

# Cooperative Measurement and Modeling of Open Networked Systems (COMMONS) proposal

cooperative association for internet data analysis

26 october 2006

# outline of talk

problem(s) statement: Internet in crisis!

and various reactions from stakeholders

historical context (how we got there)

what have we learned from studying the Internet and how can we apply it?

proposed solution(s): COMMONS

what we (all) can do to help

## urgent problems

- (1) commercial sector reports financial crises that threaten first amendment
- (2) emerging community networks lack resources and experience to make informed provisioning decisions, continually threatened by incumbent-driven legislation
- (3) no incentive or funding even for public sector to provide access to data on operational infrastructure. so researchers can't help

## motivation

# more (and less) urgent problems

- (4) running out of IPv4 addresses, intended solution not meeting requirements
- (5) routing system hitting fundamental limit
- (6) best traffic engineering exacerbates it
- (7) Internet killing the phone business
- (8) regulatory framework a mess
- (9) dismal field of network science stunted
  
- (10) we can't even have an empirically grounded conversation about it

# The Twenty Most Critical Internet

Version 6.01 Nov  
Questions /  
To link to the Top 20 List, use



-----Jump To Index of Top 20 Vulnerabilities -----

## Introduction

The SANS Top 20 Internet Security Vulnerabilities

Four years ago, the SANS Institute and the Nation

Center (NCSA) at the

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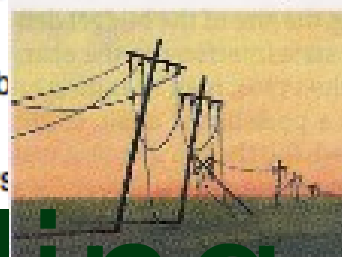
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## The Dark Side of the Search Engine Business

Paid search is a booming business for Google, Yahoo and Microsoft, but there's a major downside for users. A new study by McAfee's SiteAdvisor finds sponsored search results contain two to four times as many dangerous

## How the internet killed the phone business

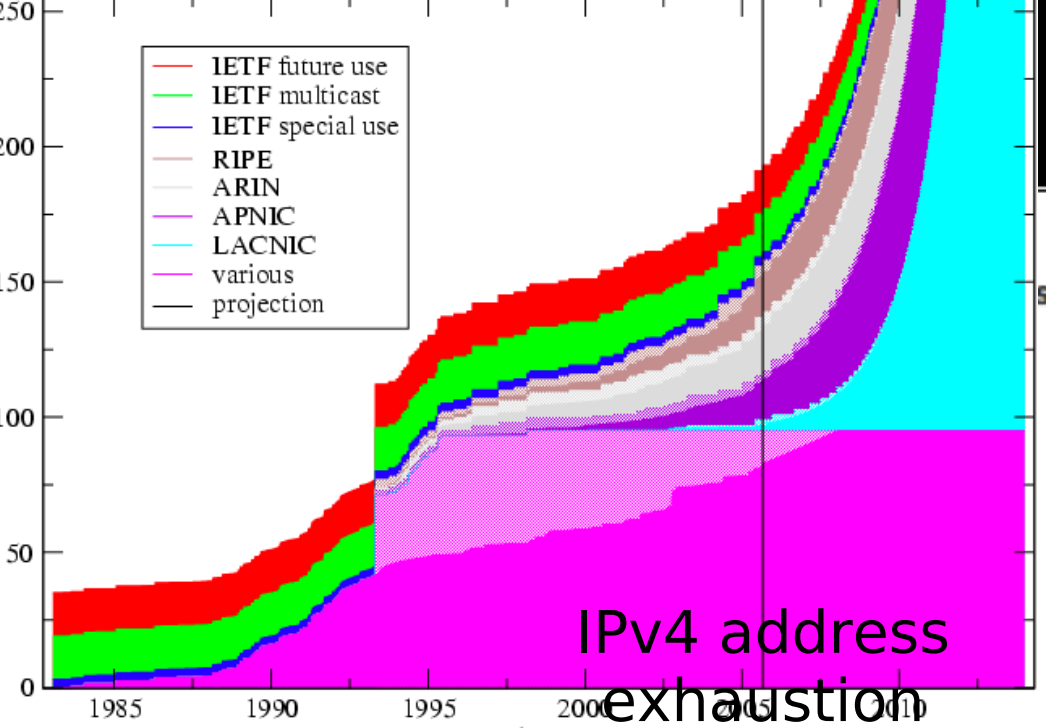
Almost-free internet phone calls herald the slow death of traditional telephony



