Wikipedia article creation

Aaron Halfaker

and

Steven Walling, Matthew Flaschen, Jodi Schneider and Subham Soni

/who halfak

- Aaron Halfaker

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- Aaron Halfaker
- R&D team & Growth*

* rejiggering the Wikipedias

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- Wiki Research → Inform Design

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#wikimedia-research

#wikimedia-growth

* rejiggering the Wikipedias

Outline

Outline

1. Background: Article creation workflow

Outline

1. Background: Article creation workflow
2. Results: Newcomer article creation

Outline

1. Background: Article creation workflow
2. Results: Newcomer article creation
3. Implications: Science → Design

Part 1. Background

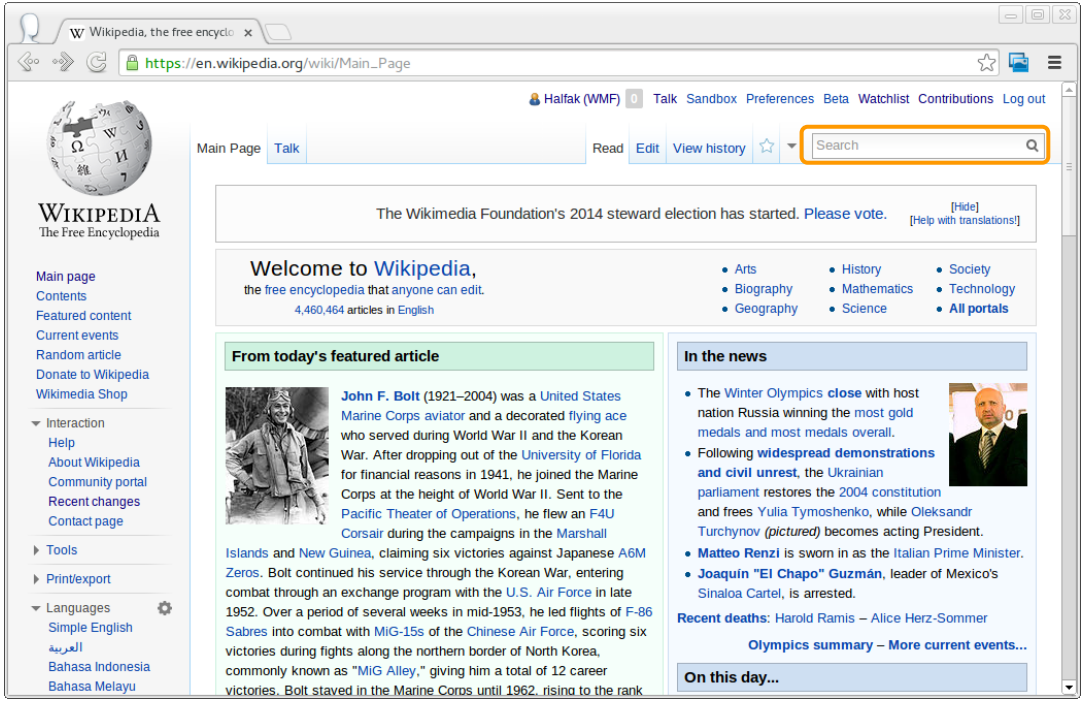
How to create an article

How to create an article

1. Go to Wikipedia

How to create an article

1. Go to Wikipedia
2. *Find* an article that doesn't exist



How to create an article

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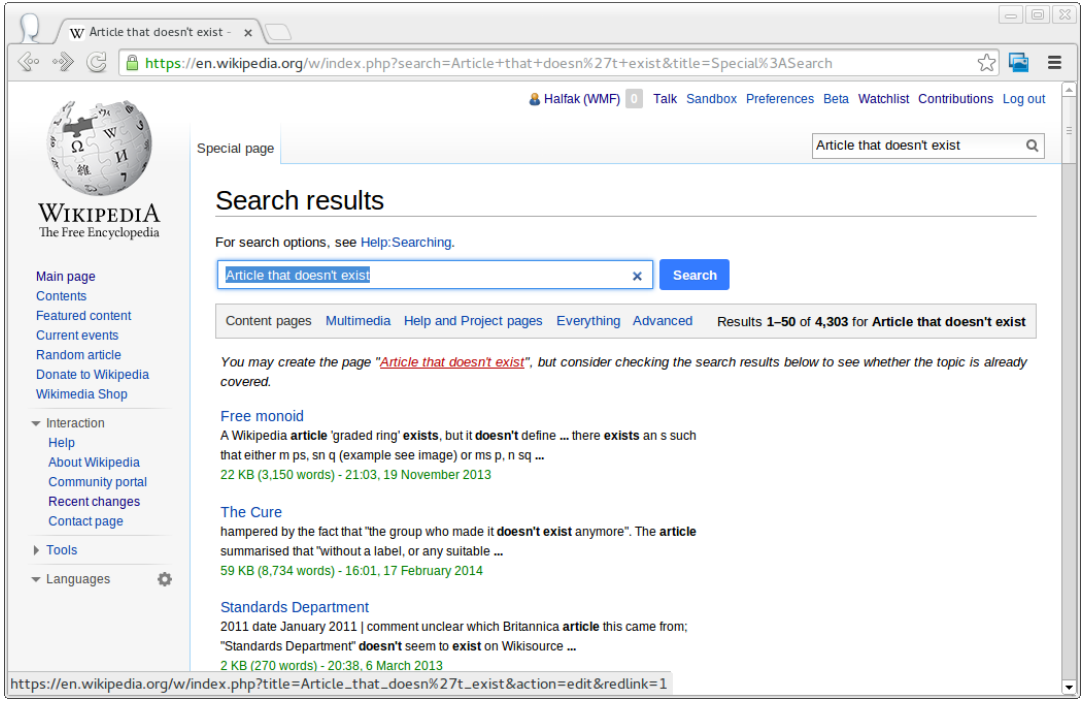

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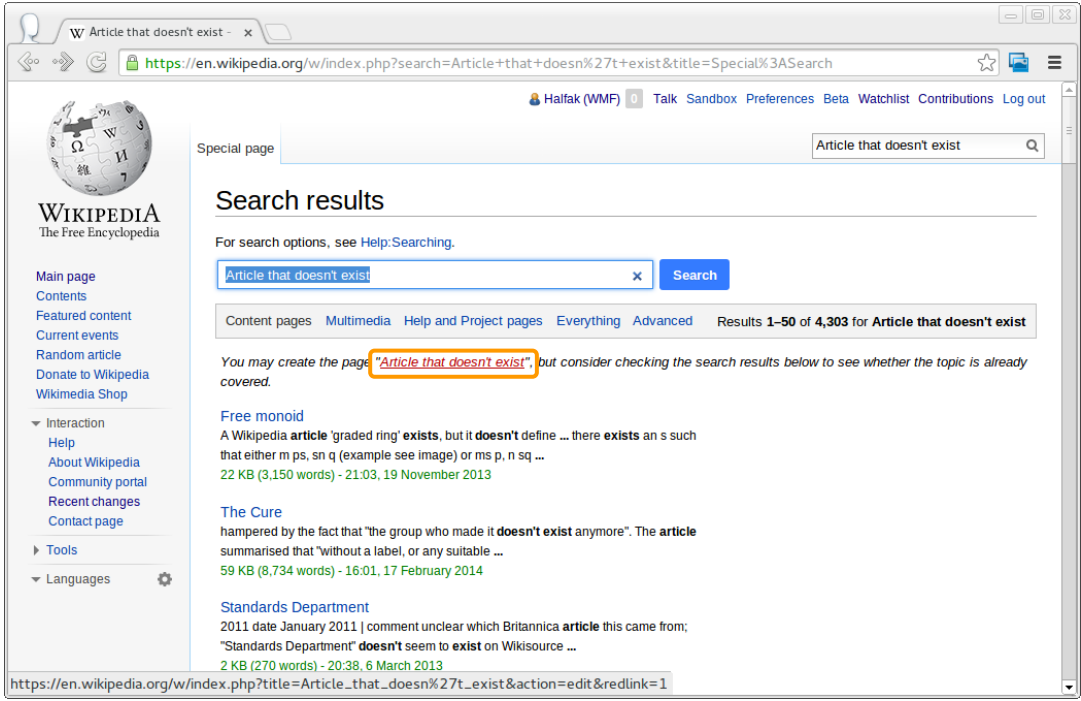
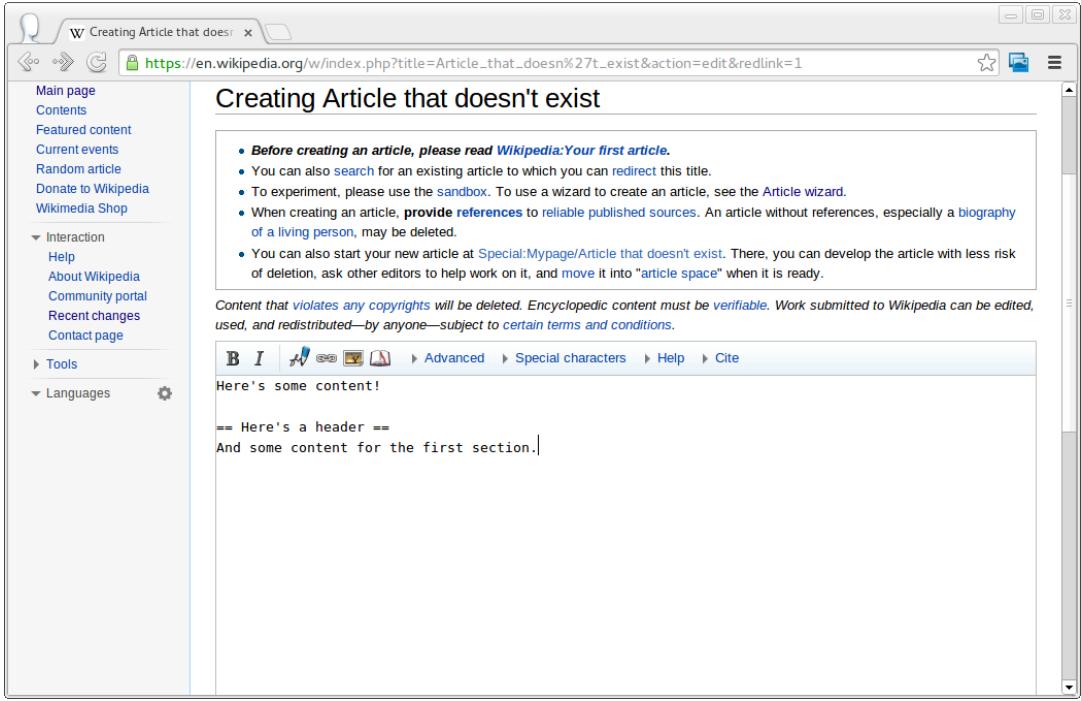


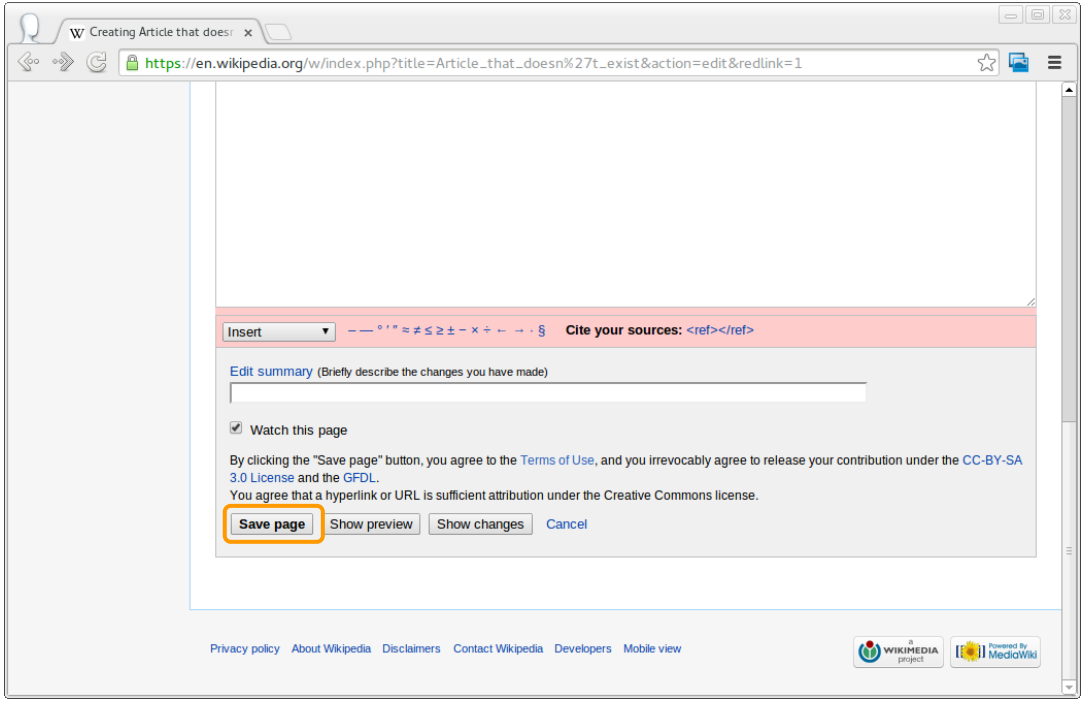
How to create an article

1. Go to Wikipedia
2. *Find* an article that doesn't exist
3. Add some content



How to create an article

1. Go to Wikipedia
2. *Find* an article that doesn't exist
3. Add some content
4. Hit "save"

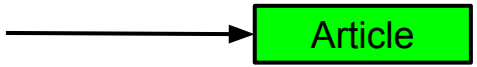


How to create an article

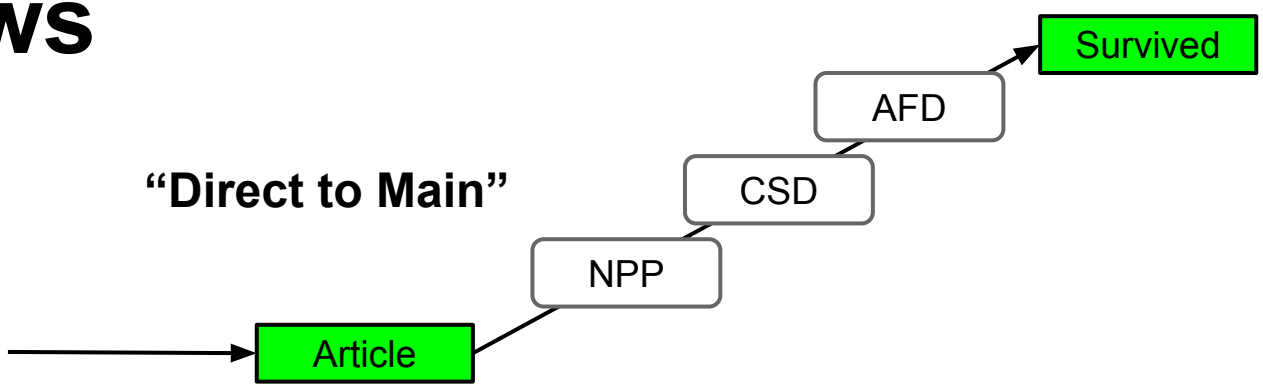
Done!

Workflows

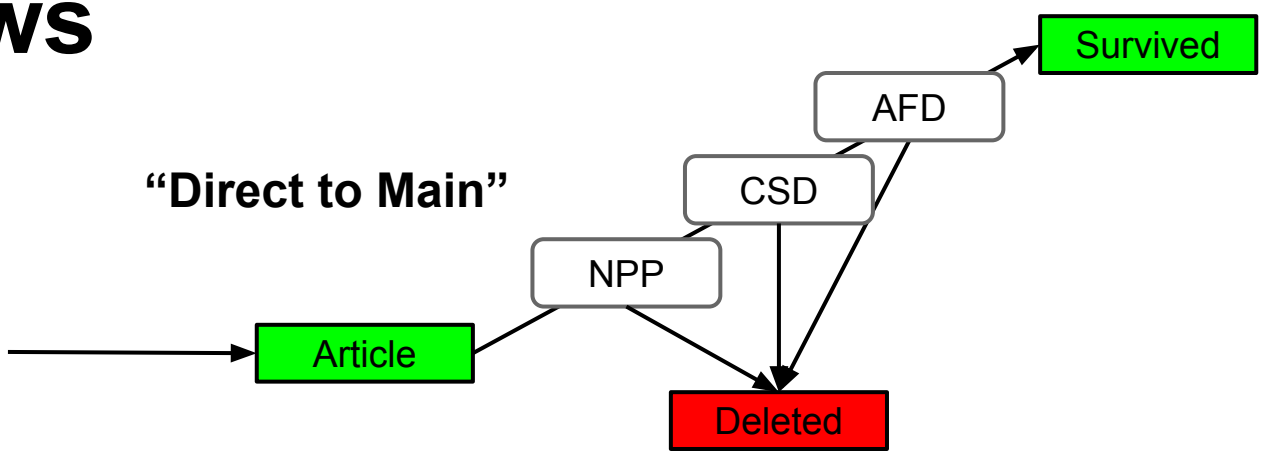
“Direct to Main”



