

# Internet Geography

Interactive 1

# Part 1: The Cloud

2015

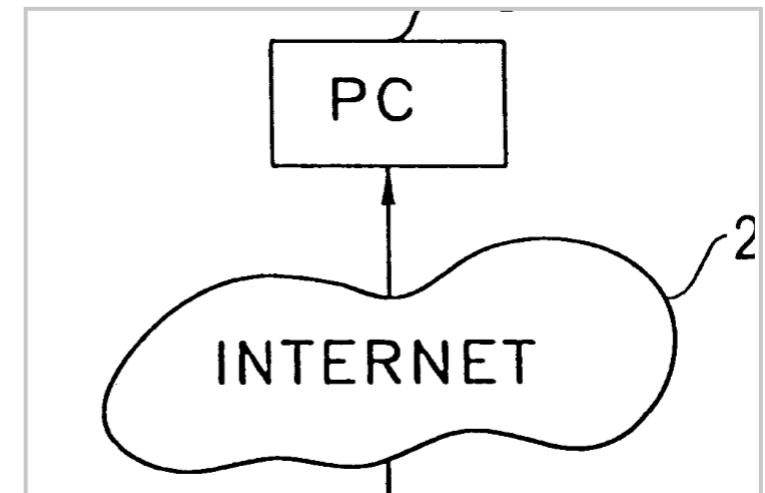
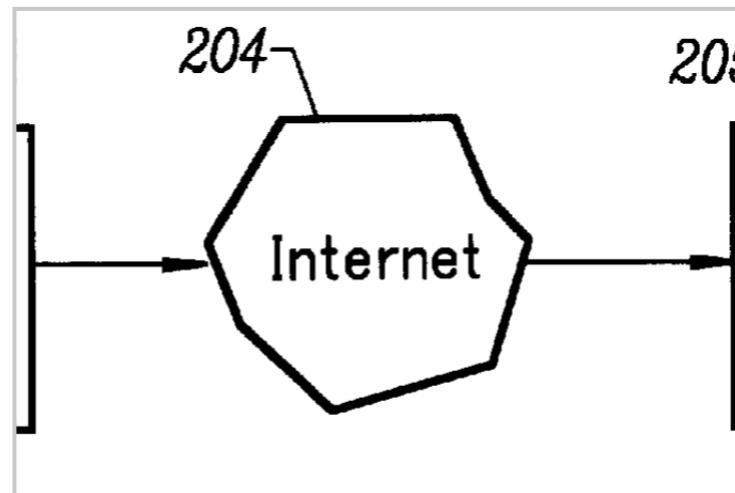
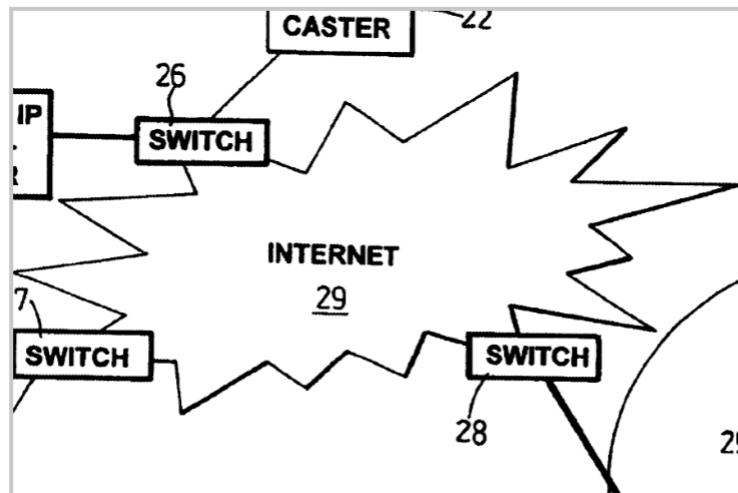
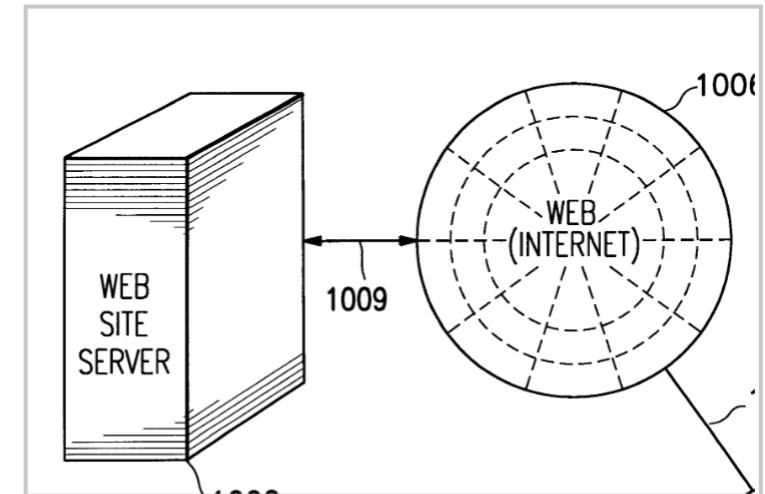
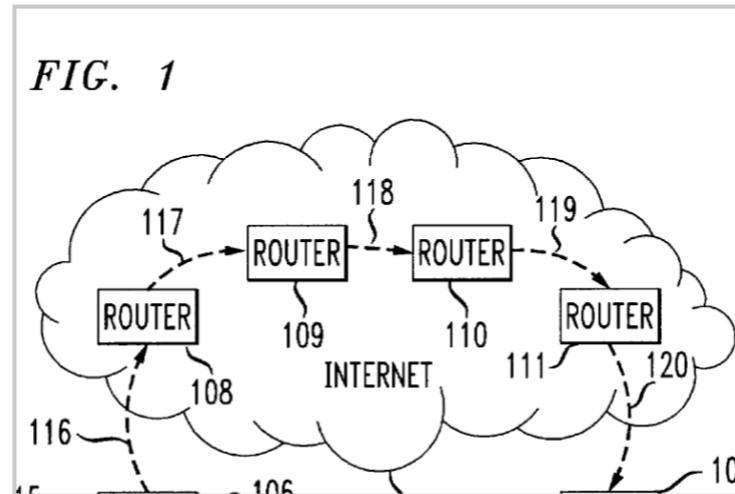
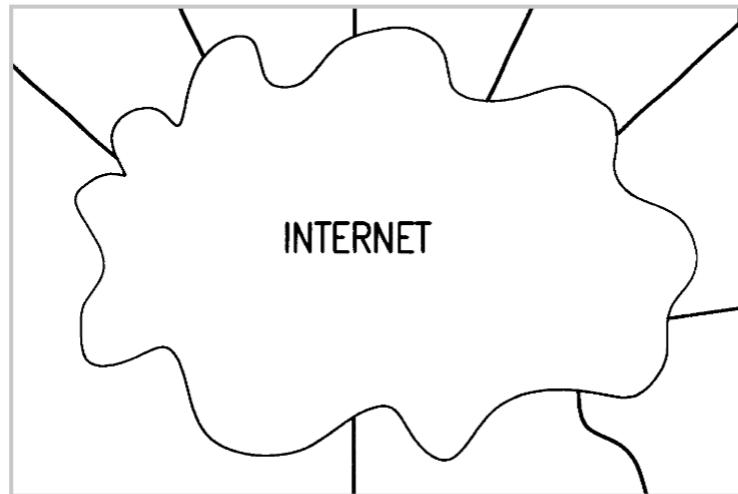
Over the last twenty years, the Internet has been variously described as a “series of tubes,” an “information superhighway,” an “ecosystem,” a “commons”... “The cloud” is only the latest in this series of metaphors. Because it represents a cultural fantasy, it is always more than its present-day technological manifestation.

Tung-Hui Hu, *A Prehistory of the Cloud*

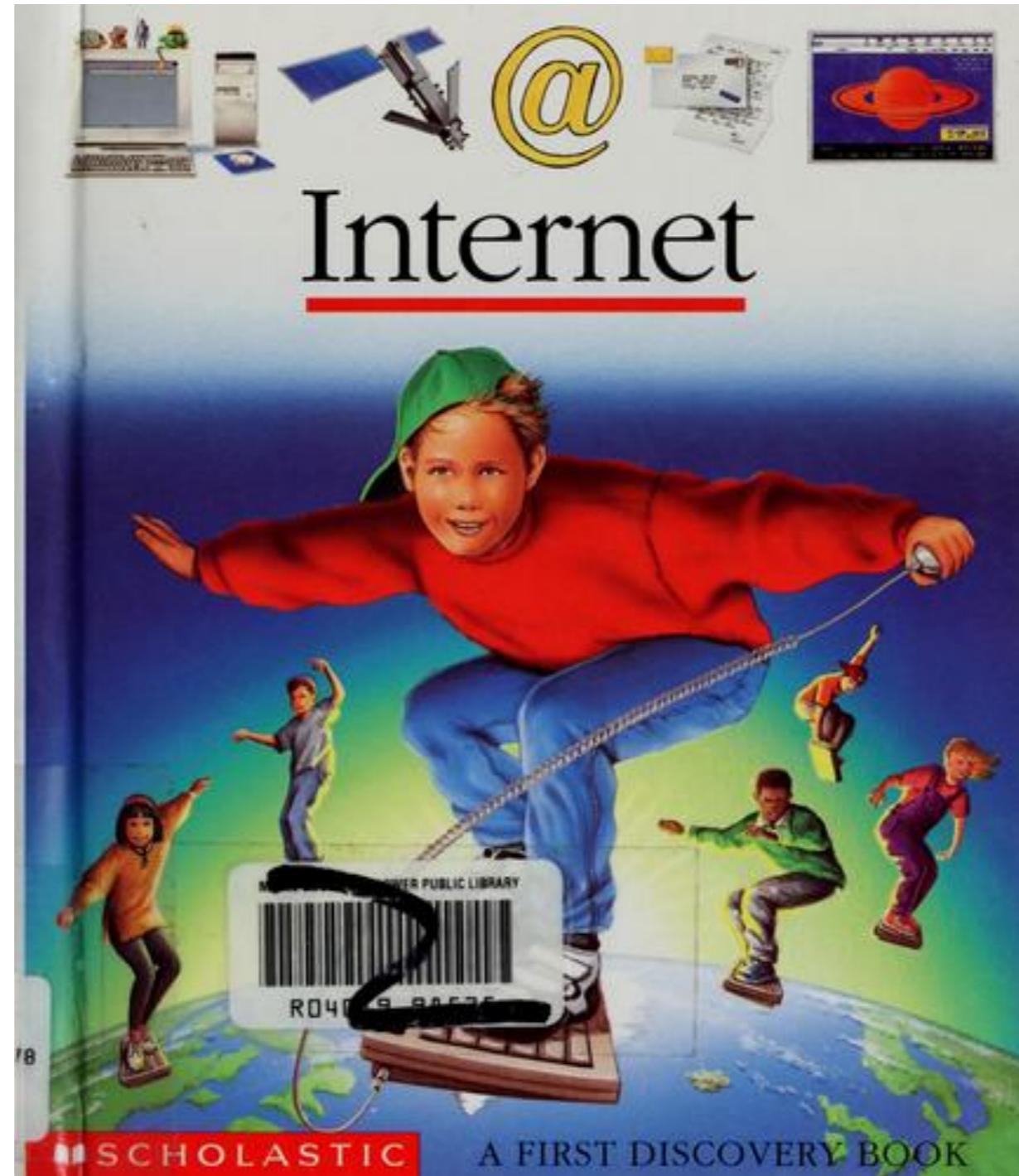
# What shape is the internet?