THE term "disruptive technology" is popular, but is widely misused. It refers not simply to a clever new technology, but to one that undermines an existing technology—and which therefore makes life very difficult for the many businesses which depend on the existing way of doing things. Twenty years ago, the personal computer was a classic example. It swept aside an older mainframe-based style of computing, and eventually brought raw, one of the world's mightiest firms at the time, to its knees. This week has been a coming-out party of sorts for another disruptive technology. Having over

market, as the marginal price of making phone calls heads inexorably downwards. VOIP makes possible more than just lower prices, however. It also means that, provided you have a broadband connection, you can choose from a number of providers of VOIP telephony and related add-on services, such as voicemail, conference calling or video. Many providers allow a VOIP account to be associated with a traditional telephone number, or with multiple numbers. So you can associate a San Francisco number, a New York number and a London number with your computer or VOIP phone—and then be reached via a local call by anyone in any of those cities. Furthermore, your phone (or computer) will ring wherever you are in the world, as soon as it is plugged into the internet

# falling bits of sky





### OECD ICCP Workshop: "The Future of the Internet", Paris, 8 March 2006



Fight for Internet Freedom



[how](#) [the coalition](#) [f.a.q.](#) [press](#)

## IPv6

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6)** is a [network layer](#) standard used by electronic devices to exchange data across a [packet-switched internetwork](#). It follows [IPv4](#) as the second version of the [Internet Protocol](#) to be formally adopted for general use.

IPv6 is intended to provide more addresses for networked devices, allowing, for example, each cell phone and mobile electronic device to have its own address. IPv4 supports  $4.3 \times 10^9$  (4.3 billion) addresses, which is inadequate to give one (or more if they possess more than one device) to every living person. IPv6 supports  $3.4 \times 10^{38}$  addresses, or  $5 \times 10^{28}$  (50 octillion) for each of the roughly 6.5 billion people alive today.

Invented by [Steve Deering](#) and [Craig Mudge](#) at [Xerox PARC](#), IPv6 was adopted by the [Internet Engineering Task Force](#) in 1994, when it was called "IP Next Generation" (IPng). (Incidentally, IPv5 was not a successor to IPv4, but an experimental flow-oriented streaming protocol intended to support video and audio.)

#### THE LATEST....

#### [Moby Speaks Out on Internet Freedom](#)

At a press event in Washington today, Grammy-nominated musician Moby (along with [Ben Edelman](#) of [Moby.com](#)) introduced [Action and Musician for Internet Freedom](#)...



#### RESEARCH CENTER:

## Convergence / VoIP

[IP PBX](#) [SIP](#) [VoIP Services](#) [Vendor Solutions](#)

[NetworkWorld.com](#) > [Convergence / VoIP](#) >

where we are... **What IMS promises enterprises and carriers**  
[Dr. Carl...]  
Internet Protocol Multimedia Subsystem called key to converged, expanded services.

By [Stephen Lawson](#), [IDG News Service](#), 09/26/05

plans. "If the...  
figure out how...  
the latest buzzword in telecom is the name of a box, an application or a service. Instead, IMS is a way of organizing all those elements and more.

sundry  
"solutions"

# public sector starting inquiry

knocking at CAIDA's door with questions about the Internet:

DHS, NCS, NIST, DOE, FCC, FTC, NSA, GAO, NSF  
(and that's just the US government..)