Workflows

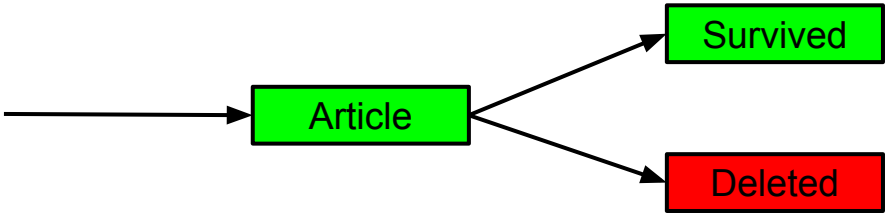


Workflows

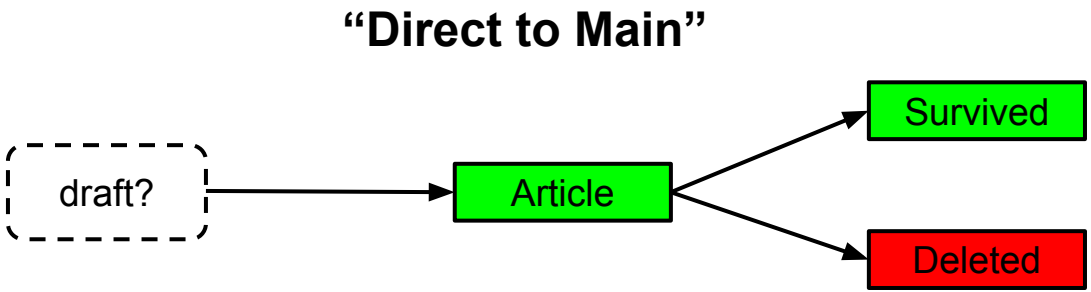


Workflows

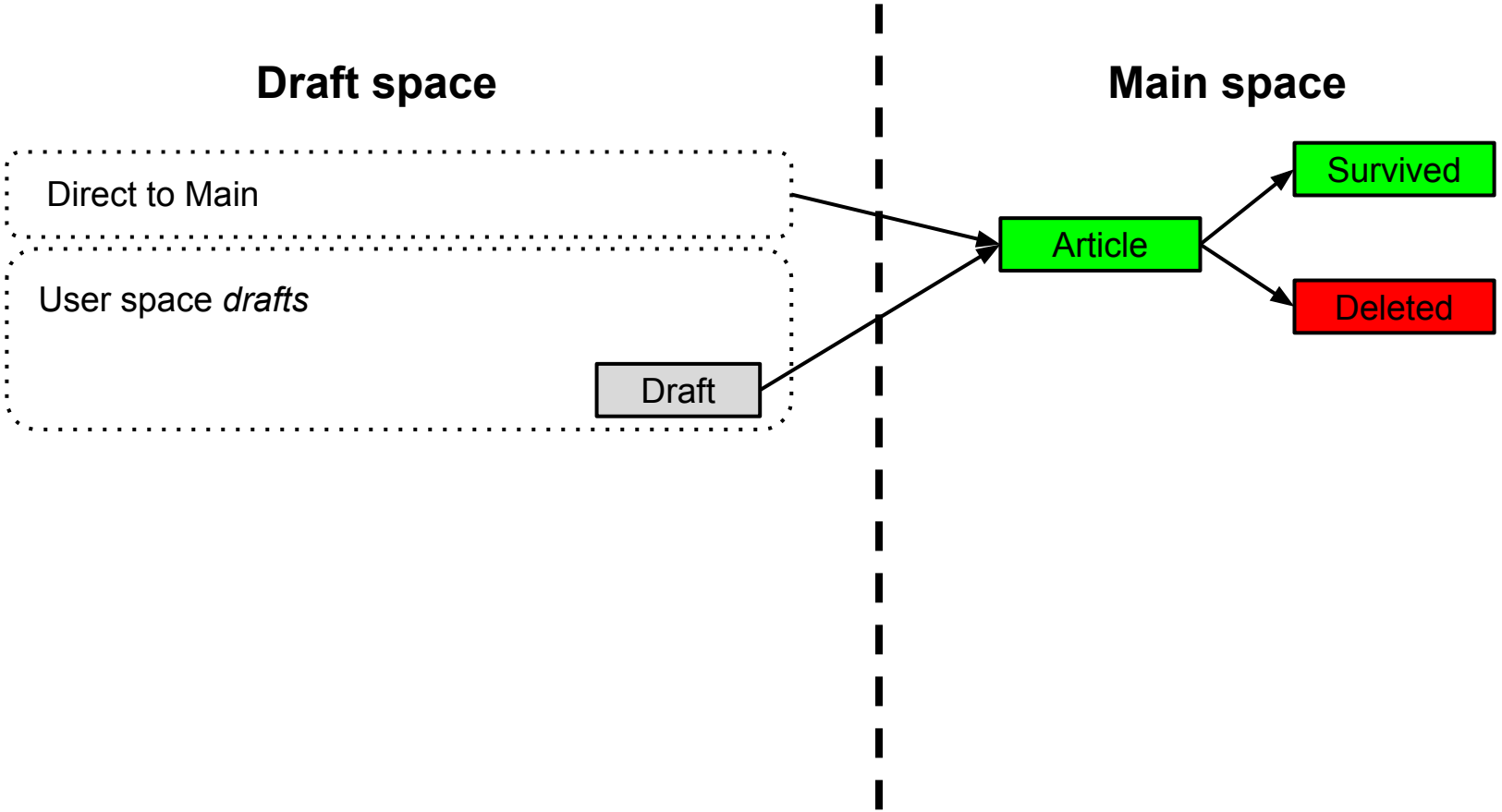
“Direct to Main”



Workflows



Workflows


Draft space
Main space
Direct to Main
User space *drafts*
Draft
Article
Survived
Deleted

User space draft

1. **User:EpochFail**/Article that doesn’t exist

User space draft

1. **User:EpochFail**/Article that doesn't exist
2. *iterate, make mistakes and fix them*

User space draft

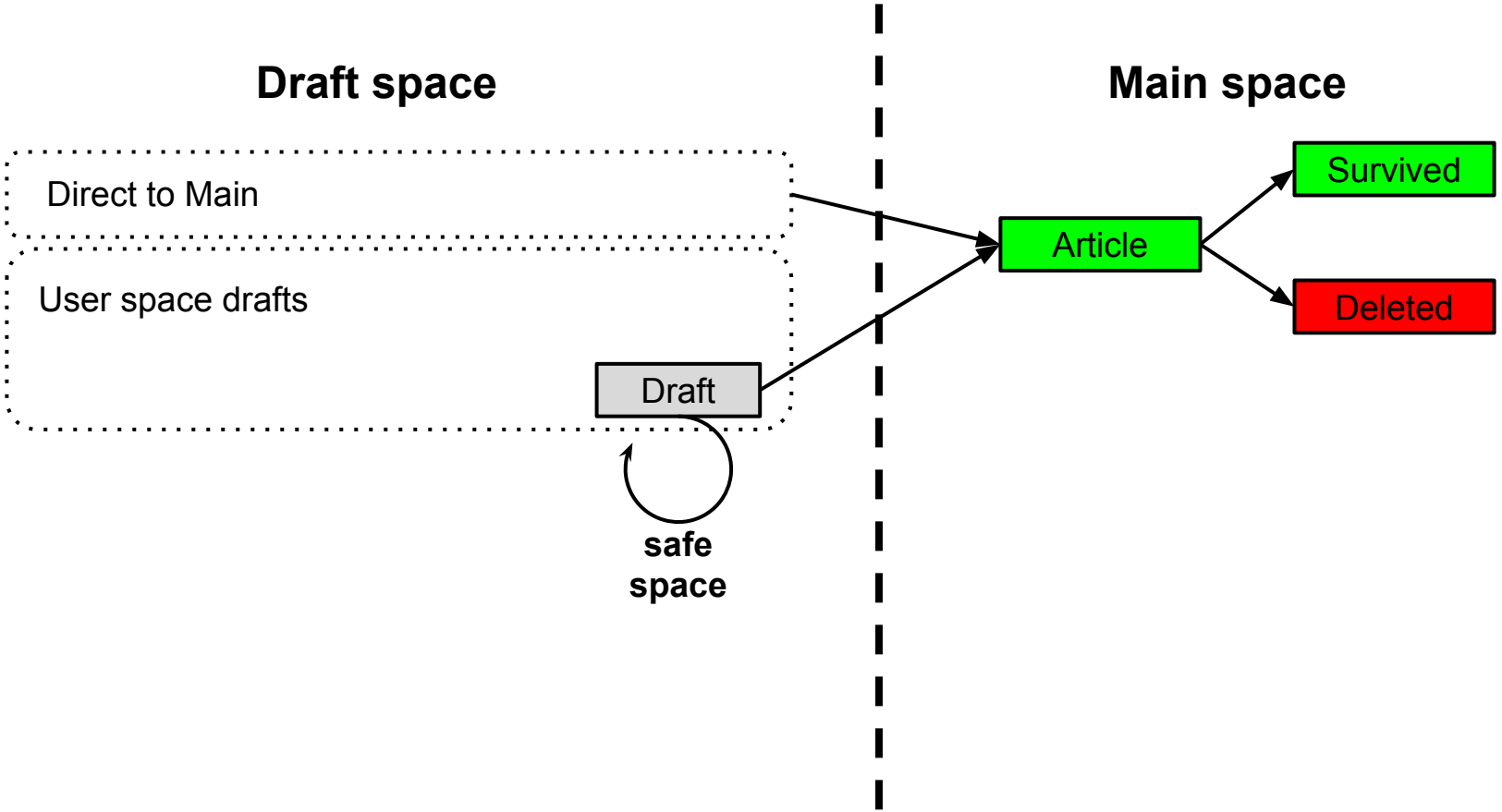
1. **User:EpochFail**/Article that doesn't exist
2. *iterate, make mistakes and fix them*
3. Move to Main when you're ready

User space draft

1. **User:EpochFail**/Article that doesn't exist
2. *iterate, make mistakes and fix them*
3. Move to Main when you're ready

Cool! Right?

Workflows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Article
Survived
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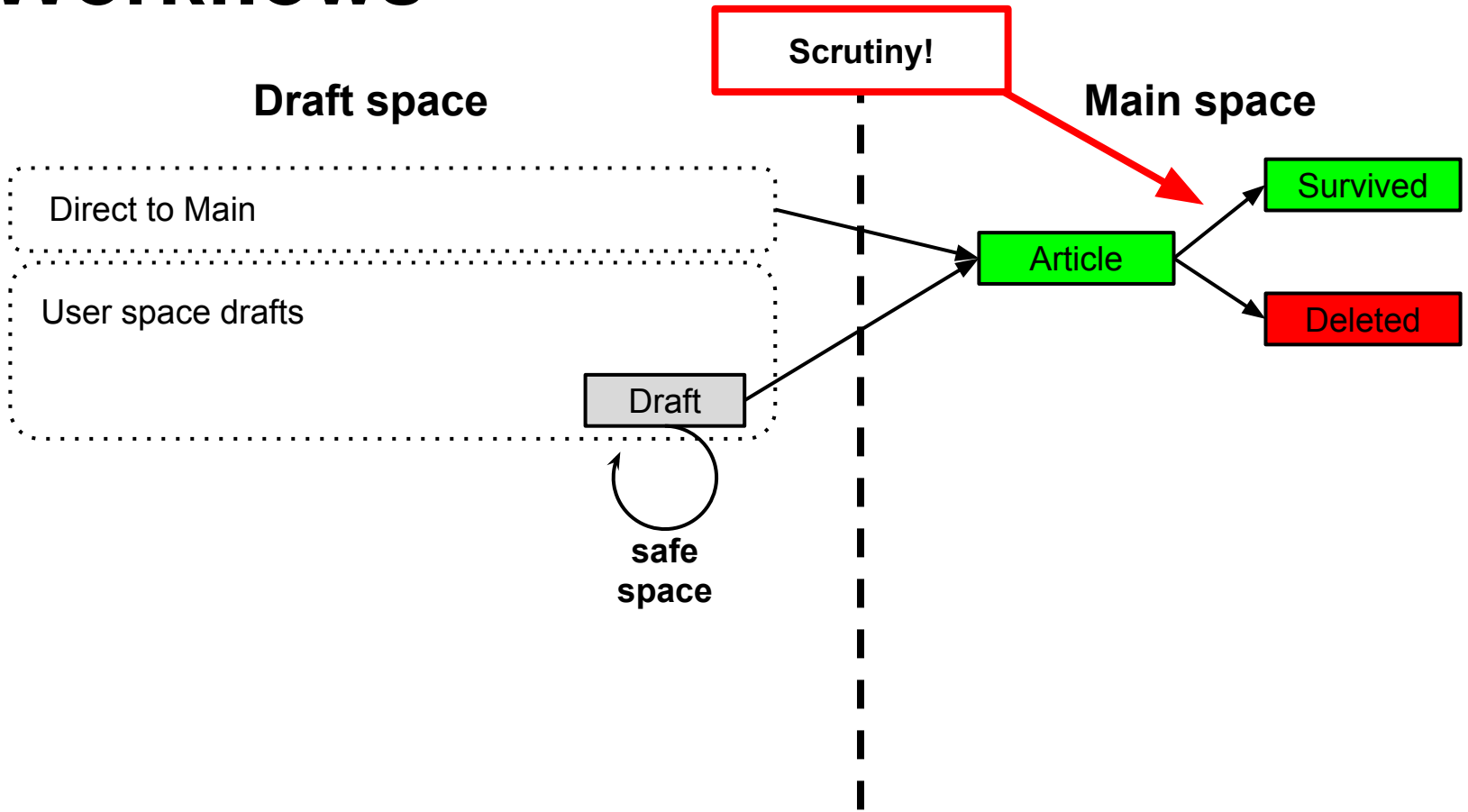
Workflows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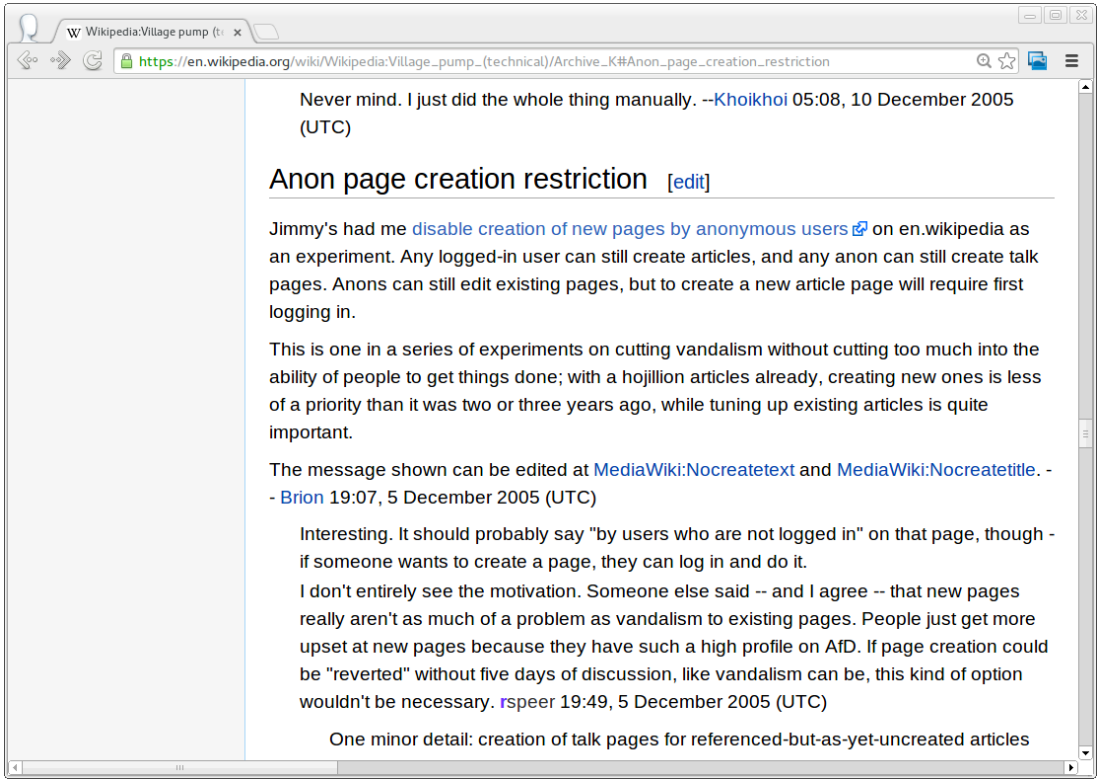
Articles for Creation

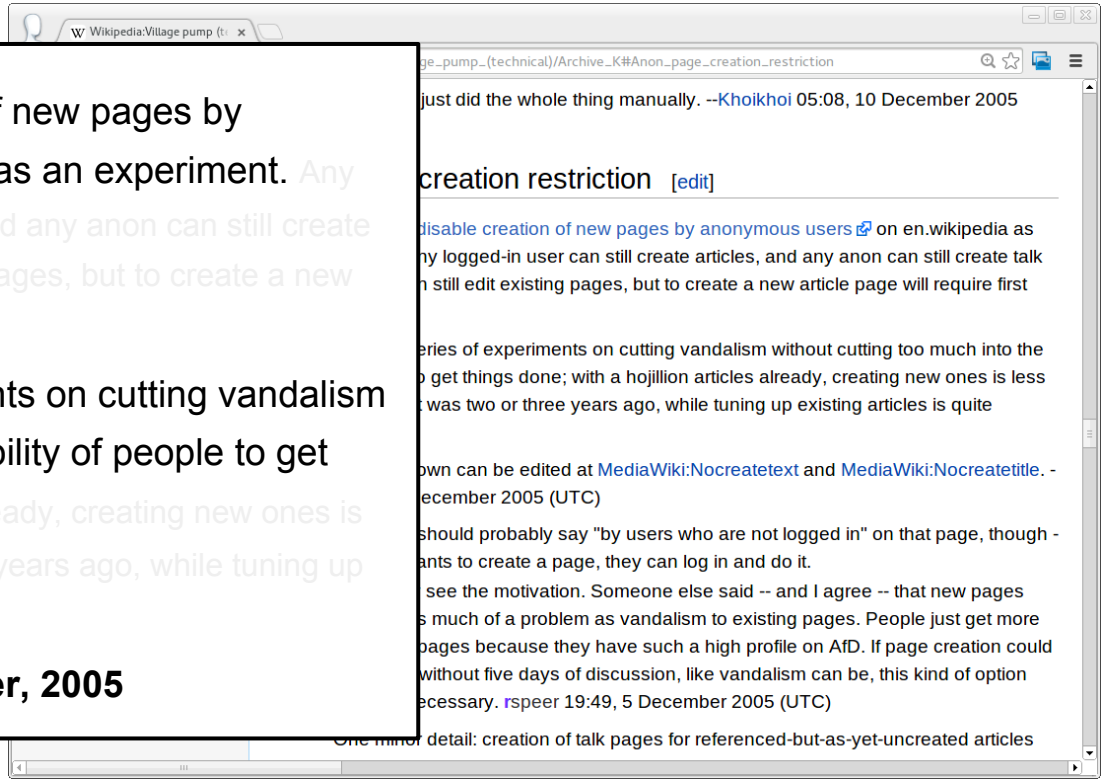


Articles for Creation

Jimmy's had me disable creation of new pages by anonymous users on en.wikipedia as an experiment. Any logged-in user can still create articles, and any anon can still create talk pages. Anons can still edit existing pages, but to create a new article page will require first logging in.

This is one in a series of experiments on cutting vandalism without cutting too much into the ability of people to get things done, with a hojillion articles already, creating new ones is less of a priority than it was two or three years ago, while tuning up existing articles is quite important.

Brion -- December, 2005



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Main page
Contents
Featured content
Current events
Random article
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Interaction
Help
About Wikipedia
Community portal
Recent changes
Contact page

Tools

Print/export

Languages
বাংলা
Español
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Wikipedia:Articles for creation

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is an **old revision** of this page, as edited by **Uncle G (talk | contribs)** at 09:15, 2 January 2006. It may differ significantly from the **current revision**.

(diff) ← Previous revision | Latest revision (diff) | Newer revision → (diff)

The easiest way to create a new article is to create an account then log in - no personal information is necessary.

Shortcut:
[[WP:AFC]]

If you prefer not to create an account, you can post requests for article creation here. Registered users who see these requests can create articles for you. Remember your requested topic must be suitable for Wikipedia.

Please read Wikipedia:Your first article before making a proposal - it will help you avoid the classic "newbie" mistakes, and save your hard work being deleted.

