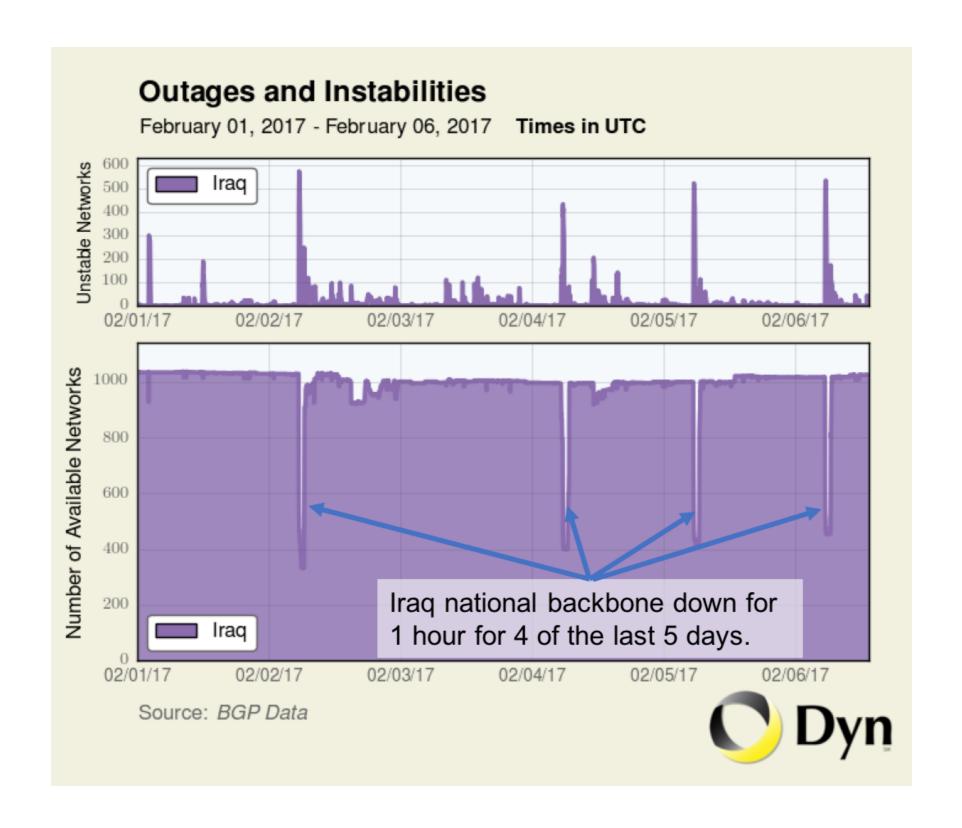


Earlier this morning, the national fiber backbone of Iraq was taken offline in an effort to combat cheating on 6th grade placement exams. It was the <u>fourth such outage</u> in the past five days. 2017 marks the third year Iraq has used government-directed internet blackouts to combat cheating on student exams.

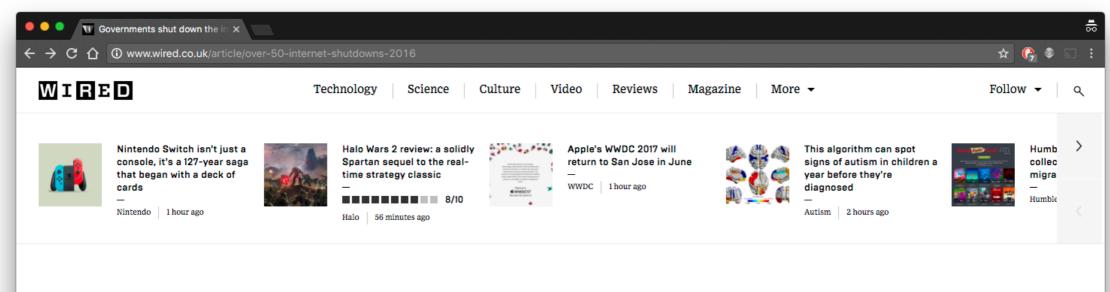
These recent outages are a continuation of a growing (and somewhat puzzling) trend by governments in many developing parts of the world to cut communications services in a desperate attempt to staunch rampant cheating on high-stakes student exams.



http://dyn.com/blog/iraq-downs-internet-to-combat-cheating-again/



http://dyn.com/blog/iraq-downs-internet-to-combat-cheating-again/



Internet Freedom

Governments shut down the internet more than 50 times in 2016

Economic impact alone was £1.9bn, with greater fears over human rights and freedom of speech











http://www.wired.co.uk/article/over-50-internet-shutdowns-2016

By MATT KAMEN

Tuesday 3 January 2017

Communications get eavesdropped on...



TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN







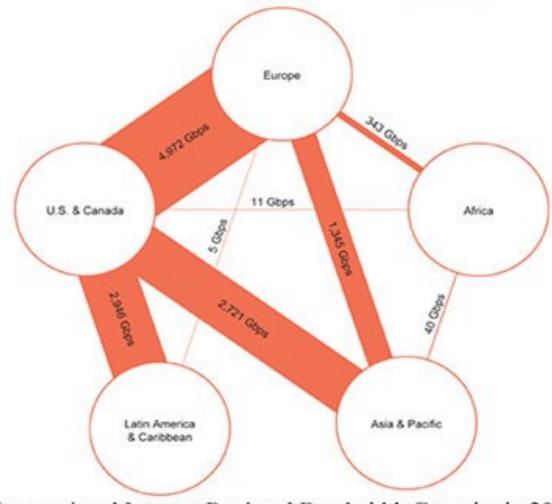






U.S. as World's Telecommunications Backbone

- · Much of the world's communications flow through the U.S.
- A target's phone call, e-mail or chat will take the cheapest path, not the physically most direct path - you can't always predict the path.
- Your target's communications could easily be flowing into and through the U.S.



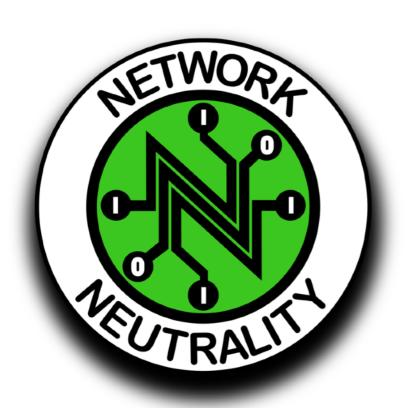
International Internet Regional Bandwidth Capacity in 2011 Source: Telegeography Research

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN

Some Internet communications are interfered against or heavily congested



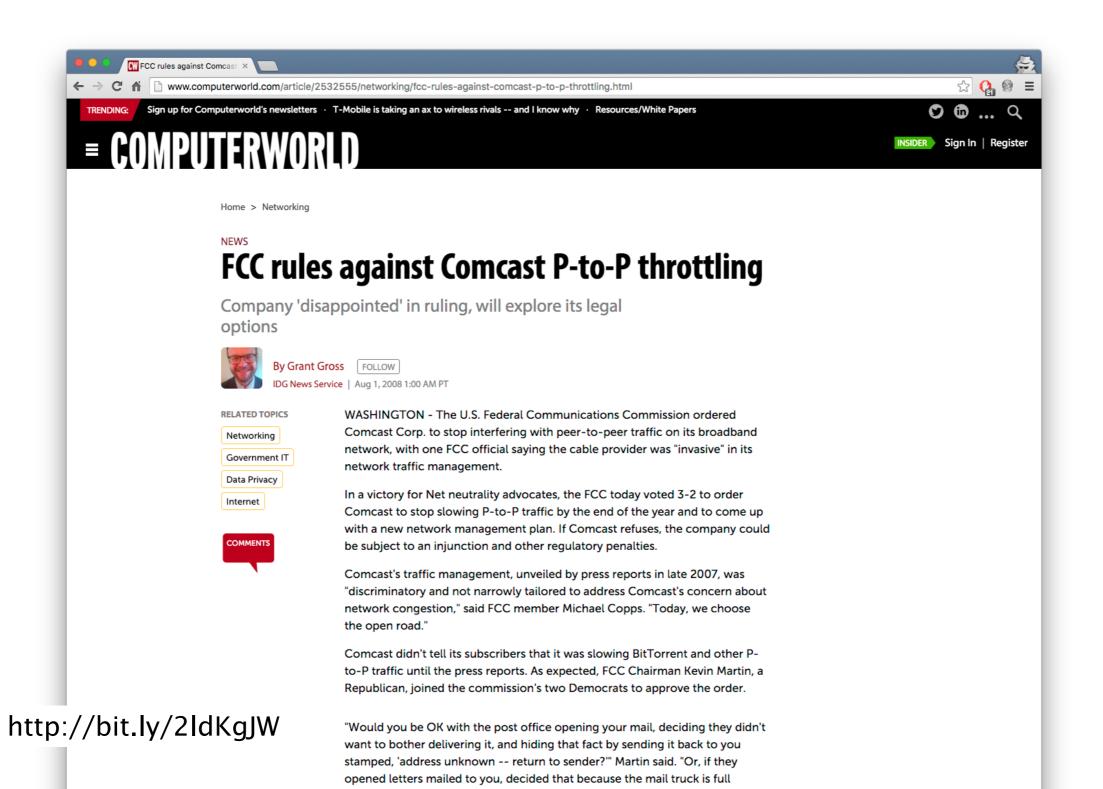


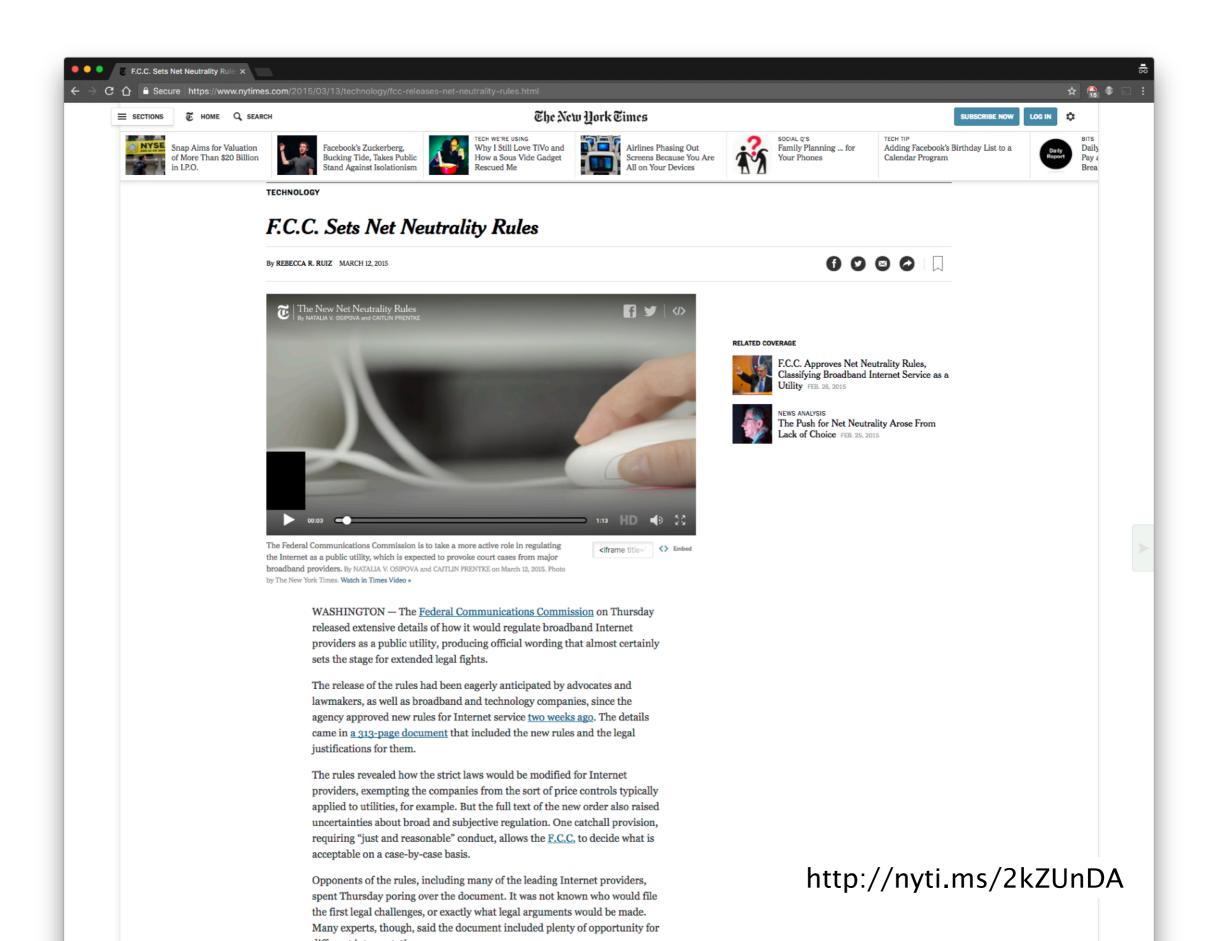


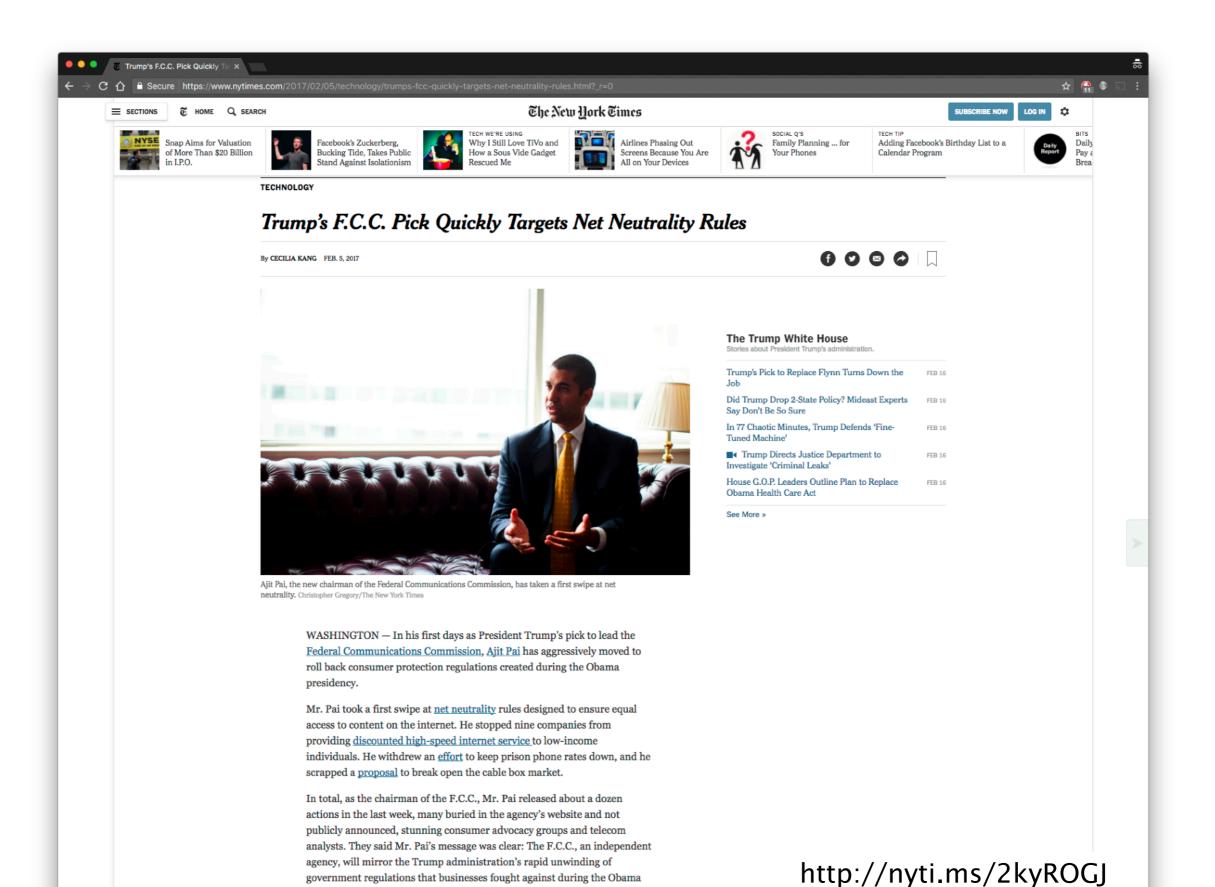


Can ISPs selectively slow down traffic?

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) ordered Comcast to stop interfering with p2p traffic







"With these strong-arm tactics, Chairman Pai is showing his true stripes,"

administration.

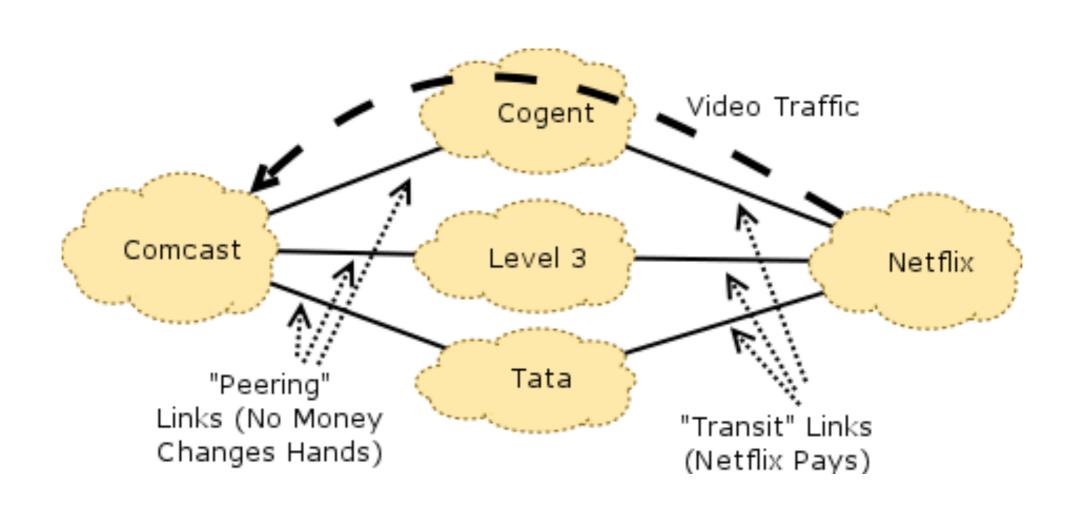
Some Internet communications are interfered against or heavily congested





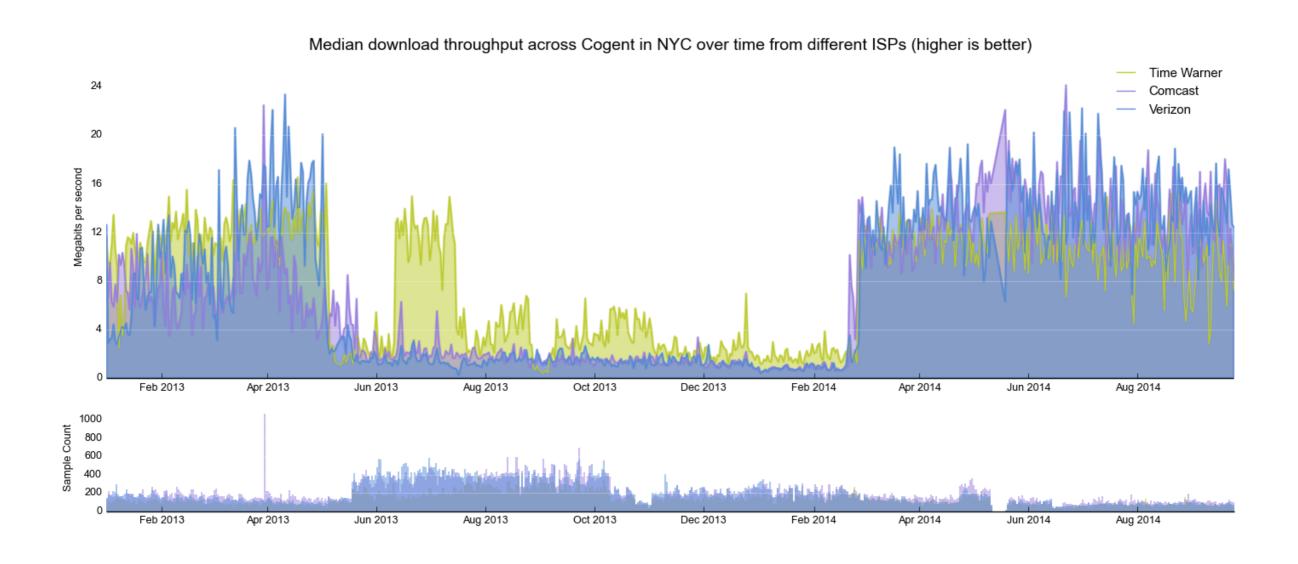
Who should pay the other for Internet connectivity?

