# The Internet Backbone



map data © OpenStreetMap contributors — Cable data from http://cablemap.info/ Greg's Cable Map
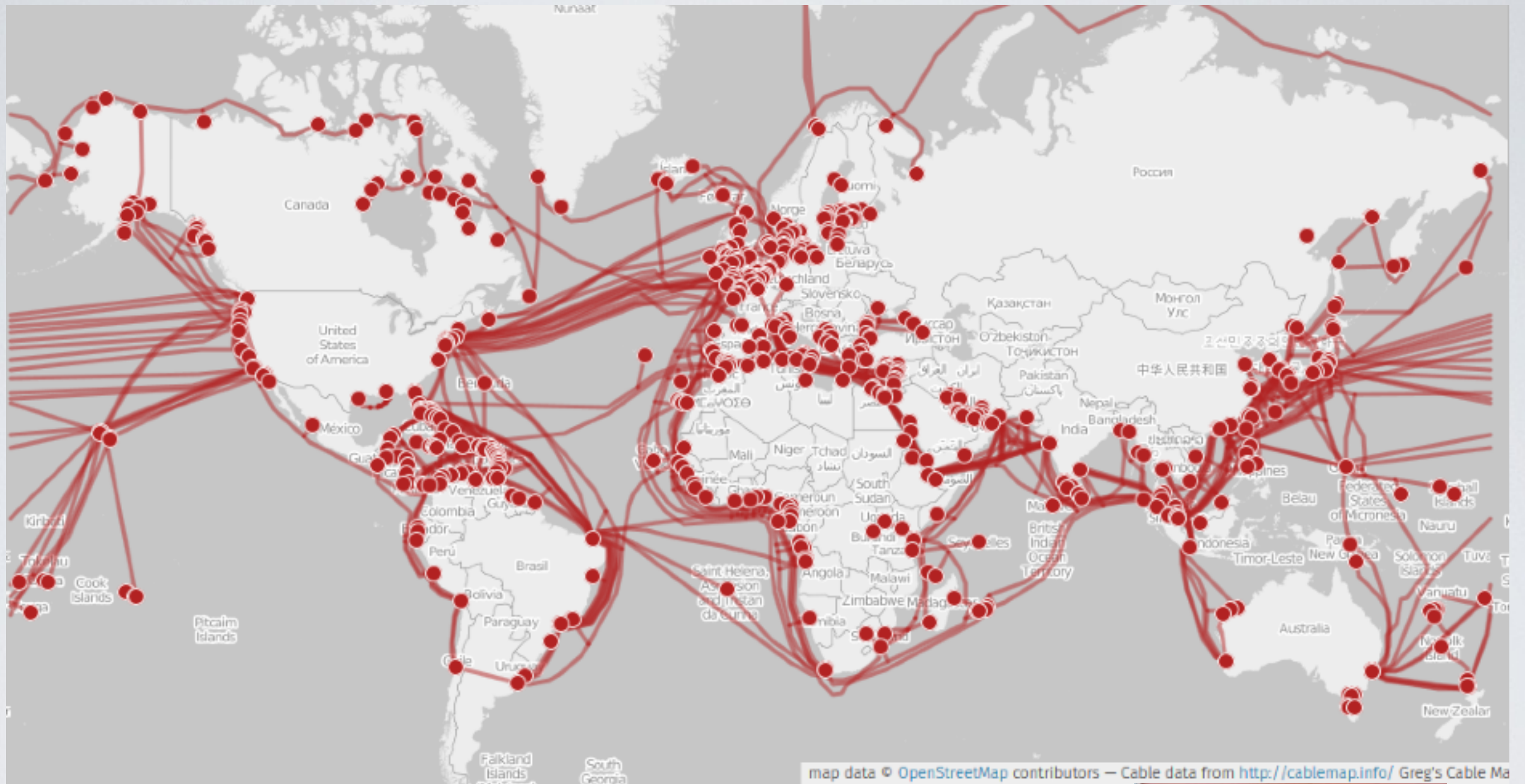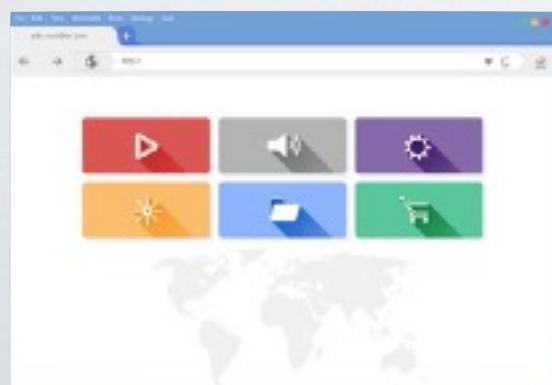
# What is a protocol

**Communication protocol**

is an agreement on how communication should take place

- defines the data encoding and/or format

- defines the message sequence

➡ (most) protocols are standards defined by
the IETF - The Internet Engineering Task Force

HTTP GET /document.html

HTTP 200 <!DOCTYPE html = …