Template:AFC instructions

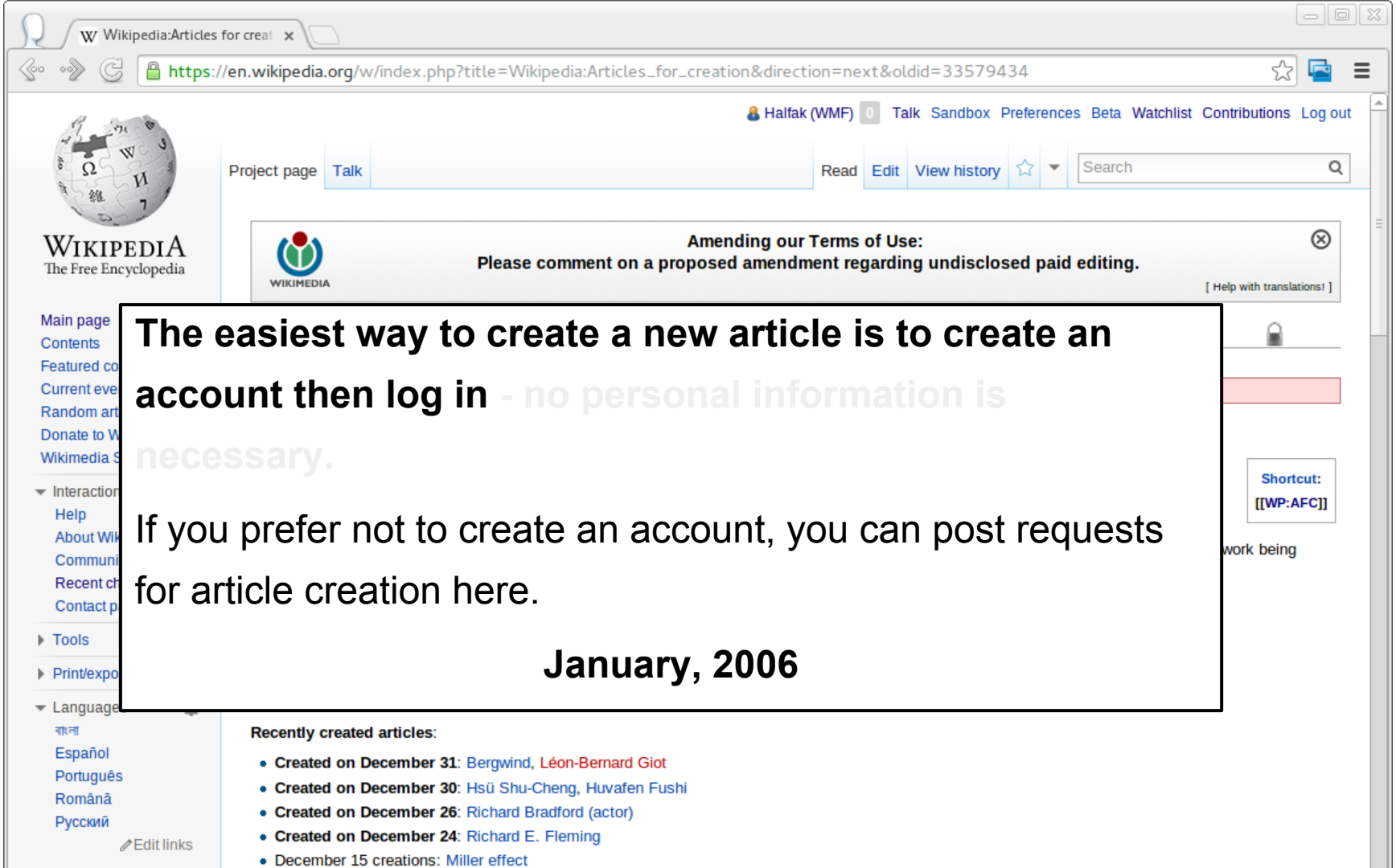
Wikipedia:Articles for creation/Today

Click here to make a proposal (don't change the text in the box above)

You can get more information on using Wikipedia at the Welcome page.

Recently created articles:

- **Created on December 31**: Bergwind, Léon-Bernard Giot
- **Created on December 30**: Hsü Shu-Cheng, Huvafen Fushi
- **Created on December 26**: Richard Bradford (actor)
- **Created on December 24**: Richard E. Fleming
- December 15 creations: Miller effect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Main page
Contents
Featured co
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Random art
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Recent ch
Contact p
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January, 2006
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work being
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Contents
Featured content
Current events
Random article
Donate to Wikipedia
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Interaction
Help
About Wikipedia
Community portal
Recent changes
Contact page

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Wikipedia:Articles for creation

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This is an old revision of this page, as edited by Masky (talk | contribs) at 00:38, 1 February 2007. It may differ significantly from the current revision.

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This page has a **backlog** that requires the attention of willing editors.
Please remove this notice if and when the backlog is cleared.

This page allows ***unregistered*** and new users to create new articles with the assistance of experienced Wikipedians. The easiest way to create a new article, however, is to create a free Wikipedia user account and then log in. No personal information is necessary to register, and registered users can create new articles without the hassle or delay of the Article for Creation process.

Shortcut:
[[WP:AFC]]

If you have an idea for a good article subject, but do not want to provide text for the article, you should make an article request instead. Alternatively, if you want to discuss and plan an article go to the drawing board.

Most articles are declined... don't let this happen to you!

The majority of submitted articles are declined, because they are not suitable for Wikipedia. Read Wikipedia:Your first article before writing your article, to learn how to write it well and read below to avoid some common mistakes other people make.

Unregistered users: Submitting an article	Registered users: Reviewing submissions
Follow these directions to submit an article for creation.	Registered Wikipedians should follow these directions to review submitted text and create new articles.

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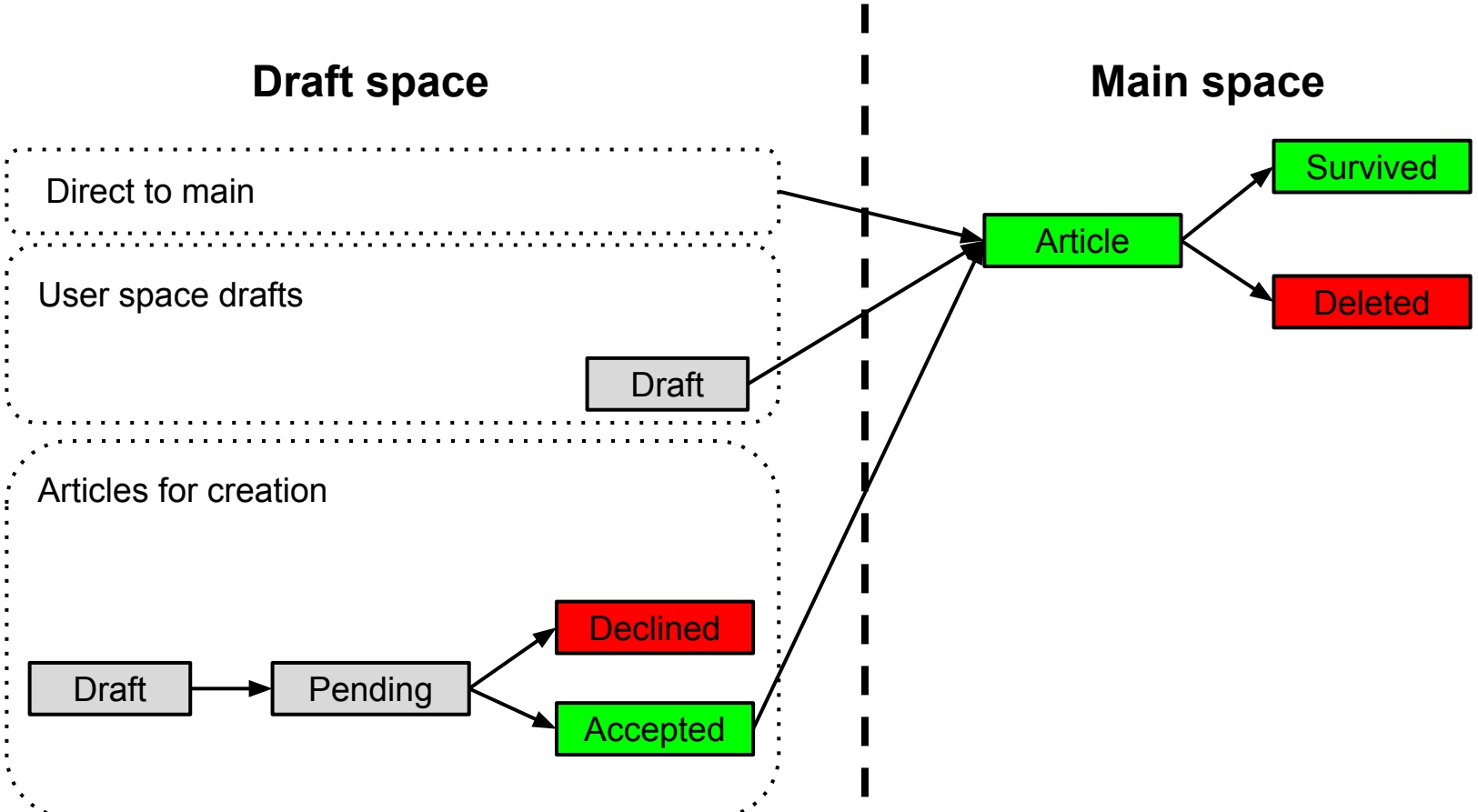
Registered users: Reviewing submissions
Follow these directions to submit an article for creation.
Registered Wikipedians should follow these directions to review submitted

Workflows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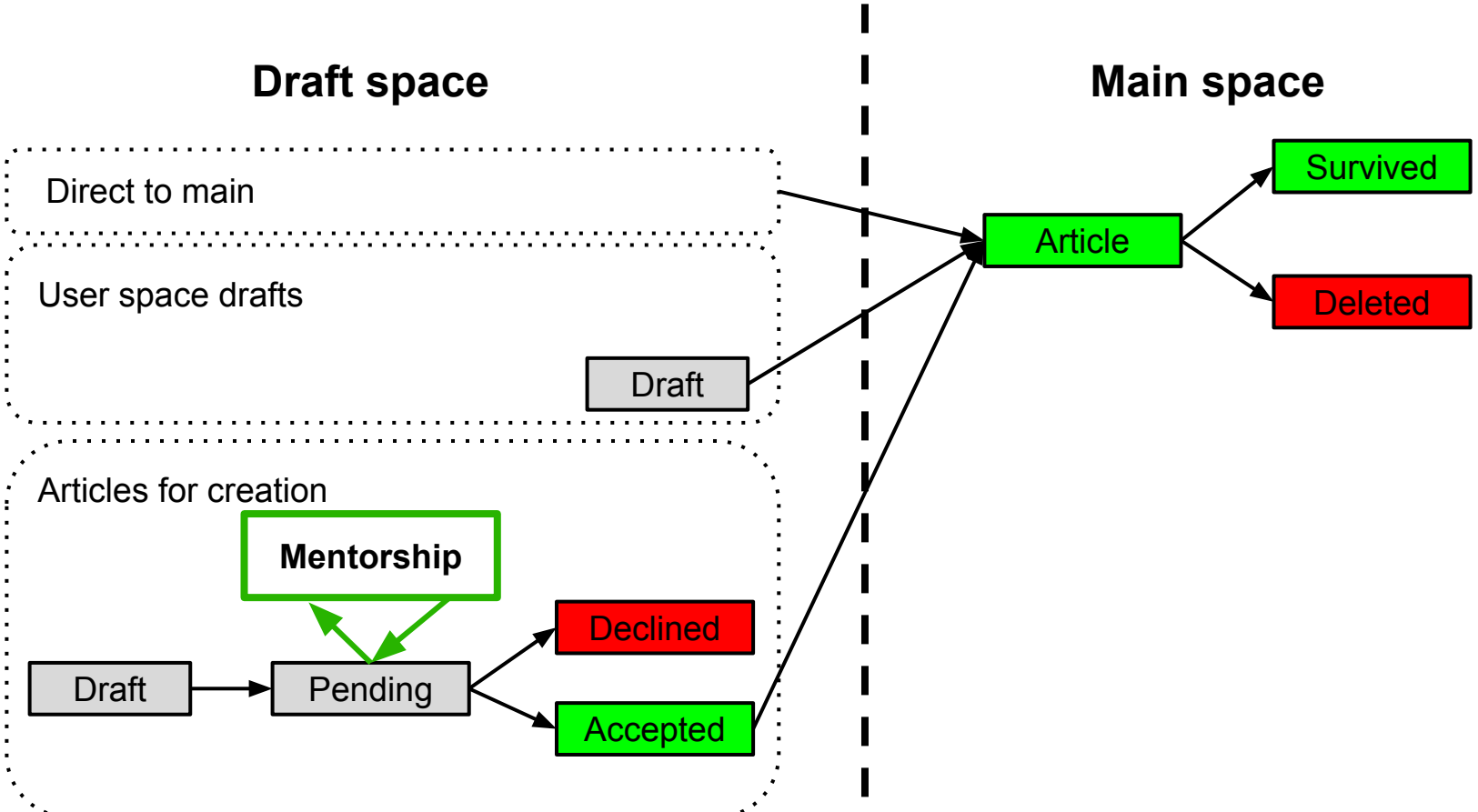
Workflows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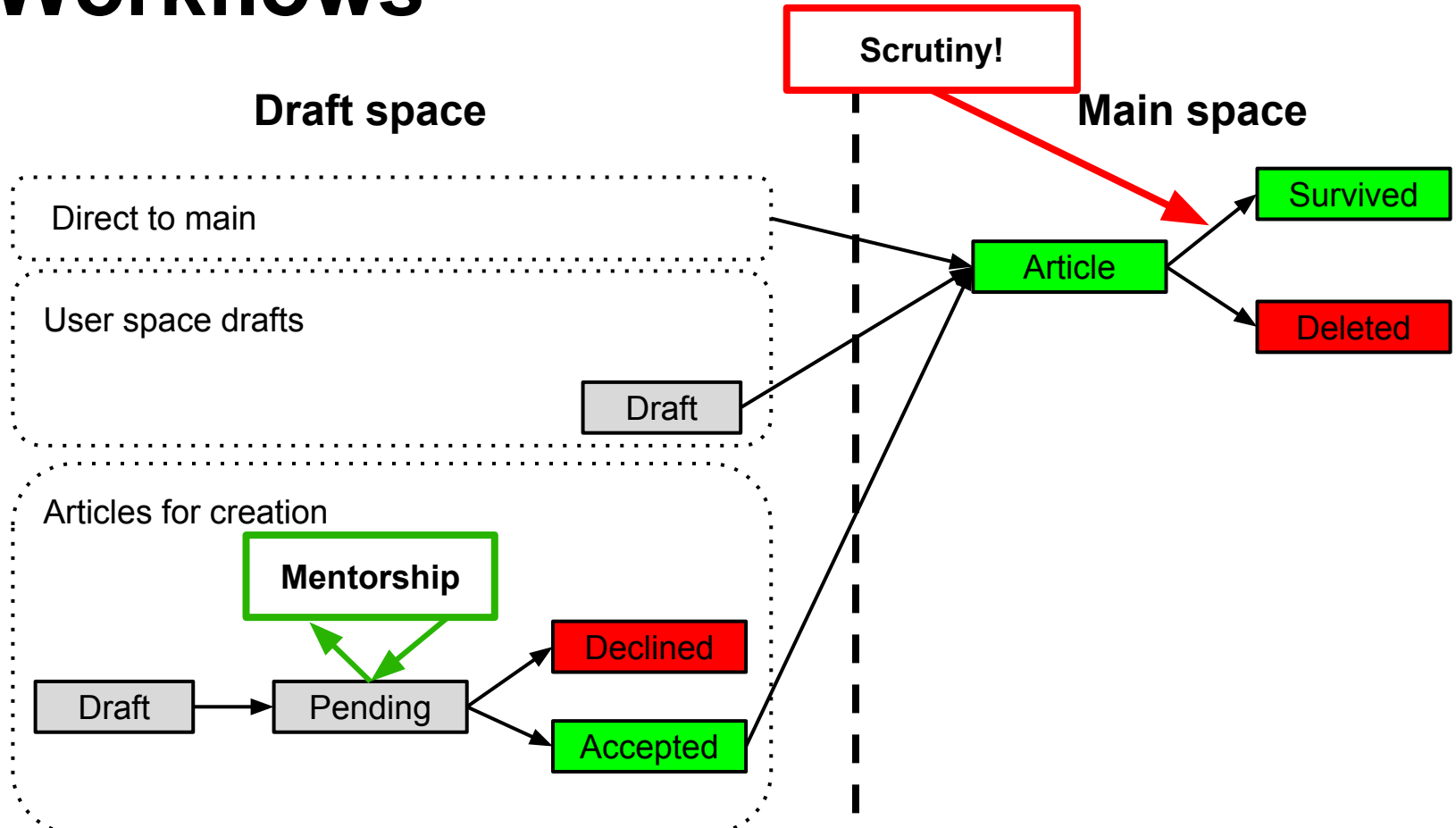
Workflows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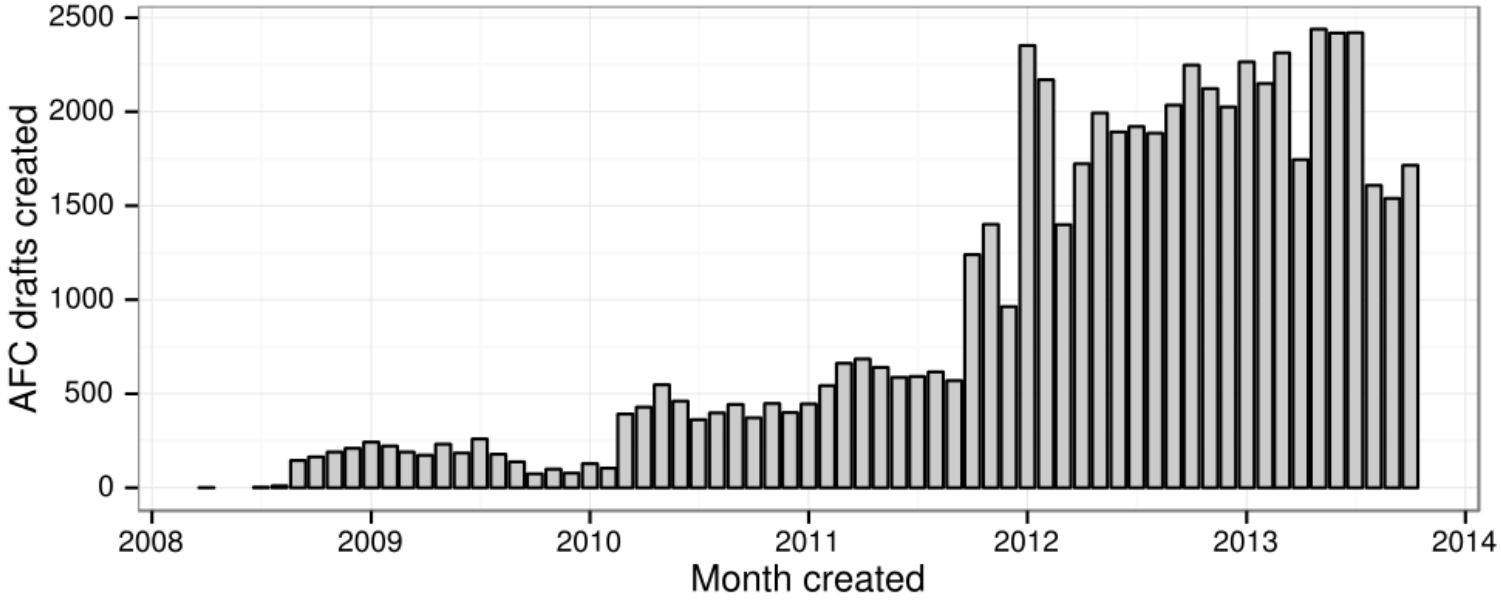
Workflows

