
A Taxonomy of Communication Networks

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<https://sngroup.org.cn/courses/cnns-xmuf23/index.shtml>

09/14/2023

This deck of slides are heavily based on CPSC 433/533 at Yale University, by courtesy of Dr. Y. Richard Yang.

Outline

➤ *Admin. and recap*

- ❑ A brief introduction to the Internet:
 - present
- ❑ Challenges of Internet networks and apps
- ❑ A taxonomy of communication networks

Admin.

- If you haven't filled out the survey, please go to the class website to do so



Recap

- ❑ A protocol defines the **format** and the **order** of messages exchanged between two or more communicating entities, as well as the **actions** taken on the transmission or receipt of a message or other **events**.
- ❑ Key Internet milestones and their implications:
 - ARPANET is sponsored by ARPA →
design should survive failures
 - The initial IMPs (routers) were made by a small company → keep the network simple
 - Many networks →
internetworking: need a network to connect networks
 - Commercialization →
architecture supporting decentralized, autonomous systems

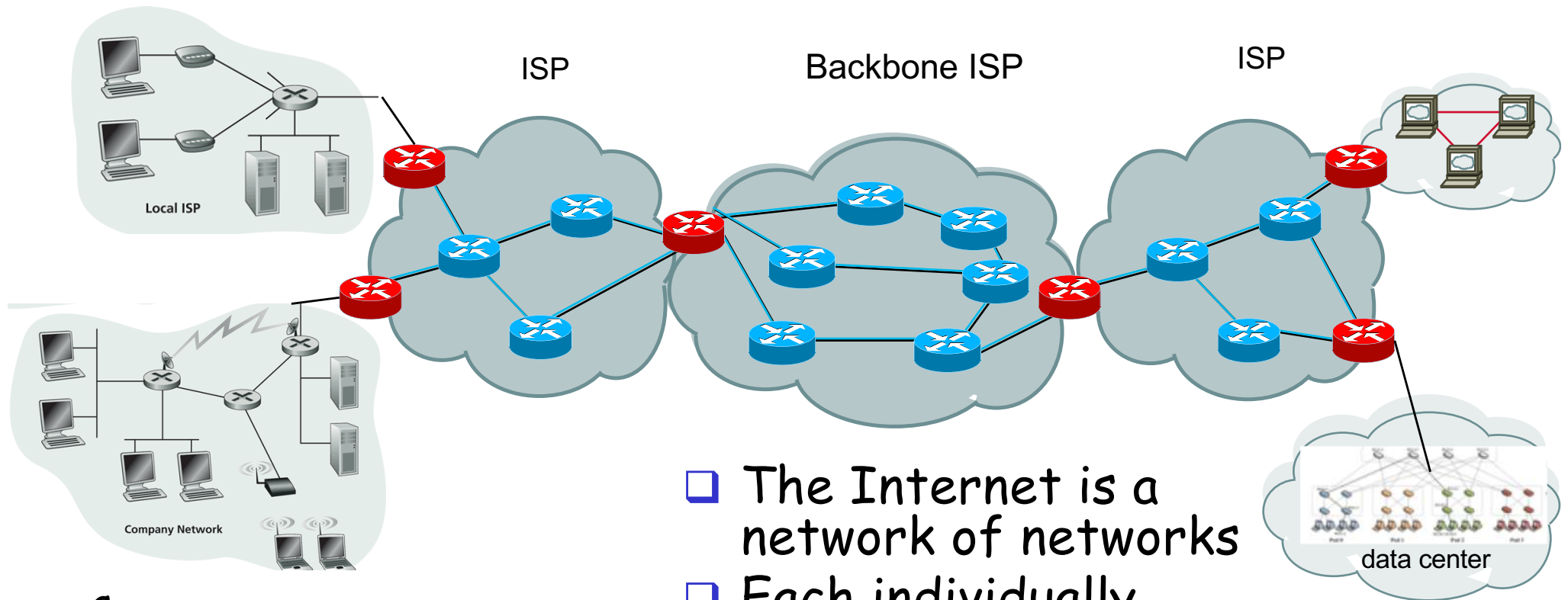
Outline

- Admin. and recaps
- *A brief introduction to the Internet*
 - past
 - *present*

Internet Physical Infrastructure

Residential access

- Cable, Fiber, DSL, Wireless

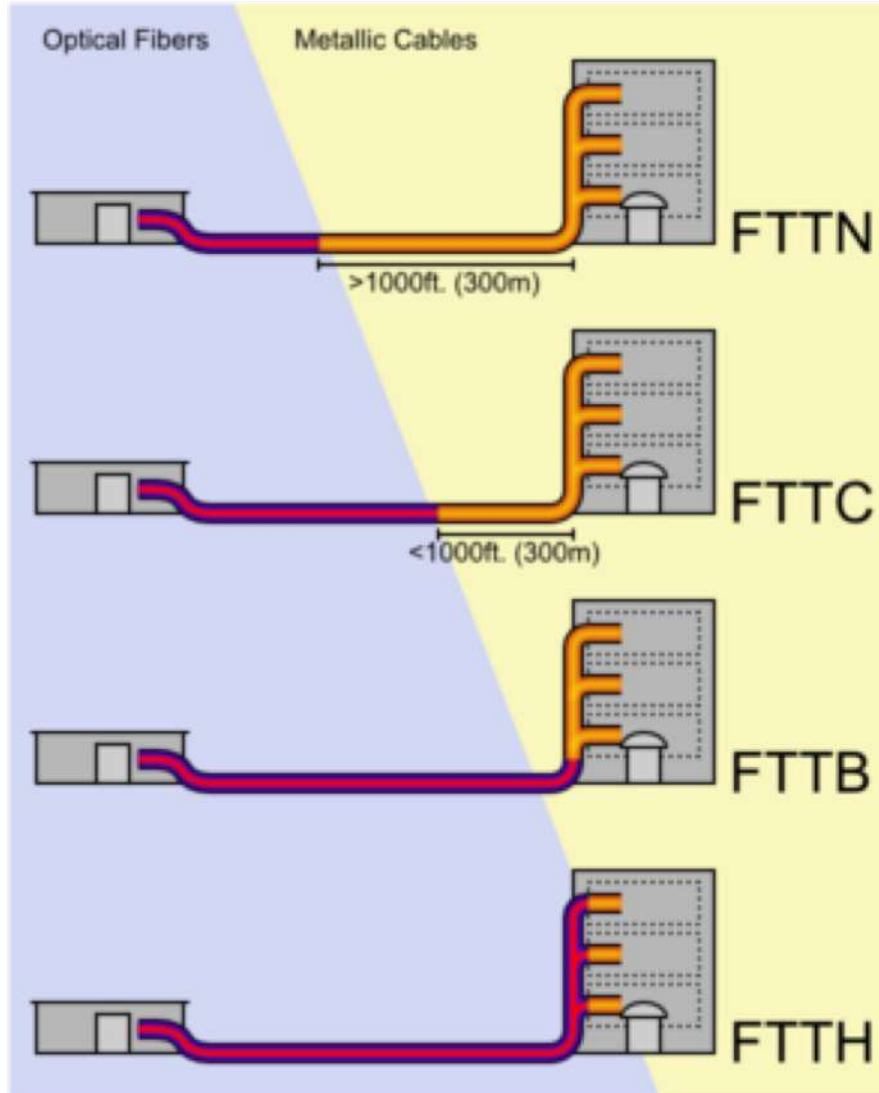


Campus access, e.g.,

- Ethernet
- Wireless

- The Internet is a network of networks
- Each individually administrated network is called an Autonomous System (AS)

Access: Fiber to the x

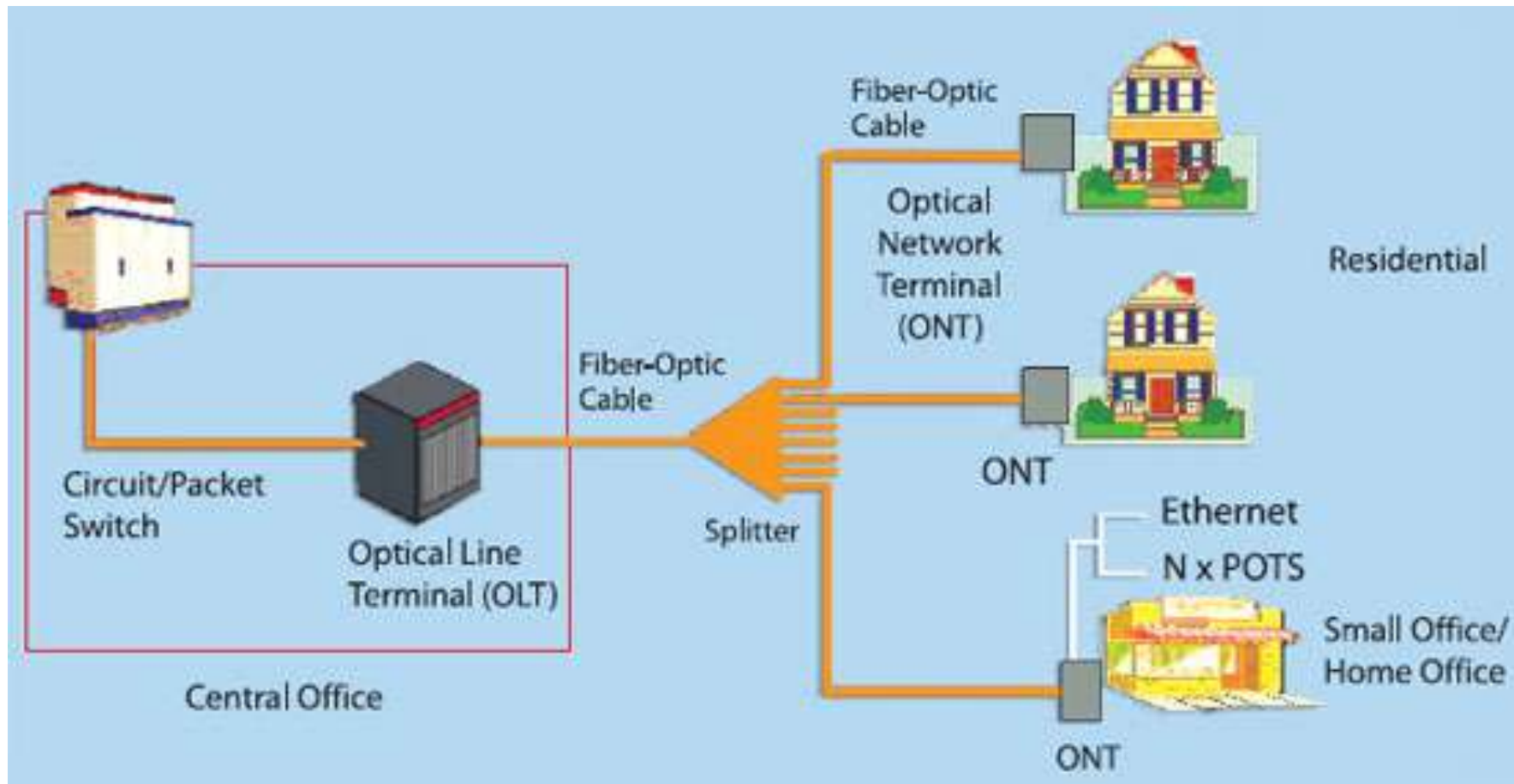


Access: Fiber to the Premises (FTTP)

- Deployed by Verizon, AT&T, Google,
- One of the largest comm. construction projects

