

Structural Power of Thai Internet System before 2006-Coup d' Etat

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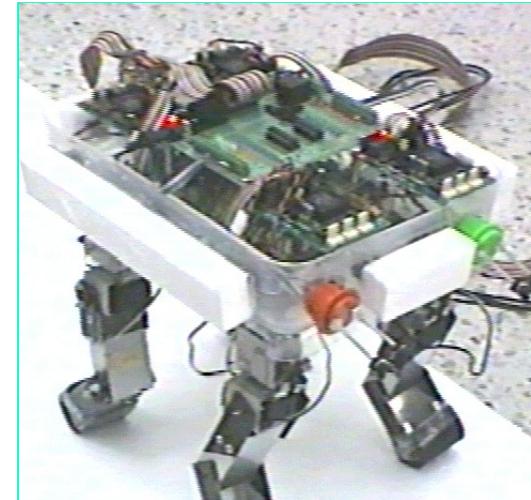
(former name : Research Centre for Peace Building)

Mahidol University, Thailand

July 19-20, 2011

My Academic Background

- **Bachelor & Master Degree** : Com. Eng.
on Artificial Intelligence Programming
to Control “Quadruped” and “Biped” Robot
- **Research Assistance** (4 Years) : Sociology
- **PhD** : Political Science => Computer + Politics
=> “*Technology & Nonviolent Political Struggle
over Internet in Thailand*”
- **Current Work (since 2010)** : Peace Building
=> Hate Speech Online; Nuclear Controversies;



Internet Studies : Sample Literatures

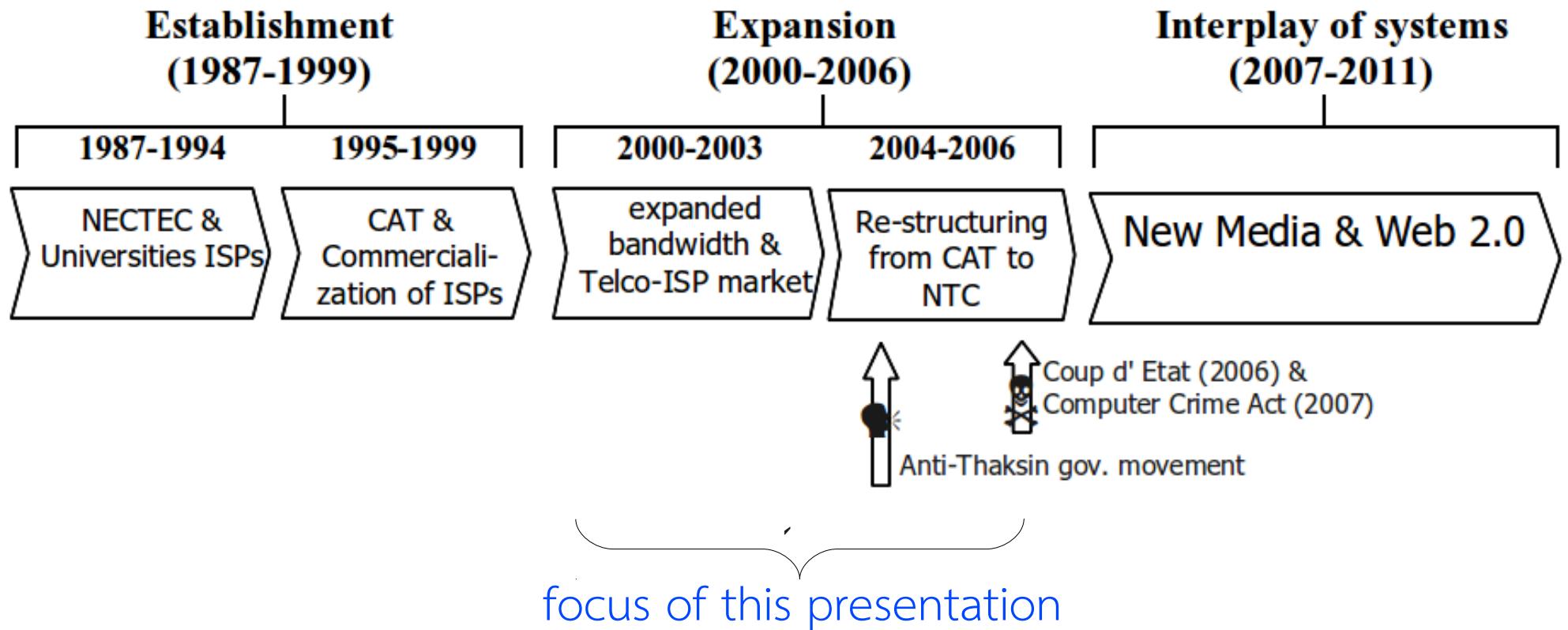
- Second Self (Turkle 2005)
- user-driven development (Abbet 1999)
- people empowering (McCaughey & Ayers 2003; Donk 2004)
- e-democracy (Hague 1999)
- surveillance (Lyon 2001)
- censorship or filtering (Diebert, et al. 2008, 2010)
- My Studies on