Newcomers → Articles for Creation



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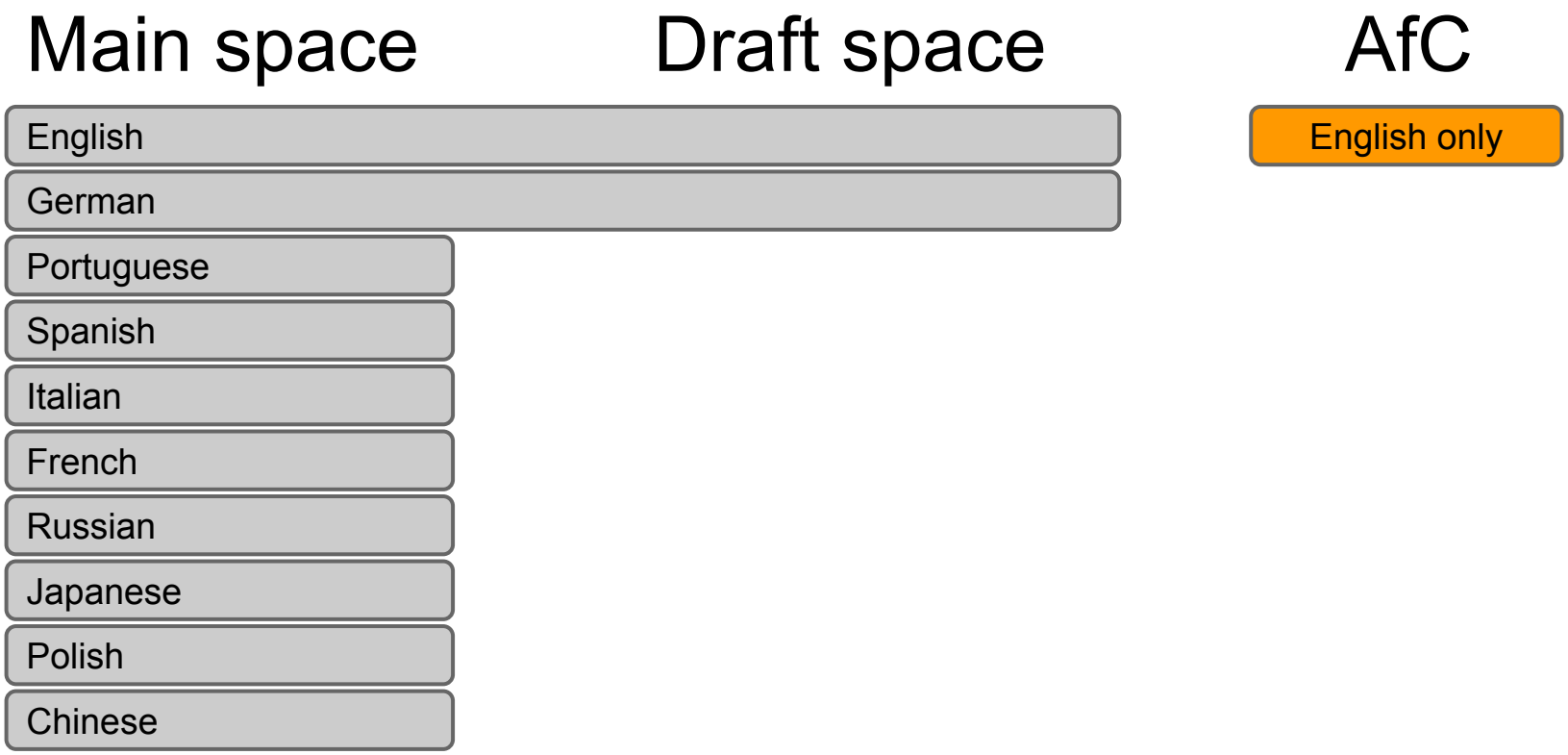
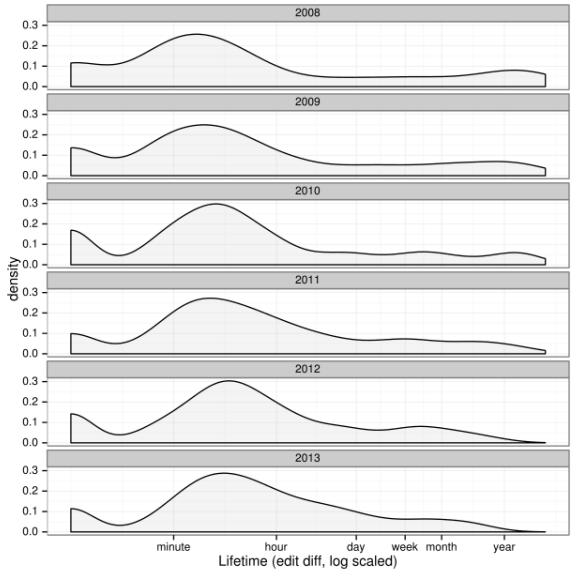


Part 2. Results

Methods!

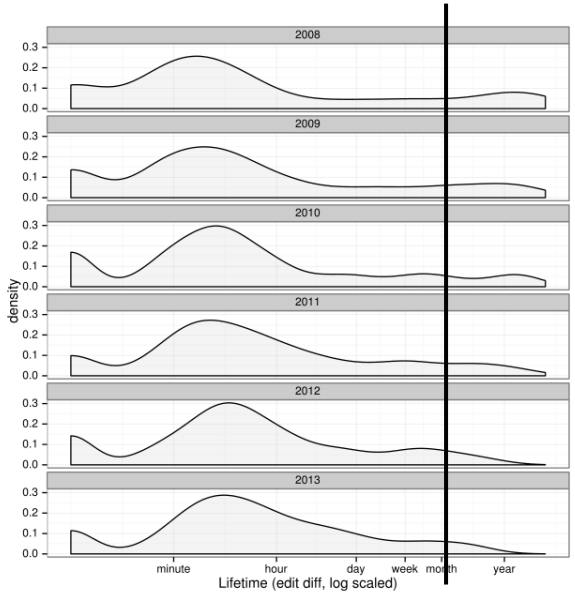
Methods!

“surviving articles”



Methods!

“surviving articles”



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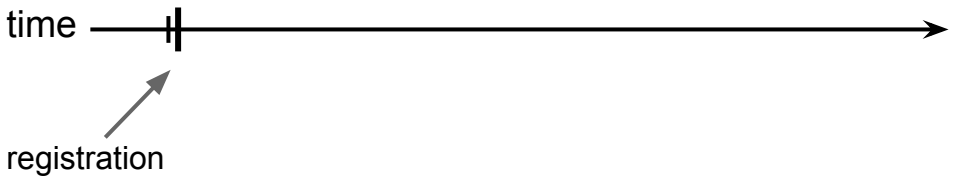
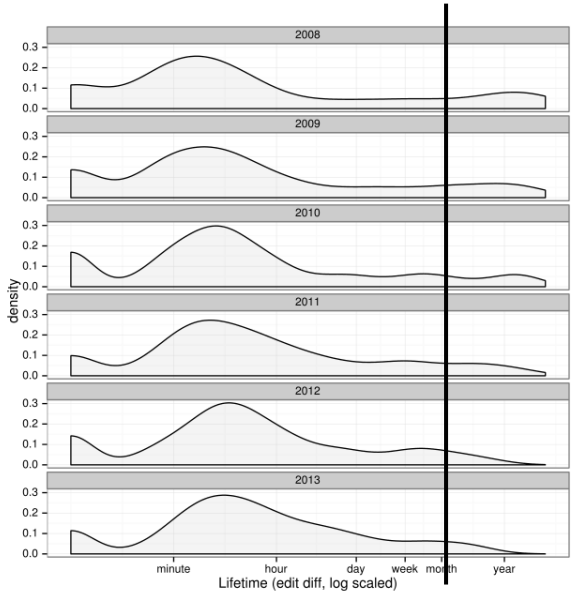


Methods!

“surviving articles”



“editor classes”

Methods!

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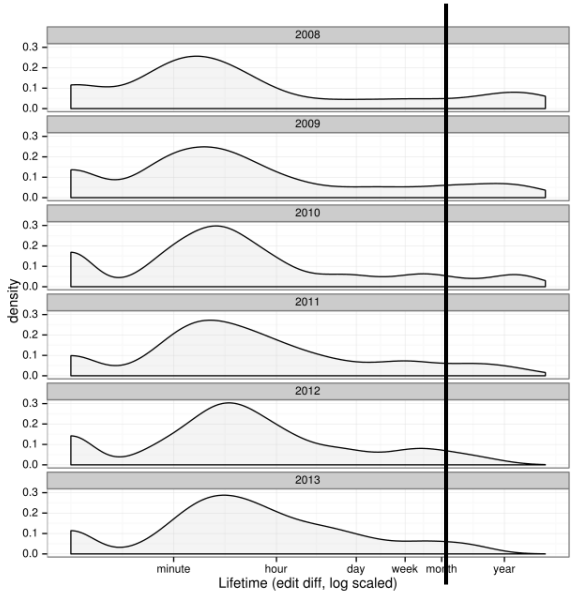

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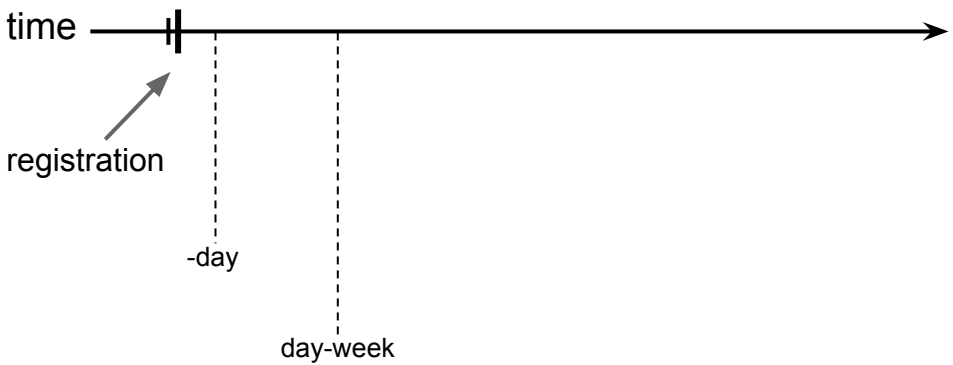

Methods!

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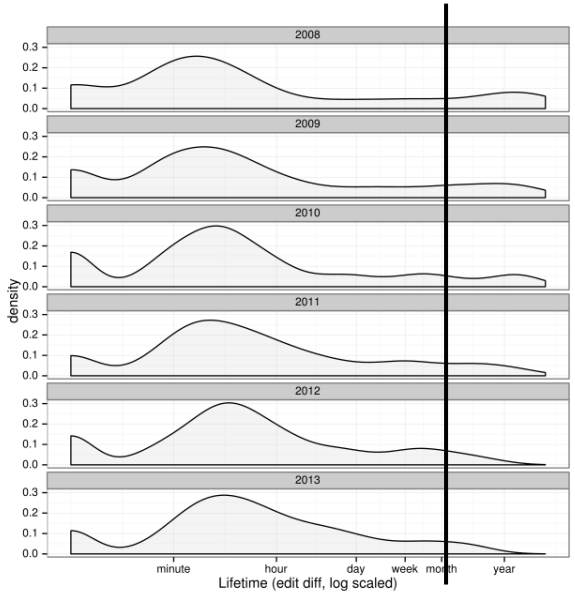

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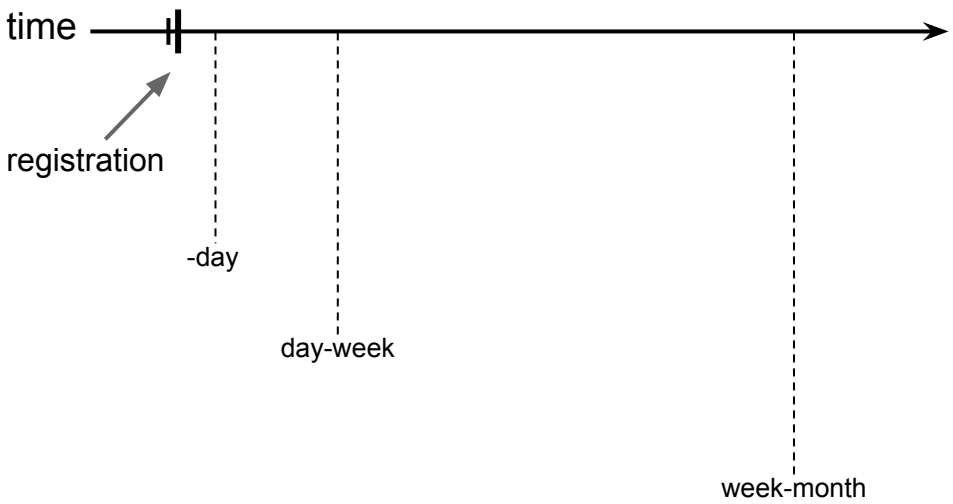

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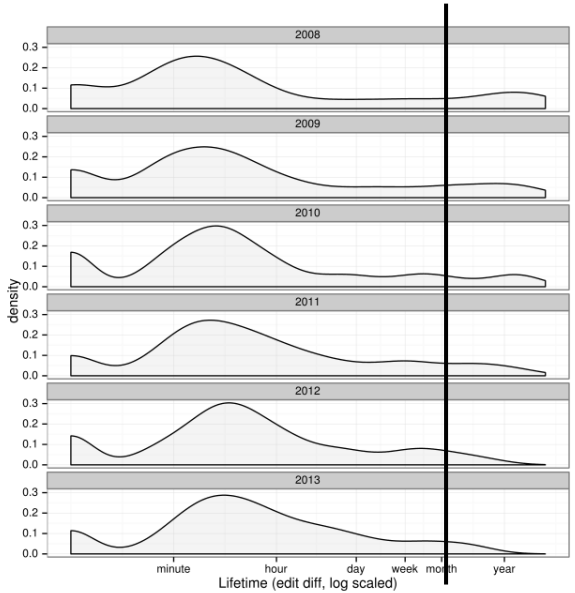

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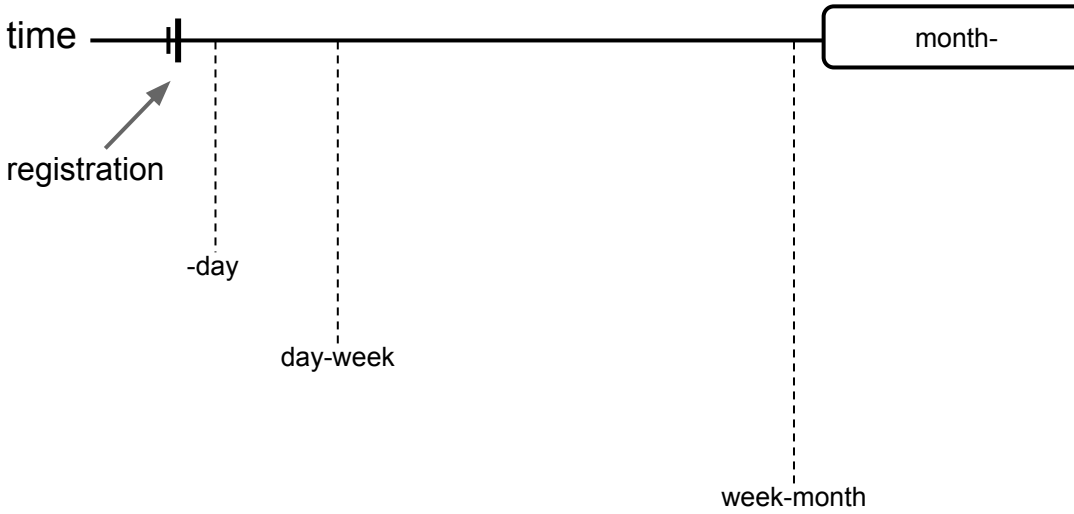

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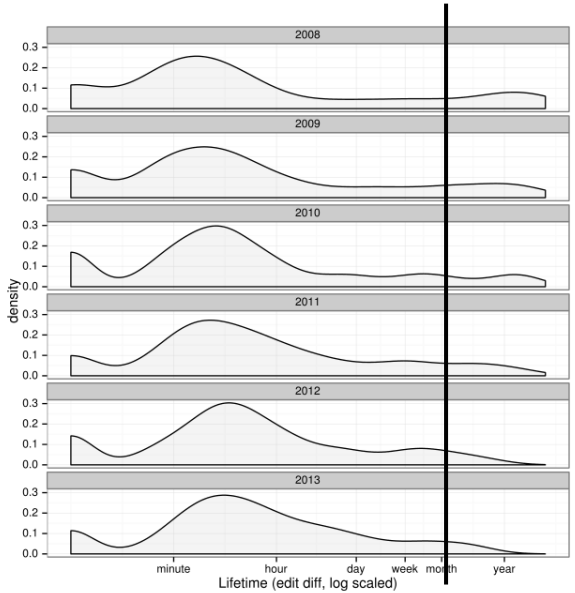

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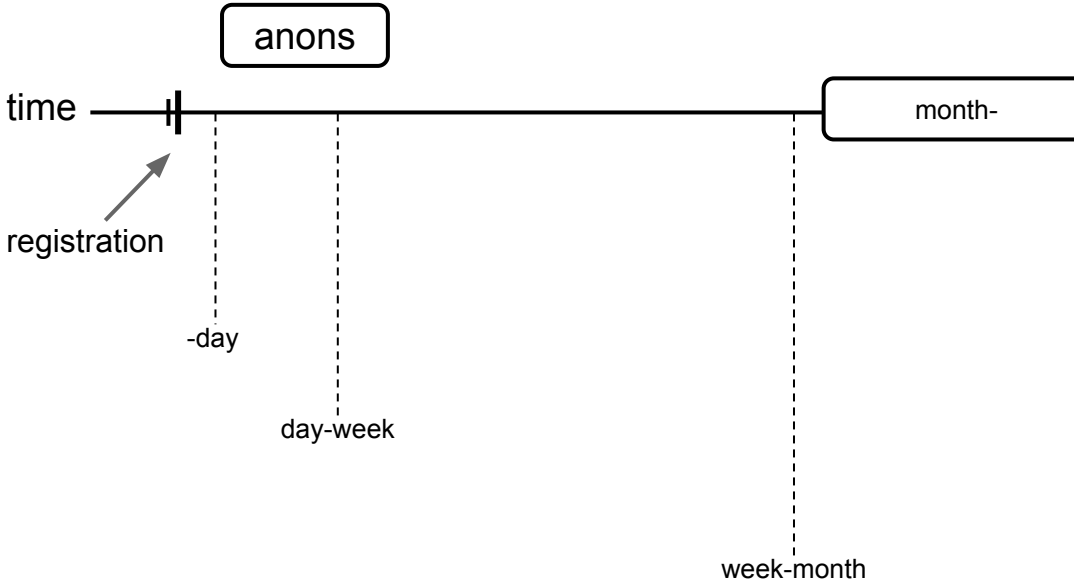

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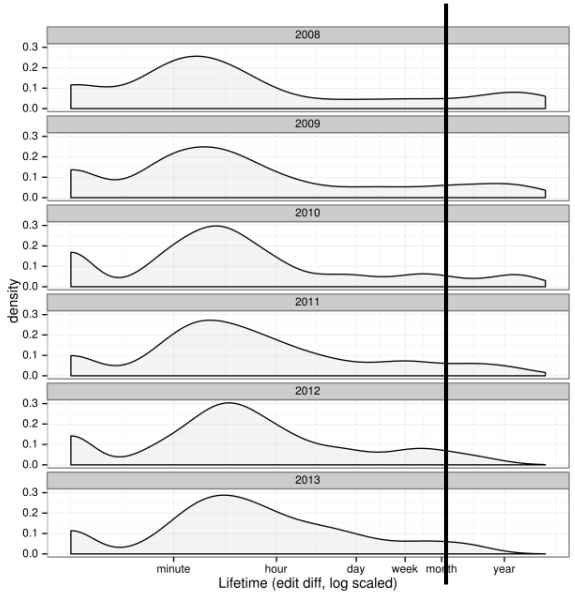
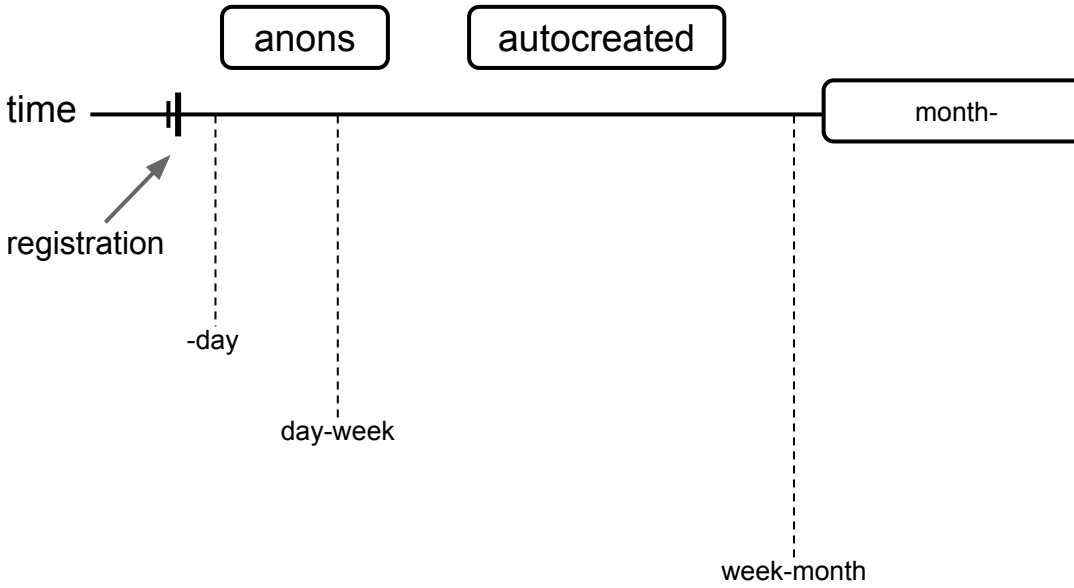


“editor classes”



Questions

- Who’s creating all the articles?
- Whose articles survive?
- What effect does the workflow have?