By [Noah Veltman](#)

According to patent drawings, it's a cloud, or a bean, or a web, or an explosion, or a highway, or maybe a weird lump.



<https://noahveltmann.com/internet-shape/>



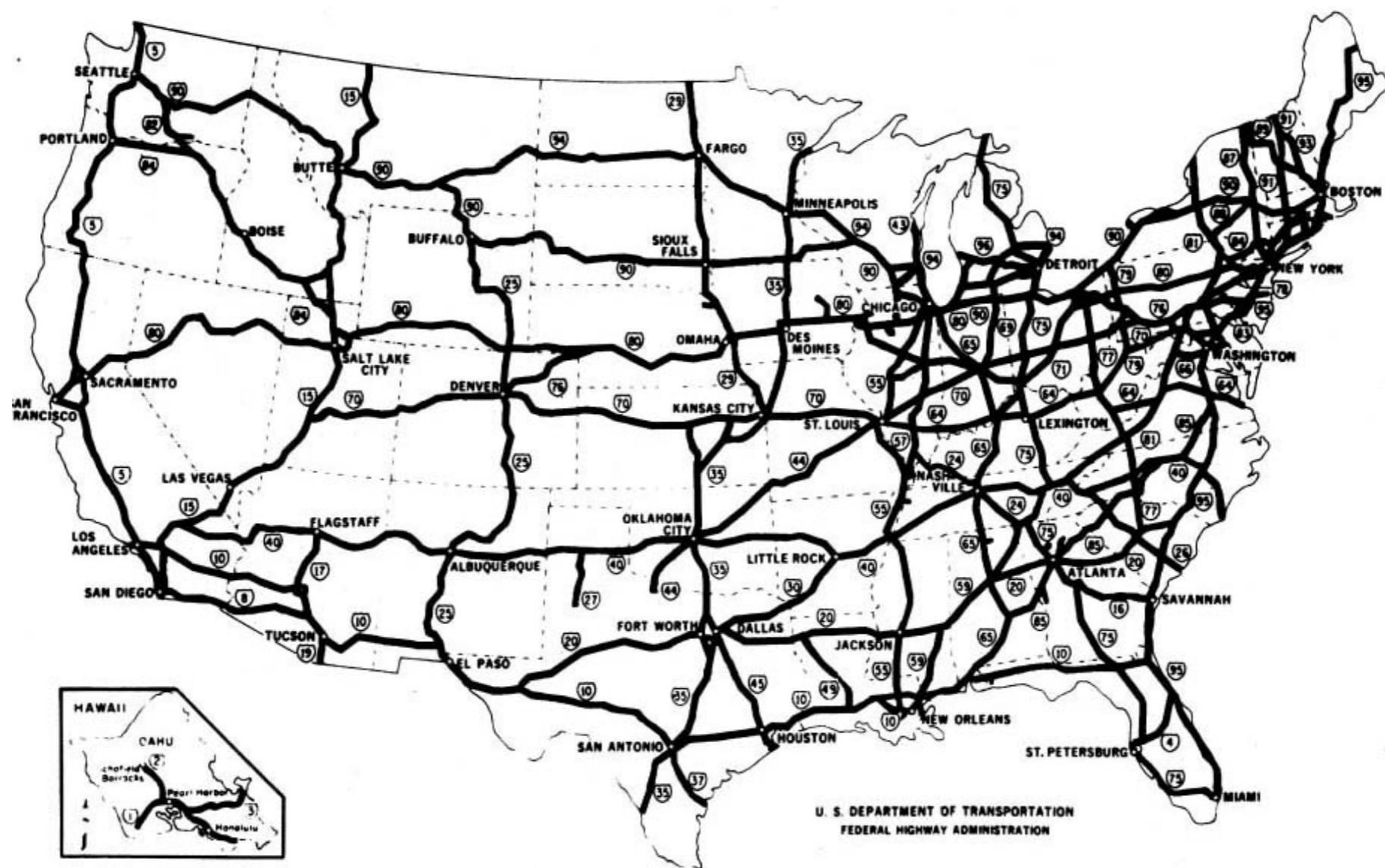
Internet as ocean



Internet as ocean



Internet as highway  
Time, 1993



US interstate highway system



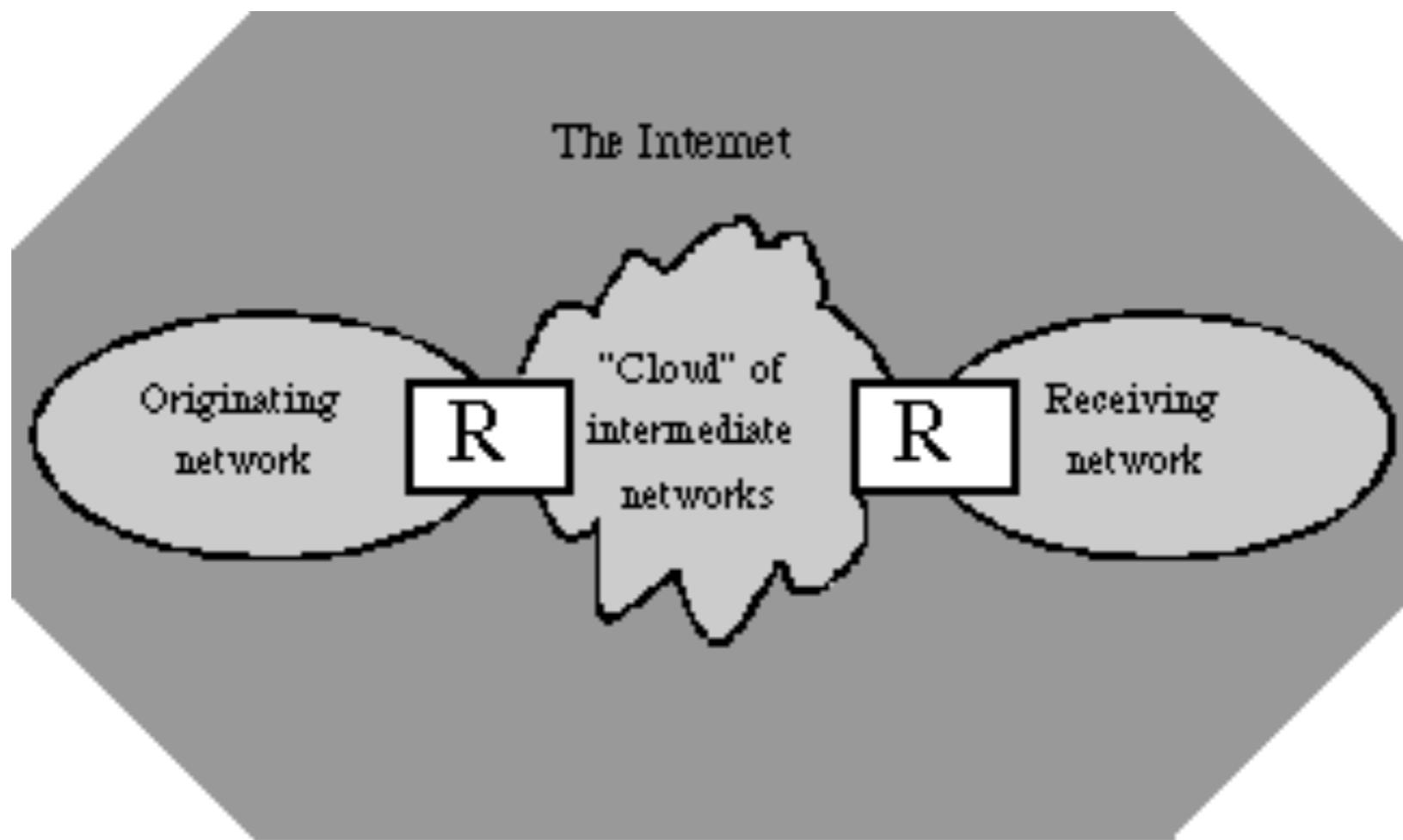
US fiber-optic cable network

COVER STORY



Internet as highway  
Popular Mechanics, 1994

1996



First mention of the cloud, MIT

“It starts with the premise that the data services and architecture should be on servers. We call it cloud computing—they should be in a “cloud” somewhere. And that if you have the right kind of browser or the right kind of access, it doesn’t matter whether you have a PC or a Mac or a mobile phone or a BlackBerry or what have you—or new devices still to be developed—you can get access to the cloud.”