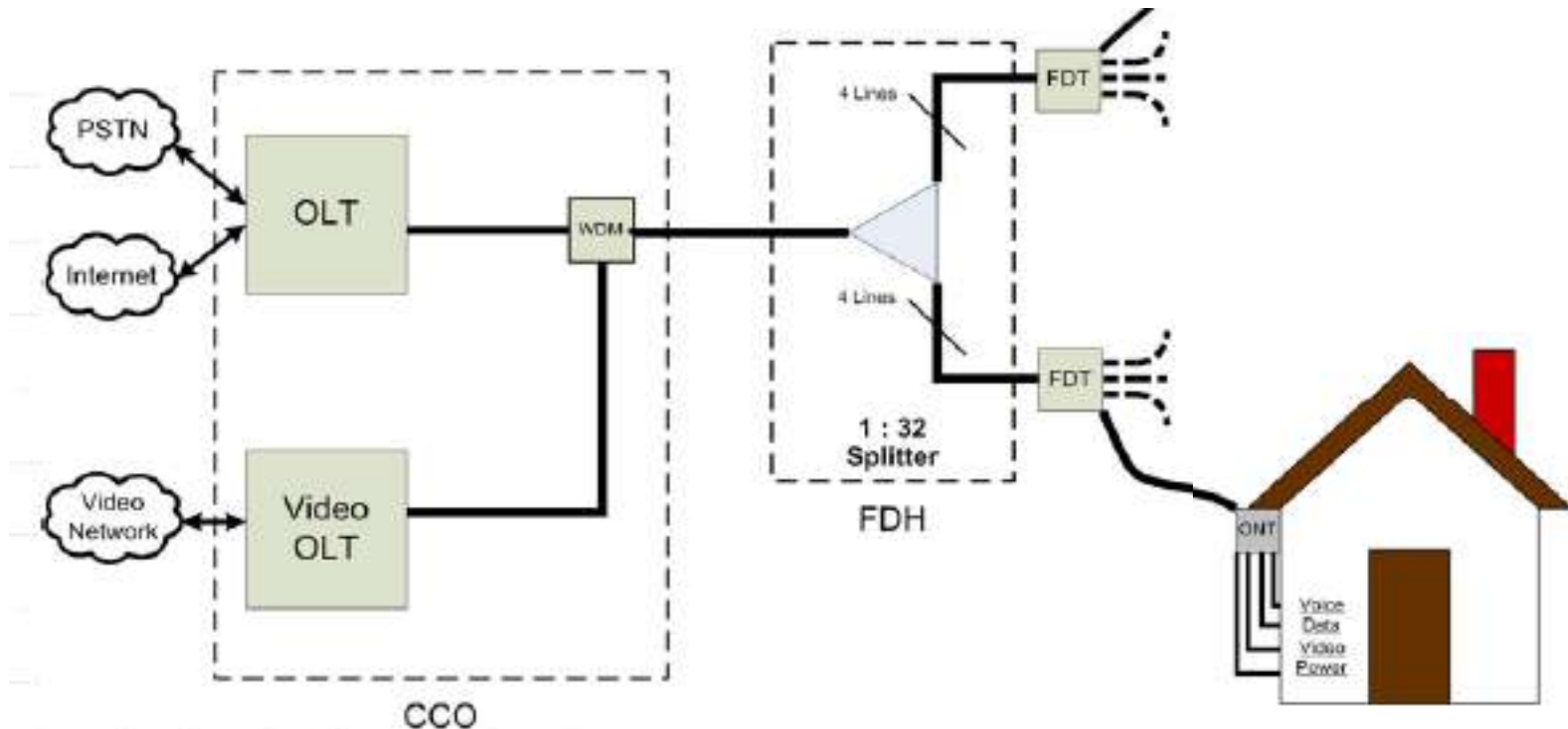


FTTP Architecture

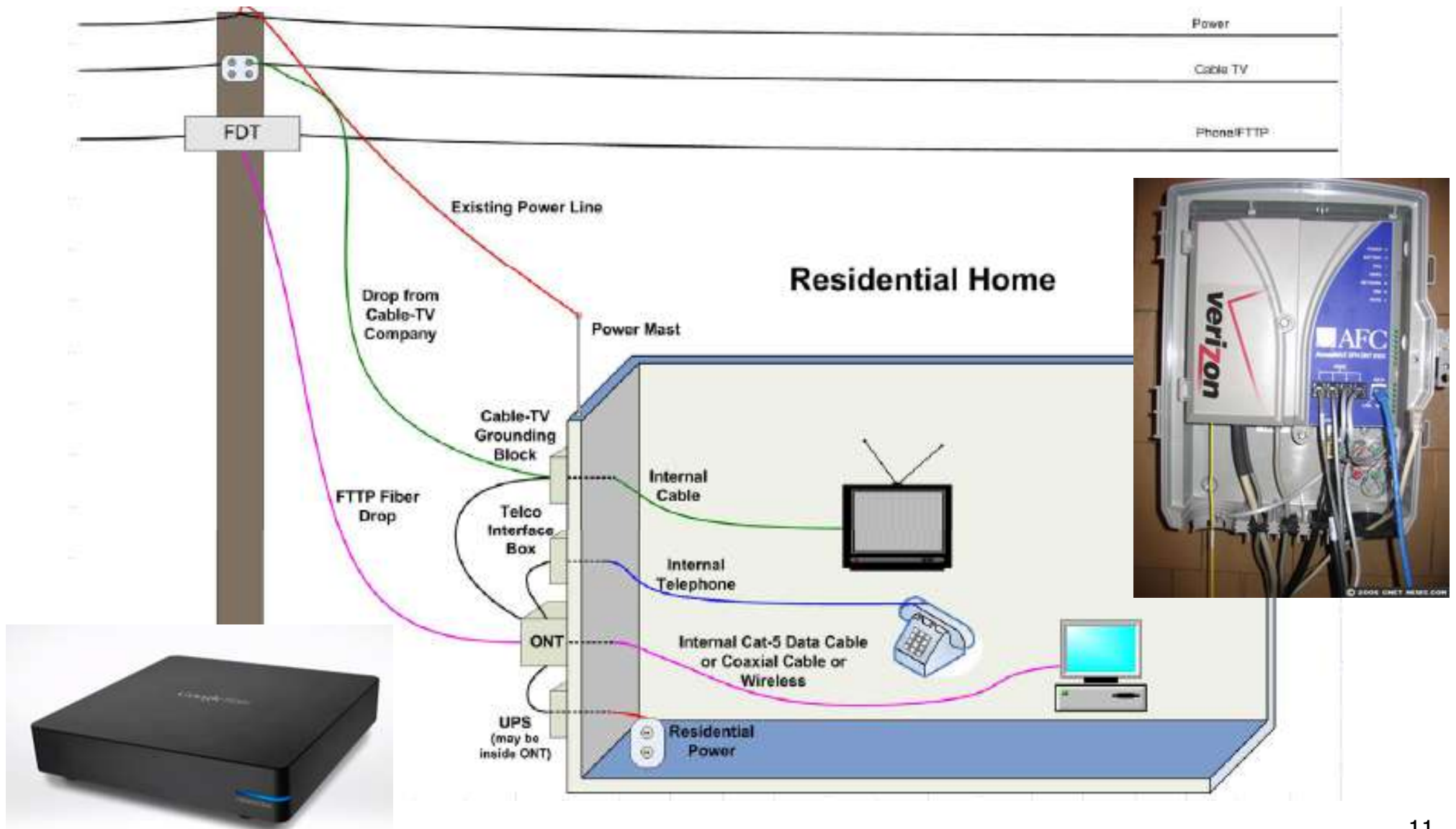


FTTP Architecture

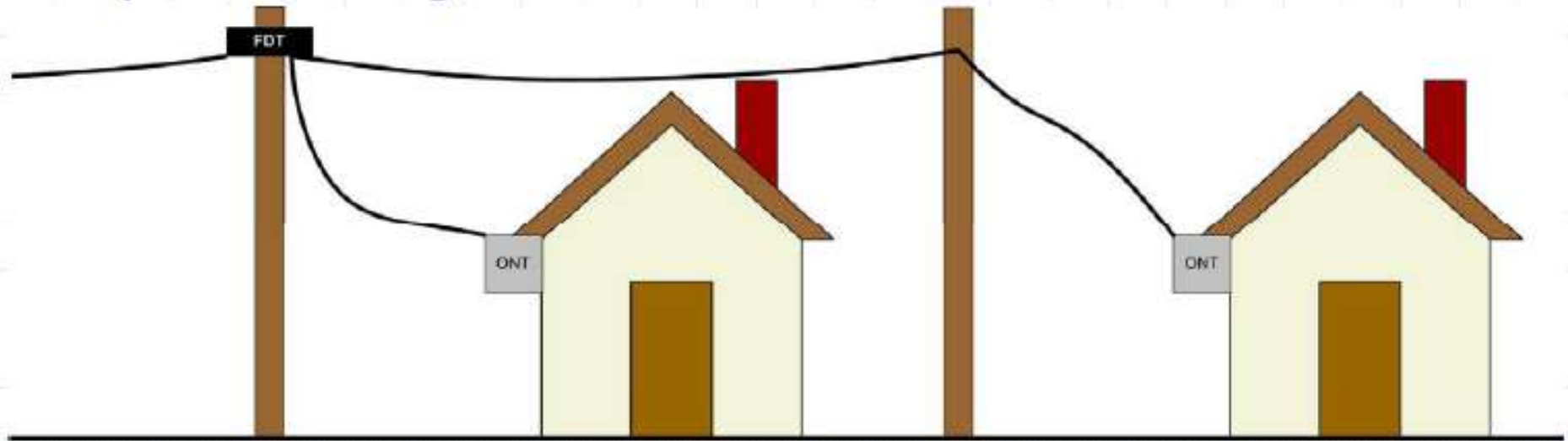
- ❑ Optical Network Terminal (ONT) box outside dwelling or business
- ❑ Fiber Distribution Terminal (FDT) in poles or pedestals
- ❑ Fiber Distribution Hub (FDH) at street cabinet
- ❑ Optical Line Terminal (OLT) at central office



FTTP Architecture: To Home



FTTP Architecture: Fiber Distribution Terminal (FDT)



FTTP Architecture: Central to Fiber Distribution Hub (FDH)



- Backbone fiber ring on primary arterial streets (brown)
- Local distribution fiber plant (red) meets backbone at cabinet



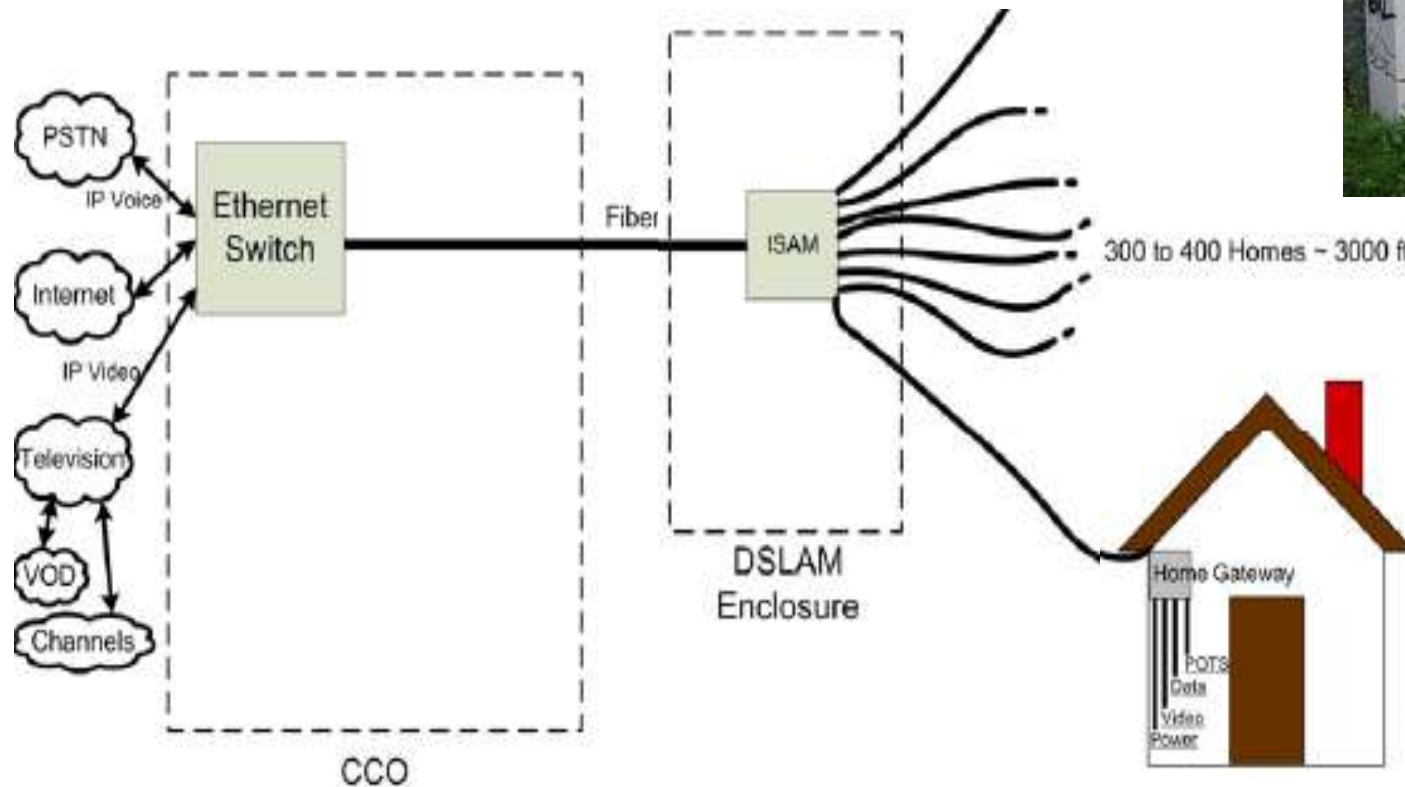
FDH

Access: DSL

- ❑ Compared with FTTP, copper from cabinet (DSLAM) to home



DSLAM



Access: Wireless



<https://x.company/loon/>

Access: Wireless

Starlink explained: Everything you should know about Elon Musk's satellite internet venture

The billionaire SpaceX CEO is launching satellites into orbit and promising to deliver high-speed broadband internet to as many users as possible.