A primer on the conflict between Netflix and Comcast



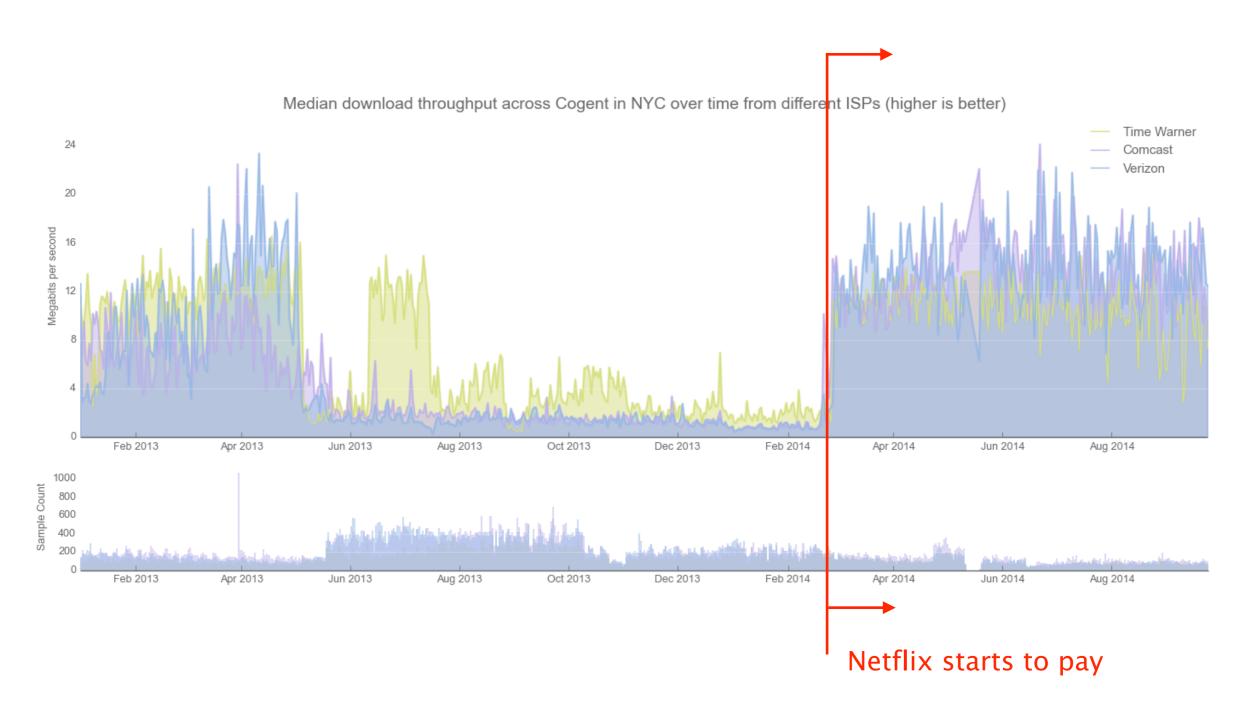
https://freedom-to-tinker.com/blog/feamster/why-your-netflix-traffic-is-slow-and-why-the-open-internet-order-wont-necessarily-make-it-faster/

Due to congestion, throughput across Cogent to Time Warner, Comcast, Verizon were miserable



http://bit.ly/1thPzro

Situation massively improved after Netflix agreed to paid direct connection to the providers



http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2014/04/netflix-and-verizon-reach-interconnection-deal-to-speed-up-video/

The Internet infrastructure is a fragile environment

JUL 8, 2015 @ 03:36 PM

11,261 VIEWS

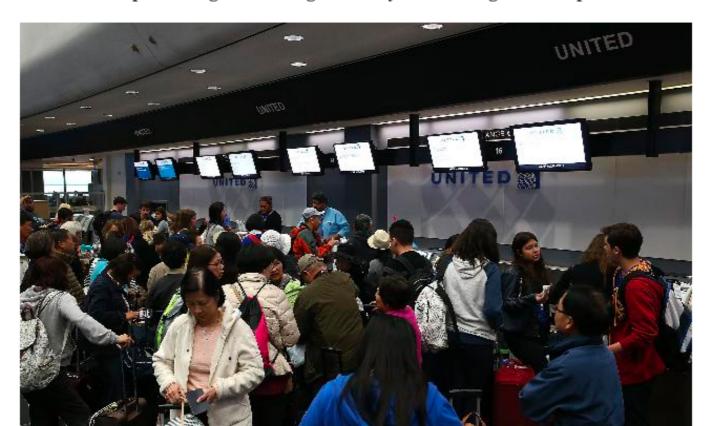
United Airlines Blames Router for Grounded Flights



After a computer problem caused nearly two hours of grounded flights for United Airlines this morning and ongoing delays throughout the day, the airline announced the culprit: a faulty router.

Spokeswoman Jennifer Dohm said that the router problem caused "degraded network connectivity," which affected various applications.

A computer glitch in the airline's reservations system caused the Federal Aviation Administration to impose a groundstop at 8:26 a.m. E.T. Planes that were in the air continued to operate, but all planes on the ground were held. There were reports of agents writing tickets by hand. The ground stop was lifted around 9:47 a.m. ET.



The outage was due to one faulty Internet device

Facebook, Tinder, Instagram suffer widespread issues

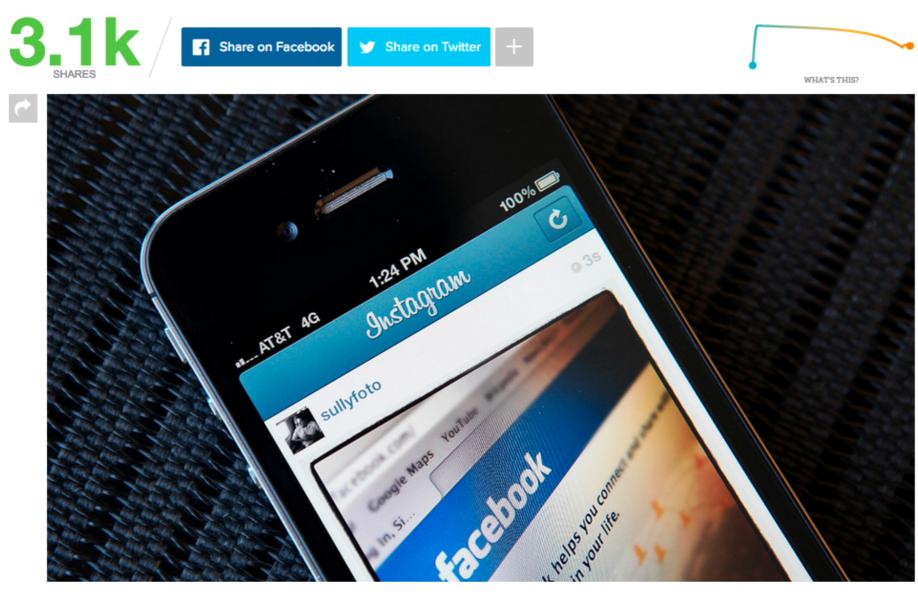


IMAGE: GETTY IMAGES



AUSTRALIA

JAN 27, 2015

UPDATED: Tuesday, Jan. 27 / 4:32 a.m. EST — A Facebook spokeswoman told Mashable that the outage was due to a change to the site's configuration systems, and not a hacker attack. "Earlier this evening many people had trouble accessing Facebook and Instagram. This was not the result of a third party attack but instead occurred after we introduced a change that affected our configuration systems. We moved quickly to fix the problem, and both services are back to 100% for everyone.", she said.

UPDATED: Tuesday, Jan. 27 / 2:14 a.m. EST — Facebook, Tinder and Twitter appear to be back to normal after a 40 minute outage and mass freak out.

The outage was due to a change to the site's configuration systems

"Human factors are responsible for 50% to 80% of network outages"

The Internet Under Crisis Conditions Learning from September 11

Committee on the Internet Under Crisis Conditions: Learning from September 11

Computer Science and Telecommunications Board Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

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Internet advertisements rates suggest that
The Internet was more stable than normal on Sept 11

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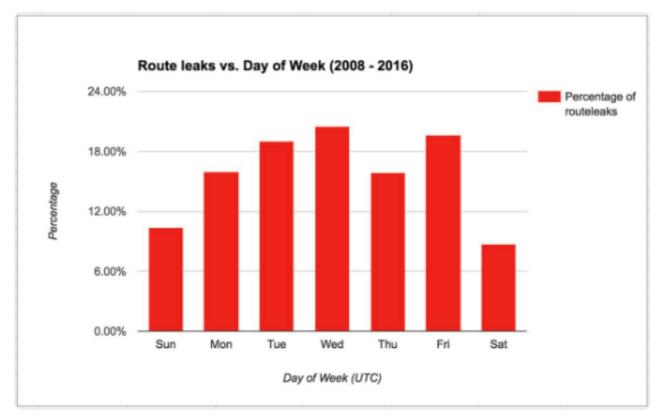
than normal on Sept 11

Information suggests that
operators were watching the news
instead of making changes
to their infrastucture



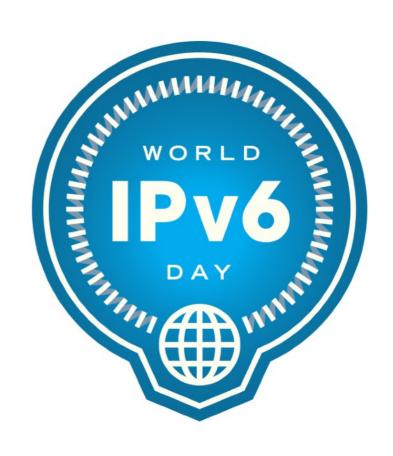


Fun fact: most BGP route leaks happen on Wednesdays, but in the weekend us humans collectively take a break! :-)



Internet scalability is at risk with no more IPv4 addresses and a slow IPv6 deployment





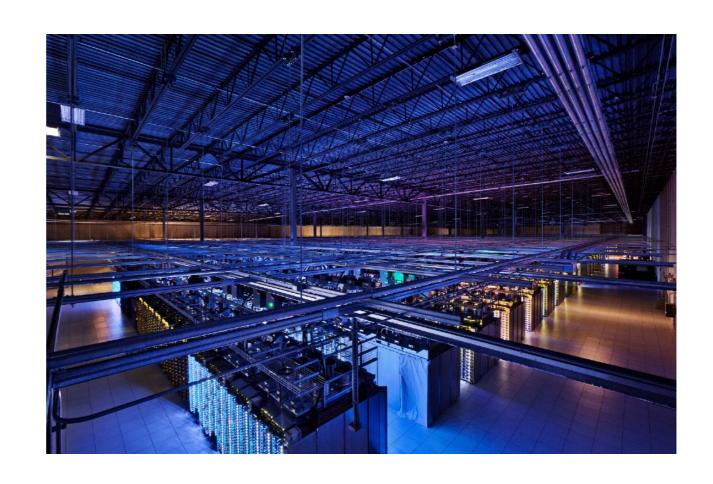
Communication Networks Course goals

Knowledge

Understand how the Internet works and why



from your network plug...



...to Google's data-center

Insight

Key concepts and problems in Networking

Naming Layering Routing Reliability Sharing

How do you address computers, services, protocols?

How do you manage complexity?

How do you go from A to B?

How do you communicate reliably using unreliable mediums?

How do you divide scarce resources among competing parties?

Skill

Build, operate and configure networks

Skill

Build, operate and configure networks





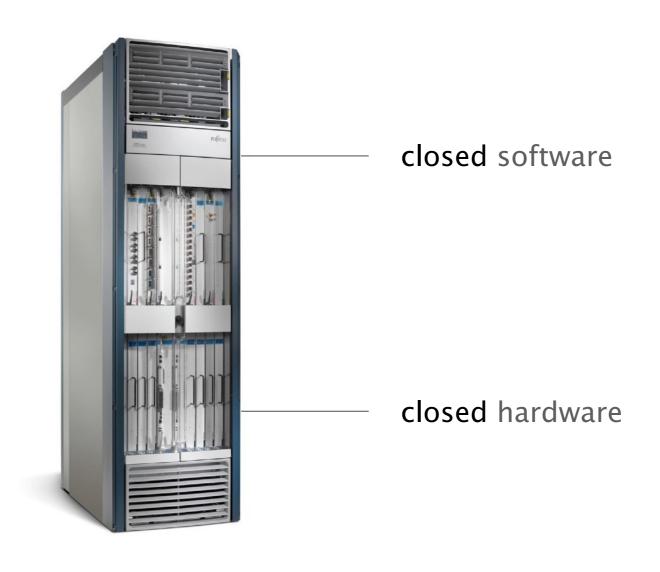
Trinity using a port scanner (nmap) in Matrix Reloaded™

Software-Defined Network

Software-Defined Network

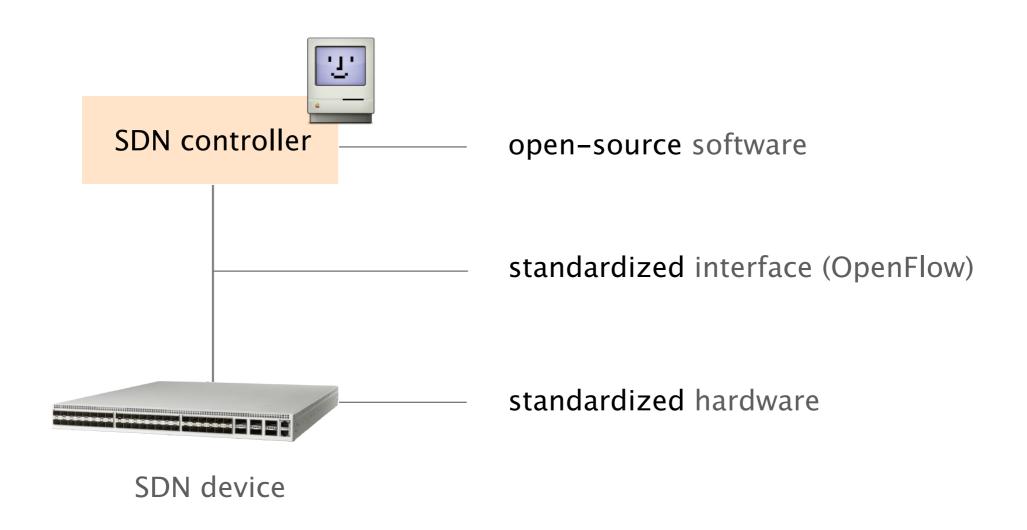
enable network programmability

So far, network devices have been completely locked down



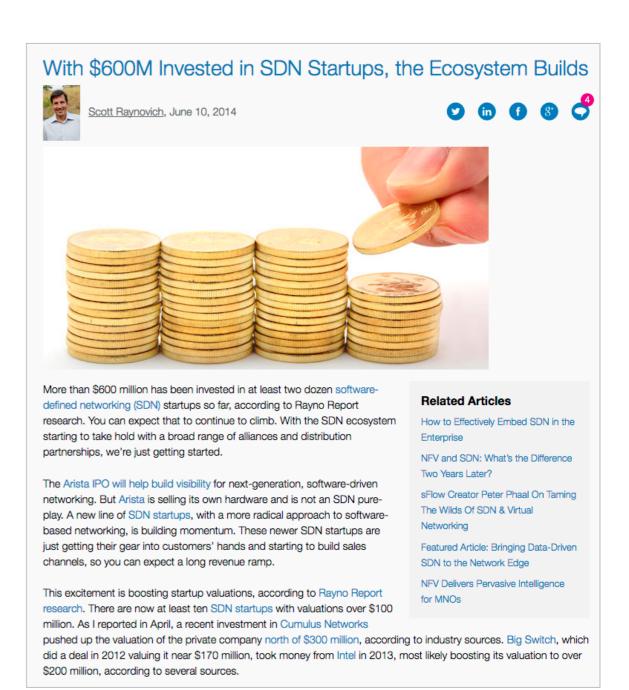
Cisco™ device

SDN opens up the network devices, enabling network innovation



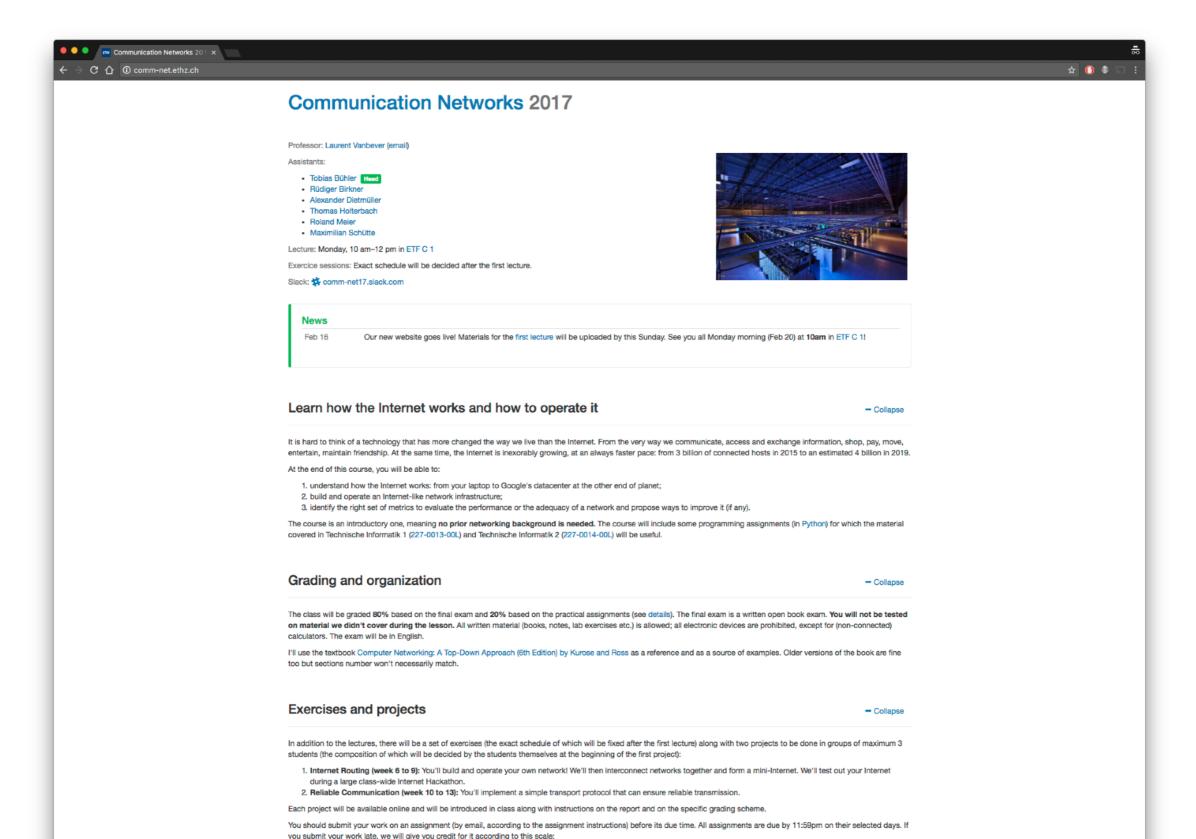
The hype around SDN is huge, both in the industry and in academia





