# Clickstream Analysis for Internet Marketing

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# Objectives

- Principles behind Internet Marketing
- Defining Clickstream Data
- User Profiling
- Commercial Uses of Clickstream Data

# Are there any principles behind Internet Marketing?

Interactive Marketing/ 1-to-1 Marketing/ Relationship Marketing/ Personalization

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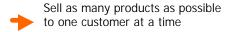
#### Interactive Marketing

Blattberg and Deighton (Sloan Management Review 1991) discuss the differences between traditional mass marketing and interactive marketing:

- Use of actual behavior to identify customers/prospects
- Customized prices/product offers to the individual
- Customizing the advertising message via selected binding (split cable).
- Distribution: Direct links with the customer
- Sales force: Improved monitoring, less discretion, better data for the sales person

# Comparing Mass and 1to1 Marketing

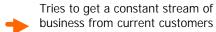
Product manager sells one product at a time to as many customers as possible



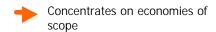
Differentiate his products



Acquire a constant stream of new customers



Concentrates on economies of scales



Peppers and Rogers, The One to One Future

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#### **Customer Retention Arithmetic**

Cost to acquire one new customer: \$20 Cost to retain one current customer: \$4

<u>Acquisition Emphasis</u> <u>Retention Emphasis</u>

Acquire 6 customers: \$120 Acquire 3 customers: \$60 Retain 5 customers: \$20 Retain 20 customers: \$80 Total Cost: \$140 Total Cost: \$140 Total Customers: 11 Total Customers: 23

#### The Web's Contribution

- Addressable marketing is not new
  - I Mail and telephone have been around
  - For a long time the most valuable assets of companies like LL Bean, Fidelity Investments, American Express are their electronic customer transaction histories
- In the difference between the web and these other technologies is that addressability and the collection of transaction histories is almost automatic

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## **Example: American Airlines**

- Updated in late 1998, has the capability to build custom pages for each of the airline's 2 million registered users
- Prior to the web, there was no cost-efficient way to tell millions of customers about a special fare available only this weekend, to a destination you personally will find attractive

Source



# Interactive Marketing Requires...

- Ability to *identify* end-users
- Ability to *differentiate* customers based on their value and their needs
- Ability to *interact* with your customers
- Ability to *customize* your products and services based on knowledge about your customers

Peppers, Rogers, and Dorf (1999)

#### Information is key!

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# **Defining Clickstream Data**

#### What is clickstream data?

- A record of an individual's movement through time at a web site
- Contains information about:
  - Time
  - URL content
  - User's machine
  - Previous URL viewed
  - Browser type

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# A clickstream example



Household ID: Female born 12Jul42

Demographics: Philadelphia Area, Male and Female Married (husband born: 27Sep46), 3 members in household, income: \$75,000-\$99,999, Graduated College, employed 35 or more hours, 1 child age 13 to 17 (daughter born: 5Jul80), own single family home, white collar, own car & truck, microwave, three dogs, five cats

18JUL97:18:55:57 18JUL97:18:56:44 18JUL97:18:57:25 18JUL97:19:03:00 18JUL97:19:03:56 18JUL97:19:04:58 18JUL97:19:05:00 18JUL97:19:15:24 18JUL97:19:17:00	47 37 105 7 2 6 2 1 39 7	www.voicenet.com/www.weather.com/laww.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/HI_Lahaina.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/HI_Lahaina.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html
18JUL97:19:17:00 18JUL97:19:17:07	7 13	www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI_Traverse_City.html www.realastrology.com/
18JUL97:19:17:07 18JUL97:19:17:20	13 44	www.realastrology.com/ www.realastrology.com/libra.html
1000101.10.17.20		TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT

#### What does the ISP see?

#### www.voicenet.com would see the following requests:

www.voicenet.com/

18JUL97:18:56:44 www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/HI\_Lahaina.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI\_Traverse\_City.html

18JUL97:19:17:07 www.realastrology.com/

18JUL97:19:17:20 www.realastrology.com/libra.html

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#### What does the server see?