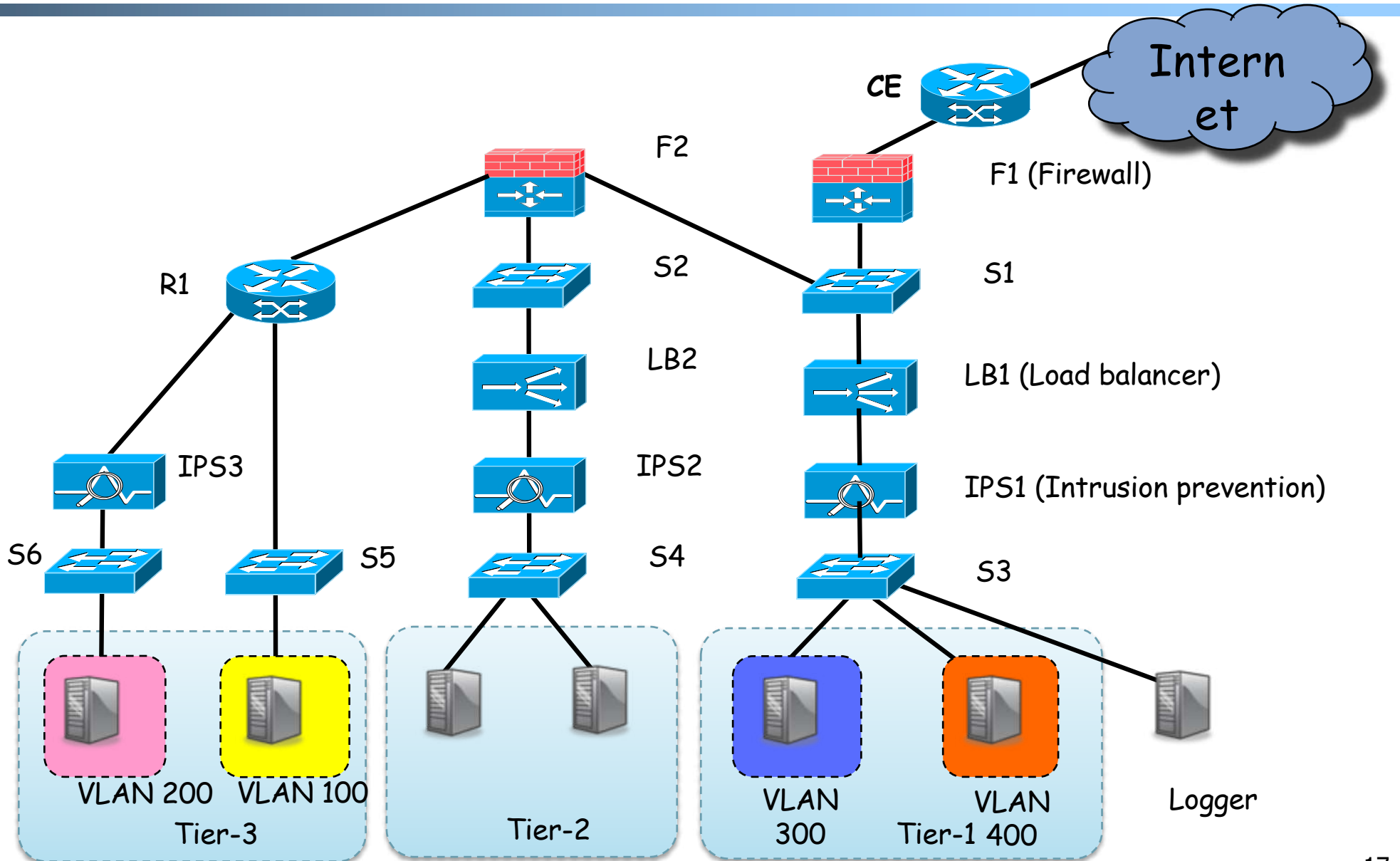


Ry Crist · Aug. 24, 2021 5:15 p.m. PT

▶ LISTEN - 13:07



Campus Network

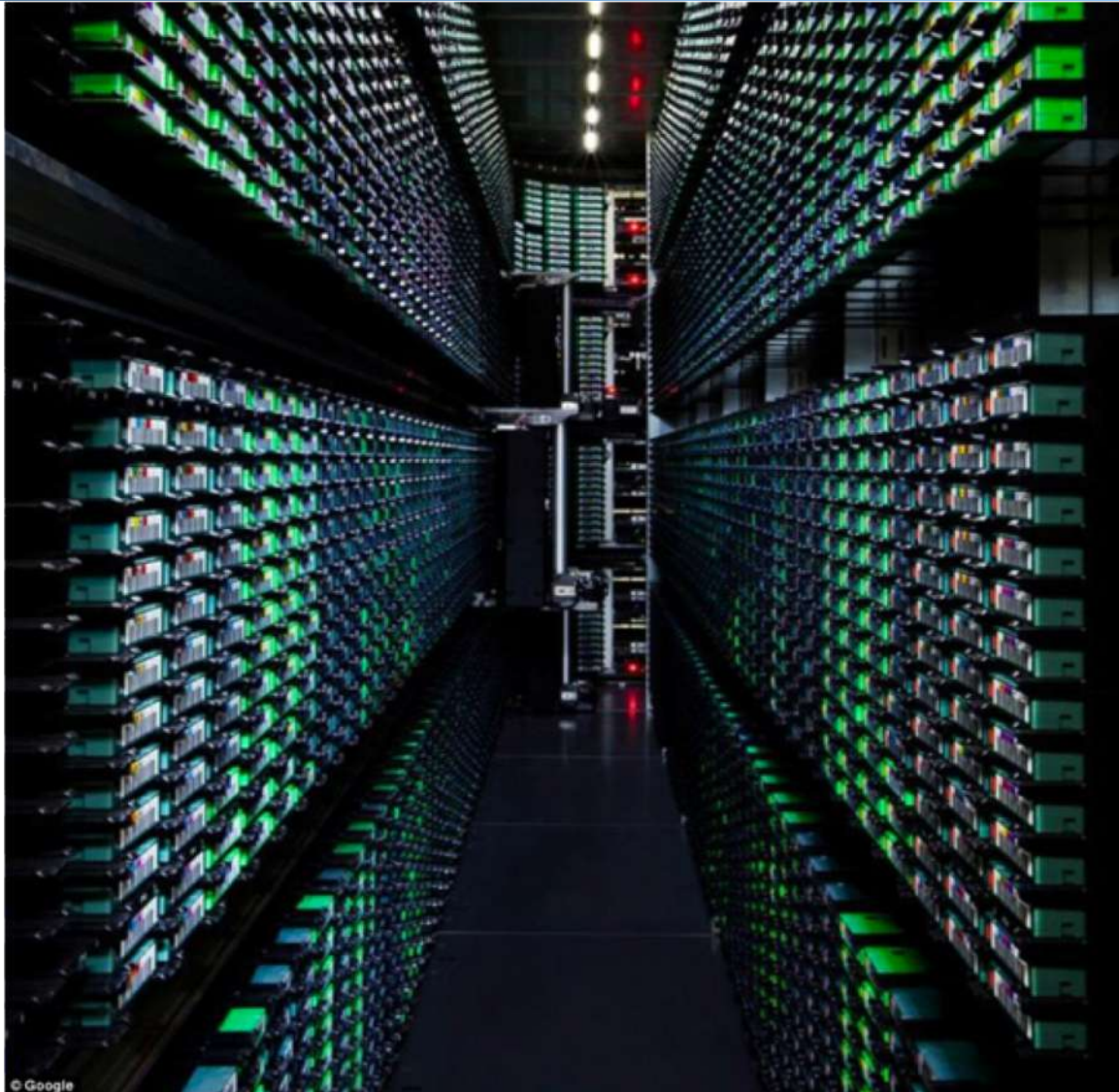


Data Center Networks



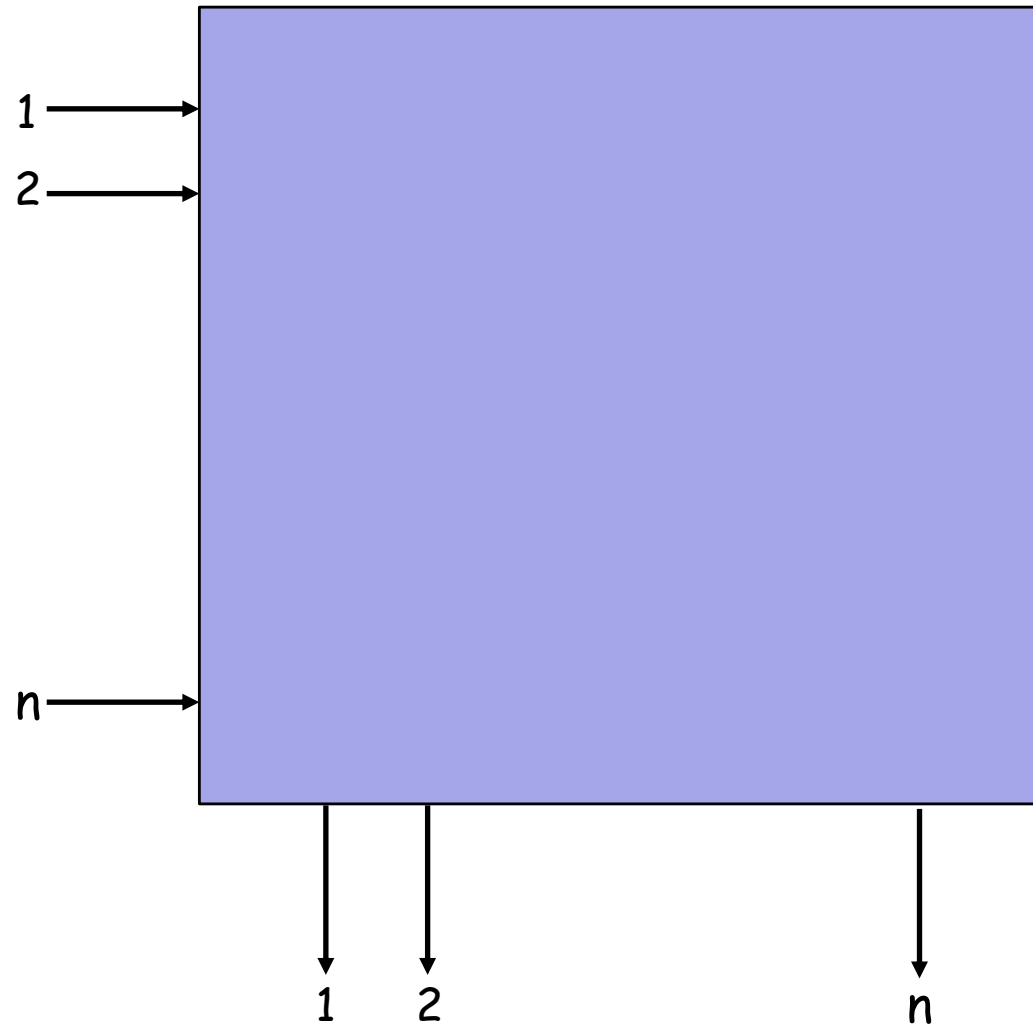
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3369491/Google-s-plan-world-Search-engine-build-half-billion-dollar-data-center-US.html>