Communication Networks Course organization

Our website: http://comm-net.ethz.ch check it out regularly



The course will be split into three parts

Part 1
Part 2
Part 3

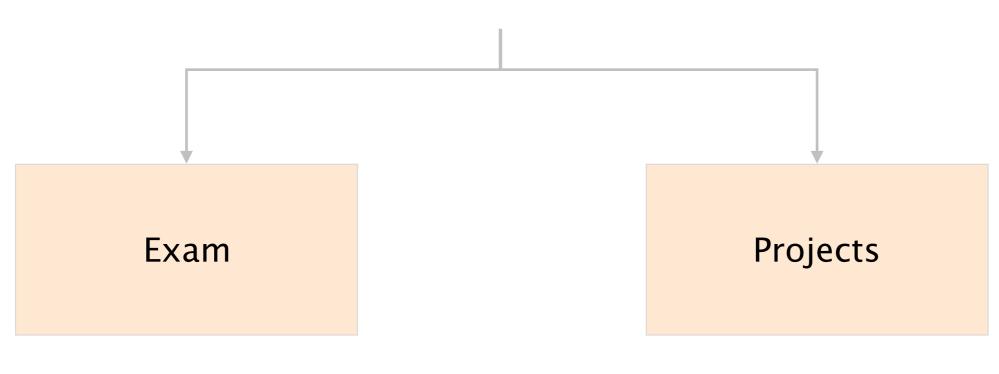
Overview
Concepts
Today's Internet

2 lectures
2 lectures
~9 lectures

The lectures will be accompanied by exercises, there will be two sessions per week (to ease scheduling)

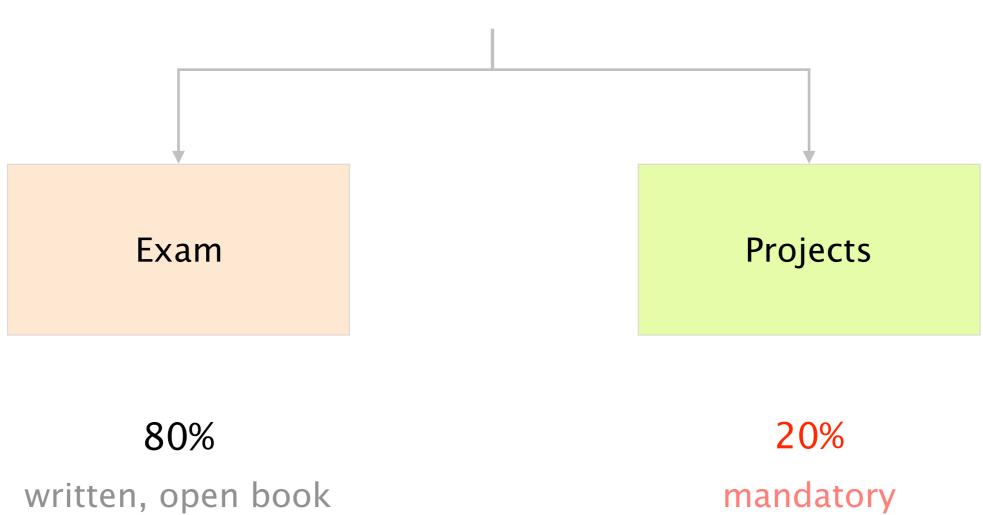
available slots	Tue	8-10 10-12	vote <i>today</i> on comm-net.ethz.ch
		13-15 15-17	
	Wed	13-15 15-17	
	Thur	13-15 15-17	

Your final grade



80% 20% written, open book mandatory

Your final grade



There will be two practical projects, to be done in group of maximum three students

- #1 Build and operate a small Internet
- #2 Implement an interoperable reliable protocol

Detailed instructions will follow

"Internet Hackathon"

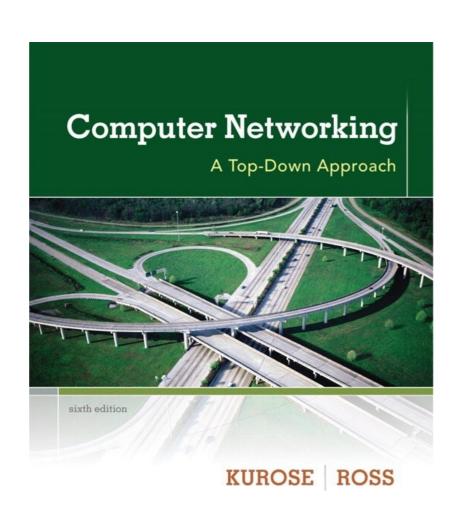
sometime in week 8

2016 edition



The course follows the textbook

Computer Networking: a Top-Down Approach

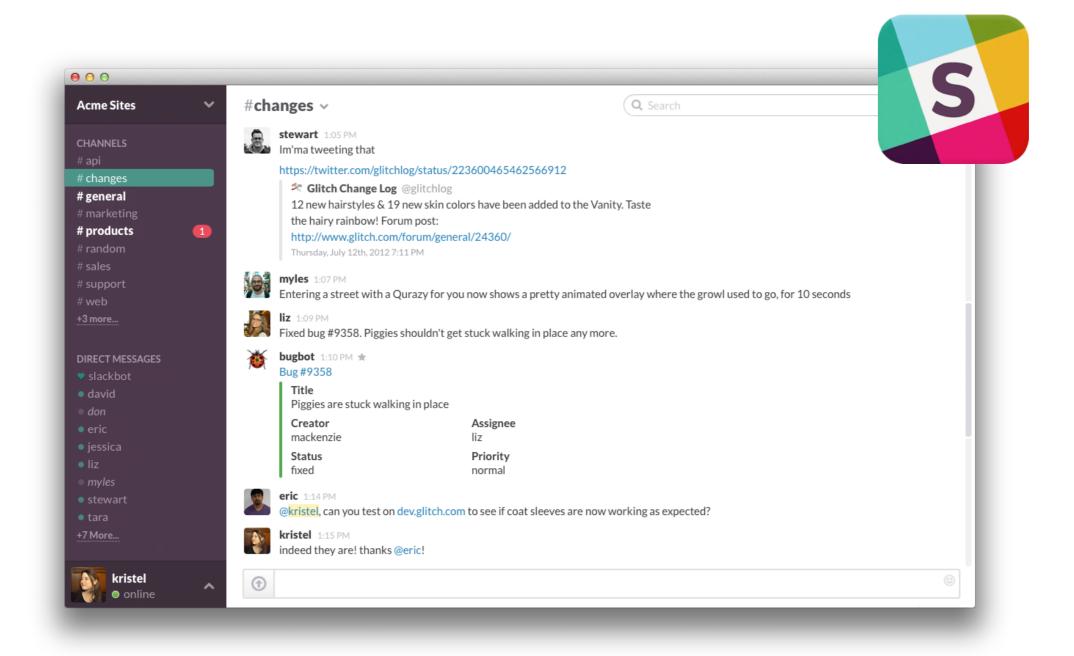


6th edition

ok to use the 5th

see sections indicated on comm-net.ethz.ch

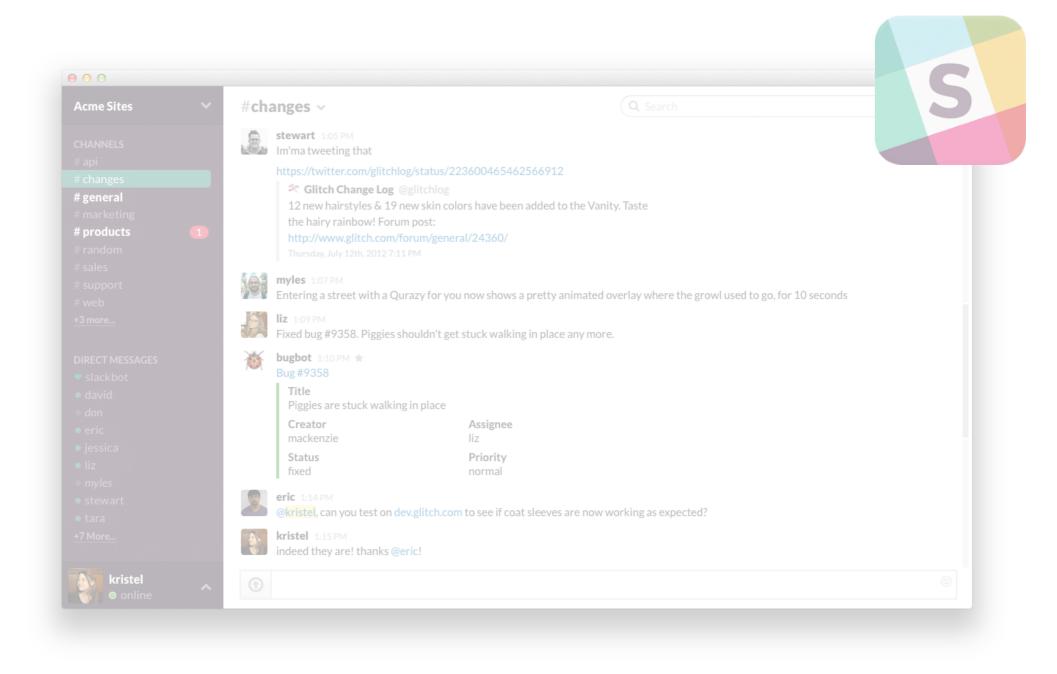
We'll use Slack (chat client) to discuss about the course and assignments



Web, smartphone and desktop clients available

Register today using your real name

> https://comm-net17.slack.com/signup



Web, smartphone and desktop clients available



List any technologies, principles, applications... used after typing in:

> www.google.ch

and pressing enter in your browser

Communication Networks

Part 1: Overview



#1 What is a network made of?

#2 How is it shared?

#3 How is it organized?

#4 How does communication happen?

#5 How do we characterize it?

Communication Networks

Part 1: Overview



#1 What is a network made of?

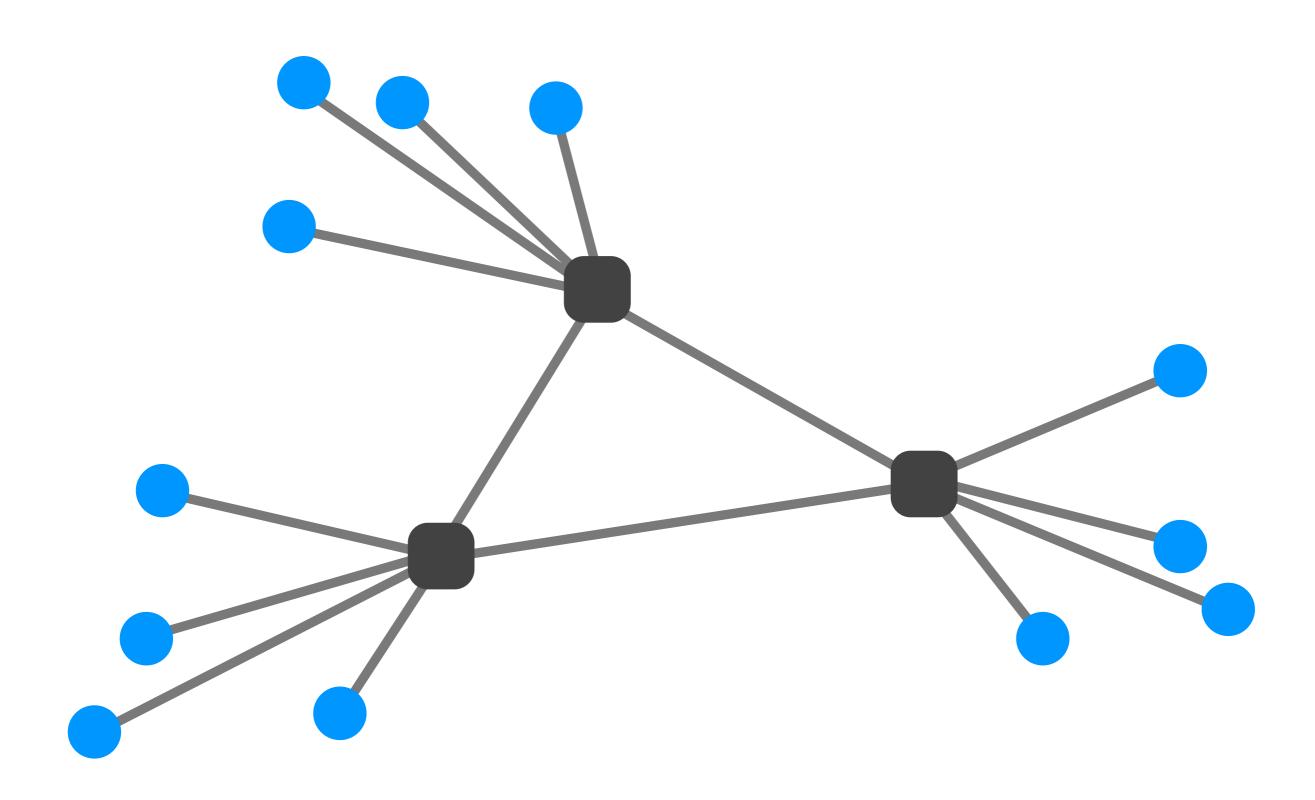
How is it shared?

How is it organized?

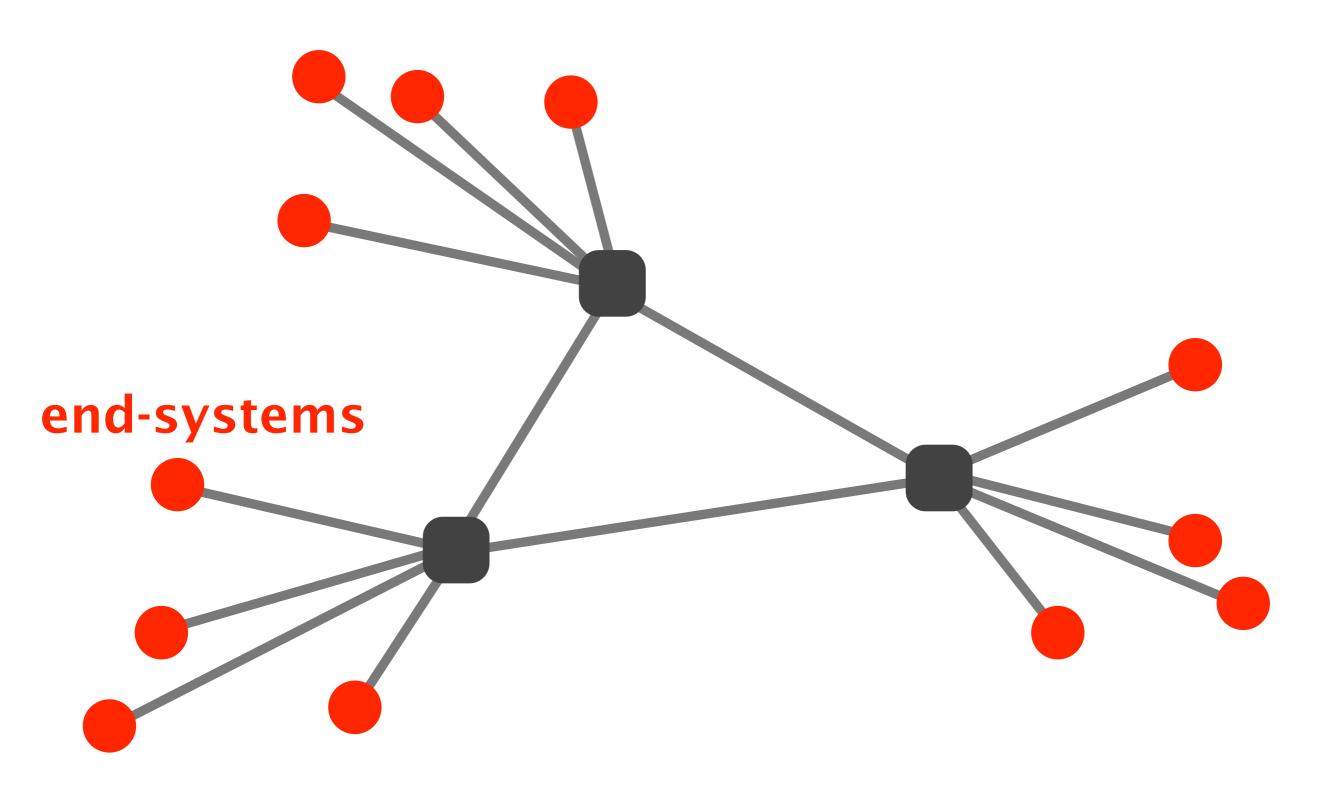
How does communication happen?

How do we characterize it?