Google CEO, Eric Schmidt



Internet as cloud

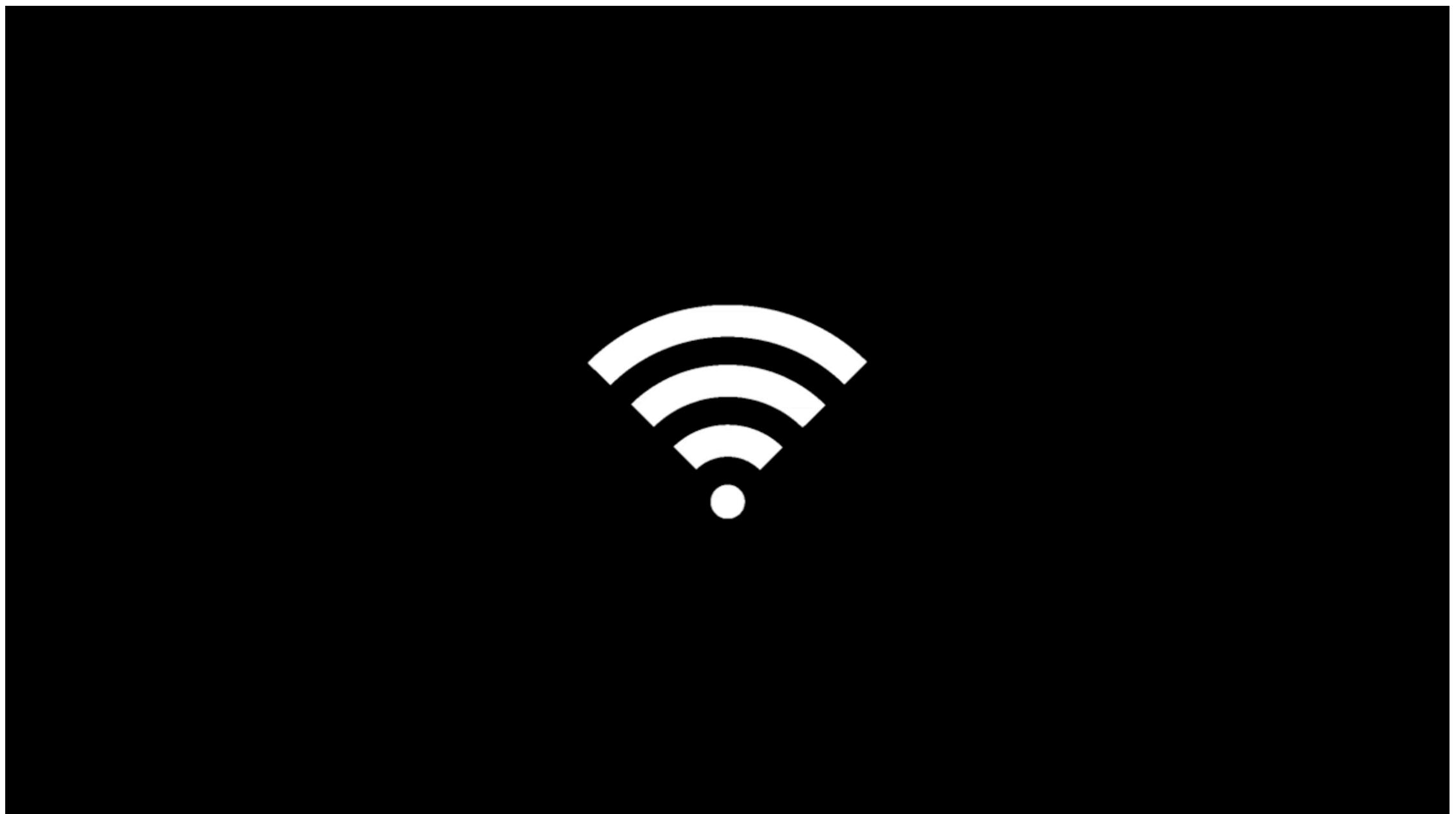


Internet as cloud

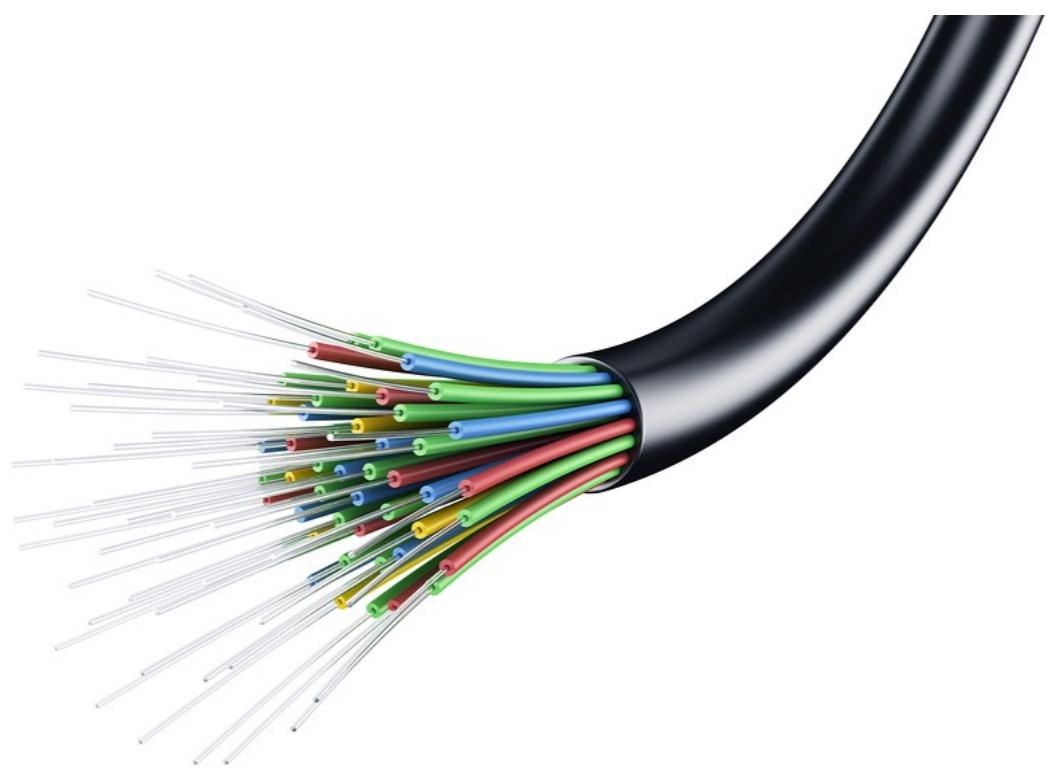


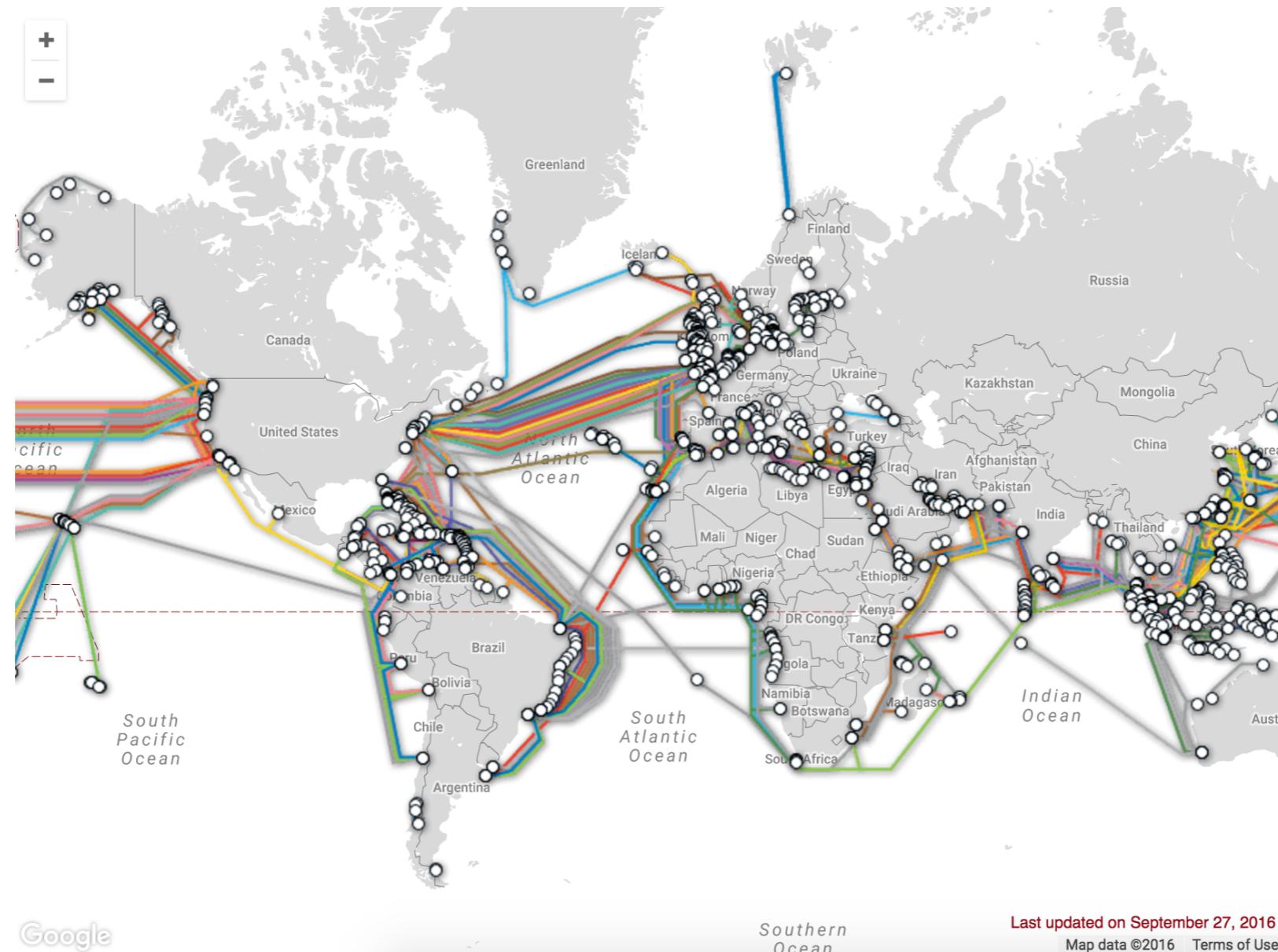
Internet as cloud

2011



*Immaterials: Light painting WiFi, Timo Arnall*





[www.submarinemap.com](http://www.submarinemap.com)

