

WEB APP ARCHITECTURES

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WORSHOP 1/9

# INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE WEB

CABLES , ROUTERS, HOSTS, PROTOCOLS (1849-1991)



Machines could communicate remotely before internet !

You had to use a dedicated point to point link, meaning a physical copper line going underground between two computers. You could also use a phone line and a modem

But:

- ▶ The line is monopolised during the whole communication, even during blanks
- ▶ Only two computers are connected at the same time. If you want to reach another computer, you must hang off the phone, and dial another number.

# CABLES , ROUTERS, HOSTS, PROTOCOLS (1849-1991)

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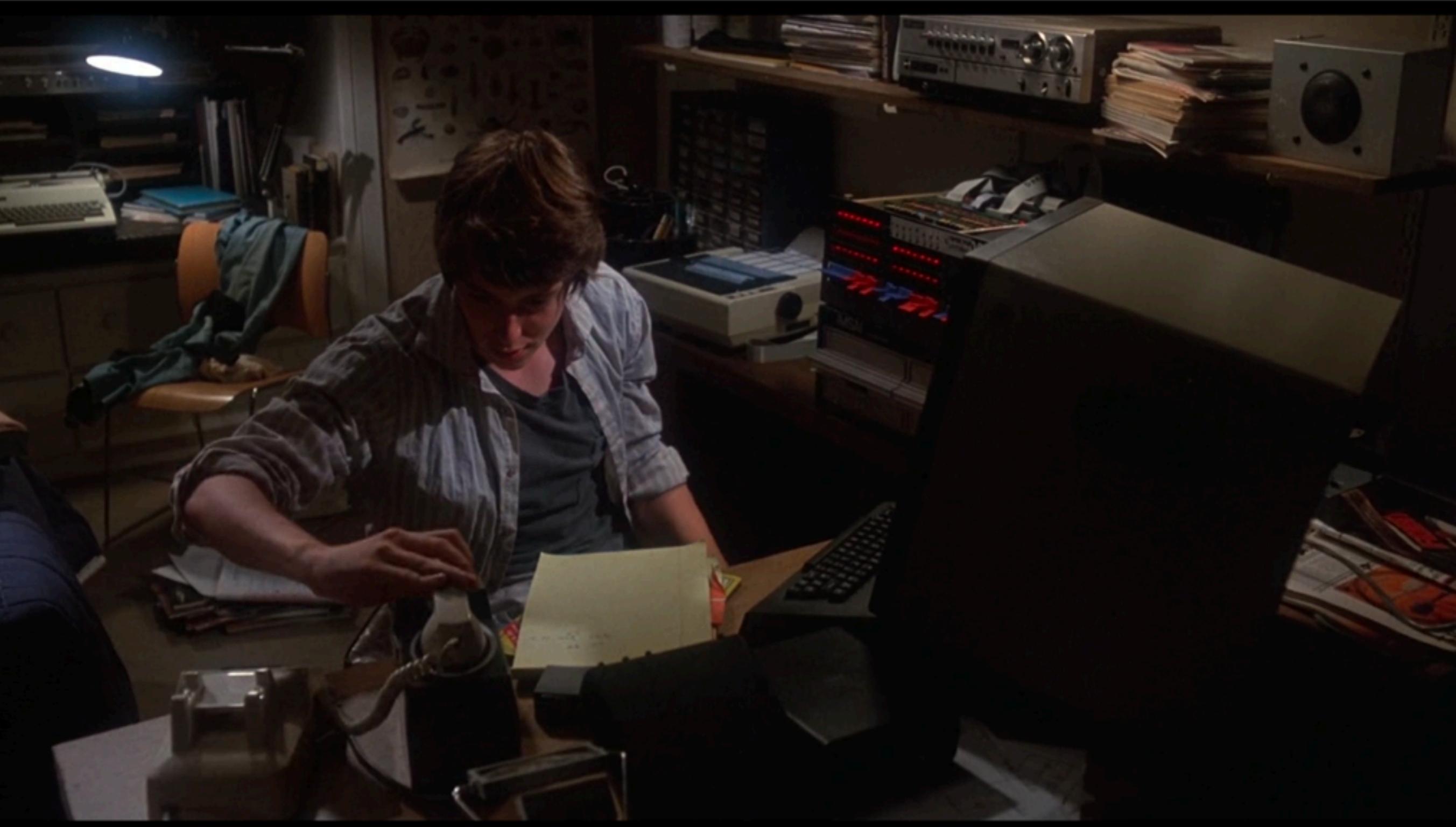


Image taken from the WarGames movie (1983)

- He is using his phone line and modem to connect to another computer. THIS IS PRE INTERNET, HE IS NOT CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET, just to another computer.
- He can be connected only to one computer at a time.
- The line is monopolised during the whole connection, even during the blanks.
- He will have to hang off and redial to connect to another computer.