Data Center Networks

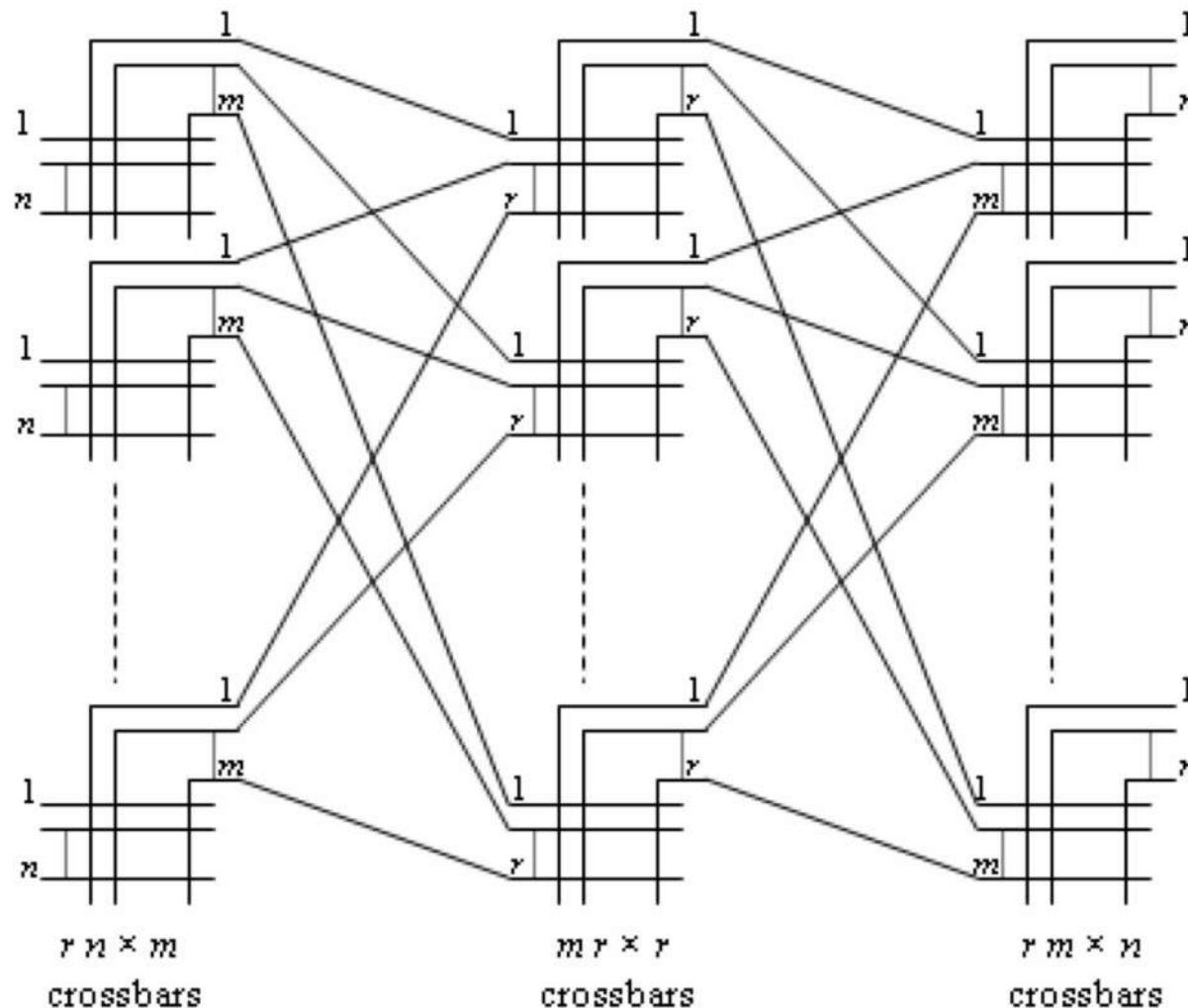


<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3369491/Google-s-plan-world-Search-engine-build-half-billion-dollar-data-center-US.html>

Foundation of Data Center Networks



Foundation of Data Center Networks: Clos Networks



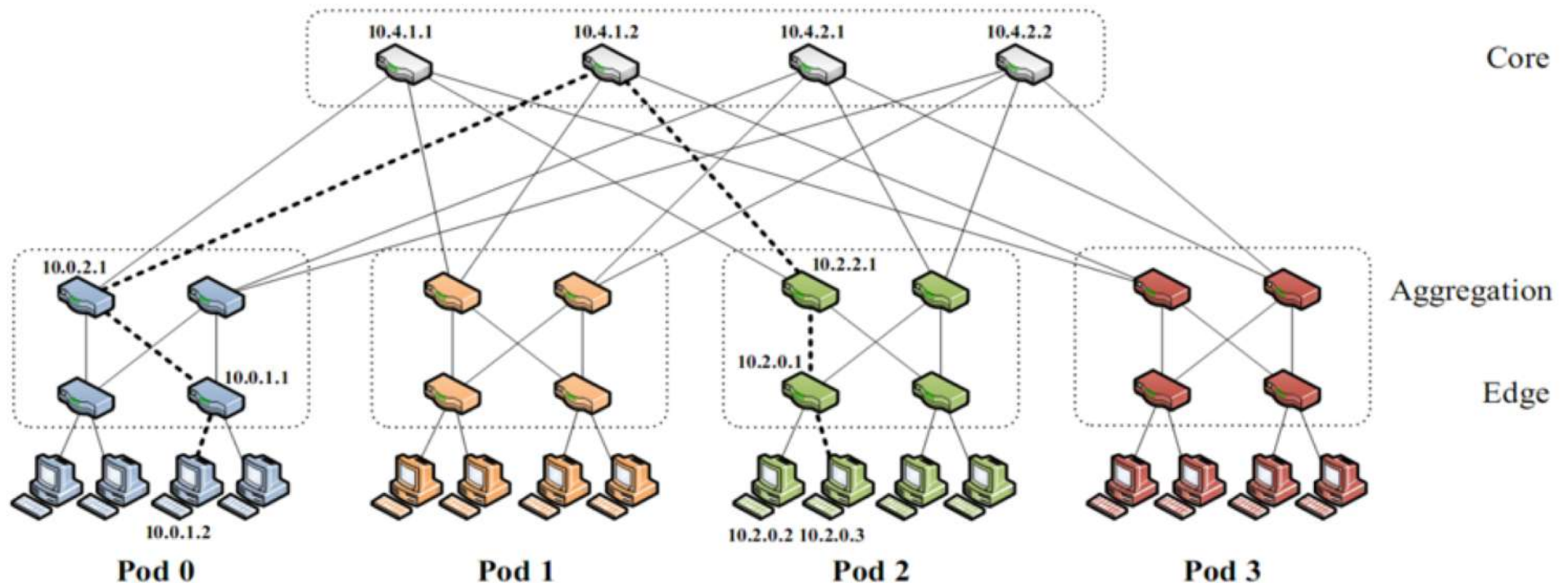
Q: How big is m so that each new call can be established w/o moving current calls?

Challenge to the class:

If you can move existing calls, it is only $m \geq n$.

Data Center Networks: Fat-tree Networks

- K-ary fat tree: three-layer topology (edge, aggregation and core)
 - k pods w/ each pod consists of $(k/2)^2$ servers & 2 layers of $k/2$ k-port switches
 - each edge switch connects to $k/2$ servers & $k/2$ aggr. switches
 - each aggr. switch connects to $k/2$ edge & $k/2$ core switches
 - $(k/2)^2$ core switches: each connects to k pods



Q: How large a network can k-ary support using k-port switches?

Data Center Networks

- For example, Google Jupiter at 1 Pbits/sec bisection bw: 100,000 servers at 10G each

| Datacenter Generation | First Deployed | Merchant Silicon | ToR Config | Aggregation Block Config | Spine Block Config | Fabric Speed | Host Speed | Bisection BW |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Four-Post CRs | 2004 | vendor | 48x1G | - | - | 10G | 1G | 2T |
| Firehose 1.0 | 2005 | 8x10G 4x10G (ToR) | 2x10G up 24x1G down | 2x32x10G (B) | 32x10G (NB) | 10G | 1G | 10T |
| Firehose 1.1 | 2006 | 8x10G | 4x10G up 48x1G down | 64x10G (B) | 32x10G (NB) | 10G | 1G | 10T |
| Watchtower | 2008 | 16x10G | 4x10G up 48x1G down | 4x128x10G (NB) | 128x10G (NB) | 10G | nx1G | 82T |
| Saturn | 2009 | 24x10G | 24x10G | 4x288x10G (NB) | 288x10G (NB) | 10G | nx10G | 207T |
| Jupiter | 2012 | 16x40G | 16x40G | 8x128x40G (B) | 128x40G (NB) | 10/40G | nx10G/ nx40G | 1.3P |

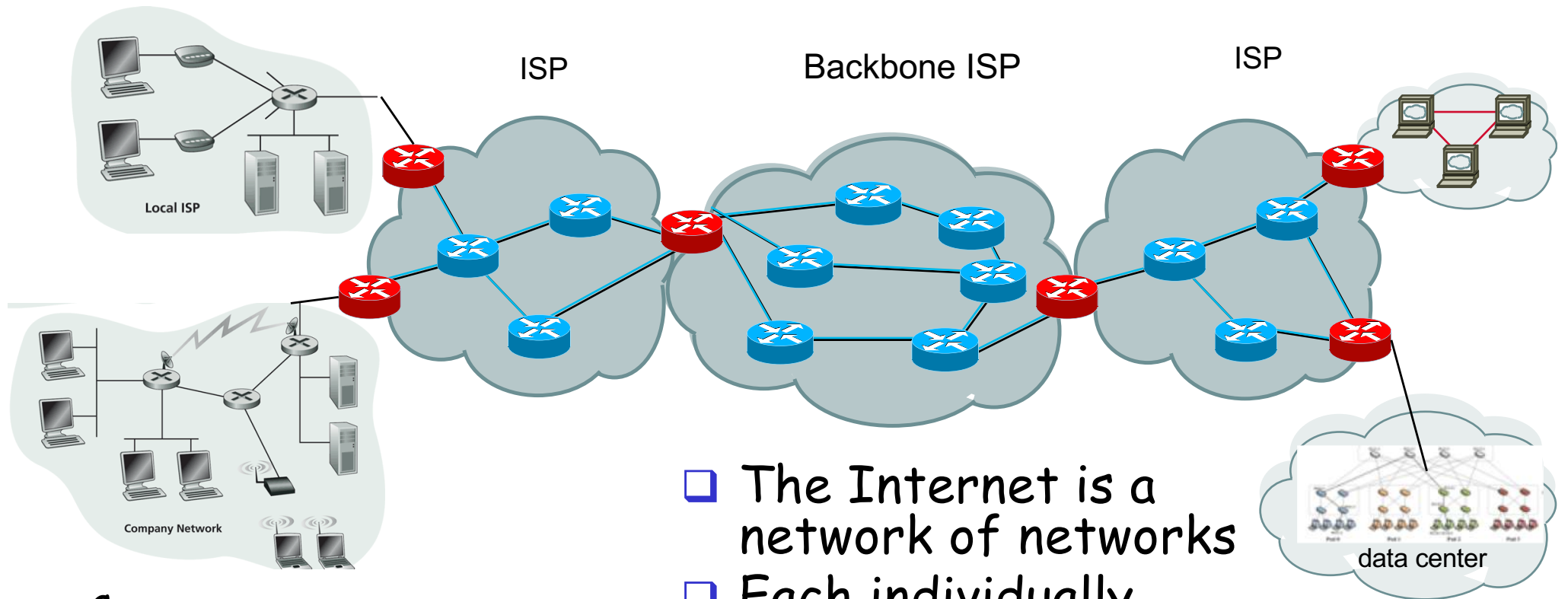
<http://googlecloudplatform.blogspot.com/2015/06/A-Look-Inside-Googles-Data-Center-Networks.html>

<http://conferences.sigcomm.org/sigcomm/2015/pdf/papers/p183.pdf>

Recall: Internet Physical Infrastructure

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Campus access, e.g.,

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- The Internet is a network of networks
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Yale Internet Connection

tracert www.tsinghua.edu.cn

```
1 college.net.yale.internal (172.28.201.65) 1.440 ms 1.227 ms 1.453 ms
2 10.1.1.13 (10.1.1.13) 1.359 ms 1.153 ms 1.173 ms
3 level3-10g-asr.net.yale.internal (10.1.4.40) 2.786 ms 6.110 ms 2.547 ms
4 cen-10g-yale.net.yale.internal (10.1.3.102) 2.646 ms 3.242 ms 2.576 ms
5 * * *
6 enr064hhh-9k-te0-3-0-5.net.cen.ct.gov (67.218.83.254) 5.169 ms 3.797 ms 6.891 ms
7 198.71.46.215 (198.71.46.215) 3.615 ms 3.742 ms 3.931 ms
8 et-10-0-0.1180.rtsw.newy32aoa.net.internet2.edu (198.71.46.214) 6.661 ms 6.532 ms 6.310 ms
9 et-4-0-0.4079.sdn-sw.phil.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.103) 8.658 ms 8.714 ms 8.666 ms
10 et-1-1-0.4079.rtsw.wash.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.119) 11.787 ms 30.111 ms 11.900 ms
11 et-8-1-0.4079.sdn-sw.ashb.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.62) 12.428 ms 16.654 ms 15.862 ms
12 et-7-1-0.4079.rtsw.chic.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.61) 28.898 ms 28.999 ms 28.908 ms
13 et-3-1-0.4070.rtsw.kans.net.internet2.edu (198.71.47.207) 40.084 ms 39.958 ms 39.695 ms
14 et-8-0-0.4079.sdn-sw.denv.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.10) 50.195 ms 50.562 ms 50.258
ms
15 et-4-1-0.4079.rtsw.salt.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.9) 59.707 ms 60.261 ms 59.762 ms
16 et-7-0-0.4079.sdn-sw.lasv.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.30) 67.555 ms 67.539 ms 67.312
ms
17 et-4-1-0.4079.rtsw.losa.net.internet2.edu (162.252.70.29) 72.419 ms 72.428 ms 72.376 ms
...
```

Internet2



INTERNET2 NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE TOPOLOGY

OCTOBER 2014



INTERNET2 NETWORK BY THE NUMBERS

- 12 JUNIPER M8000 ROUTERS SUPPORTING LAYER 3 SERVICE
- 34 BRIDGE AND RUMBLE SWITCHES SUPPORTING LAYER 3 SERVICE
- 62 CUSTOM COLLOCATION FACILITIES
- 250+ AMPLIFICATION STACKS
- 15,717 MILES OF NEWLY ACQUIRED DARK FIBER
- 8.8 TERS OF OPTICAL CAPACITY
- 183 Gbps OF HYBRID LAYER 2 AND LAYER 3 CAPACITY
- 300+ CIENA ACTIVERLIX 8900 NETWORK ELEMENTS
- 2,600 MILES PARTNERED CAPACITY WITH ZAYO COMMUNICATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE NORTHERN TIER REGION