“Structural Power of Internet & Political Action over It”

Background Theories

- ‘Do artifacts have politics?’ (Langdon Winner 1986)
- LTS (Large Technical System) : Thomas P. Hughes (1999)
 - Dynamic of Technological System (Arne Kaijser 2004)
=> Establishment, Expansion, Stagnation,
& Interplay with Systems.
- SCOT (Social Construction of Technology): Wiebe Bijker (1995)
 - Problem, Solution, Social Relevant Group, Artefact

Phases of Internet Development in Thailand



Technology-Power Matrix

Technological Layers

Infrastructure Layer: telcom network, IIG, NIX, etc.

Access Layer: access system, webhosting server, data center, etc.

Content Layer: website, webboard, weblog, online TV/radio, etc.

Tracks of Power

Technological Structure: set of equipments / applications

Ownership / Authorship: relevant social group

Institution: pattern of power relationship

Structural Power of Thai Net (pre-2006-coup)

| Technological Structure Track | | Ownership /Authorship | Institutional Track |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| <p>Global Internet</p> | <p>submarine cable: many countries satellite: other & Shin Corp</p> | | Civil Court |
| <p>Network Infrastructure Layer (national & International Connection)</p> <p>Access Layer</p> | <p>submarine cable & satellite station (1 provider) : CAT</p> <p>IIG (1 provider) : CAT-IIG NIX (almost 1 provider) => CAT-NIX (IIR of NECTEC was rarely used)</p> | <p>N T C</p> <p>MICT Cyber-inspector, DPR</p> | Admin Court |
| <p>Network Infrastructure Layer (domestic)</p> <p>Content Layer</p> | <p>ISPs => AsiaInfoNet (True Corp), CSLoxinfo (Shin Corp), JI-Net (Jusmine Corp) + other 15 providers Data Center : CAT + other Webhosting provider: many</p> | <p>Domestic Infra.(4): CAT, TOT, True Corp, TT&T (Jusmine Corp)</p> | <p>NTC</p> |
| | <p>Content Providers => huge number</p> | <p>MICT, Cyber-Inspector, DPR</p> | Thai Constitution (1997) |