Something has been invented to go around  
these limitations.



## Packet Switching

- ▶ Data split into chunks (packets)
- ▶ Each packet has a from address, to address, and payload (data chunk)
- ▶ If data requires multiple chunks, then the order of each packet is noted
- ▶ Packets sent onto the network, moving from router to router taking different paths (set by the router). Each packet's journey time can, therefore, differ.
- ▶ Once packets arrive, they are re-ordered
- ▶ Message sent from recipient to sender indicating that the message has been received
- ▶ If no confirmation message, sender transmits data again

**Many Different Communications can share the same line at the same time**

**The network is optimised, the line is available for others during blanks**

## CABLES , ROUTERS, HOSTS, PROTOCOLS (1849-1991)

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- ▶ 1969 : First message exchanged on Arpanet : 4 connected Hosts : UCLA, Stanford, Utah, Santa Barbara
- ▶ 1971 : Premier email
- ▶ 1973 : 40 hosts
- ▶ 1970's : FTP, Email , Usenet
- ▶ 1983 : TCP/IP
- ▶ 1984 : DNS
- ▶ 1987 : 10.000 Hosts
- ▶ 1988 : IRC
- ▶ 1989 : First ISP for the general public : The World)
- ▶ 1991 : Tim Berners-Lee invents the Web

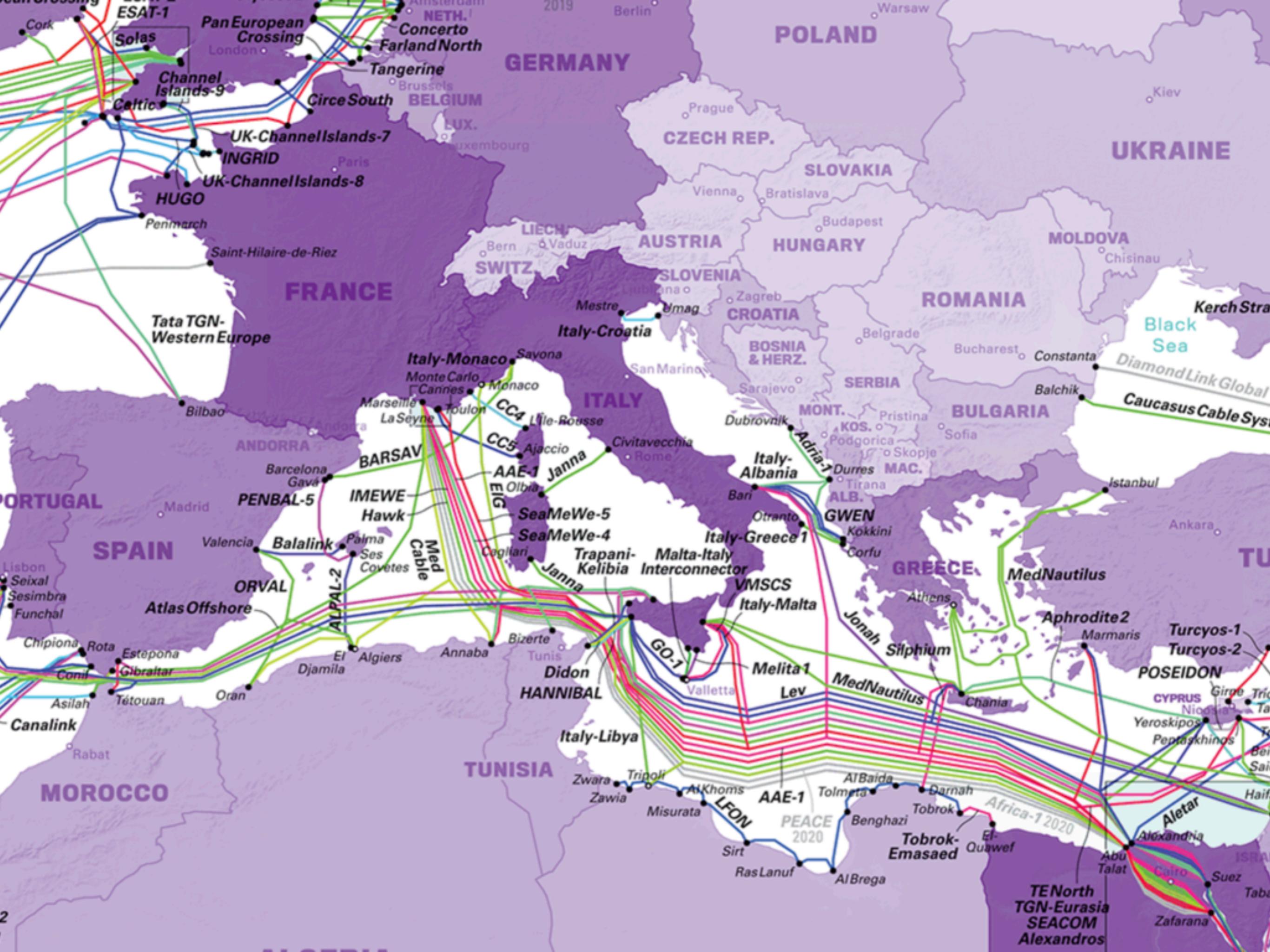
**INTERNET EXISTED LONG BEFORE THE WEB !**

