

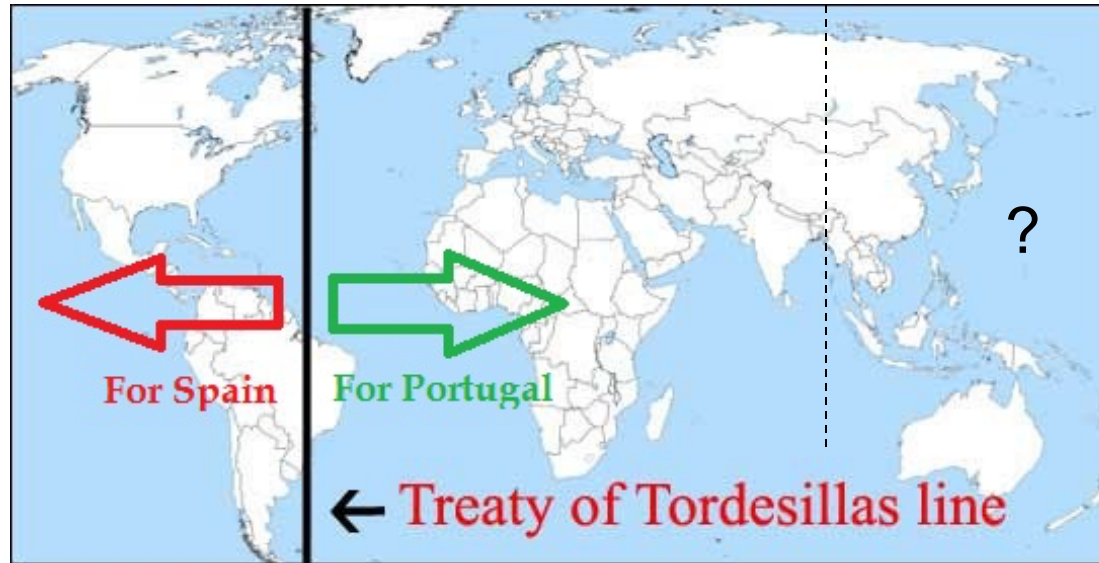
Sea Paths to Everywhere

Just as the portable clock made the world's time accessible to everybody, when atlases became portable, millions could share a view of the world's space.

WITHIN a few decades the European world concept would be transformed.

The dominant Island of the Earth, a connected body of land comprising six-sevenths of the surface, was displaced by a dominant Ocean of the Earth, a connected body of water comprising two-thirds of the surface.

Never before had the arena of human experience been so suddenly or so drastically revised. And the earth became more than ever explorable.



Nobody yet knew what intervened between this new Fourth Part of the World and Asia. Spanish hopes were still high that Ptolemy, Marco Polo, and Columbus had been correct in extending the Asian continent so far eastward. Perhaps it was only a short hop, maybe along a chain of still to be discovered Asiatic islands, from America to the East Indies.

The Spanish Emperor Charles V naturally hoped that the Spice Islands would prove to be on the eastern, Spanish side of the dividing line when it was extended on that Asian half of the globe. Why not send out an expedition to mark off that line and then assert Spanish claims? Here was Magellan's opportunity.

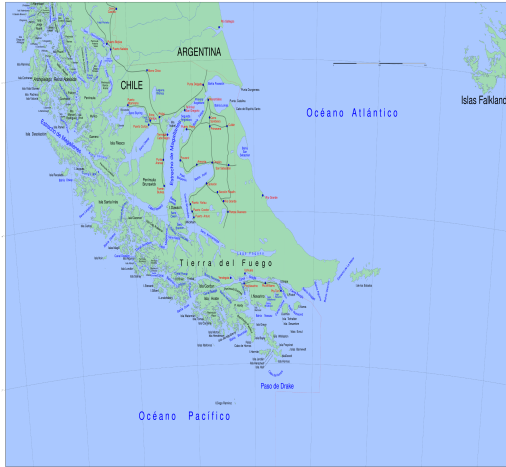
Magellan



Magellan's feat, by any measure—moral, intellectual, or physical— would excel even that of Gama or Columbus or Vespucci. He would face rougher seas, negotiate more treacherous passages, and find his way across a broader ocean. He commanded a more mutinous crew, yet managed his more difficult command firmly and humanely.



Straits of Magellan



Magellan departed on
September 20, 1519.

For his round-the-world voyage he set out with five ships varying in burden from 75 to one 125 tons.

After Magellan's death in Asia, the expedition was not abandoned. The *Concepción* had become unseaworthy and was burned. The *Trinidad* attempted to make an attempt to cross the Pacific to Panama, and returned to the East Indies. The semi-seaworthy *Victoria*, took the western route around the Cape of Good Hope.

To the already familiar trials of hunger, thirst, and scurvy now was added the hostility of the Portuguese, who imprisoned nearly half of Del Cano's crew when they put in at the Cape Verde Islands in the Atlantic.