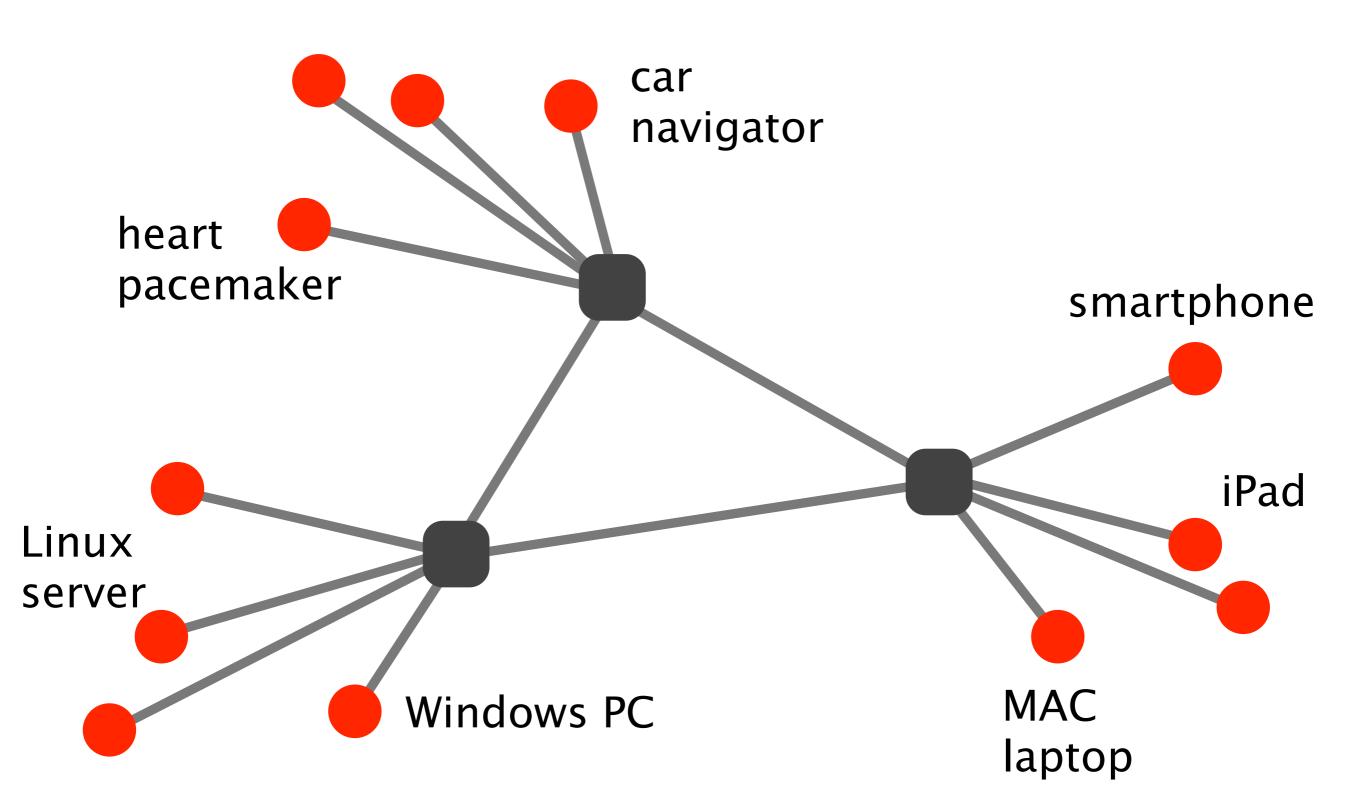
Networks are composed of three basic components



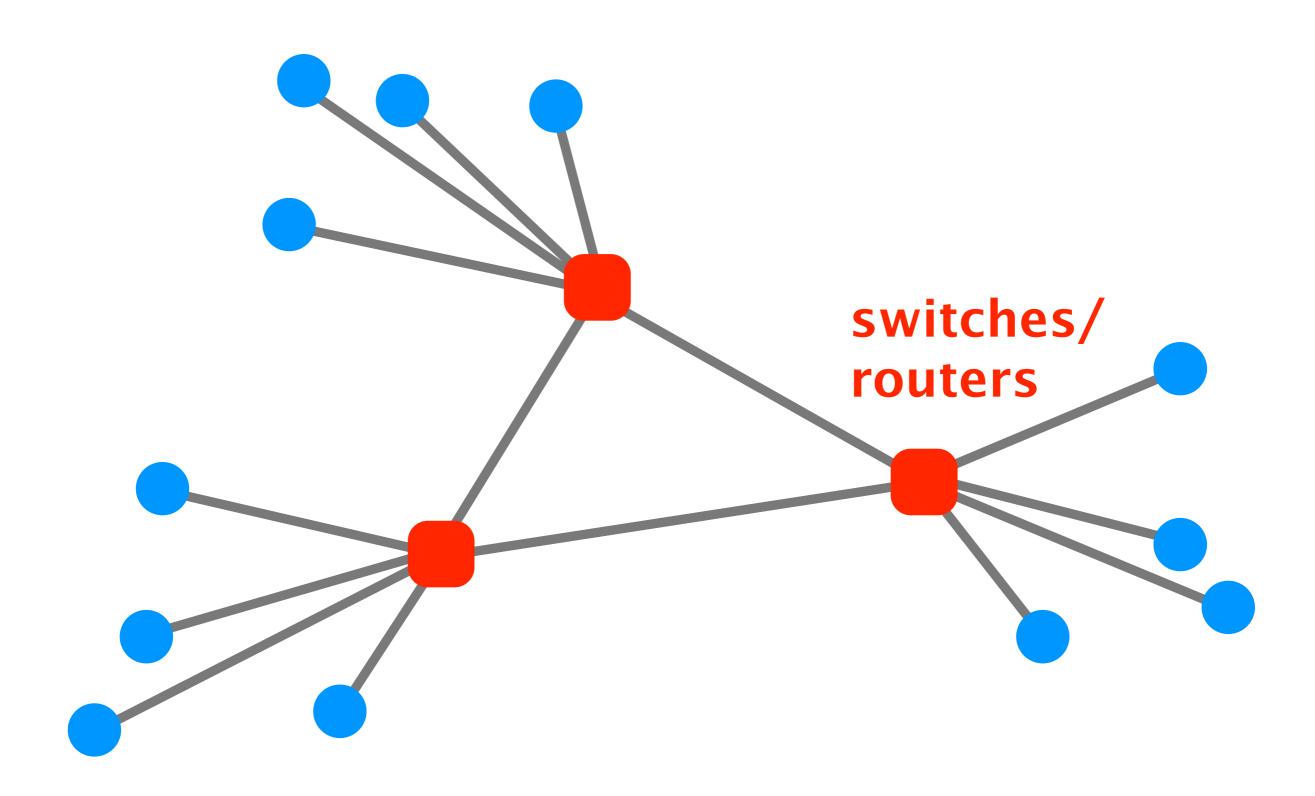
End-systems send & receive data



End-systems come in a wide-variety



Switches & routers forward data to the destination



Routers vary in size and usage

Home router



Internet core router

~20 cm

0,5 kg

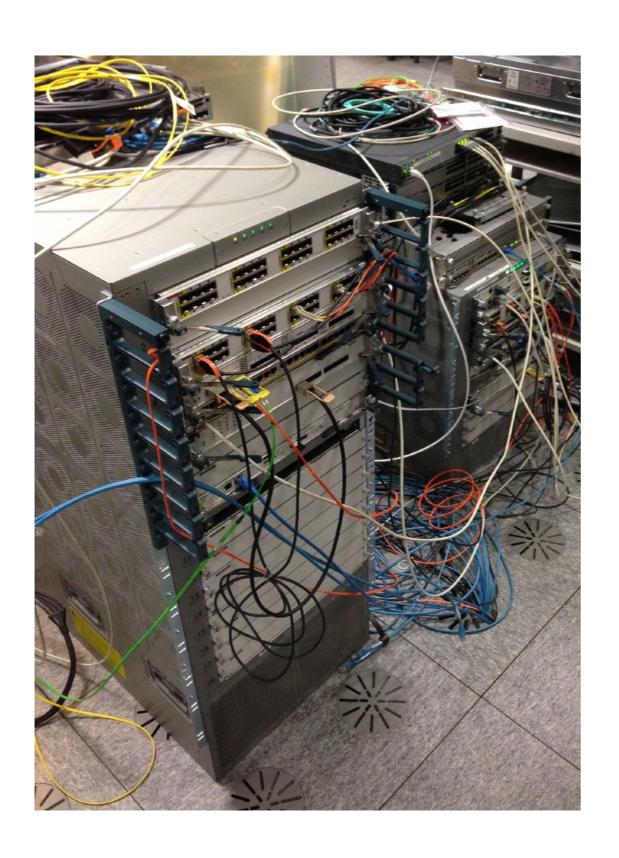
1 Gbps

>200cm

700kg

1.2 Tbps



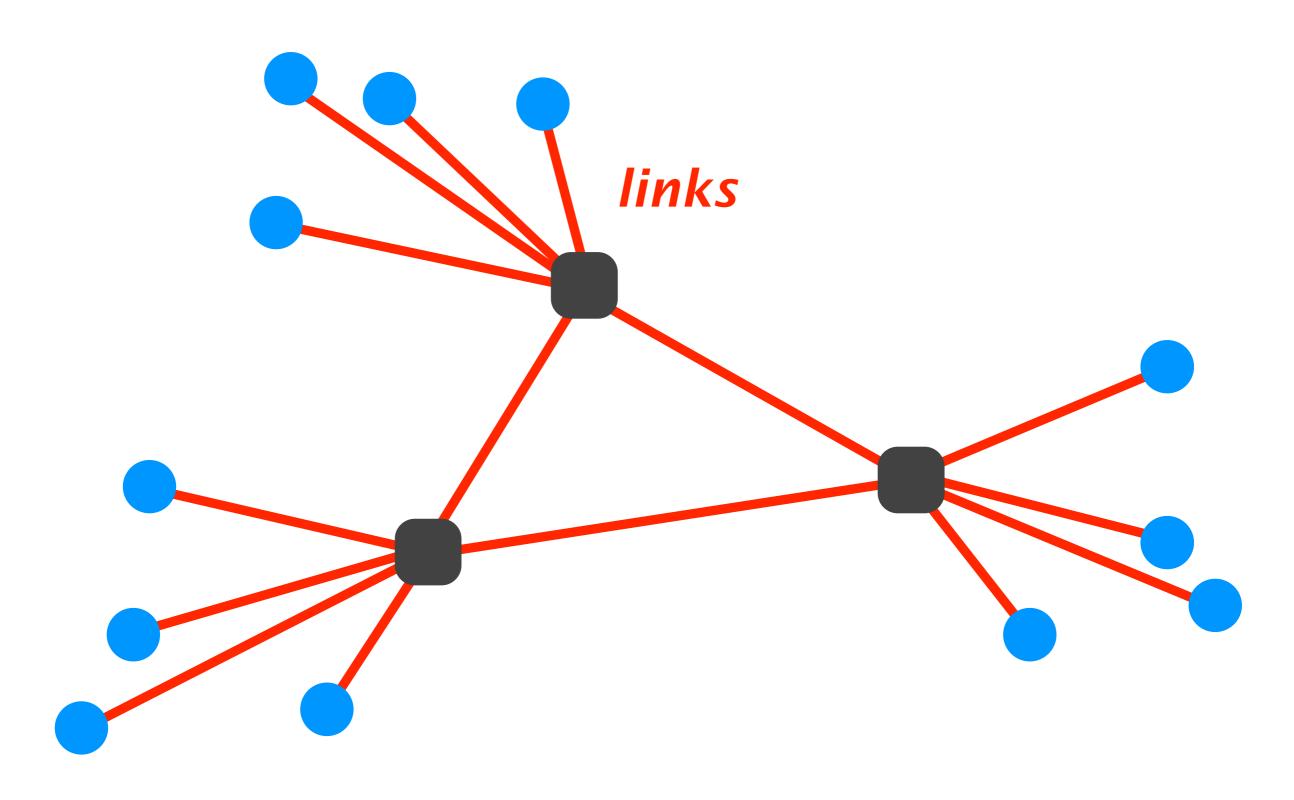


Cisco Nexus 7k

Routers @ETHZ

~25 deployed

Links connect end-systems to switches and switches to each other



Links, too, vary in size and usage



Copper

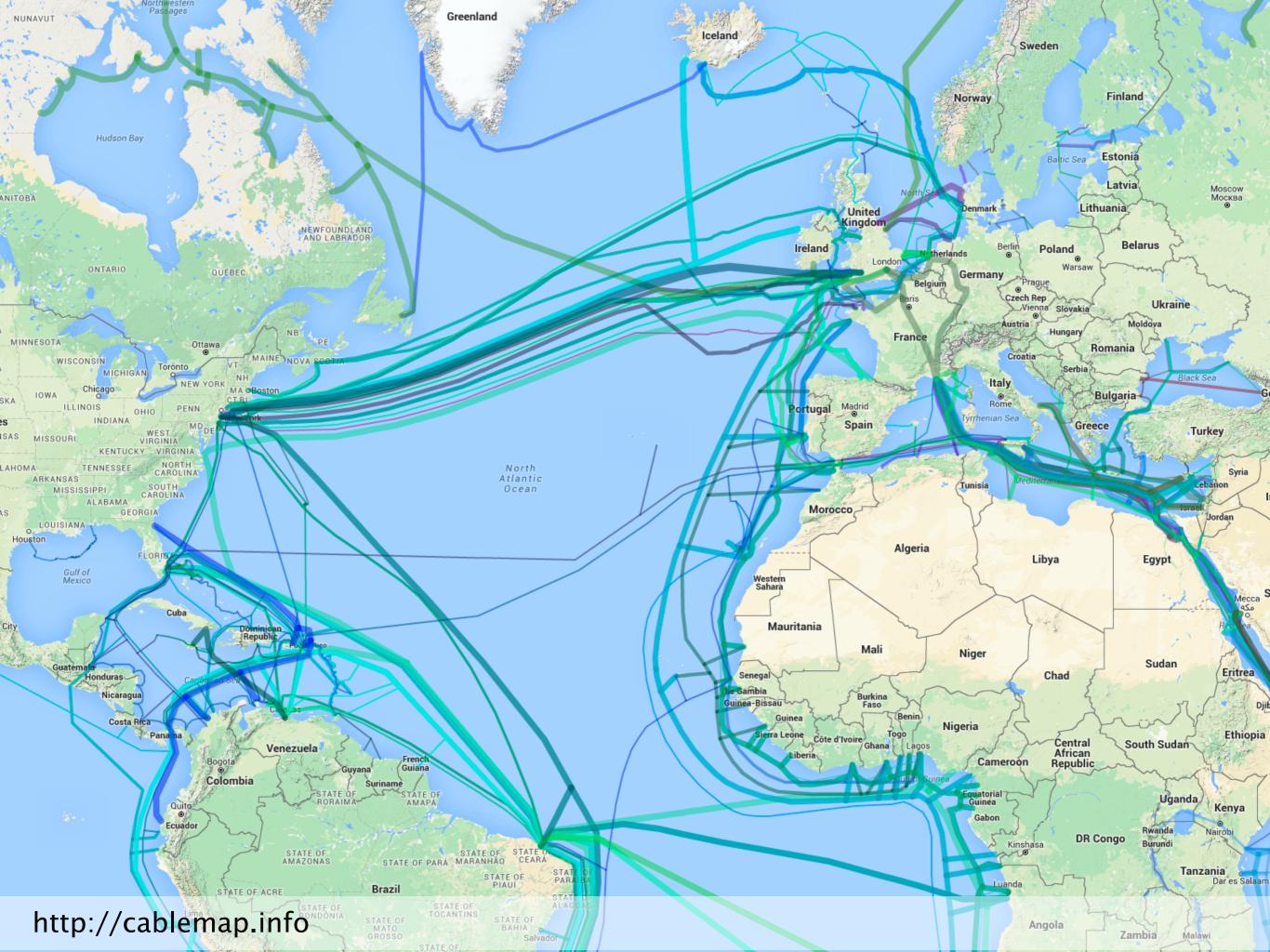
ADSL, RJ-45,...

