avoid "laxity in the use of the term"--Kenneth Sayre, *Cybernetics and the Philosophy of Mind*, 1976

definitive

modern roots
information theory
disciplinary anxieties
ischools
information science

older approaches
information and the law
information and economics/business

information unbound
"The logic of definition is nowhere more crucial than with respect to the name of a field of scholarly enquiry...The name of the field maps out essential characteristics."

Alvin Schrader, "In Search of a Name," 1984

"Science begins when the meaning of the words is strictly delimited."


"Rarely does it happen in mathematics that a new discipline achieves the character of a mature developed scientific theory in the first investigation devoted to it... So it was with information theory after the work of Shannon."

A.I. Khintchin, 1956
"Information relates not so much to what you do say, as to what you could say ... a measure of one's freedom of choice when one selects a message"

definitions

and antecedents

"[I]nformation is a very elastic term ... a more specific meaning ... the sender mentally selects ... At each selection there are eliminated all of the other symbols which might have been chosen ... more and more possible symbols sequences are eliminated ... the information becomes more precise ...

Inasmuch as the precision of the information depends upon what .... might have been .. reasonable to hope to find in the number of these sequences the desired quantitative measure .... desirable ... to eliminate the psychological factors involved and to establish a measure of information in terms of purely physical quantities."


Bell System Technical Journal, 1928
"The word communication will be used here in a very broad sense to include all the procedures by which one mind may affect another. This, of course, involves not only written and oral speech, but also music, the pictorial arts, the theatre, the ballet, and in fact all human behavior ... one which would include the procedures by means of which one mechanism (say automatic equipment to track an airplane and to compute its probable future positions) affects another mechanism (say a guided missile chasing an airplane)."

"[B]asic results [of information theory] are aimed in a very specific direction ... not necessarily relevant to such fields as psychology, economics, and other social sciences,...not a trivial matter of translating words to a new domain"
Claude Shannon, "The Bandwagon," 1956
information transmitted

processing and transmission

"these machines have generally been established for the purpose of transmitting information during war"

Charles Babbage,

*On the Economy of Machinery and Manufactures*, 1832
"Information is a subset of data ....

data ... artificial signals intended to convey meaning ...

information ... data that is delivered for use by a person...

... data, the "raw material" of information.

... we measure as information each time consumers use it.

... traditional information ... from media that preceded the home computer era."

"Information is hard to define and impossible to see, but it is every-where. ..."

"It is the thing that moves within and between people and technology, making them interesting ..."

"The action occurs where people and technology meet because that is where the information exists."

Wobbrock et al, "Exploring the Future of iSchools," 2010

--------------------

"Information is no more abstract than law, business, or policy

"We are not about the interactions between people and arbitrary technology: We focus on technology that mediates information use."

Pollack, "Reflections on the Future of iSchools," 2010
information science

ancestral voices

First use [?]: "Computer and Information Sciences Program"
University of Pennsylvania, 1959

"Information ... is a category word, for there are many kinds ... [information is] recorded marks"
Symposium on Education for Information Science, 1965

"Information ... is a process which occurs within a human mind when a problem and data useful for a solution are brought into productive union"

"[data] that which is recorded as symbols from which other symbols may be produced" ... [information] "the result of processing of data, usually formalized processing."
R.M. Hayes, "Information Science in Librarianship," 1969
coming into the language

modern roots
information theory

disciplinary anxieties
ischools
information science

older approaches
information and the law
information and economics

information unbound

process

Information, (lat.)
an informing, telling, or making known.

Informatus non sum, a formal answer, made by an Atturny, that is commanded by the Court to say what he thinks good in defence of his Client

Edward Philips, The New World of English Words or a General Dictionary: Containing the Interpretations of Such Hard Words as are Derived from Other Languages ..., 1658
NBA's Gilbert Arenas Charged With Gun Felony
by THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

January 14, 2010

Washington Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas has been charged with a felony in connection with last month's locker room confrontation with a teammate.

Arenas was charged Thursday with one count of carrying a pistol without a license.

The charges were filed in D.C. Superior Court in an "information," a document that generally signals a plea deal.