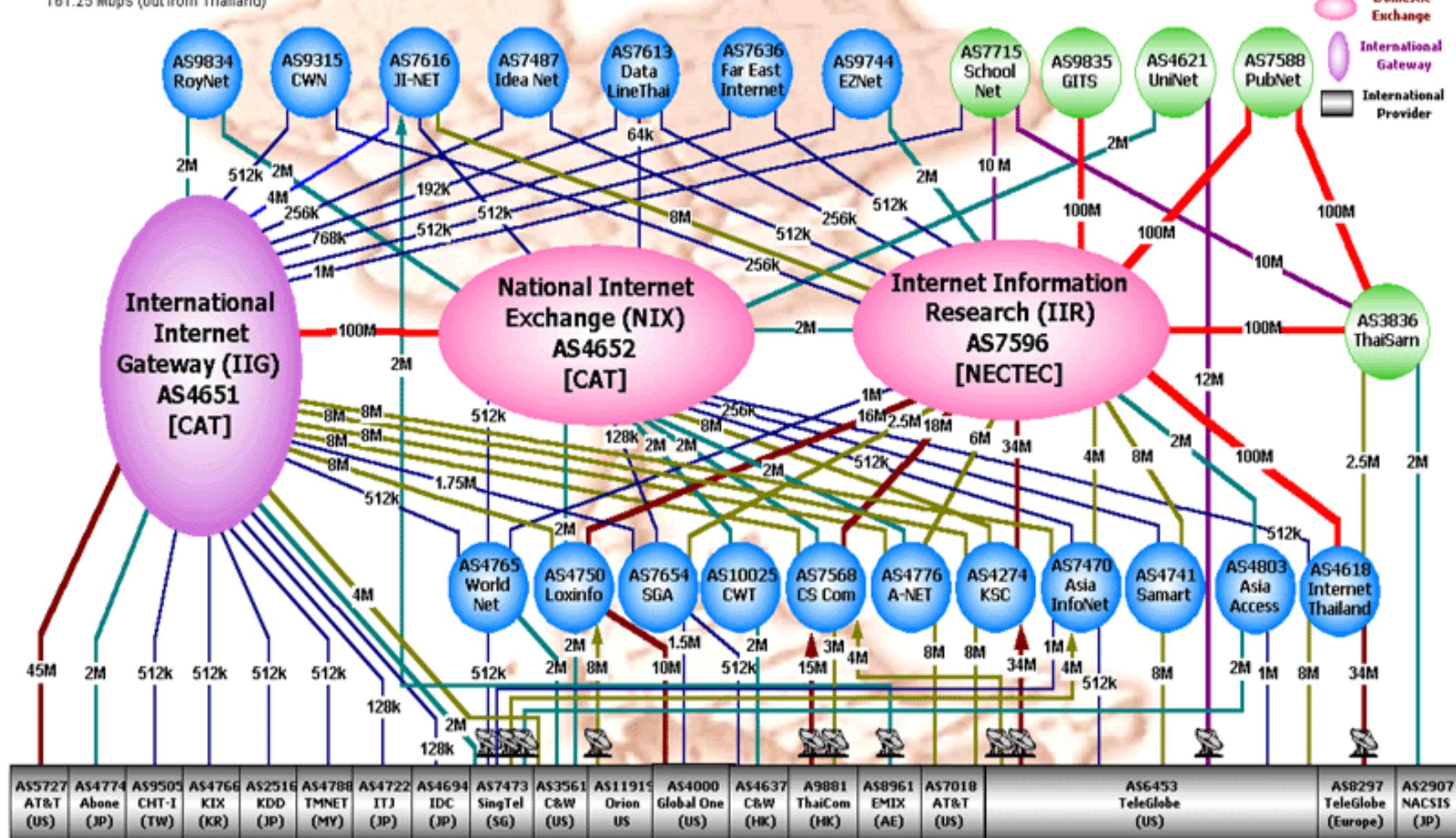
IIG & NIX : CAT vs NECTEC

| Technological Structure Track | | Ownership /Authorship | Institutional Track |
|--|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
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| Content Layer | | <p>Content Providers => huge number</p> | MICT, Cyber-Inspector, DPR |

Internet Connectivities in Thailand (August2000)

Total International bandwidth :
228.25 Mbps (into Thailand) and
161.25 Mbps (out from Thailand)

