

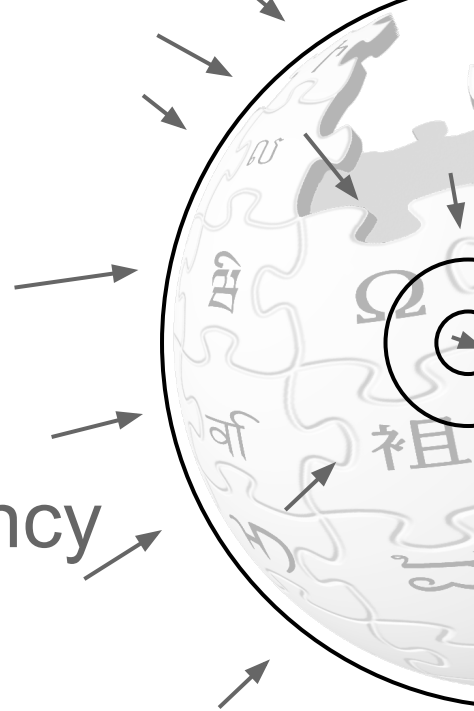
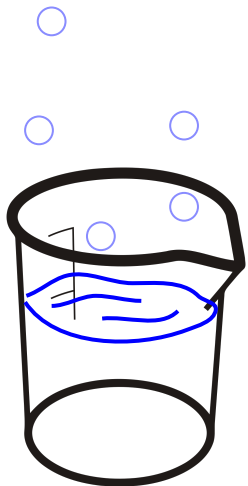
# Wikipedia

## Maintaining Production Efficiency

Aaron Halfaker

User:EpochFail  
User:Halfak (WMF)

[ahalfaker@wikimedia.org](mailto:ahalfaker@wikimedia.org)



# Outline

1. Wikipedia is Awesome
2. (English) Wikipedia's discontents
3. What can we do?

# **Part 1: Wikipedia is Awesome**

**Wikipedia is absurd**

# **Wikipedia is absurd**

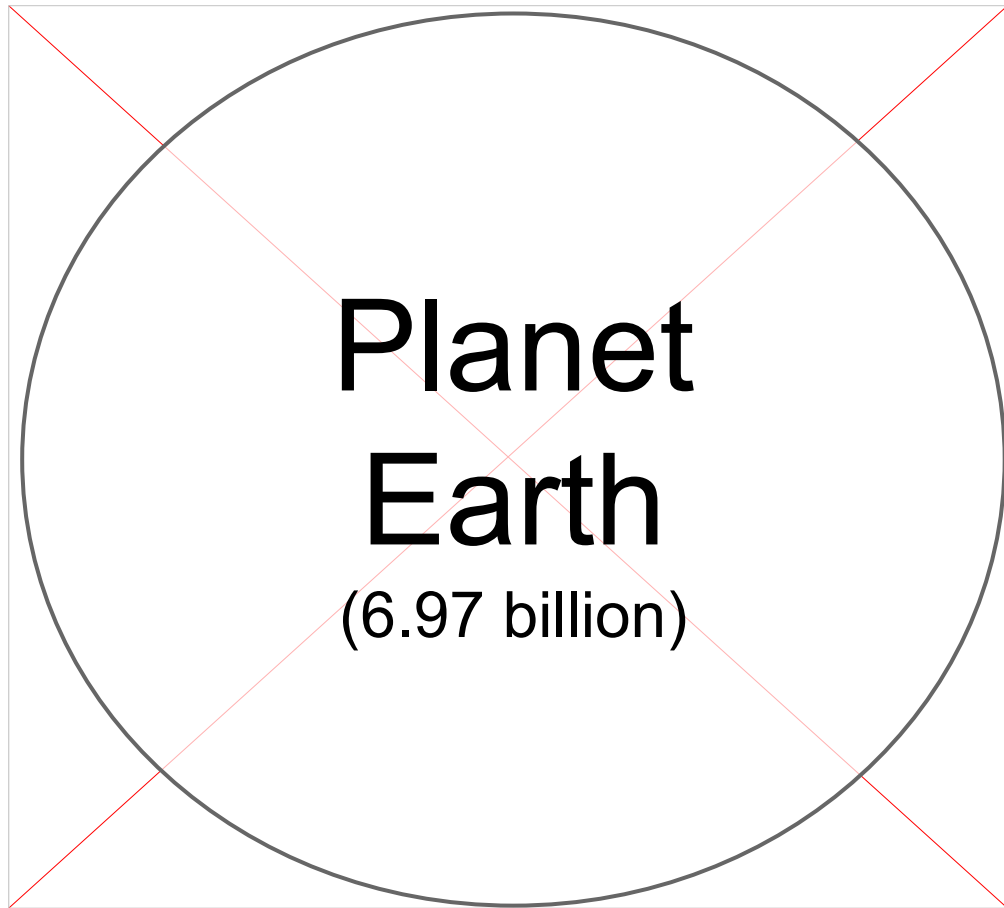
- Anyone can edit. No registration necessary.

# Wikipedia is absurd

- Anyone can edit. No registration necessary.
- No reward system. If anything, contributing is likely to bring negative attention.

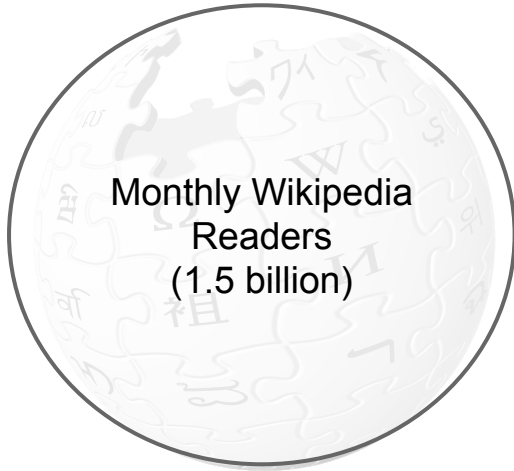
# Wikipedia is absurd

- Anyone can edit. No registration necessary.
- No reward system. If anything, contributing is likely to bring negative attention.
- Actually a wild success!



data from March 2012





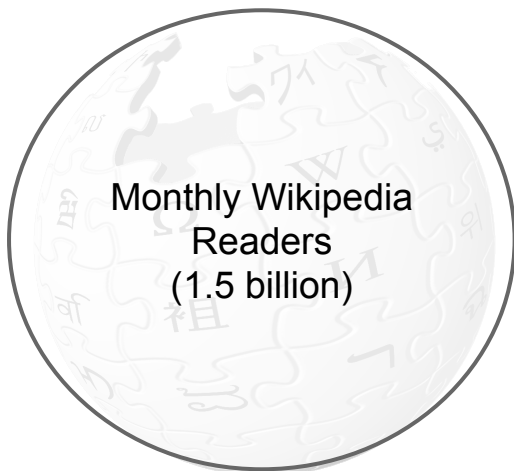
1:5



data from March 2012



1:5



1:10000

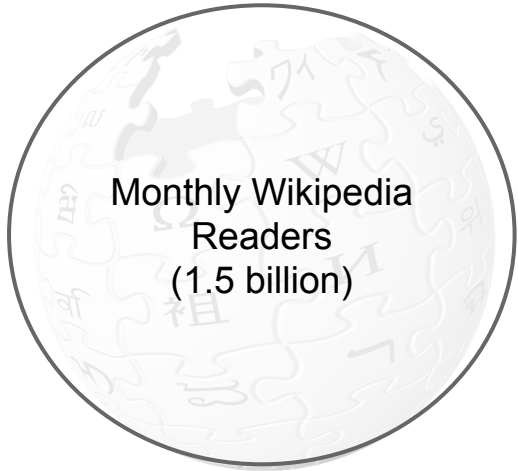
Monthly Wikipedia Editors  
(113,304)

data from March 2012

1:5

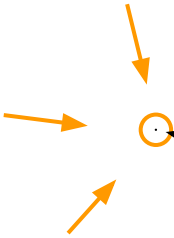


**Planet  
Earth**  
(6.97 billion)



Monthly Wikipedia  
Readers  
(1.5 billion)

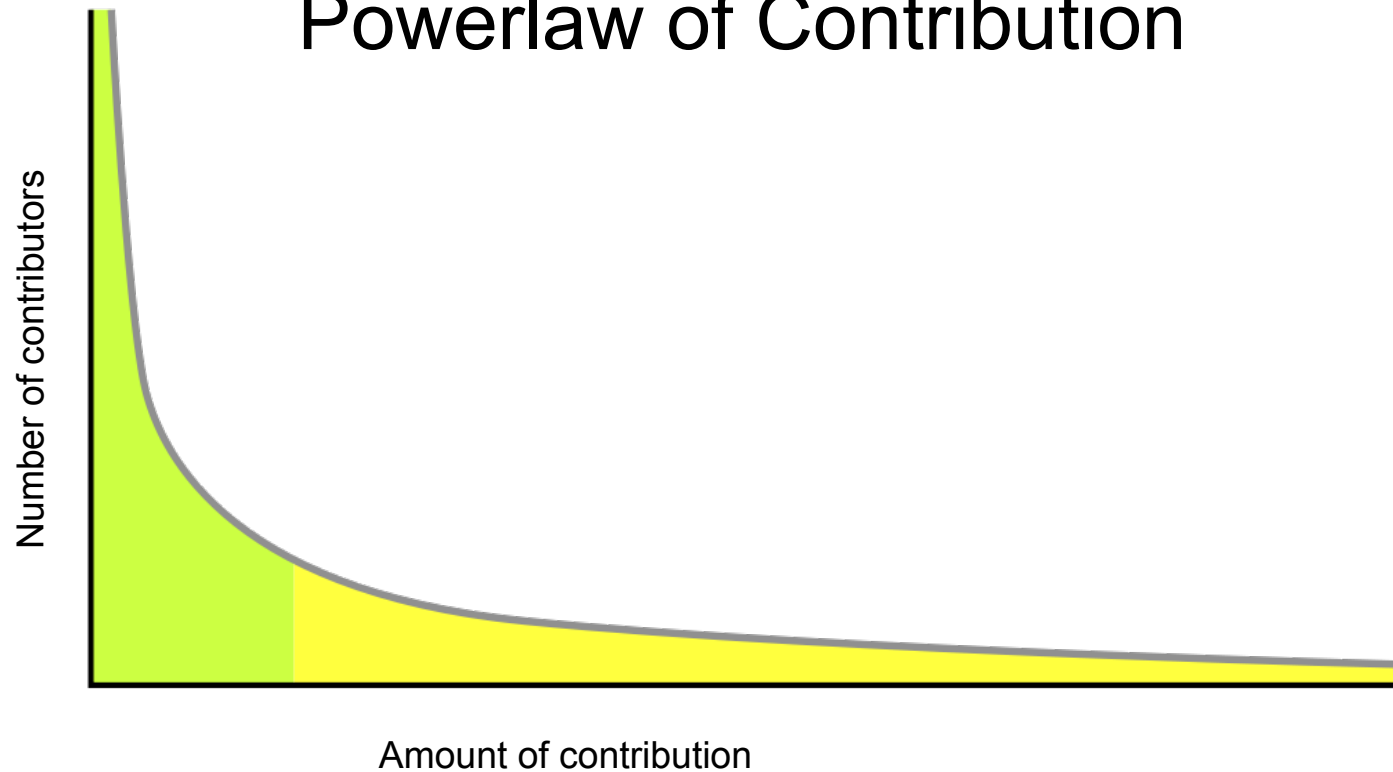
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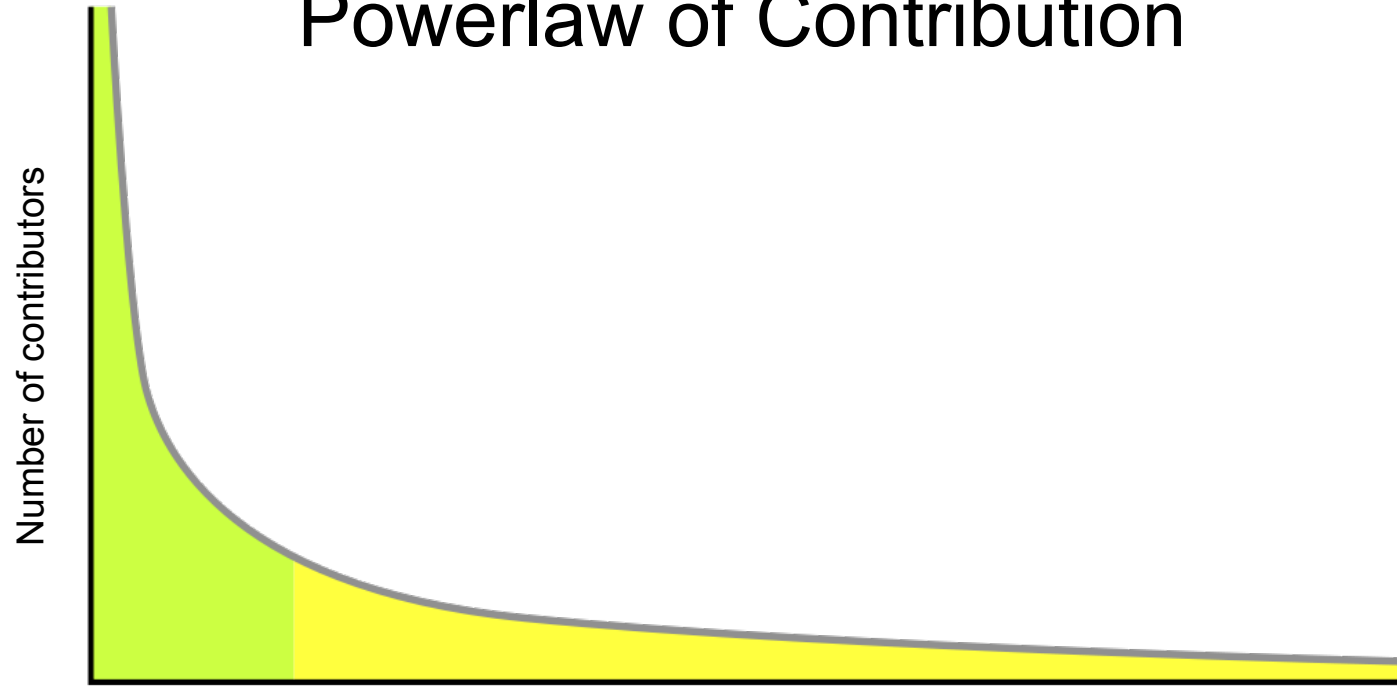
Monthly Wikipedia Editors  
(113,304)