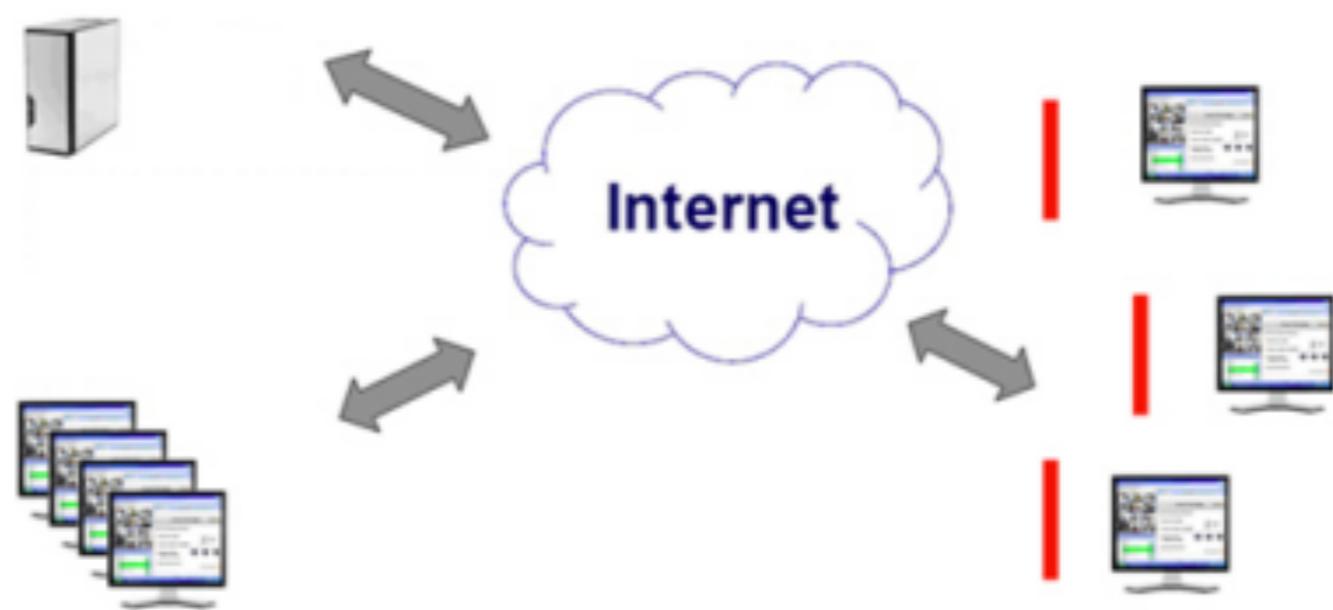


111 8th Ave.

2016



*Internet Landscapes: Sweden*, Evan Roth





Microsoft data center, The Dalles Oregon

Personal

https://www.google.com/about/datacenters/inside/locations/index.html

# Google Data Centers

G+1 280 Search this site

Data centers > Inside look > Locations

## Data center locations

We own and operate data centers around the world to keep our products running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Find out more about our data center locations, community involvement, and [job opportunities](#) in our locations around the world.

**Americas**

- Berkeley County, South Carolina
- Council Bluffs, Iowa
- Douglas County, Georgia
- Jackson County, Alabama
- Lenoir, North Carolina
- Mayes County, Oklahoma
- Montgomery County, Tennessee
- Quilicura, Chile
- The Dalles, Oregon

**Asia**

- Changhua County, Taiwan
- Singapore

**Europe**

- Dublin, Ireland
- Eemshaven, Netherlands



# Google data center map

2016



“Microsoft Plumbs Ocean’s Depths to Test Underwater Data Center,” New York Times

2016



Mark Zuckerberg showing the Pope  
an Internet-providing drone

2015

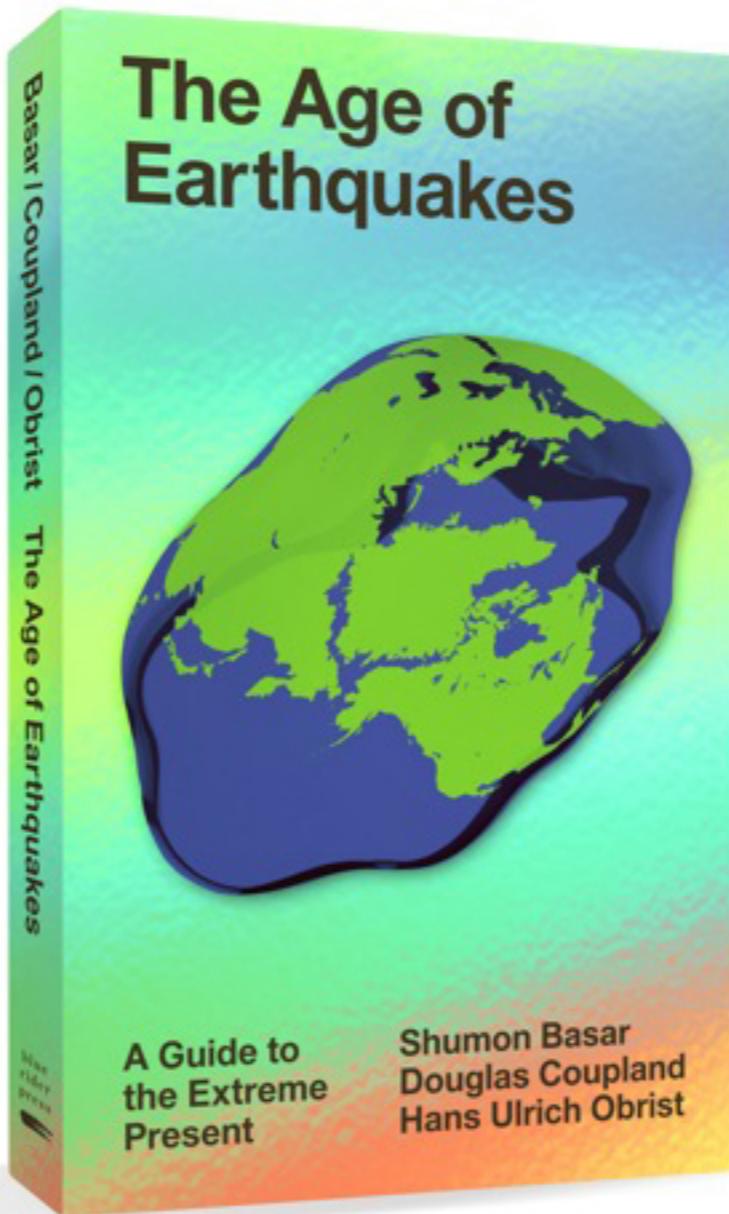


“Server Space,” Silicon Valley



Google color-coded data center

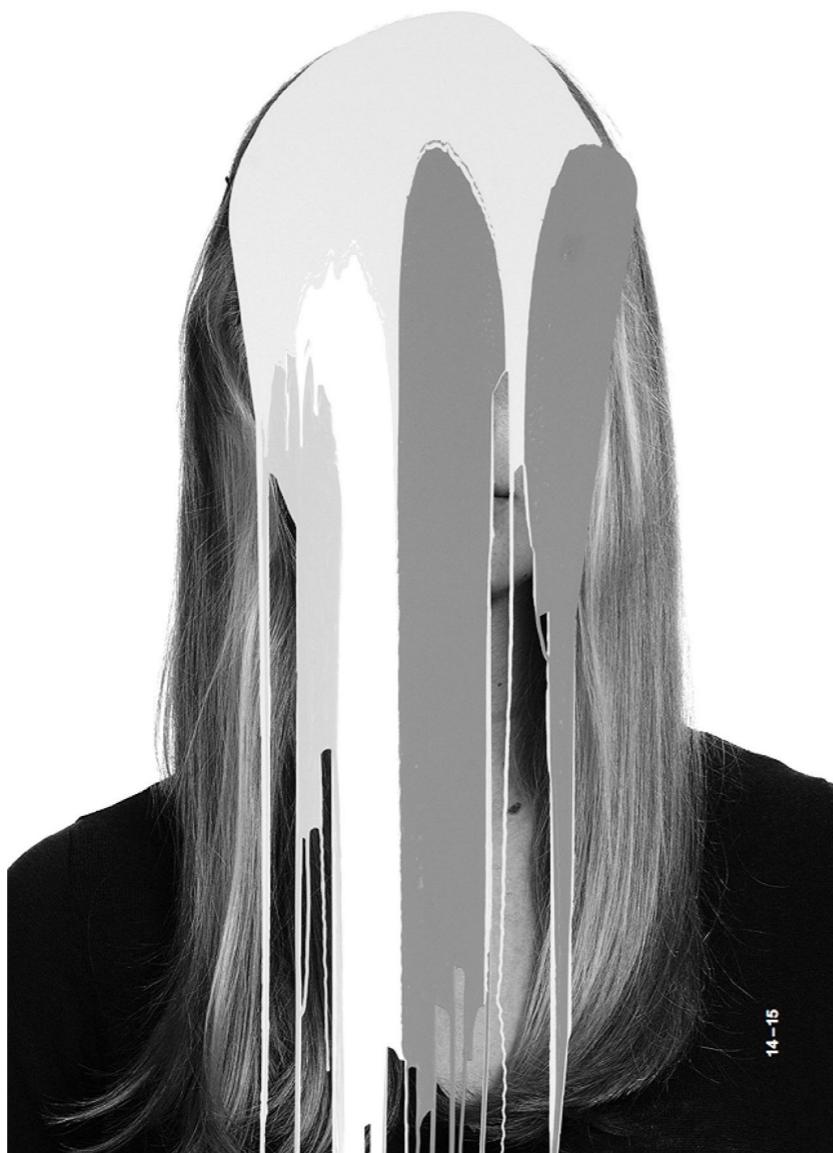
2015



The Age of Earthquakes

2015

We haven't just changed the structure  
of our brains these past few years.



We've  
changed  
the structure  
of our  
Planet.