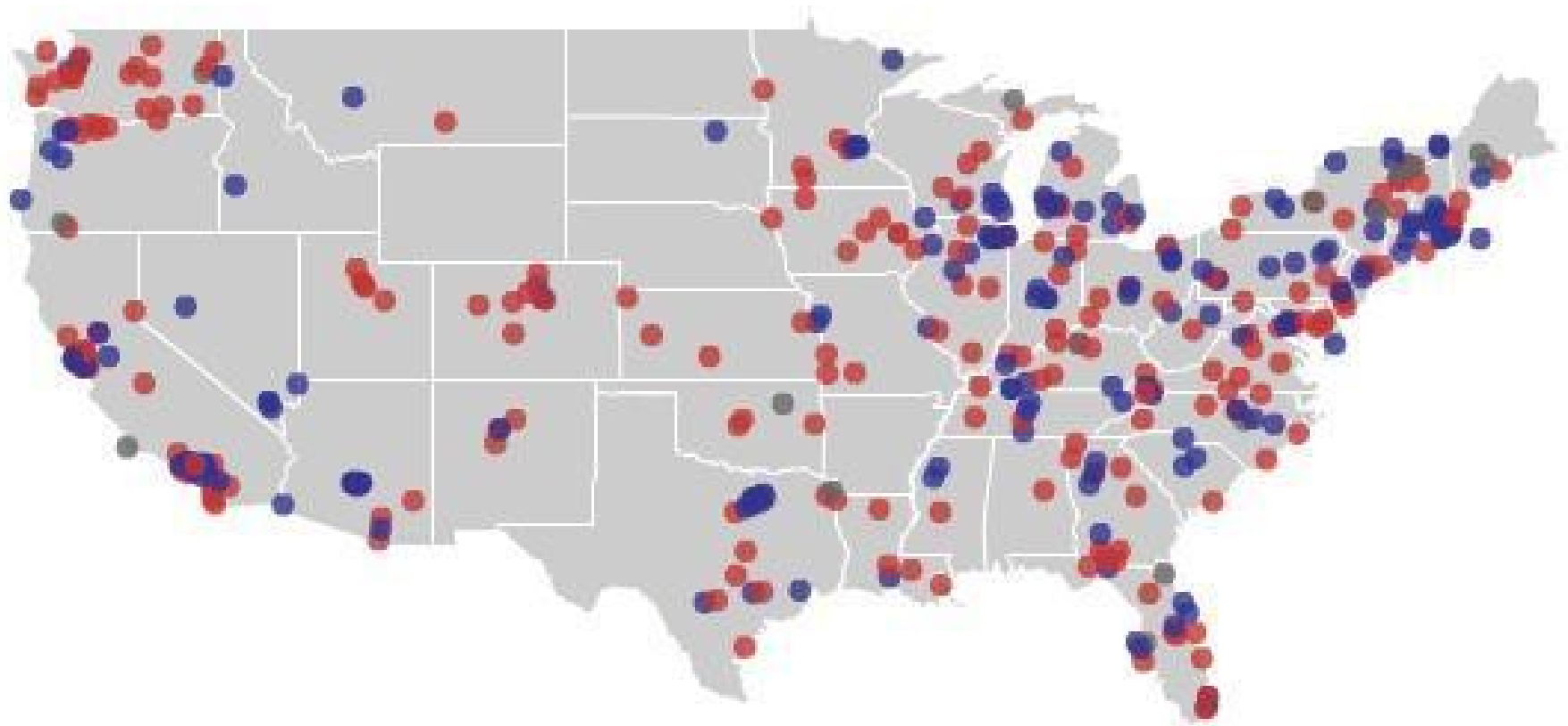
*entire muni and community wireless networking movement...*

# Community Networks Inside the US

## Community Internet Across America

*Organized By Network Status*

+



Graphic Credit: Free Press



## The Future of the Internet

*In a decade, the Net will dig deeper into our lives.*

*April 10, 2006 Issue*



Credit: Dave Cutler

“While the business case for the carriers may be disappearing, a host of new business and investment opportunities is being created with far greater economic wealth creation,” Mr. Arnaud writes in his blog. “Our biggest concern is that governments will be distracted by the complaints of the old industry such as carriers and penalize the new economy industries of the Internet.”



National Science Foundation

DIRECTORATE FOR

Computer & Information Science & Engineering (CISE)

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<http://www.redherring.com>

“We don’t presently have a roadmap of where we are trying to go with the Internet,” says MIT’s Mr. Clark. Instead of worrying about backward compatibility and migration issues, the focus has shifted to “where we would like to be in 10 to 15 years,” he explains. “If the story is compelling enough, people will figure out how to get there.”