On September 8, 1522, only twelve days less than three years from the day of their departure, a feeble remnant of the original two hundred fifty, eighteen ship-worn men, arrived at Seville.

The printing press also had a daemonic power to open the world and diffuse knowledge of discoveries in convenient packages. Merely by its power to multiply the product, **the printing press would be a champion of freedom**, providing myriad unstoppable channels for dangerous facts and ideas, sending out countless items which could not be traced or withdrawn.

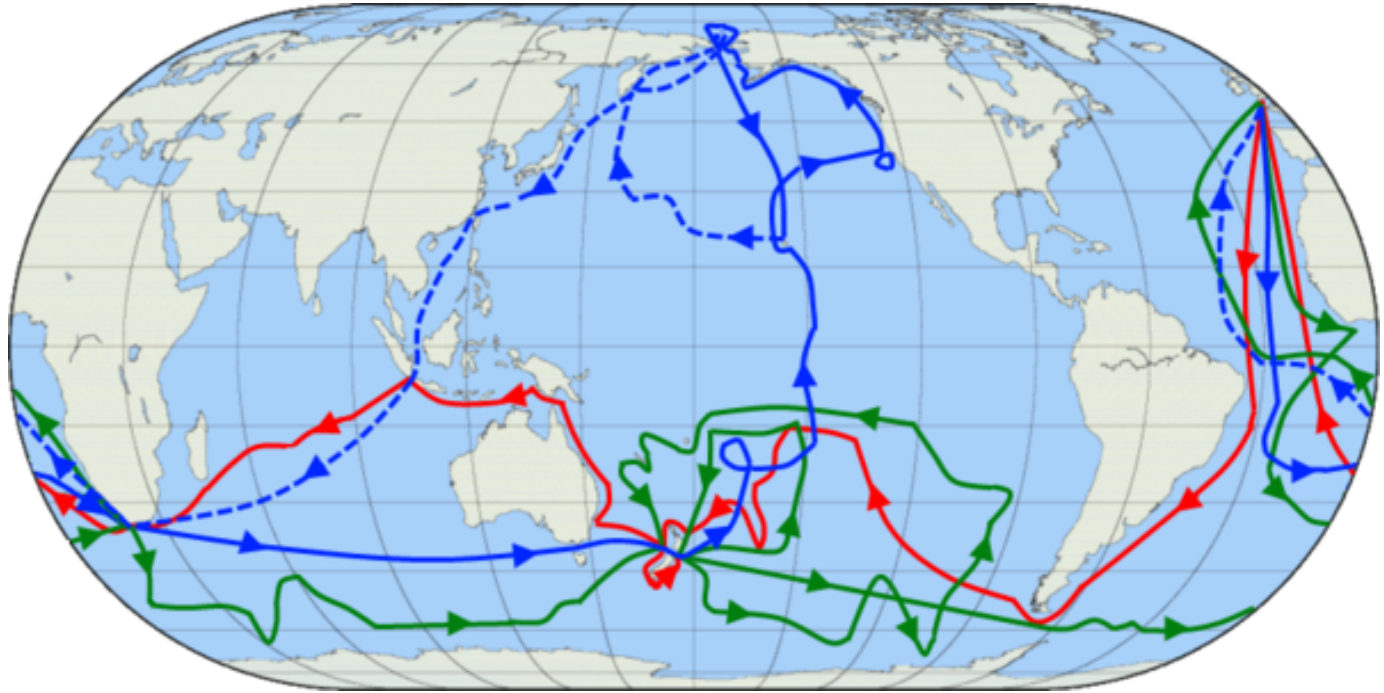


Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) unwittingly produced a new kind of book, the first modern geographical atlas. With the help of his friend Mercator, he collected the best maps. The Picture of the World (**Theatrum Orbis Terrarum**), the first modern atlas, came of the Antwerp press on **May 20, 1570**, after ten years of work.

The Ardors of Negative Discovery (pp 278-289)



James Cook



Captain Cook (3 major voyages)

To succeed in negative discovery—to prove that some mythical entity really did not exist—was far more exacting and more exhausting than to succeed in finding a known objective. The westward sea passage from Europe to Asia, which Columbus sought, was a path to a known goal. So long as the existence and precise location of the Great South Land were legendary, the explorer had to scour all conceivable places, and in fact would have to circumnavigate the globe, before he dared assert that it would never be discovered.

A great deal of the interest in Cook's **first voyage** came from the rich haul of specimens that the naturalists had collected.

Cook's plan this time (**second voyage**) was wholly directed at solving the problem of the Great South Land. For this purpose the voyage had to be a full circumnavigation of the earth at the southernmost possible latitude. His last trip had come into the Pacific by way of Cape Horn. This time he proposed to try the other way, down the Atlantic past the Cape of Good Hope, then, in the farthest southern latitude he could manage, proceed eastward all around the South Polar regions of the globe. If there really was a southern continent reaching up into inhabitable zones, he could not possibly miss it.