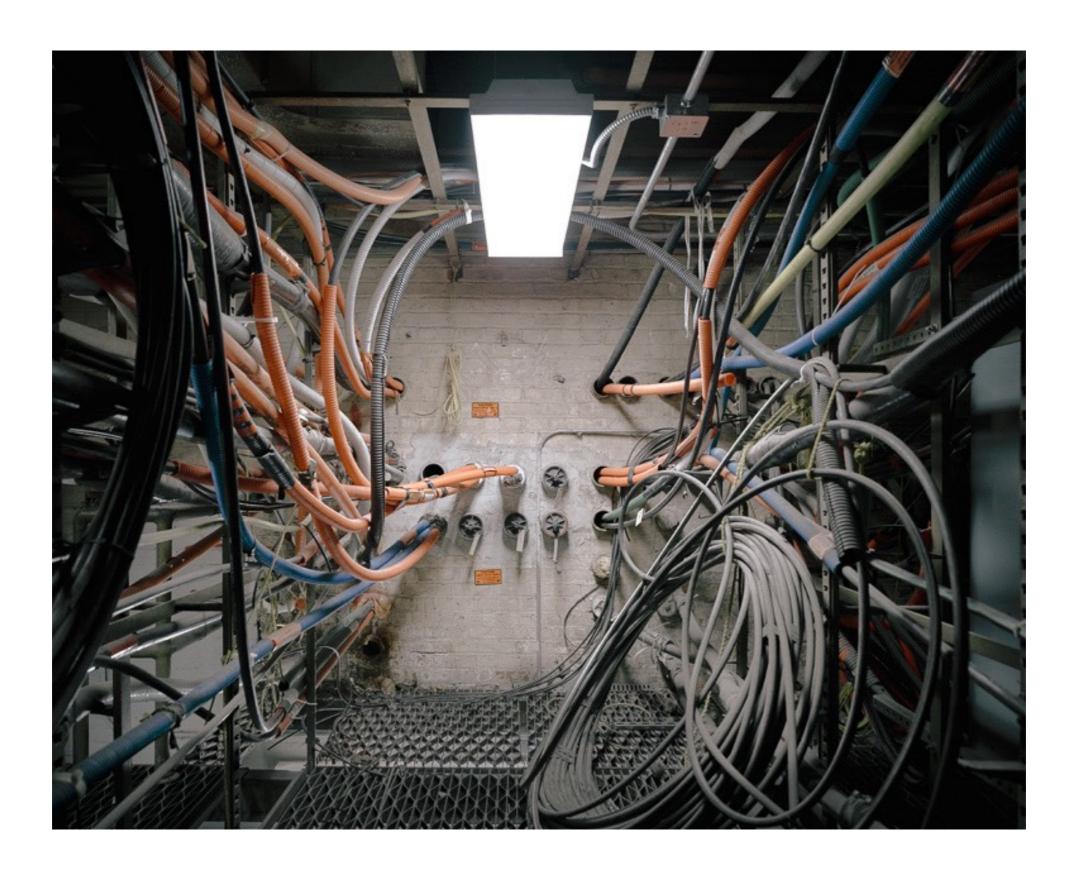


Optical fibers



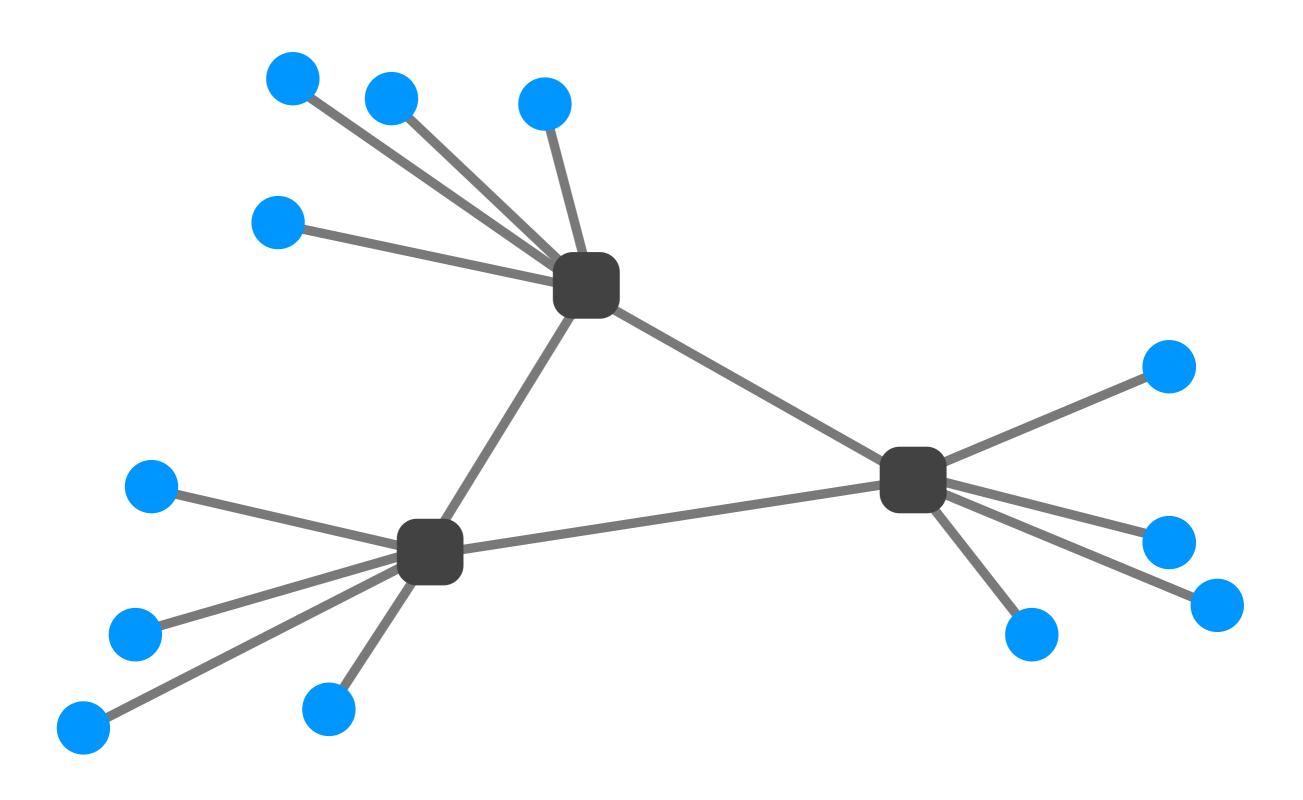
Wireless link



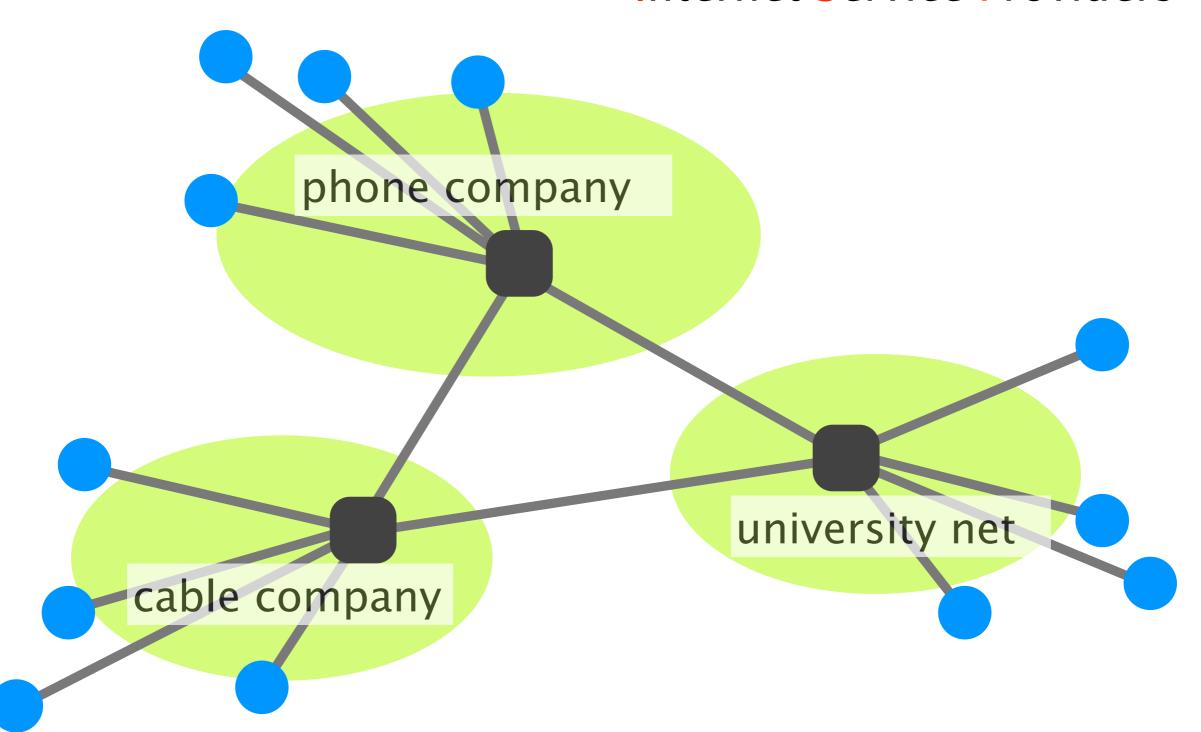


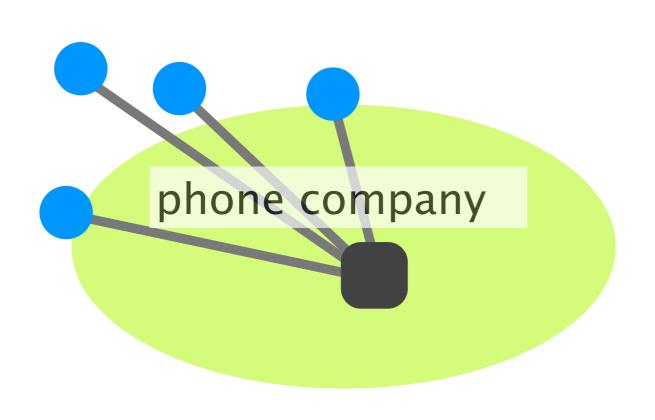
Somewhere in Manhattan... http://www.petergarritano.com/the-internet.html

The *Inter* net is a network of networks



Internet Service Providers





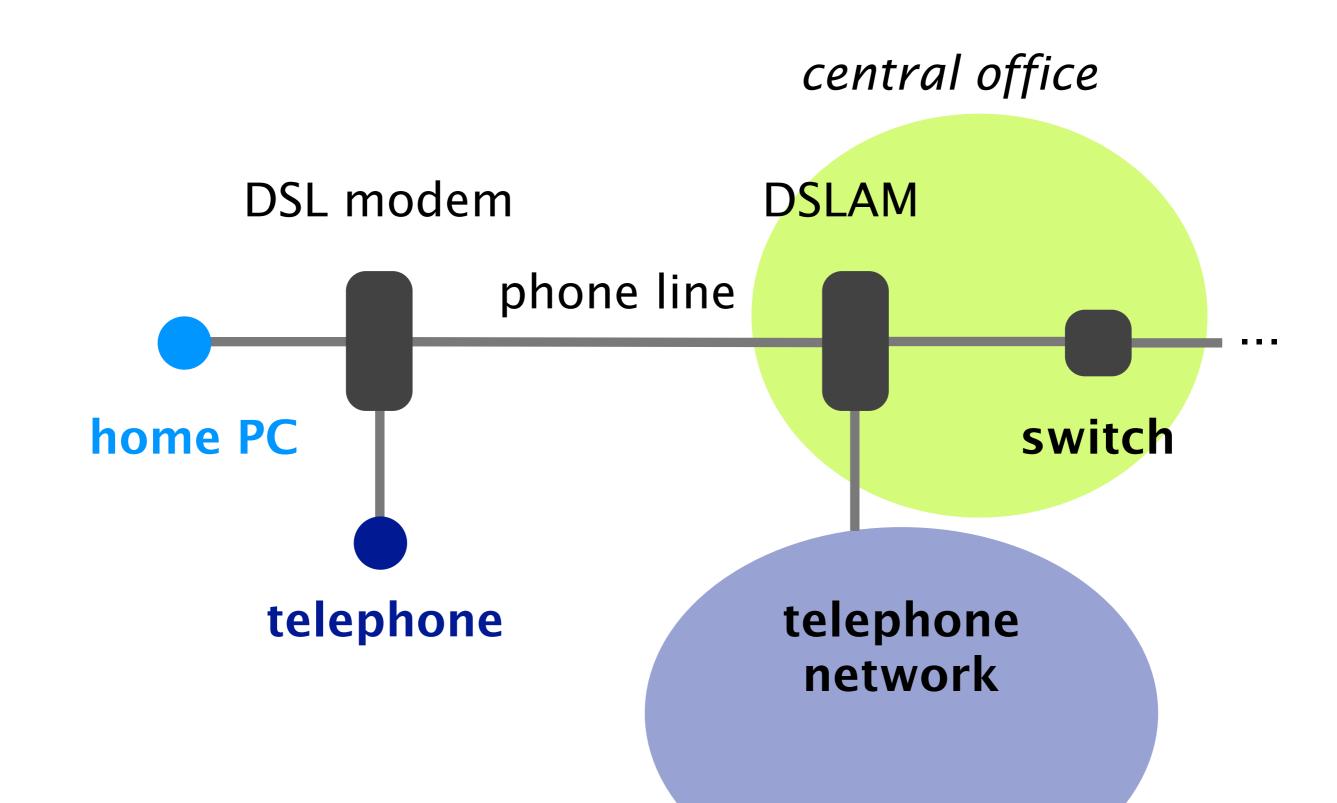
Conceptually, the last mile of the Internet looks like this

Internet connection

home PC

switch

In practice, it looks more like this...



Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) brings high BW to households over phone lines Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) brings high BW to households over phone lines



Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) brings high BW to households over phone lines

DSL is composed of 3 channels:

- downstream data channel
- upstream data channel
- 2-ways phone channel

tens to few hundred Mbps

few Mbps to few tens Mpbs

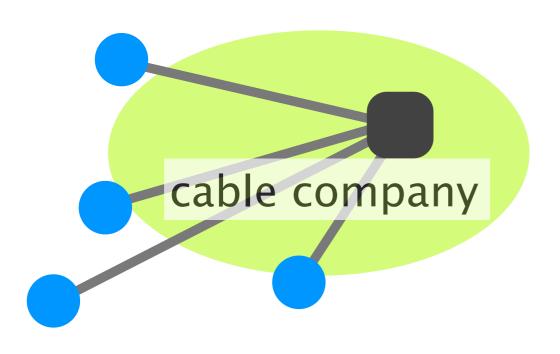
DSL is composed of 3 channels:

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Why is there such an asymmetry?



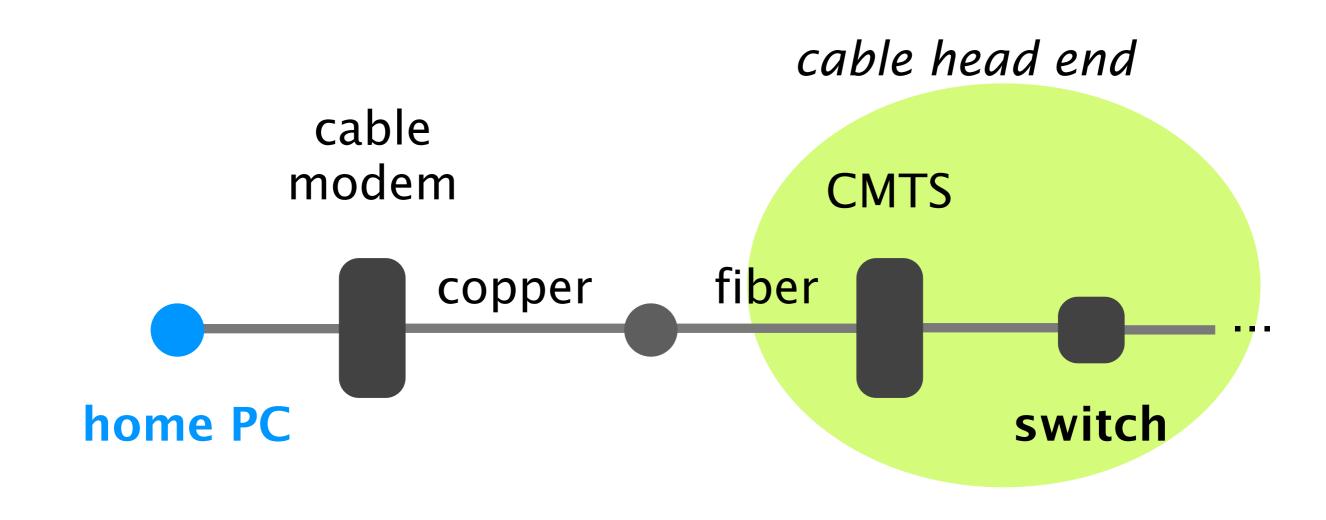
Conceptually, the last mile of the Internet looks like this

Internet connection

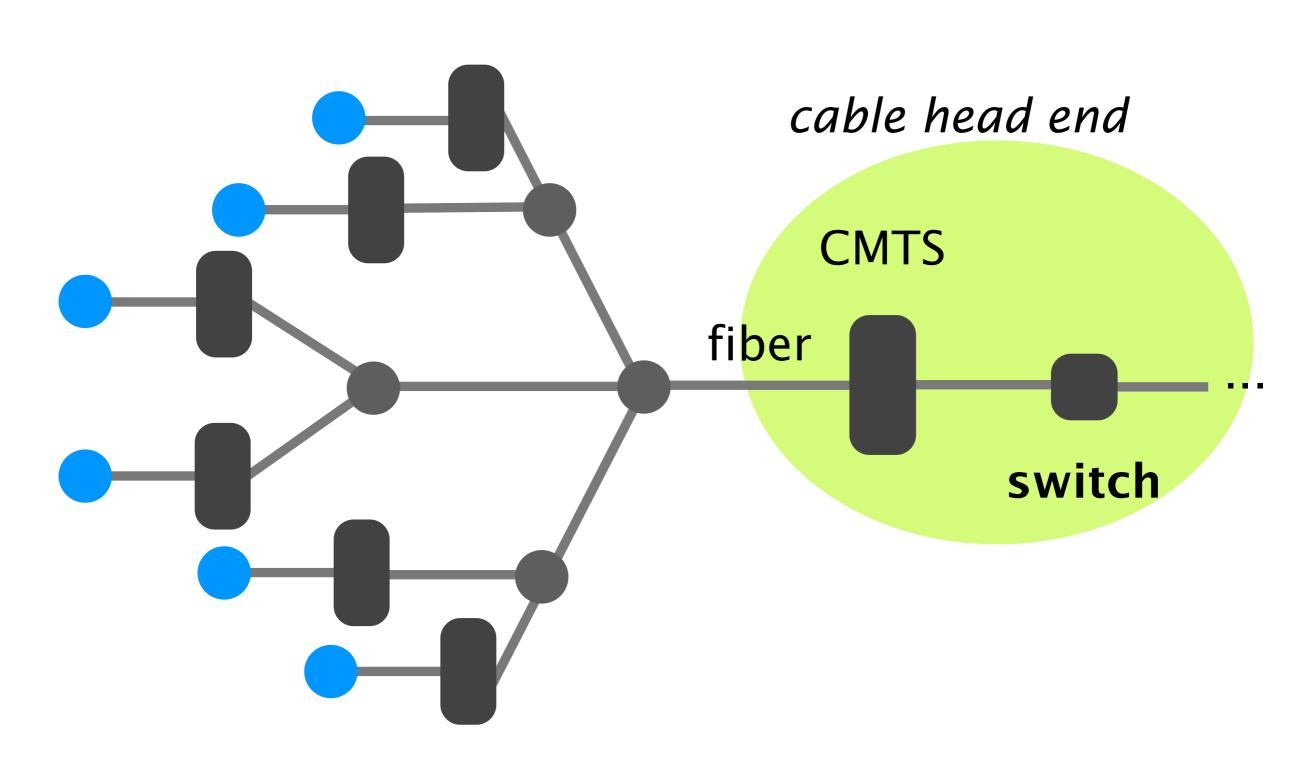
home PC

switch

In practice, it looks more like this...



Many households share the same access



Cable Access Technologies (CATV) brings high BW to the households via cable TV



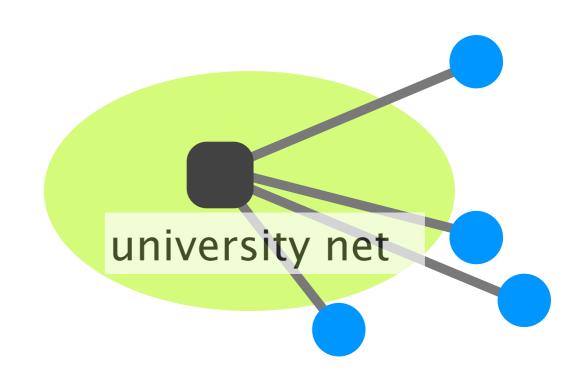
coaxial copper & fiber

- downstream data channel
- upstream data channel

tends to hundreds of Mbps

tens of Mbps

Unlike ADSL, the medium is shared between households



Internet connection

workstation

switch

With respect to DSL and cable providers, enterprise access networks is *much* simpler

workstation "local" "aggregate" switch switch

Ethernet is the most widely used Local Area Network technology



Twisted pair copper

1Gbps, 10 Gbps, 40 Gbps, 100 Gbps, ... symmetric

ADSL, CATV and Ethernet are only few examples of access technologies...

Cellular smart phones

Satellite remote areas

FTTH household

Fibers Internet backbone

Infiniband High performance computing

. . .

Communication Networks

Part 1: Overview



What is a network made of?

#2 How is it shared?

How is it organized?

How does communication happen?

How do we characterize it?

Up to now, we've seen what the last mile of the Internet looks like

What about the rest of the network?

3 requirements for a network topology

Should tolerate failures

several paths between each source and destination

Possess enough sharing to be feasible & cost-effective number of links should not be too high

Provide adequate per-node capacity

number of links should not be too small

Compare these three designs in terms of sharing, resiliency, and per-node capacity

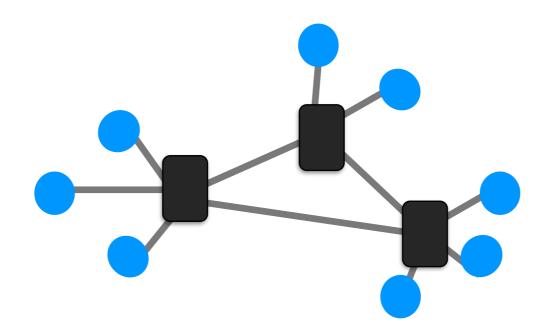
design full-mesh chain bus

advantages

disadvantages

Switched networks provide reasonable and flexible compromise

design switched



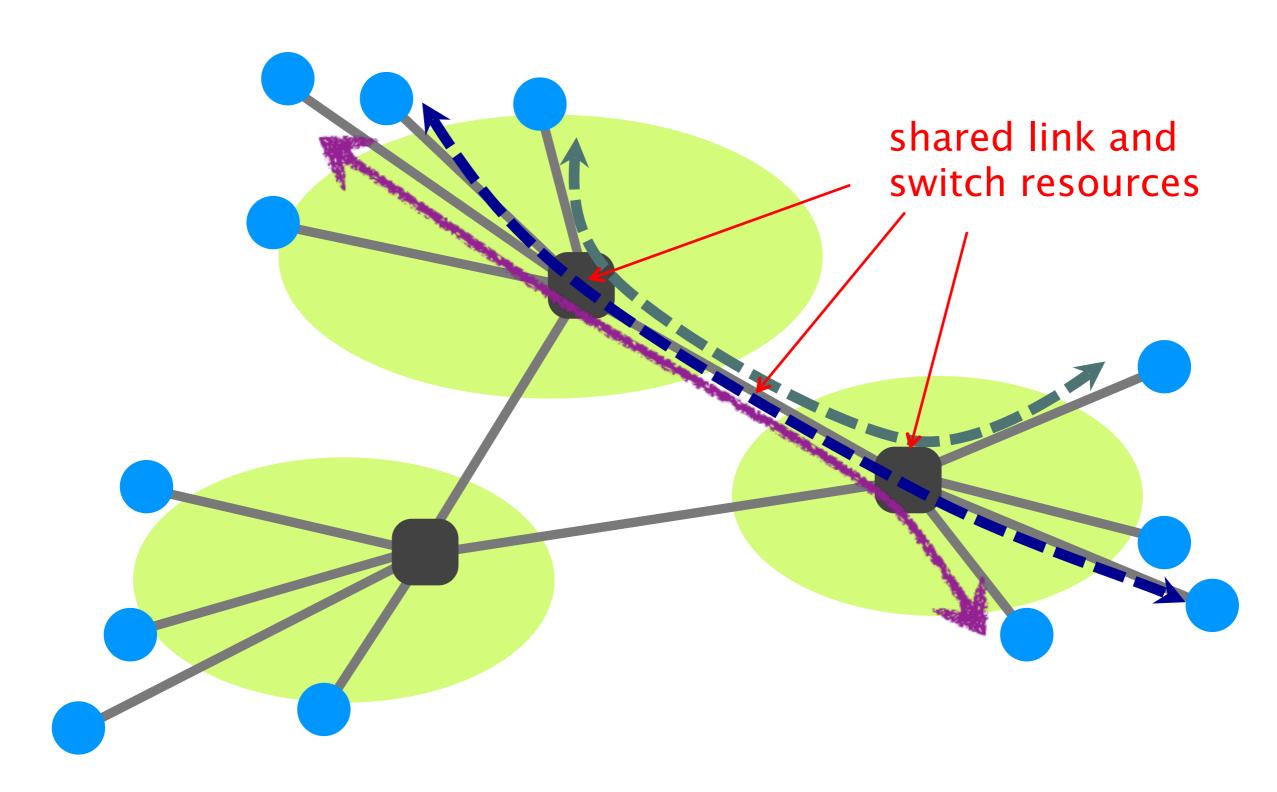
advantages

sharing and per-node capacity can be adapted to fit the network needs

disadvantages

require smart devices to perform: forwarding, routing, resource allocation

Links and switches are shared between flows



There exist two approaches to sharing: reservation and on-demand

Reservation

On-demand

principle

reserve the bandwidth you need in advance

send data when you need

Both are examples of statistical multiplexing

Reservation

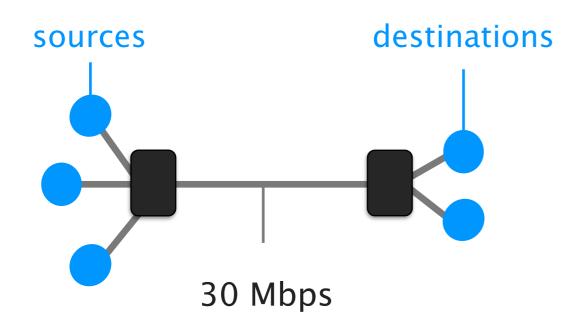
On-demand

multiplexing

at the flow-level

at the packet-level

Between reservation and on-demand: Which one do you pick?