data from March 2012

# Powerlaw of Contribution



# Powerlaw of Contribution

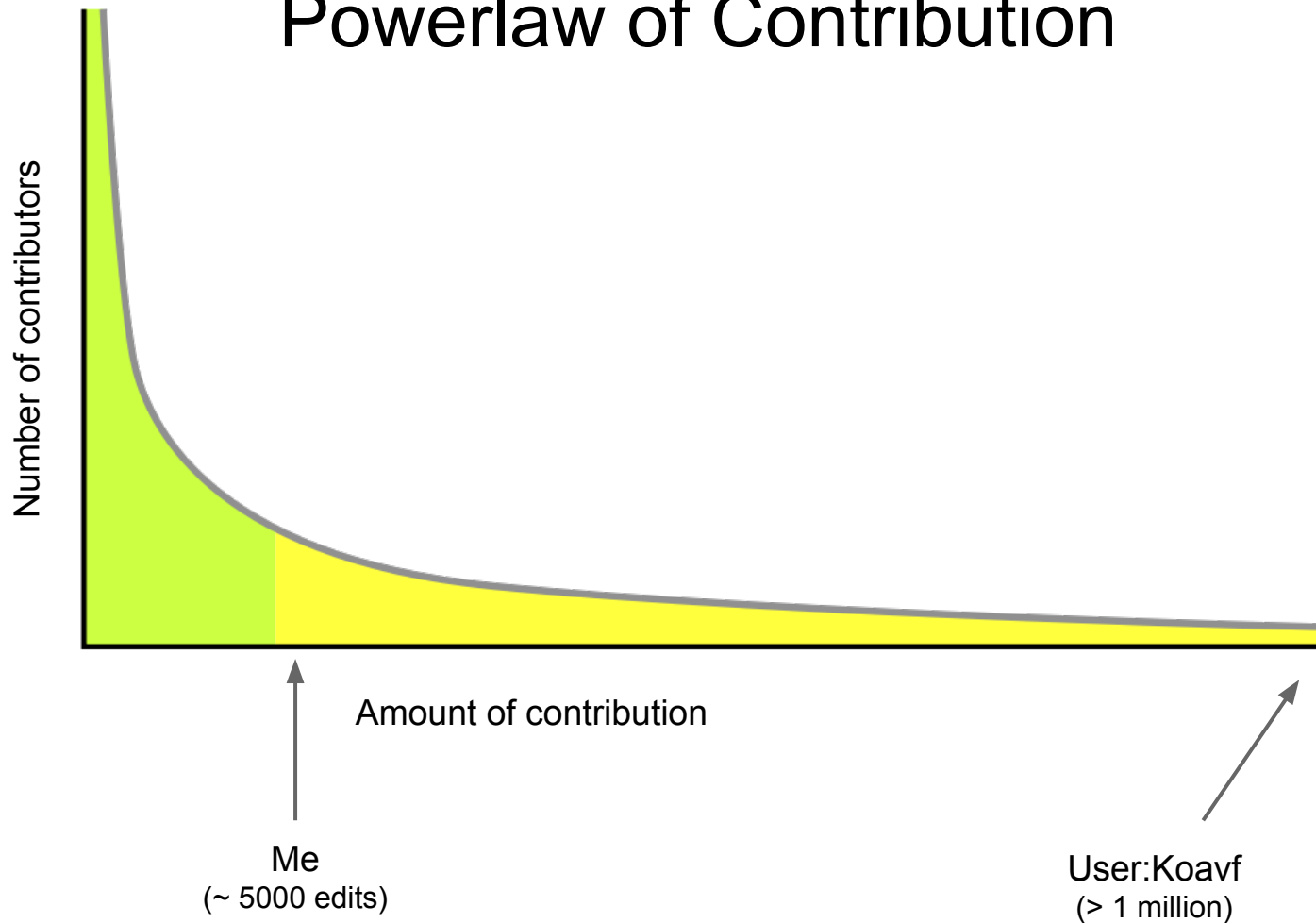


Amount of contribution

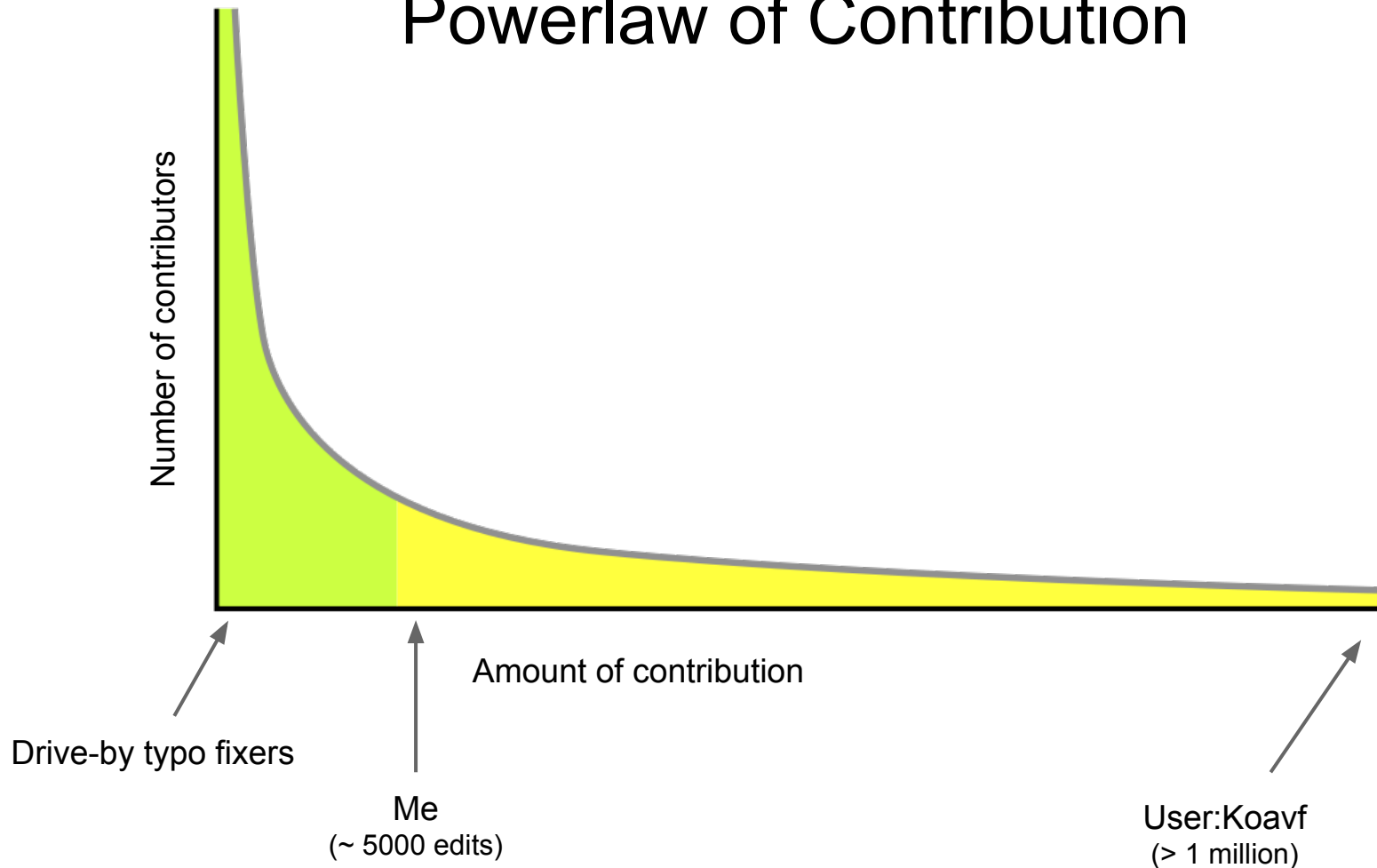
User:Koavf  
(> 1 million)



# Powerlaw of Contribution



# Powerlaw of Contribution



# Powerlaws everywhere

- Wikipedia
- Bugzilla
- Digg
- Essembly



# Powerlaws everywhere

- Wikipedia
- Bugzilla
- Digg
- Essembly (???)



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

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- Languages

Article **Talk**

Read **Edit** View history

# Essembly

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Essembly** is a non-partisan political [social networking website](#) that allows its users to connect with one another based on political opinions, participate in unmoderated discussion, and organize for political action. It was founded in 2005 by Joe Green, a [Harvard](#) graduate and college roommate of [Mark Zuckerberg](#), the founder of the collegiate social-networking site [Facebook](#). Essembly differentiates itself from other social-networking sites by actively promoting intelligent discussion and debate while remaining (as the site's "About Us" page claims) "fiercely non-partisan." A July 2006 [Newsweek](#) article put the number of registered users at over 17,000<sup>[1]</sup>

After its launch in 2005, Essembly membership was offered by invitation only, as the website was still in closed beta. In May 2006, Essembly opened membership to the public (to anyone with a valid email address), and began to run advertisements on [Facebook](#). As of September 2006, Essembly remains in public beta, the staff of Essembly has, on the whole, moved on to a new venture called Project Agape. This has resulted in intermittent user support and server crashes, as well as some bitterness by many of the long-time users.<sup>[who?]</sup>

On January 30, 2010 Essembly stopped working. After being alerted to the problem by a long-time Essembly user, Joe Green restored the site by Valentine's Day. However, since May, 2010 the site has been down.

## Essembly.com



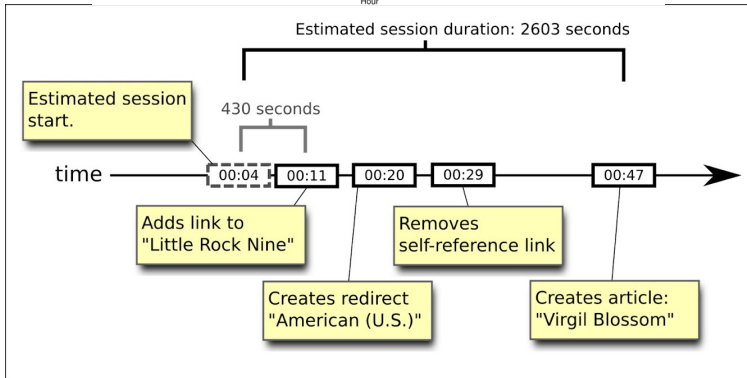
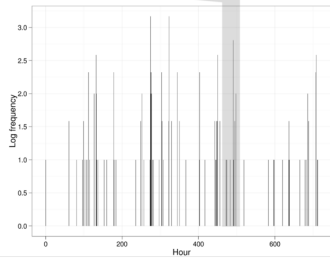
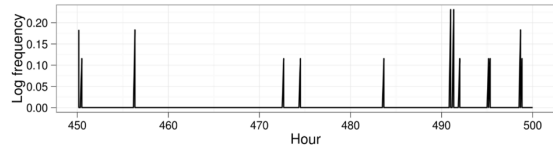
Screenshot of the "Show Resolves" page on Essembly (User information concealed)

<b>Web address</b>	<a href="http://www.essembly.com">http://www.essembly.com</a>
<b>Commercial?</b>	Yes
<b>Type of site</b>	<a href="#">Social network service</a>
<b>Registration</b>	Required
<b>Owner</b>	Essembly, LLC
<b>Created by</b>	Joe Green

**How much time goes into  
Wikipedia?**

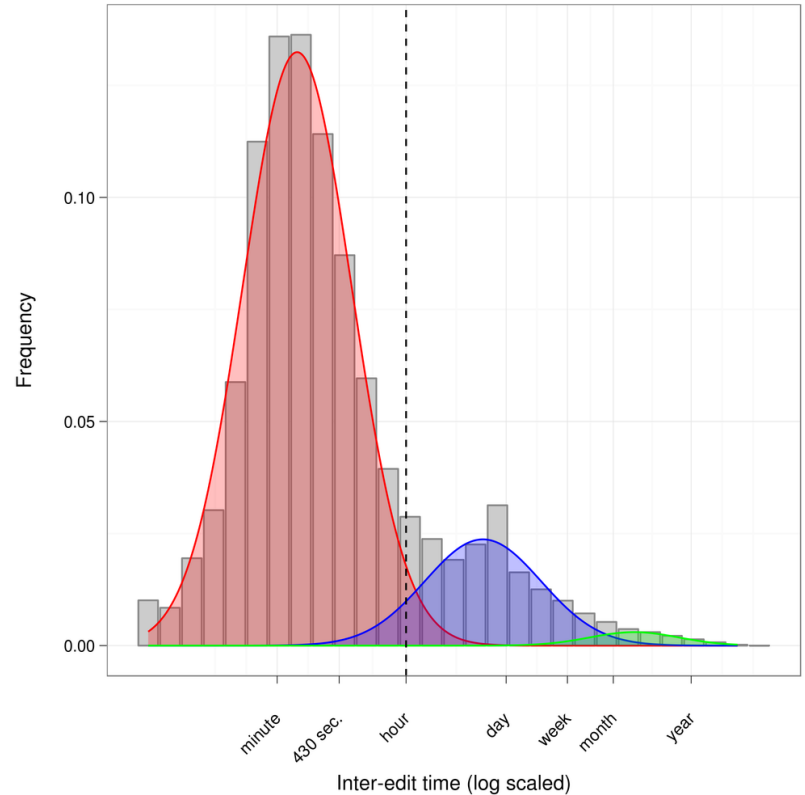
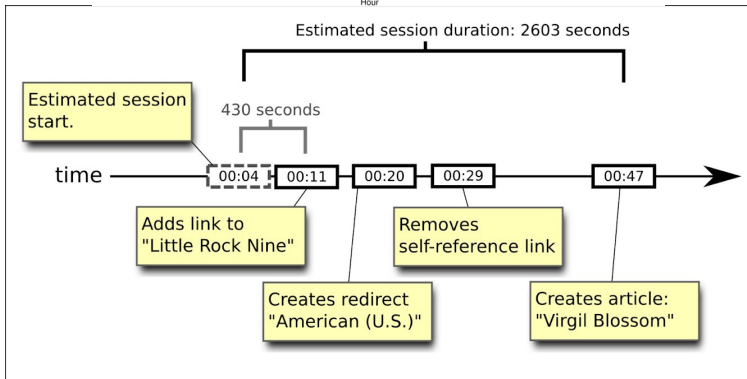
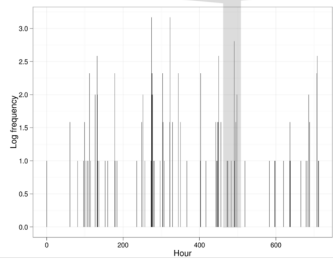
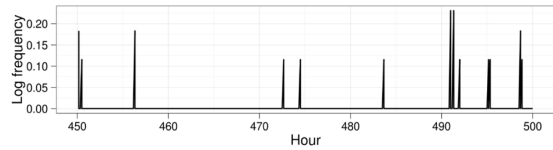
# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

## Jimmy Wales



# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

Jimmy Wales

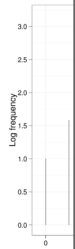
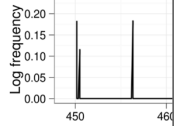


# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

Jimmy Wales

- **English Wikipedia: 41,018,804 hours**

March, 2012



Estimated session start.

430 s

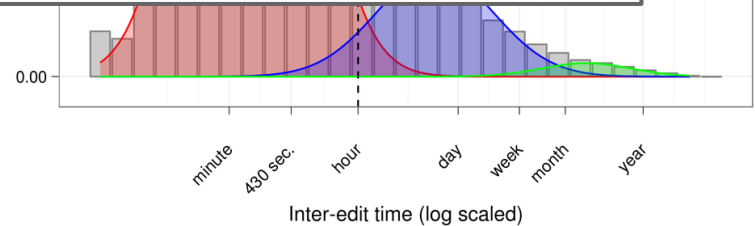
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Adds link to "Little Rock Nine"

Removes self-reference link

Creates redirect "American (U.S.)"

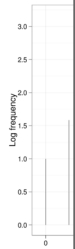
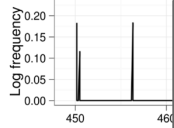
Creates article: "Virgil Blossom"



# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

Jimmy Wales

- **English Wikipedia: 41,018,804 hours**
- **Empire State Building: ~7,000,000**



Estimated session start.

430 s

time →

00:04

00:11

00:20

00:29

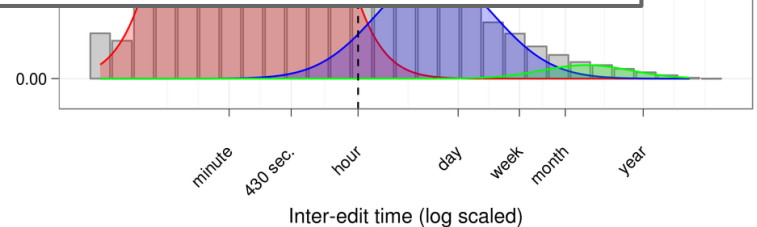
00:47

Adds link to "Little Rock Nine"

Removes self-reference link

Creates redirect "American (U.S.)"

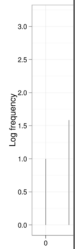
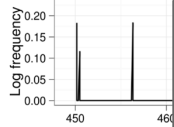
Creates article: "Virgil Blossom"



# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

Jimmy Wales

- **English Wikipedia: 41,018,804 hours**
- **Empire State Building: ~7,000,000**
- **Channel tunnel: ~170,000,000**



Estimated session start.

430 s

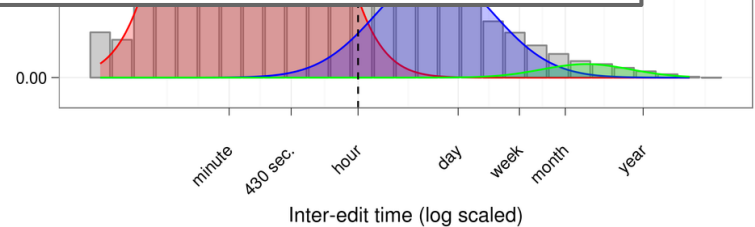
time → 00:04 | 00:11 | 00:20 | 00:29 | 00:47

Adds link to "Little Rock Nine"

Removes self-reference link

Creates redirect "American (U.S.)"