Who is creating all the articles?

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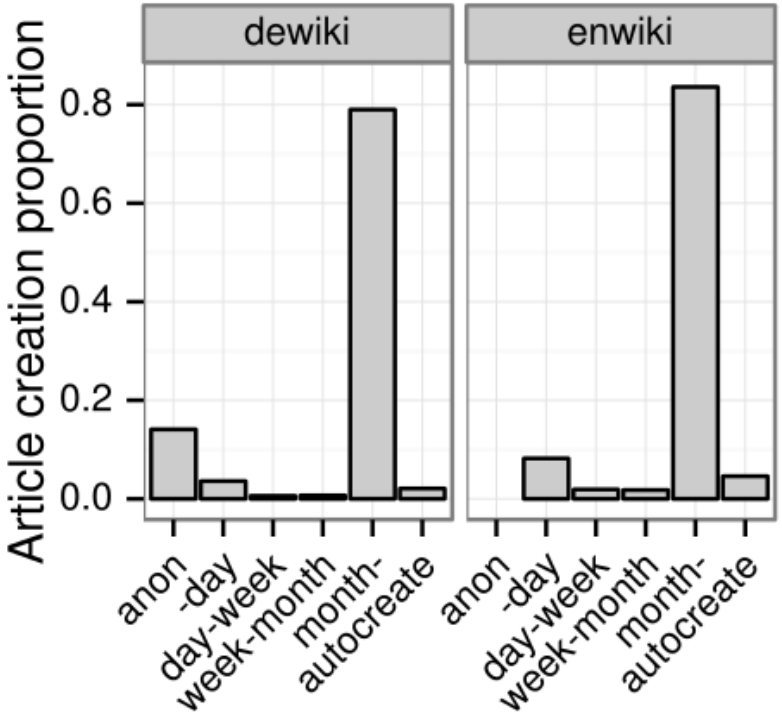

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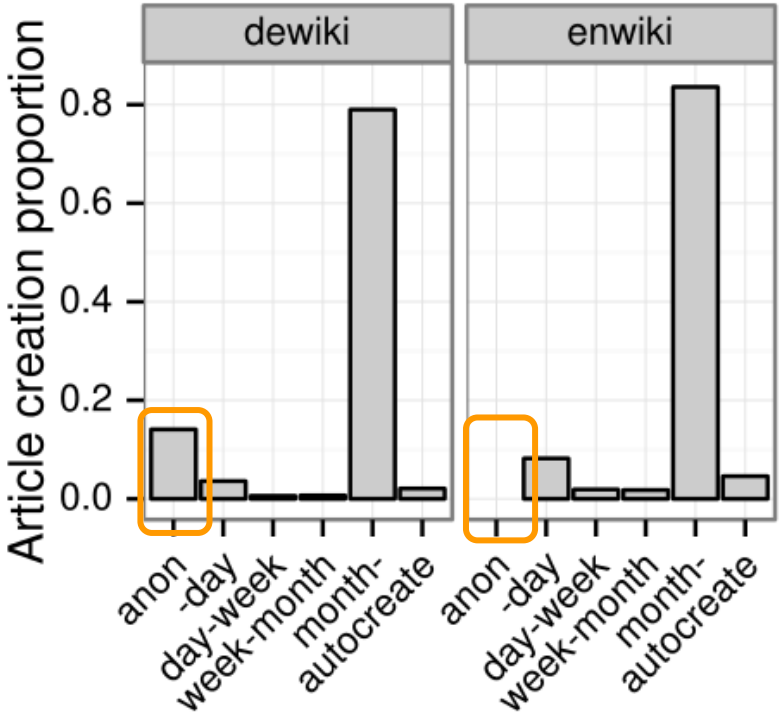

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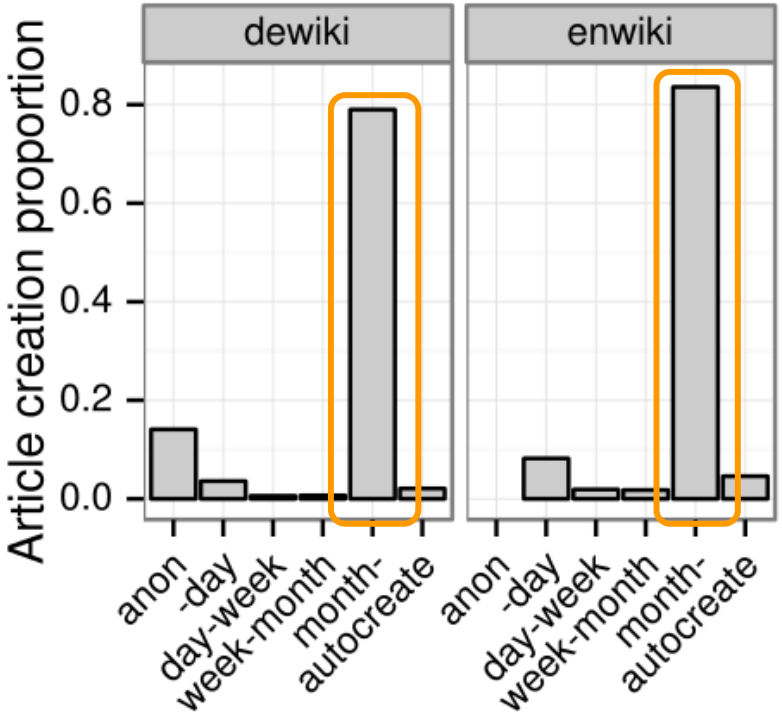

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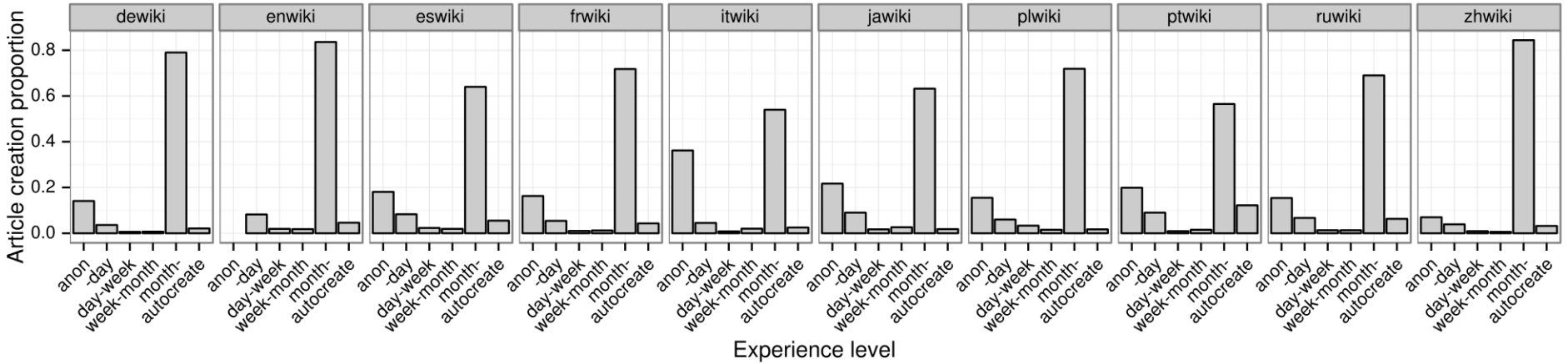

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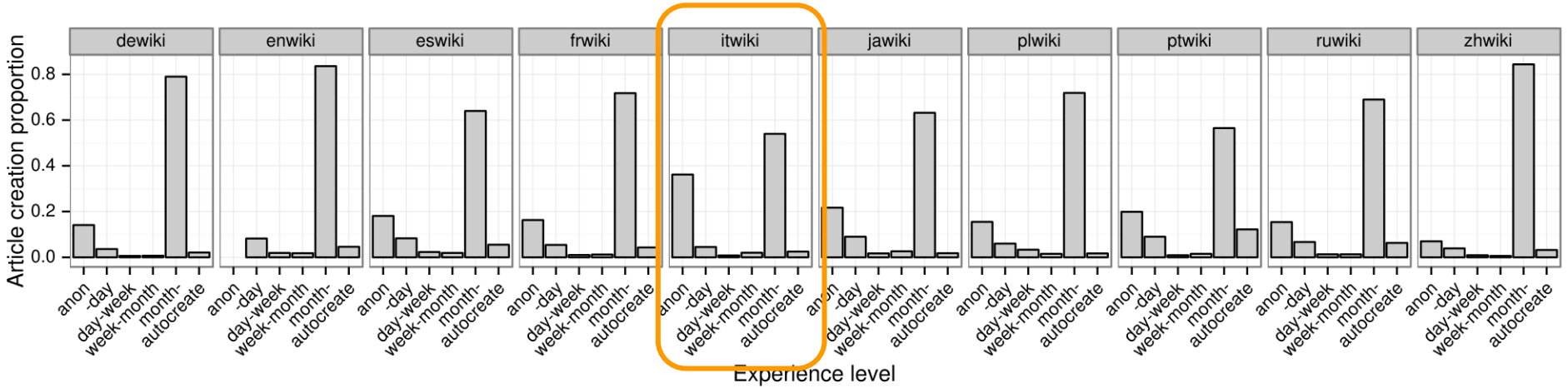

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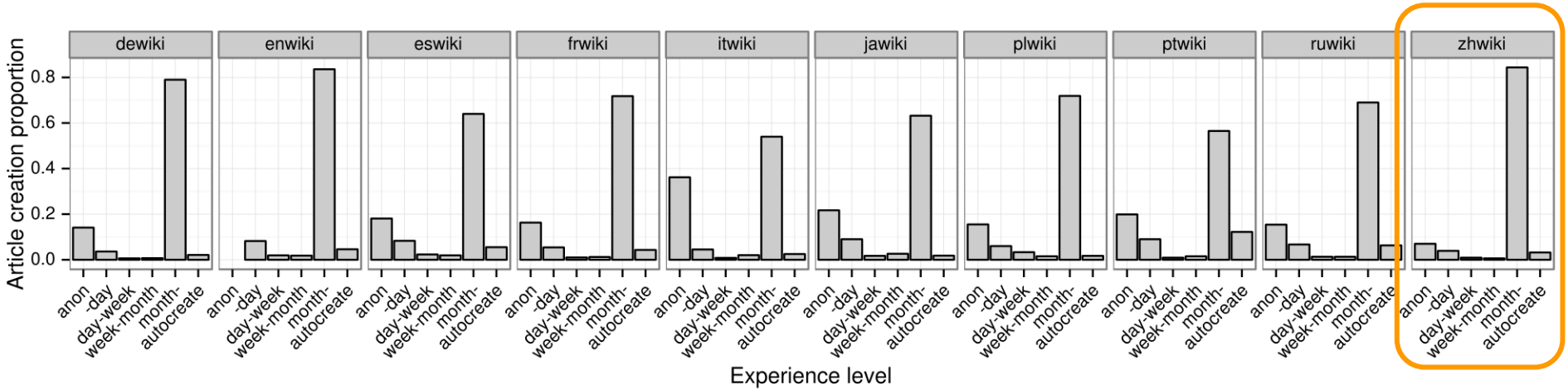


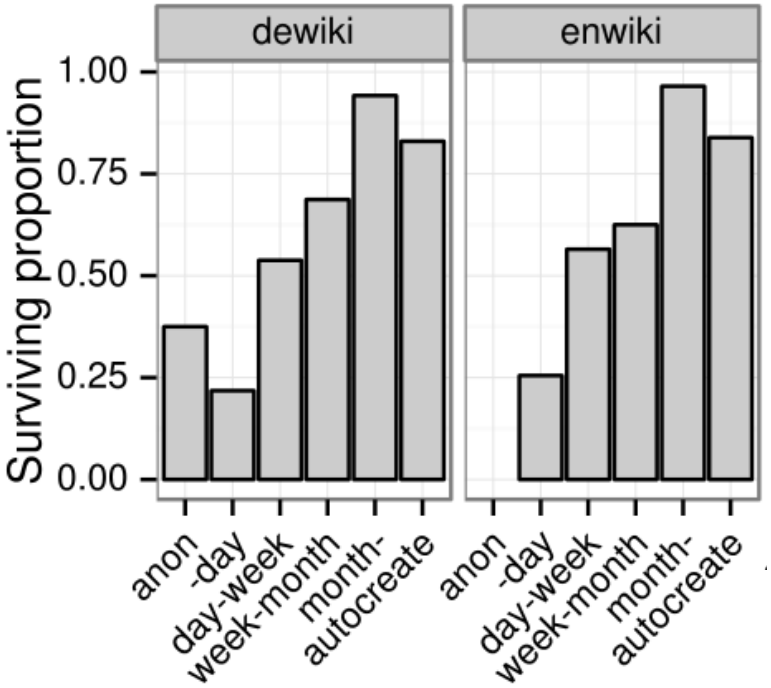
Who is creating all the articles?

- 55-85% Experienced Wikipedians
- 5-15% Newcomers
- 10-20% Anons*

* non-enwiki

Whose articles survive?

Whose articles survive?



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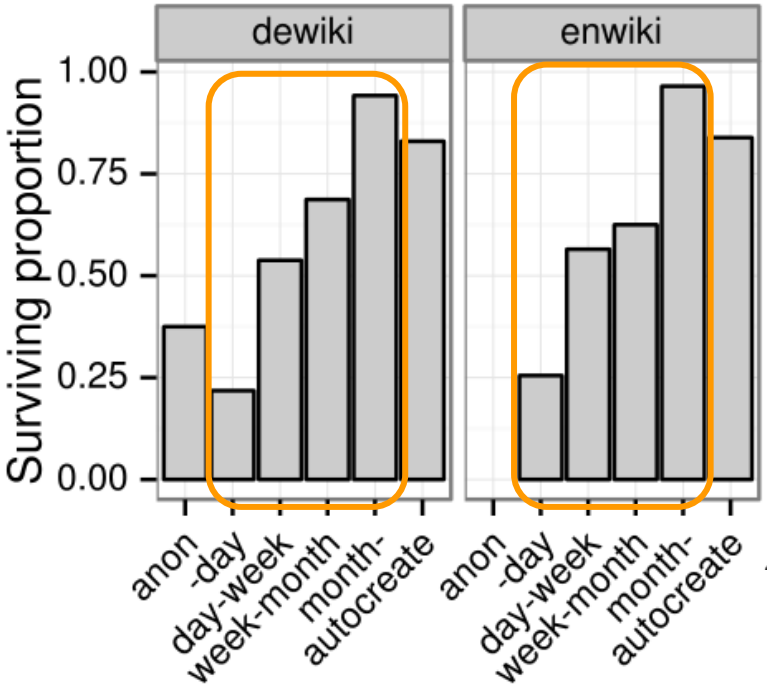

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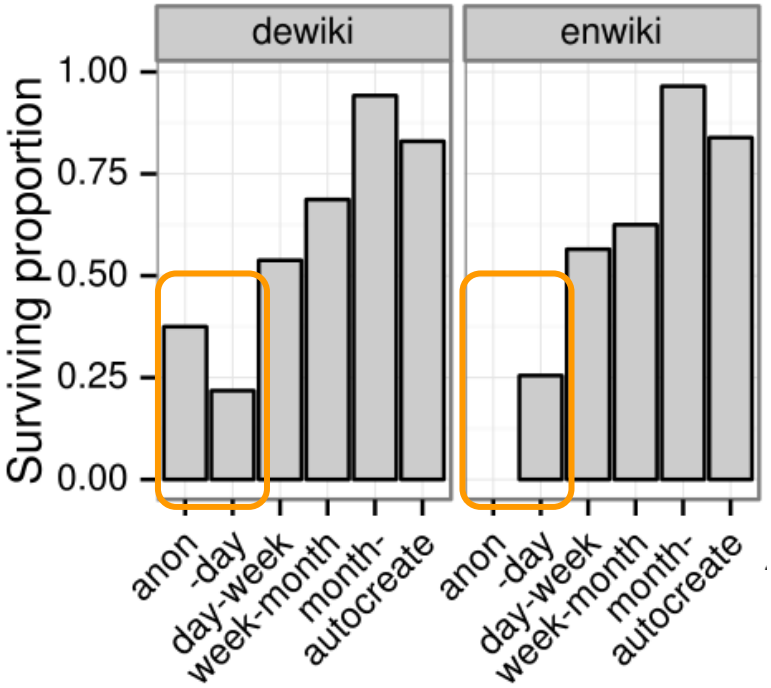

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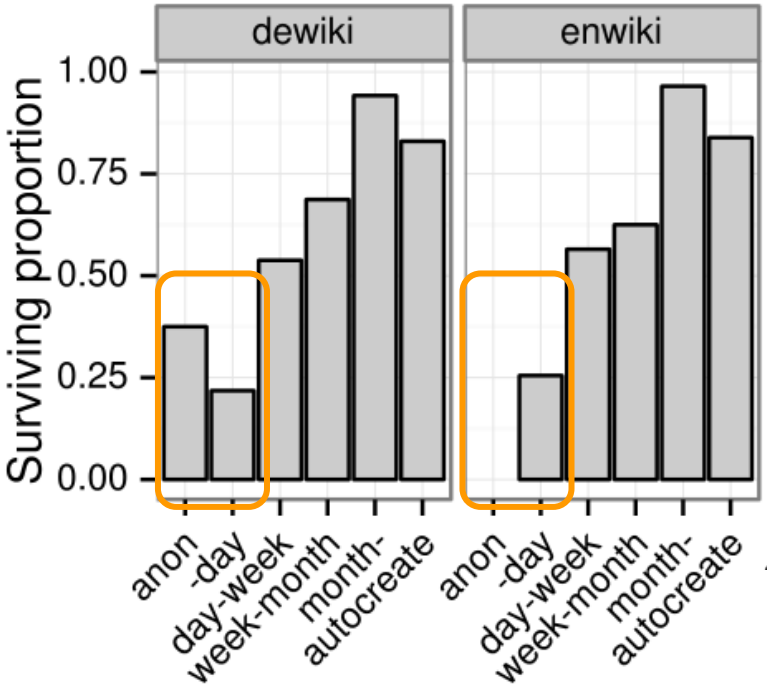
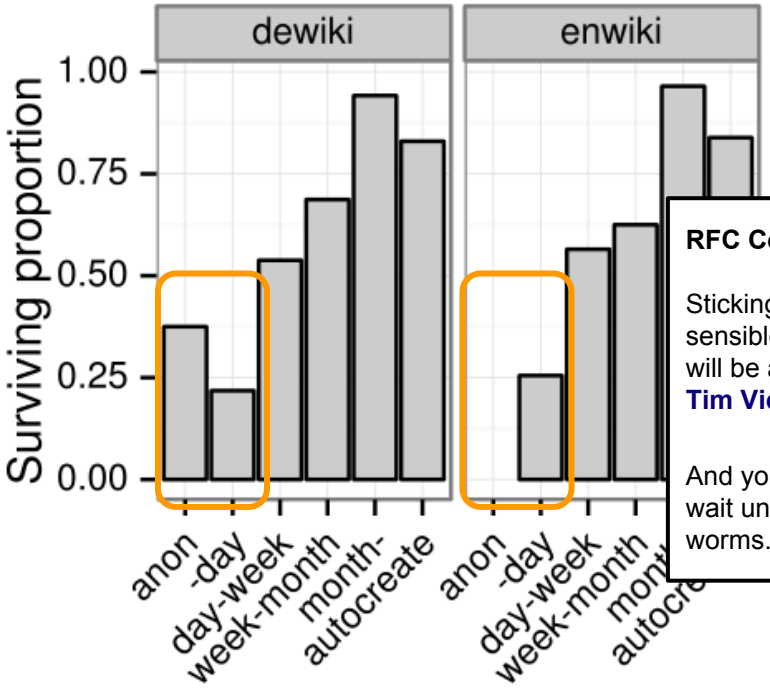


Wat

Whose articles survive?



