

# HISTORY OF THE INTERNET

# What is the “internet”?

- The Internet is a global information network that connects millions of computers. It is growing exponentially and provides a unique information resource that is global, diverse and current.





# Internet in the 1950's

- The Internet has no single “inventor.” Instead, it has evolved over time.
- The Internet got its start in the United States more than 50 years ago as a government weapon in the Cold War.



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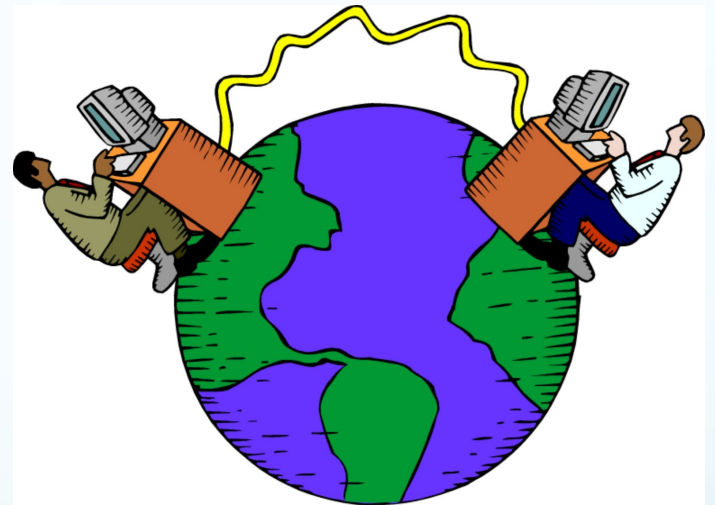
- Scientists and researchers used it to communicate and share data with one another through what was known as DARPA (Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency Network).
- This was in response to the Soviet Union bombings and a need to create a communication network which was free from interference and disruption.

# Internet in the 1960's

- In 1962, a scientist from M.I.T. and DARPA named J.C.R. Licklider proposed : a “galactic network” of computers that could talk to one another. Such a network would enable government leaders to communicate even if the Soviets destroyed the telephone system.
- In 1965, another M.I.T. scientist developed a way of sending information from one computer to another that he called “packet switching.” Packet switching breaks data down into blocks, or packets, before sending it to its destination.

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- Without packet switching, the government's computer network—now known as the ARPANET—would have been just as vulnerable to enemy attacks as the phone system.
- In 1969, ARPANET delivered its first message: a “node-to-node” communication from one computer to another but it crashed the full network. The internet was yet to be born



# Internet in the 1970's

- By the end of 1969, just four computers were connected to the ARPANET, but the network grew steadily during the 1970s.
- As packet-switched computer networks multiplied, however, it became more difficult for them to integrate into a single worldwide "Internet."





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- By the end of the 1970s, a computer scientist named Vinton Cerf had begun to solve this problem by developing a way for all of the computers on all of the world's mini-networks to communicate with one another.
- He called his invention "Transmission Control Protocol," or TCP. (Later, he added an additional protocol, known as "Internet Protocol." The acronym we use to refer to these today is TCP/IP.)

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- TCP/IP was described to be the “handshake” between computers all over the world. It enabled each computer to have its own identity.



# Internet in the 1980's

- Cerf's protocol transformed the Internet into a worldwide network. Throughout the 1980s, researchers and scientists used it to send files and data from one computer to another.
- However, this network was still between scientists and researchers from different universities and labs.

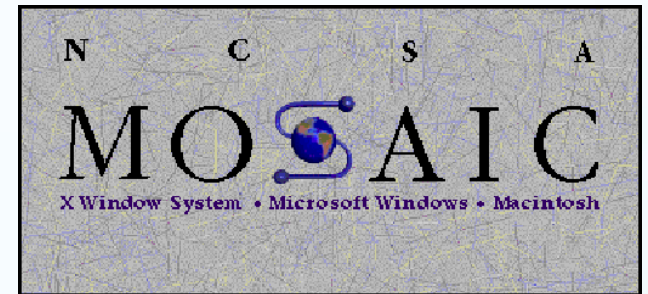
# Internet in the 1990's

- However, in 1991 the Internet changed again.
- Tim Berners-Lee introduced the World Wide Web: an Internet that was not simply a way to send files from one place to another but was itself a “web” of information that anyone on the Internet could retrieve.
- Berners-Lee created the first browser and the Internet that we know today.



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- In 1992, a group of students and researchers at the University of Illinois developed a sophisticated browser that they called *Mosaic*. (It later became Netscape.)
- Mosaic offered a user-friendly way to search the Web: It allowed users to see words and pictures on the same page for the first time and to navigate using scrollbars and clickable links.



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- That same year, Congress decided that the Web could be used for commercial purposes. As a result, companies of all kinds hurried to set up websites of their own, and e-commerce entrepreneurs began to use the Internet to sell goods directly to customers.
- More recently, social networking sites like Facebook have become a popular way for people of all ages to stay connected.



Thank you! 😊