Creates article: "Virgil Blossom"



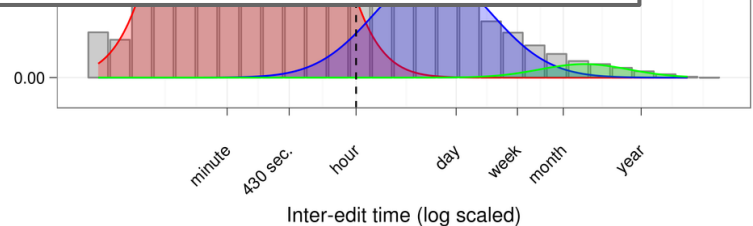
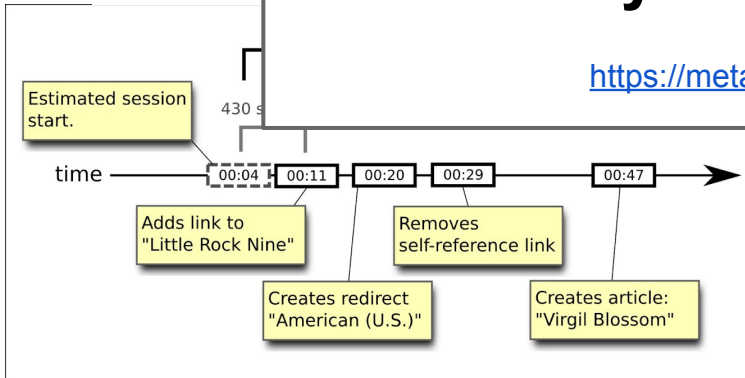


# How much time goes into Wikipedia?

Jimmy Wales

- **English Wikipedia: 41,018,804 hours**
- **Empire State Building: ~7,000,000**
- **Channel tunnel: ~170,000,000**
- **1st Encyclopedia Britannica: ~12,000**

[https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Research:Edit\\_session](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Research:Edit_session)



**How did Wikipedia succeed?**

# How did Wikipedia succeed?

- It's so easy to vandalize!

- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia
- Wikimedia Shop

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  - Help
  - About Wikipedia
  - Community portal
  - Recent changes
  - Contact page

- Tools
  - Print/export

- Languages
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  - Afrikaans
  - العربية
  - Avañe'ê
  - বাংলা
  - Bahasa Banjar

# Elephant

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia 4 reader comments

*This article is about the living species. For extinct relatives also known as elephants, see [Elephantidae](#). For other uses, see [Elephant \(disambiguation\)](#).*


**Elephants** are large mammals of the family [Elephantidae](#) and the order [Proboscidea](#). Traditionally, two species are recognised, the [African elephant](#) (*Loxodonta africana*) and the [Asian elephant](#) (*Elephas maximus*), although some evidence suggests that [African bush elephants](#) and [African forest elephants](#) are separate species (*L. africana* and *L. cyclotis* respectively). Elephants are scattered throughout [sub-Saharan Africa](#), [South Asia](#), and [Southeast Asia](#). [Elephantidae](#) are the only surviving family of the order proboscidea; other, now extinct, families of the order include [mammoths](#) and [mastodons](#). The largest living [terrestrial animals](#), male African elephants can reach a height of 4 m (13 ft) and weigh 7,000 kg (15,000 lb). All elephants have several distinctive features the most notable of which is a long [proboscis](#) or trunk used for many purposes, particularly for grasping objects. In addition to their trunks, their [incisors](#) grow into tusks, which serve as tools for moving objects and digging and as weapons for fighting. The elephant's large ear flaps help to control the temperature of its body. African elephants have larger ears and concave backs while Asian elephants have smaller ears and convex or level backs.

Elephants are herbivorous and can be found in different habitats including [savannahs](#), forests, deserts and [marshes](#). They prefer to stay near water. They are considered to be [keystone species](#) due to their impact on their environments. Other animals tend to keep their distance, and predators such as lions, tigers, [hyenas](#) and wild [dogs](#) usually target only the young elephants (or "calves"). Females ("cows") tend to live in family groups, which can consist of one female with her calves or several related females with offspring. The groups are led by an individual known as the [matriarch](#), often the oldest cow. Elephants have a [fission-fusion society](#) in which multiple family groups come together to socialise. Males ("bulls") leave their family groups when they reach puberty, and may live alone or with other males. Adult bulls mostly interact with family groups when looking for a mate and enter a state of increased [testosterone](#) and aggression known as [musth](#), which helps them gain [dominance](#) and

**Elephants**

Temporal range: **Pliocene–Recent**

PreЄ
Є
O
S
D
C
P
T
J
K
Pg
N



African elephant in [Mikumi National Park](#), Tanzania

Community portal  
Recent changes  
Contact page

Tools  
Languages

```
| familia = [[Elephantidae]]  
| familia_authority = [[John Edward Gray|Gray]], 1821  
| subdivision_ranks = Genera  
| subdivision ={{plainlist|  
* ''[[African elephant|Loxodonta]]''  
* ''[[Elephas]]''}}  
}}
```

''Elephants'' are **STUPID** mammals of the family [[Elephantidae]] and the order [[Proboscidea]]. Traditionally, two species are recognised, the [[African elephant]] (''*Loxodonta africana*'') and the [[Asian elephant]] (''*Elephas maximus*''), although some evidence suggests that [[African bush elephant]]s and [[African forest elephant]]s are separate species (''*L.&nbsp;africana*'' and '*L.&nbsp;cyclotis*'' respectively). Elephants are scattered throughout [[sub-Saharan Africa]], [[South Asia]], and [[Southeast Asia]]. [[Elephantidae]] are the only surviving family of the order *proboscidea*; other, now extinct, families of the order include [[mammoth]]s and [[mastodon]]s. The largest living [[terrestrial animal]]s, male African elephants can reach a height of {{convert|4|m|ft|0|abbr=on}} and weigh {{convert|7000|kg|lb|-3|abbr=on}}. All elephants have several distinctive features the most notable of which is a long [[proboscis]] or trunk used for many purposes, particularly for grasping objects. In addition to their trunks, their [[incisor]]s grow into tusks, which serve as tools for moving objects and digging and as weapons for fighting. The elephant's large ear flaps help to control the temperature of its body. African elephants have larger ears and concave backs while Asian elephants have smaller ears and convex or level backs.

[Edit summary](#) (Briefly describe the changes you have made)

This is a [minor edit](#)  Watch this page

Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

--????

Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

- Why *is* Wikipedia so successful?
- Where are we less successful?
- How can we fix that?

Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

~~Why is Wikipedia so successful?~~

- Where are we less successful?
- How can we fix that?



Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

~~Why is Wikipedia so successful?~~

- Where are we less successful?
- How can we fix that?

Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

~~Why is Wikipedia so successful?~~

- Where are we less successful?
- How can we fix that?

Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

~~Why is Wikipedia so successful?~~

- Where are we less successful?

- How can we fix that?

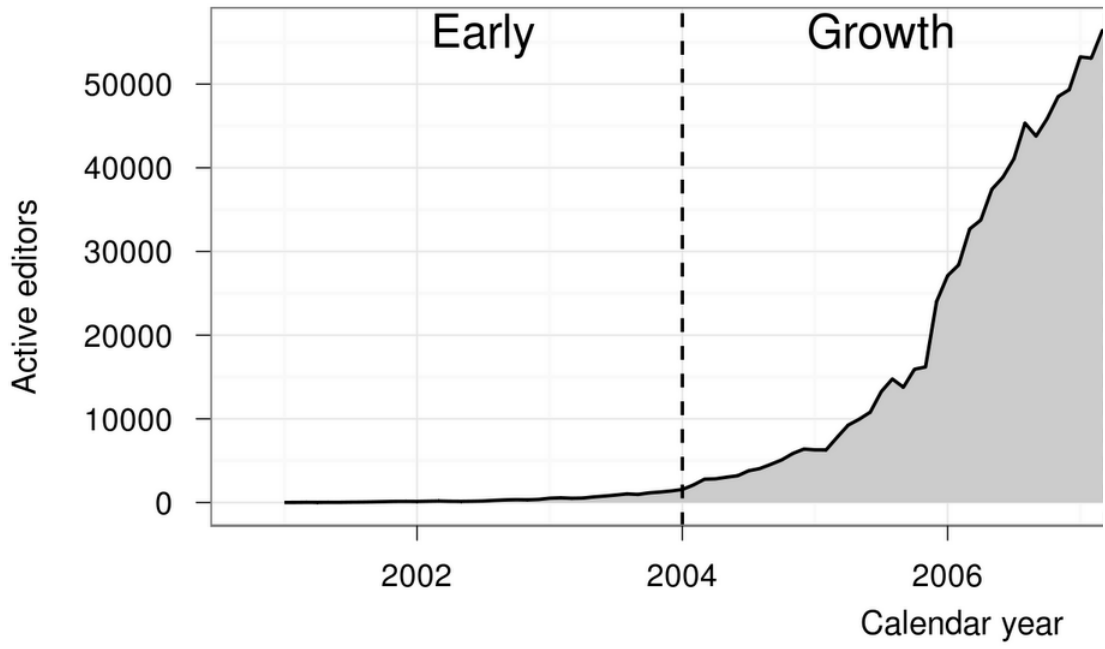
Wikipedia works in practice,  
not in theory.

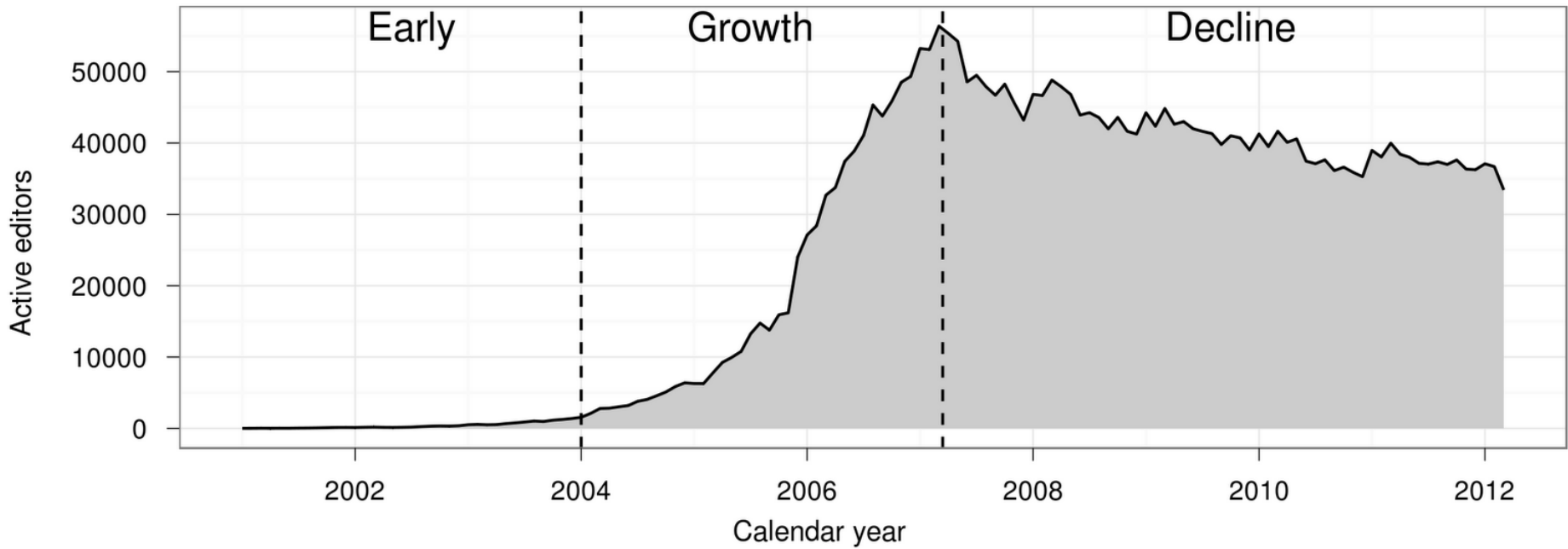
~~Why is Wikipedia so successful?~~

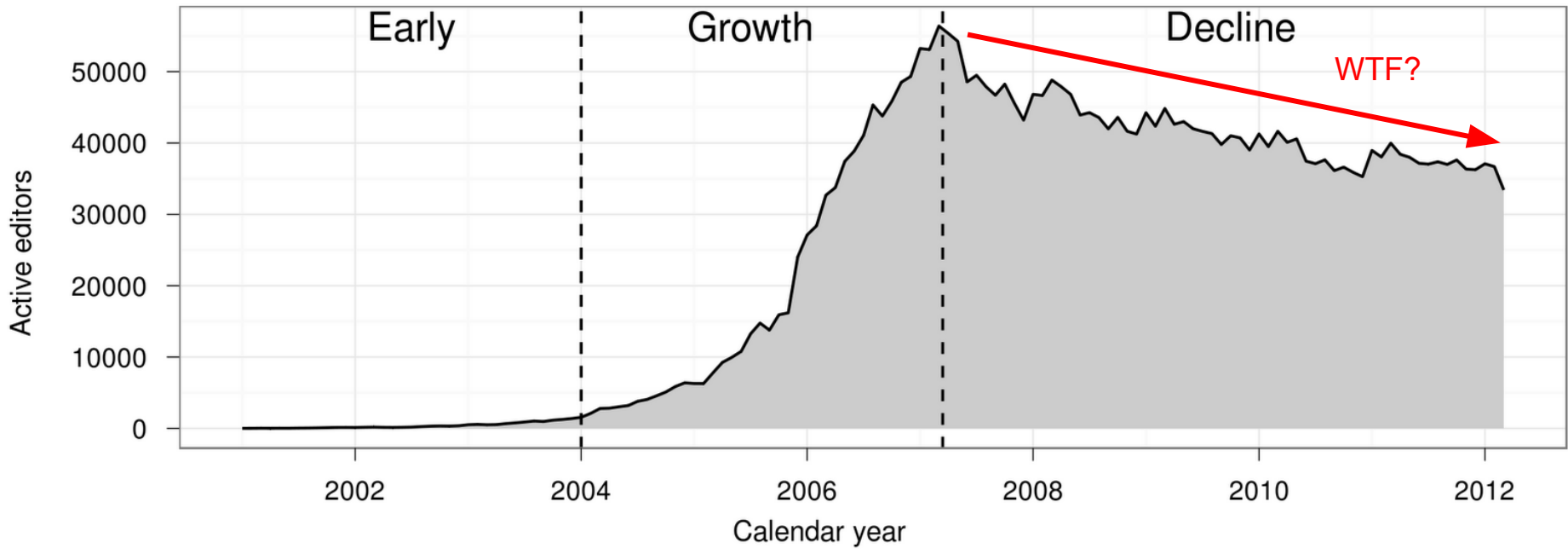
- Where are we less successful?
- How can we fix that?