Can you tell me what type of physical link hold the main part of international internet communications ?

## CABLES , ROUTERS, HOSTS, PROTOCOLS (1849-1991)

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- ▶ 99% of international internet communications goes through submarine cables
- ▶ Lay down a submarine cable costs hundreds of millions of dollars
- ▶ Putting a satellite on orbit is cheaper, but information flows is slower than in optical fiber. Therefore, the cost per kilobit per second is higher using satellite.
- ▶ The deepest cable is 8000m deep (between us and japan)
- ▶ Cables are fragile and can be broken
- ▶ there was 420 cables on duty in 2019





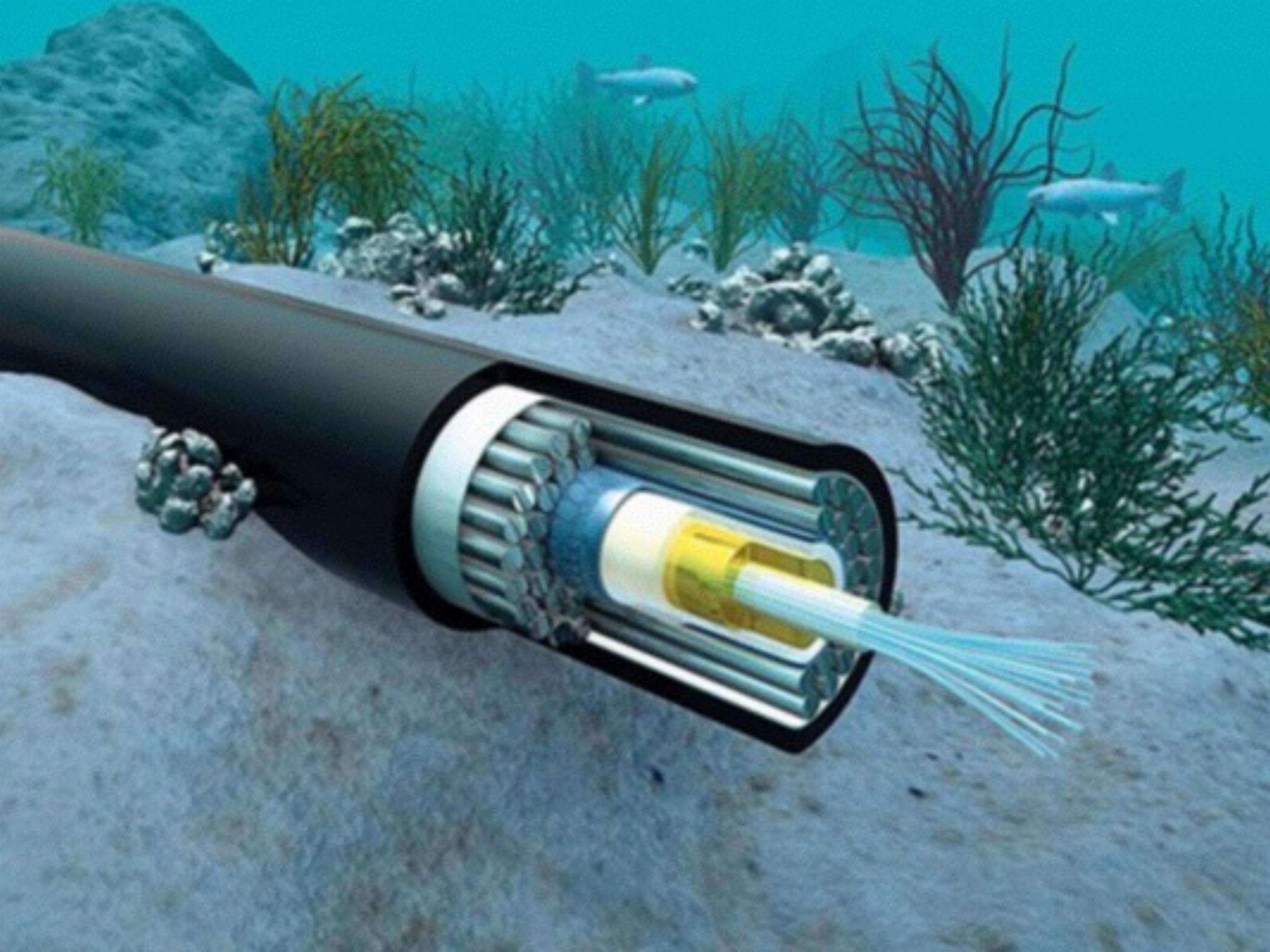
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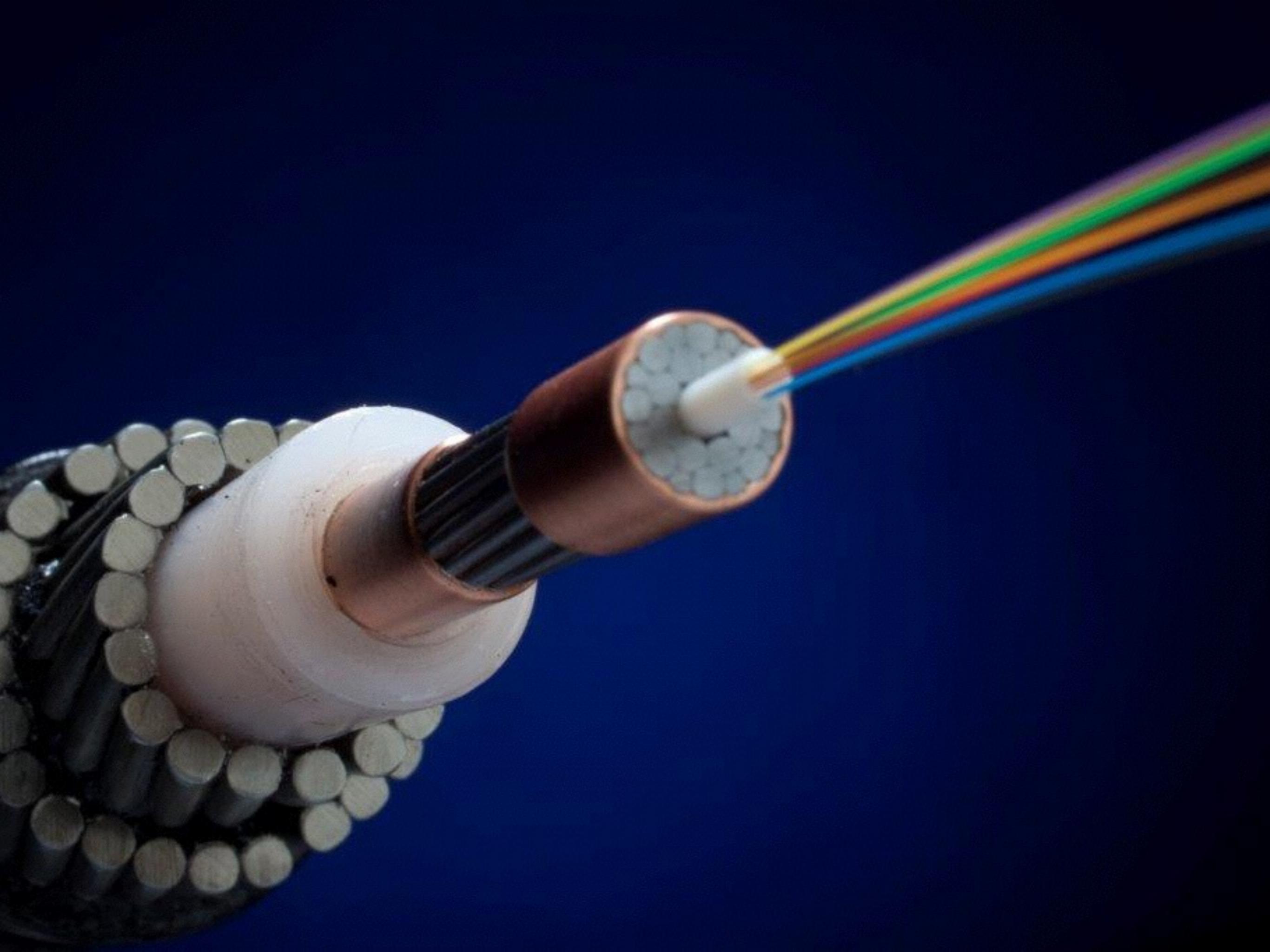