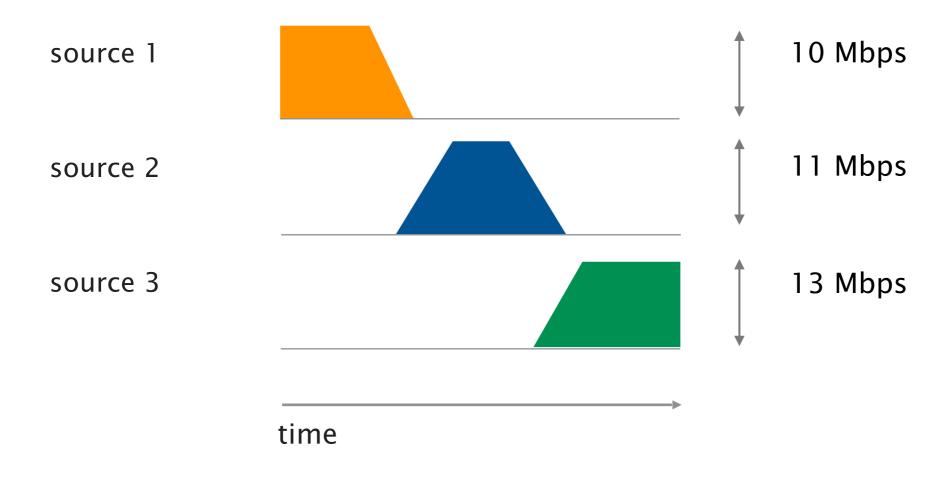


Consider that each source needs 10 Mbps

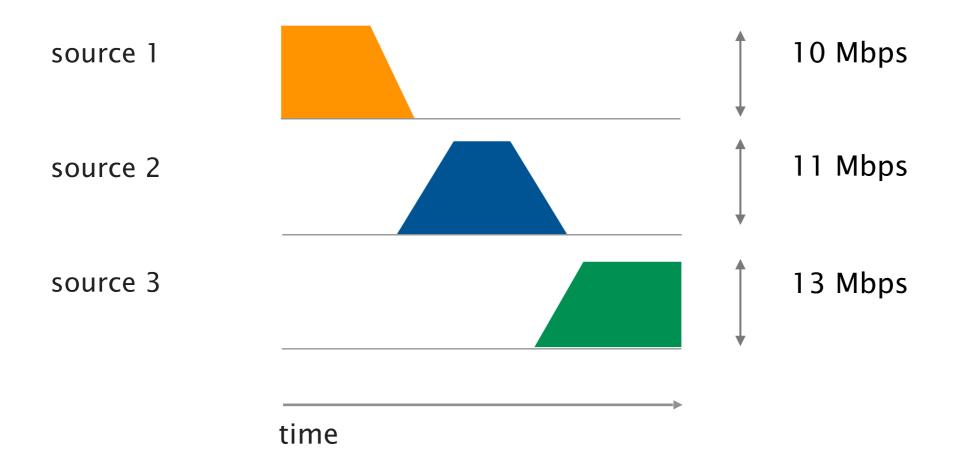
What do they get with:

- reservation
- on-demand

Assume the following peak demand and flow duration



Assume the following peak demand and flow duration



What does each source get with reservation and on-demand?

first-come first-servedequal (10 Mbps)

Peak vs average rates

Each flow has Peak rate P

Average rate A

Reservation must reserve P, but level of utilization is A/P e.g., P=100 Mbps, A=10 Mbps, level of utilization=10%

On-demand can achieve higher level of utilizations depends on degree of sharing and burstiness of flows

Ultimately, it depends on the application

Reservation makes sense when P/A is small voice traffic has a ratio of 3 or so

Reservation wastes capacity when P/A is big data applications are bursty, ratios >100 are common

Ultimately, it depends on the application

Reservation makes sense when P/A is small voice traffic has a ratio of 3 or so

Reservation wastes capacity when P/A is big data applications are bursty, ratios >100 are common

That's why the phone network used reservations ... and why the Internet does not!

In practice, the two approaches are implemented using circuit-switching or packet-switching, respectively

Reservation

On-demand

implem.

circuit-switching

packet-switching

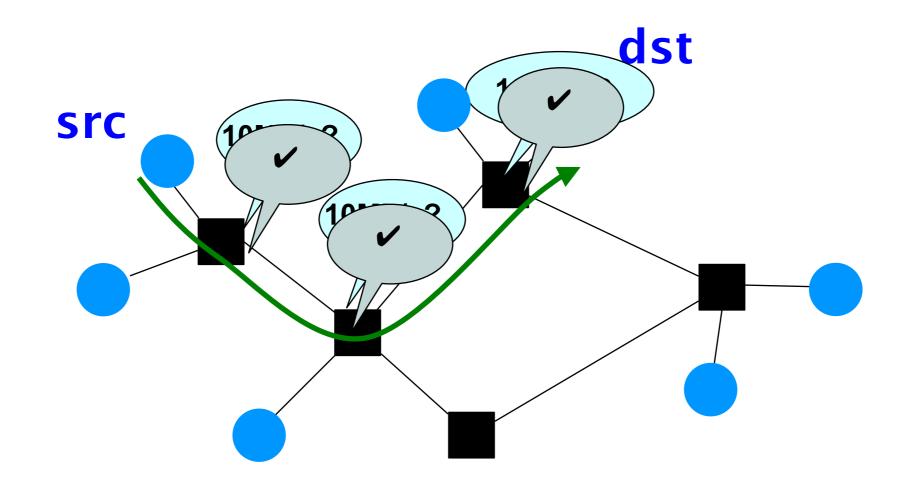
Reservation

On-demand

implem. circuit-switching

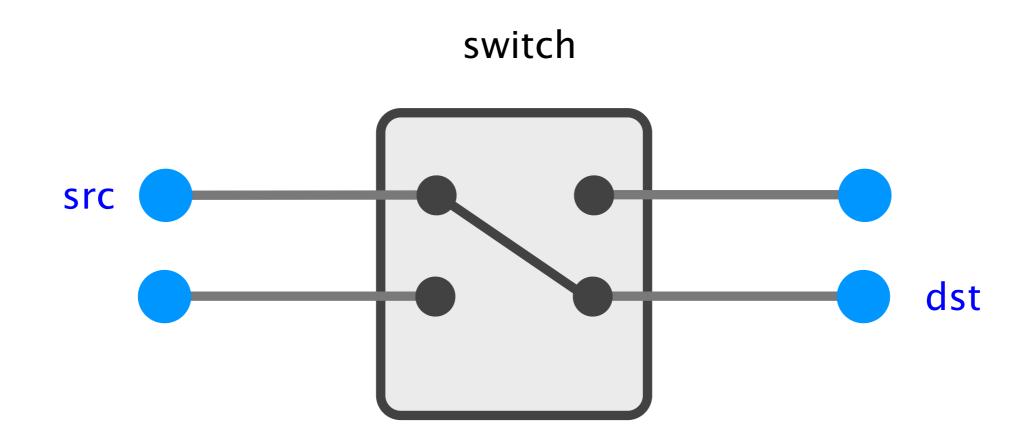
packet-switching

Circuit switching relies on the Resource Reservation Protocol



- (1) src sends a reservation request for 10Mbps to dst
- (2) switches "establish a circuit"
- (3) src starts sending data
- (4) src sends a "teardown circuit" message

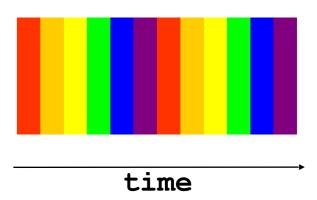
The Resource Reservation Protocol establishes a circuit within each switch



There exist many kinds of circuits

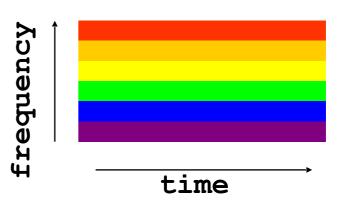
Time-based multiplexing

- divide time in slots
- allocate one slot per circuit

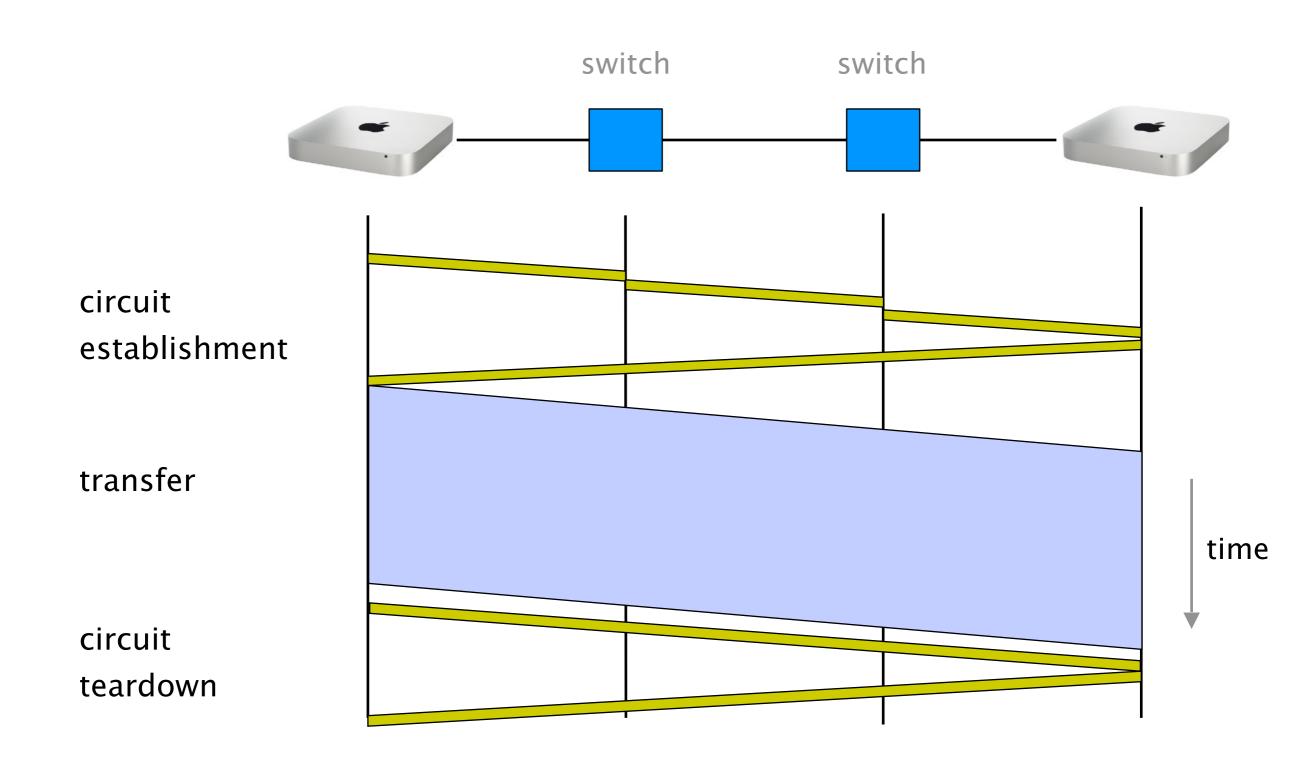


Frequency-based multiplexing

- divide spectrum in frequency bands
- allocate one band per circuit



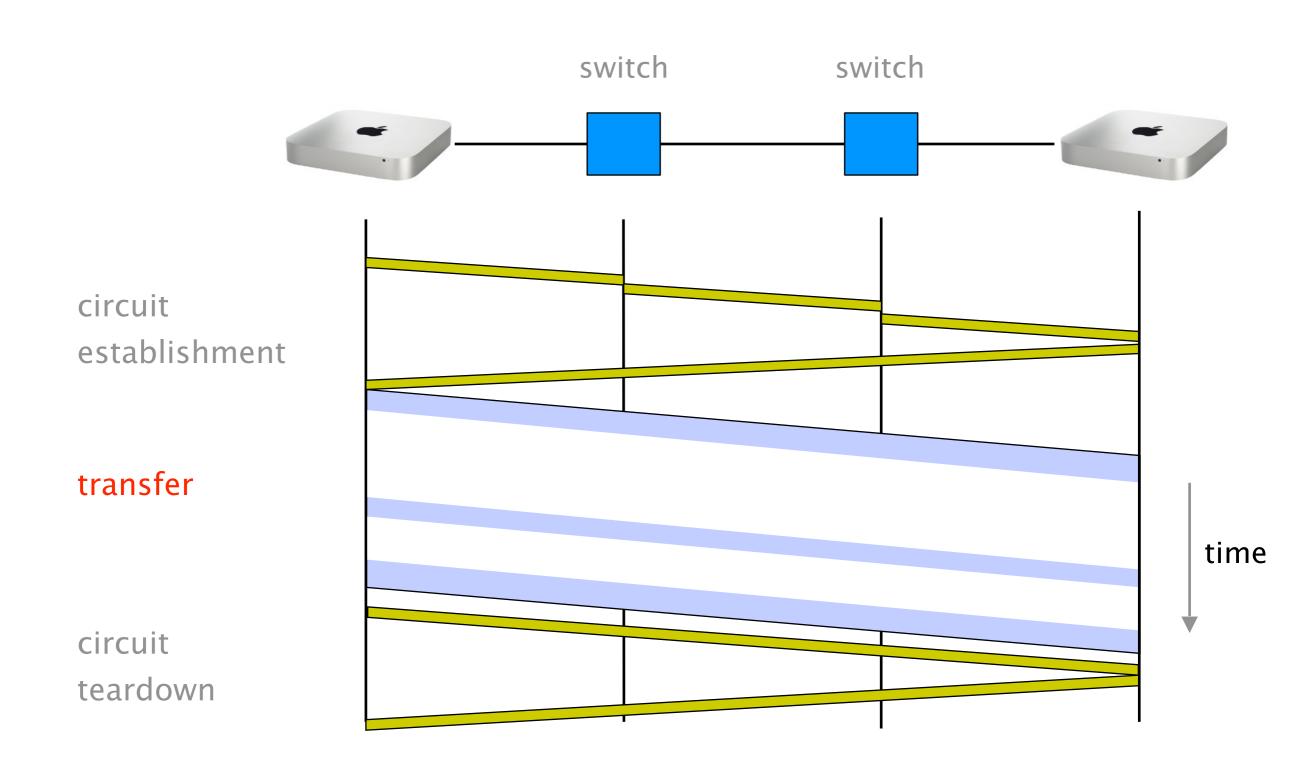
Let's walk through example of data transfer using circuit switching



The efficiency of the transfer depends on how utilized the circuit is once established

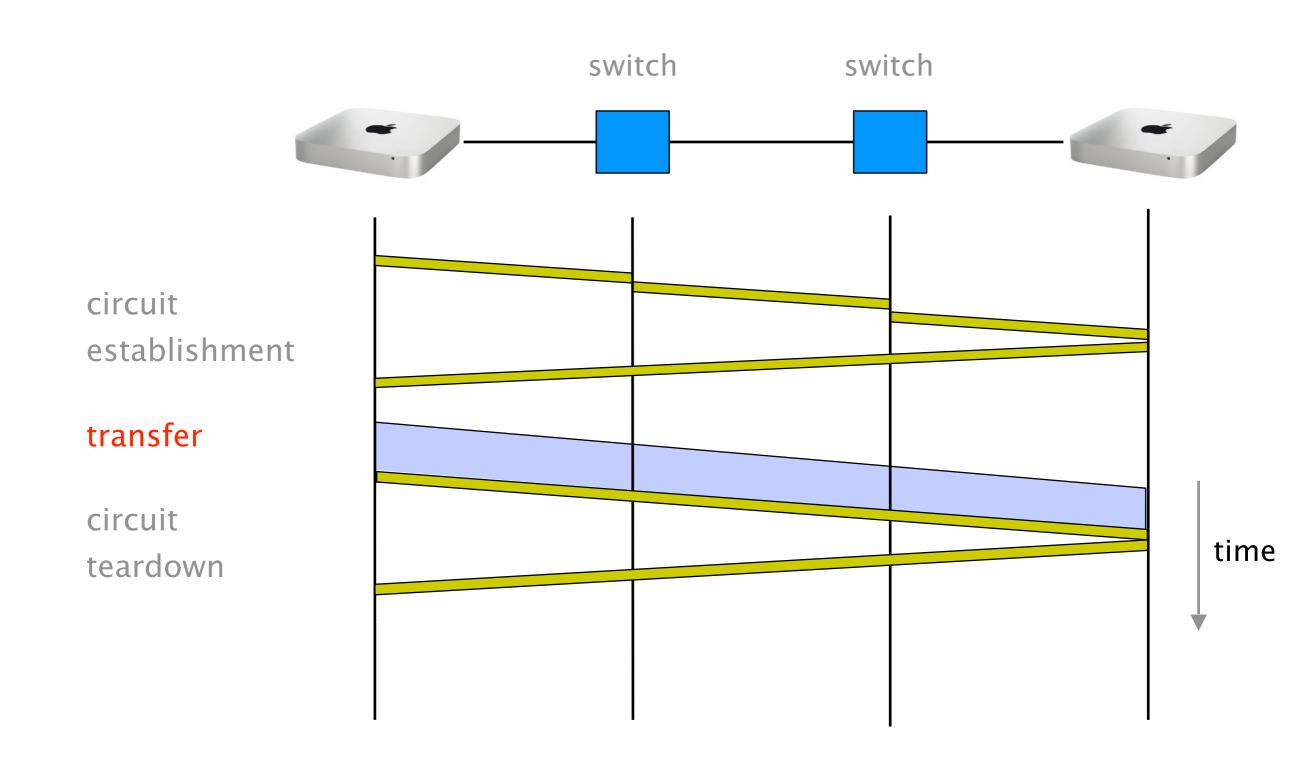
This is an example of poor efficiency.