Computer & Information Sciences & Engineering



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### The GENI Initiative

The Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) is planning an Environment for Networking Innovations or GENI to explore new networking capabilities that will stimulate innovation and economic growth. The GENI Initiative responds to an urgent and important challenge of the 21st Century to advance significantly the capabilities provided by networking and distributed systems.

The GENI Initiative envisions the creation of new networking and distributed system architectures.

- Build in security and robustness;
- Enable the vision of pervasive computing and bridge the gap between the physical and virtual worlds; mobile, wireless and sensor networks;
- Enable control and management of other critical infrastructures;
- Include ease of operation and usability; and
- Enable new classes of societal-level services and applications.

The GENI Initiative includes:

- A research program; and
- A global experimental facility designed to explore new architectures at scale.

CISE is encouraging a broad community effort that engages other agencies, other countries, and other stakeholders.

THE GENI RESEARCH PROGRAM

(US) NSF's hand

motivation

e.g. NSF's GENI initiative

US NSF responding to network research community frustration

difficulty with technology transfer, not to mention science

persistent problems leaking into unready world

attempt to redesign components 'in the light'

*what did we learn from measuring this one?*

## motivation

# NAS report on 'network science'

- 1) networks are everywhere and thus important
- 2) we don't yet have any predictive power over complex networks
- 3) funding situation backwards: domain-specific (splintered) rather than fundamental

# NAS report on 'network science'

identifies as top three challenges:

- 1) characterization of dynamics and information flow in networked systems
- 2) modeling, analysis, and acquisition of experimental data for extremely large networks
- 3) rigorous tools for the design and synthesis of robust, large-scale networks

# NAS netsci recommendations

- 1) federal govt initiate focused R&D program to close the gap between currently available knowledge required to sustain the complex global networks on which the well-being of the US has come to depend
- 2) Army should invest \$10M/yr in ways different from other agencies
- 3) basic research program on interaction between information networks and social networks that use them

context

# critical infrastructure

what is it? how does it get that way?

what are common characteristics?

is the Internet one? or will it be soon?

what are the implications for public and private sectors?

underlying goals: innovation, economic strength, democracy, freedom, health, science, arts, society.

*it really is about living in a better world...*

# 16 operational internet problems

- security
- authentication
- spam
- scalable configuration management
- robust scalability of routing system
- compromise of e2e principle
- dumb network
- measurement
- patch management
- “normal accidents”
- growth trends in traffic and user expectations
- time management and prioritization of tasks
- stewardship vs governance
- intellectual property and digital rights
- interdomain qos/emergency services
- inter-provider vendor/business coordination

persistently unsolved problems for 10+ years  
(see presentations at [www.caida.org](http://www.caida.org) )

## top Internet problems

### why we're not making progress

- if providers are broke, they can't invest in long-term health of infrastructure.
- so add to list of problems: **sustainability**
- top unsolved problems in internet operations and engineering are rooted in **economics, ownership, and trust (EOT).**

does not mean there aren't useful technical problems to study. but there will be no technical solutions to these problems that don't solve the EOT issues.



# historical context

**1966:** Larry Roberts, “Towards a Cooperative Network of Time-Shared Computers” (first ARPANET plan)

*(we are still using the same stuff)*

**1969:** ARPANET commissioned by DoD for research

**1977:** Kleinrock’s paper “Hierarchical Routing for large networks; performance evaluation and optimization”

*(we are still using the same stuff)*

**1980:** ARPANET grinds to complete halt due to (statusmsg) virus

**1986:** NSFNET backbone, 56Kbps. NSF-funded regionals.

IETF, IRTF. MX records (NAT for mail)

**1991:** CIX, NSFNET upgrades to T3, allows .com. web. PGP.

**1995:** under pressure from USG, NSF transition of backbone to competitive market. no consideration of economics or security. kc proposes caida.org. universities build v “Internet2” ...

