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Freemasonry and the Internet

by

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Introduction

- ❑ What is the Internet
- ❑ The Good, the Bad and E-tiquette
- ❑ Freemasonry on the Internet
- ❑ Maximising Freemasonry's benefits from the Internet

What is the Internet?

Origins of the Net

- ❑ U.S. Department of Defence needed secure communication in the Cold War
- ❑ Decentralized computer network
- ❑ No one computer could be targeted

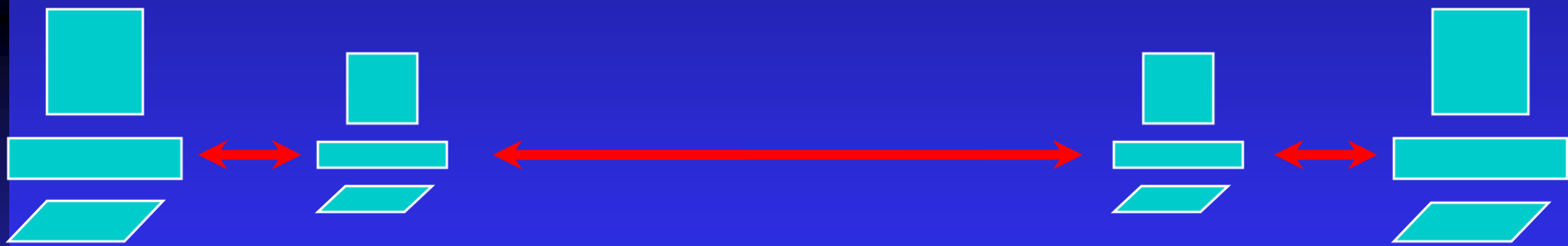
When did it Start?

- ❑ UCLA “around Labor Day”
- ❑ 1 September 1969
- ❑ Took off in 1994

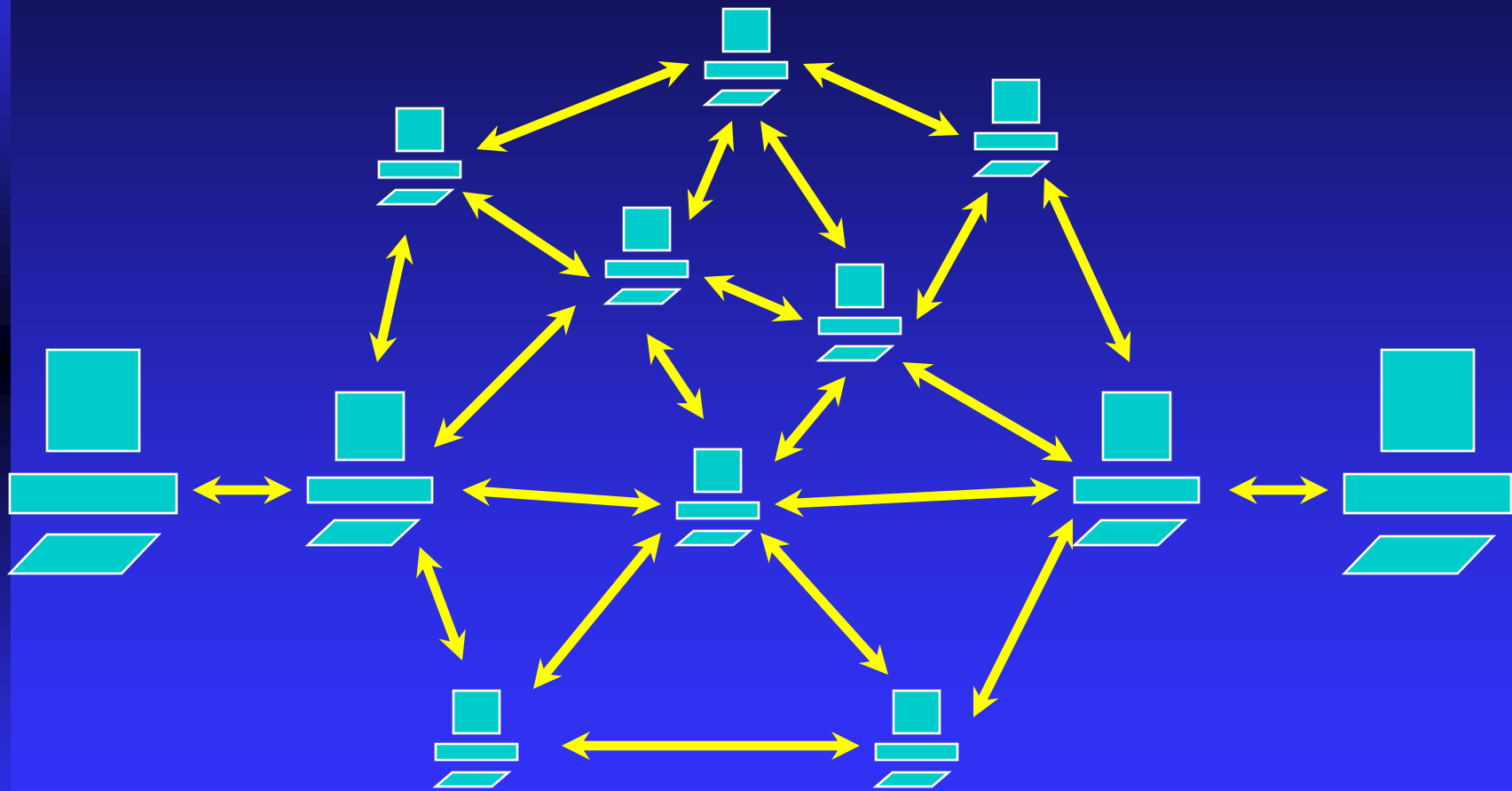
How Big is the 'Net'