*The Age of Earthquakes*

2015



“Algorithms That Shape Our World,”  
Kevin Slavin

500ms = Click of a mouse  
13.3ms = Chicago to NY

2012



Postcards from Google Earth, Clement Valla

2016

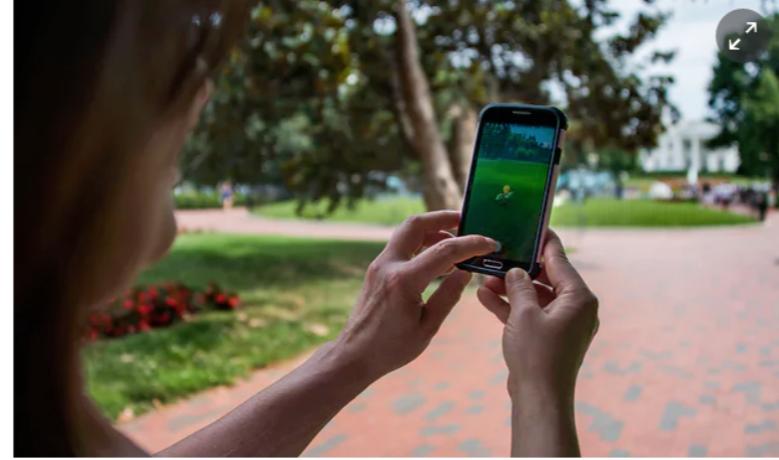


Pokémon Go in the Pentagon

# 2016

Pokémon Go: US holocaust museum asks players to stay away

Memorial to victims of Nazis is designated as a 'Pokéstop' but officials point out that playing game on the grounds is 'extremely inappropriate'



A woman holds up her mobile phone as she plays Pokémon Go. Photograph: Jim Watson/AFP/Getty Images

Guardian staff and agencies

Tuesday 12 July 2016 22.08 EDT

f t e in

This article is 2 months old

Shares 1219

Save for later

The US Holocaust Memorial Museum and Arlington National Cemetery have requested that smartphone users refrain from "catching" Pokémons when they visit.

Like many other landmarks, the museum and the military cemetery are featured in the popular new Pokémon Go game.

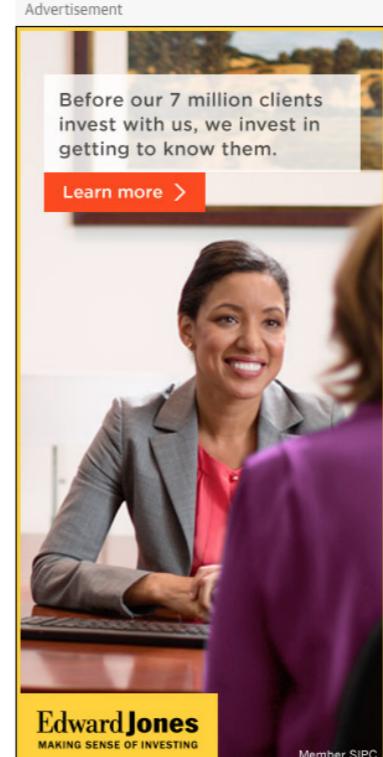
**Pokémon Go review:**  
not a good game... but a great experience

★★★★★

The museum is a Pokéstop – a place where players can get free in-game items – and online users say the cemetery also contains Pokéstop.

Andrew Hollinger, communications director for the museum, said

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Edward Jones  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

Most popular in US

## Pokémon Go: US holocaust museum asks players to stay away

“The word “cloud” speaks to the way we imagine data in the virtual economy traveling instantaneously through the air or “skyway”—here in California one moment, there in Japan the next. Yet this idea of a virtual economy also masks the slow movement of electronics that power the cloud’s data centers, and the workers who must unload this equipment at the docks.”

Tung-Hui Hu, *A Prehistory of the Cloud*

“It also covers up the Third World workers who invisibly moderate the websites and forums of Web 2.0, such as Facebook, to produce the clean, well-tended communities that Western consumers expect to find.”

Tung-Hui Hu, *A Prehistory of the Cloud*

“By producing a seemingly instant, unmediated relationship between user and website, our imagination of a virtual “cloud” displaces the infrastructure of labor within digital networks.”

Tung-Hui Hu, *A Prehistory of the Cloud*

2016

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a dark theme. The title bar reads "The secret rules of the internet". The address bar shows the URL <https://www.theverge.com/2016/4/13/11387934/internet-moderator-history-youtube-facebook-reddit-censorship-free-speech>. The main content features a large, bold, serif headline: "THE SECRET RULES OF THE INTERNET". Below it is a subtitle in a smaller, sans-serif font: "The murky history of moderation, and how it's shaping the future of free speech". A horizontal red line separates the headline from the author information. Below the line, it says "BY CATHERINE BUNI & SORAYA CHEMALY | ILLUSTRATIONS BY ERIC PETERSEN". The first paragraph of the article begins with a large, red, stylized letter "J" on a dark purple square, followed by text about Julie Mora-Blanco's job at YouTube.

Julie Mora-Blanco remembers the day, in the summer of 2006, when the reality of her new job sunk in. A recent grad of California State University, Chico, Mora-Blanco had majored in art, minored in women's studies, and spent much of her free time making sculptures from found objects and blown-glass. Struggling to make rent and working a post-production job at Current TV, she'd jumped at the chance to work at an internet startup called YouTube. Maybe, she figured, she could pull in enough money to pursue her lifelong dream: to

“The Secret Rules of the Internet”, *The Verge*

# 2016

G Children as young as seven mining cobalt used in smartphones, says Amnesty International

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/jan/19/children-as-young-as-seven-mining-cobalt-used-in-smartphones-says-Amnesty>

**Modern-day slavery in focus Employment**

## Children as young as seven mining cobalt used in smartphones, says Amnesty

Amnesty International says it has traced cobalt used in batteries for household brands to mines in DRC, where children work in life-threatening conditions



A cobalt mine between Lubumbashi and Kolwezi in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Photograph: Federico Scoppa/AFP/Getty Images

Modern-day slavery in focus is supported by

“Children as young as seven mining cobalt, says Amnesty”, *The Guardian*

## Part 2: Dominion and Sovereignty

2010



Joe Burgess for The New York Times

2008



The Seasteading Institute

“Wael Ghonim, Google's Egyptian executive, said: ‘If you want to liberate a society just give them the internet.’ But how does one liberate a society that already has the internet? In a society permanently connected through pervasive broadband networks, the shared internet is, bit by bit and piece by piece, overshadowed by the ‘cloud.’”

“Captives of the Cloud,” Metahaven

# 2010



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the English Wikipedia article titled "Twitter Revolution". The page header includes the Wikipedia logo, the title "Twitter Revolution", and navigation tabs for "Article" (selected), "Talk", "Read", "Edit", "View history", and "Search". A user interface bar at the top right shows "Not logged in" and links for "Talk", "Contributions", "Create account", and "Log in". The main content area begins with a brief introduction: "The term **Twitter Revolution** refers to different revolutions and protests, most of which had the social networking site Twitter be used by protestors and demonstrators in order to communicate."<sup>[1]</sup> Below this, a bulleted list details several specific events:

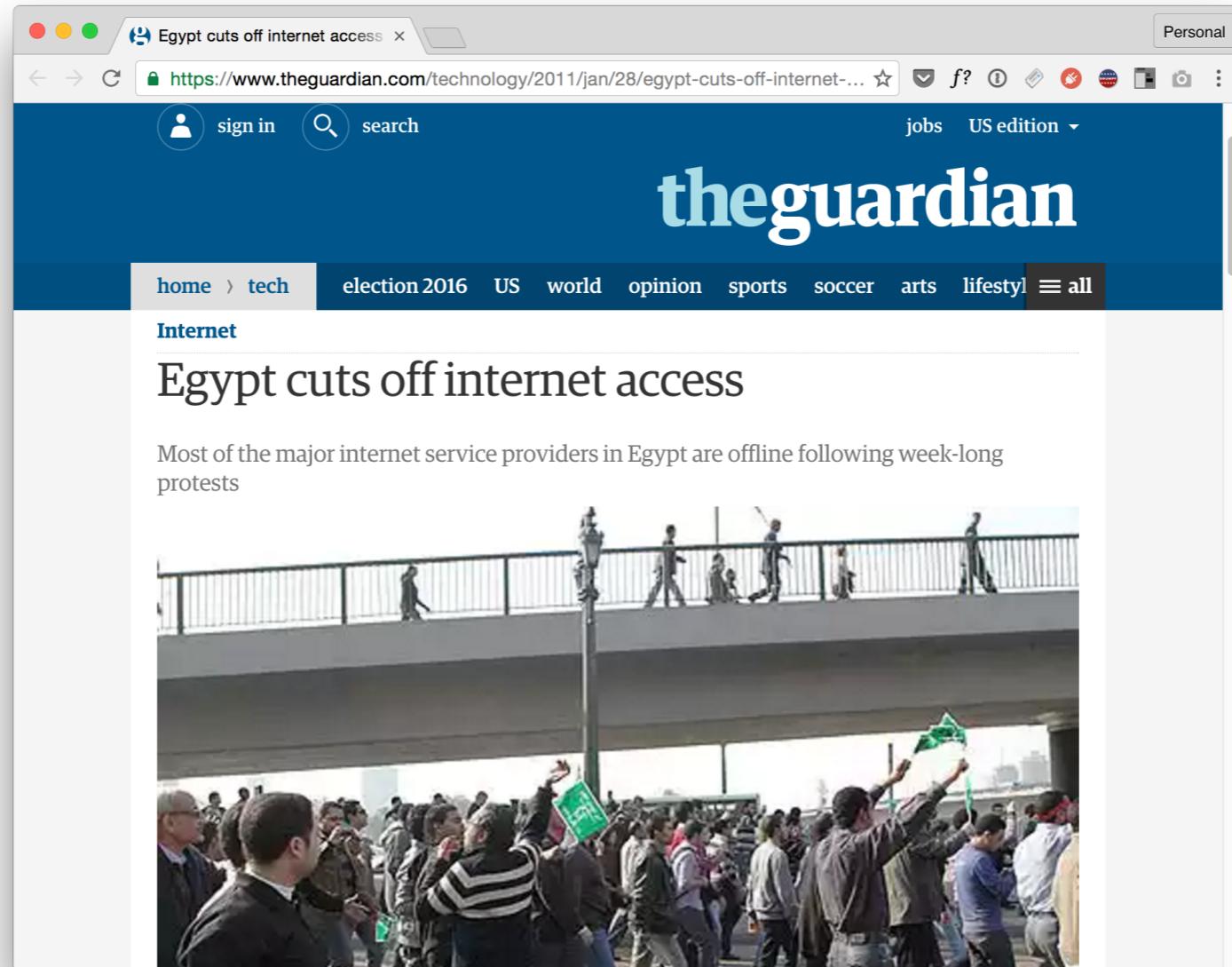
- 2009 Moldova civil unrest, claiming that the elections, which saw the governing Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova (PCRM) win a majority of seats, were fraudulent
- 2009–2010 Iranian election protests, also known as Green Revolution and Facebook Revolution, following the 2009 Iranian presidential election
- 2010–2011 Tunisian revolution, also known as Jasmine Revolution and Wikileaks Revolution, in which the regime of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was ended after 23 years
- Egyptian Revolution of 2011, in which the regime of Hosni Mubarak was ended after 30 years
- Euromaidan Revolution in Ukraine, beginning in November 2013.

