Day 8

Anonymity
Government control of Internet
Censorship

Other countries vs. US
Microsoft + NSA
Apple + FBI update
Anonymity

Thomas Paine  
(Common Sense)

Hamilton, Madison, Jay  
(The Federalist Papers)
Positive uses

0 Protect political speech
0 Protect against retaliation and embarrassment

0 Anonymizing services
  0 used by reporters, human rights activists, citizens in repressive countries, law enforcement agencies, and government intelligence services
Negative uses

- protects criminal activities
  - aids fraud → Amazon, eBay reviews
  - harassment,
  - extortion,
  - distribution of child pornography,
  - theft,
  - copyright infringement

- masks illegal surveillance by government agencies
Court Rules That Yelp Must Unmask the Identities of Seven Anonymous Reviewers

Just how strong are the legal protections for those posting critical reviews under pseudonyms on the Internet?
Government Censorship

Information + education = power
Authoritarian governments have **impeded flow of information** and opinion throughout history.
Egypt Cuts Off Most Internet and Cell Service

The Dictators’ Digital Dilemma: When Do States Disconnect Their Digital Networks?
Philip N. Howard, Sheetal D. Agarwal, and Muzammil M. Hussain

African Nations Increasingly Silence Internet to Stem Protests

By DIonne Searcey and Francois Essomba  FEB. 10, 2017

Brazil orders cell phone carriers to block WhatsApp for 72 hours

Posted May 2, 2016 by Kate Conger (@kateconger)

Brazil’s telecoms industry, which sees so-called “over the top” voice and messaging services delivered over the internet as a threat to its business model, has been lobbying the government for months to declare these services illegal, according to TechCrunch. But the telecoms may not be behind the short-lived shutdown: Reuters reports that a local TV network said the court order stemmed from a criminal case involving one of São Paulo’s largest gangs, which used WhatsApp “in the commission of crimes.”
Some countries own the Internet backbone within their countries and block specific sites and content at the border.

Some countries ban all or certain types of access to the Internet.

Iran has blocked Wikipedia, the New York Times, YouTube, Amazon, and Changeforequality.
“The office of communications is ordered to find ways to ensure that the use of the Internet becomes impossible...

The Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice is obliged to monitor the order and punish violators.”

- Excerpt from Taliban edict banning Internet use in Afghanistan (2001)
And in the US?

0 2005: London subway bombings – remote detonation by phone?

0 2009 →

Local Police Want Right to Jam Wireless Signals

Some federal agencies, including the FBI and the Secret Service, have standing authority to use jamming equipment or can request waivers from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, a Commerce Department agency, when there is an imminent threat, a federal official said.

Jamming has been approved in the past for major events, ranging from State of the Union addresses to visits by certain foreign dignitaries, according to a federal official who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk about the subject.
Censor/Block vs. Spy on
(TS//SI//NF) PRISM Collection Details

Current Providers

- Microsoft (Hotmail, etc.)
- Google
- Yahoo!
- Facebook
- PalTalk
- YouTube
- Skype
- AOL
- Apple

What Will You Receive in Collection (Surveillance and Stored Comms)?
It varies by provider. In general:

- E-mail
- Chat – video, voice
- Videos
- Photos
- Stored data
- VoIP
- File transfers
- Video Conferencing
- Notifications of target activity – logins, etc.
- Online Social Networking details
- Special Requests

Complete list and details on PRISM web page:
Go PRISMFAA

TOP SECRET//SI//ORCON//NOFORN
Microsoft handed the NSA access to encrypted messages

- Secret files show scale of Silicon Valley co-operation on **Prism**
- Outlook.com encryption unlocked even before official launch
- Skype worked to enable Prism collection of video calls
- Company says it is legally compelled to comply
Spy on vs. Infiltrate
Apple Fights Order to Unlock San Bernardino Gunman’s iPhone

Last October, James Orenstein, a federal magistrate judge in Brooklyn, expressed doubts about whether he could require Apple to disable its latest iPhone security features, citing the failure of Congress to resolve the issue despite the urging of the Justice Department.

The judge said such requests should fall under a different law, the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act of 1994, which covers telecommunications and broadband companies.

Congress has been debating whether to amend that act to include technology companies like Apple, Facebook and Google, and Judge Orenstein said he would consider ordering Apple to unlock the phone when and if Congress makes the change. That case is still pending.
Companies who do business in countries that control Internet access must comply with the local laws.

Google argued that some access is better than no access... is that true?

Google.cn complies with Chinese law and does not show sites with banned content.
Repressive governments intercept citizens’ communications and filter Internet content.
Companies in Western democracies sell them the sophisticated tools to do so.

California-based Narus (a Boeing subsidiary) sold Telecom Egypt “real-time traffic intelligence” and Deep Packet Inspection equipment. They also supply Pakistan, Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Texas-based Cisco systems “aggressively sought” the contracts to implement the Great Firewall of China.
"Anything that comes through (an Internet protocol network), we can record, we can reconstruct all of their e-mails along with attachments, see what web pages they clicked on; we can reconstruct their (Voice Over Internet Protocol) calls."

- Steve Bannerman, Narus' marketing vice president, to Wired, 2006

http://archive.wired.com/science/discoveries/news/2006/05/70914
Aiding foreign censors and repressive regimes

0 Yahoo and French censorship

0 Yahoo, eBay and others make decisions to comply with foreign laws for business reasons

0 Skype and Chinese control

0 Chinese government requires modified version of Skype
Worst Censorship?
Communication Shutdowns – Free Countries

0 Public safety
0 BART and protests:
Anonymous Reaction
Boston Didn’t Shut Down Cell Service After Marathon Explosion, but Could Have

After the tragic explosions during the Boston Marathon on Monday, rumors circulated about whether authorities had shut down cell phone service to prevent any other detonations. That turned out not to be true.

By Jared Newman @OneJaredNewman | April 16, 2013 | 0