



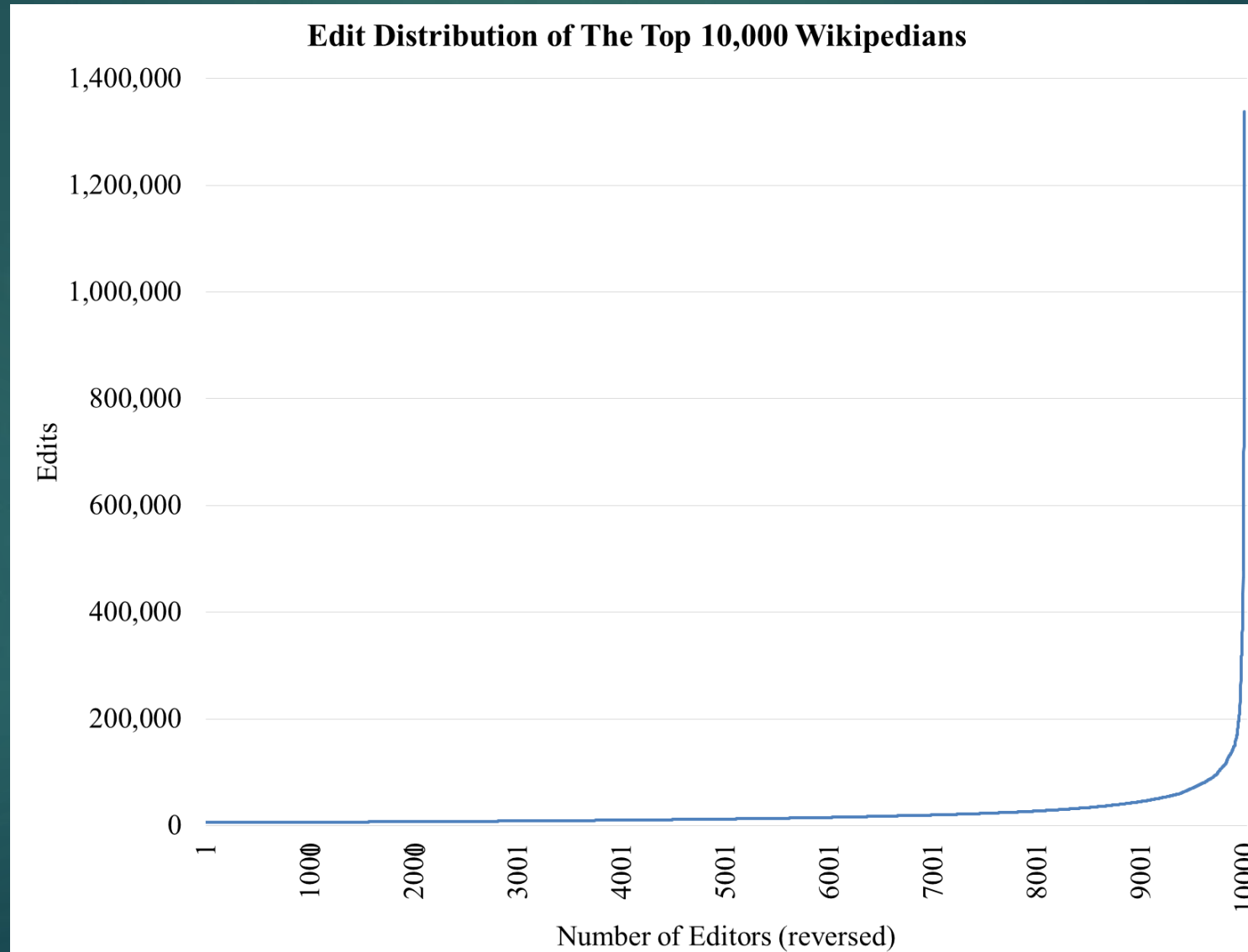
Wikipedia Editing Trends

IS THERE A NEED FOR MORE EDITORS, OR ARE THE ONES WE HAVE JUST BECOMING MORE EFFICIENT?