IN SUPPORT OF
U.S.UCAN

NETWORK PARTNERS

ciena

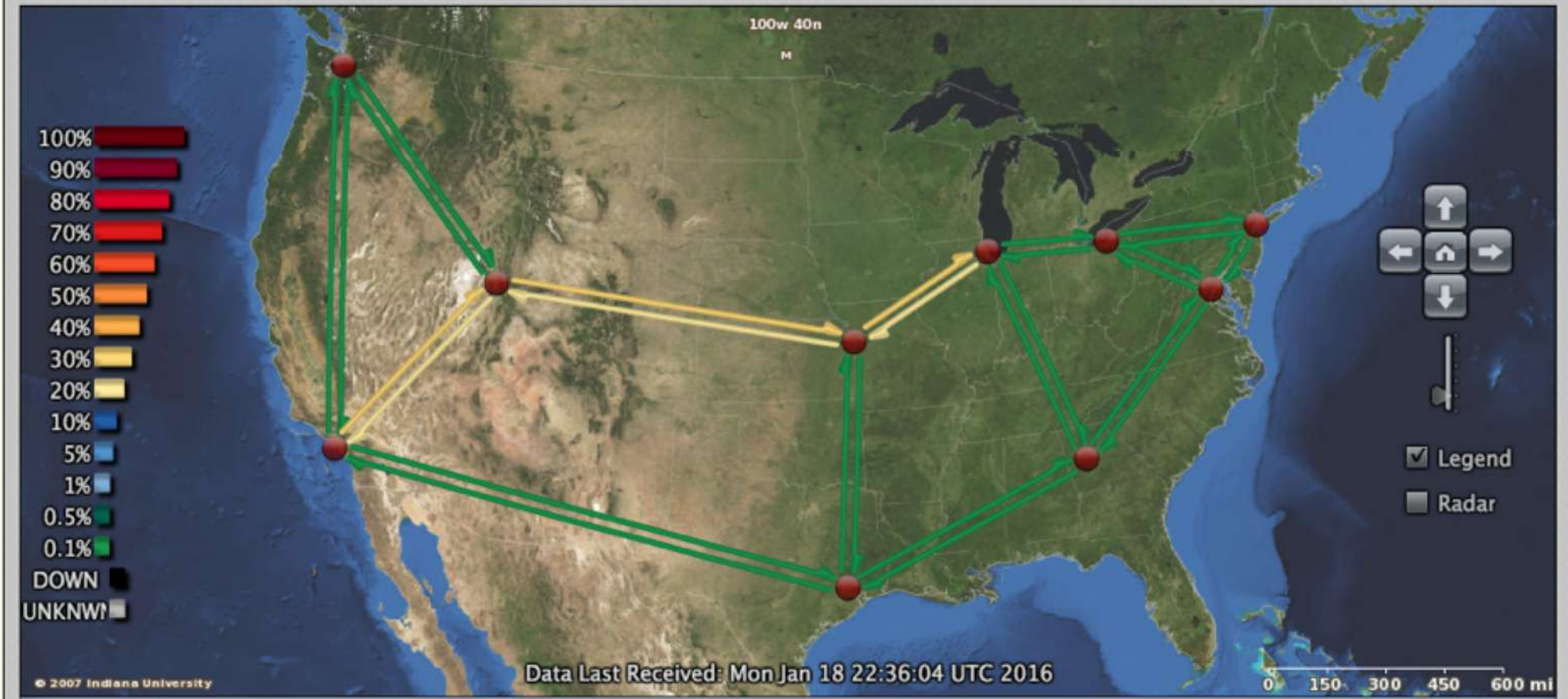
CISCO

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

infinera

JUNIPER NETWORKS

Internet2



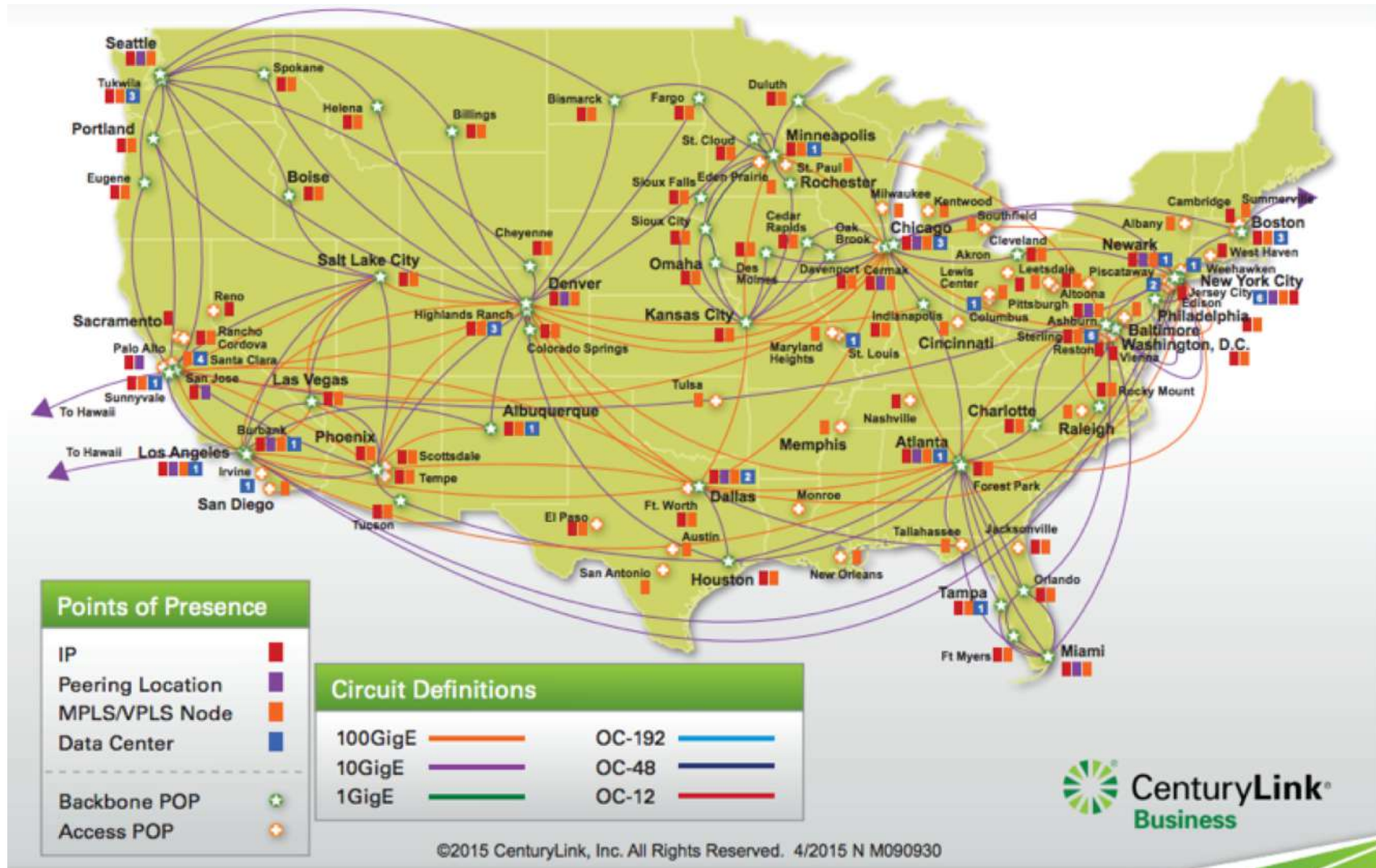
http://atlas.gnoc.iu.edu/atlas.cgi?map_name=Internet2%20IP%20Layer

XMU Internet Connection

Try traceroute from XMU to

- www.microsoft.com
- www.baidu.com
- www.sina.com.cn
- www.taobao.com

Qwest (CenturyLink) Network Maps



[Qwest Backbone Map](#)

<http://www.centurylink.com/business/asset/network-map/ip-mpls-network-nm090930.pdf>

<http://www.centurylink.com/business/resource-center/network-maps/>

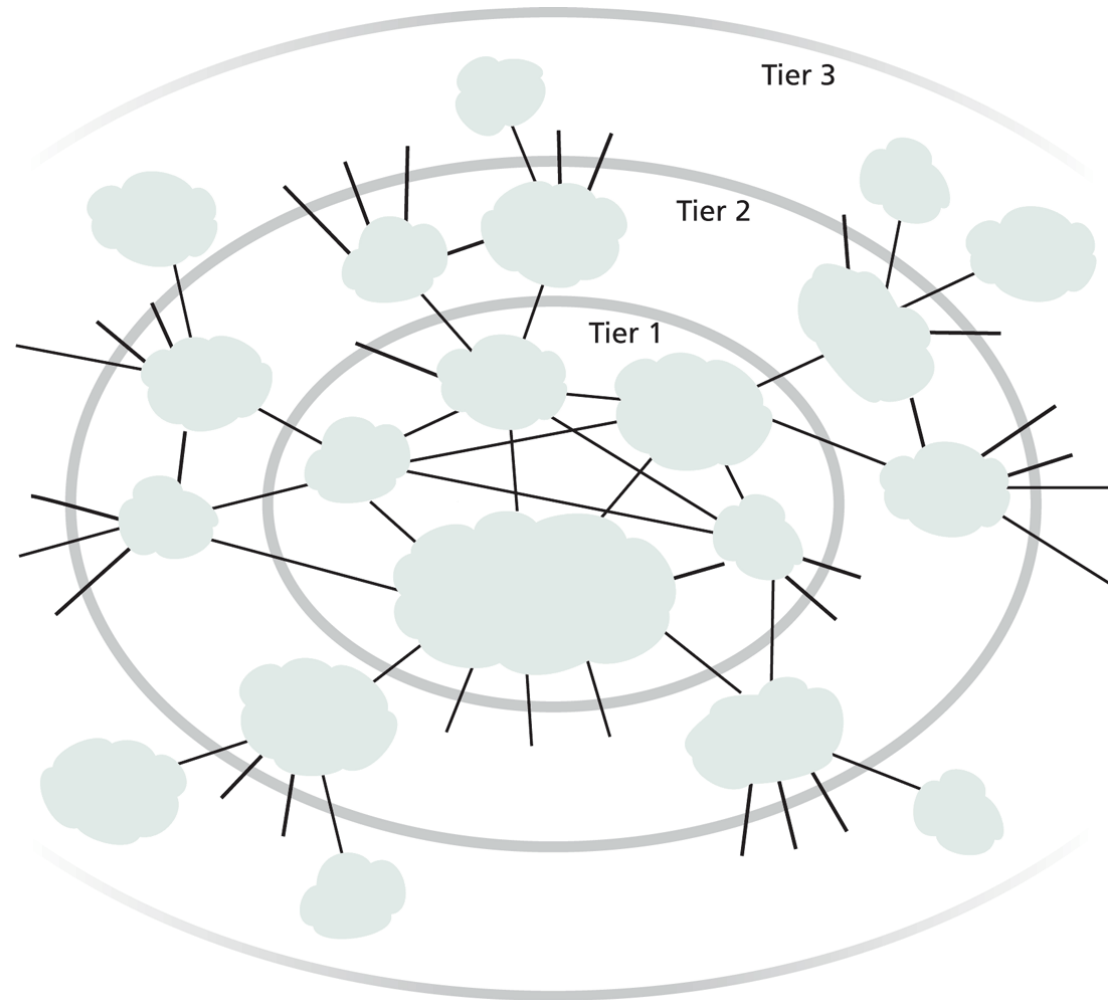
Level3 (now part of LUMEN) Network Map



<https://www.lumen.com/en-us/resources/network-maps.html>

Internet ISP Connectivity

- ❑ Roughly hierarchical
 - Divided into tiers
 - Tier-1 ISPs are also called backbone providers, e.g., AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, Level 3, Qwest
- ❑ An ISP runs (private) **Points of Presence (PoP)** where its customers and other ISPs connect to it
- ❑ ISPs also connect at (public) **Internet Exchange Point (IXP)**
 - public peering



Outline

- Admin. and recaps
- *A brief introduction to the Internet*
 - past
 - *present*
 - *topology*
 - *traffic*

Internet (Consumer) Traffic

| Consumer Internet Traffic, 2012–2017 | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | CAGR 2012–2017 |
| By Network (PB per Month) | | | | | | | |
| Fixed | 25,529 | 32,097 | 39,206 | 47,035 | 56,243 | 66,842 | 21% |
| Mobile | 684 | 1,239 | 2,223 | 3,774 | 6,026 | 9,131 | 68% |
| By Subsegment (PB per Month) | | | | | | | |
| Internet video | 14,818 | 19,855 | 25,800 | 32,962 | 41,916 | 52,752 | 29% |
| Web, email, and data | 5,173 | 6,336 | 7,781 | 9,542 | 11,828 | 14,494 | 23% |
| File sharing | 6,201 | 7,119 | 7,816 | 8,266 | 8,478 | 8,667 | 7% |
| Online gaming | 22 | 26 | 32 | 39 | 48 | 59 | 22% |
| By Geography (PB per Month) | | | | | | | |
| Asia Pacific | 9,033 | 11,754 | 14,887 | 18,707 | 23,458 | 29,440 | 27% |
| North America | 6,834 | 8,924 | 11,312 | 14,188 | 17,740 | 21,764 | 26% |
| Western Europe | 5,086 | 5,880 | 6,804 | 7,810 | 9,197 | 10,953 | 17% |
| Central and Eastern Europe | 2,194 | 2,757 | 3,433 | 4,182 | 5,015 | 5,897 | 22% |
| Latin America | 2,656 | 3,382 | 4,049 | 4,588 | 5,045 | 5,487 | 16% |
| Middle East and Africa | 410 | 640 | 944 | 1,334 | 1,816 | 2,432 | 43% |
| Total (PB per Month) | | | | | | | |
| Consumer Internet traffic | 26,213 | 33,337 | 41,429 | 50,809 | 62,269 | 75,973 | 24% |

Internet Traffic in Perspective

640K ought to be enough for anybody.