gettyimages  
BORIS HORVAT



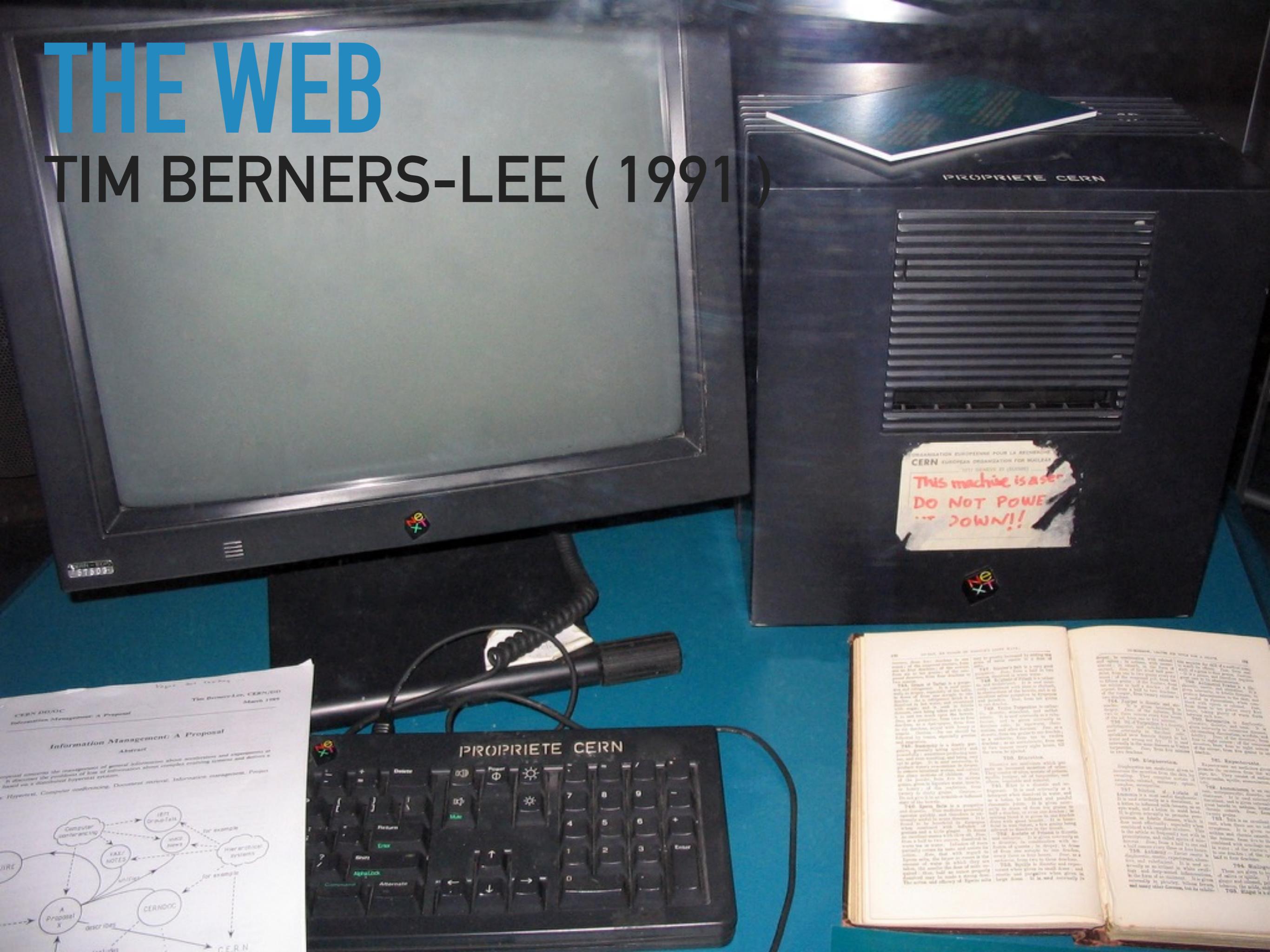