- ❑ Started with FOUR computers
- ❑ Grew at 10% per month
- ❑ Now growing about 20% per month
- ❑ 2.1 billion pages in July 2000

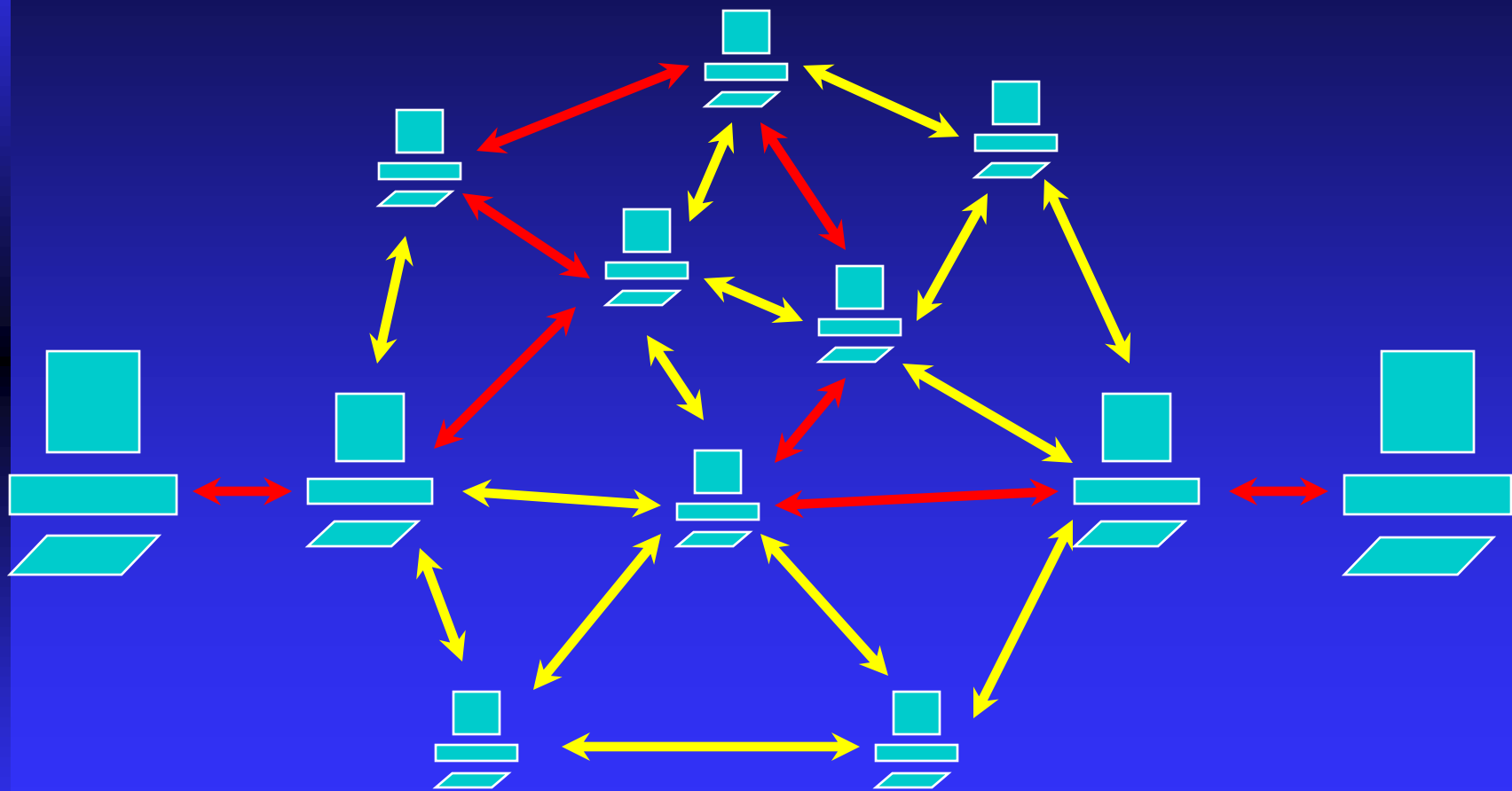
The Net



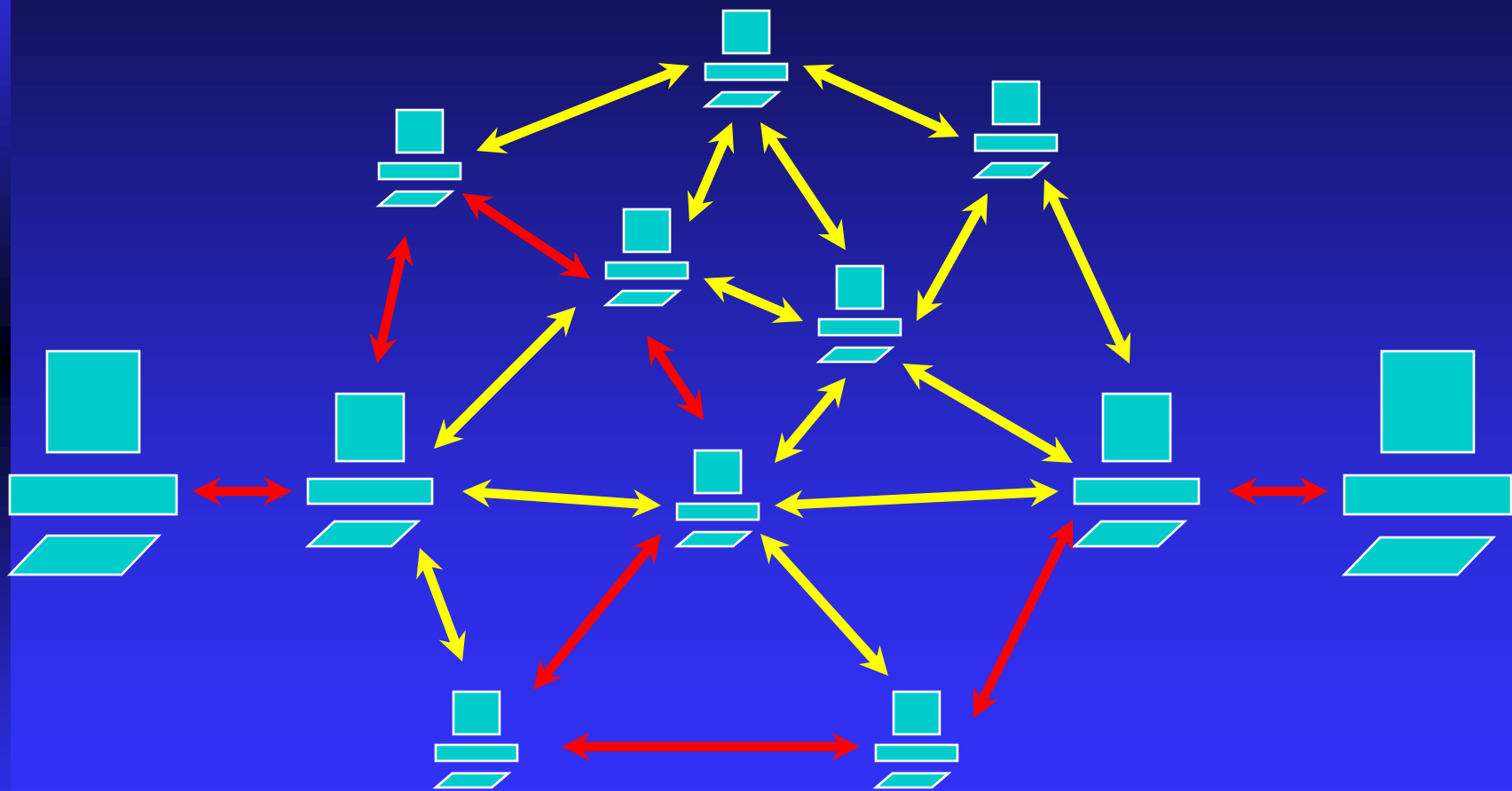
The Net



The Net



The Net



What does the 'Net' provide?

- ❑ World Wide Web
- ❑ eMail
- ❑ News Groups
- ❑ Chat

World Wide Web

- ❑ Web Pages are grouped to make Web Sites
- ❑ Search engines are used to find data

Web Search Engines

- Free to the user
 - Paid for by advertising
- An Index of 'all' the sites
 - Web-crawlers find the sites

eMail

- ❑ The electronic equivalent to a letter
- ❑ Better than a fax
 - ❑ You can edit the original in your reply
- ❑ You can send attachments