The circuit is mostly idle due to traffic bursts

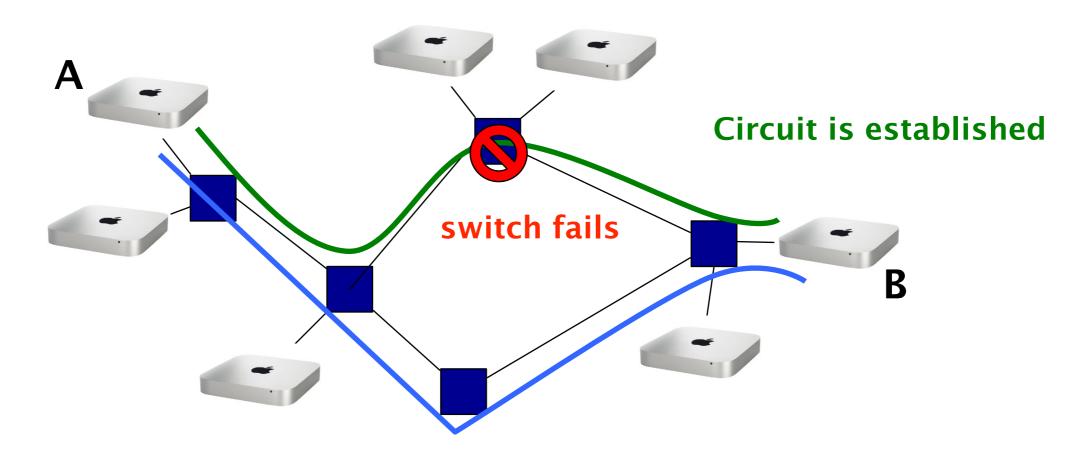


This is another example of poor efficiency.

The circuit is used for a short amount of time



Another problem of circuit switching is that it doesn't route around trouble



A is forced to signal a new circuit to restore communication

Pros and cons of circuit switching

advantages

disadvantages

predictable performance

inefficient if traffic is bursty or short

simple & fast switching

once circuit established

complex circuit setup/teardown

which adds delays to transfer

requires new circuit upon failure

What about packet switching?

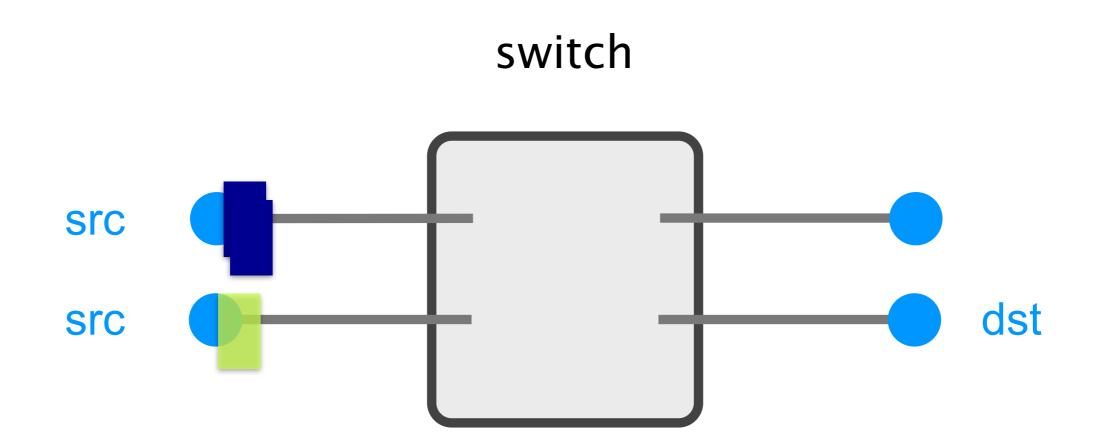
Reservation

On-demand

circuit-switching

packet-switching

In packet switching, data transfer is done using independent packets

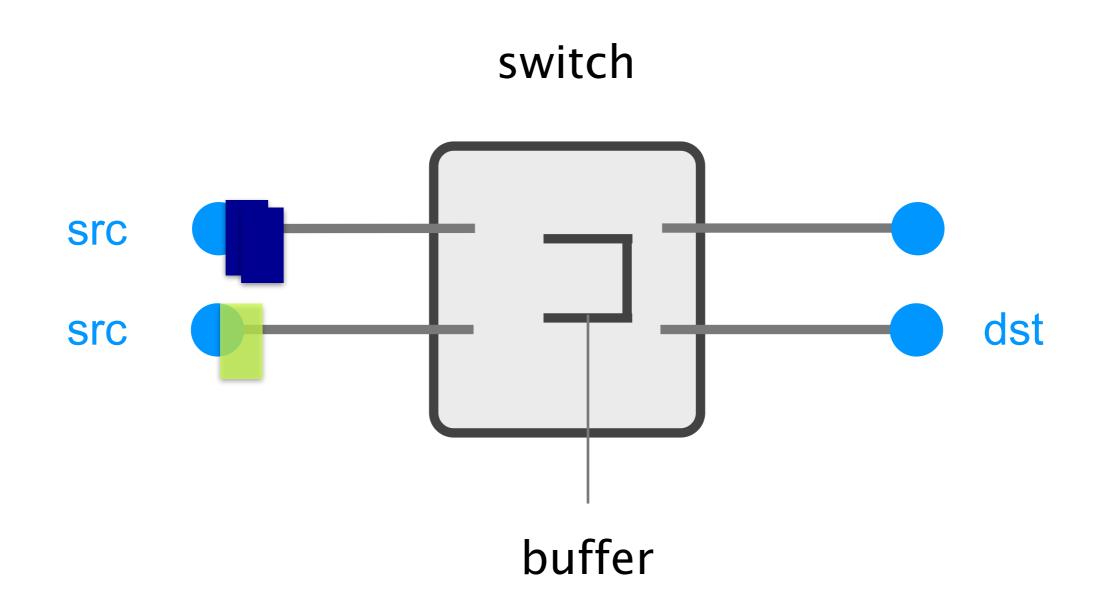


Each packet contains destination (dst)

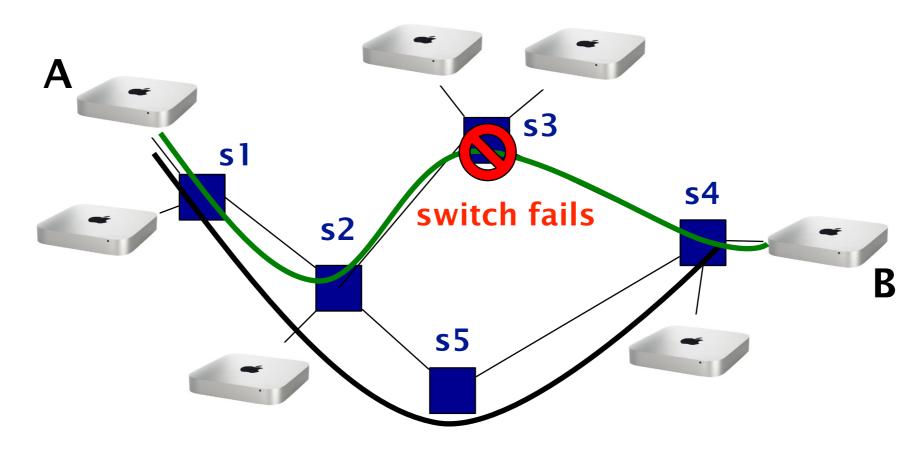
Since packets are sent without global coordination, they can "clash" with each other

To absorb transient overload, packet switching relies on buffers

To absorb transient overload, packet switching relies on buffers



Packet switching routes around trouble



route recomputed on the fly by s2

Pros and cons of packet switching

advantages

disadvantages

efficient use of resources

unpredictable performance

simpler to implement

than circuit switching

requires buffer management and

congestion control

route around trouble

Packet switching beats Circuit switching with respect to *resiliency* and *efficiency*

Internet



packets

Packet switching will be our focus for the rest of the course

Communication Networks

Part 1: Overview



What is a network made of?

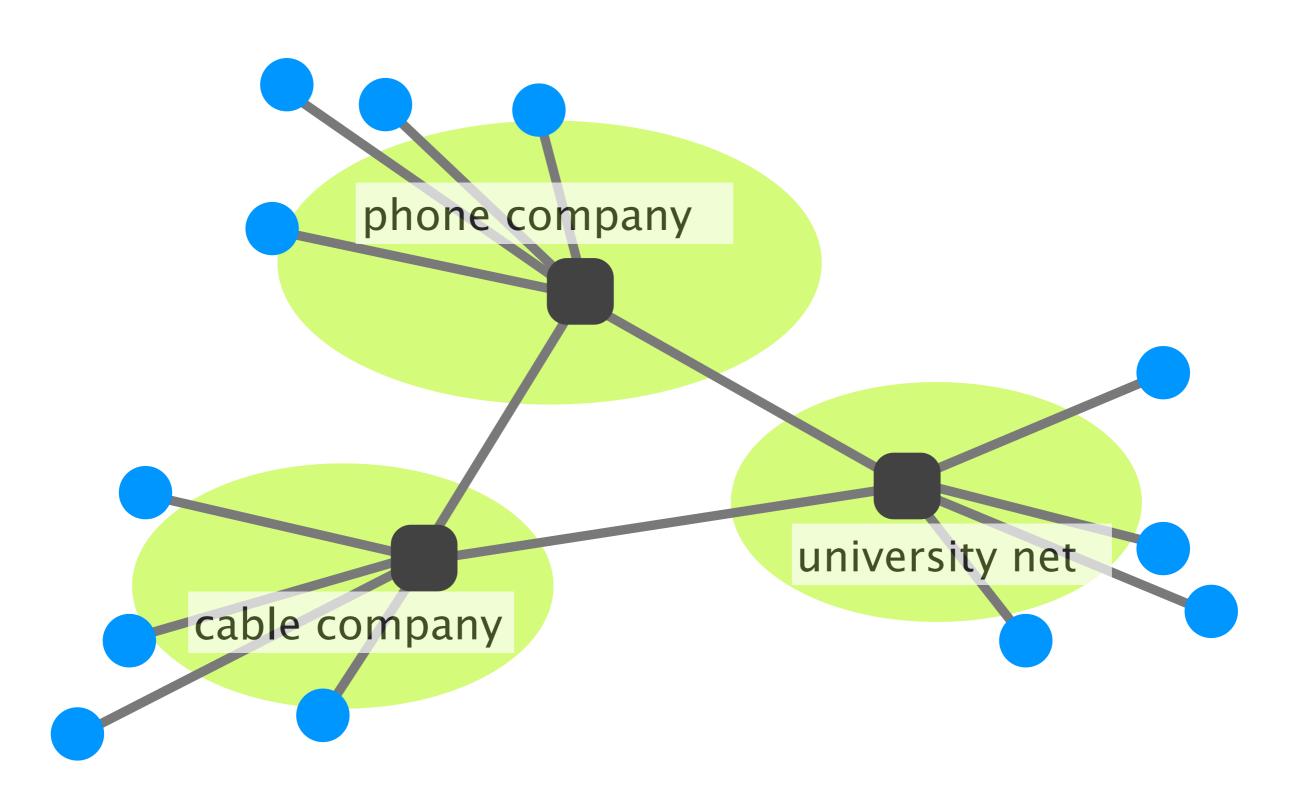
How is it shared?

#3 How is it organized?

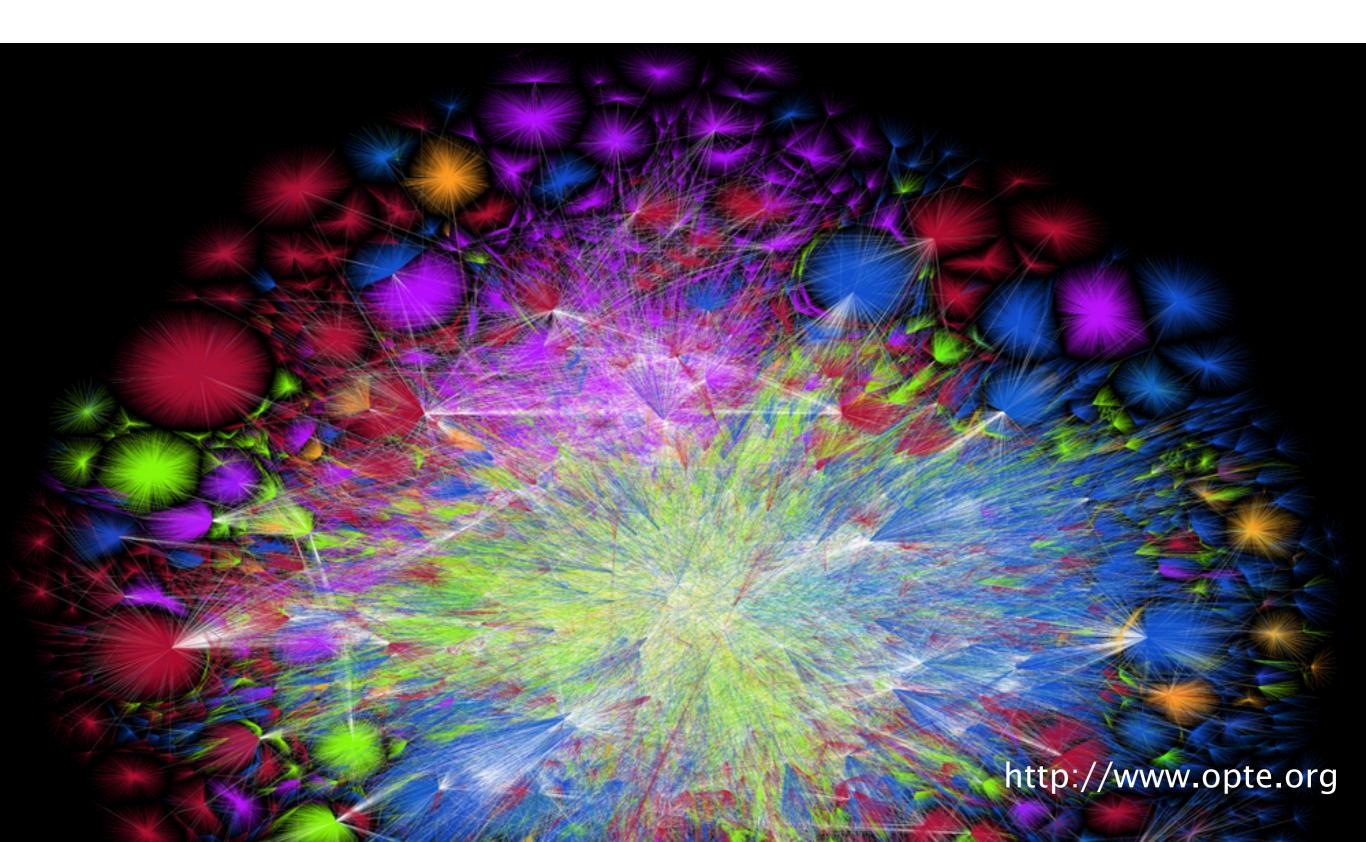
How does communication happen?

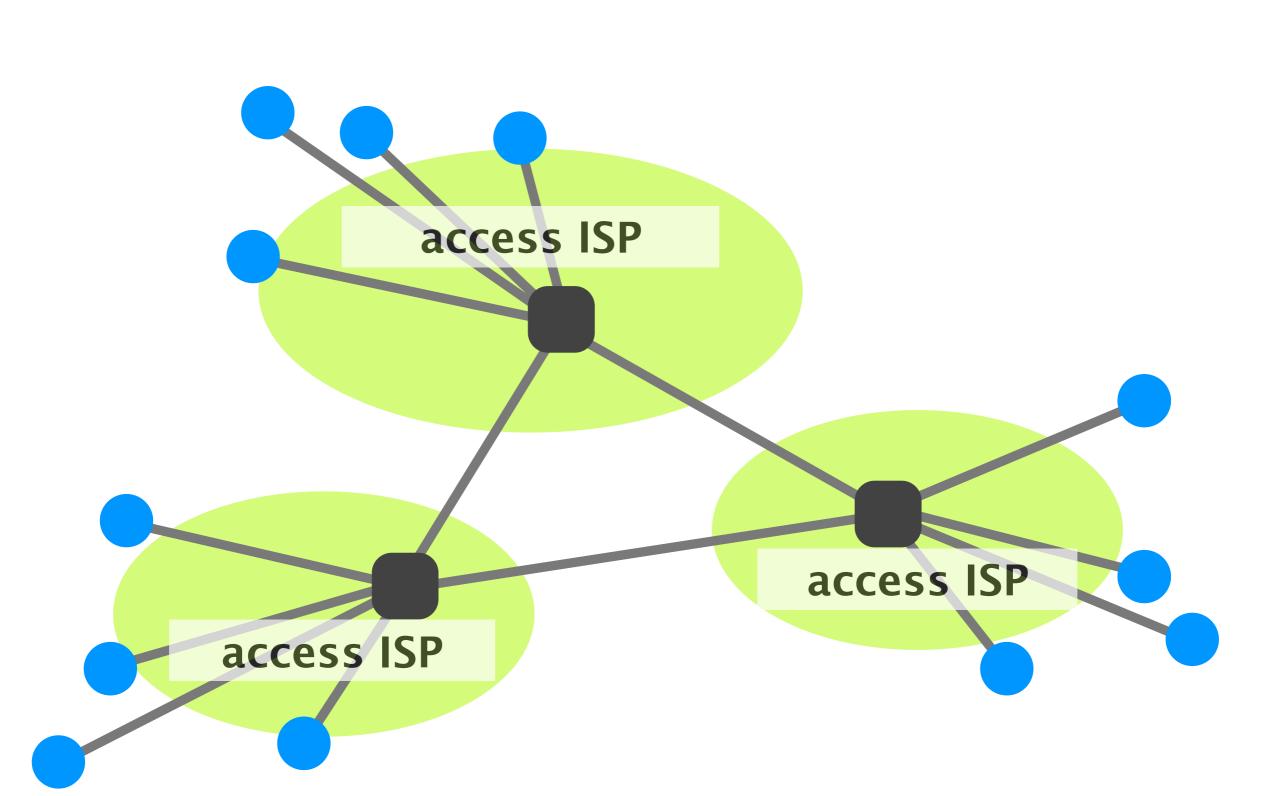
How do we characterize it?