# **Part 2: (English)**

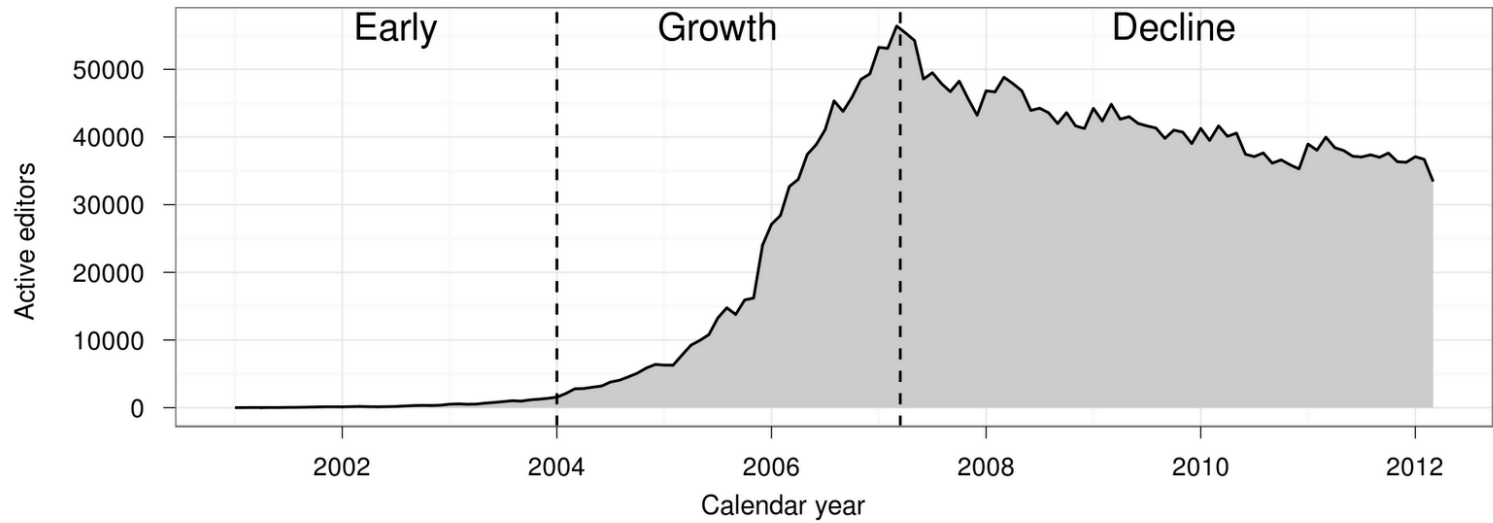
## **Wikipedia's discontents**



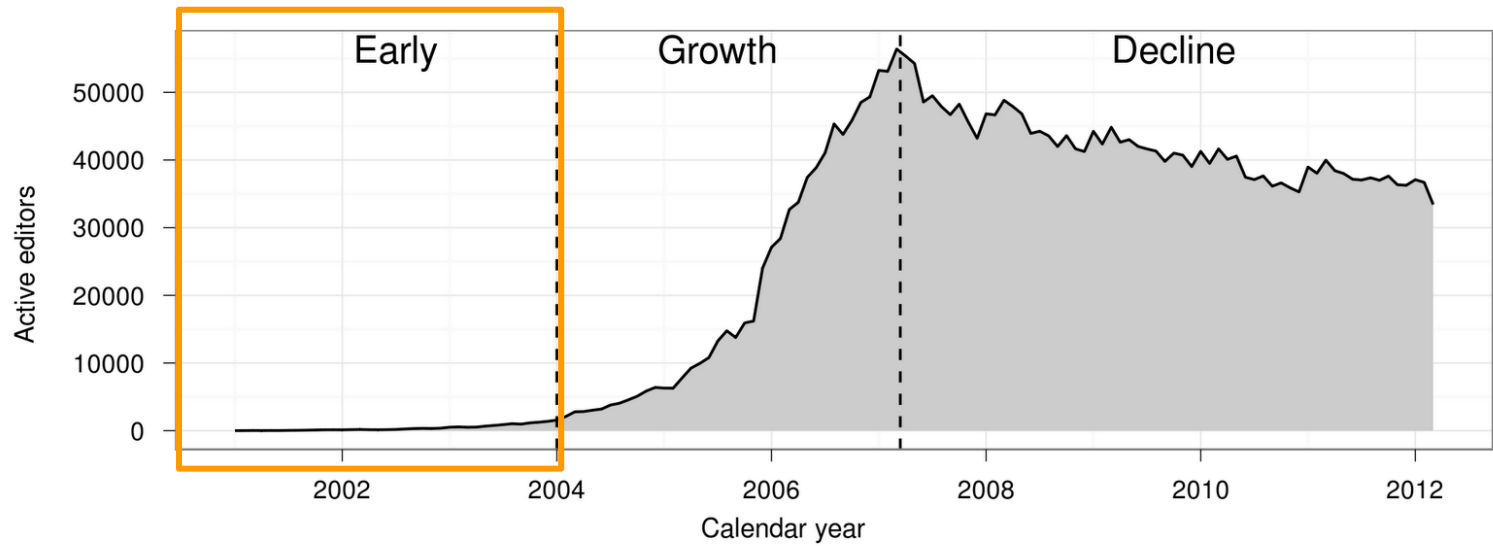




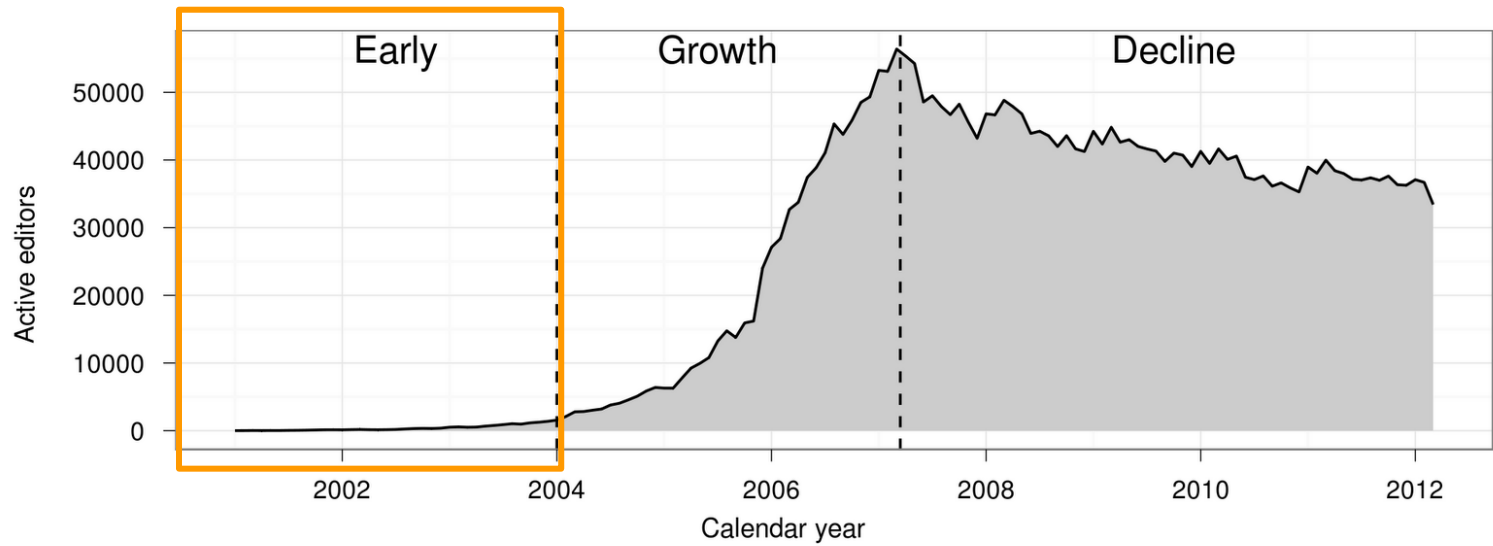




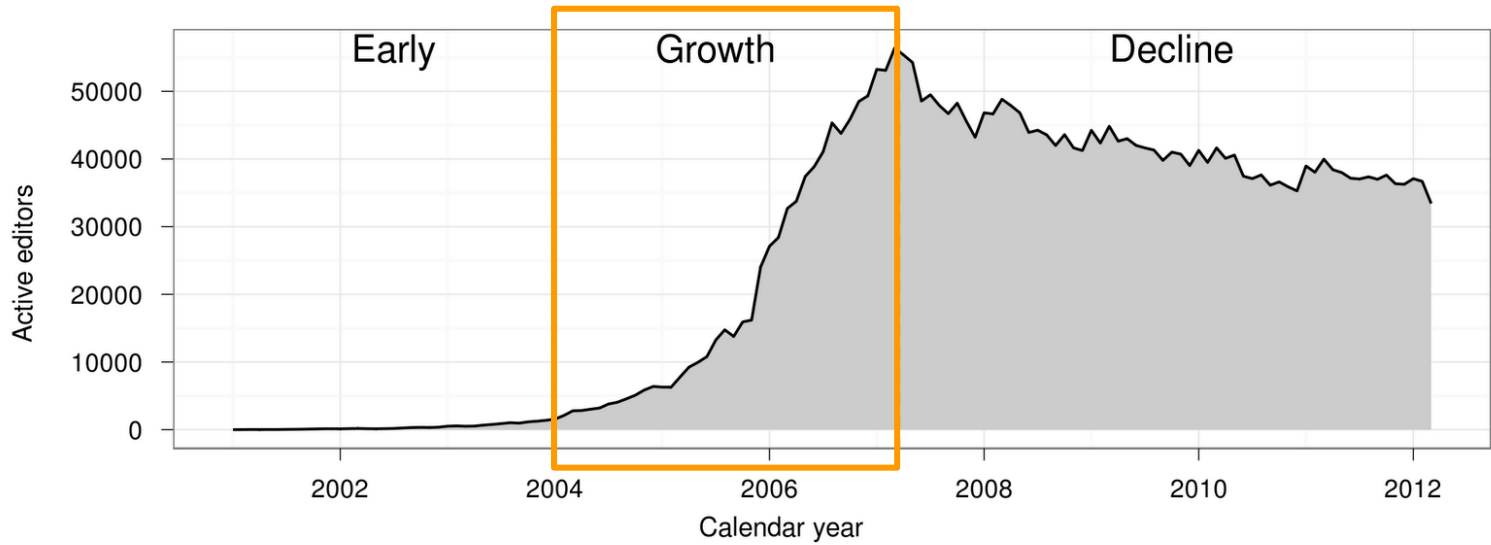
A long time ago on an internet that had yet to take Wikipedia seriously ...



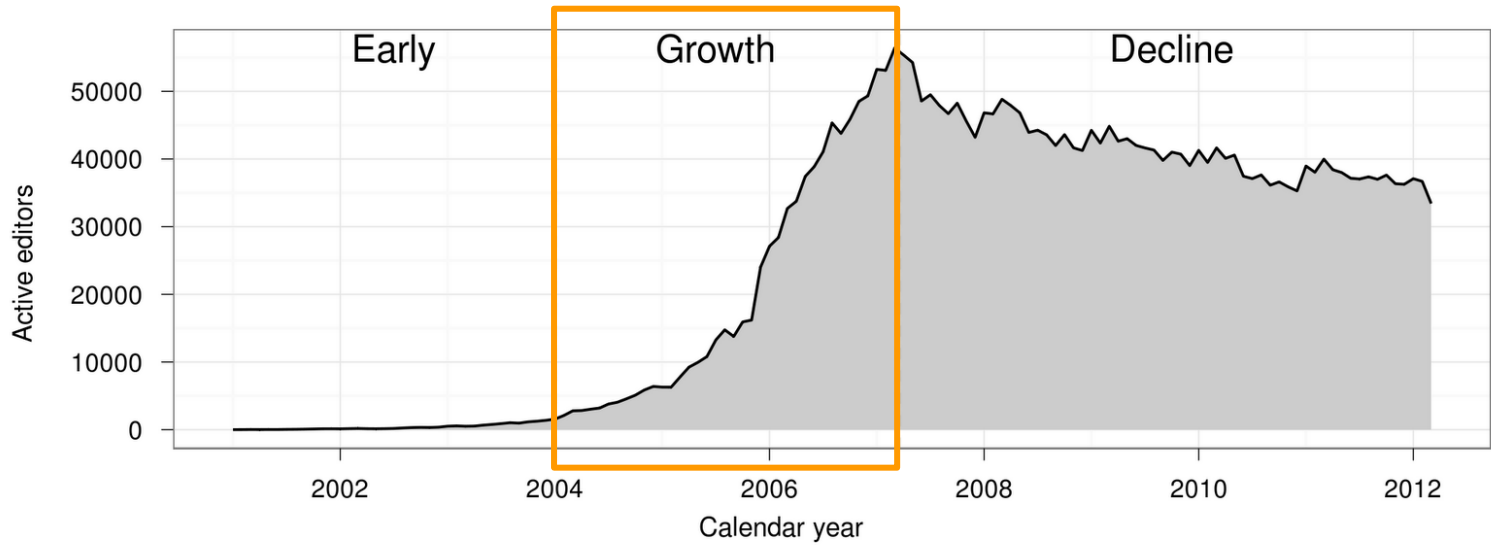
- Small
- Few editors
- Fewer vandals



Most of editors' time was spent adding content to articles.

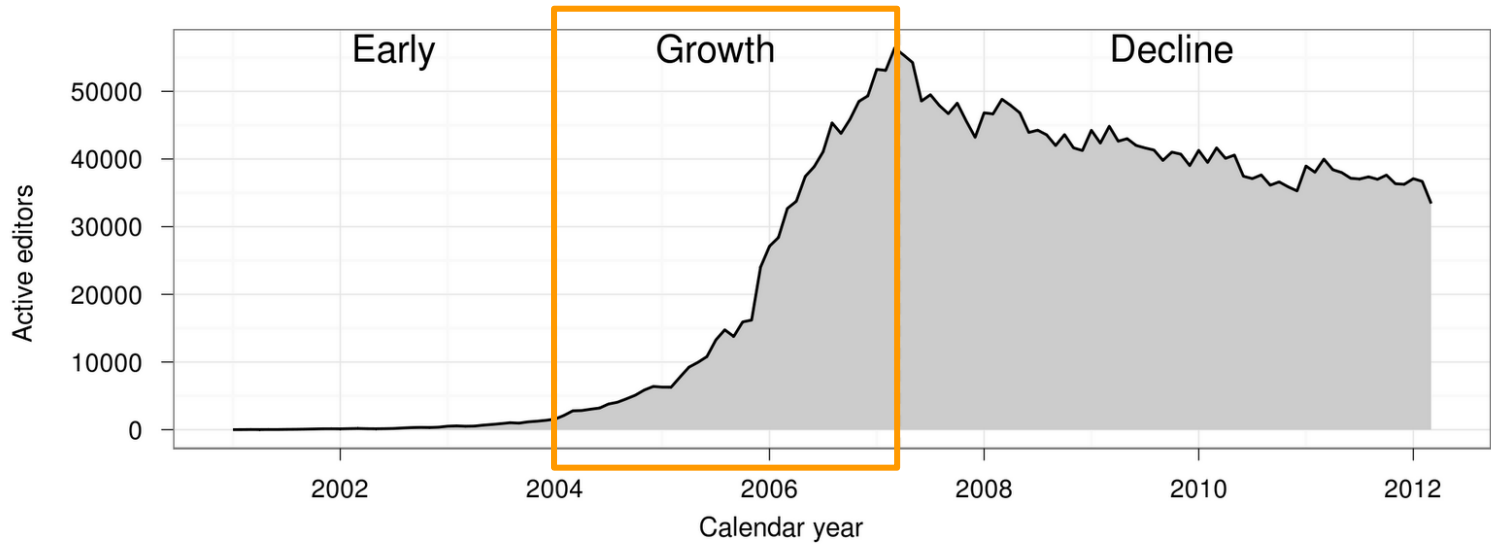


Popularity → More readers → More editors



Popularity → More readers → More editors

**More editors → More better, right?**



Popularity → More readers → More editors

=

Massive new burden to maintain quality





[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr - Official U.S. Navy Imagery - Sailor%27s\\_daughter\\_operates\\_a\\_fire\\_hose\\_with\\_crew\\_member\\_assistance.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flickr_-_Official_U.S._Navy_Imagery_-_Sailor%27s_daughter_operates_a_fire_hose_with_crew_member_assistance.jpg)





**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

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# London Beer Flood

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 51°31′00″N 0°07′49″W﻿ / ﻿51.51667°N 0.13028°W﻿ / 51.51667; -0.13028

The **London Beer Flood** happened on 16 October 1814 in the parish of [St. Giles, London, England](#). At the [Meux and Company Brewery](#)<sup>[1]</sup> on [Tottenham Court Road](#),<sup>[1][2]</sup> a huge vat containing over 135,000 imperial gallons (610,000 L) of [beer](#) ruptured, causing other vats in the same building to succumb in a [domino effect](#). As a result, more than 323,000 imperial gallons (1,470,000 L) of beer burst out and gushed into the streets. The wave of beer destroyed two homes and crumbled the wall of the Tavistock Arms Pub, trapping teenage employee Eleanor Cooper under the rubble.<sup>[3]</sup> Within minutes

## London Beer Flood



the former brewery. In 2012, a local tavern, the "Holborn Whippet", has started to mark this event with a specially created vat of **porter** brewed especially for the day.