His lawyer had no immediate comment.
legal information

modern roots
information theory

disciplinary anxieties
ischools
information science

older approaches
information and the law
information and economics

information unbound

Free Legal Advice in 100+ Law Topics - Law Attorney
Free Legal Advice is the best law site for consumers, with easy to understand answers to legal questions from expert lawyers, attorneys available Free to ...
Divorce Law - Child Custody - FreeAdvice Answers
www.freeadvice.com/ - Cached - Similar

Lawyer, Lawyers, Attorney, Attorneys, Law, Legal Information - FindLaw
Find a local lawyer and free legal information at FindLaw, the award-winning website.
www.findlaw.com/ - Cached - Similar

Lawyers, Legal Forms, Law Books, Legal Software, and Free ...
Free legal information, legal books and software, and legal forms— ... The most authoritative and comprehensive legal information online. ...
nolo.com/ - Cached - Similar

World Wide Legal Information Association
Providing free legal information to the wide world since 1997.
www.wilia.org/ - Cached - Similar

Legal Information for U.S. Business Organizations
General Resources (sites with multiple areas of legal information) ... Nonprofit -Specific Legal Information (NOTE: most other topics apply to nonprofits, ...
managementhelp.org/legal/legal.htm - Cached - Similar

Lawyer, Attorney, Law Firms, Attorneys, Legal Information, Lawyers.com
Attorney, lawyer, and law firm directory to find a lawyer, attorneys, and local law firms. Lawyers.com is the #1 lawyer directory.
www.lawyers.com/ - 2 hours ago - Cached - Similar

3M Worldwide: Legal Information
Nothing contained in this Legal Information Page is intended to modify or amend any agreement currently in effect between you and 3M. ...
solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/WWW/WWW/LegalV - Cached - Similar

All Law-Legal Help-Legal Services-Legal Advice-Law Documents-Legal ...
All Law provides free legal services, legal help, legal documents, law information, and legal help. Search for a law firm, attorney or lawyer.
www.alllaw.com/ - Cached - Similar
Legal advice
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Legal advice is distinguished from legal information which is the reiteration of legal fact. Legal information can be conveyed by a parking meter, sign or by other forms of notice such as a warning by a law enforcement officer. Printed legal materials, such as directions and how-to manuals, are generally not considered legal advice. Accordingly, directions on how to fill in a motion form and other court documents do not constitute legal advice.

On the other hand, application of legal rules and principles to a specific set of facts is almost always held to constitute legal advice by the courts.


R. Richards, "Definition of 'Legal Information'," http://home.comcast.net/~richards1000/Definitions.html
"I propose we get rid of the duplication of 'knowledge and information.' There are those who insist on distinguishing 'information' from 'knowledge' ... The specialist in 'information theory' [ie Shannon] uses the word, as he frankly admits, in a 'rather strange way' ... but it is not what is commonly meant by 'information.' ... Webster's Dictionary defines 'information' as 'knowledge communicated ....' Hence, in the ordinary uses of the word, all information is knowledge"

Fritz Machulup, *Production and Distribution of Knowledge*, 1962
business antecedents

scientific management
"the science of management [comprises] organization, communication, and information" and information is "recorded communication"

Henry Varnum Poor, American Railroad Journal c1849

cp Alfred Chandler & James Cortada
A Nation Transformed by Information, 2000
information is a pattern or design that rearranges data for instrumental purposes, while knowledge is the set of reasoned judgments that evaluates the adequacy of the pattern for the purpose...
The endless cycle of ideas and action
Endless invention, endless experimentation
Brings knowledge of motion, not of stillness
Where is the life we have lost in the living?
Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?
Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?

T.S. Eliot, "Choruses from 'The Rock,'" 1934
"A crucial distinction is made by Mr. Roszak [in the *Cult of Information*] between information, or data, and knowledge, that semantic embarrassment which computer zealots at best ignore and at worst disguise, calling it by such misnomers as 'knowledge systems.' Computers may excel at processing data. But, unlike humans, they are incapable of the original thought of which knowledge is created."

*New York Times*, 1987
popular wisdom

modern roots
information theory

disciplinary anxieties
ischools
information science

older approaches
information and the law
information and economics

information unbound
"The logic of definition is nowhere more crucial than with respect to the name of a field of scholarly enquiry...The name of the field maps out essential characteristics."

Alvin Schrader, "In Search of a Name," 1984

1. form of energy
2. form of property
3. form of commodity
4. a process of change in internal mental state
5. mathematical property which reduces uncertainty
6. knowledge
7. scientific knowledge
8. scientific information
9. science information
10. data
11. facts
12. communication
13. meaning
14. message content
15. perception
16. consciousness
17. mental impression
18. physical transmission signals.

"For national decision makers, no better alternative is at hand than to accept the unifying concept of information ..."