#### www.weather.com would see the following requests:

18JUL97:18:56:44 www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/HI\_Lahaina.html www.weather.com/weather/us/cities/MI\_Traverse\_City.html

#### Sources of clickstream data

- Web Servers
  - Each hit is recorded in the web server log
- Media Service Providers
  - DoubleClick, Flycast
- ISP/Hosting Services
  - I AOL, Juno, Bluelight.com
- Marketing Research Companies
  - Media Metrix, NetRatings, PCData

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#### The Raw Clickstream Data

All information sent by my web browser when requesting <a href="http://www.privacy.net/analyze">http://www.privacy.net/analyze</a>:

Accept: image/gif, image/x-xbitmap, image/jpeg, image/pjpeg, image/png, \*/\* Accept-Language: en Connection: Keep-Alive

Host: www.privacy.net

Referer: http://www.privacy.net/

User-Agent:

Mozilla/4.75 [en] (WinNT; U)

Pragma: no-cache
Cookie: Date=10/18/00;

Privacy.net=Privacy+Analysis

Accept-Encoding: gzip

Accept-Charset: iso-8859-1,\*,utf-8



# **Using Domain lookups**

- If we match my domain, cmu.edu, with its registered zip code, "15213", we can think about geodemographic marketing
- The most likely visitor from the "15213" zip is the University USA segment
- What can we do with a ZIP Code?

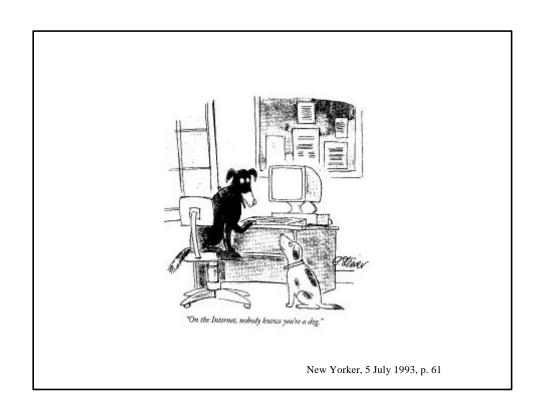
ENDS/MicroVision Lifestyle Game

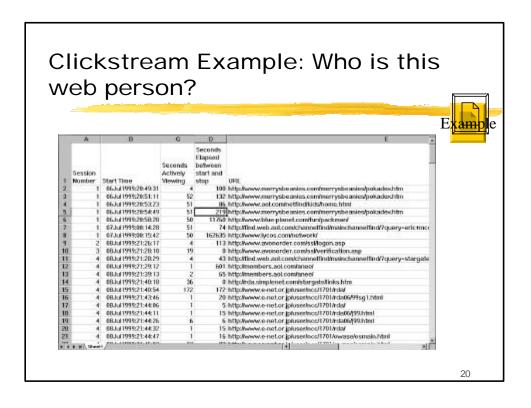


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# **User Profiling**

What does 'where you go' say about 'who you are'?





## How much have you learned about this person?

- Gender
- Age
- Race
- Marital Status
- Geographic Location
- City Size
- Household Size
- Household CompositionHousehold Income
- Rent or Own
- Education
   Age and presence of children
   No Children Under 18
- Car or truck ownership
- Dog or cat ownership

- Female
- 34 years old
- White
- Single
- East South Central250,000-499,9992 boyeshed result

  - 2 household members
- Female head living with others related
  \$25,000-\$29,999
  Own

  - Two cars, no trucks
  - No dogs or cats

# What is this user's gender?

#### Web sites visited during one month:

48%	aol.com	63%	libertynet.org
64%	astronet.com	39%	lycos.com
75%	avon.com	27%	netradio.net
52%	blue-planet.com	57%	nick.com
56%	cartoonnetwork.com	59%	onhealth.com
54%	cbs.com	83%	onlinepsych.com
76%	country-lane.com	44%	simplenet.com
47%	eplay.com	76%	thriveonline.com
41%	halcyon.com	59%	valupage.com
70%	homearts.com	71%	virtualgarden.com
66%	ivillage.com	66%	womenswire.com

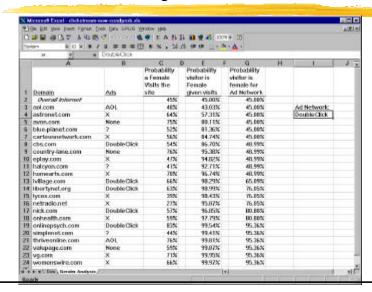
Percentage of female viewers using PC Meter data,

# Bayesian Updating Formula

Application of Bayesian hypothesis updating.