**2005:** *The Economist’s* cover story: “How the Internet killed the phone business” (September)

# what have we done?

we replaced a critical infrastructure with something not designed to be critical infrastructure

historical context explains it but does not address incongruities

and this decade, free markets go up against free speech

# what have we learned?

most important thing we've learn so far:  
society has decided IP is like water.

*“our best success was not computing, but hooking people together” --david clark, 1992 ietfplenary*

strong implications for an industry  
structuring itself to sell wine. but that's  
what the data shows.

when you want to move water, you care  
about 4 things: safe, scalable, sustainable,  
stewardship.

# the 4 S's

- **safety**: is the data toxic upon arrival?
- **scalable**: can we route/name/address earth's needs?
- **sustainable**: is it economically viable?
- **stewardship**: will the provisioning and legal frameworks we choose leave our children -- and democracies -- better or worse off?

none are purely technical, but all require technical understanding to get right.  
**and they're all connected.**

# how have we done?

- how safe is the Internet?
  - data doesn't look good
- how scalable is the Internet?
  - data doesn't look good
- how sustainable is the Internet?
  - data doesn't look good
- how did we do on stewardship?
  - data doesn't look good

# not that we haven't been trying

e.g., all caida projects are on the 4 S's:

- 1) safety: security, DNS, PREDICT, telescope
- 2) scalability: routing and topology research
- 3) sustainability: EOT, DNS, COMMONS
- 4) stewardship: address consumption, trends,  
all measurement & data activities

measurable progress on real Internet eludes us

# failure (to measure progress) on 4S's poses risks to economies & democracies:

- that we won't learn from our own history, won't admit we don't understand the economics, and thus must set policy based on unvalidated assumptions
- that we will design another architecture with no actual plan for economic sustainability (much less incenting further innovation in a competitive market!)
- that other forces will “code” innovation into the architecture (free markets vs free speech)

# there is good news

- we made something so great, everyone wants it.
- in fact many of us want it more than once! (um..)
- the current industry is a historical artifact of technical and (science & regulatory) policy 'innovations' in the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, and 00s
- people are starting to study interplay, but they're undercapitalized
- in the meantime, it became global critical infrastructure. oops.



# network economics: dismal science(s)

known: economics of current architecture need study

have never been a priority.

