"It's the Data, Stupid!"

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127th MLA Annual Convention

January 2012



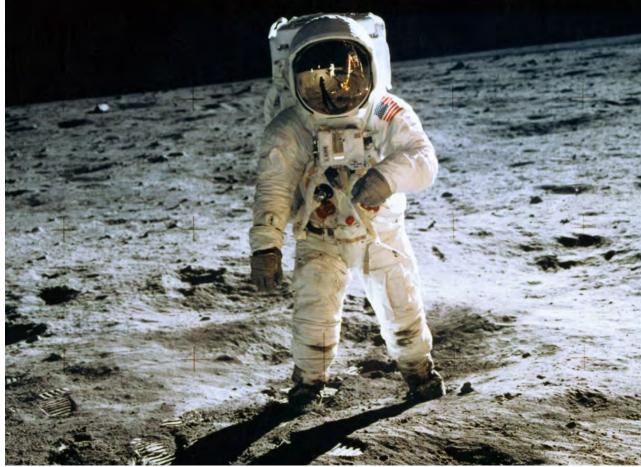
http://lazowska.cs.washington.edu/MLA.pdf

Forty years ago ...

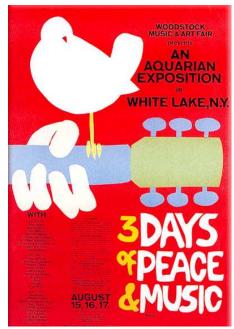














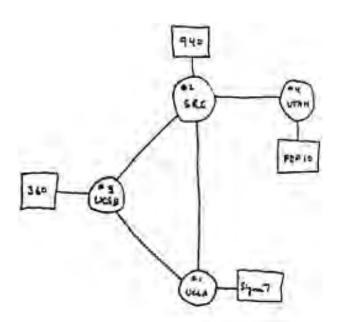












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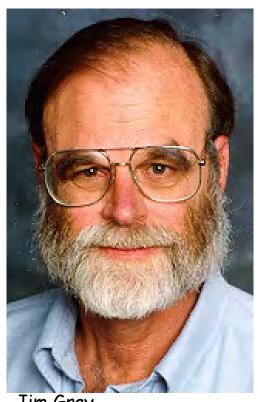
With forty years hindsight, which had the greatest impact?

Unless you're big into Tang and Velcro (or sex and drugs), the answer is clear ...

And so is the reason ...



Today's exponential is data - eScience - data-intensive science and engineering

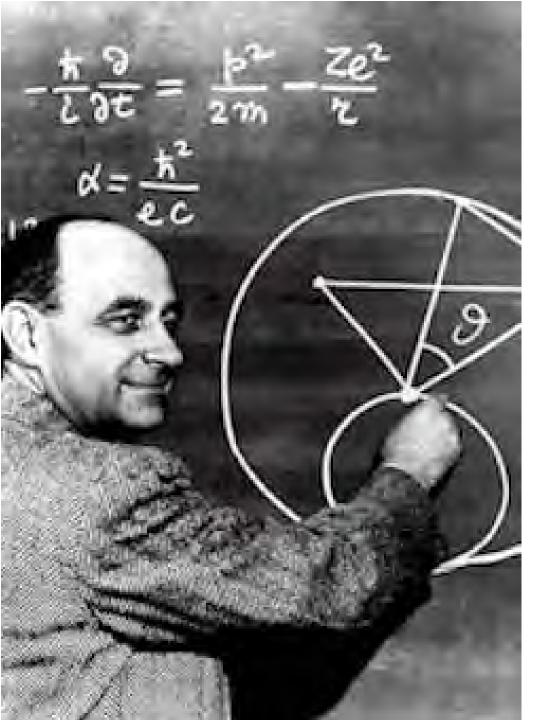


Jim Gray, Microsoft Research

SCIENCE 2020 OURTH PARADIGM

DATA-INTENSIVE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

Transforming science (again!)