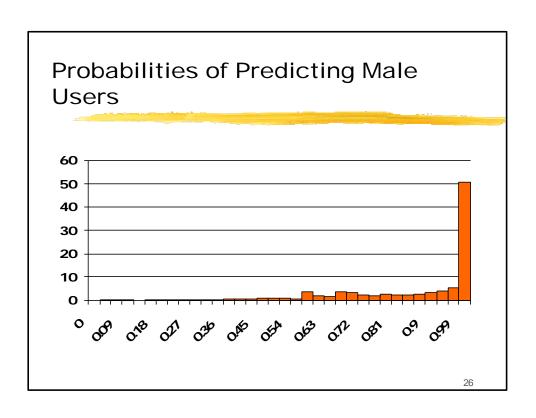
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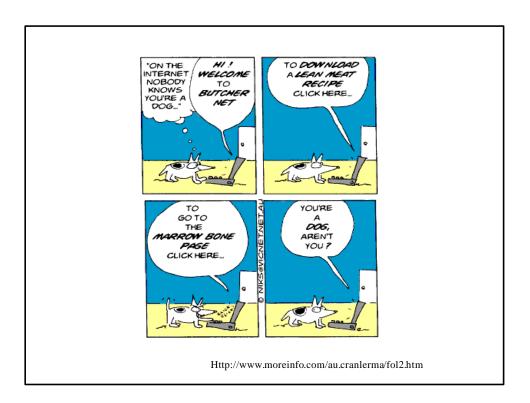
# Statistical Analysis



#### Results

- Analysis shows that there is a >99% probability this user is female.
  - Using only DoubleClick sites the probability is 95%.
- Using all user data for one month:
  - 90% of men are predicted with >80% confidence (81% accuracy)
  - 25% of women are predicted with >80% confidence (96% accuracy)





#### **Future Direction**

- Instead of predicting gender, we could predict age, income, ethnicity, etc.
- Some statistical problems arise:
  - I Simple models assume independence between visits
  - Revisitations are highly correlated
  - I Transition probabilities are not exploited
- The quality and accuracy of these predictions can be improved dramatically, which would be very valuable to sites performing profiling

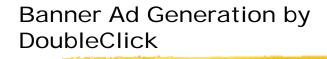
# The Value of Targeted Marketing

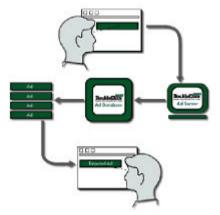
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# What is the value of profiling No targeting Targeting Probability Truth Formale Symbole Ferrele 25% 25% Reward Ferrele 5 Mole Ferrele Ferrele 5 Mole Ferrele Ferrele 5 Mole Ferrele Ferrele 5 Mole F

## Personalization

The use of cookies by DoubleClick





Source: http://www.doubleclick.com/publishers/service/how\_it\_works.htm  $_{32}$ 

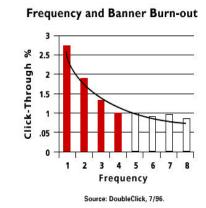
## Using Cookies for Advertising



- Check your browser's cookie list for "DoubleClick"
- DoubleClick inserts ads into other people's web sites
  - I Track users across sites
  - Limits number of exposures to ads
  - I Target ads to certain types of individuals
- User remains "anonymous"

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#### What has DoubleClick learned?



After studying millions of impressions they concluded that after the fourth impression, response rates dropped from 2.7% to under

Banner burnout

# **Advertising Case Study**



- Introduce Datek to potential online investors through banners and sponsor buttons on
- DoubleClick Business & Finance sites (StockMaster, Big Charts, ClearStation, Individual Investor Online, Fast Company and EDGAR Online).
- Integrate ads with major brand DoubleClick Select Sites including U.S. News, PBS, the Dilbert Zone and Travelocity.
- Keyword banners on AltaVista during user searches for specific topics like "stock", "online trading," "investments," "brokerage" and "broker."