<http://www.nectec.or.th/internet/map/>

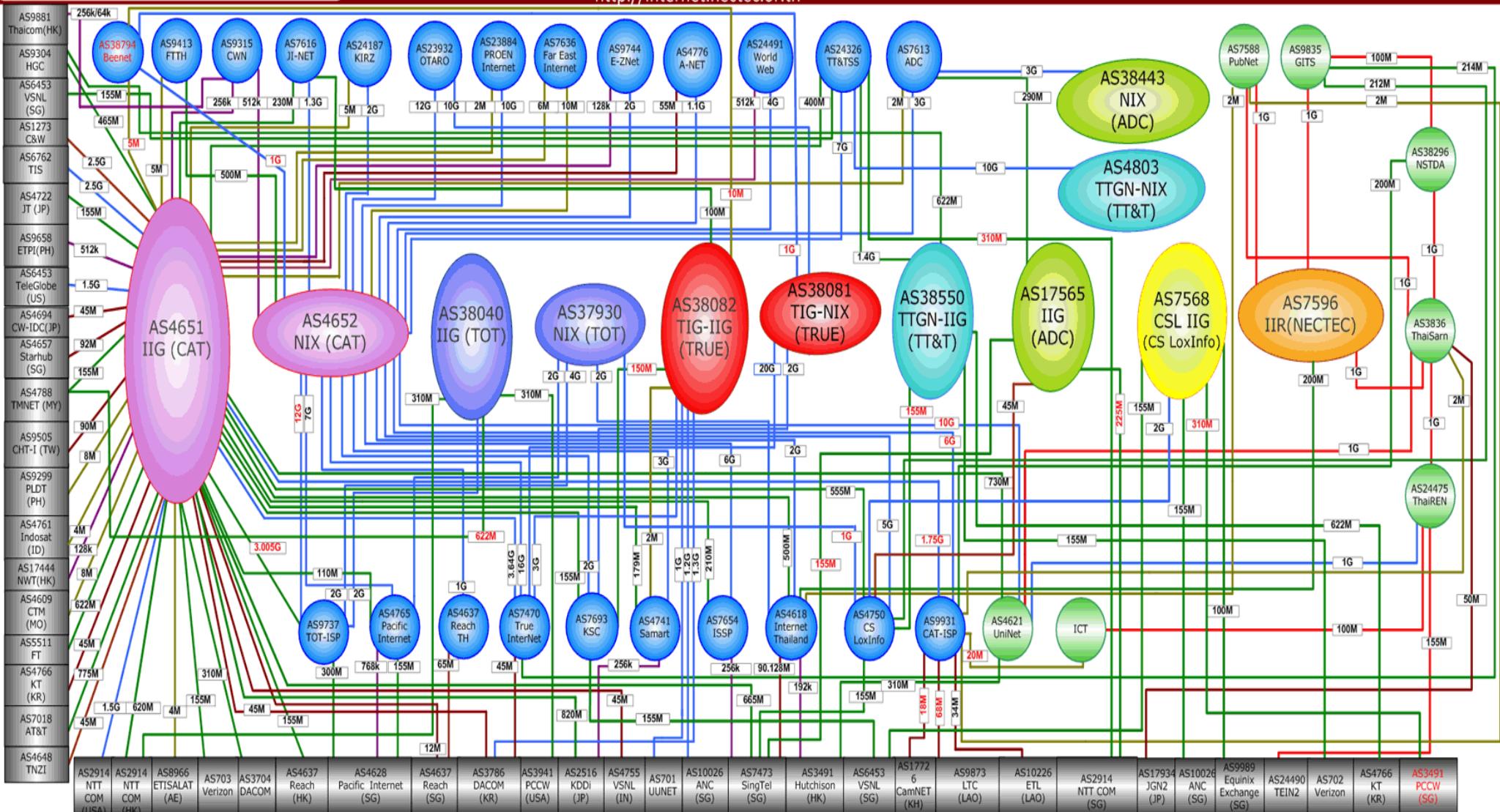


Total International Bandwidth
21763.496 Mbps (Into Thailand)
21763.496 Mbps (Out from Thailand)

Internet Connectivity in Thailand (December 2007)

<http://internet.nectec.or.th>

NECTEC a member of NSTDA **NTL** NETWORK TECHNOLOGY LTD



Academic/Research/Government

International Gateway (CAT)

International Gateway (TRUE)

International Gateway (TTGN TT&T)

National Internet Exchange(TOT)

International Gateway /CSL_IIG

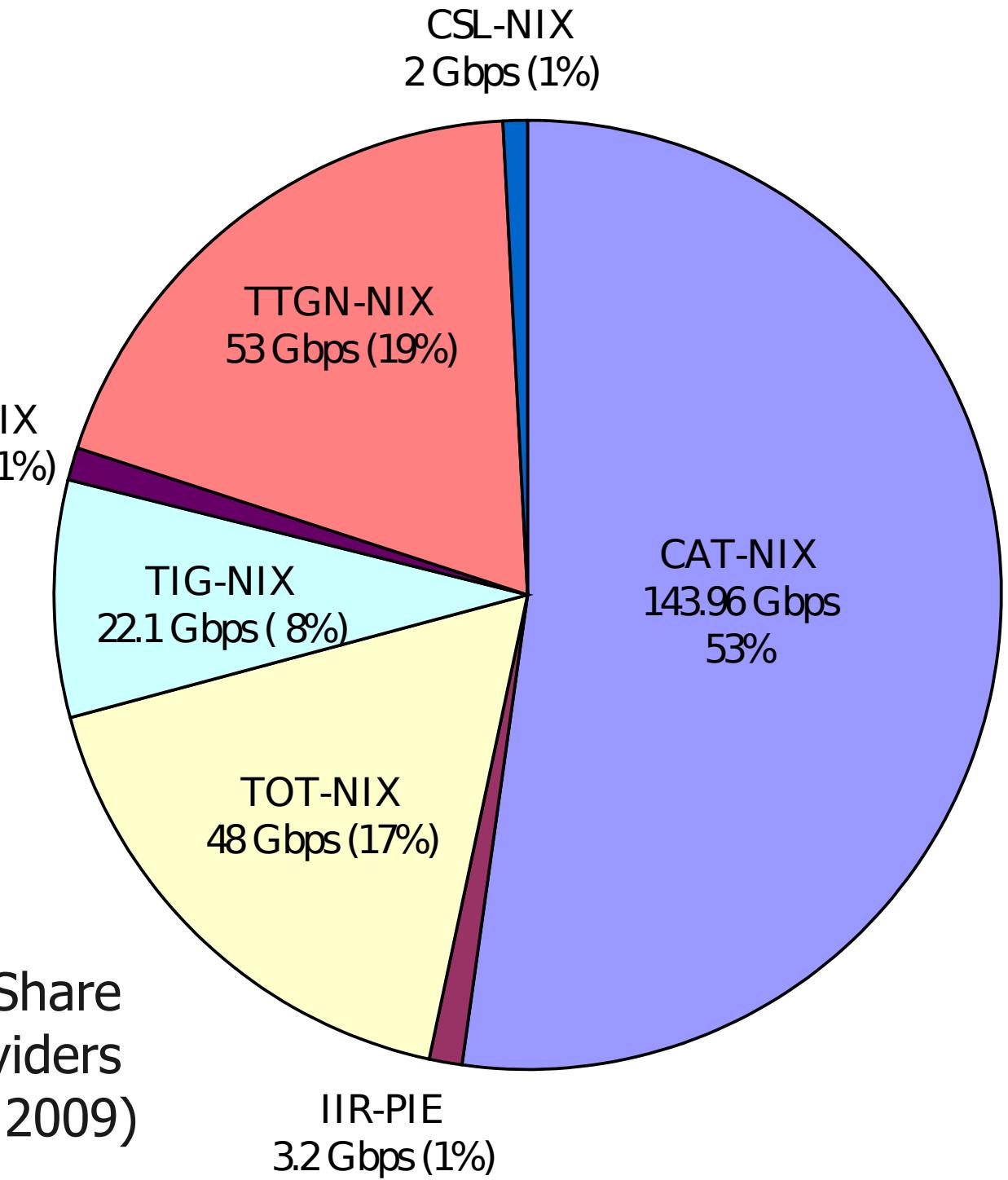
International Gateway
CS Loxinfo)

