



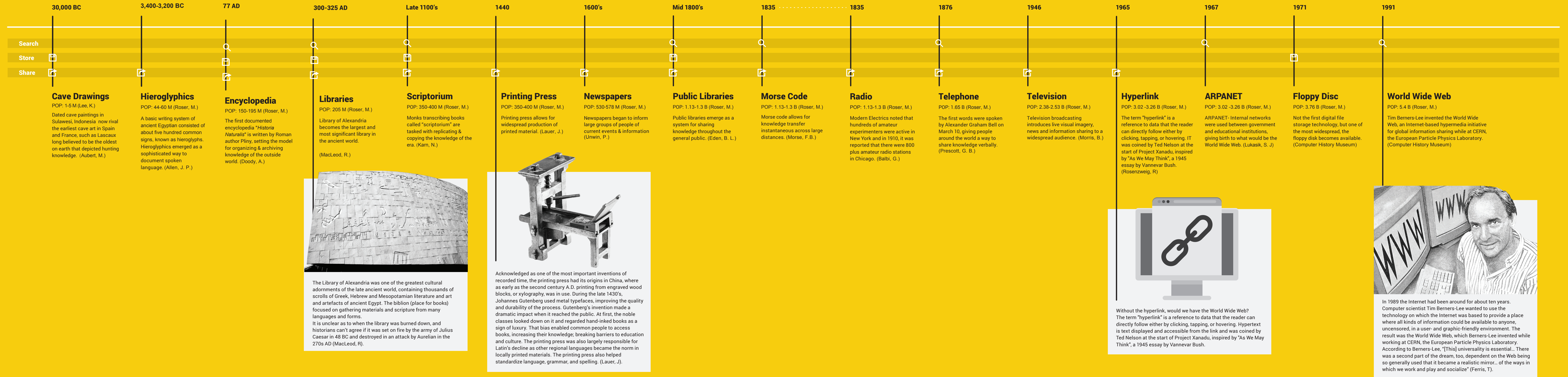
Knowledge Timeline

This research method and output was selected to put search engines in context with other resources and tools people have used to access knowledge since the methods were first documented and or discovered.

There was a desire to understand access points, volume of access available to the general public, and to consider whether there was an argument to be made about techno determinism in context with how knowledge tools have evolved over centuries. For those unfamiliar with techno determinism, it is a reductionist theory that assumes that a society's technology determines the development of its social structure and cultural values.

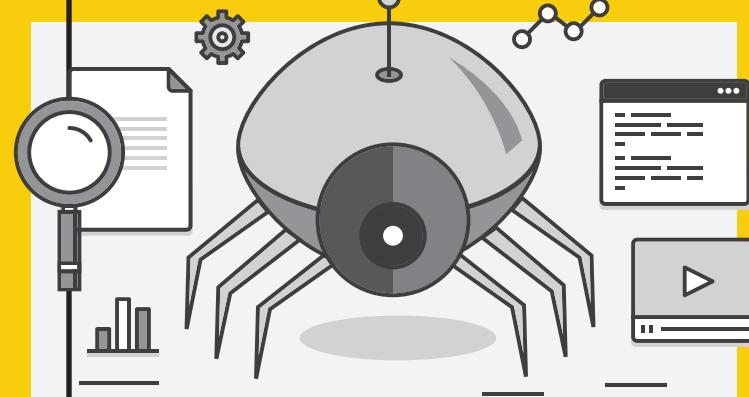
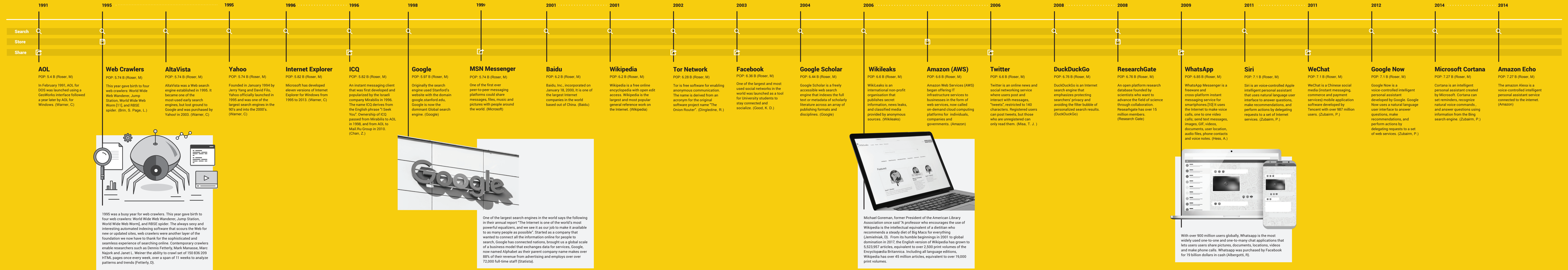
The term is believed to have originated from Thorstein Veblen, an American sociologist and economist. The decision was made to begin the timeline based on the year of the first known discovery of cave drawings. One of the biggest challenges of the research was that multiple sources that offered conflicting years of discovery or launch. To ensure accuracy, where the body of research did not indicate one specific year, I provided a range.