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# "Online Brokerage" Banner Ads



- If we were to go to each of these search engines and type in "online brokerage" what banner ads would be displayed
- This service is performed by www.bannerstake.com

#### Results



- Response rates for keywords ranged as high as 15% 19%. Through sponsorships on DoubleClick Finance sites, the Datek brand is reinforced to 550,000 potential customers every month.
- Since the inception of their DoubleClick campaign, Datek has succeeded in establishing a loyal audience, now exceeding over 32,000 trades a day.
- Over the past two years, DoubleClick has been an integral part of Datek's online budget, helping Datek to generate in excess of \$320,000 a day from online trading

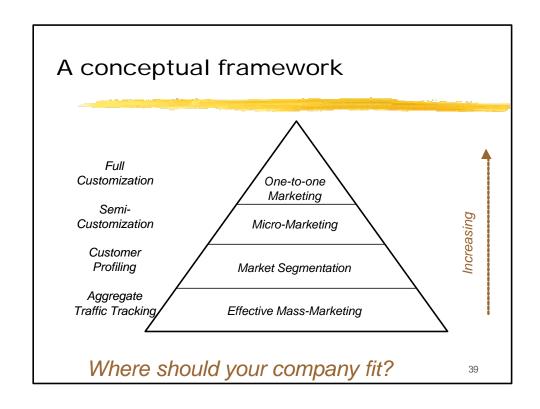
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#### Is it worth it?



Currently 250,000 customers, 70,000 trades/day, \$9.95/trade

Exposures	550,000
CPM	\$85
Cost	\$46,750
Clickthrough	15%
Conversion Rate	7%
New Customers	5,775
Cost/Acquisition	\$8.10
LTV	?



Commercial Sources of Clickstream Data

# Collecting the Clickstream Using the PC Meter

- Media Metrix: the PC Meter Company
- Has been collecting web data since July 1995
- Originally subsidiary of the NPD Group, Inc., merged with Relevant Knowledge, and most recently Jupiter
- Provides syndicated data to more than 900 clients
- Business model organized around traditional advertising measures: reach and frequency



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## How does the PCMeter work?

1. Randomly Recruit A Panel of PC and Internet Users

#### Household # 324404

Male, 45
Female, 42
Male, 17
Female, 14
Female, 14
Female, 18
Female, 19
Fema

Geography: Boston, MA

HHSize:

Home: Own Single Family Dwelling MH Occ: White Collar/Administrative FH Occ: White Collar/Administrative

#### Household# 908363

Male, 61 PC #1: Gateway, PIII 400Mhz Female, 60 Location: At Home

Income: \$35,000 Geography: Madison, WI

HHSize: 2

Home: Rent, Multi-Family Dwelling

MH Occ: Retired FH Occ: Retired

#### How does the PCMeter work?

2. Install Tracking Software on Panelists' Home & Work PCs



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#### How does the PCMeter work?

3. Software Gathers Data On Personal "Clickstreams" As Panelists Use Their PCs

TIME	WEB SITE & PAGE TOM S., Age	39	
6:42:07 pm	America Online - Login		
6:42:54 pm	America Online - Email		
6:53:12 pm	America Online - Today's Headlines		
6:56:44 pm	www.cnn.com/news		
6:57:25 pm	www.cnn.com/news-chicago		
7:03:00 pm	www.yahoo.com		
7:03:56 pm	www.yahoo.com/travel/recreation		
7:03:58 pm	www.yahoo.com/travel/SanFrancisco		
7:04:58 pm	www.sfgate.com		
7:05:00 pm	www.sfgate.com/entertainment		
7:15:24 pm	www.sfgate.com/entertainment/restaurants		
7:20:45 pm	microsoft word application		
-		44	

## How does the PCMeter work?

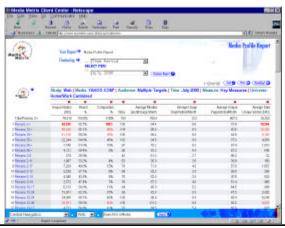
4. Data is Processed and Provided to Clients Online and/or in Hard Copy



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## How does the PCMeter work?