International Business

The legend identifies five categories of network links based on color and bandwidth range:

- Government/Research/Academic Link**: Red line.
- Link (< 1Mbps)**: Purple line.
- Link (1Mbps - 10Mbps)**: Olive green line.
- Link (> 10M and < 100Mbps)**: Brown line.
- Link (>= 100Mbps and < 1Gbps)**: Green line.
- Link (>= 1Gbps)**: Blue line.

Domestic Bandwidth Share
of Thai NIX providers
(Jan 2009)

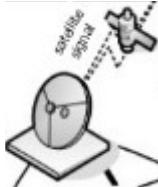


ISPs & Telecom carrier

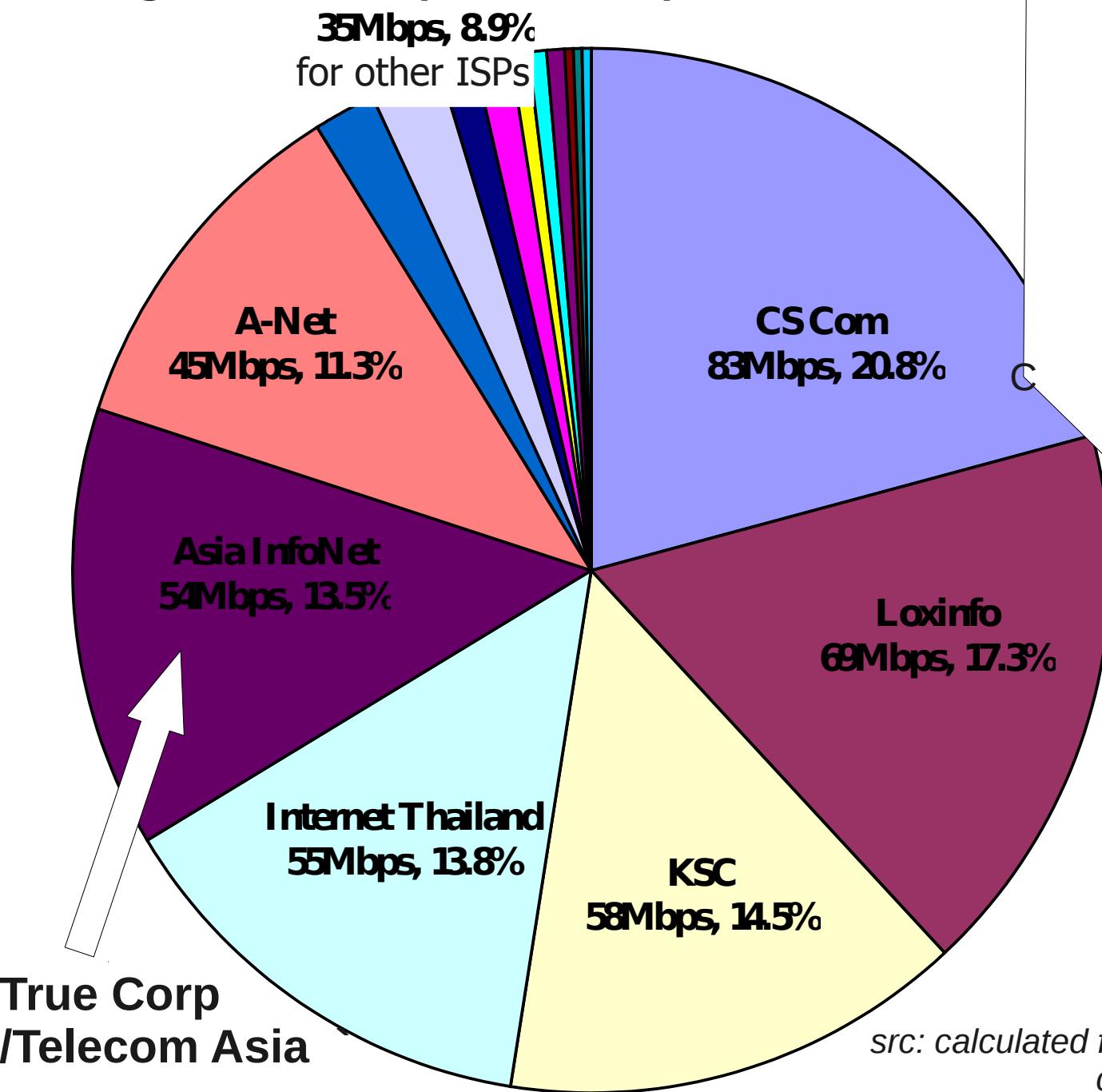
| Technological Structure Track | | Ownership /Authorship | Institutional Track |
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| <p>Access Layer</p> <p>ISPs</p> <p>Data Center</p> <p>web-hosting server</p> <p>Network Infrastructure Layer (domestic)</p> | <p>IIG (1 provider) : CAT-IIG NIX (almost 1 provider) => CAT-NIX (IIR of NECTEC was rarely used)</p> <p>Interconnected infrastructure</p> <p>ISPs => AsiaInfoNet (True Corp), CSLxinfo (Shin Corp), JI-Net (Jusmine Corp) + other 15 providers</p> <p>Data Center : CAT + other Webhosting provider: many</p> | N T C | MICT Cyber-inspector, DPR |
| <p>Content Layer</p> <p>online radio website webboard weblog website website online TV website</p> | <p>Domestic Infra.(4): CAT, TOT, True Corp, TT&T (Jusmine Corp)</p> | NTC | Thai Constitution (1997) |
| | <p>Content Providers => huge number</p> | | MICT, Cyber-Inspector, DPR |

