

ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

ADDIS ABABA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CENTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING

**Prepared By:** - Kevin Shitaye.

February 2020

# Introduction

# History and evolution of the internet

The origin

As it is known internet was never used in the late 1960s but the idea of this global computer network was first visualized in 1962 by J.C.R. Licklider a computer scientist at MIT. He later shared his idea with U.S. Department of Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (ARPA). Leonard Kleinrock, Thomas Merrill and Lawrence G. Roberts worked on the packet switching theory and later in 1969 the first wide area computer network became a reality which was funded by ARPA. In 1973, Robert Kahn and Vinton Cerf collaborate to develop a protocol for linking multiple networks together. This later becomes the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), a technology that links multiple networks together. Then Robert Metcalfe develops a system using cables that allows for transfer of more data over the network. He names this system Alto Aloha, but it later becomes known as Ethernet. And later on in the same year University College of London (England) and Royal Radar Establishment (Norway) connect to ARPANET and the term Internet was born.

Globalization of the internet

Tom Truscott and Steve Bellovin develop a Unix-based system for transferring data over phone lines via a dial-up connection. This system becomes USENET.  In 1982, the PhoneNet system is established and is connected to ARPANET and the first commercial network, Telenet. This action made internet accessible and allowed email communication between many nations of world. In 1981, Metcalfe’s company 3Com announces Ethernet products for both computer workstations and personal computers; this allows for the establishment of local area networks (LANs). And in 1983, the Domain Name System was established this feature was for naming websites like .edu, .gov, .com, .mil, .org, .net. This feature made the website names to be easily remembered and also help in managing as the number of internet users increase. In 1990, ARPANET is decommissioned. Tim Berners-Lee and his colleagues at CERN develop hypertext markup language (HTML) and the uniform resource locator (URL), giving birth to the first incarnation of the World Wide Web (WWW). A watershed year for the internet comes in 1995: Microsoft launches Windows 95; Amazon, Yahoo and eBay all launch; Internet Explorer launches; and Java is created, allowing for animation on websites and creating a new flurry of internet activity, Google was founded in 1998, the first internet virus was also discovered in 1999.

History of the future

The beginning of the new century marks a great development and accessibility of the internet all over the world. As Google took over the market of the search engine, Face Book, YouTube and other social medias immerge internet become part of our daily life and the world seemed a small village. These days much of our life depends on this network like in banking, education, shopping etc.

What’s next?

The internet we see in these days was never created in a single day nor by a single person, it’s not certain what will happen next, nobody knew it would be like this. But what is certain is that it will keeping on growing as more and more things (IOT) gets involved with the internet.