Example profile report for Yahoo (July 2000)





# Applications of Clickstream Data

- Clients are Using Media Metrix Services to:
  - Plan, Buy & Sell Digital Media Advertising
  - Understand Consumer Behavior
  - I Gain Marketplace & Competitive Intelligence
  - Support Product, Marketing & Advertising Strategy Development
  - Corporate Benchmarking
  - Basis for Partnership Alliance Decisions
  - Use With The Financial Community

What do we learn from clickstream data about the digital landscape

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The Internet: Then & Now

# Top Fifteen WWW Sites

#### January 1996

AOL.COM WEBCRAWLER.COM NETSCAPE.COM YAHOO.COM INFOSEEK.COM

PRODIGY.COM COMPUSERVE.COM UMICH.EDU PRIMENET.COM WELL.COM

CMU.EDU GNN.COM MCOM.COM MIT.EDU TELEPORT.COM

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# Top Fifteen WWW Sites

January 1996

AOL.COM

WEBCRAWLER.COM

NETSCAPE.COM YAHOO.COM

YAHOO.COM INFOSEEK.COM

PRODIGY.COM COMPUSERVE.COM UMICH.EDU

PRIMENET.COM

WELL.COM

CMU.EDU GNN.COM MCOM.COM MIT.EDU TELEPORT.COM **July 2000** 

YAHOO.COM MSN.COM AOL.COM

MICROSOFT.COM LYCOS.COM

PASSPORT.COM HOTMAIL.COM

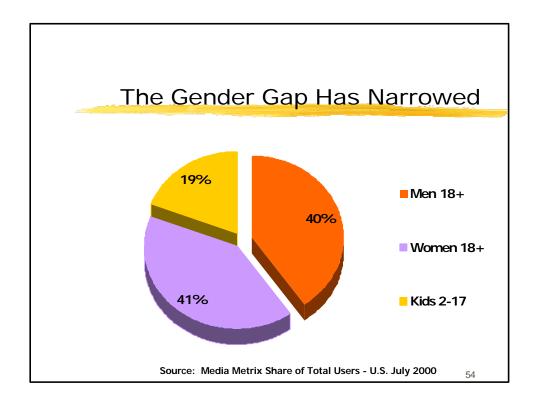
GO.COM (Disney/Infoseek)

NETSCAPE.COM EXCITE.COM

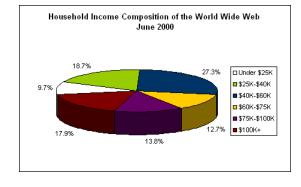
ALTAVISTA.COM AMAZON.COM REAL.COM EBAY.COM ANGELFIRE.COM

# 2

The Net Has Gone "Mass"



# Last Digital Divide: Income

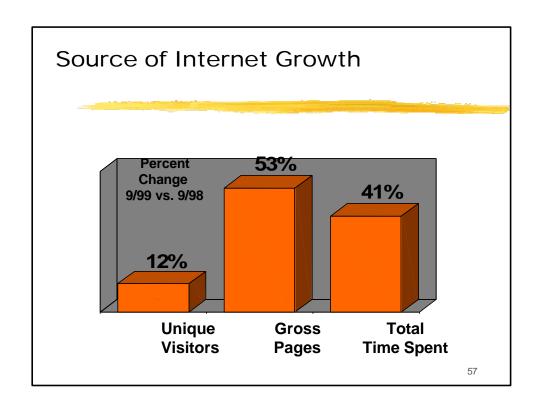


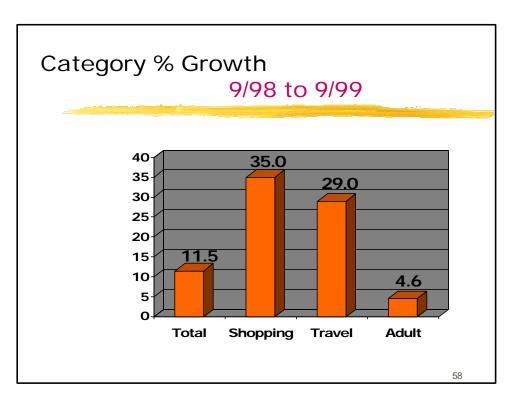
- High income individuals still overrepresented
- 50% growth in Web usage for under \$25k, yet still represent <10% of Internet-using population
- In the U.S. population, lower income brackers (<\$25k) represent 32%, while highest income braket (>\$100k) comparise 11% of U.S. households