In this field we counted Ninety Seven Ice Hills or Mountains, many of them vastly large. . . . I will not say it was impossible anywhere to get in among this Ice, but I will assert that the bare attempting of it would be a very dangerous enterprise and what I believe no man in my situation would have thought of. **I whose ambition leads me not only farther than any other man has been before me, but as far as I think it is possible for man to go,** was not sorry at meeting with this interruption, as it in some measure relieved us from the dangers and hardships, inseparable with the Navigation of the southern Polar regions. Since therefore we could not proceed one Inch farther South, no other reason need be assigned for Our tacking and stretching back to the North, being at that time in the Latitude of 71 degrees 10 min South, Longitude 106 degrees 54 min West.

Was there really a Northwest Passage?

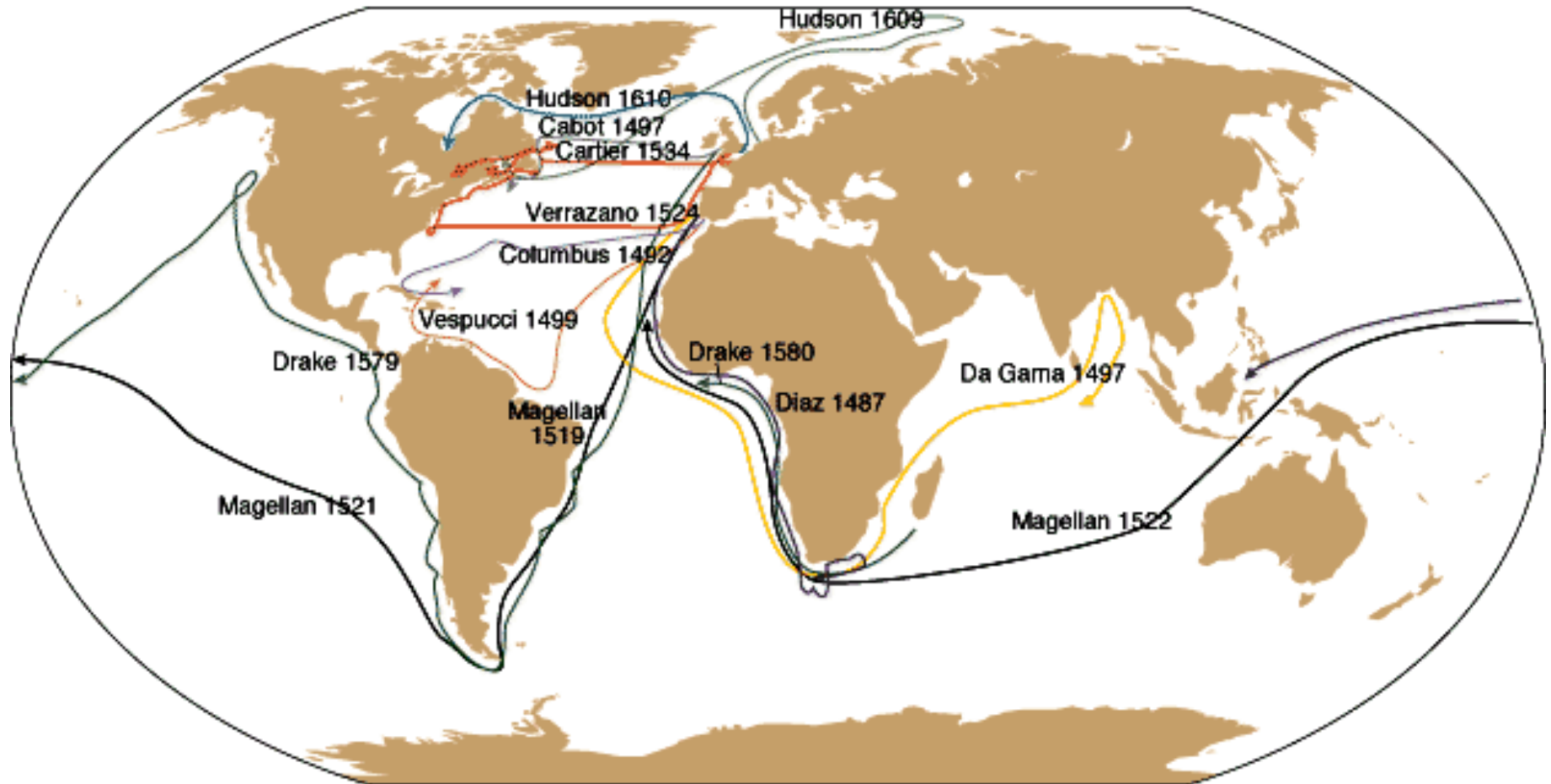
Within less than a year after his return from his second voyage, Cook was off on (**Voyage 3**) this quest for a passage that might (or might not) be there.

Cook's is recognized for what he did to improve the health and save the lives of men at sea. He did more than any other explorer in the sailing days of long ocean voyages to cure the curse of seamen—**scurvy**. The lethargy and anemia, bleeding gums, loosened teeth, stiffness of the joints, and slow wound healing were vividly described by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner." On Vasco da Gama's voyage around the Cape of Good Hope, scurvy is said to have taken a hundred of his hundred and seventy men.