More editors hold more sway

- ▶ Overall, around 10,000 editors have 45% of the site's overall edits, suggesting a power law
- ▶ Knowledge amongst these few
- ▶ What is created skews towards these few, who often have the most time to contribute

Top 10,000 editors



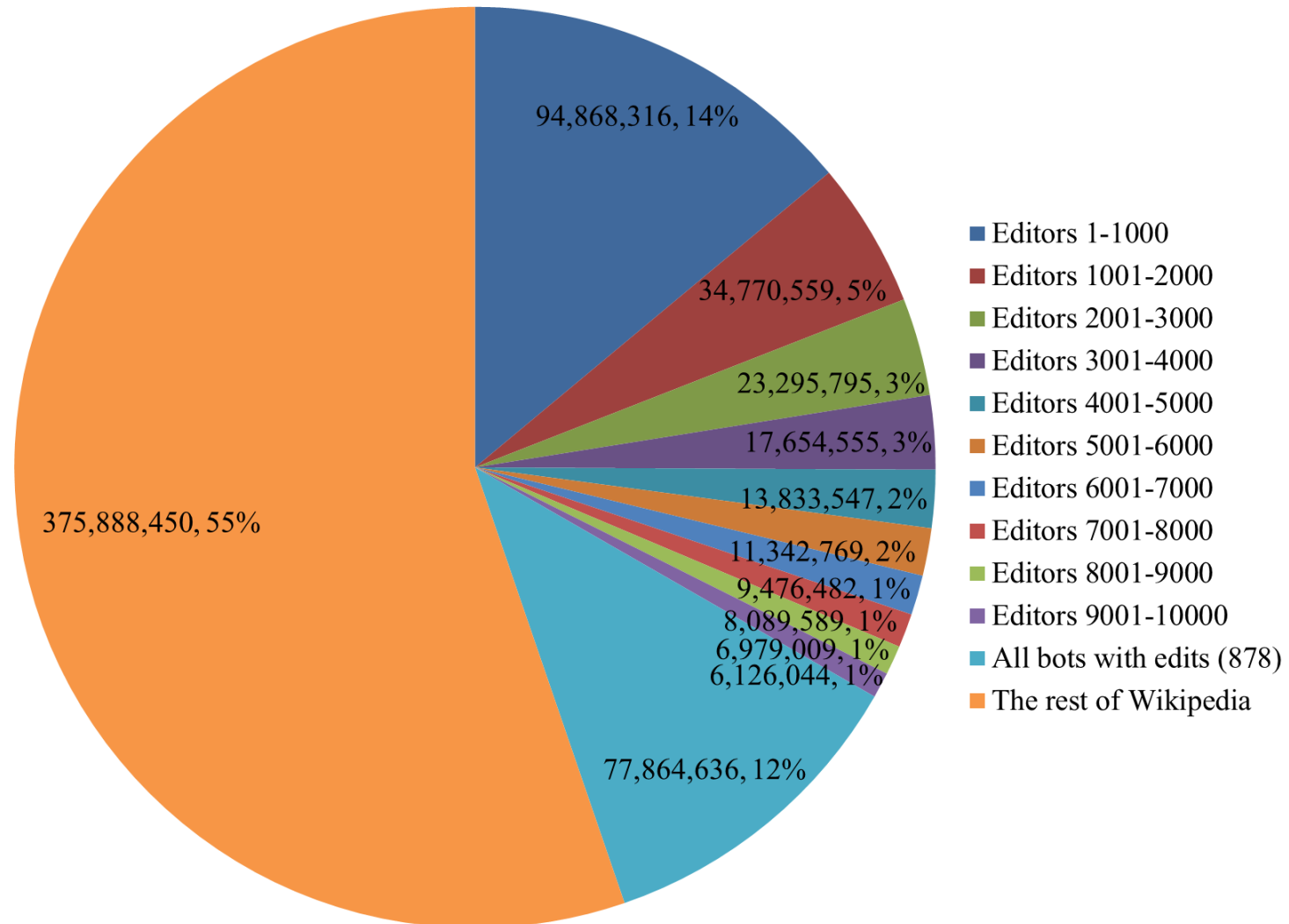
Bots and their relationship to us



- ▶ Bots make up 12% of the site's edits, including Cydebot, who has over 3.5 million edits
- ▶ Bots are run by individual editors, so the individual numbers for some editors are higher if they are tied together