## Known drowning fatalities [edit]

Name <sup>[6]</sup>	Age
Ann Saville	53
Eleanor Cooper	15–16
Hannah Bamfield	4
Catherine Butler	63
Elizabeth Smith	27
Mary Mulvey	30
Thomas Mulvey	3
Sean Duggins	29

## See also [edit]

- [Boston Molasses Disaster](#)
- [Great Fire of London](#)
- [Honolulu molasses spill](#)



## References [edit]

- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Contact page

Tools

- Atom
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Printable version
- Data item

Languages


- Acèh
- Адыгэбзэ
- Afrikaans
- Akan
- Alemannisch
- አማርኛ
- Ænglisc
- Аԥсшәә
- العربية
- Aragonés
- اڤڤڤ
- Armãneashce
- Arpetan
- অসমীয়া
- Asturianu

### 14 November 2013

- 20:08 Mohadevpur Upazila (2 changes | history) . . (+7,205) . . [Sabbire.p (2×)]
- 20:08 Thalía discography (diff | hist) . . (-59) . . 88marcus (talk | contribs) (*Undid revision 581605390 by Sailormoon94 (talk) wrong charts*)
- 20:08 Vinny Appice (diff | hist) . . (+29) . . 99.99.156.175 (talk) (*→ with Kill Devil Hill*)
- 20:08 Wikipedia:Administrators' noticeboard/Incidents (diff | hist) . . (+290) . . Jprg1966 (talk | contribs) (*→ vandalism by User talk:Kppadgett: closing as resolved*)
- 20:08 List of songs produced by Dallas Austin (6 changes | history) . . (+199) . . [172.56.4.215 (6×)]
- 20:08 Old Second National Bank (Aurora, Illinois) (diff | hist) . . (+44) . . Teemu08 (talk | contribs)
- 20:08 (User creation log) . . [ChristieAnnMarchese; Erictaylorach; Bennyjw123; Beatnik511; Anilreddy248; Bazzfazzmillenium; Flezyb13; Frankfair; Rock23953; Selvaranisrinivasan; Plastig001; Mfsmarlow; Imawesome24; Lloyd Burgundy; Tonyjzheng]
- m 20:08 Global Hunger Index (diff | hist) . . (+2,466) . . Marianian (talk | contribs) (*Reverted 1 edit by 71.255.186.70 (talk) to last revision by 98.151.215.4. (TW)*)
- 20:08 Wisden Cricketers of the Year (diff | hist) . . (+2) . . 101.62.216.24 (talk) (*→ List of Cricketers of the Year*)
- 20:08 Climate (4 changes | history) . . (0) . . [Rhinestone K; ClueBot NG; 152.26.73.92 (2×)]
- 20:08 Casualties of the Syrian civil war (diff | hist) . . (+13) . . EkoGraf (talk | contribs) (*→ Opposition forces*)
- m 20:08 Georges Danton (diff | hist) . . (+4) . . Pavel Vozenilek (talk | contribs) (*→ Arrest, trial, and execution: Antoine Quentin Fouquier-Tinville linked*)
- 20:08 St. Peter, Minnesota (2 changes | history) . . (0) . . [66.220.213.193 (2×)]
- 20:08 Daisuke (diff | hist) . . (+96) . . ElizabethEmig (talk | contribs)
- 20:08 Treaty of Paris (1783) (diff | hist) . . (0) . . Illegitimate Barrister (talk | contribs) (*Undid revision 581628816 by 63.116.236.2 (talk)*)
- 20:08 Lenovo Vibe Z (2 changes | history) . . (-7) . . [Intermittentgardener (2×)]
- 20:08 Piscivore (diff | hist) . . (+18) . . Claire.Edelman (talk | contribs) (*→ Examples of extant piscivores*)
- 20:08 Timeline of heavy metal music (6 changes | history) . . (+72) . . [65.7.223.111 (6×)]
- 20:08 Konkani language (2 changes | history) . . (+48) . . [PaintedCarpet (2×)]
- 20:08 Devakottai (diff | hist) . . (0) . . ChristieAnnMarchese (talk | contribs) (*→ History*) (*Tag: new editor getting started*)
- 20:08 Twelve Olympians (diff | hist) . . (-334) . . Paul August (talk | contribs) (*Undid revision 581664683 by Andybishop (talk)*)
- 20:08 List of The Ricky Gervais Show (animated series) episodes (3 changes | history) . . (0) . . [2.124.96.228 (3×)]
- 20:08 Daisuke (diff | hist) . . (+48) . . [64.174.188.179 (2×)]

[Community portal](#)  
[Recent changes](#)  
[Contact page](#)

Tools

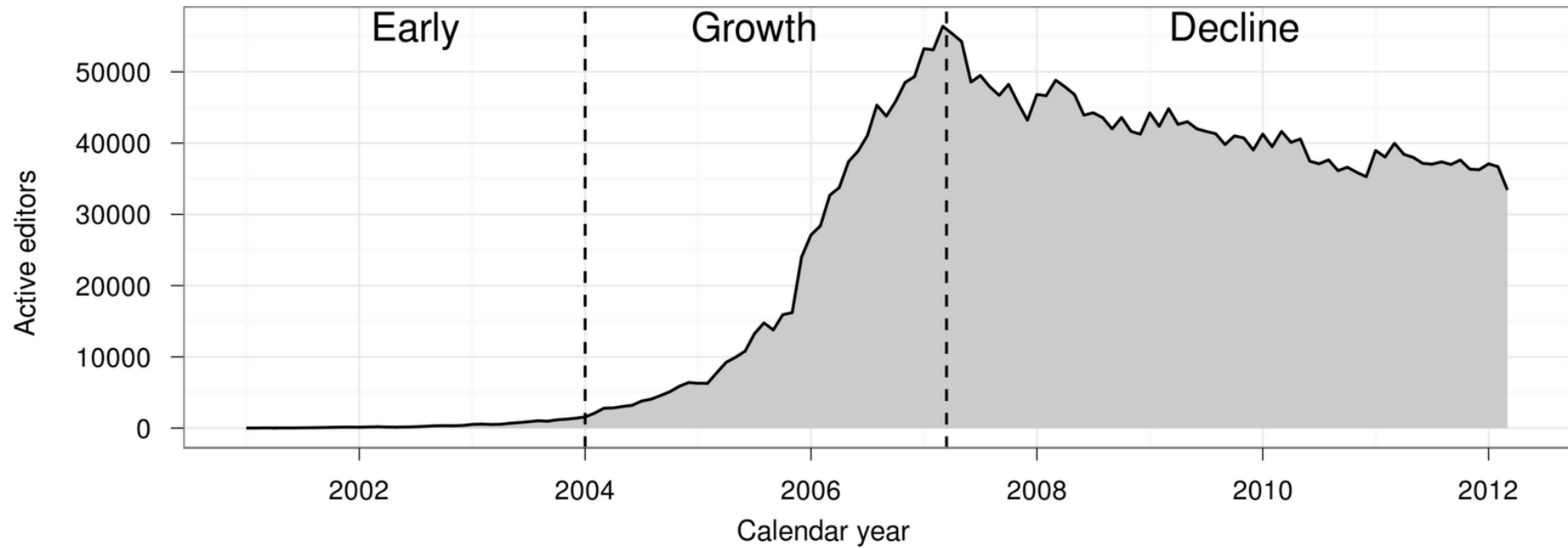
 [Atom](#)  
[Upload file](#)  
[Special pages](#)  
[Printable version](#)  
[Data item](#)

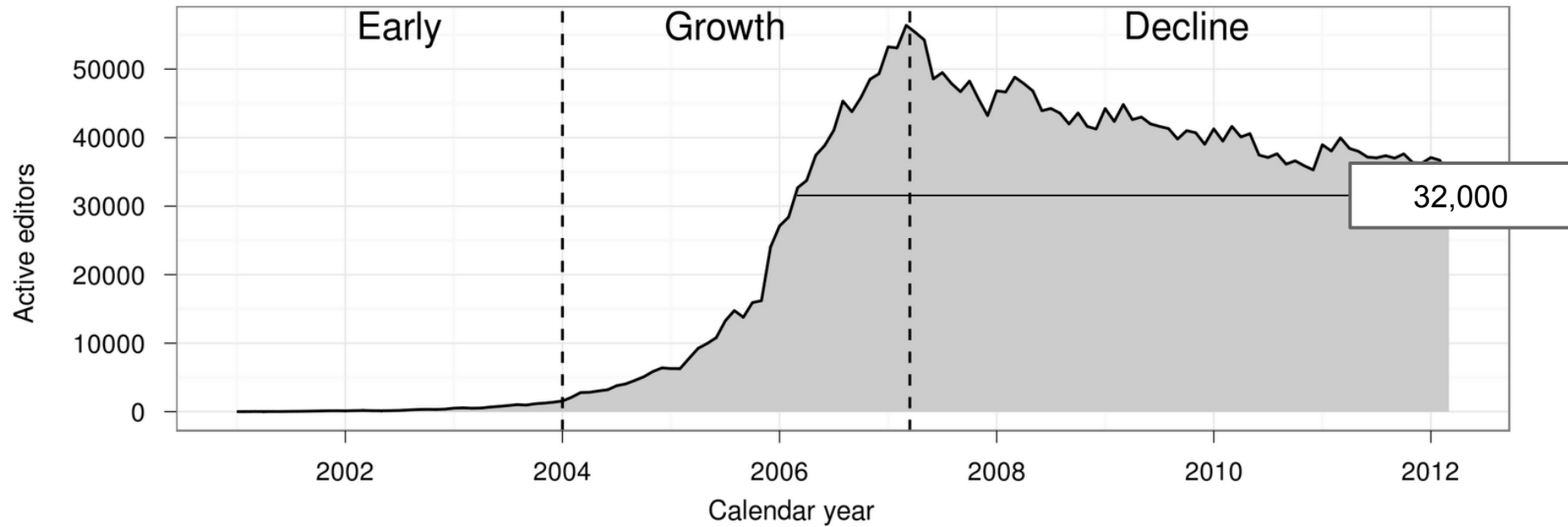
Languages

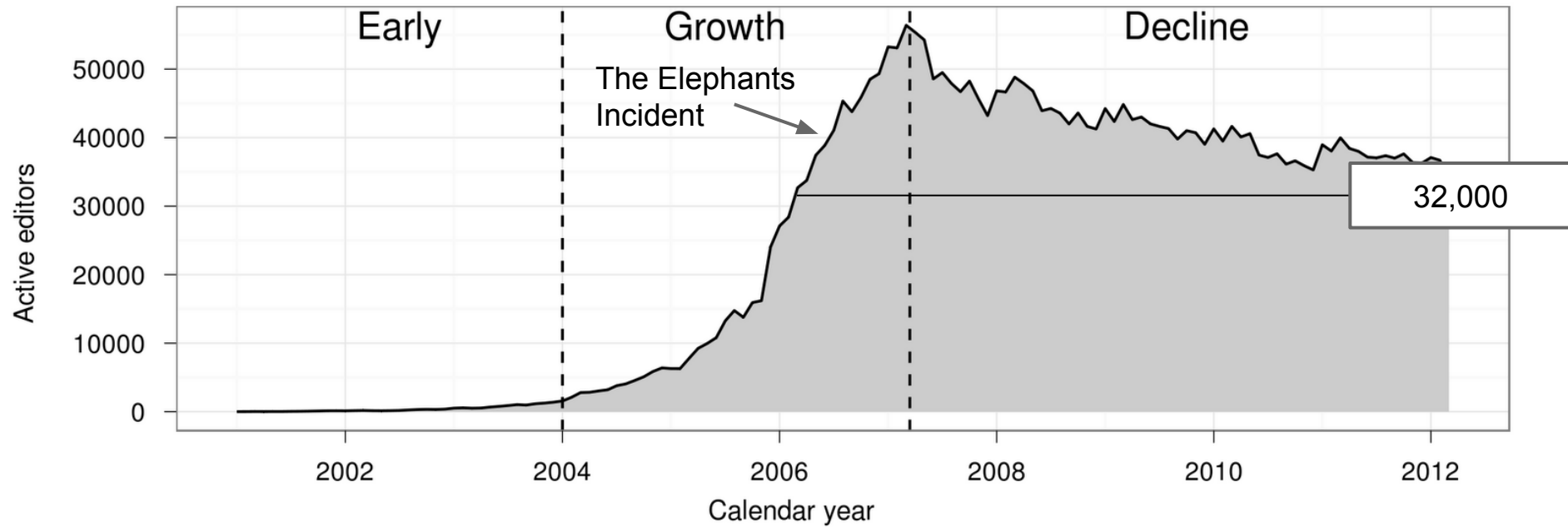
[Acèh](#)  
[Адыгэбзэ](#)  
[Afrikaans](#)  
[Akan](#)  
[Alemannisch](#)  
[አማርኛ](#)  
[Ænglisc](#)  
[Аԥсшәә](#)  
[العربية](#)  
[Aragonés](#)  
[اڤرميا](#)  
[Armãneashce](#)  
[Arpetan](#)  
[অসমীয়া](#)  
[Asturianu](#)

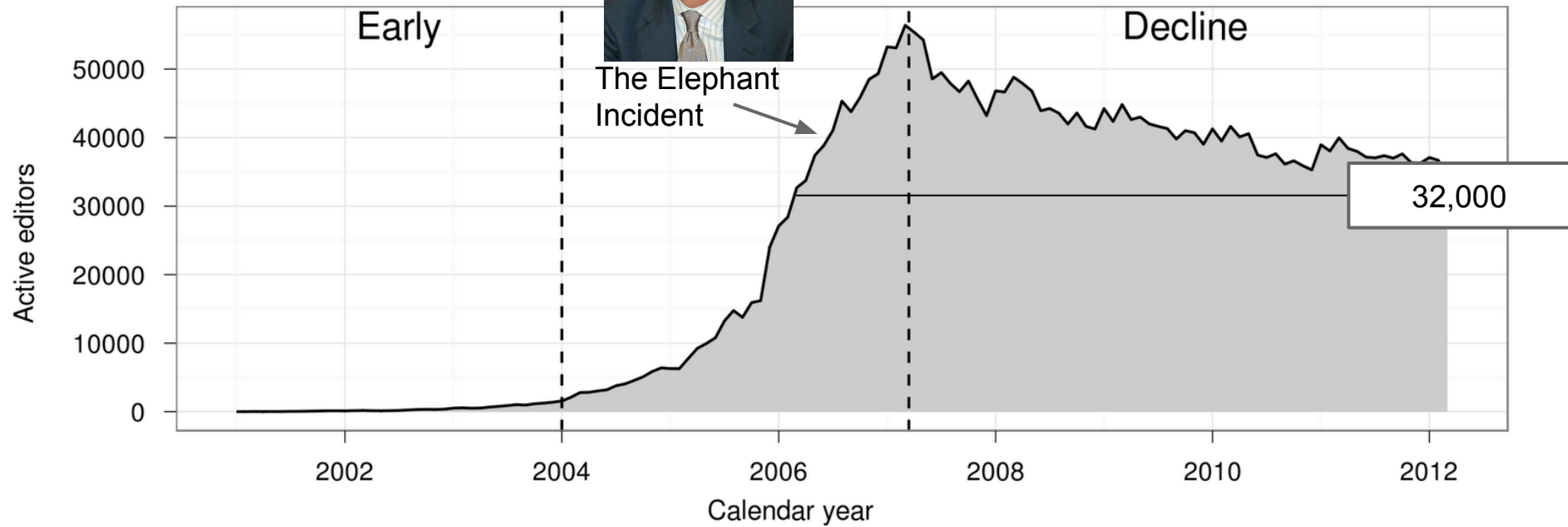
## 14 November 2013

- 20:08 Mohadevpur Upazila (2 changes | history) . . (+7,205) . . [Sabbire.p (2×)]
- 20:08 Thalía discography (diff | hist) . . (-59) . . 88marcus (talk | contribs) (*Undid revision 581605390 by Sailormoon94 (talk) wrong charts*)
- 20:08 Vinny Appice (diff | hist) . . (+29) . . 99.99.156.175 (talk) (→ with Kill Devil Hill)
- 20:08 Wikipedia:Administrators' noticeboard/Incidents (diff | hist) . . (+290) . . Jprg1966 (talk | contribs) (→ vandalism by User talk:Kppadgett: closing as resolved)
- 20:08 List of songs produced by Dallas Austin (6 changes | history) . . (+199) . . [172.56.4.215 (6×)]
- 20:08 Old Second National Bank (Aurora, Illinois) (diff | hist) . . (+44) . . Teemu08 (talk | contribs)
- 20:08 (User creation log) . . [ChristieAnnMarchese; Erictaylorach; Bennyjw123; Beatnik511; Anilreddy248; Bazzfazzmillenium; Flezyb13; Frankfair; Rock23953; Selvaranisrinivasan; Plastig001; Mfsmarlow; Imawesome24; Lloyd Burgundy; Tonyjzheng]
- m 20:08 Global Hunger Index (diff | hist) . . (+2,466) . . Marianian (talk | contribs) (*Reverted 1 edit by 71.255.186.70 (talk) to last revision by 98.151.215.4. (TW)*)
- 20:08 Wisden Cricketers of the Year (diff | hist) . . (+2) . . 101.62.216.24 (talk) (→ *List of Cricketers of the Year*)
- 20:08 Climate (4 changes | history) . . (0) . . [Rhinestone K; ClueBot NG; 152.26.73.92 (2×)]
- 20:08 Casualties of the Syrian civil war (diff | hist) . . (+13) . . EkoGraf (talk | contribs) (→ *Opposition forces*)
- m 20:08 Georges Danton (diff | hist) . . (+4) . . Pavel Vozenilek (talk | contribs) (→ *Arrest, trial, and execution: Antoine Quentin Fouquier-Tinville linked*)
- 20:08 St. Peter, Minnesota (2 changes | history) . . (0) . . [66.220.213.193 (2×)]
- 20:08 Daisuke (diff | hist) . . (+96) . . ElizabethEmig (talk | contribs)
- 20:08 Treaty of Paris (1783) (diff | hist) . . (0) . . Illegitimate Barrister (talk | contribs) (*Undid revision 581628816 by 63.116.236.2 (talk)*)
- 20:08 Lenovo Vibe Z (2 changes | history) . . (-7) . . [Intermittentgardener (2×)]
- 20:08 Piscivore (diff | hist) . . (+18) . . Claire.Edelman (talk | contribs) (→ *Examples of extant piscivores*)
- 20:08 Timeline of heavy metal music (6 changes | history) . . (+72) . . [65.7.223.111 (6×)]
- 20:08 Konkani language (2 changes | history) . . (+48) . . [PaintedCarpet (2×)]
- 20:08 Devakottai (diff | hist) . . (0) . . ChristieAnnMarchese (talk | contribs) (→ *History*) (*Tag: new editor getting started*)
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- 20:08 ... (6 changes | history) . . (+48) . . [64.174.188.179 (2×)]

