# Blurry line between

# private service

# and public infrastructure

**Michał „rysiek" Woźniak**

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Mail/XMPP: **rysiek@hackerspace.pl**

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*The Net interprets censorship as damage*
*and routes around it*

*John Gilmore*

# Technical decision

$$\Downarrow$$

# non-technical outcome

Decentralized protocols

⇓

resistance to censorship

# Decentralized protocols

⇩

## resistance to censorship?

If it's **technically possible**,
it's **practically unavoidable**.

*rysiek's law of unavoidable consequences*

# EXHIBIT A

„*Toronto-based* domain registrar easyDNS received a request from the **City of London (UK) police** demanding that they **summarily take down** a BitTorrent search site based out of Singapore — or else they would 'refer the matter to ICANN'"
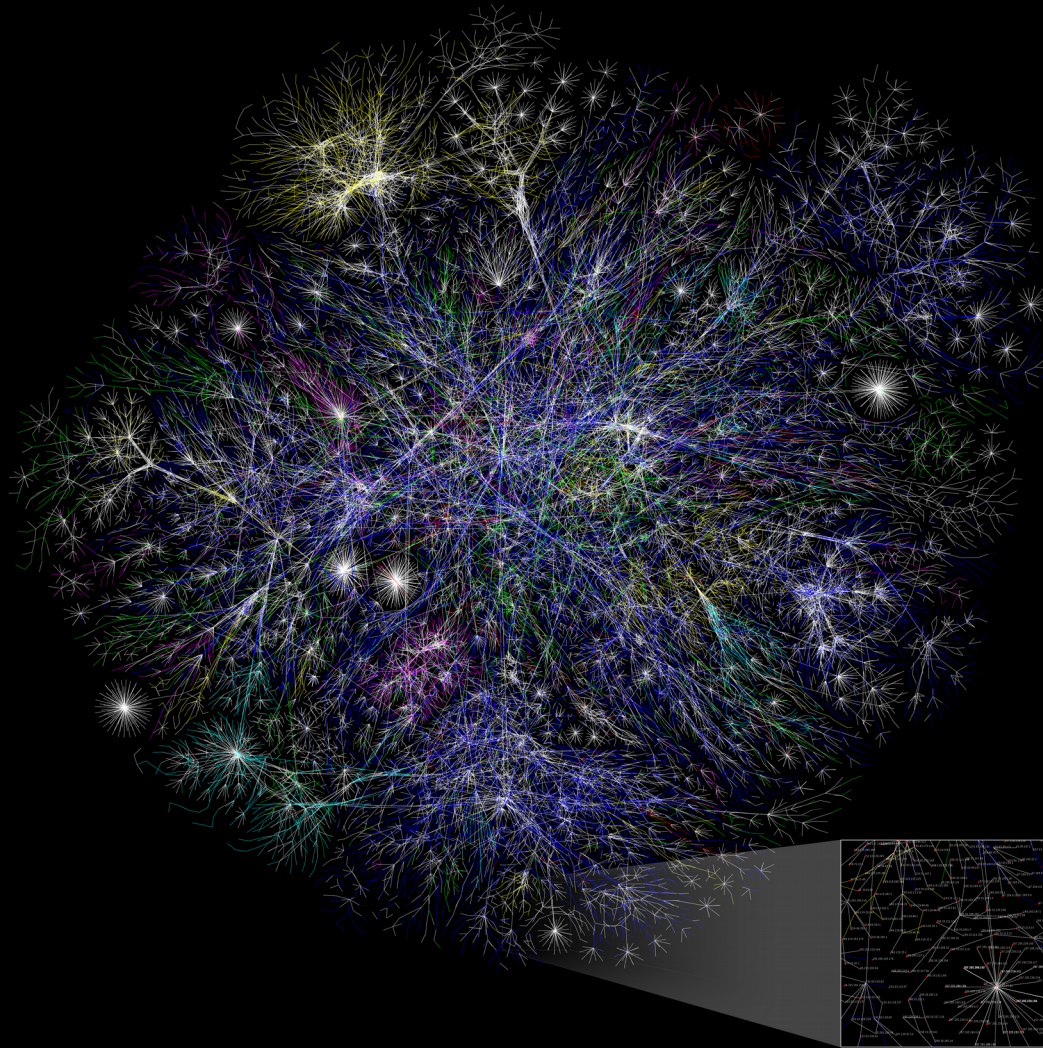
# EXHIBIT B

*„Egypt was still able to shut down its communications (…) because Egypt permitted only **three wireless carriers** to operate, and required all internet service providers (ISPs) to **funnel their traffic through a handful of international links**"*

# Decentralized protocols
# **and infrastructure**

⇓

# resistance to censorship

# The Internet

# „The Internet" (now)



„*In Nigeria, **9% of Facebook users** said they **do not use the internet***"