He enforced cleanliness on board by regularly inspecting the men's hands, and he punished the dirty handed. The result of his experiments with oranges, lemons, and their juices, along with sauerkraut, and miscellaneous items like the onions of Madeira, the wild celery and "scurvy grass" was quite remarkable. On his first voyage he lost men by accidents and other ailments, but appears not to have lost a single one from scurvy, and his record on the second voyage was just as impressive

Today, we struggle with space radiation, loss of white blood cells and bone thinning

Comparison of some other major voyages 1487-1610

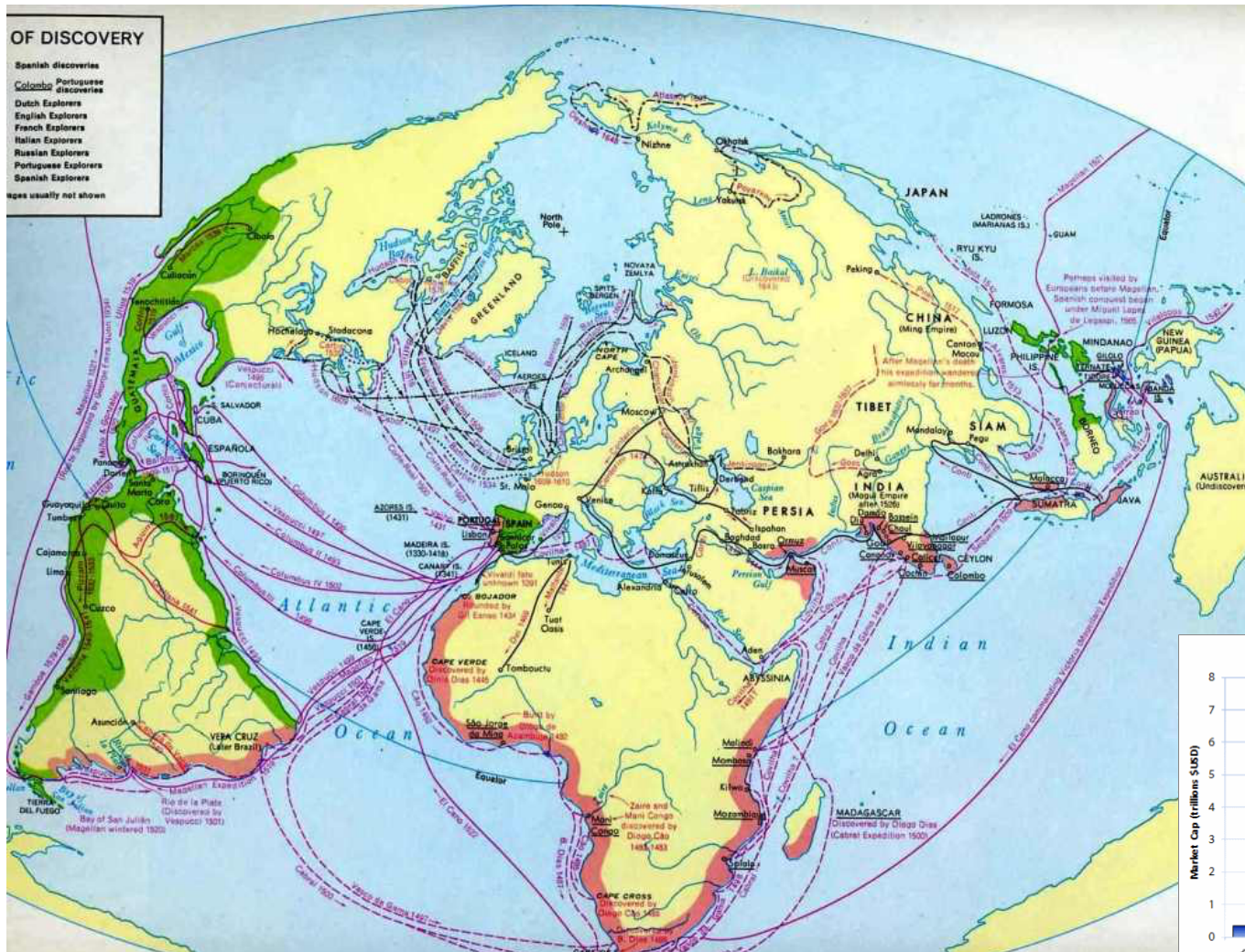


Dutch

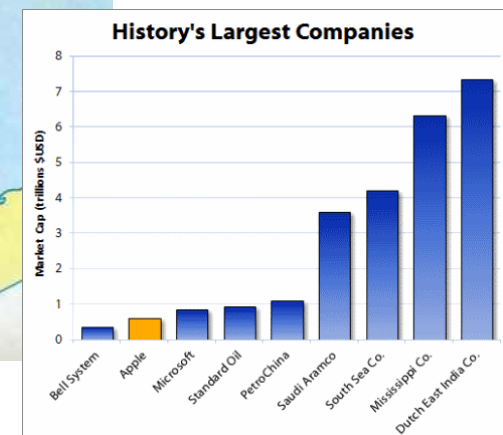
- Dutch East India Company – overtook Portuguese outposts in the Indian Ocean
- Conquered and colonized the “Spice Islands” present-day Indonesia – came to dominate European trade
- Main focus was in Southeast Asia, but had some sugarcane plantations in the Caribbean and colony of New Netherland (taking from them by the British in 1660s and renamed New York)