International Bandwidth Share among Thai ISPs (June 2001)

Shin Corp
& iSTAR



CS Comm
+ Loxinfo
= CS Loxinfo
(38.1%)

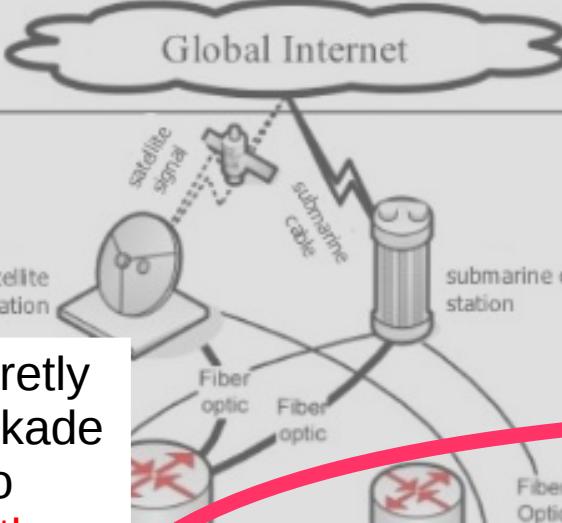
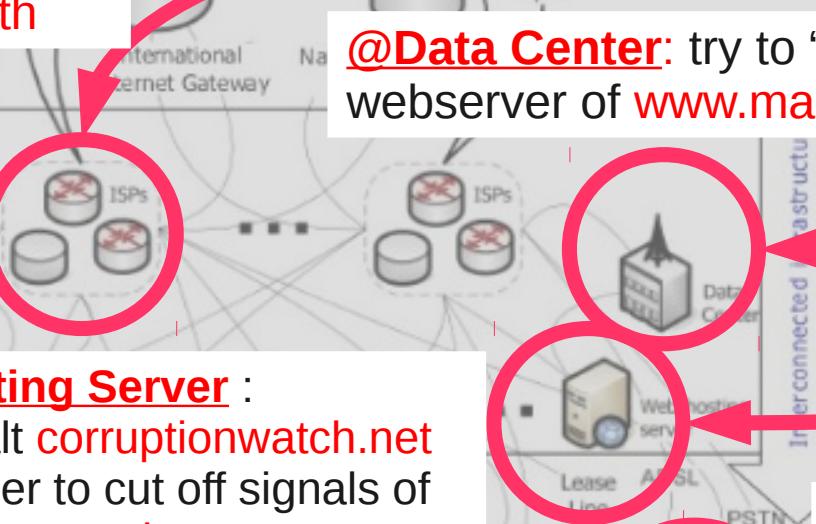


src: calculated from <http://ntl.nectec.or.th/internet/>
cited in Tangkitwanit (2001: 17)