# THE WEB

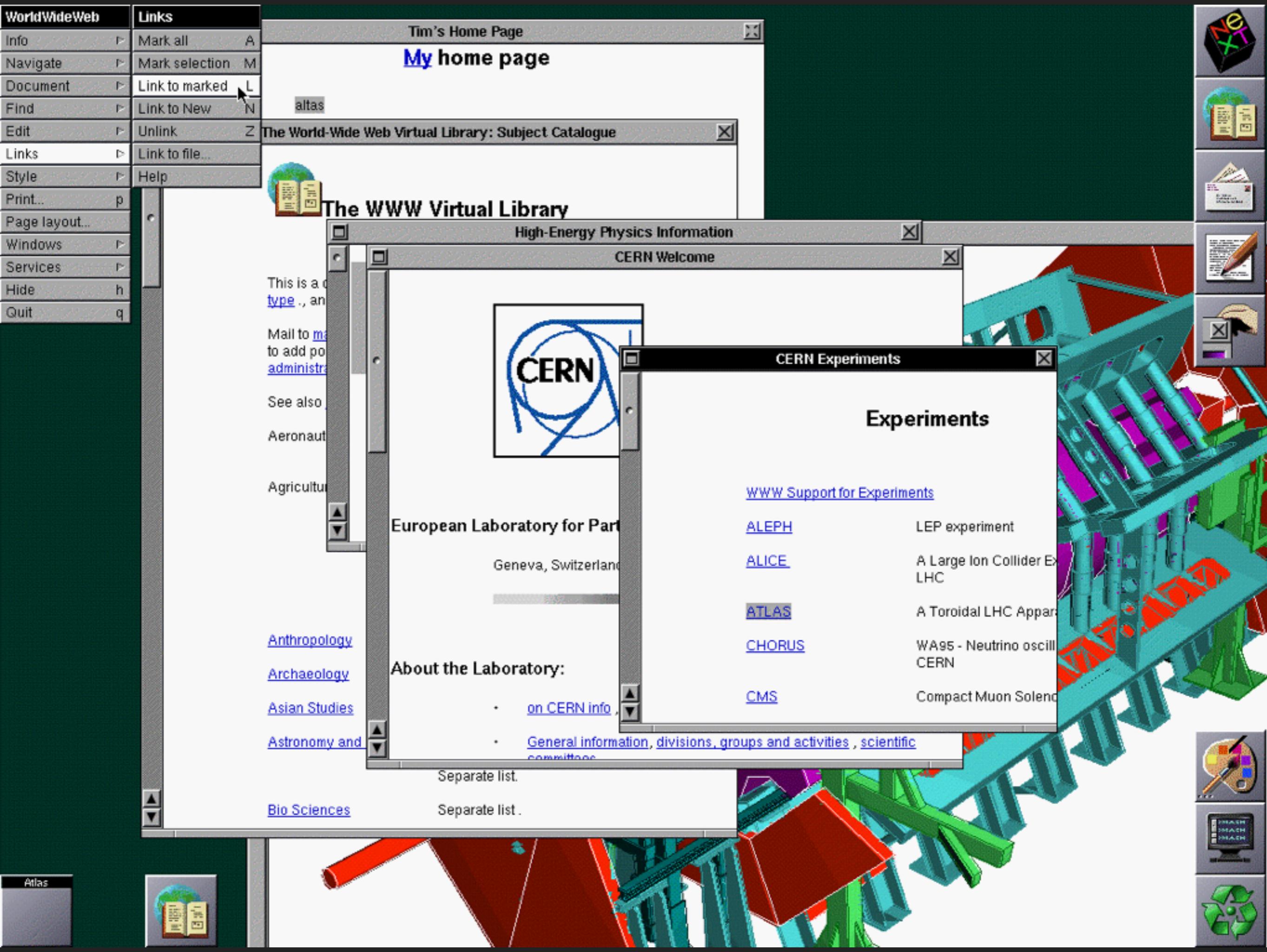
## TIM BERNERS-LEE ( 1991 )



