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 intermediate 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?