Dutch East India Trading Company – in 1650



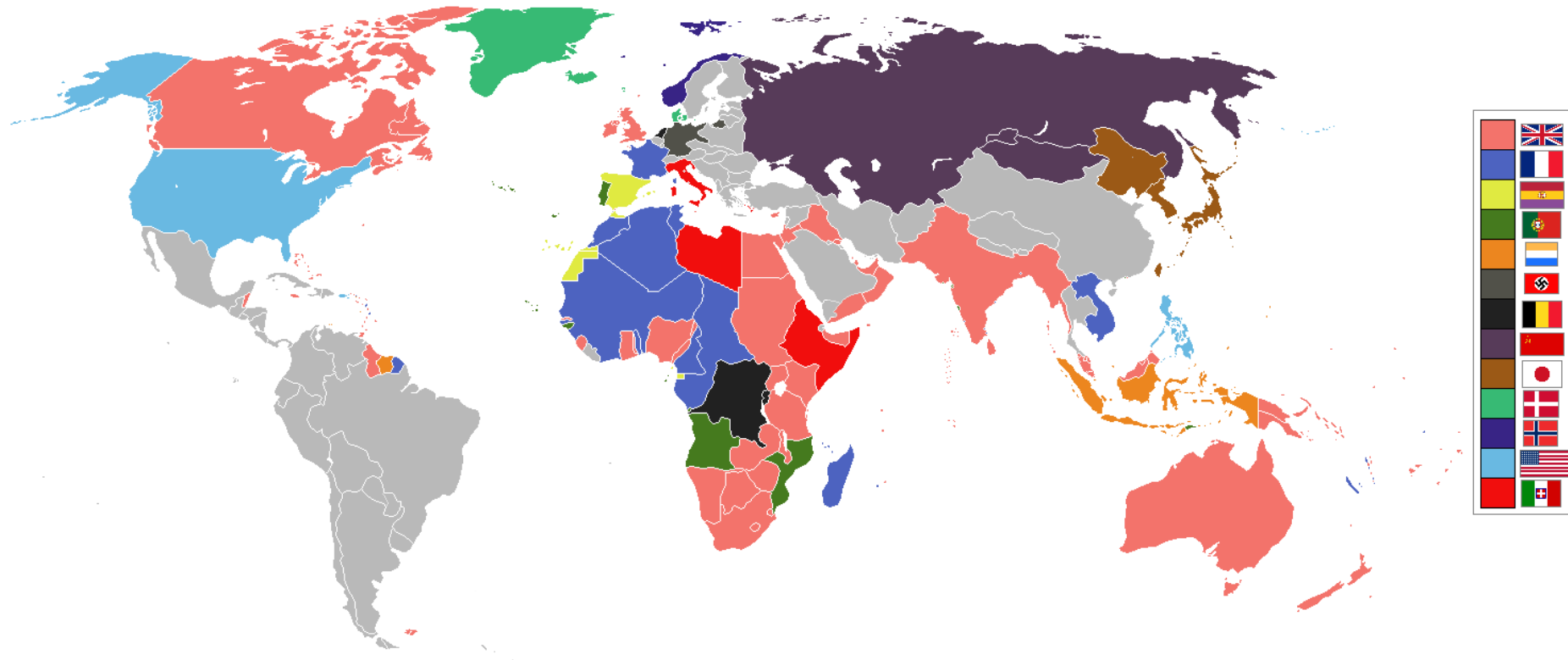
The largest company that ever has existed – they controlled the world market