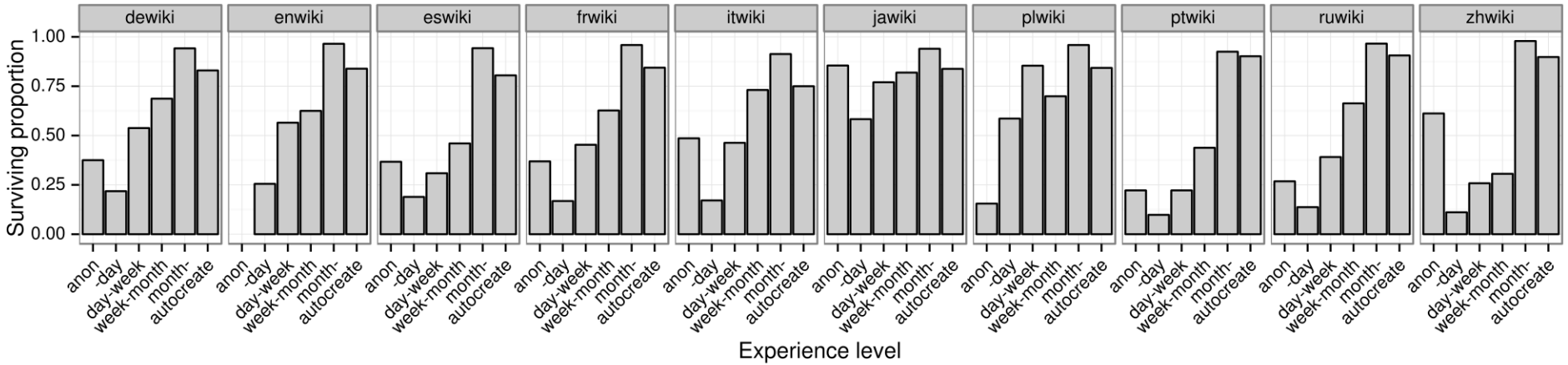
Wat

RFC Comments:

Sticking your finger into an electric shredder is not a sensible experiment, we know exactly what the result will be and confirming the prediction will be painful. [...] **Tim Vickers**

And you think the deletion backlogs are bad now? Just wait until IP creation is open. It's like opening big can of worms. **Miranda**

Whose articles survive?



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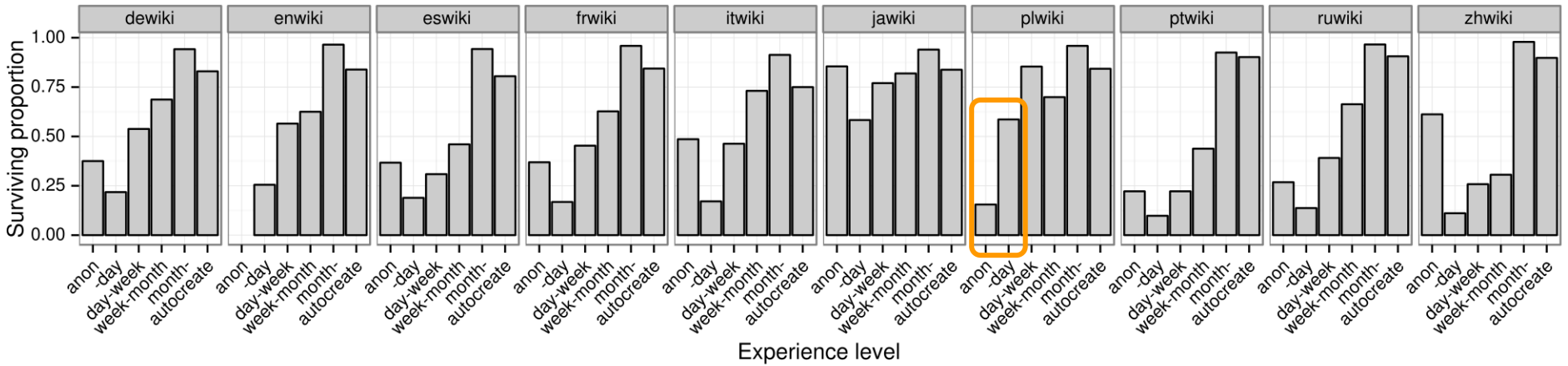

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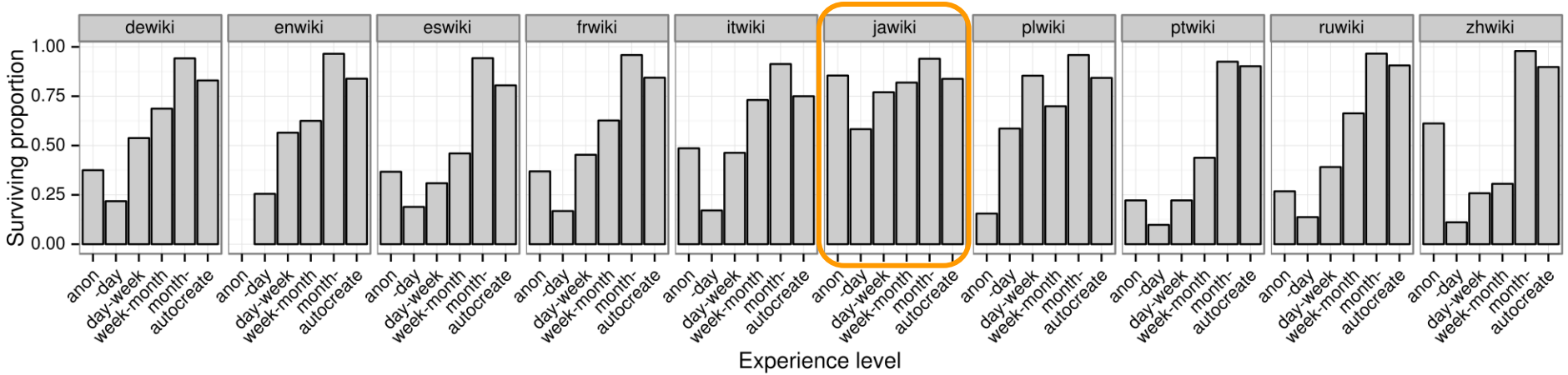

Whose articles survive?

Whose articles survive?

- More experience → More survival

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- Japanese editors (???)

Whose articles survive?

- More experience → More survival
- Anons > Newest newcomers
- Japanese editors

Caveats & complaints → Discussion

What effect does the workflow have?

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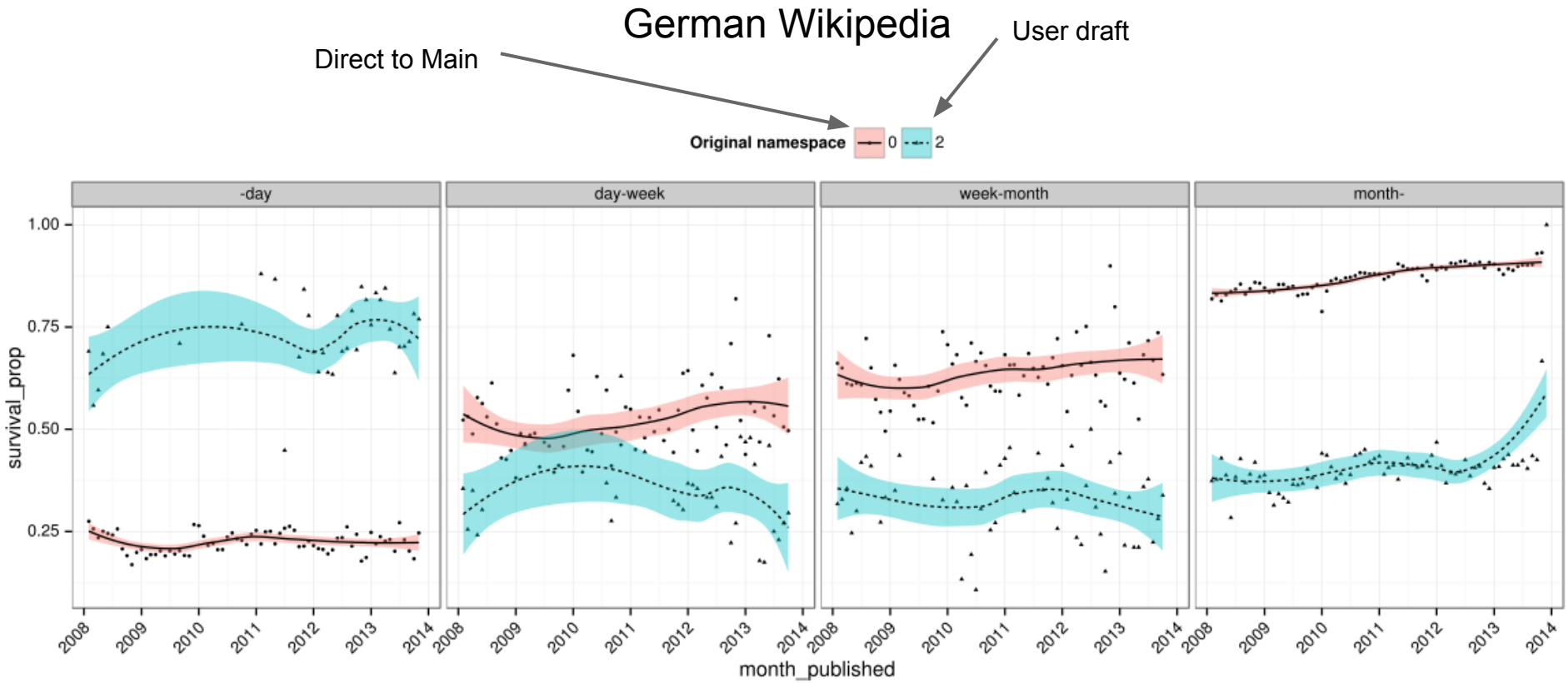
German Wikipedia

What effect does the workflow have?



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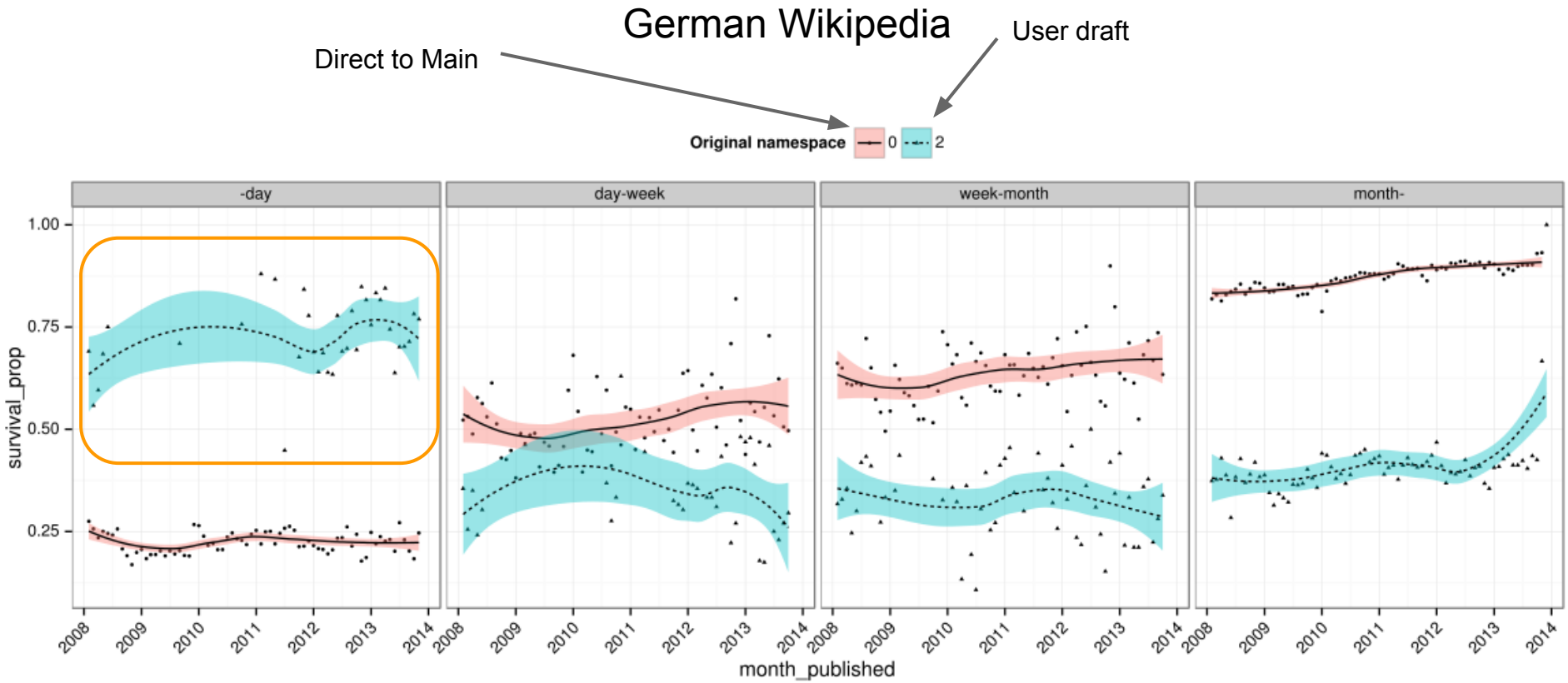

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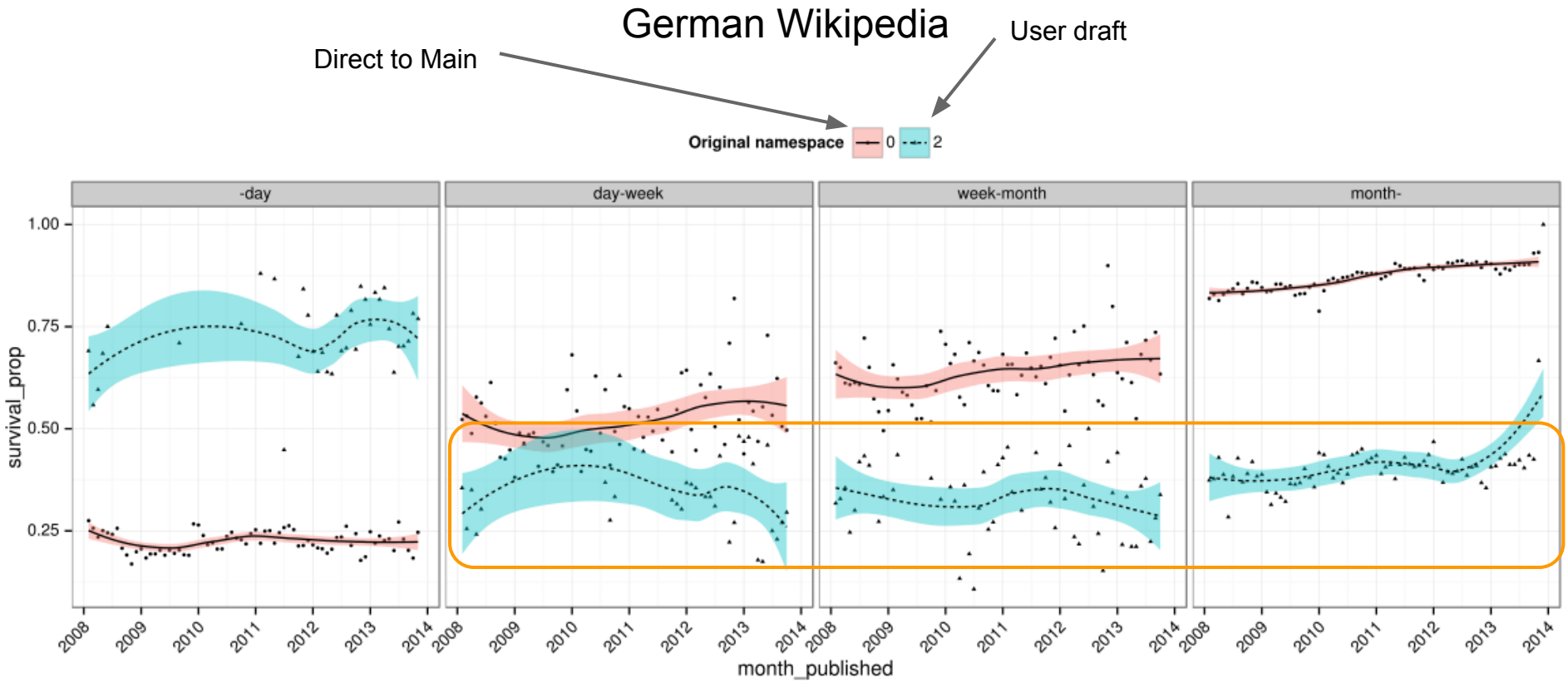