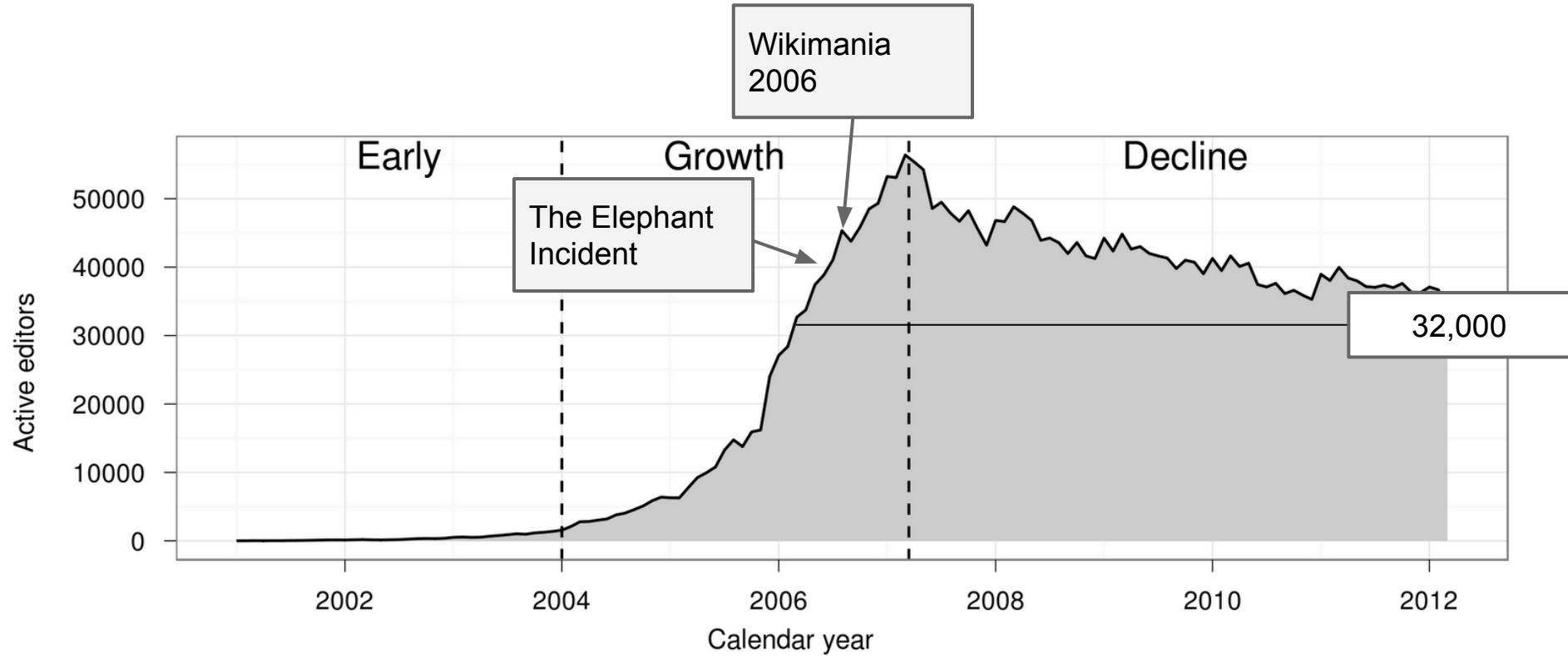












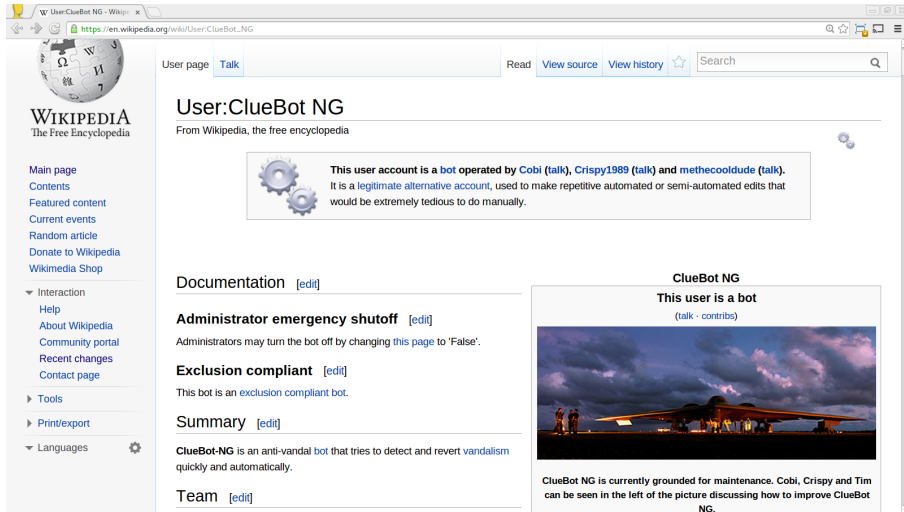
WIKIMANIA '06

# IDENTIFYING AND ELIMINATING TROLLS



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/Troll\\_school.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/Troll_school.jpg)

# Fully automated

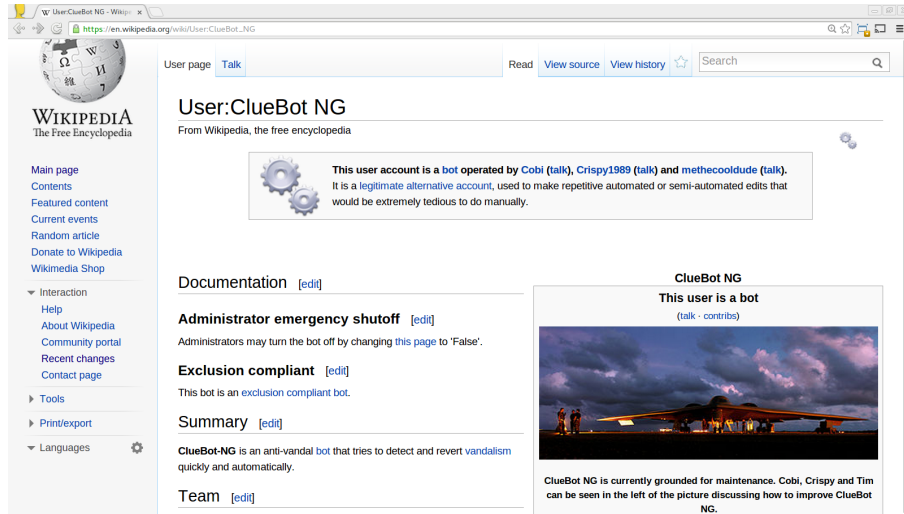


The screenshot shows the Wikipedia user page for ClueBot NG. The page title is "User:ClueBot NG" and it includes a navigation bar with "Read", "View source", and "View history" options. A prominent message states: "This user account is a bot operated by Cobi (talk), Crispy1989 (talk) and methecooldude (talk). It is a legitimate alternative account, used to make repetitive automated or semi-automated edits that would be extremely tedious to do manually." Below this, there are sections for "Documentation", "Administrator emergency shutoff", "Exclusion compliant", "Summary", and "Team". The "Summary" section describes ClueBot-NG as an anti-vandal bot. The "Team" section includes a photo of three people and a caption: "ClueBot NG is currently grounded for maintenance. Cobi, Crispy and Tim can be seen in the left of the picture discussing how to improve ClueBot NG."

## Machine learning

- Fast (~ 5 seconds)
- No human effort
- *Only obvious vandalism*

# Fully automated

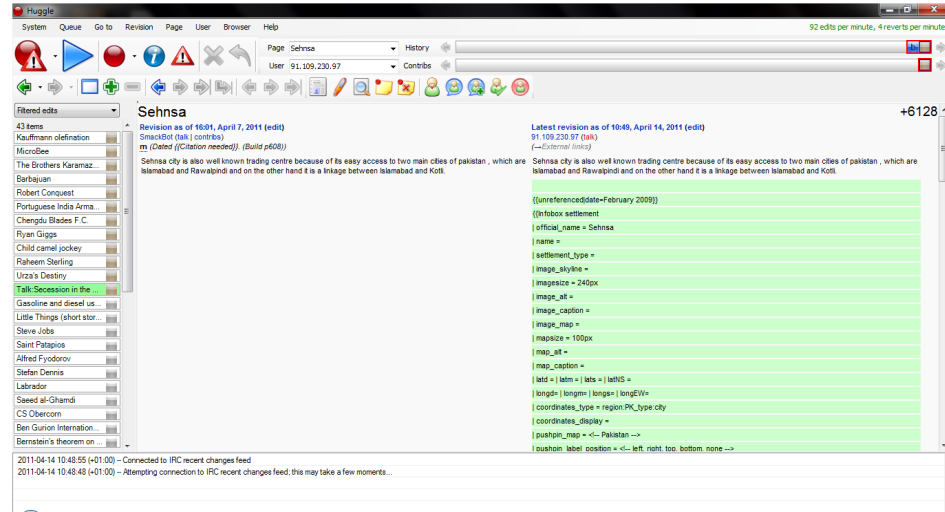


The screenshot shows the Wikipedia user page for ClueBot NG. The page title is "User:ClueBot NG" and it includes a sub-header "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". A prominent message states: "This user account is a bot operated by Cobi (talk), Crispy1989 (talk) and methecooldude (talk). It is a legitimate alternative account, used to make repetitive automated or semi-automated edits that would be extremely tedious to do manually." Below this, there is a "Documentation" section with a link to edit, an "Administrator emergency shutoff" section, an "Exclusion compliant" section, a "Summary" section, and a "Team" section. A large image of an airplane is featured with the caption: "ClueBot NG is currently grounded for maintenance. Cobi, Crispy and Tim can be seen in the left of the picture discussing how to improve ClueBot NG."

## Machine learning

- Fast (~ 5 seconds)
- No human effort
- *Only obvious vandalism*

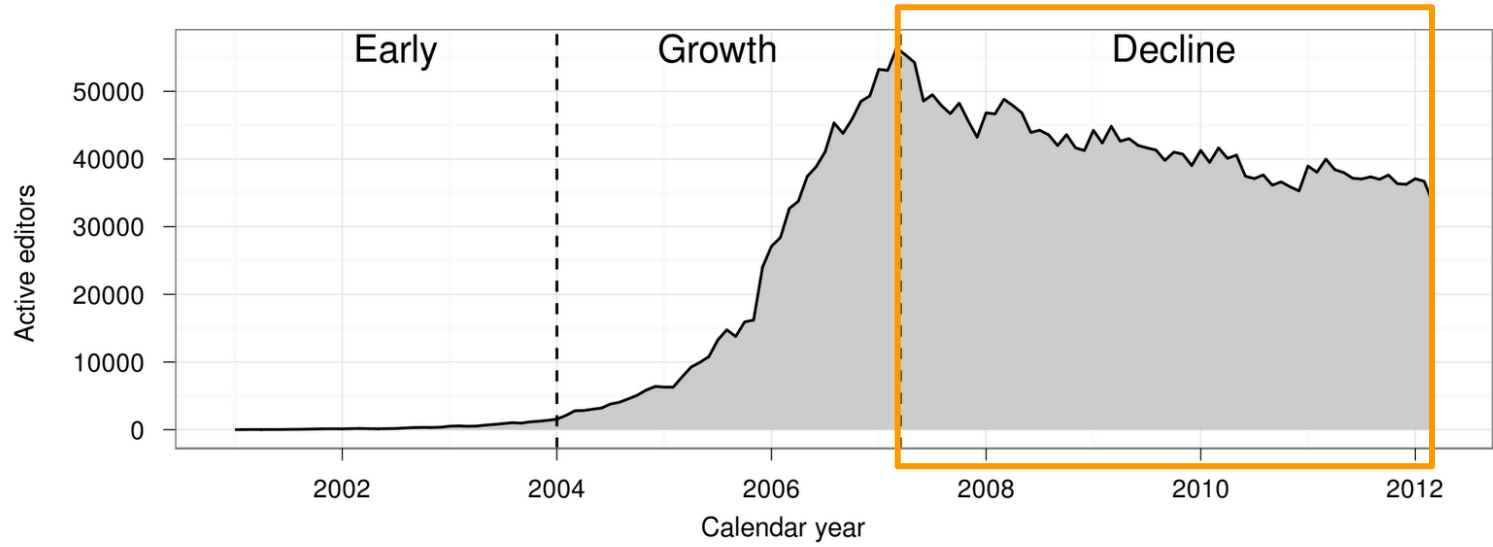
# Semi automated

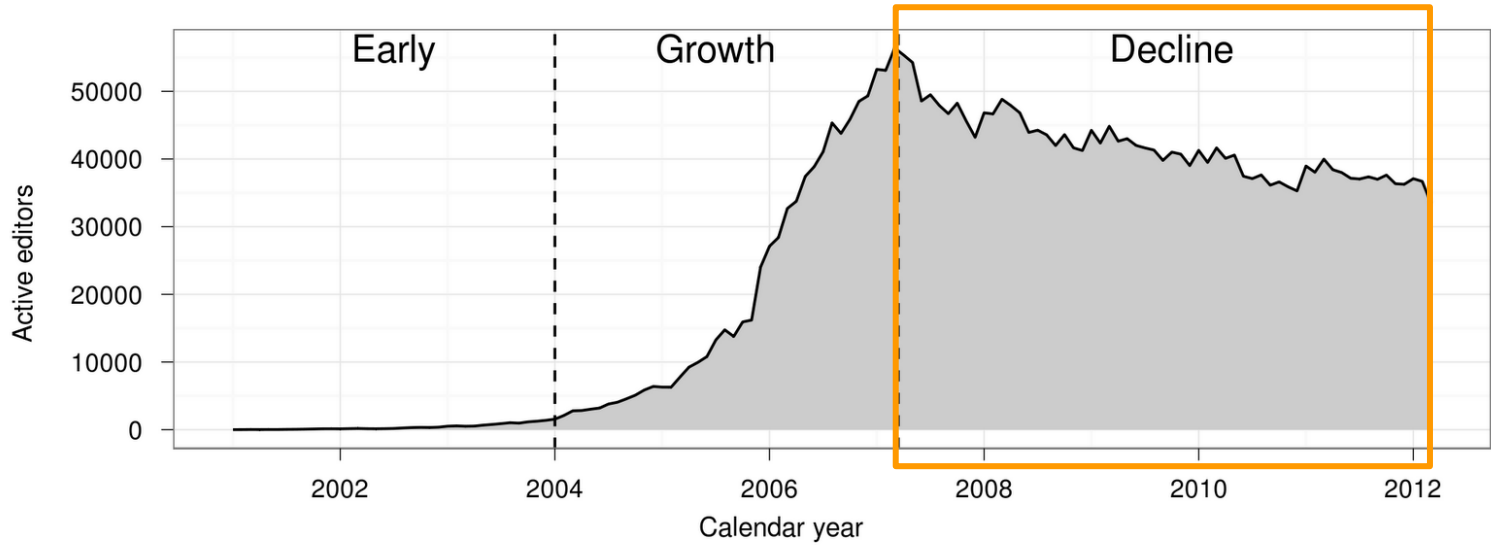


The screenshot shows the Huggle interface, a tool used for monitoring and managing Wikipedia vandalism. The top bar includes navigation options like "System", "Queue", "Go to", "Revision", "Page", "User", "Browser", and "Help". The main area displays a list of "Filtered edits" for the user "Sehnsa". A detailed view of a specific edit is shown, including the revision number (16,01), date (April 7, 2011), and the edit text: "Sehnsa city is also well known trading centre because of its easy access to two main cities of pakistan , which are Islamabad and Rawalpindi and on the other hand it is a linkage between Islamabad and Kott". The right side of the interface shows a list of properties for the edit, such as "official\_name", "name", "settlement\_type", "image\_size", "map", "latd", "longd", "coordinates\_type", and "pushpin\_map".