Below the list, a paragraph discusses the systematic literature review by Buettner & Buettner, which analyzed the role of Twitter during various social movements from 2007 to 2013, including WikiLeaks, Moldova, Austria student protest, Israel-Gaza, Iran green revolution, Toronto G20, Venezuela, Germany Stuttgart21, Egypt, England, US Occupy movement, Spain Indignados, Greece Aganaktismeno movements, Italy, Wisconsin labor protests, Israel Hamas, Brazil Vinegar, and Turkey.<sup>[1]</sup>

A sidebar on the left contains links for "Main page", "Contents", "Featured content", "Current events", "Random article", "Donate to Wikipedia", "Wikipedia store", "Interaction", "Help", "About Wikipedia", "Community portal", "Recent changes", "Contact page", "Tools", "What links here", "Related changes", "Upload file", "Special pages", "Permanent link", "Page information", "Wikidata item", "Cite this page", "Print/export", and "Create a book".

## Twitter Revolution, Wikipedia

2011



“Egypt cuts off internet access,”  
*The Guardian*

2001



The Patriot Act

2015



Section 215



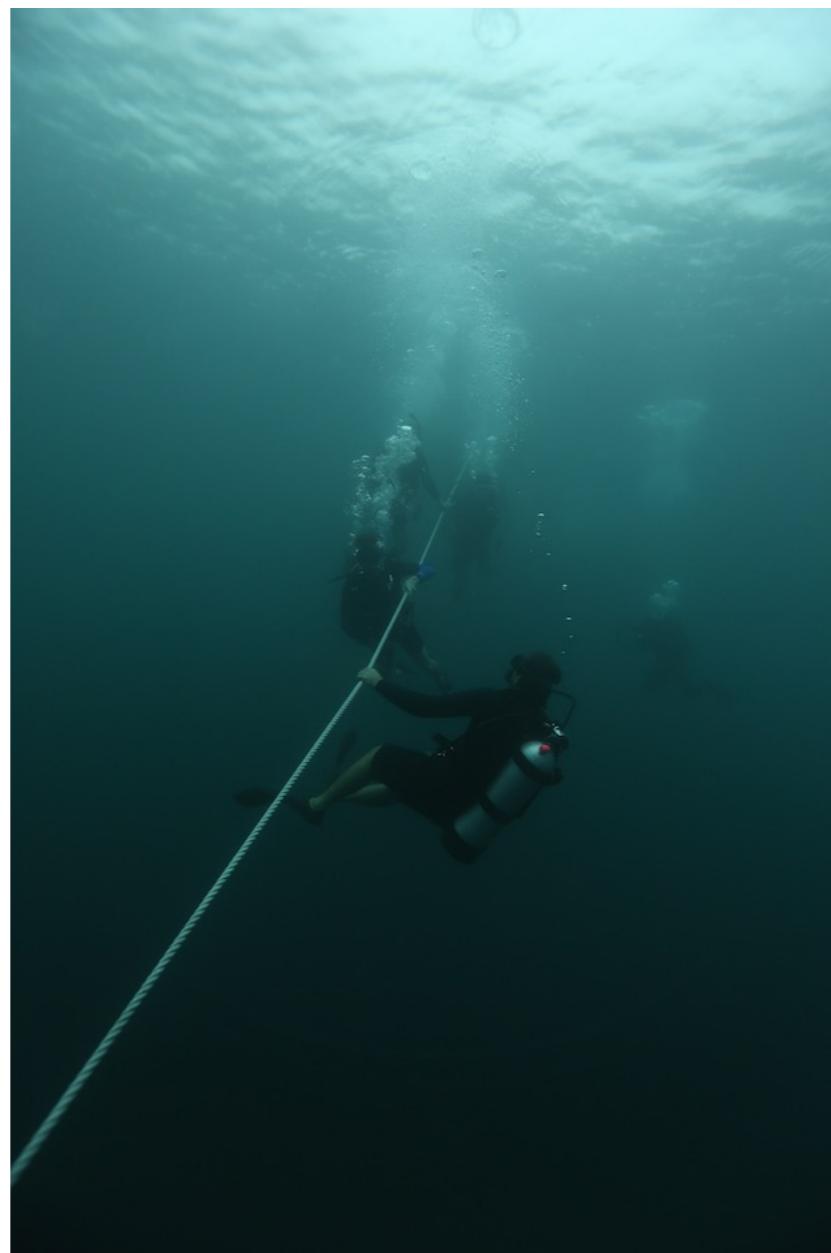
GCHQ

2014



Squeaky Dolphin

2016



*Deep Web Dive, Trevor Paglen*



Apple Mothership

2016

The Venmo logo is displayed in its signature blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly rounded and have a bold, italicized appearance.

“The Wrong Word Could Get You In Trouble  
On Venmo,” *The Huffington Post*

On 4/21/16 , you sent a payment for the amount of \$20.00 for, " Viva Cuba! ." We're trying to understand:

- your reference to "Cuba."
- the purpose of this payment, including a detailed explanation of what you intended to pay for and the establishment/location, if applicable.

Until we hear from you, please know that we are obligated to hold your payment. Please reply back with the information requested within **15 days**, so we can update your account.

**“The Wrong Word Could Get You In Trouble On Venmo,” The Huffington Post**

# 2016

 **Mark Zuckerberg**   
May 12 · 



I want to share some thoughts on the discussion about Trending Topics. Facebook stands for giving everyone a voice. We believe the world is better when people from different backgrounds and with different ideas all have the power to share their thoughts and experiences. That's what makes social media unique. We are one global community where anyone can share anything -- from a loving photo of a mother and her baby to intellectual analysis of political events.

To serve our diverse community, we are committed to building a platform for all ideas. Trending Topics is designed to surface the most newsworthy and popular conversations on Facebook. We have rigorous guidelines that do not permit the prioritization of one viewpoint over another or the suppression of political perspectives.

This week, there was a report suggesting that Facebook contractors working on Trending Topics suppressed stories with conservative viewpoints. We take this report very seriously and are conducting a full investigation to ensure our teams upheld the integrity of this product.

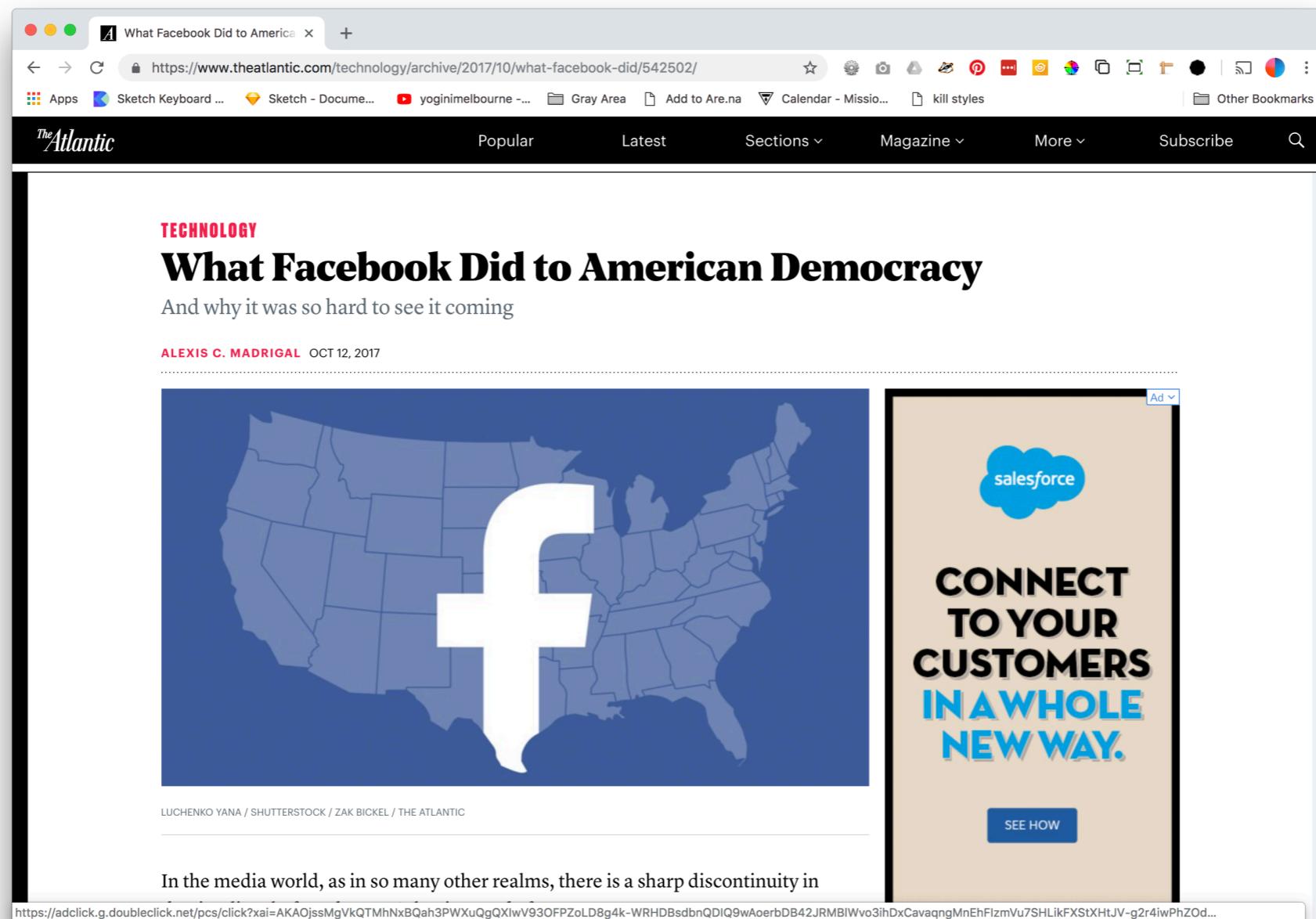
## Mark Zuckerberg on Trending Topics

# 2016

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'How Facebook's news feed alg x Not Secure | www.slate.com/articles/technology/cover\_story/2016/01/how\_facebook\_s\_news\_fee...'. The page header includes 'COVER STORY' and 'READ THIS FIRST.' buttons, the date 'JAN. 3 2016 8:02 PM', and the 'SLATE' logo. The main headline is 'Who Controls Your Facebook Feed'. Below it is a subtext: 'A small team of engineers in Menlo Park. A panel of anonymous power users around the world. And, increasingly, you.' The author is listed as 'By Will Oremus'. To the right of the text are social sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Below the text is a photo illustration by Lisa Larson-Walker, showing several people looking at their phones, overlaid with various blue circles containing icons like thumbs up, question marks, and graphs. A caption below the photo reads 'Photo illustration by Lisa Larson-Walker. Photo by Tang Ming Tung/Getty Images.' To the right of the main article is a purple sidebar with the text 'MAKE RESUMES MORE'.