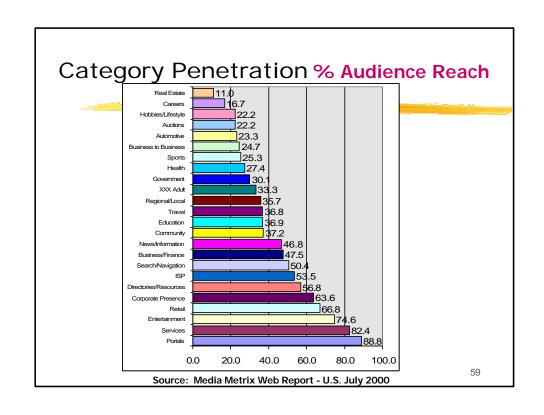
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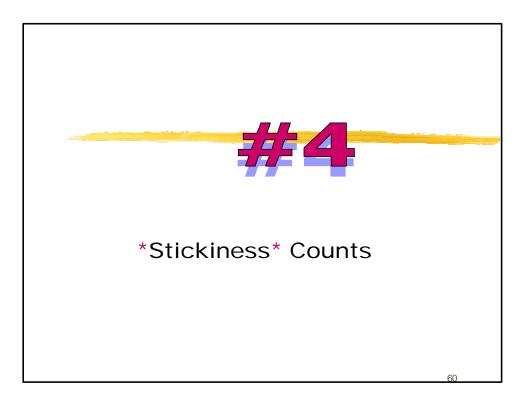
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**Growing Beyond Reach** 









## The \*Stickiest\* Sites

#### Average Time Per Visitor Per Day

1. AOL NETWORK	48.8 Minutes
2. LYCOSCHAT.COM	36.5 Minutes
3. POGO NETWORK	32.1 Minutes
4. GAMESVILLE.COM	27.3 Minutes
5. MPLAYER. COM	26.4 Minutes
6. PRIZEPOINT.COM	22.6 Minutes
7. EBAY.COM	22.5 Minutes
8. UPROAR.COM	20.4 Minutes
9. VOYEURWEB.COM	19.8 Minutes
10. FREERIDE.COM	19.2 Minutes

Source: Media Metrix WWW Audience Ratings Report Average Minutes Per Month Per Person 8/99

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The World Is Dominated By U.S. Multi-Nationals

# Consolidated Landscape Of Global Brands (alphabetical)

FRANCE	GERMANY	UNITED KINGDOM	UNITED STATES
TOP 25	TOP 25	TOP 25	TOP 25 About.com
Altavista Search	Altavista Search	Altavista Search	Altavista Search
	Amazon	Amazon	Amazon
<b>AOL Services</b>	AOL Services	AOL Services	AOL Services
Chez.com	Bahn.hafas.de	BBC.co.uk	Ebay.com
Citeweb.net	Comdirect.de	Demon.co.uk	
Club-Internet.fr	Fireball.de		
Free.fr	GMX.de		
		Excite	Excite
Ifrance.com	Kostenlos.de	Freeserve.net	Go.com
Infonie.fr		Lineone.net	Hotbot.com
Libertysurf.fr			Looksmart.com
	Lycos	Lycos	Lycos
Microsoft Sites	Microsoft Sites	Microsoft Sites	Microsoft Sites
Multimania.com	Puretec.de		
Nomade.fr	01019Freenet.de		
Pagesjaunes.fr			
Real.com	Real.com		Real.com
Voila.fr	T-Online Services	Ukplus.co.uk	Snap Services
Wanadoo.fr		Virgin.net	
Xoom	Xoom	Xoom	Xoom
Yahoo Sites	Yahoo Sites	Yahoo Sites	Yahoo Sites 63

# Conclusions

## Today's Lecture...

- In transformation of direct marketing into database marketing and relationship marketing
- The potential for using data to implement 1to1 Marketing is huge!
  - Scores of firms using collaborative filtering to offer customized sites
  - Consumers appear willing to make the tradeoff right now to give up data if they get something in return
  - Information is critical, the most valuable information is purchase history
  - New and better measures of the information content of clickstream data and customer acquisition costs are needed

It is not a panacea and can be costly to implement fully