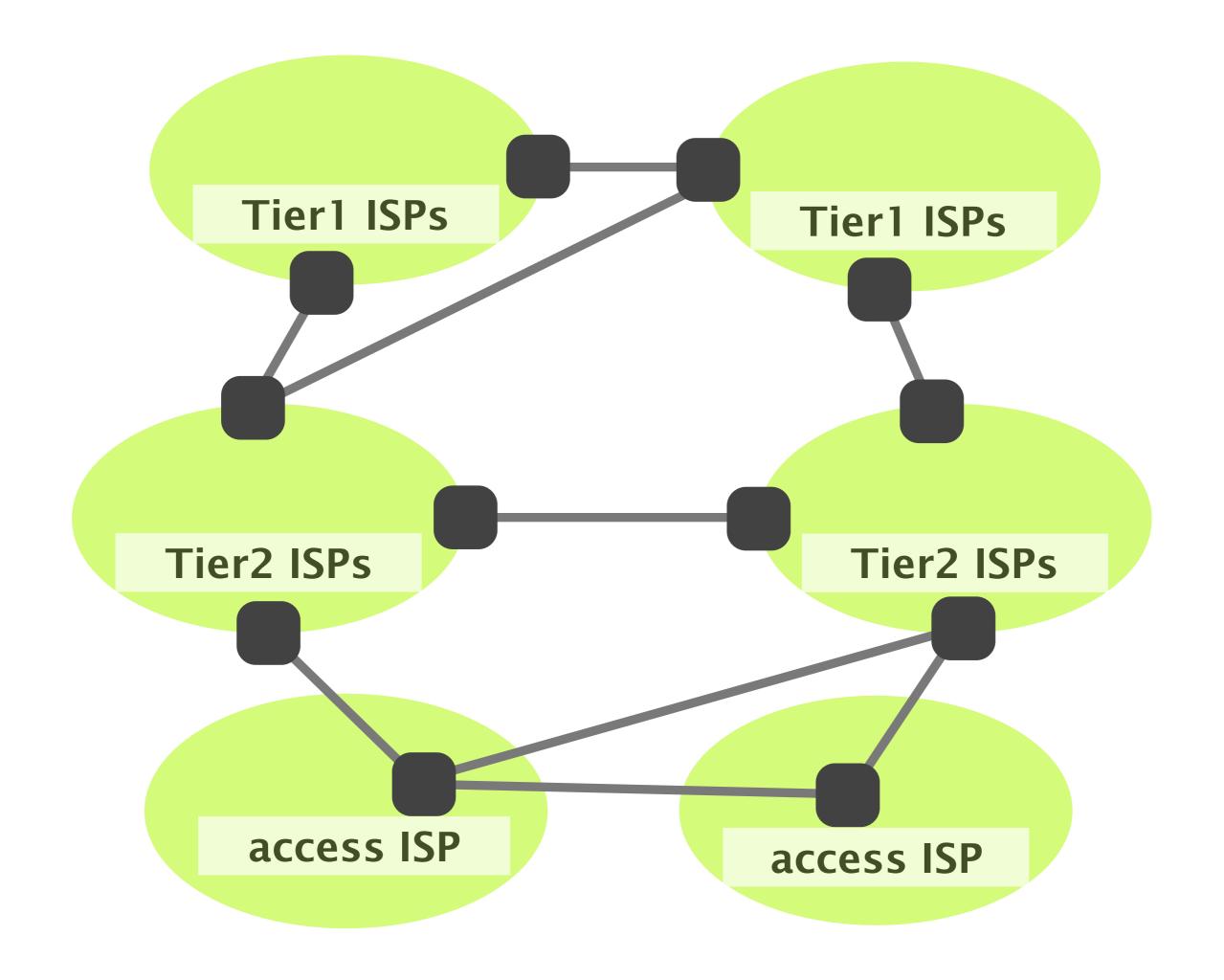
So far, this is our vision of the Internet...



In practice, the Internet is a "bit" more complex







The Internet has a hierarchical structure

Tier-1

have no provider

international

Tier-2

provide transit to Tier-3s

national

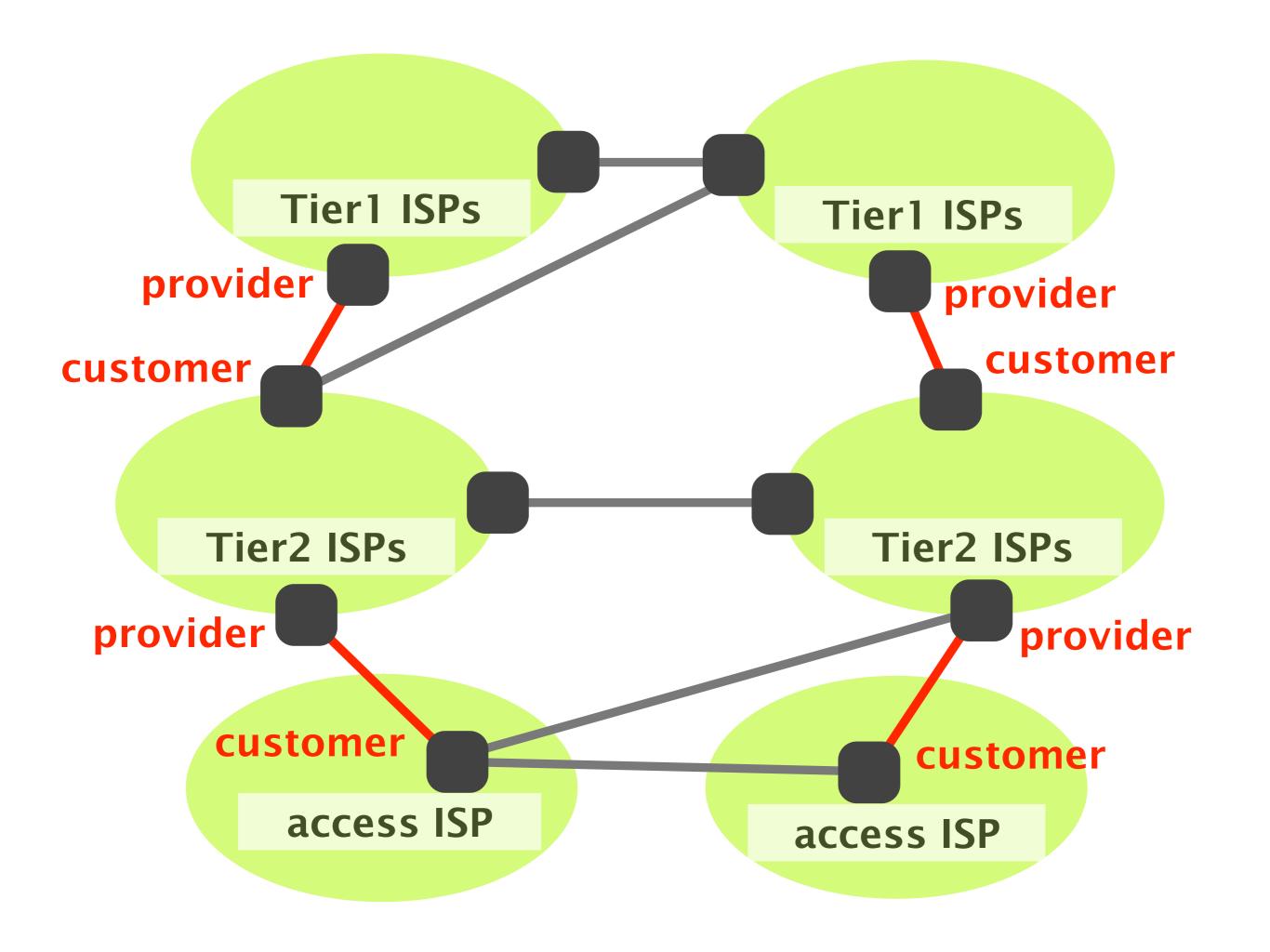
have at least one provider

Tier-3

do not provide any transit

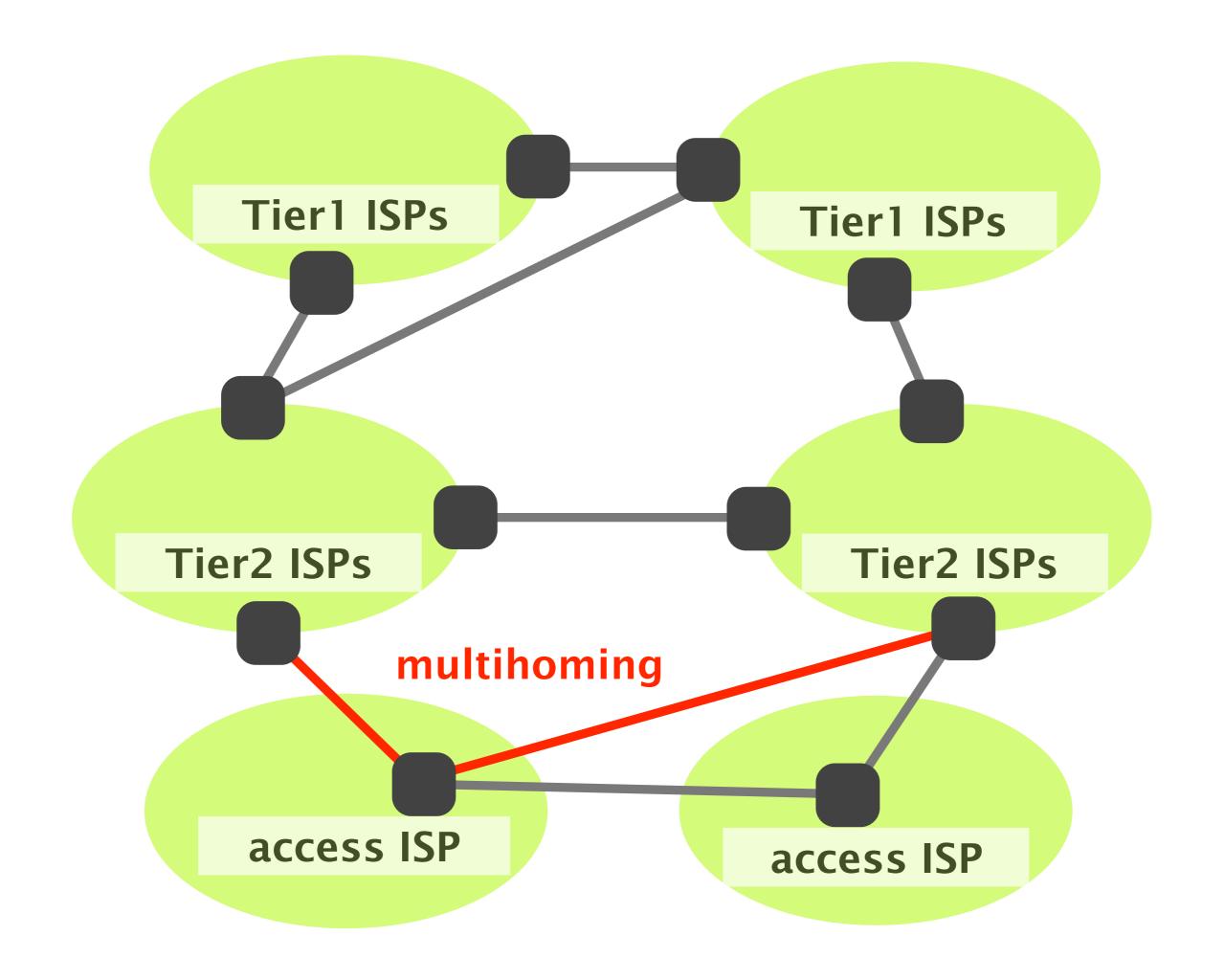
local

have at least one provider



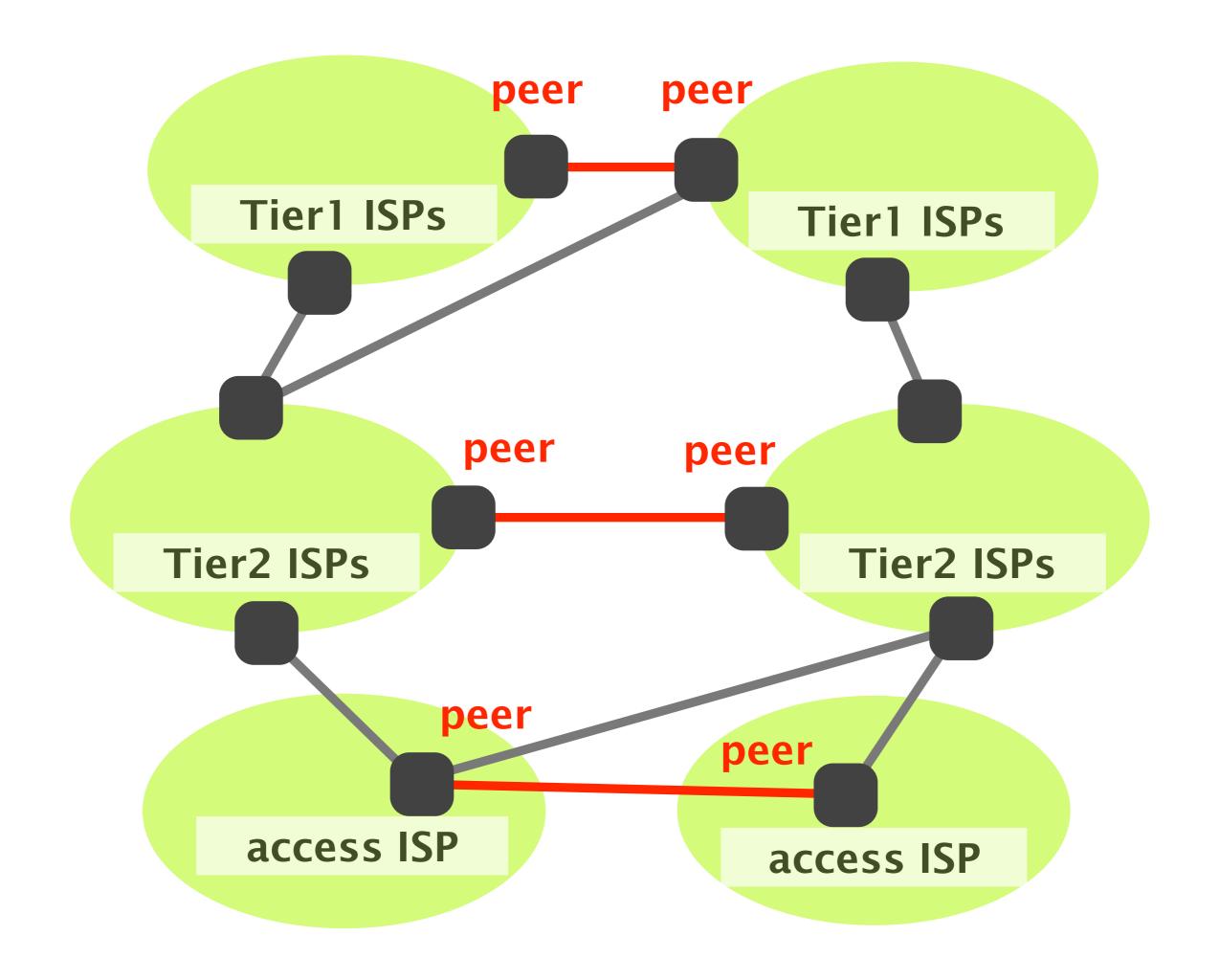
The distribution of networks in Tiers is extremely skewed towards Tier-3s

	total	~50,000 networks
Tier-1 international	have no provider	~12
Tier-2 national	provide transit to Tier-3s have at least one provider	1,000s
Tier-3 local	do not provide any transit have at least one provider	85-90%



Some networks have an incentive to connect directly, to reduce their bill wrt their own provider

This is known as "peering"



Interconnecting each network to its neighbors one-by-one is not cost effective

Physical costs

of provisioning or renting physical links

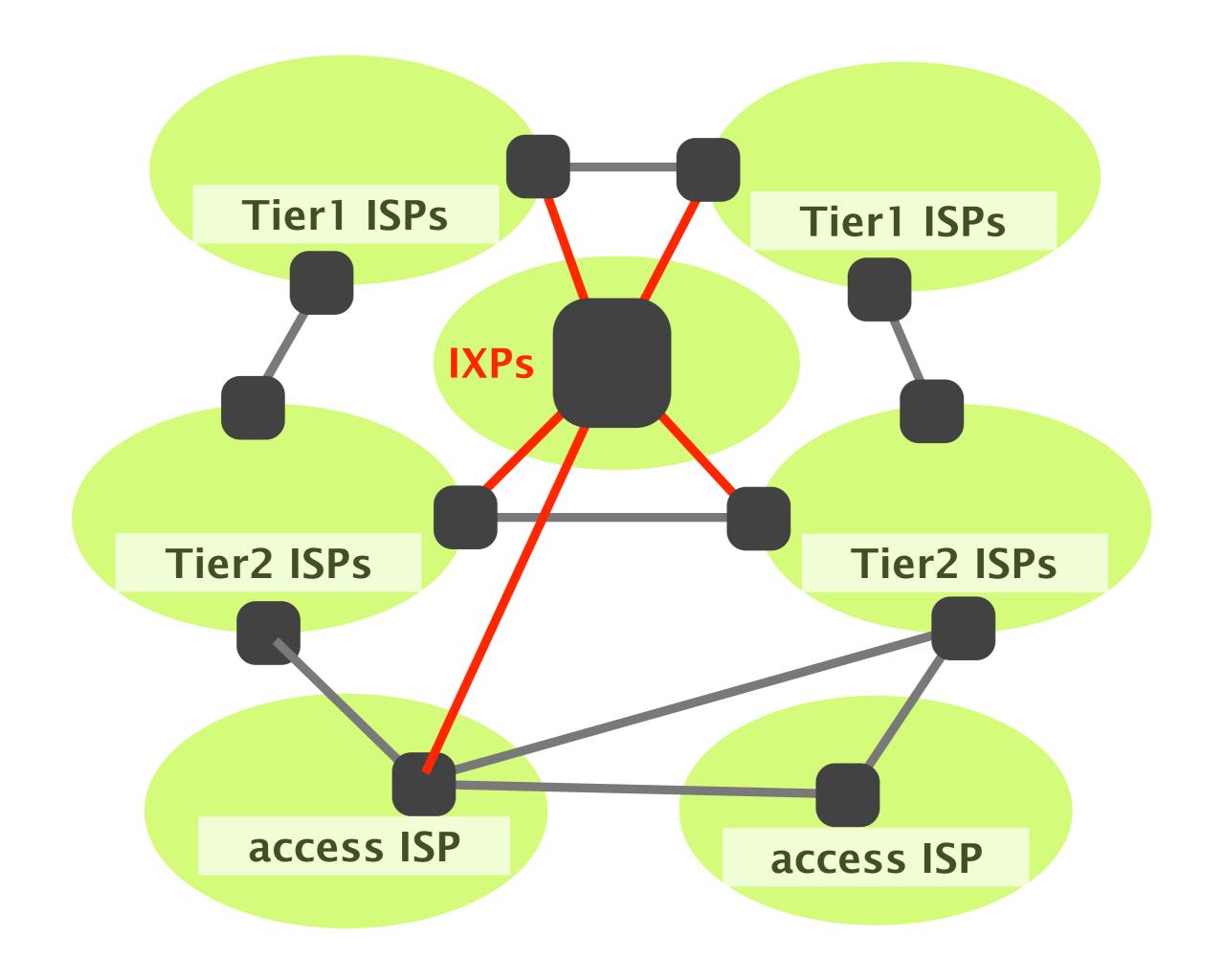
Bandwidth costs

a lot of links are not necessarily fully utilized

Human costs

to manage each connection individually

Internet eXchange Points (IXPs) solve these problems by letting *many* networks connect in one location



Communication Networks

Part 1: Overview



#1 What is a network made of?

#2 How is it shared?

#3 How is it organized?

#4 How does communication happen?

#5 How do we characterize it?