Theory Experiment Observation

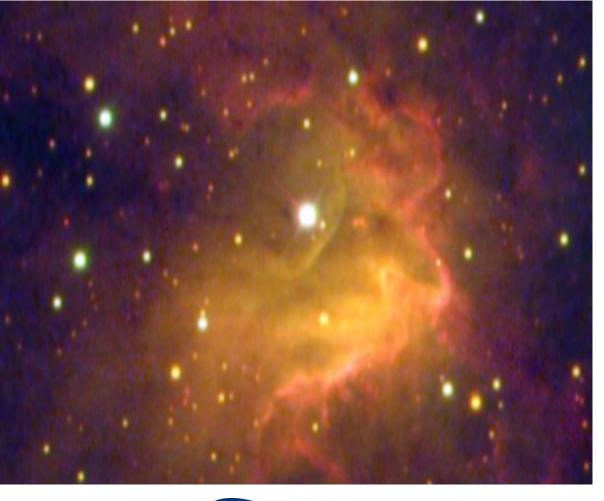


Theory **Experiment**Observation





Theory
Experiment
Observation
Computational
Science



Theory
Experiment
Observation
Computational
Science
eScience

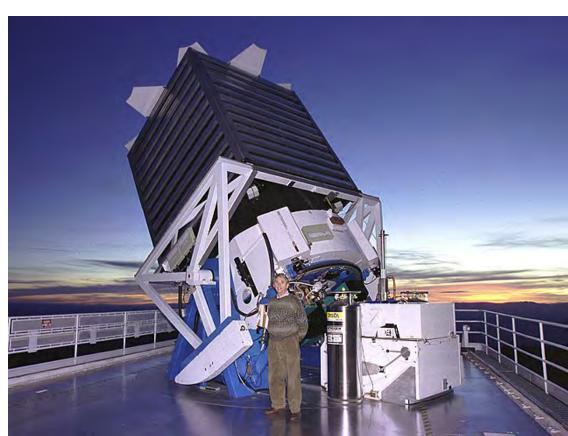


eScience is driven by data more than by cycles

Massive volumes of data from sensors and networks of sensors (as well as from simulations)

Apache Point telescope, SDSS

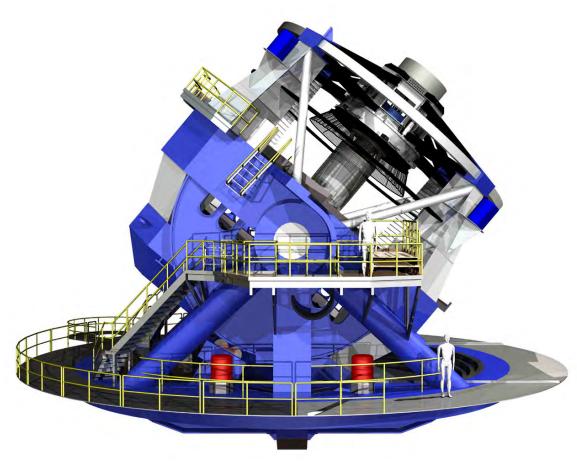
80TB of raw image data (80,000,000,000,000 bytes) over a 7 year period



Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST)

40TB/day (an SDSS every two days), 100+PB in its 10-year lifetime

400mbps sustained data rate between Chile and NCSA





Tooms of data per second, 60TB/day, 20PB/year



Illumina HiSeq 2000 Sequencer

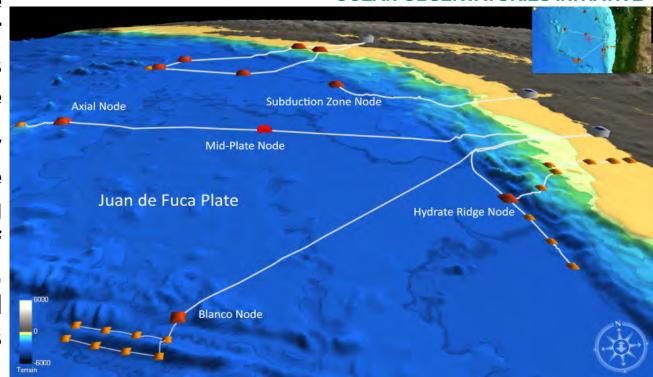
~1TB/day

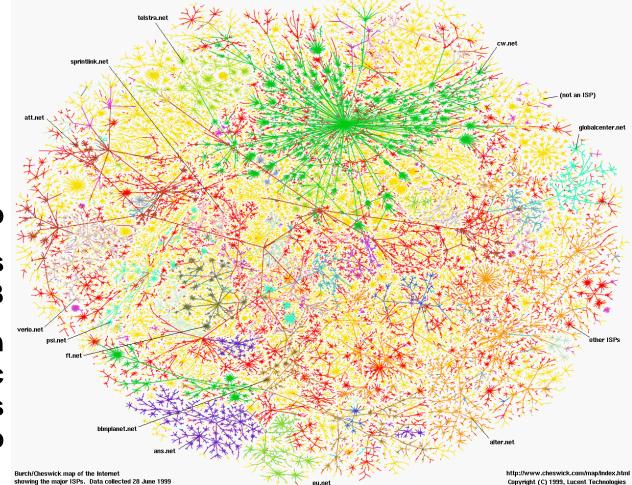
Major labs have 25-100 of these machines



Regional Scale Nodes of the NSF Ocean Observatories Initiative

1000 km of fiber optic cable on the seafloor, connecting thousands of chemical, physical, and biological sensors