# EXHIBIT C

„Scientists at Facebook have published a paper showing that they **manipulated the content** seen by **more than 600,000 users** in an attempt to determine whether this would *affect their emotional state*"

# EXHIBIT D

„*We've made the decision* that on the issue of nudity *we're* **not relaxing** *our standards*"

(regarding „Facebook in the classroom")

# EXHIBIT E

*„As of May 2013, **Google Play forbids AT&T users** from downloading Open Garden, a wireless mesh network platform, **which it lists as "incompatible" at the** request of the carrier"*

# EXHIBIT F

„*a German man was banned from SkyDrive, along* *with* *all of the services* *linked to his Microsoft* *online account, due to uploading four* *partially* *nude pictures* *in his private folder*"

# EXHIBIT G

„*Apple now **deletes all iCloud emails** that contain the phrase 'barely legal teens.' **It doesn't send the messages to spam**, or flag them, **it just straight up deletes them**, and there's **nothing you can do about it**"*

# EXHIBIT H

„*Twitter **is refusing to link users to Kickass.to**, the second largest torrent index on the Internet.*

*People who attempt to access the site through Twitter **get a warning** that the site may be unsafe and potentially harmful.*

***Questions to Twitter** about the reason for this unusual blockade* ***remain unanswered***"

The Net interprets censorship as damage
and **routes around it...**

**...NOT**

*John No-more*

Private service

≠

Public infrastructure

# Show of hands...

- Facebook/Twitter/Google+ are competitors, users „can vote with their feet"?..

# Show of hands...

- a Facebook/Twitter/Google+ account?..

# Show of hands...

- accounts on **at least two** of Facebook, Twitter, Google+?..

# Show of hands...

- **moved between** mobile carriers?

# Show of hands…

- **moved between** e-mail providers?

# Show of hands...

- moved between Facebook/Twitter/Google+?

**Why?**

„All my friends *are there*"

# The Network Effect

The **more people use** a given telecommunication solution...

...**the more inclined other people will be** to use it.

# The Network Effect

The **more people use** a given telecommunication solution...

...**the more inclined other people will be** to use it...

...and **the stronger the tie-in** for its users.

*„Facebook blog is inundated with thousands of protests as users start Facebook group 'We Hate the New News Feed'"*

„*Facebook blog is inundated with thousands of protests as* **users start Facebook group** *'We Hate the New News Feed'*"

*„The digital economy has seen rapid change and* **consolidation** *as a result of factors such as* **network effects***, the biggest players'* **vertical integration** *and* **establishment of proprietary standards***"*

- **name.tld** – *controlled by ICANN*

- **name.tld** – *controlled by ICANN*
- **@name** – *controlled by Twitter*
- **/name** – *controlled by Facebook*
- **+name** – *controlled by Google*

- ICANN governance decentralization
- Net Neutrality
- Copyright reform
- FFDN – Federation of Non-profit ISPs
- Hacktivists providing access and tools

# Data portability

*„Article 18 emphasizes that the data subject is* **entitled to** **<span style="color:green">receive personal data</span>** **concerning him** **or her** *that he or she has provided to a controller.*

*As a result, the data subject benefits from obtaining this data in a format that he or she* **<span style="color:green">can</span>** **<span style="color:green">transfer</span> to another controller"**
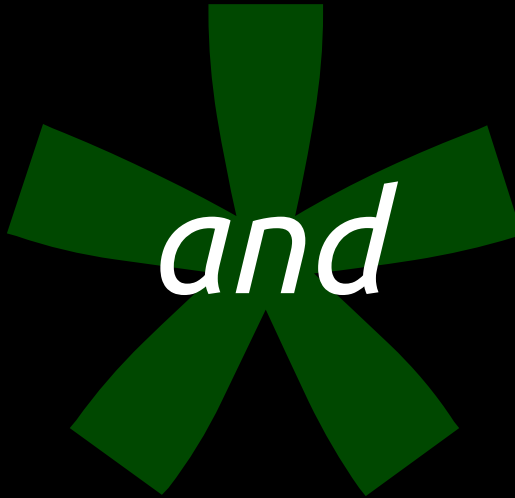
# Data portability

*...is* *not enough.*

# Data portability

*...is* *not enough...*

*all Your friends* *are there*

We need to **decentralize** the **application layer**.

If it's **to be avoided**,
it has to be **practically impossible**.

# Thank you*!*

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# Links

- http://rys.io/en/131
- http://rys.io/en/88
- https://joindiaspora.com/tags/thefederation
- https://joindiaspora.com/posts/5068876
- https://joindiaspora.com/posts/5022661
- http://twister.net.co/
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPIoO3Pkc5U
- http://www.ffdn.org/
- http://blog.ninapaley.com/2012/12/06/the-shocking-photos-that-violated-facebooks-policies/
- http://www.newyorker.com/cartoons/bob-mankoff/nipplegate
- http://www.thenewcivilrightsmovement.com/has-facebook-censorship-gone-too-far/politics/2011/11/07/29714