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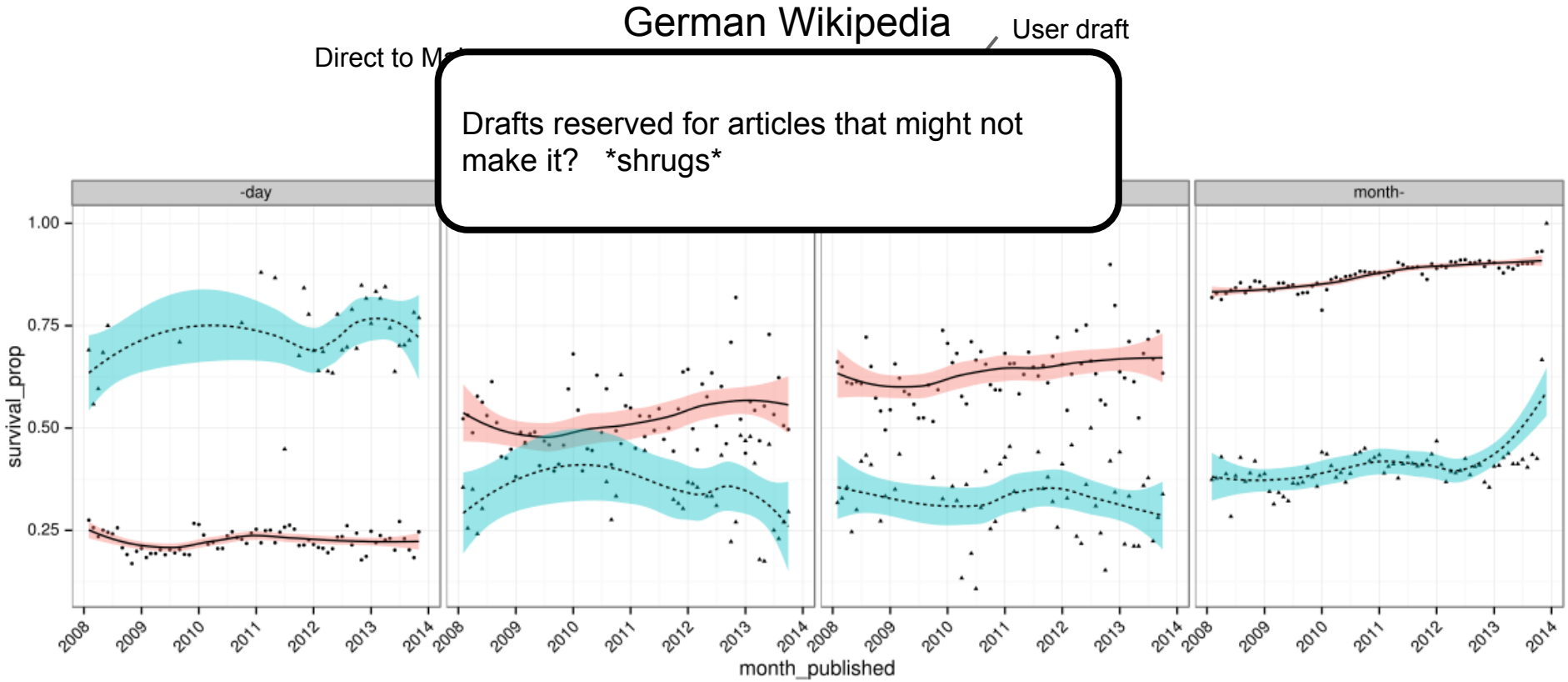
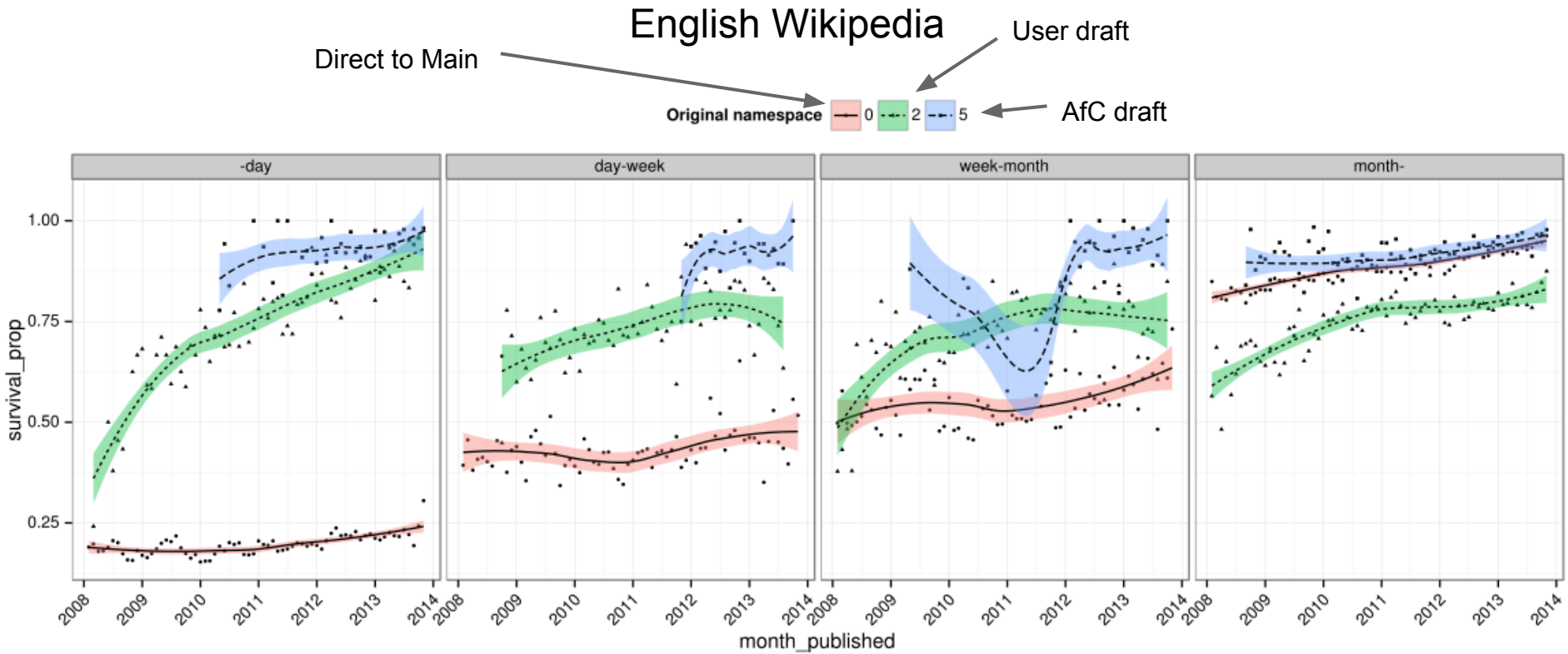


What effect does the workflow have?

English Wikipedia

What effect does the workflow have?



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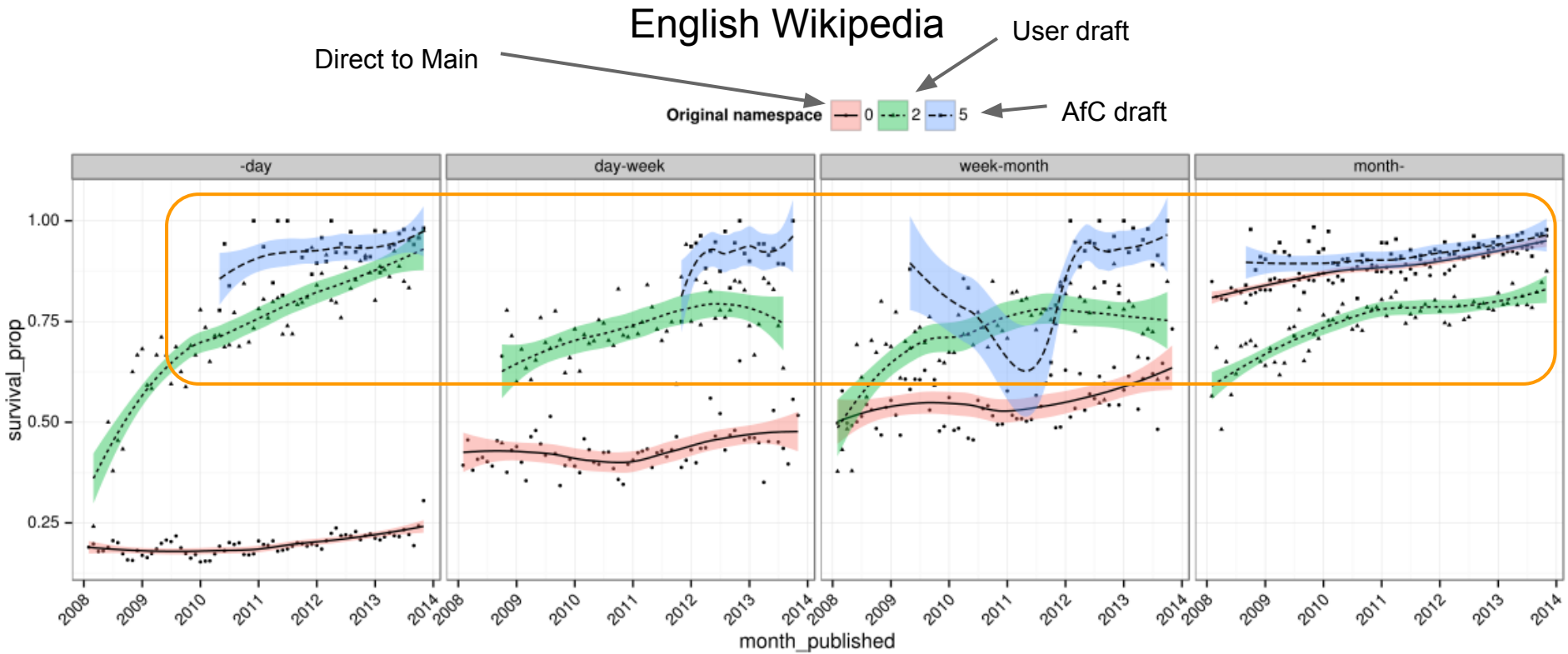

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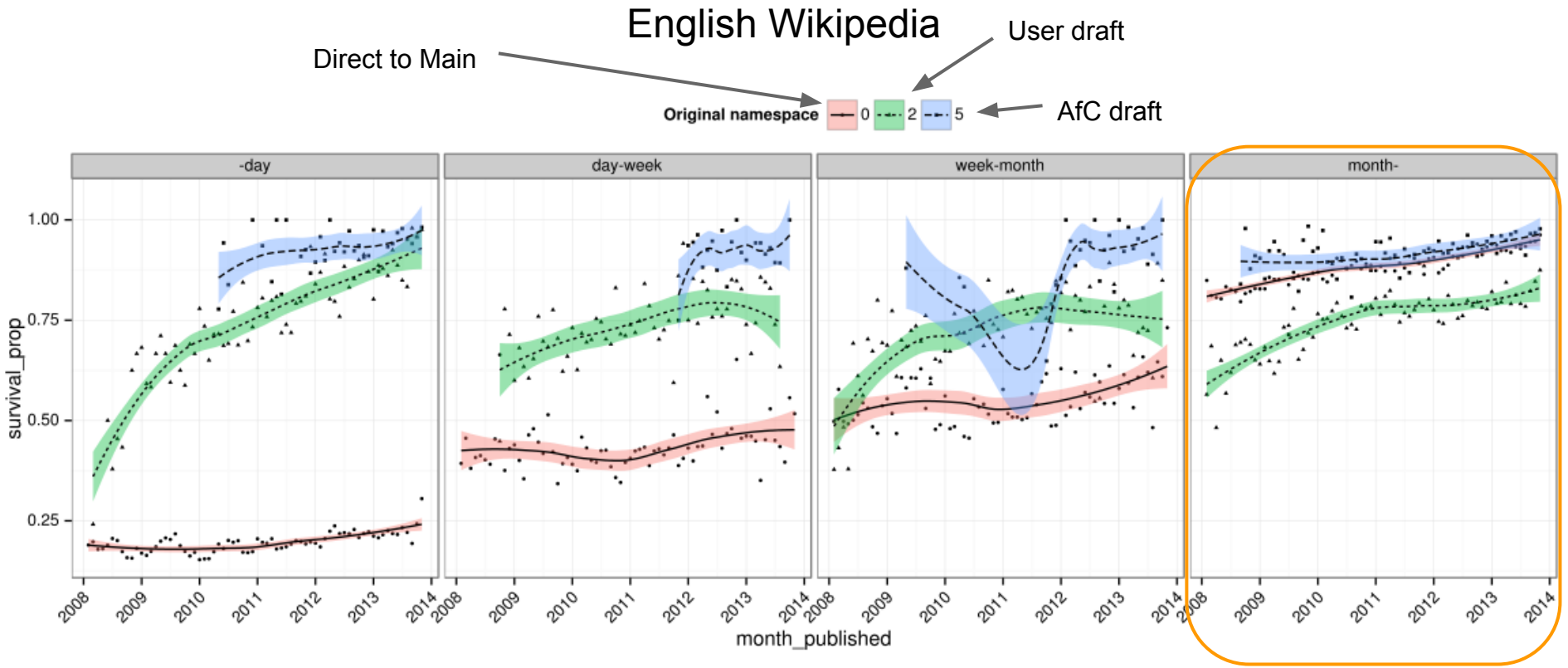

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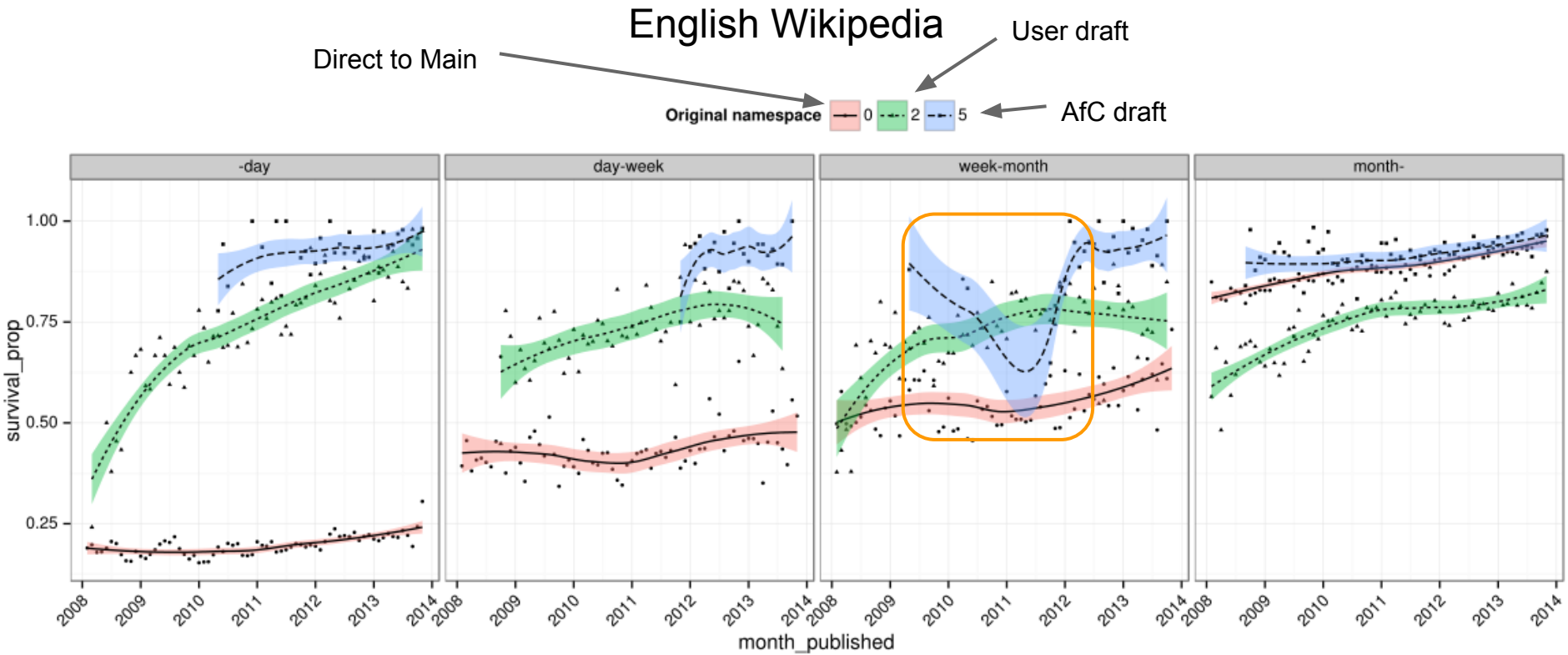

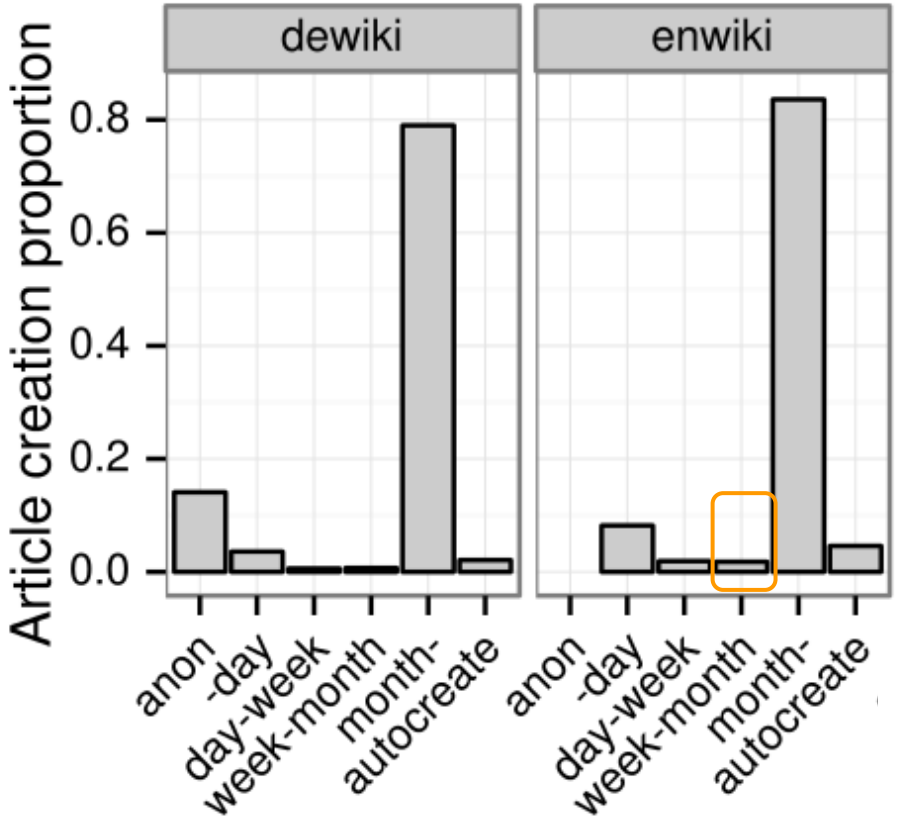
dewiki
enwiki
Article creation proportion
0.0
0.2
0.4
0.6
0.8
anon
-day
day-week
week-month
month-
autocreate

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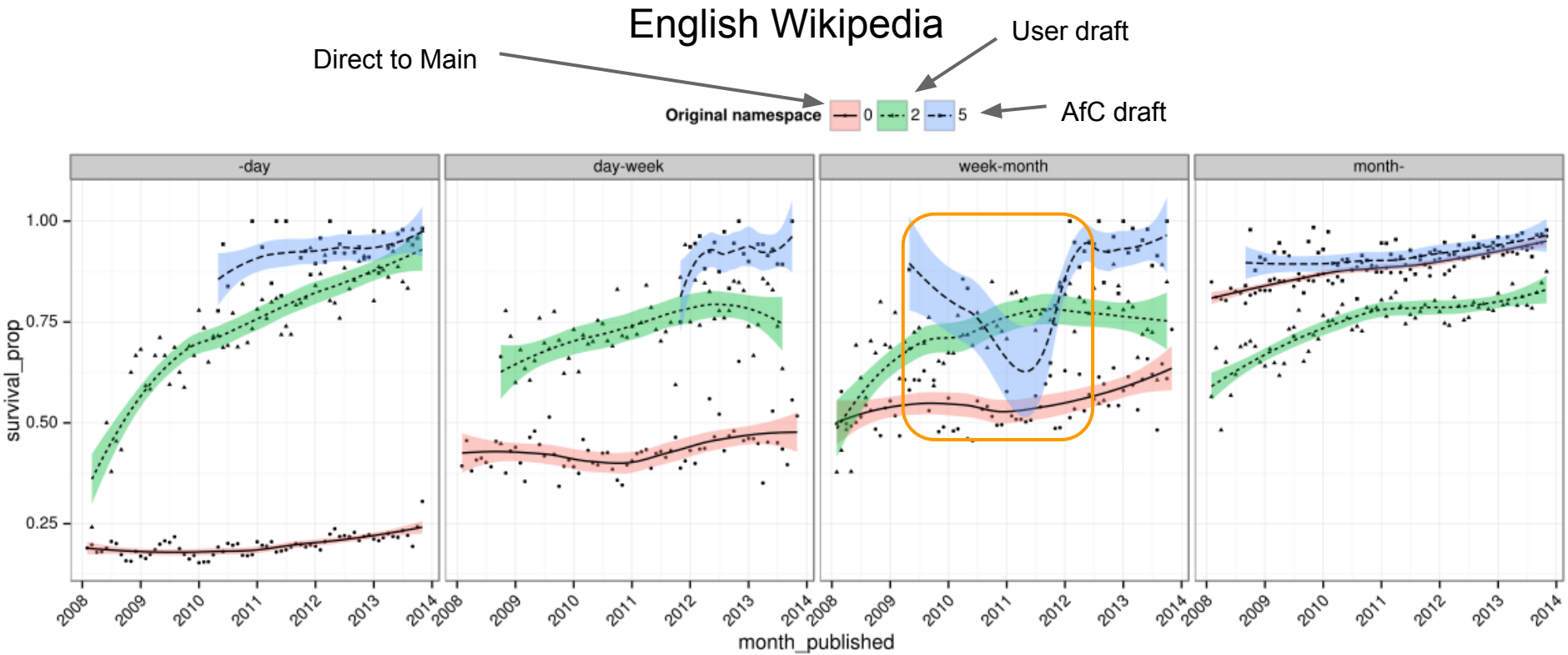