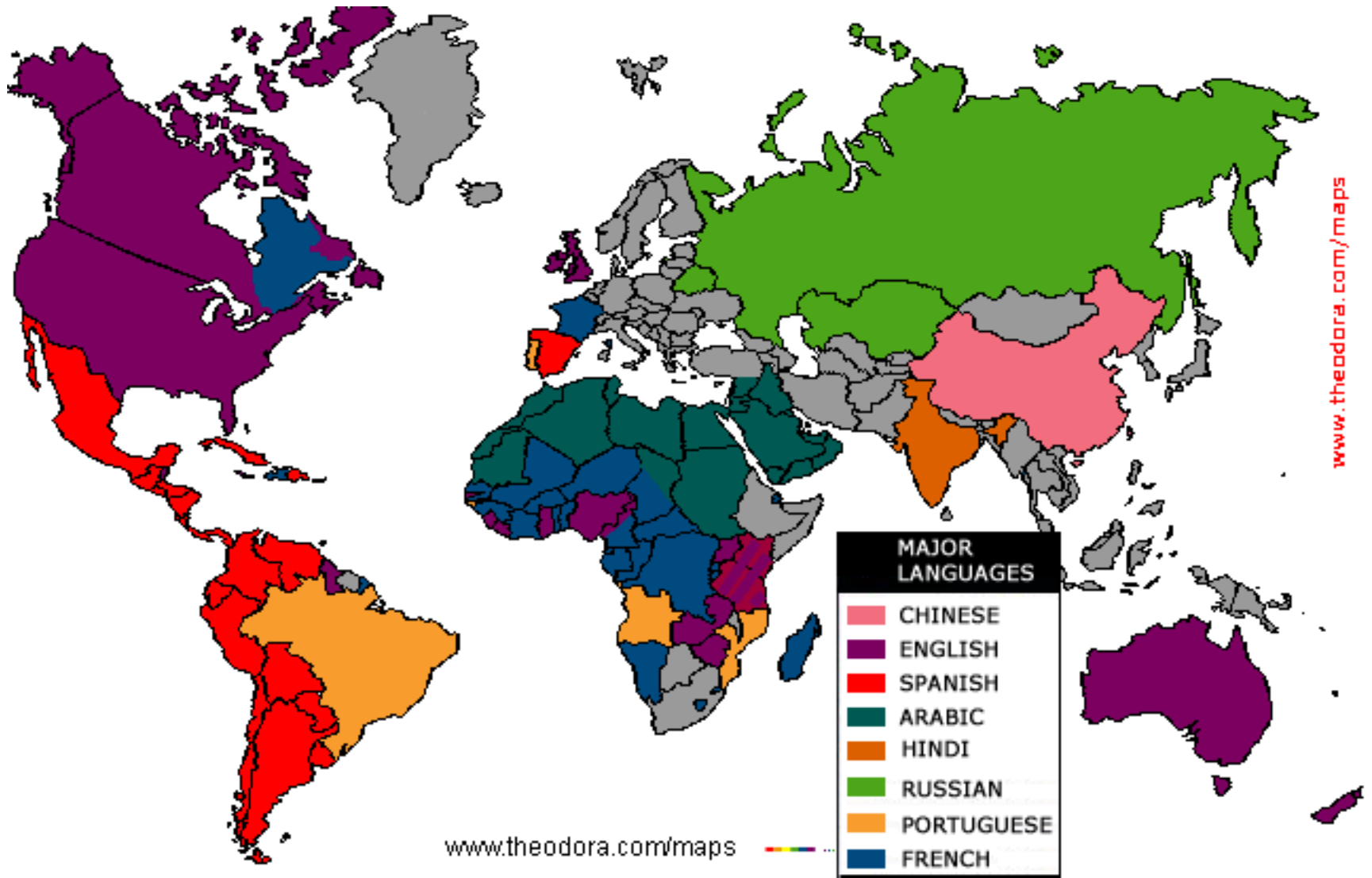
circa 1750



Colonies of World circa 1900

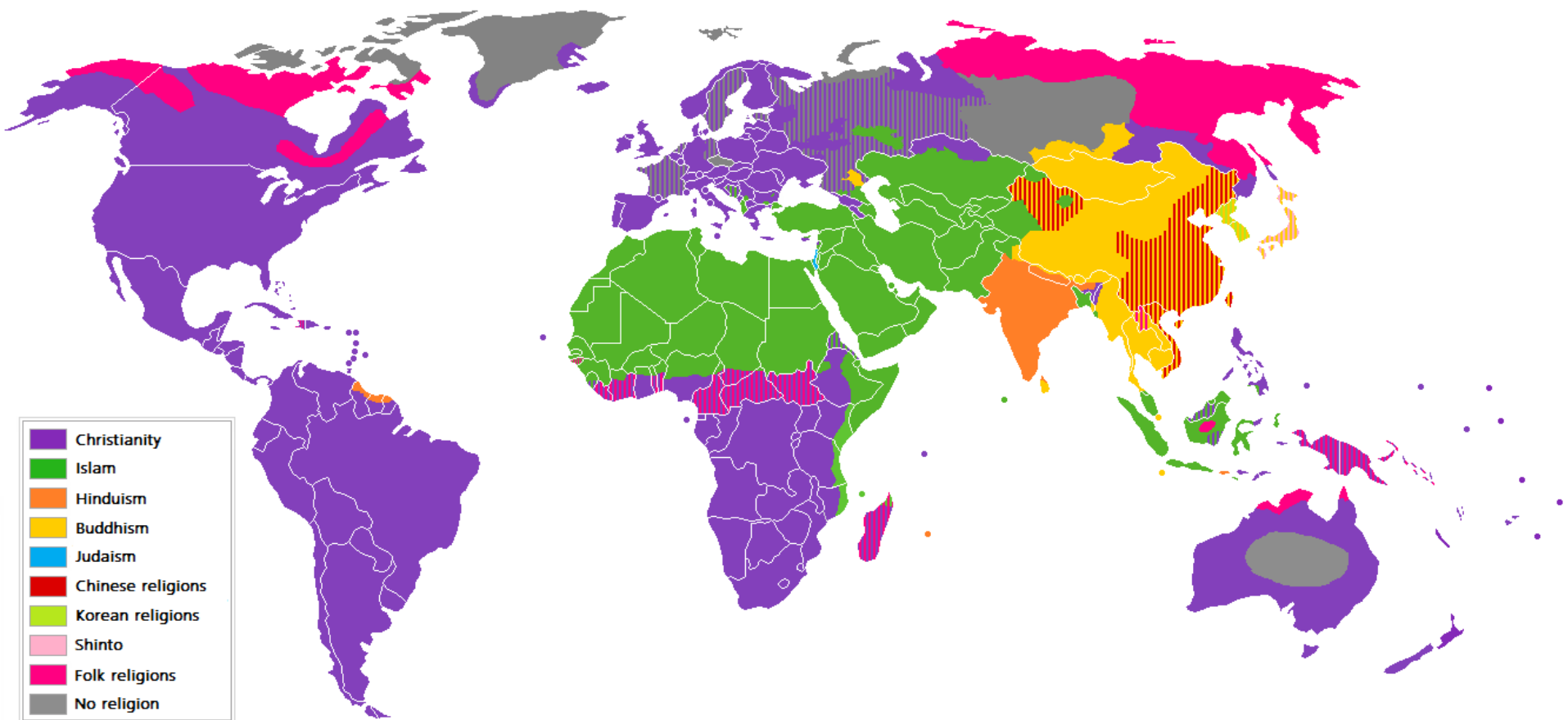


Most common languages of the World



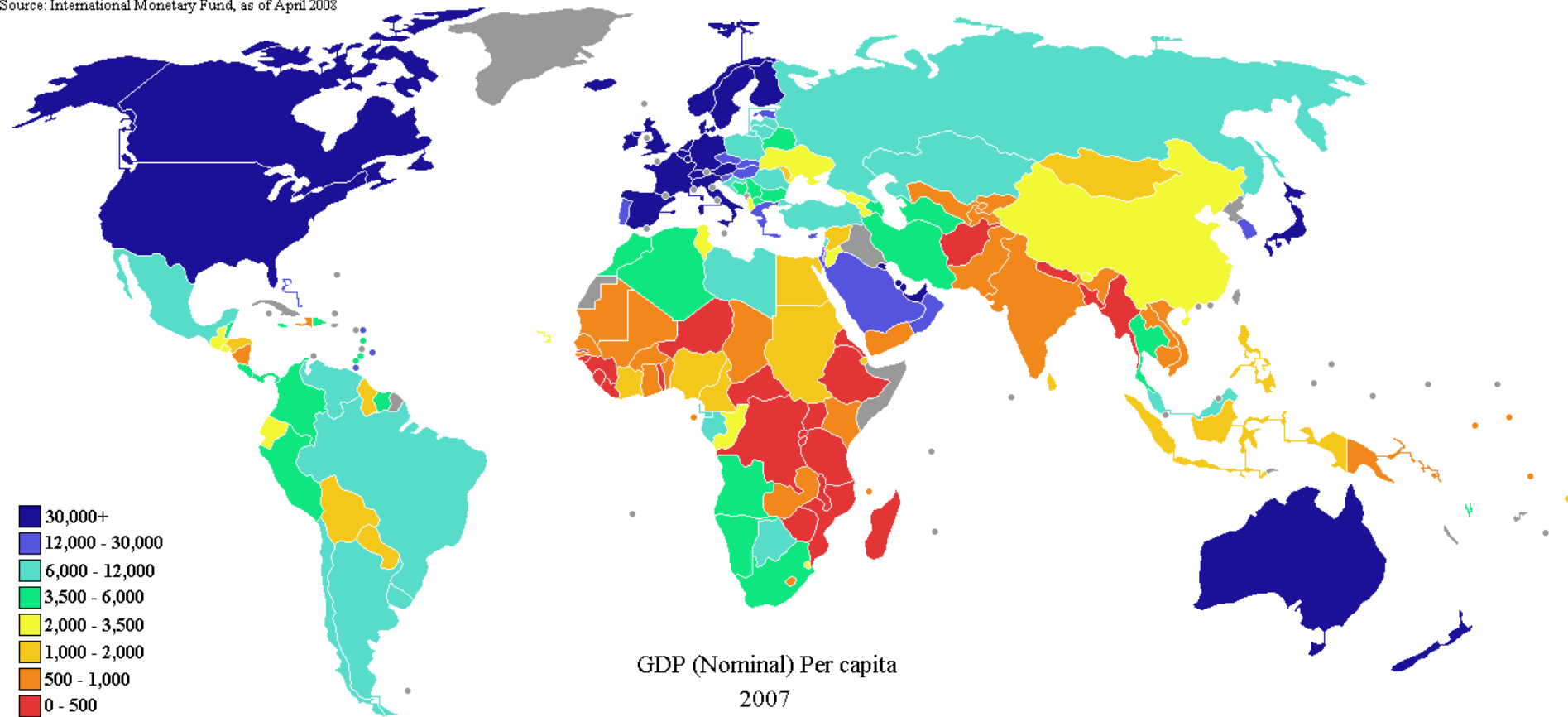
Most common religions of the World

The Religions of the World



Global Economic Wealth

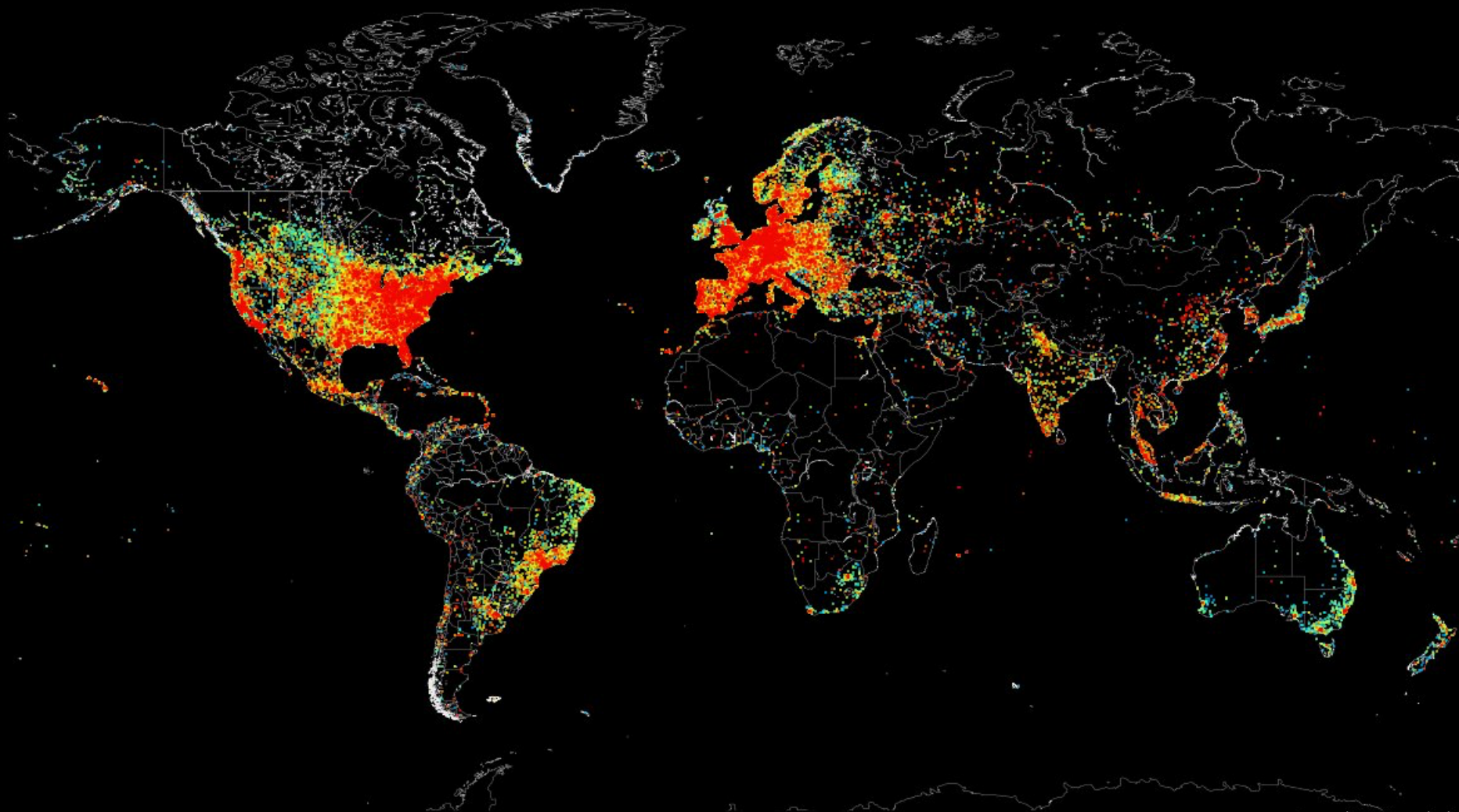
Source: International Monetary Fund, as of April 2008



THE GLOBAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



Internet Connectivity



NEXT STOP: THE FINAL FRONTIER

What humanity will be represented in different regions of the solar system?
On the asteroids? On the planets? Inner vs. Outer solar system?

What countries or coalitions of countries?

What languages?

What religions?

What economic systems?

How will wealth and resources be [redistributed](#) on Earth?

How will the MAPS change?

Consider the well-thought-through and plausible scenario of the world of China had NOT withdrawn...

http://althistory.wikia.com/wiki/Easternized_World