The Web
20+ billion web pages
x 20KB = 400+TB

One computer can read 30-35 MB/sec from disk => 4 months just to read the web



Point-of-sale terminals

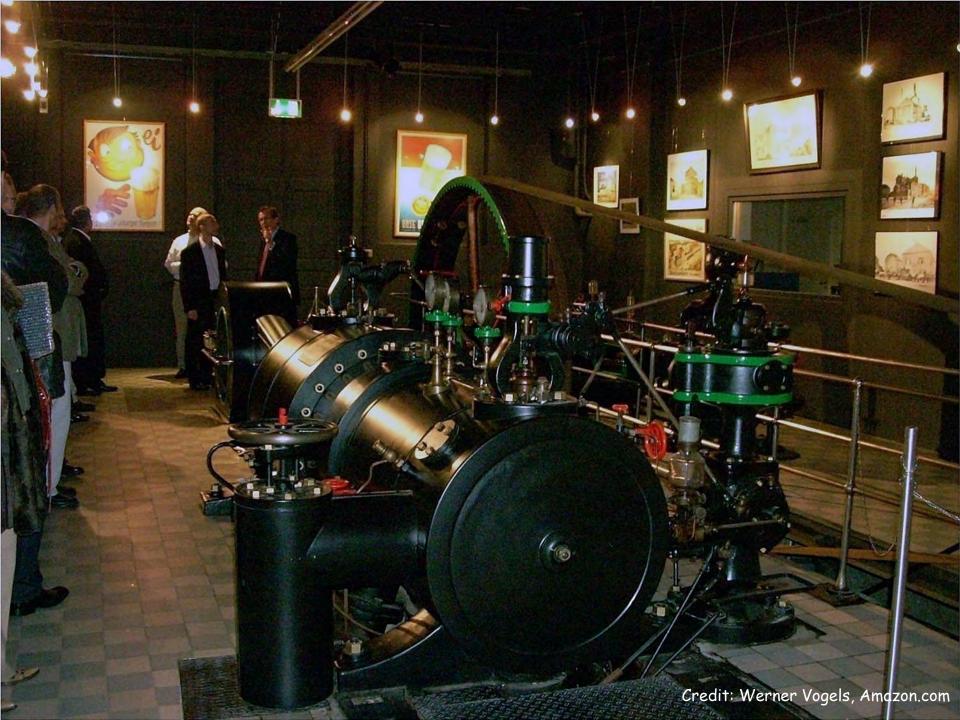
eScience is about the analysis of data

- The automated or semi-automated extraction of knowledge from massive volumes of data
 - I There's simply too much of it to look at
- It's not just a matter of volume
 - Volume
 - Rate
 - Complexity / dimensionality

eScience utilizes a spectrum of computer science techniques and technologies

- Sensors and sensor networks
- Backbone networks
- Databases
- Data mining
- Machine learning
- Data visualization
- Cluster computing at enormous scale (the cloud)



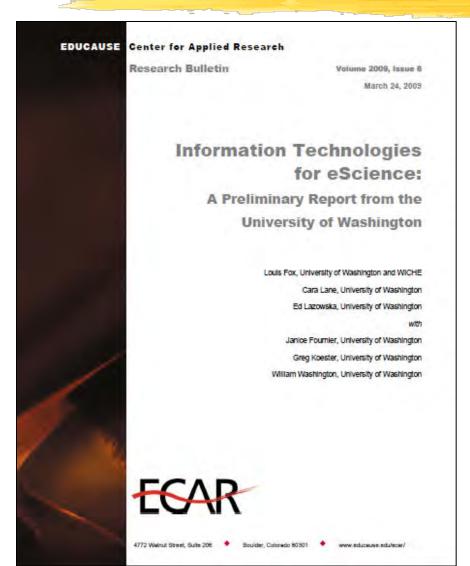


eScience will be pervasive

- Simulation-oriented computational science has been transformational, but it has been a niche
 - As an institution (e.g., a university), you didn't need to excel in order to be competitive
- eScience capabilities must be broadly available in any institution
 - If not, the institution will simply cease to be competitive

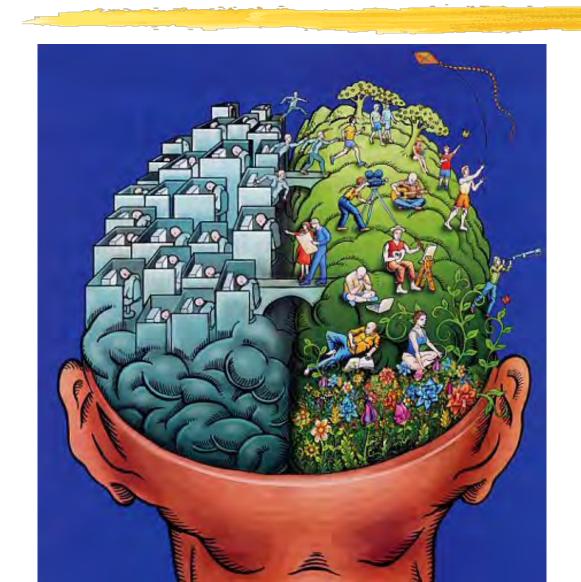


Top scientists across all fields grasp the implications of the looming data tsunami