1 Petabyte
1,000 Terabytes or
250,000 DVDs

1 Exabyte
1,000 Petabytes or
250 million DVDs

1 Zettabyte
1,000 Exabytes or
250 billion DVDs

1 Yottabyte
1,000 Zettabytes or
250 trillion DVDs

- **480 Terabytes**
A digital library of all of the world's catalogued books in all languages
- **100 Petabytes**
The amount of data produced in a single minute by the new particle collider at CERN
- **5 Exabytes**
A text transcript of all words ever spoken †
- **100 Exabytes**
A video recording of all the meetings that took place last year across the world
- **400 Exabytes**
The amount of data that crossed the Internet in 2012 alone
- **1 Zettabyte**
The amount of data that has traversed the Internet since its creation
- **300 Zettabytes**
The amount of visual information conveyed from the eyes to the brain of the entire human race in a single year ‡
- **20 Yottabytes**
A holographic snapshot of the earth's surface

† Roy Williams, "Data Powers of Ten," 2000

‡ Based on a 2006 estimate by the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine that the retina transmits information to the brain at 10 Mbps.

All other figures are Cisco estimates.
Source: Cisco, 2013

Outline

- ❑ Admin. and recaps
- ❑ A brief introduction to the Internet: past and present
- *Challenges of Internet networks and apps*

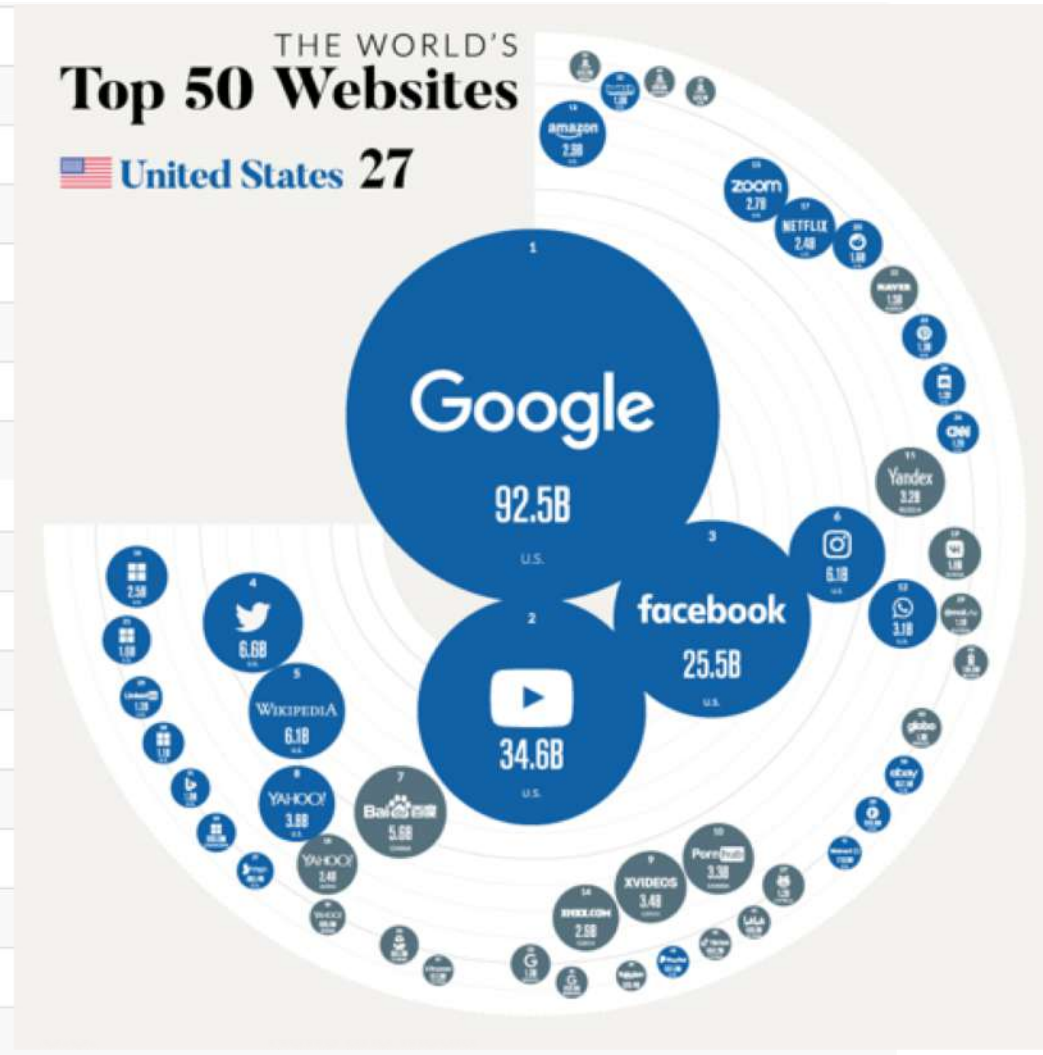
Scale



“Developers who have worked at the small scale might be asking themselves why we need to bother when we could just use some kind of out-of-the-box solution. For small-scale applications, this can be a great idea. We save time and money up front and get a working and serviceable application. The problem comes at larger scales—there are no off-the-shelf kits that will allow you to build something like Amazon... There’s a good reason why the largest applications on the Internet are all bespoke creations: no other approach can create massively scalable applications within a reasonable budget.”

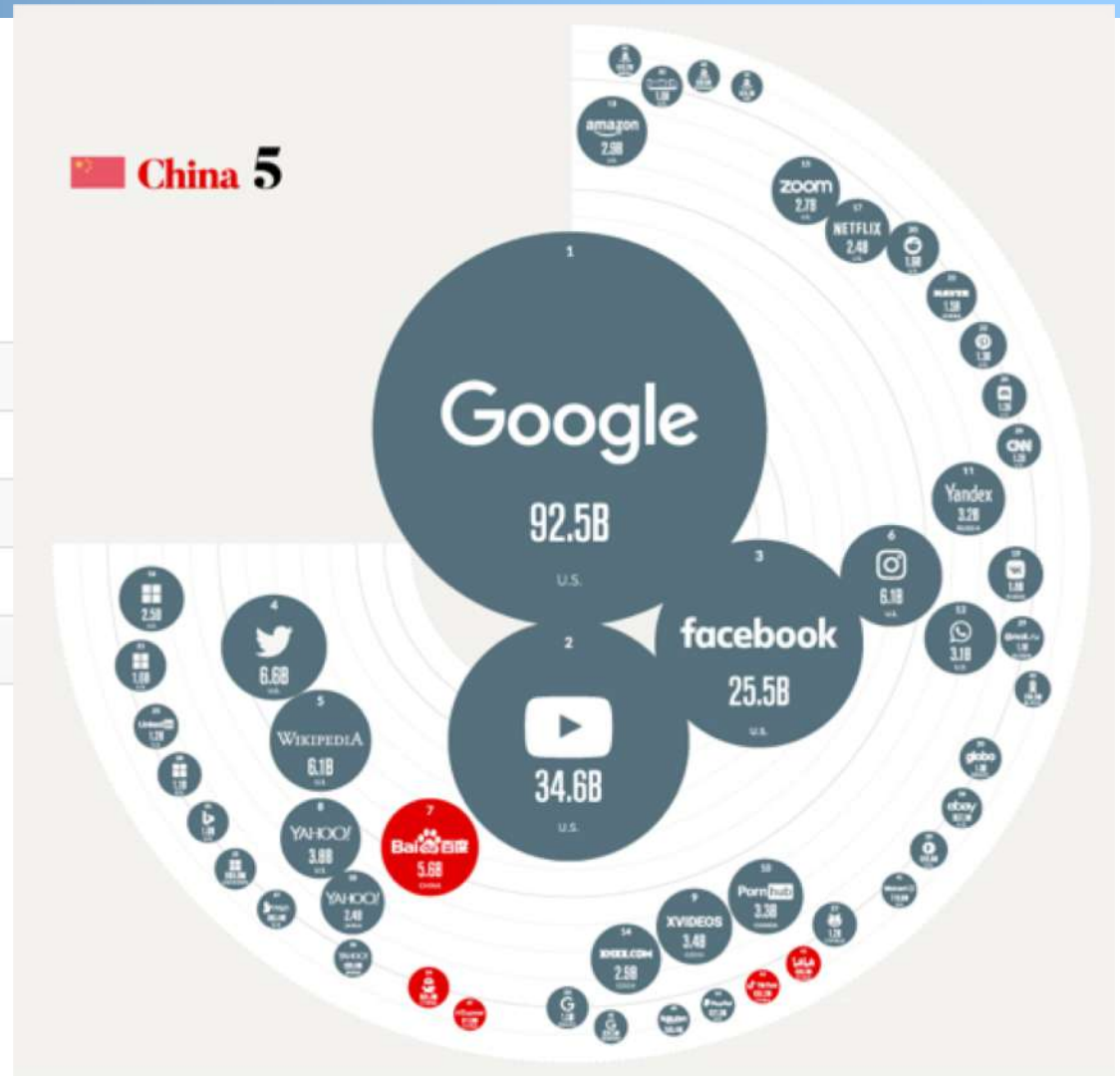
Largest Internet Sites in the World

| | | |
|----|---------------|-------|
| 1 | Google.com | 92.5B |
| 2 | Youtube.com | 34.6B |
| 3 | Facebook.com | 25.5B |
| 4 | Twitter.com | 6.6B |
| 5 | Wikipedia.org | 6.1B |
| 6 | Instagram.com | 6.1B |
| 8 | Yahoo.com | 3.8B |
| 12 | Whatsapp.com | 3.1B |
| 13 | Amazon.com | 2.9B |
| 15 | Zoom.us | 2.7B |
| 16 | Live.com | 2.5B |
| 17 | Netflix.com | 2.4B |
| 20 | Reddit.com | 1.6B |
| 21 | Office.com | 1.6B |
| 23 | Pinterest.com | 1.3B |
| 24 | Discord.com | 1.2B |
| 25 | Linkedin.com | 1.2B |
| 26 | Cnn.com | 1.2B |



Largest Internet Sites in the World

| | | |
|----|----------------|--------|
| 7 | Baidu.com | 5.6B |
| 34 | QQ.com | 981.3M |
| 42 | Bilibili.com | 686.0M |
| 43 | Tiktok.com | 663.2M |
| 47 | Aliexpress.com | 611.0M |



General Complexity

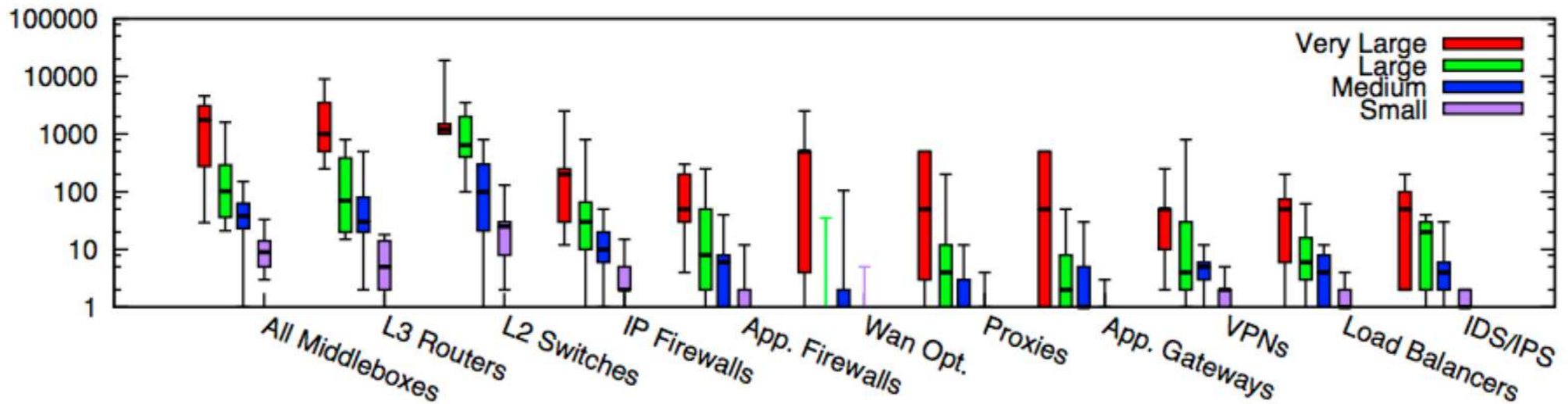


- **Complexity** in highly organized systems arises primarily from design strategies intended to create **robustness to uncertainty** in their environments and component parts.
 - **Scalability** is robustness to changes to the size and complexity of a system as a whole.
 - **Evolvability** is robustness of lineages to large changes on various (usually long) time scales.
 - **Reliability** is robustness to component failures.
 - **Efficiency** is robustness to resource scarcity.
 - **Modularity** is robustness to component rearrangements.