 - ❑ e.g. Programs & Documents

News Groups

- ❑ **Forums** for open discussion
- ❑ Anyone can post messages
- ❑ The history of the discussion can be seen

Chat

- 'Talk' to others on-line
- Different rooms have different personalities

Questions



The Good, the Bad and E-tiquette

Web Page Tips

- ❑ Alignment
- ❑ Colour
- ❑ Uniformity
- ❑ Size (or resolution)
- ❑ Graphics
- ❑ Links

Email

- ❑ Jokes don't always translate
 - ❑ use :-) (smilies)
- ❑ DON'T USE ALL CAPS,
 - ❑ this is the online equivalent of shouting

Netiquette

- ❑ The person on the other side is a human being
- ❑ Be brief.
- ❑ Messages reflect on YOU—be proud of them
- ❑ Use descriptive Subject headings
- ❑ Think about your audience

Netiquette

- ❑ Be careful with humour and sarcasm
- ❑ Summarise what you are following up
- ❑ Give back to the Community
- ❑ Likewise, be a "giver" as well as a "taker"
- ❑ Try not to repeat what has already been said
- ❑ Cite appropriate references

Chatiquette

- ❑ Play by the rules
- ❑ Don't hog the conversation
- ❑ Don't ignore people
- ❑ Learn the lingo

Questions



Freemasonry on the Internet

- Using Search Engines:

- Google

- Yahoo

- Ask Jeeves

Questions



Maximising Freemasonry's benefits from the Internet

- ❑ How can Freemasonry make the best use of the Internet?
- ❑ Email
- ❑ What do Lodges hope to achieve with Web pages?
- ❑ “or otherwise them delineate”

Questions

