Motivation

- We examined in the last module how documents are formatted and printed using a computer.
- Documents in that context meant results computed by a computer.
- In a more general context one should look at also documents which are to be disseminated via the world wide web.
- Besides dissemination one should also consider possibility of reading values from documents stored in remote computers and processing them for various purposes.
- The need to exchange documents electronically and processing them have gained importance since the emergence of e-commerce.
- To understand the need to distribute documents electronically we should first understand how computers are connected together and communicate in an orderly fashion among themselves.
- Thus we will first examine very briefly the internet and the World Wide Web which uses the internet infrastructure.