Core: Simple Forwarding to Network Functions

- Modern networks contain diverse types of equipment beyond simple routing/forwarding

Enterprise networks

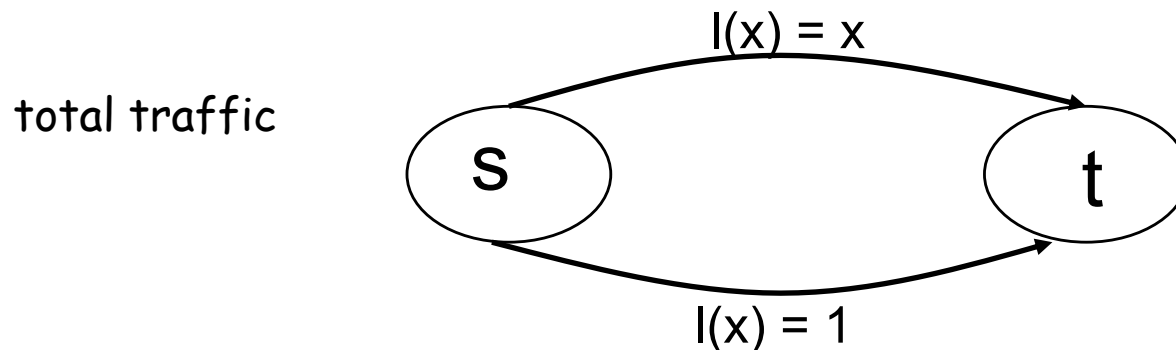


Small: $\leq 1k$ hosts; Medium: 1k-10k; Large: 10k-100k; Very Large: $\geq 100k$ hosts [Cherry, et. al SIGCOMM'12]

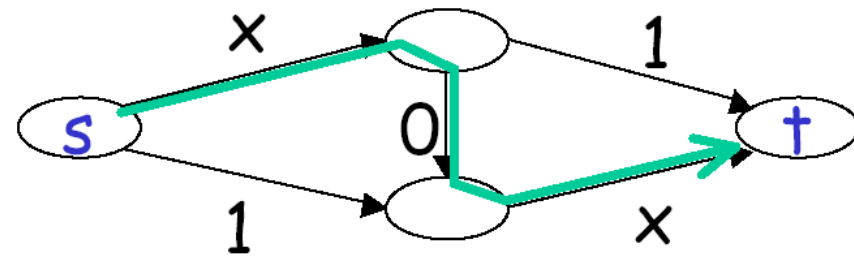
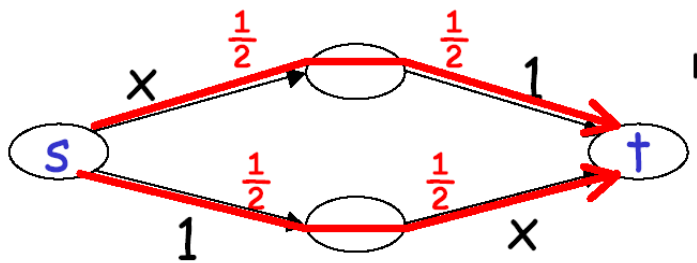
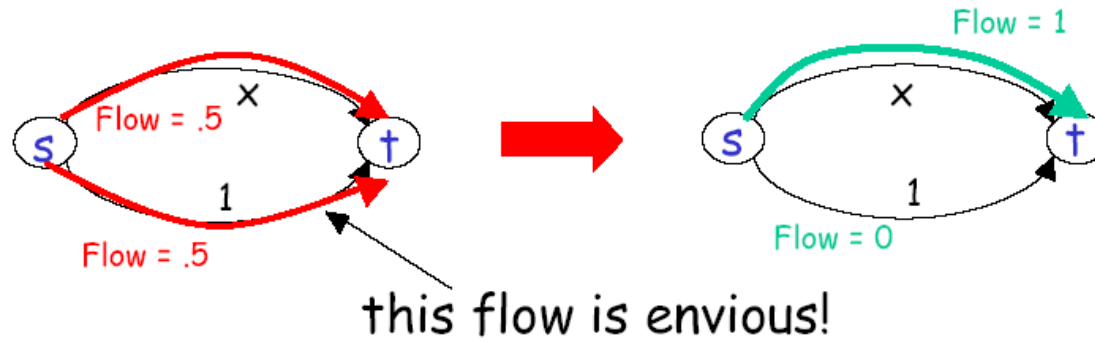
Centralized vs Decentralized (Price of Anarchy)



- Autonomous ("Selfish") App: Assume each link has a latency function $l_e(x)$: latency of link e when x amount of traffic goes through e :



Autonomous ("Selfish") App



Braess's paradox

Distributed vs Centralized



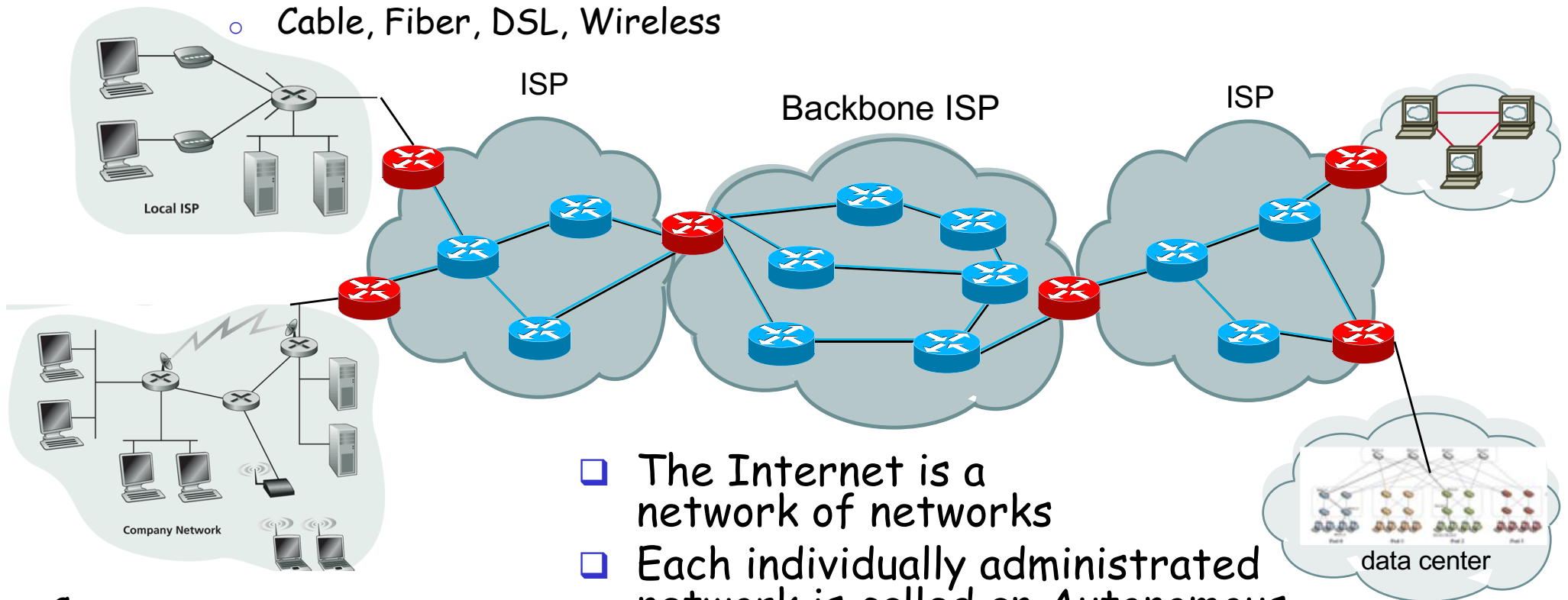
- ❑ Distributed computing is hard, e.g.,
 - FLP Impossibility Theorem
 - Arrow's Impossibility Theorem

- ❑ Achieved good design for only few specific tasks (e.g., state distribution, leader election). Hence, a trend in networking is Software Defined Networking, which is a way of moving away from generic distributed computing, by focusing on utilizing the few well-understood primitives, in particular logically centralized state.

Recall: Internet Physical Infrastructure

Residential access, e.g.,

- Cable, Fiber, DSL, Wireless



Campus access, e.g.,

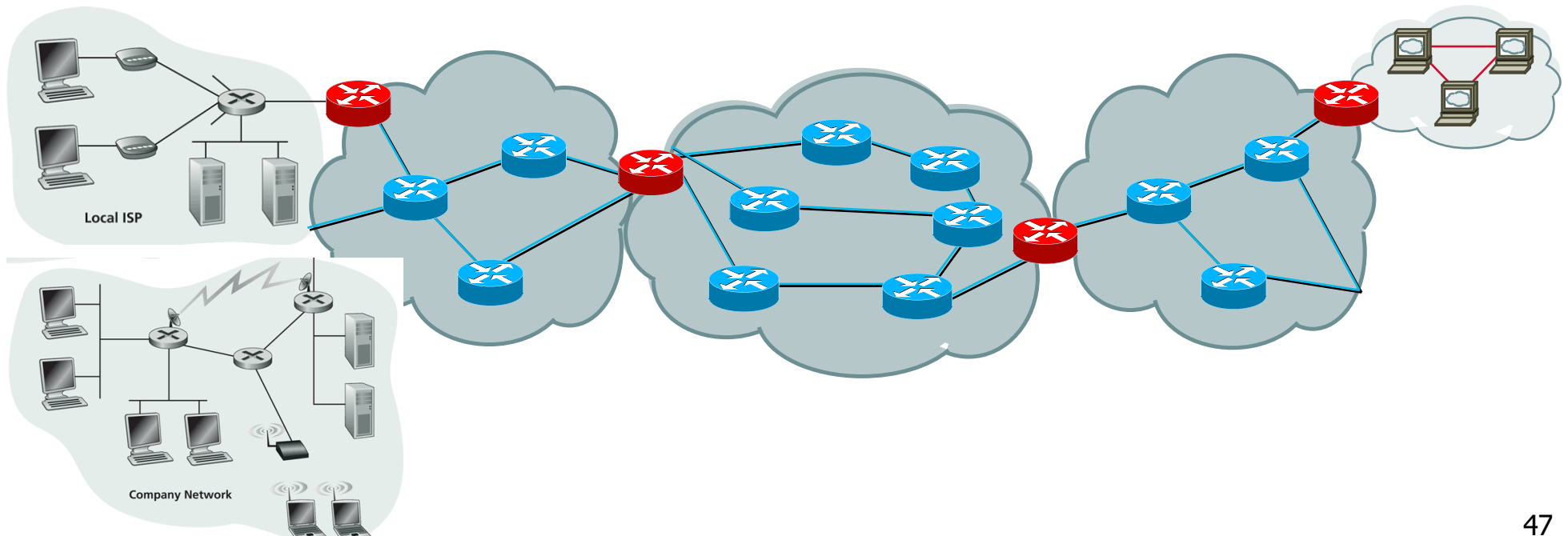
- Ethernet, Wireless

- The Internet is a network of networks
- Each individually administrated network is called an Autonomous System (AS)

~ 58000 ASes; Avg 5.7 hops;
(<http://bgp.potaroo.net/as2.0/bg-active.html>)

Roadmap

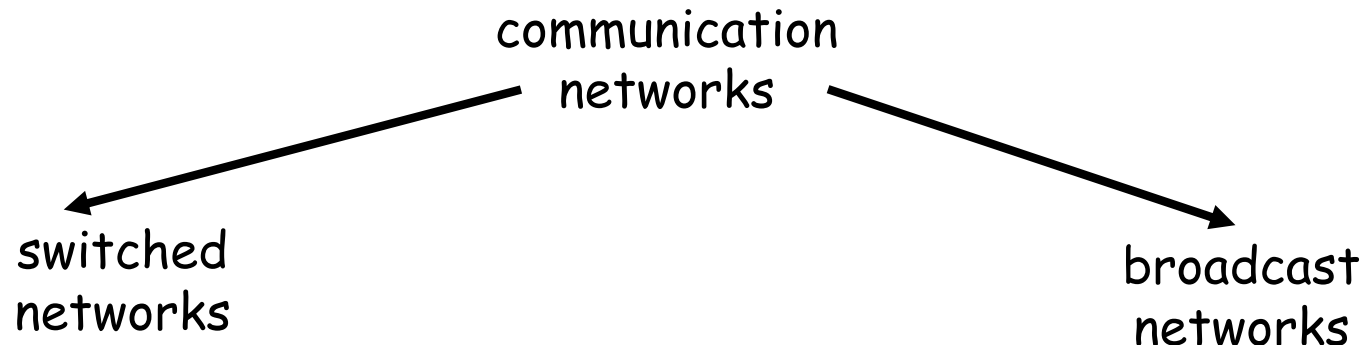
- ❑ So far we have looked at only the topology and physical connectivity of the Internet: a mesh of computers interconnected via various physical media
- ❑ ***A basic question:*** how are data (the bits) transferred through communication networks?