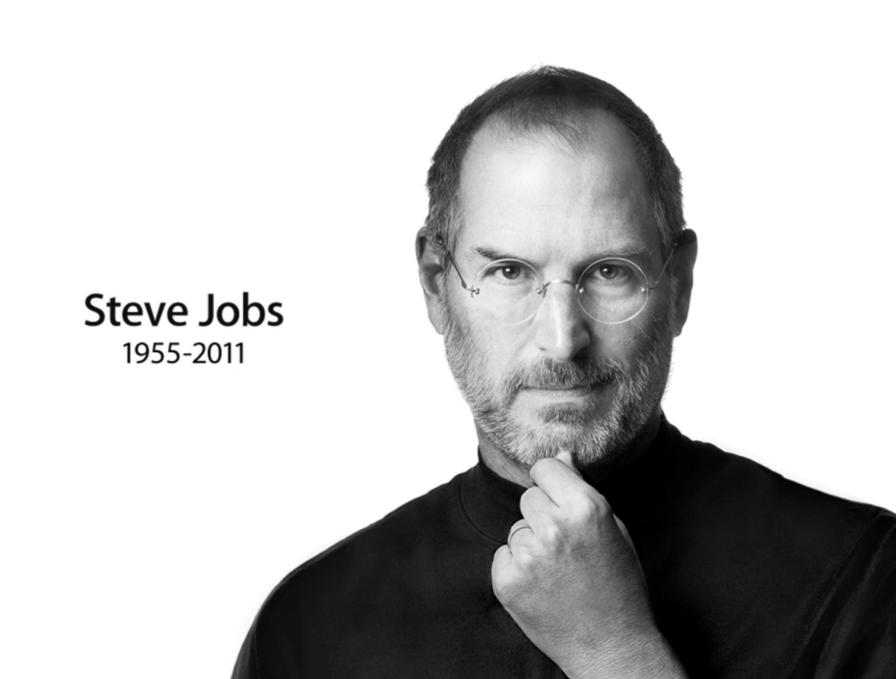


- Survey of 125 top investigators
 - Data, data, data"
- Flat files and Excel are the most common data management tools
 - Great for Microsoft ... lousy for science!
- Typical science workflow:
 - 2 years ago: 1/2 day/week
 - Now: 1 FTE
 - In 2 years: 10 FTE
- Need tools, tools, tools!

Side-note #1: The importance of using the whole brain



Credit: Julio Ottino, Northwestern









Steve Jobs | Sarah Palin | #Asteroid | Chumps Shortage | Last Updated 12:00 PM

NEWS

Last American Who Knew What The Fuck He Was Doing Dies

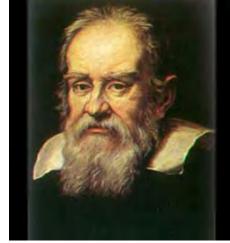
OCTOBER 6, 2011 | ISSUE 47:40







Harriot



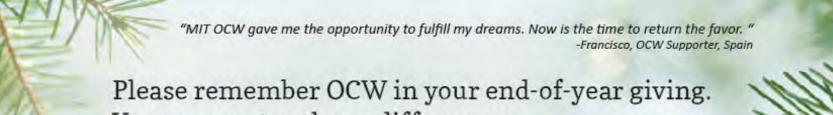
Galileo

Credit: Julio Ottino, Northwestern

Side-note #2: The looming revolution of online learning

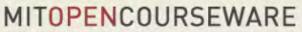






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Many schools and faculty within MIT and other universities are interested in online education and exploring ways in which to offer their content online. MIT wants its community and the communities of other institutions to know that they can continue to look to MIT to bring innovation to online learning and teaching, as it has done with OCW. MIT also wants to make available an adaptable, free platform for any school to use for its own online initiatives. Furthermore, the time is right from a technology perspective, because within MIT we have already gained experience in online technologies through many courses that already include significant online components. These technologies include online tutors, online laboratories, crowd-sourced grading of programs, machine learning and automatic transcription.

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Stanford Report, August 16, 2011



Free computer science courses, new teaching technology reinvent online education

Stanford Engineering professors are setting out to add a new level of interactivity to online education by offering three of the university's most popular computer science classes for free.

Is this a great time, or what?!?!

