Today's Standards – Tomorrow's Networks

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Timeline Ethernet

1971	1973	1980	1985
first LAN	Ethernet	start 802	802.3 adopted by IEEE
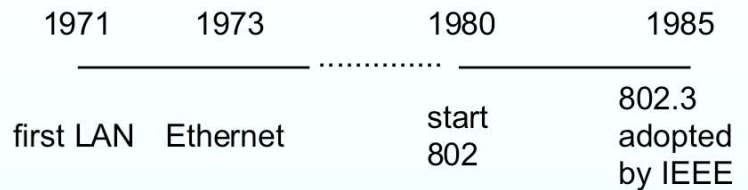
Competition and Co-operation

3 int. SDOs   JTC1: 538 Standards
10 regional SDOs   ITU-T: >2900 Recommendations in force
>120 NSO   W3C: 91 Recommendations
>320 consortia   IETF: 87 Standards; 4590 RFCs

How to achieve interoperability in this environment?

Research questions:

- How many standards development institutions are too many?
- How can co-ordination and co-operation between SSBs be achieved without violating the free market of standards setting?
- Is this 'free market' actually desirable, or are regulatory interventions preferable, to better enable to interoperability through standardisation?
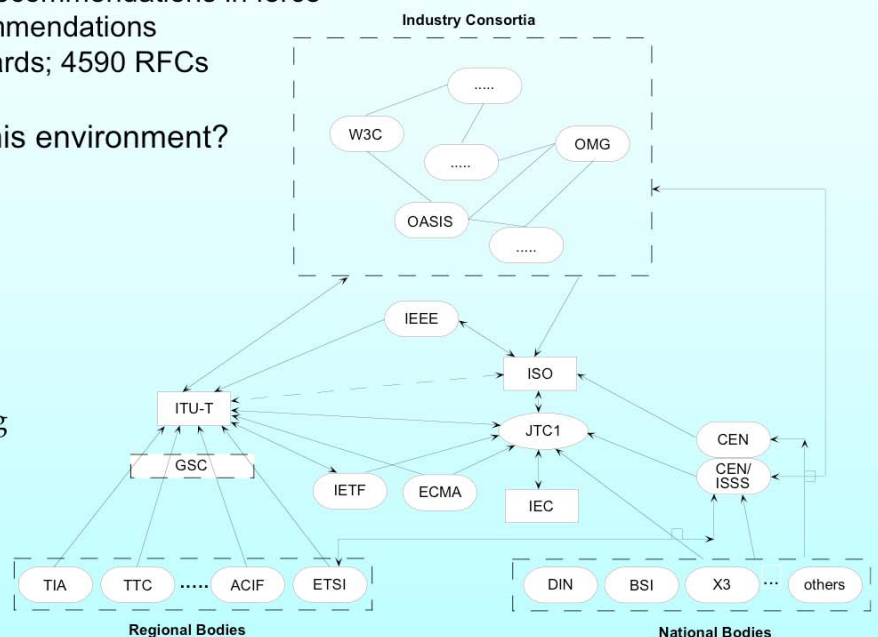
Participation in Standards Setting

Working groups are dominated by vendors and service providers; users and SMEs are hardly represented at all.

How can standards meet user requirements?

Research questions:

- How important is user participation in standards setting?
- How to determine which stakeholders should be present at which standardisation activity? How to ensure their participation?
- Is democracy in standards setting necessarily a good thing?
- If democracy in standards setting is to be achieved, how can barriers to entry be removed?