Outline

- ❑ Admin. and recaps
- ❑ A brief introduction to the Internet: past and present
- ❑ Challenges of Internet networks and apps
 - *A taxonomy of communication networks*

Taxonomy of Communication Networks



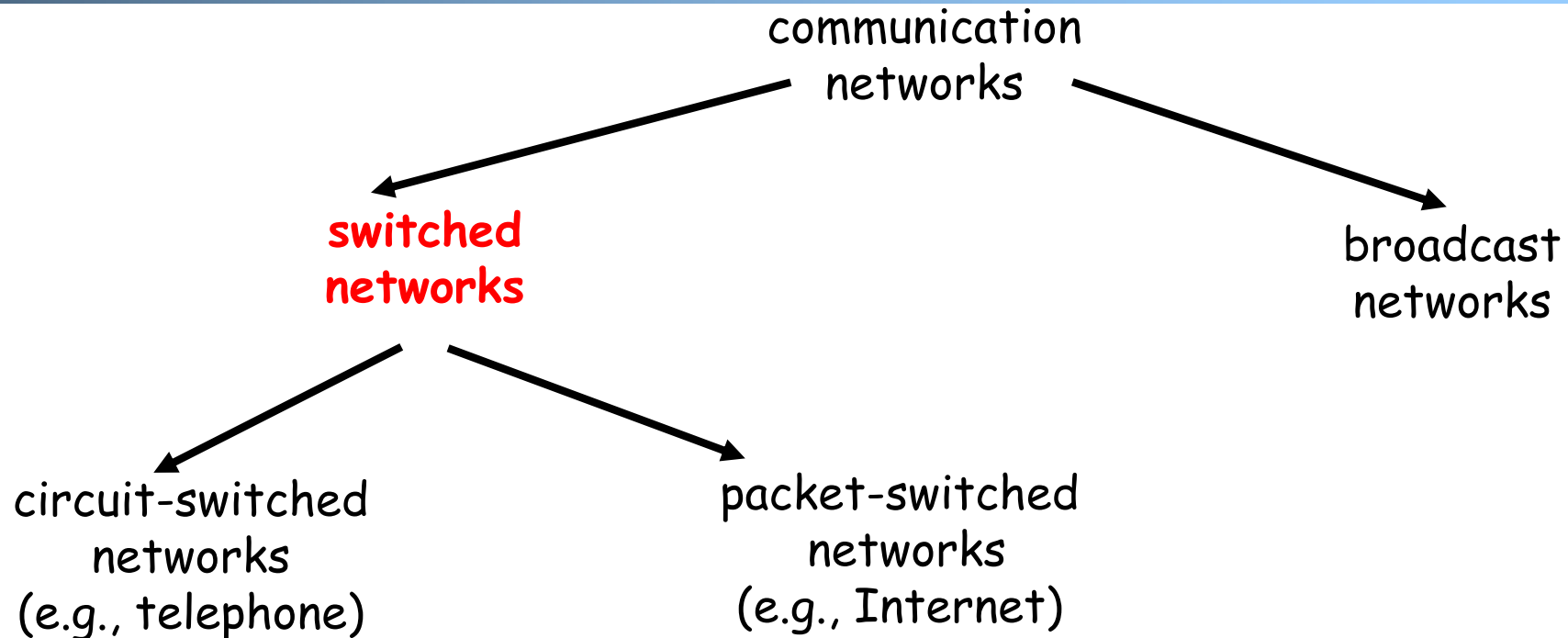
□ Broadcast networks

- nodes share a common channel; information transmitted by a node is received by **all** other nodes in the network
- examples: TV, radio

□ Switched networks

- information is transmitted to a **small sub-set** (usually only one) of the nodes

A Taxonomy of Switched Networks



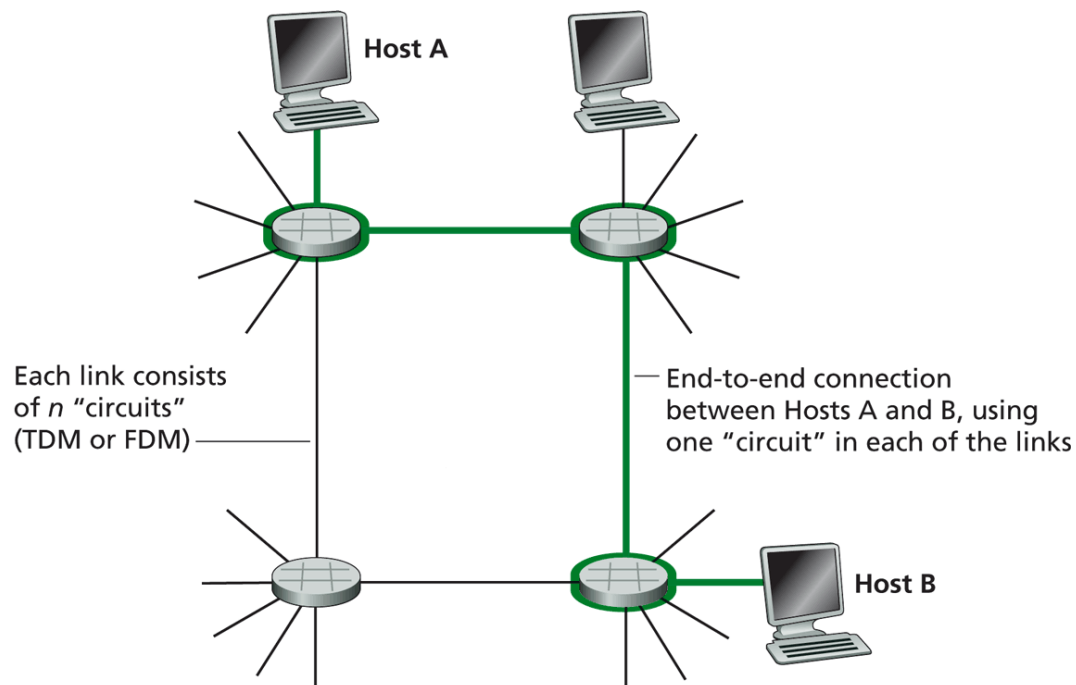
- ❑ **Circuit switching:** dedicated circuit per call/session:
 - e.g., telephone, cellular voice
- ❑ **Packet switching:** data sent thru network in discrete “chunks”
 - e.g., Internet, cellular data

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 - *A taxonomy of communication networks*
 - *circuit switched networks*

Circuit Switching

- ❑ Each link has a number of "circuits"
 - sometime we refer to a "circuit" as a channel or a line
- ❑ An end-to-end connection reserves one "circuit" at each link



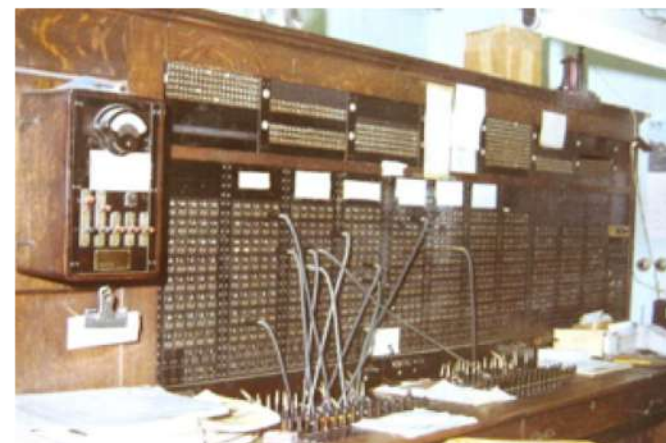
Key:



Host



Circuit switch

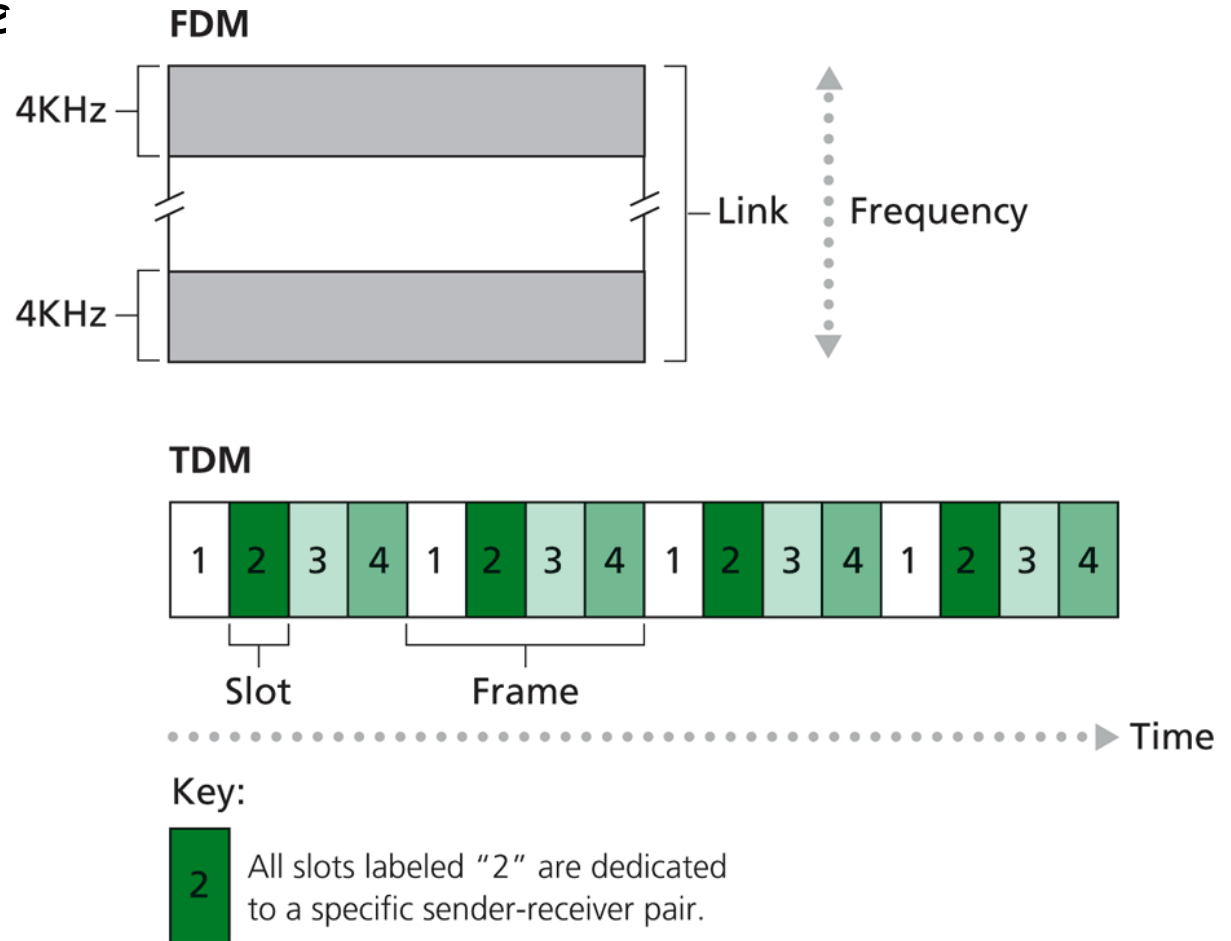


First commercial telephone switchboard was opened in 1878 to serve the 21 telephone customers in New Haven

Circuit Switching: Resources/Circuits (Frequency, Time and others)

□ Divide link resource into “circuits”

- frequency division multiplexing (FDM)
- time division multiplexing (TDM)
- others such as code division multiplexing (CDM), color/lambda division



Circuit Switching: The Process

- Three phases
 - circuit establishment
 - data transfer
 - circuit termination

Timing Diagram of Circuit Switching