Tim Berners Lee identifies information sharing difficulties at the CERN, where he works. Different systems exists, and publishing and accessing documents between them is complicated. He designs a new way to share documents, that will comply with these requirements :

- \* NON CENTRALISATION ( every computer can share documents)
- \* HETEROGENEITY ( Must work on different systems)
- \* REMOTE ACCESS
- \* HYPERTEXT ( display document from another server in just one click)

**30 years later, the principles he proposed still rule the Internet !**



- ▶ WEB SERVER : software waiting for request and sending content.
- ▶ WEB CLIENT (or BROWSER ) : software requesting content and displaying it nicely.
- ▶ HTTP : The language between them
- ▶ URL : Allows to identify a resource on the network
- ▶ HYPERTEXT : clickable links to access other documents instantly
- ▶ HTML : Language to describe document.

# THE WEB

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<http://www.example.com/dossier/page.htm>

# LAB1

# SPEAKING HTTP

# HTTP COMMUNICATION

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On the web, **the client asks for something , the server answers.** HTTP is the language of this exchange. if you type [www.example.com/](http://www.example.com/) in your browser this is what happen backstage :

GET / HTTP/1.1

Host: www.example.com

Connection: keep-alive

...

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: text/html;

...

<html>

...

- ▶ first block is client request : Request line and request headers.
- ▶ second block is server response : Status line, Response headers.
- ▶ third block is server response content.

see the two line breaks between reponse headers and content

## HTTP HEADERS :

Information exchanged between client and server during a http request, in the form of name:value pairs. They include : name and version of the browser, cookies, Last modification date, duration of the cache, accepted languages, accepted file formats .... They are never displayed in the browser.

Install netcat ( nc on mac)

In a shell, run netcat in listen (server) mode on port 9502 and leave it open

Open another terminal window, run netcat in client mode and connect to localhost on the same port, now type some text and press enter. Do the same on the other window.

You've just understood client / server basic principles:

1 server, 1 client, 1 port number

Of course, this would work the same way if the server were on the other side of the earth. just use his ip address instead of localhost.

In a shell, run netcat in listen mode on port 9572 and connect with your computer browser to

`http://localhost:9572`

to display how your browser is speaking when he makes a request (= client http headers)

( Windows : WSL !)

your browser now leaves the connection open and is waiting for the answer from the server. do ctrl-c in netcat.

what happens ?

run netcat again, as server on port 9503, connect to it with your browser, and this time, once the browser made his request, type this text into the shell. DO NOT FORGET THE EMPTY LINE BETWEEN HEADERS AND CONTENT. See what happens in the browser.

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: text/html;

Hi Bro

Do the same with a request from your mobile phone (same wifi connection) using your local server ip address

how to find it ?

**MOBILE FIRST !** Mobile >50% of worldwide web traffic

Due to low infrastructure and financial restraints, many emerging digital markets skipped the desktop internet phase entirely and moved straight onto mobile internet via smartphone and tablet devices.

By contrast, mobile only makes up around 40 percent of online traffic in the United States.

in a shell, use netcat as a client connect to google and get homepage. Read and understand server headers.

```
echo -n "GET / HTTP/1.0\r\n\r\n" | nc www.google.com 80
```