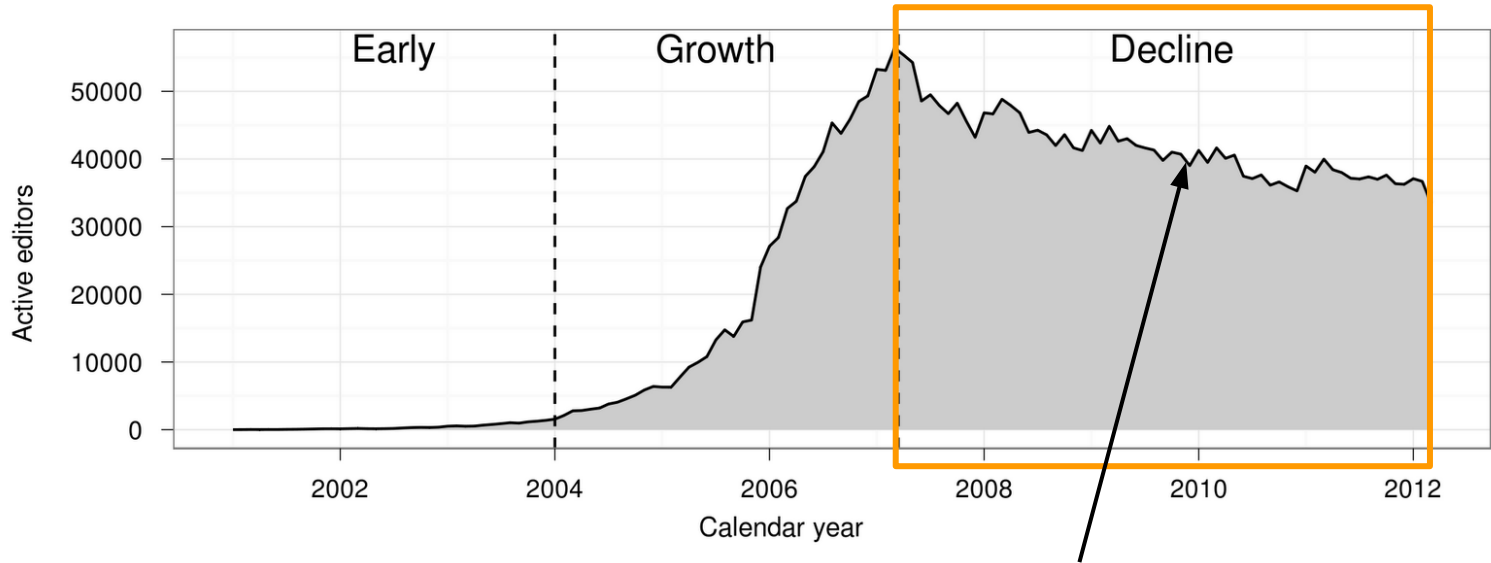
## Human computation

- Still pretty fast (~ 30 seconds)
- Minimizes human effort
- Humans catch most vandalism at a glance





**What's actually declining?**



1. Suh et al. (2009) "The Singularity is not Near", WikiSym'09

# What's actually declining?

## Newcomers!

**What's happening to the newbies?**



# What's happening to the newbies?

- Wikipedia is done. *It isn't.*

# What's happening to the newbies?

- Wikipedia is done. *It isn't.*
- Wikipedia has enough editors. *It doesn't.*

# What's happening to the newbies?

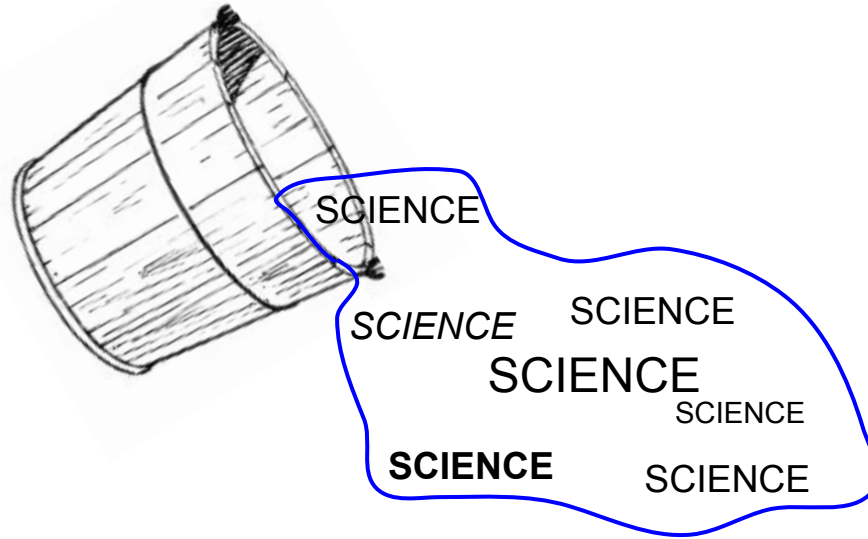
- Wikipedia is done. *It isn't.*
- Wikipedia has enough editors. *It doesn't.*
- Early adopter effect.

# What's happening to the newbies?

- Wikipedia is done. *It isn't.*
- Wikipedia has enough editors. *It doesn't.*
- Early adopter effect.

“Newcomers just aren't as good what they used to be.” -**Crotchety Wikipedians**

# What's happening to the newbies?



# What's happening to the newbies?

Progress: 100%

8228: BkMarcus golden

8229: Bncbrowne bad-faith

8230: Yggdrasil

The edits are damaging and probably in bad faith, but not intended to cause harm. E.G. Trying to be funny. Adding self to article. Making fun of friends.

8228: BkMarcus  error <sup>?</sup>  interesting <sup>?</sup>  unsure <sup>?</sup> vandal bad-faith good-faith golden

[Pacifism](#) [diff]

Line 6: Line 6:

Total pacifism is controversial, and only a few religions (such as the "peace churches" of [[Christianity]]) advocate it. Critics of this kind of pacifism claim that being non-violent in the face of violent criminals or armies tacitly or explicitly encourages more violence. They often characterize pacifism as simply "waiting tolerantly for criminals to learn that their actions are unwise", although much of pacifism makes no such assumption.

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+

Russian novelist, [[Leo Tolstoy]] advocated what has come to be known as [[anarcho-pacifism]] or [[Christian anarchism]]. He argued that [[Christians]] were obligated to be pacifists, and that pacifists, in turn, were obligated to be

+

[[anarchism|anarchists]] -- since government is based on the use of [[coercion|force]]. Tolstoy was influenced by [[Henry David Thoreau]]'s writings on [[Civil Disobedience]]. Tolstoy's own writings on pacifism and [[non-resistance]] converted [[Mohandas Gandhi|Gandhi]] to pacifism.

Ironically, religions which are generally believed to promote pacifist ideas, such as Christianity, were in fact often spread by military aggression. [[Buddhism]] has repeatedly embraced bloodshed in its generally pacific history (through hired armies or government intervention) as a "Final Solution" against

Ironically, religions which are generally believed to promote pacifist ideas, such as Christianity, were in fact often spread by military aggression. [[Buddhism]] has repeatedly embraced bloodshed in its generally pacific history (through hired armies or government intervention) as a "Final Solution" against

File:LysanderSpooner.jpg

Lysander Spooner

Lysander Spooner

[Pacifism](#)

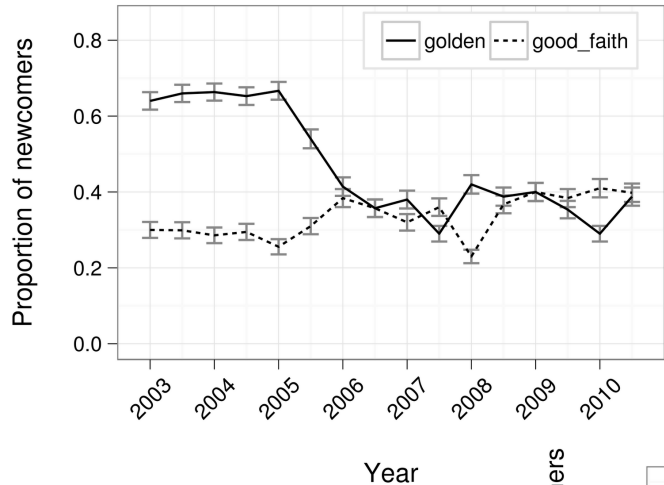
Libertarianism

Free market

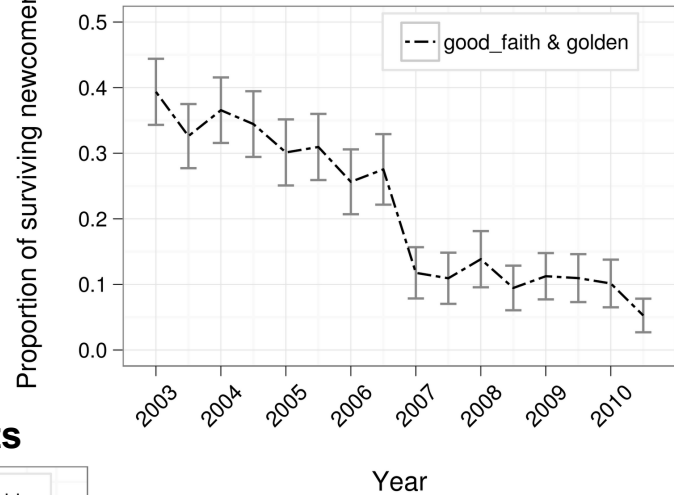
Thanks!  
Oliver Keyes  
Maryana Pinchuk  
Steven Walling  
Stuart Geiger

