History of Computer Network

Computer network refers to the fact that two or more devices are connected through physical or wireless medium with the intention of resource sharing maintaining a set of protocols. Today computer network is a part and parcel in our personal and professional life. Highly efficient and developed networking technologies are being used which most of the users even do not know about. To come in the present state, computer network had to pass a long way with the help of lot of scientist, researcher and engineer.

In 1950, the US military radar system used computer based networking system. In 1959, Soviet economy and Soviet armed forces were proposed to be controlled through computer network centers. In the meantime, MOSFET was invented, which accelerated the development of computer networking infrastructures greatly. After a year, in 1960, scientists were able to connect two mainframe computer through network.

Idea of ARPANet (Advanced Research Project Agency Network) was proposed in 1961, which is a wide area network linking some universities and research centers. Meanwhile, the term 'packet' was introduced to transmit data among computers. It came in development phase in 1966 and became successful in 1969 by connecting two nodes in two institutes. This was the first network which used packet based transmission system. This is often regarded as the birth of modern internet system.

File sharing protocol was introduced in 1970 namely Network Core Protocol. Email was introduced in the next year. In that time, wireless packet data transmission was invented, which is regarded as the first wifi system. After the development of Ethernet in 1973, international network could be established. VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) technology was introduced, though this was not accessible to general people till 1995. During the period between 1974 and 1981, true IP router was developed. The first major internet protocol version IPv4 was introduced in 1981. Domain Name Server (DNS) was implemented in 1983. IPv4 was upgraded to IPv6 in 1986 featuring improved routing, improved encryption techniques and a wide range of IP addresses.

After that time, development of computer network was too fast. Wifi technology had been hugely improved going through some phases of standard upgradation. Networking speed have been hugely improved. Security became a major concern in networking. Lots of encryption algorithms were also developed.

Still there are researches going on to improve network technology facilitating the best speed and security.

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