conversations for last 15 years have been private

enlightened policy impossible

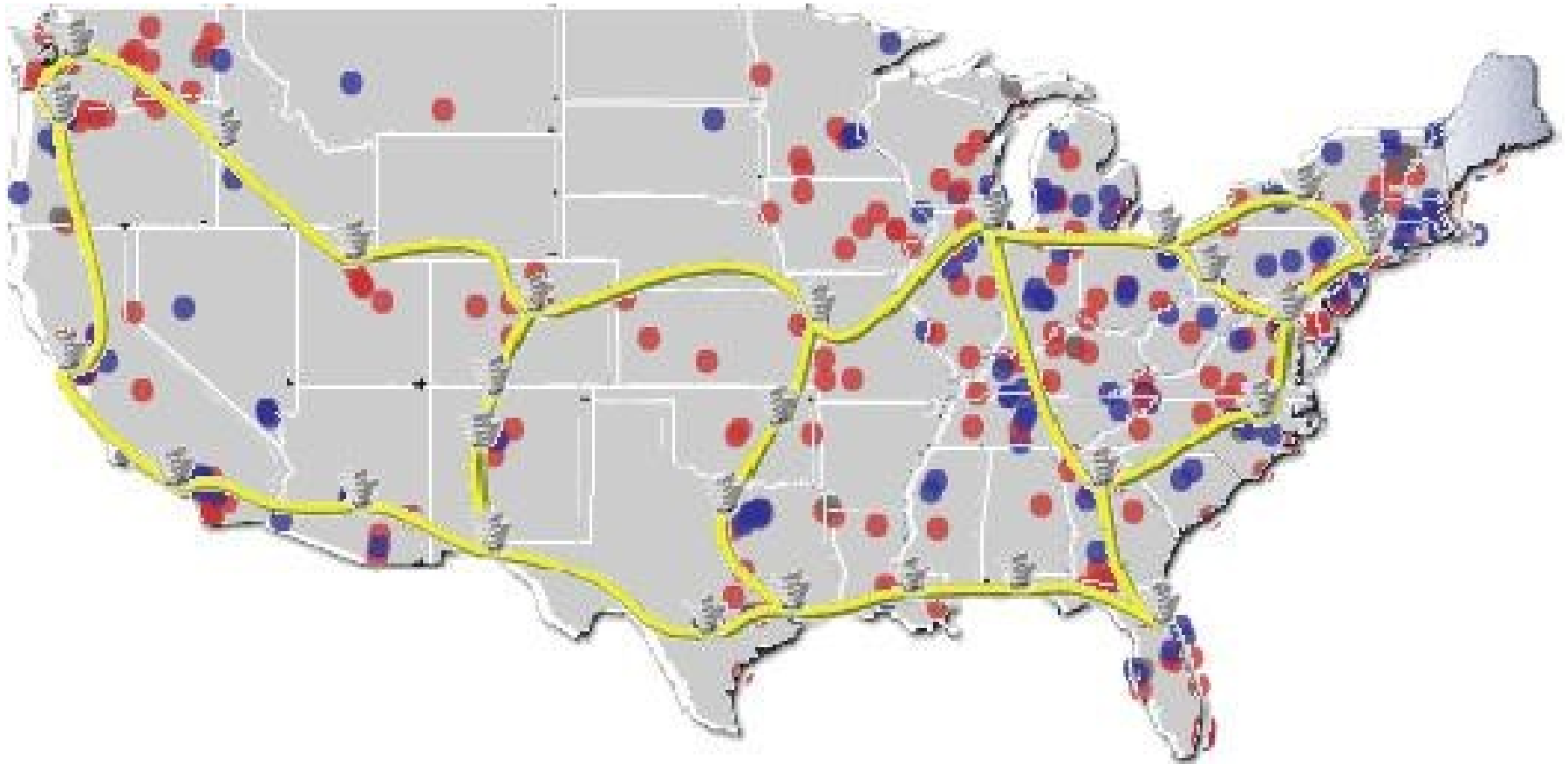
*our misunderstanding the economic architecture  
threatens an architecture we hold much more dear..*

*time for the academic community to step forward!*

# Cooperative Measurement and Modeling of Open Networked Systems (COMMONS)

- (1) offer cooperative backbone in exchange for mutual, privacy-respecting, community-defined transparency across network
- (2) experiment with different architectures: not just technical, but economic, ownership, trust
- (3) use strengths of Internet to overcome its weaknesses

# NLR-peered network



Graphic Credit: Free Press/NLR/Carl Malamud

## solving acute problems (slide 3)

- (1) alleviate commercial sector of impossibly low margin business...and secure first amendment
- (2) provide emerging community networks with level playing field, and critical mass of expertise from which to draw
- (3) gives science a chance; creates a resource for network science for the public good

measurable progress

## what about the other problems?

- (4) running out of IPv4 addresses, intended solution not meeting requirements
- (5) routing system hitting fundamental limit
- (6) best traffic engineering exacerbates it
- (7) Internet killing the phone business
- (8) regulatory framework a mess
- (9) *dismal field of network science stunted*

**\*\* but at least we can start an**

**empirically grounded conversation \* \***

measurable progress

## solves longer term problems too

- (1) creates opportunities for sound measurement and analysis – key telecom policy that serves public good
- (2) helps achieve universal affordable service that free market has failed to deliver
- (3) facilitates solutions that push control (and economics) as far to edge as possible
- (4) foster new generation of innovation in service, applications, hardware & software

broader impact

## multi-stakeholder approach

- (1) address immediate policy concerns
- (2) enables revolutionary educational experimentation
- (3) supports public sector networking experiments, e.g., disaster response, community watch, civic debates
- (4) establishes a path to a science of cyberinfrastructure

# potential partners

- NSF/GENI
- Internet2
- QUILT
- NLR
- RONS
- Educause, NATOA, & other coalitions
- state networks
- municipalities/community Wifi implementors
- CRACIN & similar organizations



<http://www.caida.org/projects/commons/>