“Who Controls Your Facebook Feed,” Slate

2017



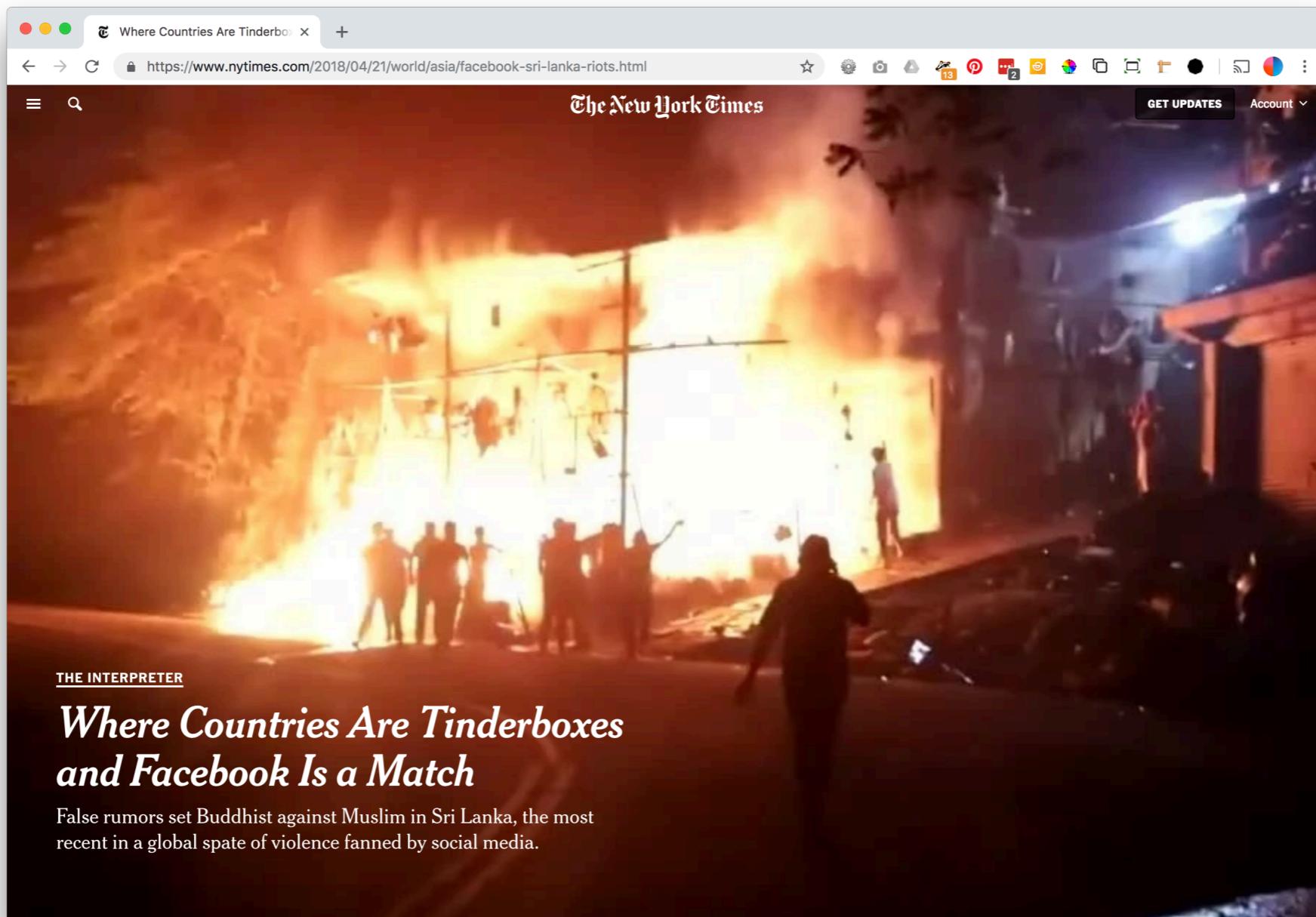
“What Facebook Did to American Democracy,”  
*The Atlantic*

# 2018



“Russia ‘meddled in all big social media’ around US election,” BBC News

2018



“Where Countries Are Tinderboxes and Facebook is a Match,” *The New York Times*

2018

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying an article from The New York Times. The title of the article is "Sheryl Sandberg Asked for Soros Research, Facebook Acknowledges". Below the title is a photograph of Sheryl Sandberg, looking slightly to her left. A nameplate in front of her on a desk reads "MS. SANDBERG". The article's subtitle states: "Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook's chief operating officer, wanted to know whether George Soros stood to gain from criticizing the company, according to people with knowledge of an email she sent. Eric Thayer for The New York Times". At the bottom of the page, there is a call to action: "Support independent journalism. [Subscribe for \\$1 a week.](#)" and a link "SEE MY OPTIONS >". A small purple circle in the bottom right corner contains the number "19".

“Sheryl Sandberg Asked for Soros Research, Facebook Acknowledges,” The New York Times

2018



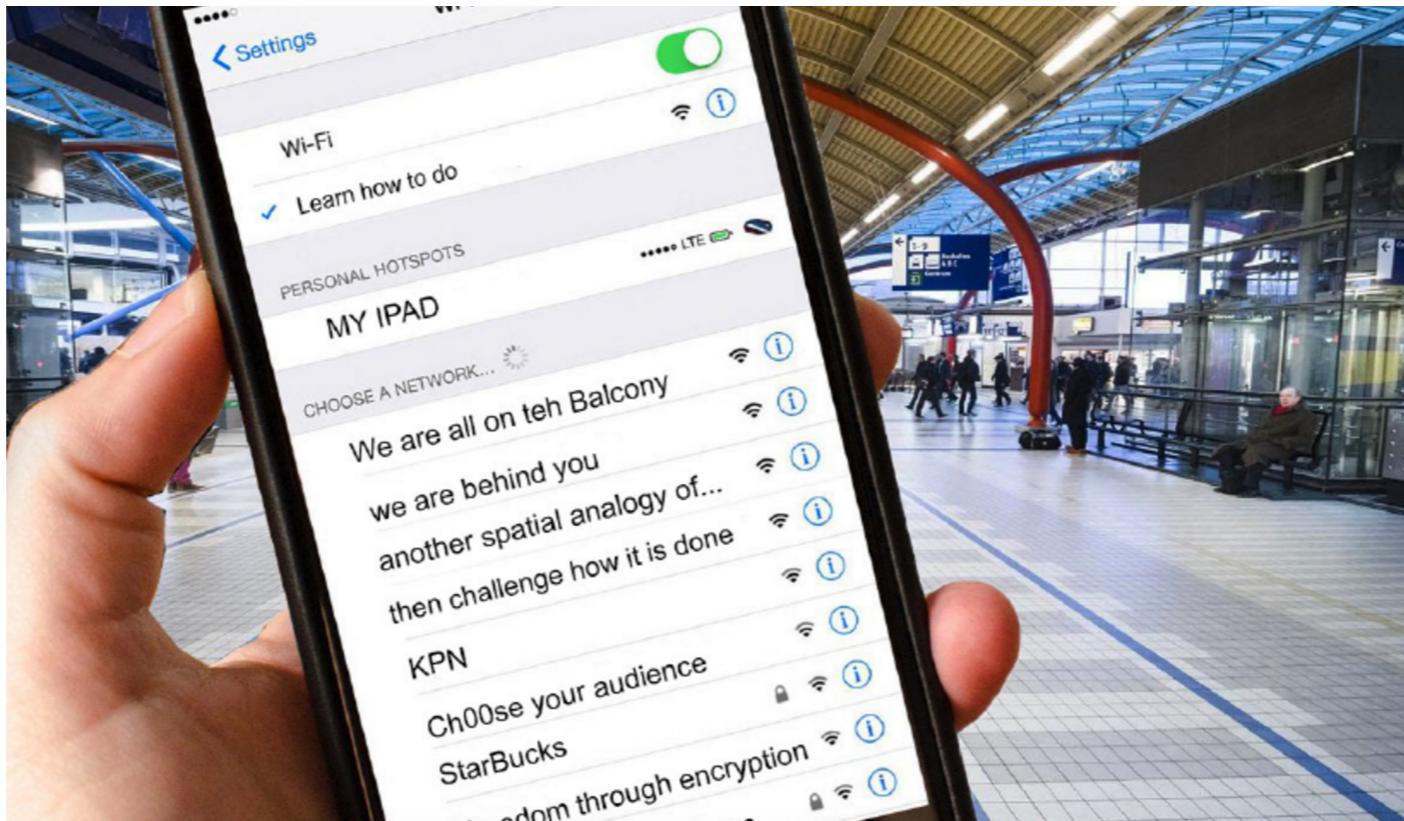
Mark Zuckerberg senate hearing

# 2018

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.vox.com/technology/2018/10/18/17989482/google-amazon-employee-ethics-contracts>. The main headline reads: "How tech employees are pushing Silicon Valley to put ethics before profit". Below the headline, a subtext states: "Workers at Google, Amazon, and Microsoft are demanding input on the impact of the technology they build." The author is listed as "By Alexia Fernández Campbell | @AlexiaCampbell | alexia@vox.com | Oct 18, 2018, 4:30pm EDT". There are social sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, along with a "SHARE" button. A large image below the headline shows silhouettes of people walking under a surveillance camera. A caption below the image reads: "Passers-by walk under a surveillance camera, part of a facial recognition technology test, in Berlin, Germany. | Steffi Loos/Getty Images". To the right of the main article, there is a "MOST READ" section featuring a smaller image of a large crowd at an event, with the caption: "The investigation into Trump's inauguration money looks quite serious".

