

Networks, Intranets, and the Internet

Griffith Feeney

Planning Utilization of the
2000 Round Census Results

Workshop 2

29th Summer Seminar on Population

A Computer Network is

- Two or more computers that are connected together so as to enable their users to communicate with each other and share resources
- Technical aspects of networking are extensive and complex; our interest is in the functionality of networking

LANs and WANs

- When the computers connected are all more or less in the same location, we refer to a *local area network* (LAN)
- When the computers connected are widely separated in space, we refer to a *wide area network* (WAN)
- Often we find two or more LANs in a single location

An internet is

- A collection of two or more networks that are connected together
- Not quite the same as a network because the various networks connected may use different *protocols* (languages) to talk to each other
- An internet must intermeditate between these different languages

The Internet is

- An internet to which many millions of computers throughout the world are connected
- Note the distinction between ‘an internet’ and ‘*the Internet*’
- Your computers are connected to the Internet

Identifying Computers on the Internet

- Every computer on the Internet has a unique numerical address called an IP address, four numbers between 0 and 255, written, *e.g.*, 166.122.163.154
- IP stands for *Internet Protocol*
- Many computers also have names, *e.g.*, pisun2.ewc.hawaii.edu

The World Wide Web

- Is a diverse collection of resources that ‘live’ on the internet
- To access ‘the Web’ you need a computer connected to the Internet and a *browser*, a program that facilitates access
- Browsers are available without cost; internet connections are increasingly available throughout the world

The Importance of the Internet

- The key economic resource in the world today is not land, labor or capital, but *knowledge*
- The information resources on the Internet are an important component of knowledge
- The technology of the Internet reaches beyond the Internet itself

Questions?
Comments?
Discussion?