By Rachel Noonan



BEFORE WWW

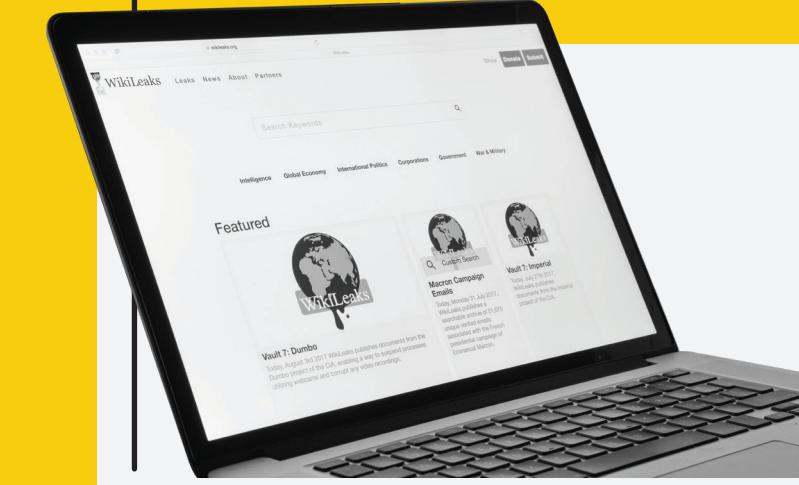
AFTER WWW



1995 was a busy year for web crawlers. This year gave birth to four web crawlers: World Wide Web Wanderer, Jump Station, World Wide Web Worm, and RBSE spider. The always easy and interesting automated indexing software that scans the Web for new or updated sites, web crawlers were another layer of the foundation we now have to thank for the sophisticated and seamless experience of searching online. Contemporary crawlers enable researchers such as Dennis Fetterly, Mark Manasse, Marc Najork and Janet L. Weiner the ability to crawl set of 150 836 209 HTML pages once every week, over a span of 11 weeks to analyze patterns and trends (Fetterly, D.)



One of the largest search engines in the world says the following in their annual report "The Internet is one of the world's most powerful equalizers, and we see it as our job to make it available to as many people as possible". Started as a company that wanted to connect all the information online for people to search, Google has connected nations, brought us a global scale of a business model that exchanges data for services, Google, now named Alphabet as their parent company name makes over 88% of their revenue from advertising and employs over 72,000 full-time staff (Statista).



Michael Gorem, former President of the American Library Association once said "A professor who encourages the use of Wikipedia is the intellectual equivalent of a dietitian who recommends a steady diet of Big Macs for everything (Jermiaki, D). From its humble beginnings in 2001 to global domination in 2017, the English version of Wikipedia has grown to 5,523,957 articles, equivalent to over 2,500 print volumes of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Including all language editions, Wikipedia has over 45 million articles, equivalent to over 19,000 print volumes.