“How tech employees are pushing Silicon Valley to put ethics before profit,” Vox

2016



Merciless Separation, Constant Dullaart

2016



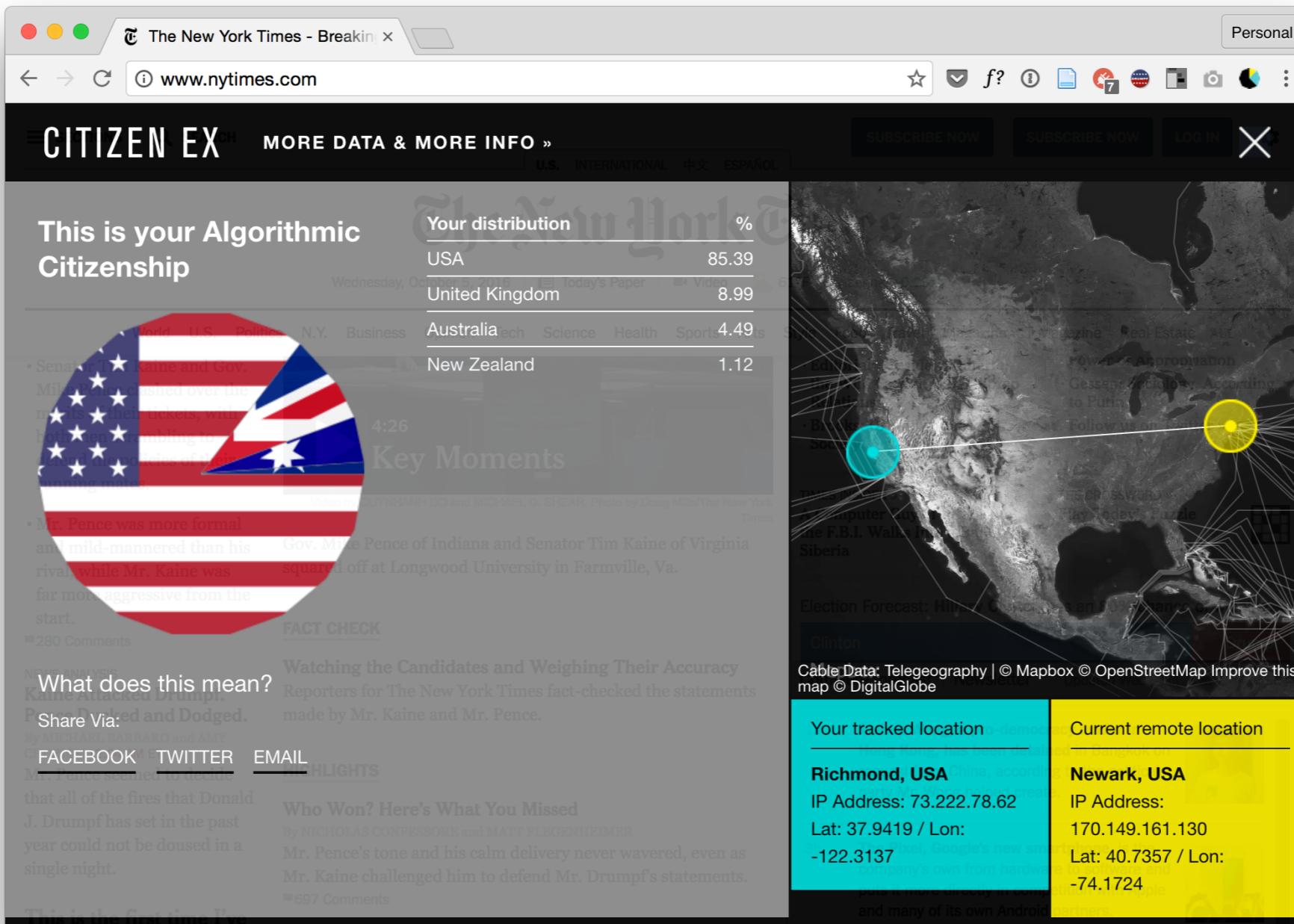
*Merciless Separation, Constant Dullaart*

2016



Citizen Ex, James Bridle

# 2016



Citizen Ex, James Bridle

## Part 3: New Approaches to Independence



Principality of Sealand



Joan and Roy Banks

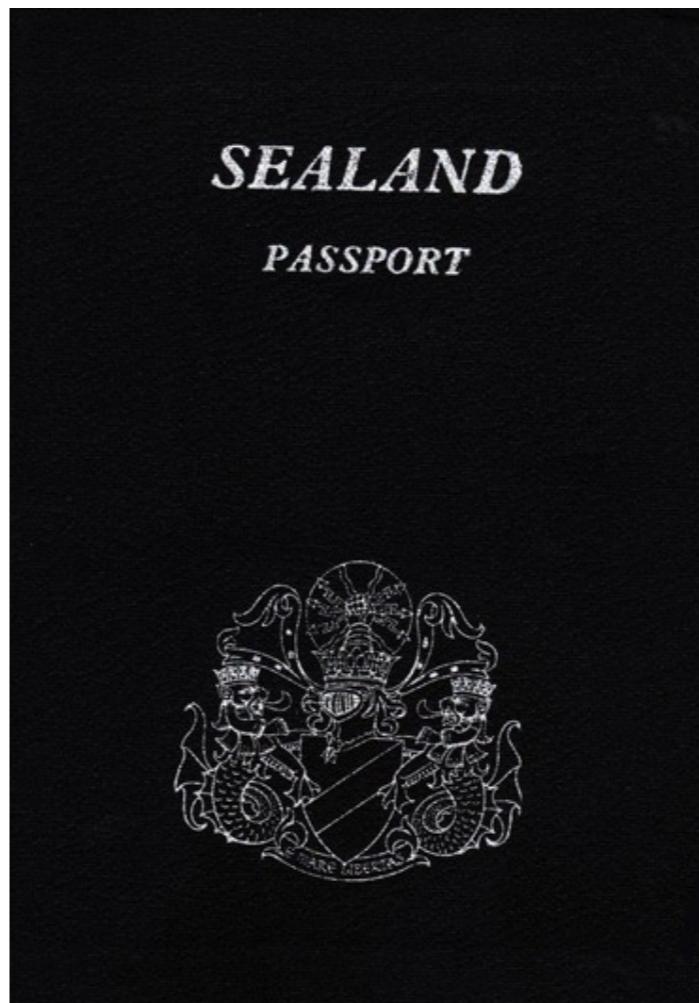


# Sealand coat of arms



Sealand flag

**SEALAND**  
- 7 AUG 2001  
**SEALAND**

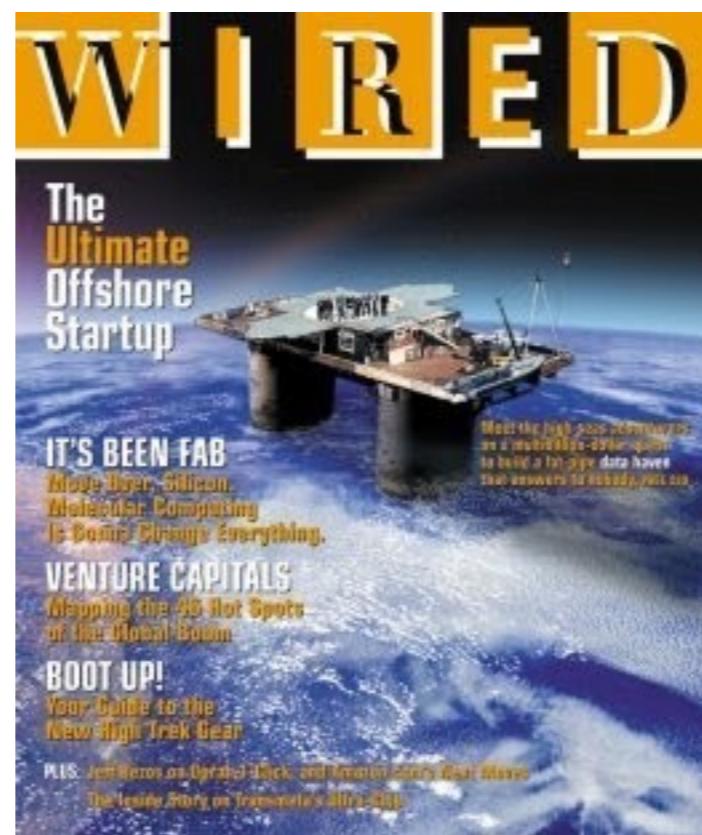


Sealand passport



HavenCo

2000



Wired

The Principality of Sealand - B x Personal

www.sealandgov.org

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[Titles and ID Cards](#) · [About](#) · [Become a Lord, Lady, Baron ...](#) · [Media](#)

**About Sealand - The Principality of Sealand**  
[www.sealandgov.org/about](http://www.sealandgov.org/about) ▾ Principality of Sealand ▾  
During the Second World War the British government built several Fortress islands in the North Sea to defend its coasts from German invaders. ... Fort Roughs Tower, situated at the high seas, had been deserted and abandoned, res derelicta and terra nullius. ... 2nd of September 1967 along ...

**Principality of Sealand - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principality\\_of\\_Sealand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principality_of_Sealand) ▾ Wikipedia ▾  
The Principality of Sealand is an unrecognised micronation that claims Roughs Tower, an offshore platform located in the North Sea approximately 12 kilometres ...  
[Paddy Roy Bates](#) · [HM Fort Roughs](#) · [Private island](#) · [Coins and postage stamps of ...](#)

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<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sealand> ▾ Wikipedia ▾  
Sealand may refer to: Contents. [hide]. 1 Places; 2 Other uses; 3 See also. Places[edit]. Zealand, Denmark; Zeeland, Netherlands; Sealand, Flintshire, ...

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[www.sealand.com/](http://www.sealand.com/) ▾

 More images

**Principality of Sealand**

The Principality of Sealand is an unrecognised micronation that claims Roughs Tower, an offshore platform located in the North Sea approximately 12 kilometres off the coast of Suffolk, England, as its territory. [Wikipedia](#)

**Founded:** September 2, 1967  
**Area:** 6 acres  
**Population:** 27 (2002)

Feedback

Google Search results for “sealand”

2017



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Equitable Internet Initiative