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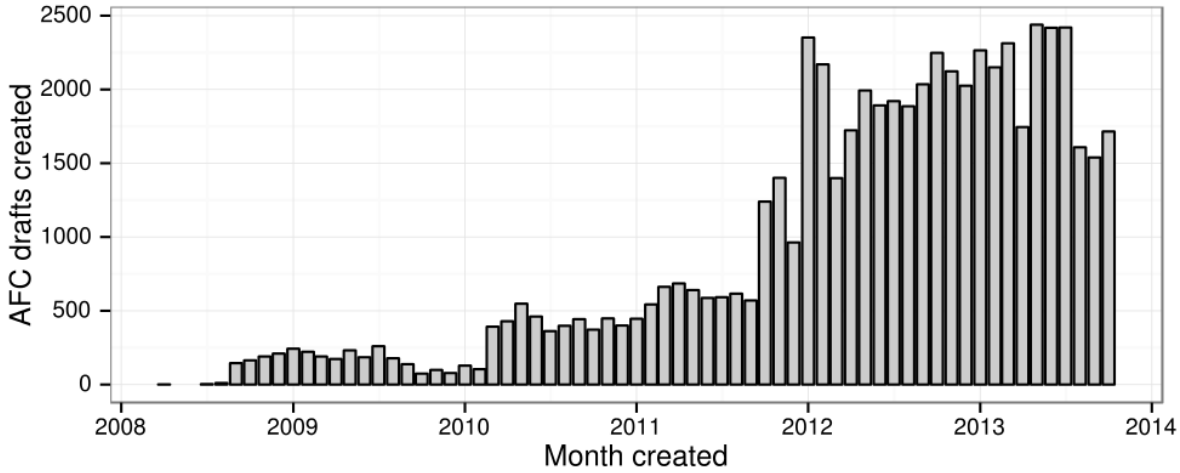

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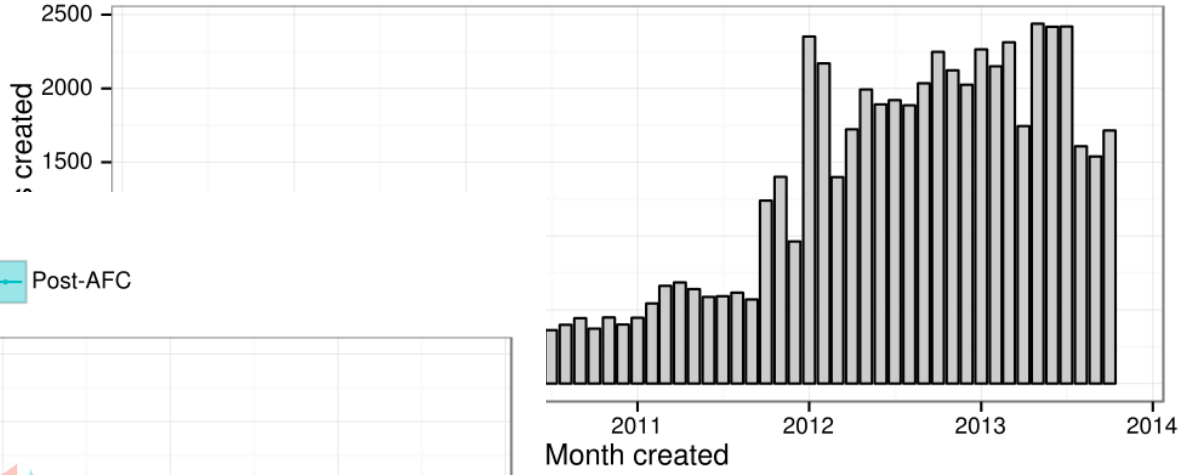

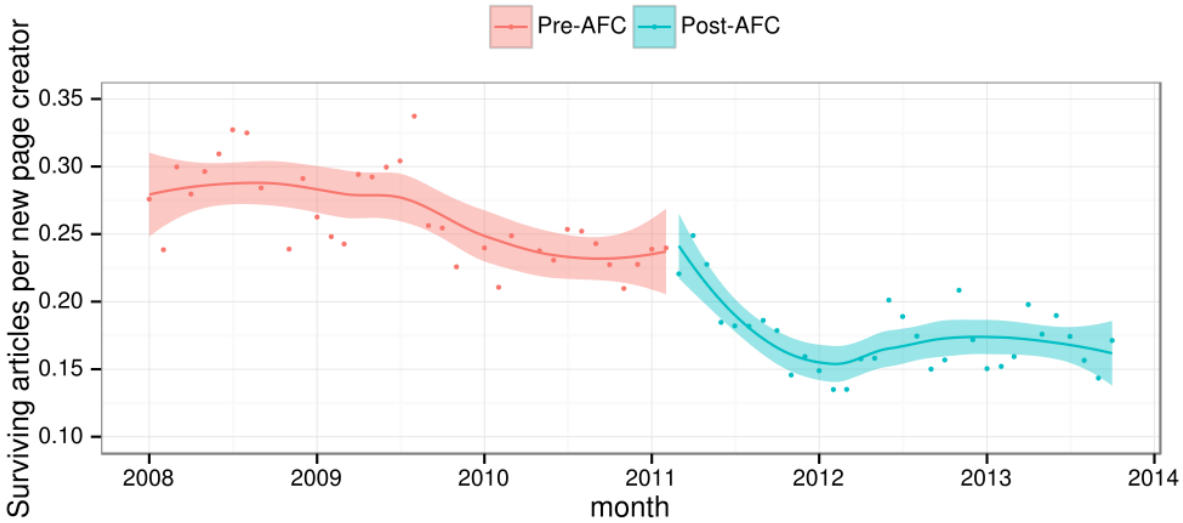

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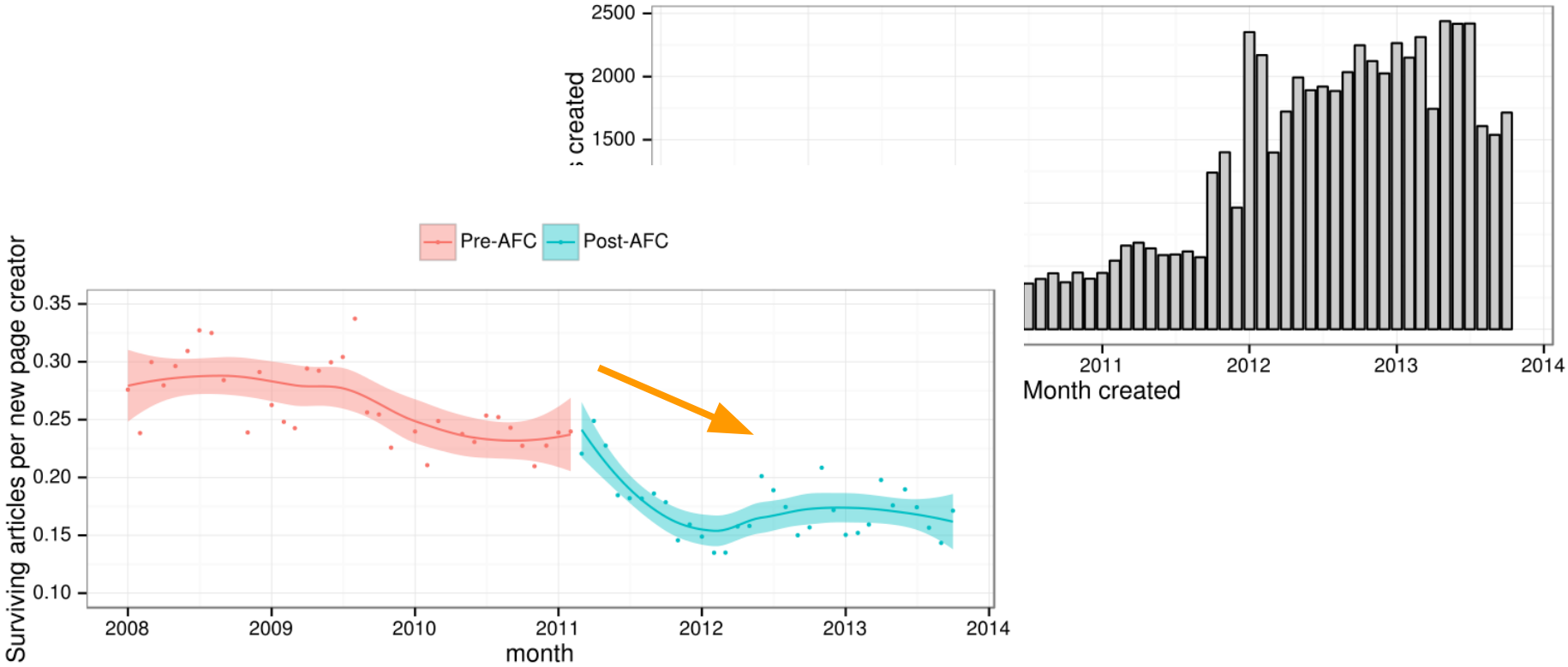

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- Drafts → Survival*

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  - Especially for newcomers

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  - German is weird (???)
- AfC trades productivity for quality
  - Higher survival than user drafts (~95%)
  - Massive backlog slows production (~50% loss)

Part 3. Implications

Anons are better than we thought

Anons are better than we thought

- Revisit anon article creation?
- Draft namespace
  - Anons can create articles

Anons are better than we thought

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  - Only registered* can publish

* and autoconfirmed

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Anons are better than we thought

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  - Anons can create articles
  - Only registered* can publish
- Better understanding of anons
  - Why don’t they register?

* and autoconfirmed

Trade productivity for quality

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The Free Encyclopedia

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Contents
Featured content
Current events
Random article
Donate to Wikipedia
Wikimedia Shop
Interaction
Help
About Wikipedia
Community portal
Recent changes
Contact page
Tools
Print/export
Languages
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Français
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The Wikimedia Foundation's 2014 steward election has started. Please vote.
[Hide]
[Help with translations!]

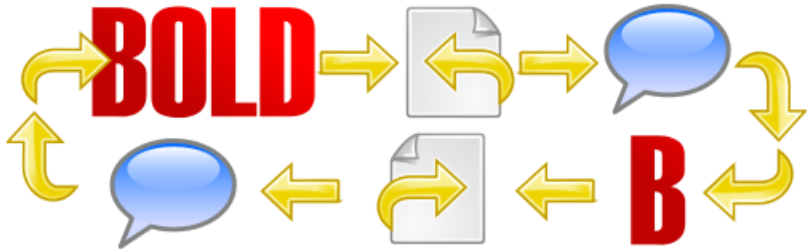
Wikipedia:BOLD, revert, discuss cycle

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Wikipedia:BRD)

While this essay is not a policy or guideline itself, it is intended to supplement the Wikipedia:Consensus and Wikipedia:Be bold pages, which should be deferred to in case of inconsistency between that page and this one.

Shortcut:
WP:BRD
WP:BRDC
WP:CYCLE

This page in a nutshell: Making **bold edits** is encouraged, as it will result in either improving an article, or stimulating discussion. Therefore, if your edit gets **reverted**, do not revert again. Instead, use the opportunity to begin a **discussion** with the interested parties to establish **consensus**.



The **BOLD, revert, discuss cycle** (**BRD**) is a proactive method of reaching consensus. It can sometimes be useful for identifying objections, keeping discussion moving forward and help towards breaking deadlocks. ***Care and diplomacy should be exercised. Some editors will see any reversion as a challenge, so be considerate and patient.***

Wikipedia:BOLD, revert, di

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:BRD

Halfak (WMF) 0 Talk Sandbox Preferences Beta Watchlist Contributions Log out

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The Free Encyclopedia

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Main page
Contents
Featured content
Current events
Random article
Donate to Wikipedia
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Interaction
Help
About Wikipedia
Community portal
Recent changes
Contact page

Tools

Print/export

Languages
العربية
فارسی
Français
Edit links

1. **Boldly** do what you think is right
2. If someone disagrees, they will **revert**
3. Have a **discussion** about what to do

Shortcut:
WP:BRD
WP:BRDC
WP:CYCLE

The **BOLD, revert, discuss cycle** (**BRD**) is a proactive method of reaching consensus. It can sometimes be useful for identifying objections, keeping discussion moving forward and help towards breaking deadlocks. ***Care and diplomacy should be exercised. Some editors will see any reversion***

Trade productivity for quality

- Insight of WP:BRD

Trade productivity for quality

- Insight of WP:BRD
  - Most people will do the right thing if you let them

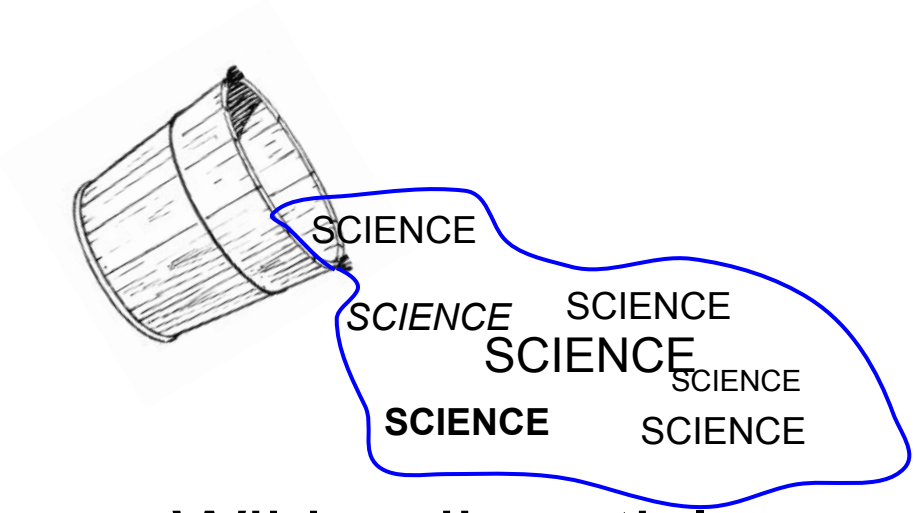
Trade productivity for quality

- Insight of WP:BRD
  - Most people will do the right thing if you let them

- Workflow designers/developers
  - Beware the backlog

Thanks

Aaron Halfaker
ahalfaker@wikimedia.org
“halfak” on IRC

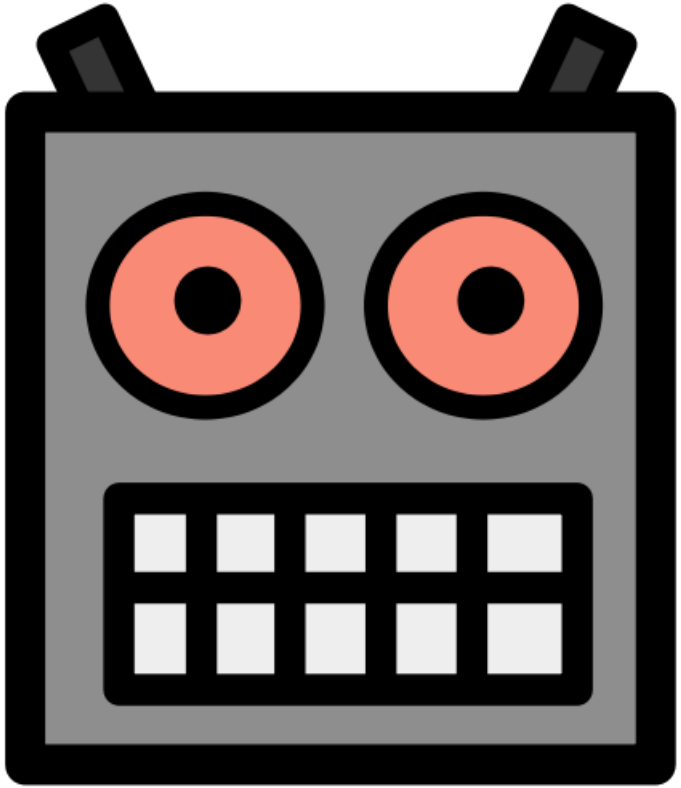


Wikipedia article creation

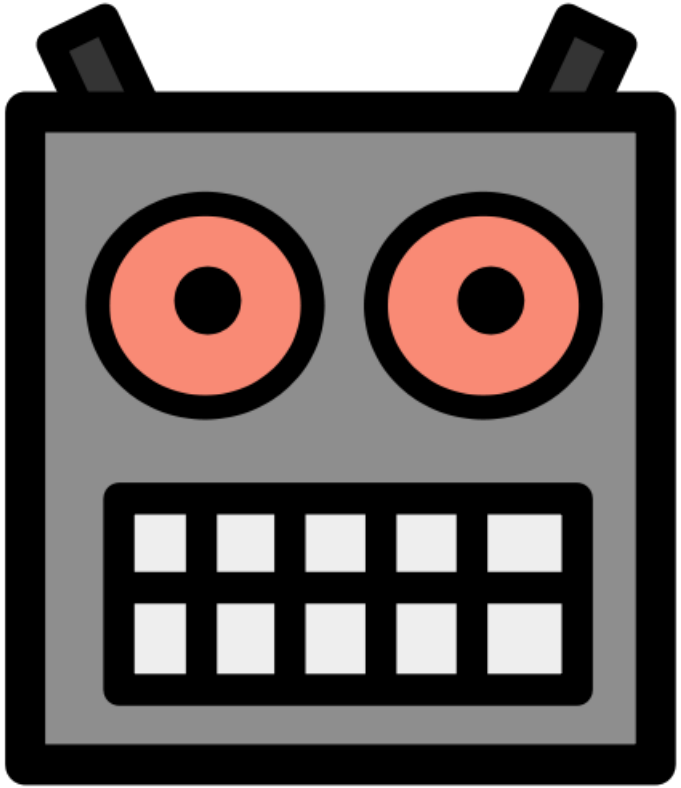
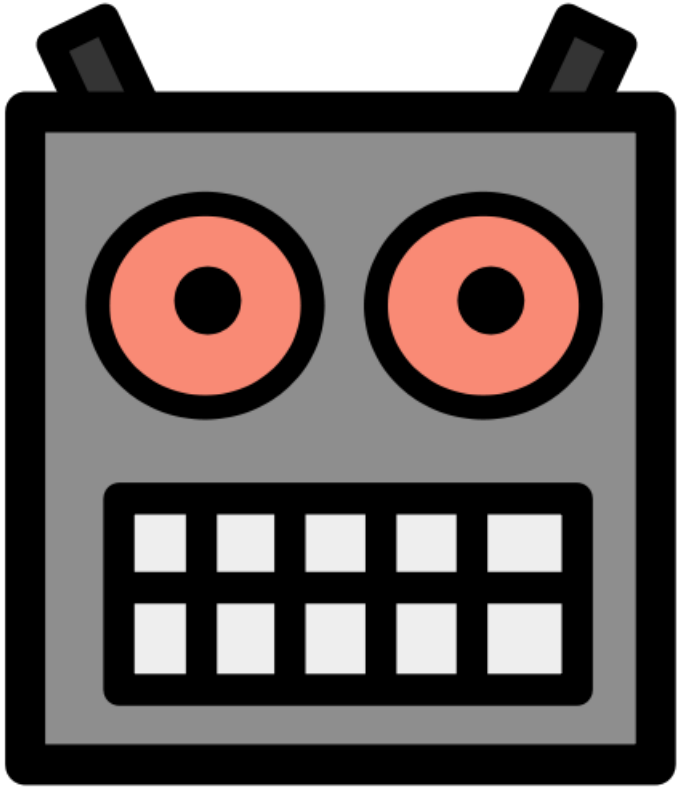
Full report: https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Research:Wikipedia_article_creation

You went too far.

GO BACK!



NO!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