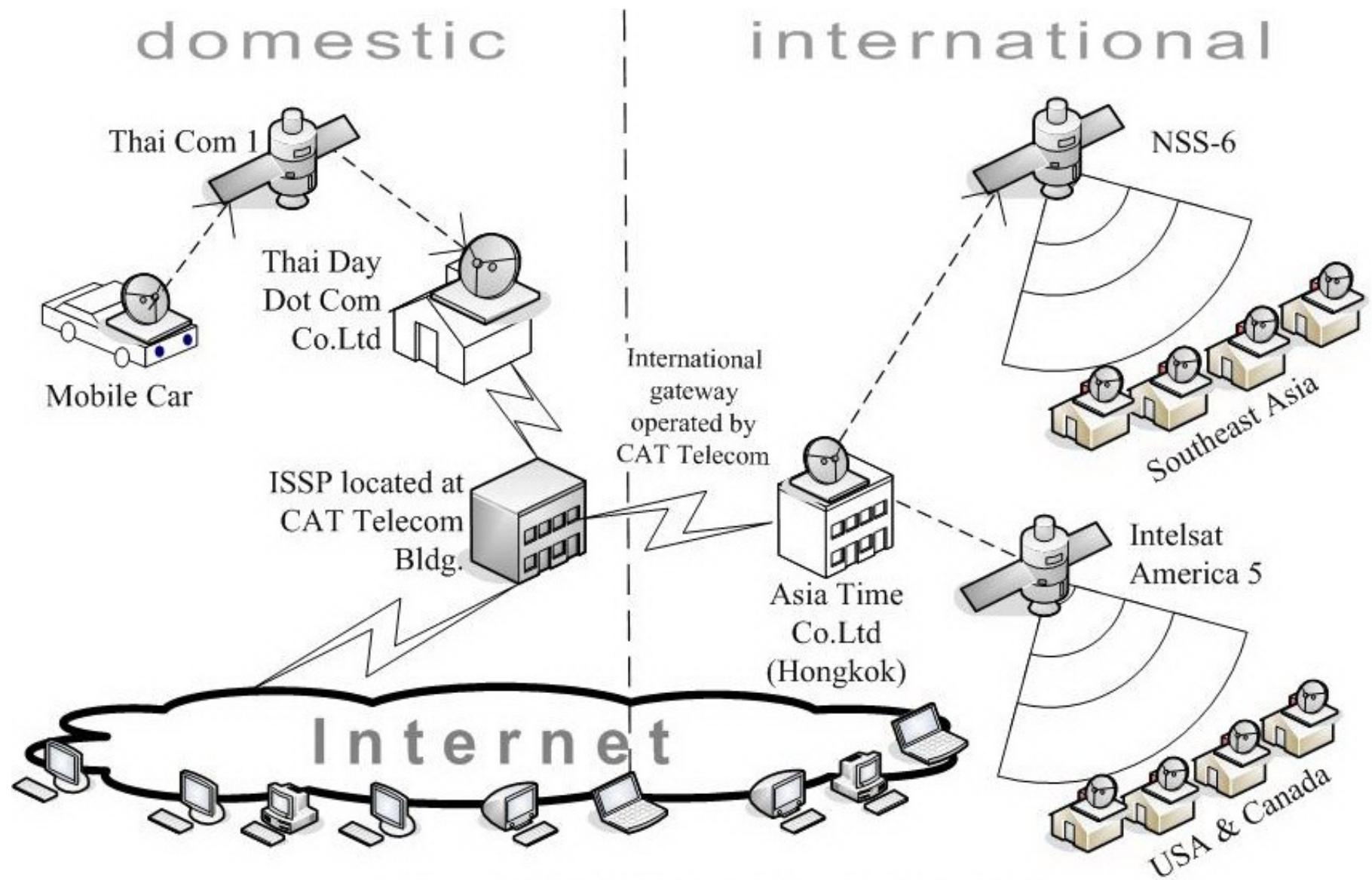
Institutional Track & Political Conflict (2005-6) (1)

| Technological Structure Track | | Ownership /Authorship | Institutional Track |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <p>Global Internet</p> | <p><i>submarine cable: many countries satellite: other & Shin Corp</i></p> <p><i>submarine cable & satellite station (1 provider) : CAT</i></p> | <p><i>Network Infrastructure Layer (national & International Connection)</i></p> | <p>Civil Court</p> |
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| <p>Content Layer</p> | <p><i>Domestic Infra.(4): CAT, TOT, True Corp, TT&T (Jusmine Corp)</i></p> <p><i>Content Providers => huge number</i></p> | | <p>Constitu-tion Court</p> <p>E-Com-merce Act (2001)</p> <p>Thai Consti-tution (1997)</p> |

Institutional Track & Political Conflict (2005-6) (2)

