CSE 468 Course Intro

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Syllabus in a nutshell

- Attendance not recorded
- Plan to record lectures
 - Only me, the class, and the TA will have access
- Midterm and final are in-person
- Check both Canvas and the course website

A bit about me...

- Associate Professor, SCAI *and* Biodesign Center for Biocomputation, Security, and Society
- Research is about Internet Freedom, including:
 - Internet censorship (measurement and evasion)
 - Machine-in-the-middle attacks, adversarial networking, VPNs
 - Privacy, forensics, and a few other things





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IBM

GENERAL AUTOMATION

IBM

Not every minicomputer company was created by engineers jumping ship. A marketing executive and a salescent Honeywell founded General A

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Welcome to Debian Linux 1.1!

This is the Debian Linux Boot Disk. On most systems, you can go ahead and press <ENTER> to begin installation. You will probably want to try doing that before you try anything else. If you run into trouble, or if you already have questions, press the function key <F1> for quick installation help.

WARNING: You should completely back up all of your hard disks before proceeding. The installation procedure can completely and irreversibly erase them! If you haven't made backups yet, remove the floppy from the disk drive and press <RESET> or <Control-Alt-Del> to get back to your old system.

Debian Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by applicable law. For copyright information, press <F5>.

This boot floppy installs the Linux kernel version 2.0.0.

Press <F1> for help, or <ENTER> to boot!

boot:

https://archive.org/details/debian_1.1

UNIX, C, and the Internet...

- UNIX was developed to run on anything
 - Bell Labs, 1969 (Thompson and Ritchie)
 - Contrast with TOPS10
- C provides direct access to hardware, virtually no runtime environment
 - Bell Labs, 1972-1973 (Ritchie)
 - Contrast with COBOL

UNIX example...



£	Terminal	९ ≡ - ⊗
jedi@mariposa:~\$ cat COULOMB HOLCOMB LAMB LIPSCOMB MB APLOMB BENUMB BOMB CATACOMB CLIMB COCKSCOMB COKSCOMB COXCOMB COXCOMB COXCOMB CRUMB CURRYCOMB DUMB FIREBOMB HONEYCOMB	/usr/share/dict/american-english tr [a-z] [A-Z] grep "MB\$"	head -n 20

TOPS10 example...

A TOPS-10 command primer

But

C:\> mkdir foo C:\> cd foo C:\FOO> dir

becomes:

.r credir

Create directory: [,,foo] Created DSKC0:[42,42, FOO].SFD/PROTECTION:775 Create directory: ^Z

.r setsrc
*cp [,,foo]
*^Z
EXIT
.dir
%WLDDEM Directory is empty

https://www.slideshare.net/bhlarsen/the-pdp-10-and-me



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:DECSystem10-KI10.JPG

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Coming soon! CP/M 83 International Conference and Exposition in San Francisco, January 21-23, 1983. For more information about exhibiting call 617-739-2000.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:CP%E2%81%84M_Ad,_InfoWorld,_November_29,_1982.jpg



C example...

```
jedi@mariposa:/tmp$ cat cast.c
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
```

jedi@mariposa:/tmp\$ gcc cast.c -o cast jedi@mariposa:/tmp\$./cast AAAA BBBB 2e2f636173740041414141004242424200534845

jedi@mariposa:/tmp\$

COBOL example...

000024	
000025	PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000026	0001-MAIN.
000027	INSPECT FUNCTION REVERSE(STR-1)
000028	TALLYING WS-LEN1 FOR LEADING SPACES.
000029	COMPUTE WS-LEN = LENGTH OF STR-1 - WS-LEN1.
000030	DISPLAY WS-LEN.
000031	MOVE 1 TO I.
000032	MOVE WS-LEN TO J.
000033	PERFORM REV-PARA WS-LEN TIMES.
000034	DISPLAY STR-1.
000035	DISPLAY STR-2.
000036	GOBACK.
000037	REV-PARA.
000038	MOVE STR-1(J:1) TO STR-2(I:1).
000039	SUBTRACT 1 FROM J.
000040	ADD 1 TO I.
000041	EXIT.

https://medium.com/@yvanscher/7-cobol-examples-with-explanations-ae1784b4d576

What does all this mean?

The Internet is more like UNIX and C than it is like TOPS-10 or COBOL. This means the smarts are in the end hosts, not the internal routing nodes, and it's really hard to tell what two machines are saying to each other even if you know the protocol.

What to expect this semester

- You should be able to look at any PCAP and critically analyze it *w.r.t.* network security and privacy
 - So, we need to study crypto and physics (and build a quantum computer)
 - We need to understand the ways in which our tools (*e.g.*, Wirseshark) can be wrong
 - *E.g.*, overlapping IP fragments
 - We need to think critically about what can make a bit pattern "malicious"



(PLEASE NOTE THAT WHILE THIS MAP SHOWS THE HOST POPULATION OF THE NETWORK ACCORDING TO THE BEST INFORMATION OBTAINABLE, NO CLAIM CAN BE MADE FOR ITS ACCURACY)

NAMES SHOWN ARE IMP NAMES, NOT (NECESSARILY) HOST NAMES

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Arpanet_logical_map,_march_1977.png

Postel's Law

- "be conservative in what you do, be liberal in what you accept from others"
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Robustness_principle



End-to-end principle

- Put the smarts in the end nodes (security, reliability, QoS, *etc.*)
- https://en.wikipedia.org/ wiki/End-to-end_principle



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:ARPANET_first_router_2.jpg

Example: Congestion control

- Congestion collapse
- Van Jacobson
- TCP Tahoe, Reno, Vegas, CUBIC...
- Random Early Detection (RED)



https://alchetron.com/Sally-Floyd

Good design, w/ consequences...

- Every device on the Internet is basically "doing its own thing" *w.r.t.* what packets it sends and how it interprets the packets it receives. (Postel's Law)
- State is kept in many places without any explicit synchronization mechanisms. (End-to-end principle)

Why all this matters today...



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Firewall.png





https://personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/m.dodge/cybergeography/atlas/more_isp_maps.html





Reproduced and cropped from https://www.article19.org/ttn-iran-november-shutdown/



[Cypherpunks want] "a guarantee -- with physics and mathematics, not with laws -- that we can give ourselves real privacy of personal communications."

"We are literally in a race between our ability to build and deploy technology, and their ability to build and deploy laws and treaties. Neither side is likely to back down or wise up until it has definitively lost the race."

--John Gilmore

Think about this over the weekend, and feel free to Google around for an answer if you like...

Why does light "bend" when it goes through a medium (like a glass of water)?