# The coming age of Calm technology

Published in 1996

- Notions of
  - Mainframe many people share a computer
  - Personal computer one computer per person
    ....internet, distributed computing....
  - Ubiquitous computing many computers share us



# The periphery

 A calm technology will move easily from the periphery of our attention to the center and back

- Examples
  - Inner Office Window

Internet Multicast

Dangling String



### **Inner Office Window**

Notion of connectedness

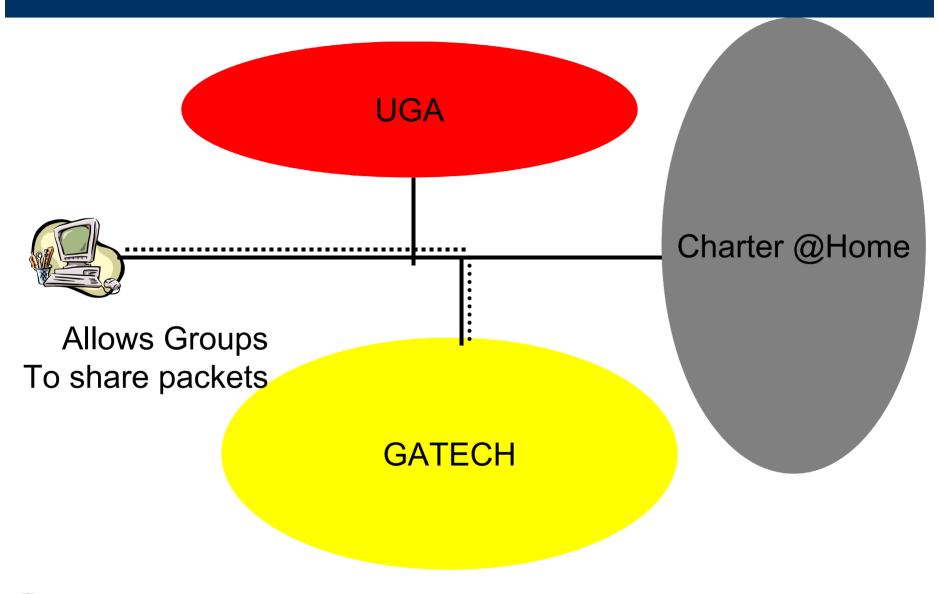
Boundary well defined





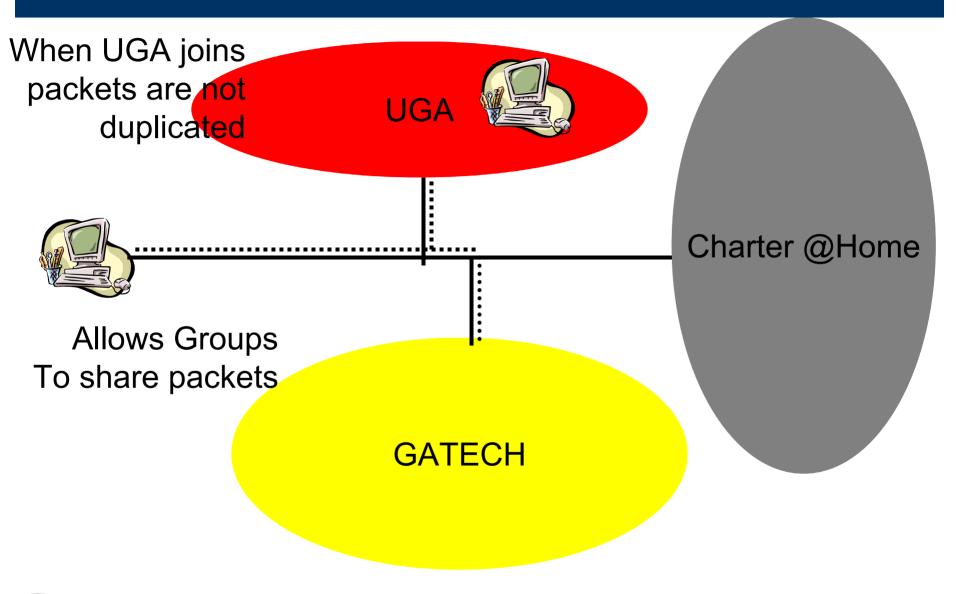
17-Jan-02

### **Internet Multicast**





### **Internet Multicast**





## **Dangling String**

 Small motor connected to ethernet

Whenever a packet goes by, it twitches

With a busy network it whirls along



#### "Future"

- 10 million pixels (80 dpi over several feet)
  - Still too expensive



- 1 billion operations / sec low power
- Reality: Hitachi SH4 200MHz low power



Reality: 1 GB microdrive



Microdrive:

## "Future"

1000x800 high contrast display





#### "Future"

- Remove fixed configuration of devices
  - Universal plug and play, Jini etc..
- High speed wireless networks everywhere
  - 3G wireless networks upto 384 kb (deployment slow)
- Close range wireless networks
  - Bluetooth, HomeRF
- Wireless LAN
  - 802.11b (11 Mbit right here in the class)



## Missed technologies

- World Wide Web
- Is WWW ubiquitous?