| Technological Structure Track | Ownership /Authorship | Institutional Track |
|--|---|---|
|  <p>@ISPs: secretly order to blockade accessing to manager.co.th</p> | <p><i>submarine cable</i>: many countries <i>satellite</i>: other & Shin Corp</p> | Civil Court |
|  <p>@Data Center: try to “unplug” webserver of www.manager.co.th</p> <p>@Webhosting Server: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -force to halt corruptionwatch.net -verbal order to cut off signals of www.manager.co.th </p> | <p><i>submarine cable & satellite station</i> (1 provider) : CAT</p> <p><i>IIG</i> (1 provider) : CAT-IIG <i>NIX</i> (almost 1 provider) => CAT-NIX <small>(<i>ISP</i> of NECTEC was closed)</small></p> <p><i>ISPS</i> => AsiaInfoNet (True Corp), COLOXinfo (Shin Corp), JI-Net (Jusmine Corp) + other 15 providers <i>Data Center</i> : CAT + other <i>Webhosting provider</i>: many</p> | Admin Court |
|  <p>@webmaster: shut down thaiinsider.com & fm9225.net</p> | <p><i>Domestic Infra (4)</i> : CAT TOT NTC</p> <p><i>Content Providers</i> > huge number</p> | <small>MICT</small> <small>Cyber-inspector, DPR</small> <small>NTC</small> <small>Tha Constitution (1997)</small> <small>MICT, Cyber-Inspector, DPR</small> |

Institutional Track & Political Conflict (2005-6) (3)



Institutional Track & Political Conflict (2005-6) (4)

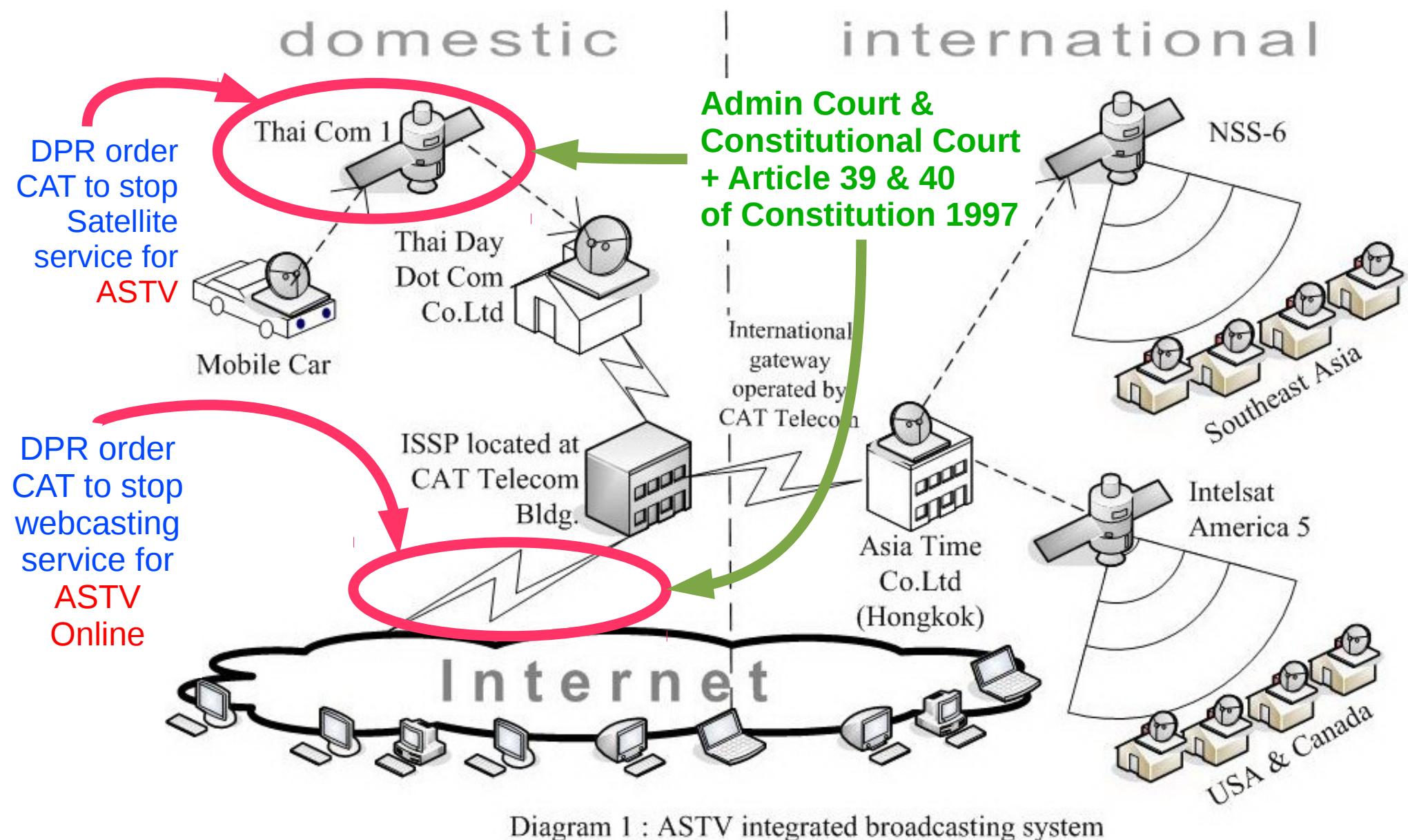


Diagram 1 : ASTV integrated broadcasting system

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Thank You

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