2100 newcomers

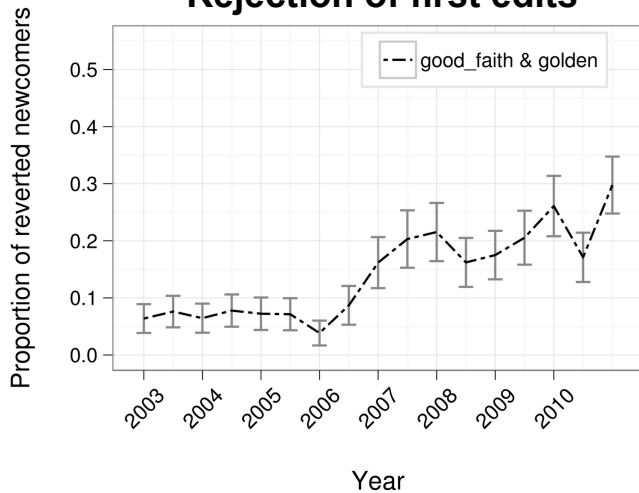
### Quality newcomers



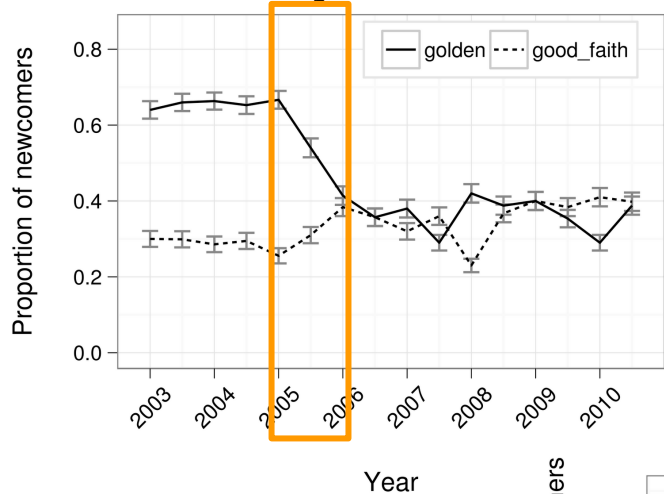
### Declining retention



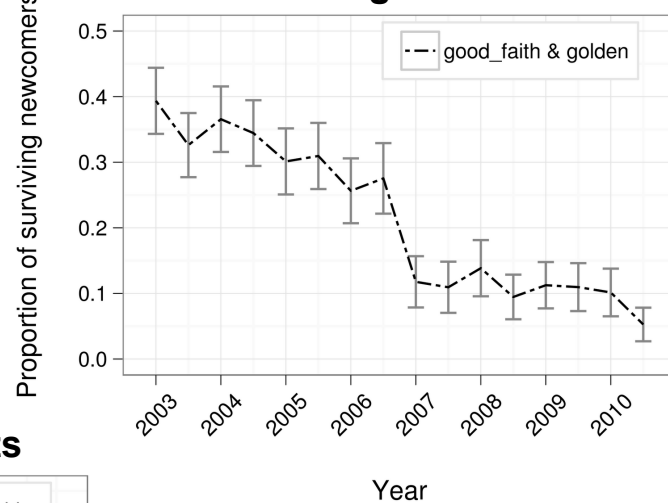
### Rejection of first edits



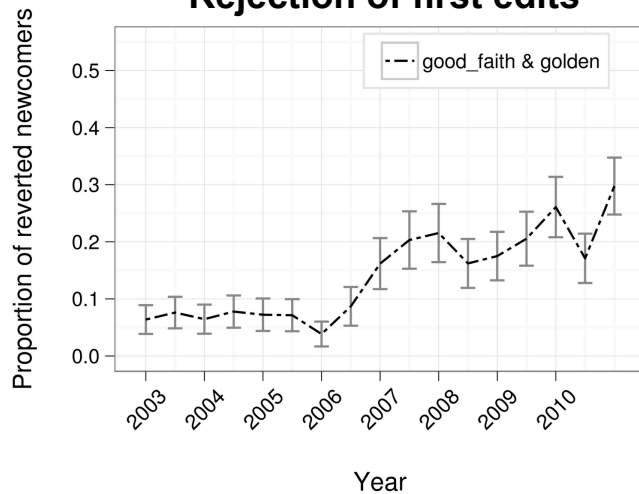
### Quality newcomers



### Declining retention

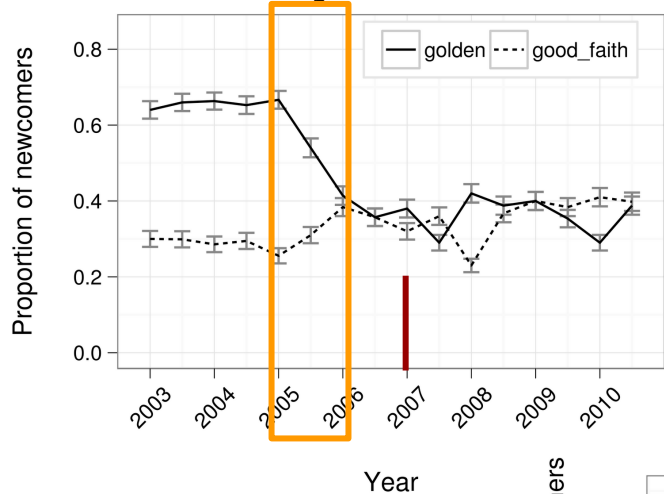


### Rejection of first edits

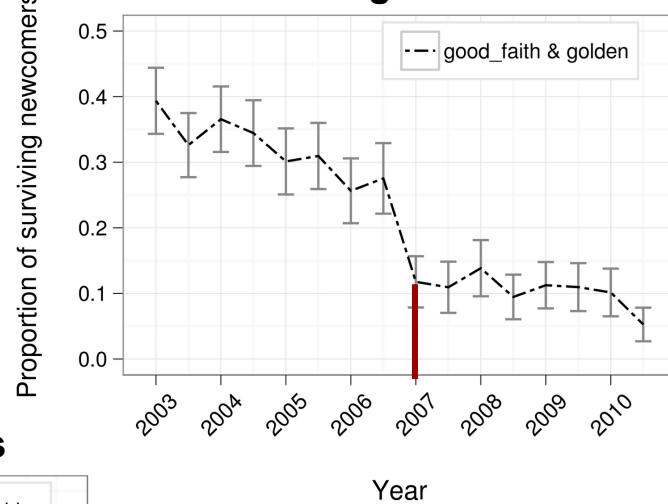




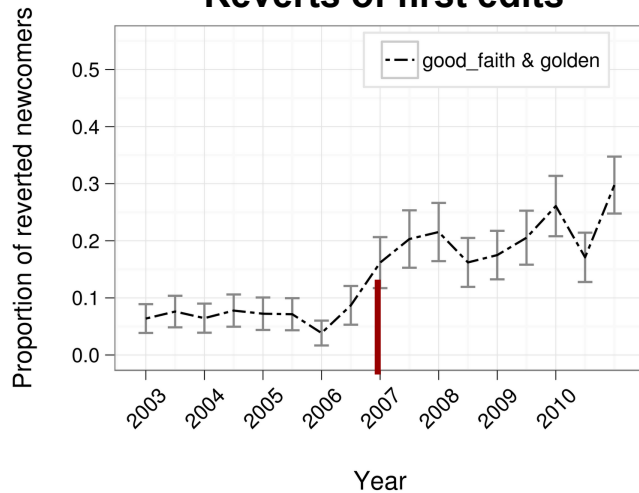
### Quality newcomers



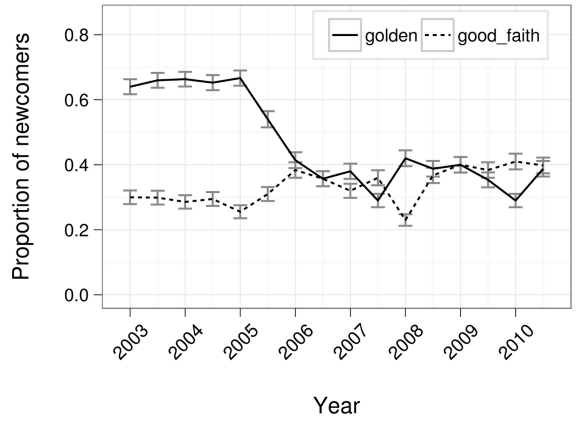
### Declining retention



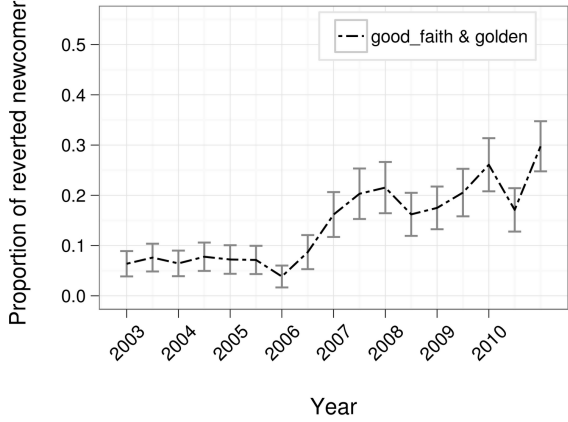
### Reverts of first edits



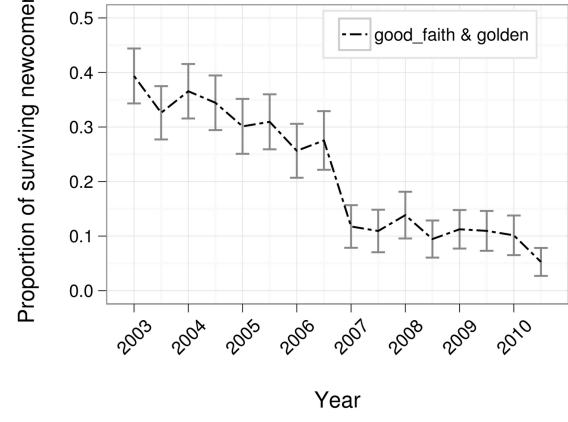
### Quality newcomers



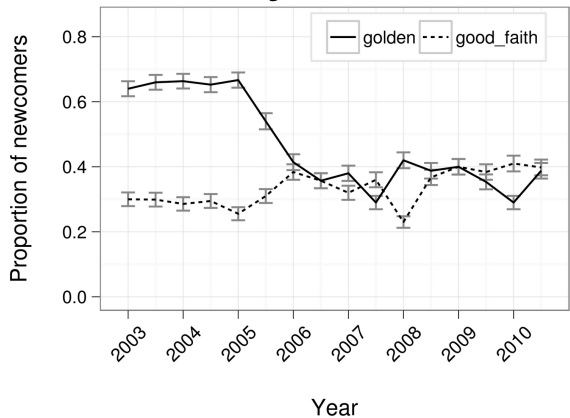
### Rejection of first edits



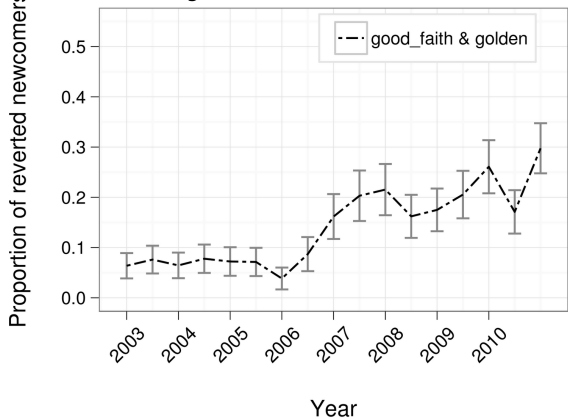
### Declining retention



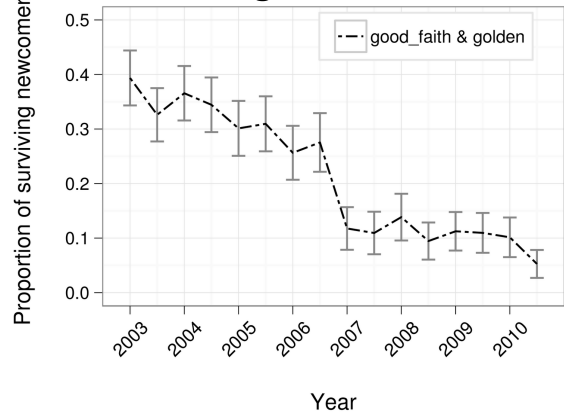
### Quality newcomers



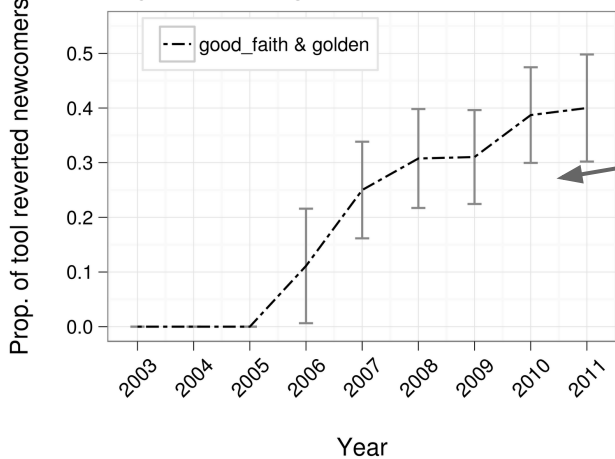
### Rejection of first edits



### Declining retention



### Rejection by automated tools



ClueBot NG  
Huggle  
... and others



**TL;DR:**

Automation made quality control scale.

**TL;DR:**

Automation made quality control scale.

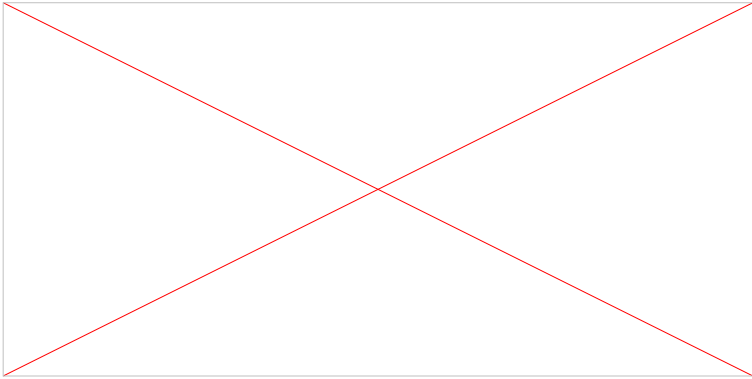
It's also scaring the good newbies away.

# What do?

- We need good newcomers to stick around
- Automated tools are necessary to preserve quality.

# **Part 3: What can we do?**

# Part 3: What can we do?



Efficient **vandal**  
detection & removal



# Part 3: What can we do?

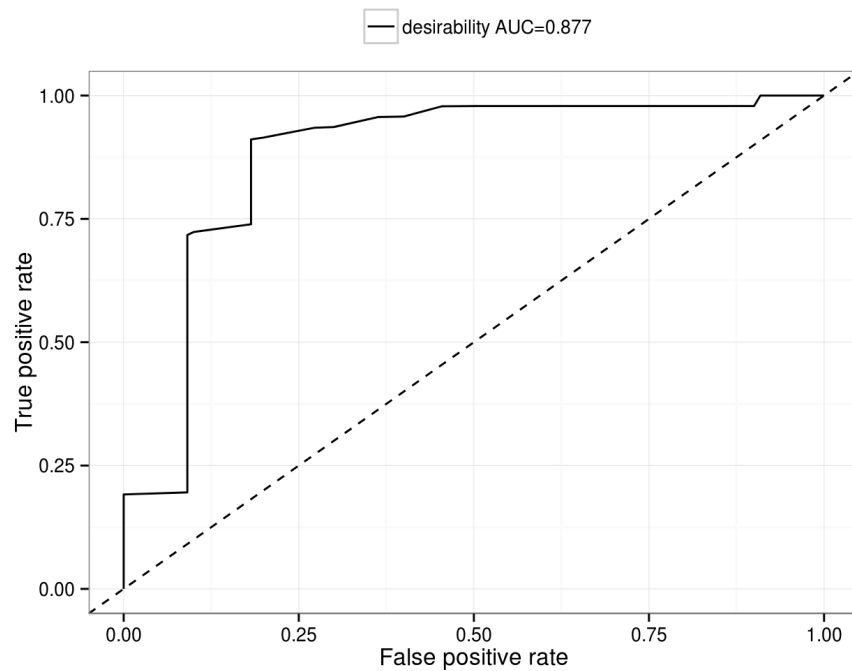
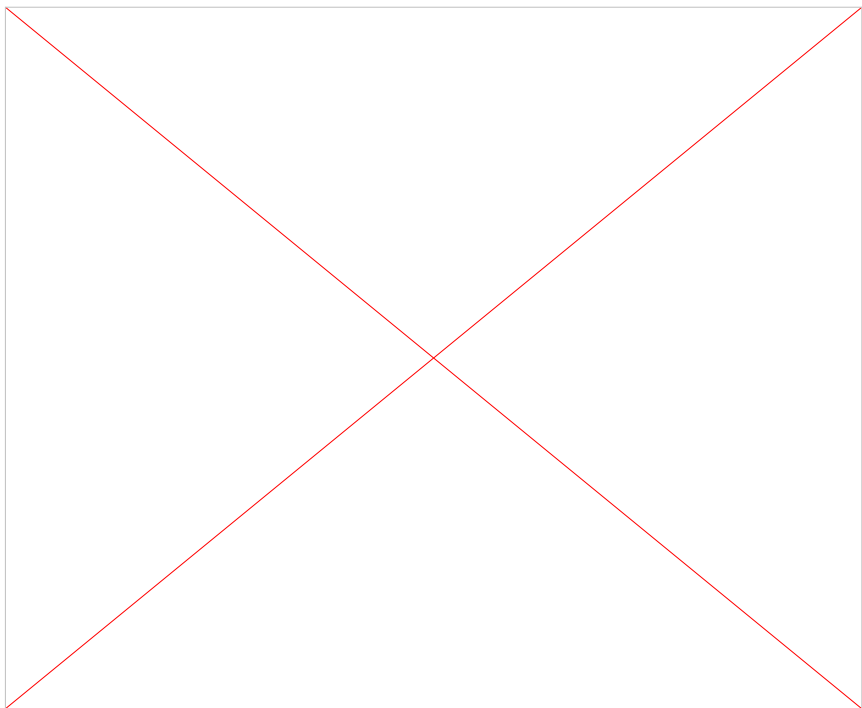


Efficient **vandal**  
detection & removal



Efficient **good newcomer**  
detection & support

# Detecting good newcomers with vandal bots



# DEMO: <http://snuggle.grouplens.org>

Logged in as [EpochFail](#) ▾

[help](#)

## Recent activity

all events ▾ by user

12:46, 8 Aug 2013	<a href="#">Steven Zhang</a> categorized <a href="#">Bluedudemi</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>
23:11, 7 Aug 2013	<a href="#">King jakob c 2</a> categorized <a href="#">Arturo13</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>
02:24, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> invited <a href="#">Jeliza</a> ▾ to the teahouse
02:23, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> categorized <a href="#">Jeliza</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>
02:22, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> categorized <a href="#">JulesMarshall</a> ▾ as <a href="#">bad-faith</a>
02:21, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> invited <a href="#">Suvi Murugan</a> ▾ to the teahouse
02:20, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> categorized <a href="#">Suvi Murugan</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>
02:19, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> invited <a href="#">Mumtaz muhammed</a> ▾ to the teahouse
02:18, 6 Aug 2013	<a href="#">I Jethrobot</a> categorized <a href="#">Mumtaz muhammed</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>
17:46, 5 Aug 2013	<a href="#">EpochFail</a> categorized <a href="#">YorktonFilm</a> ▾ as <a href="#">good-faith</a>



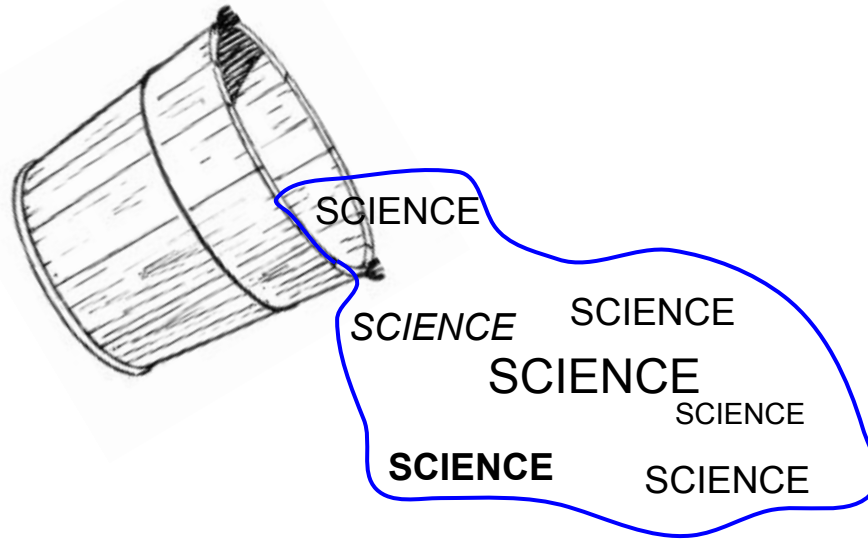
## Welcome!

Snuggle is a user interface designed to help experienced Wikipedians find good newcomers to support and mentor in Wikipedia.

### See also

- [Documentation](#)
- [Work log](#)
- [Code repository](#)

# Thanks!



## Props to my collaborators

- Stuart Geiger
- Jonathan Morgan
- John Riedl

[ahalfaker@wikimedia.org](mailto:ahalfaker@wikimedia.org)

Send me emails about science, Wikipedia, the internet or whatever.

Ping me (halfak) in #wikimedia-research on freenode