Bot edit distribution

The Top 10,000 Compared to the Rest of the Community, Including Bots



Observations

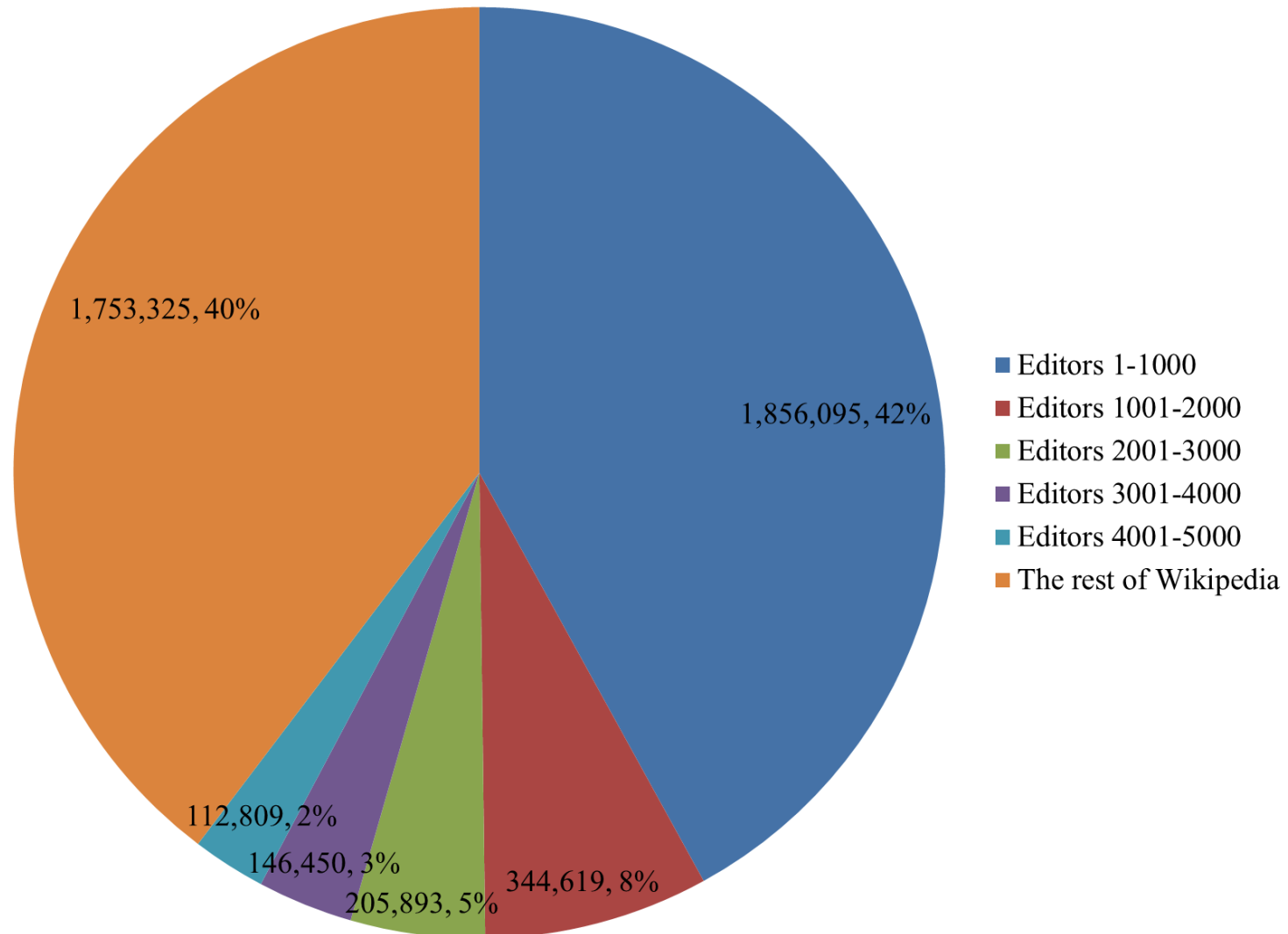
- ▶ Power law rises sharply at the end of the chart, within visible spectrum
- ▶ Chart only shows the tip of the iceberg in terms of edits
- ▶ Koavf has over 1.2 million edits, and was the first editor to pass 1 million edits

Article creators

- ▶ Over 4.5 million pages created, as of May, 2014
- ▶ 55% of the articles on the site have been started by 3,000 editors, whereas the next 5% of articles have been written by 2,000 users
- ▶ This includes IP editors, including one who wrote 983 live articles, as of January

Article creators

The Top 5,000 Article Creators Compared to the Rest of the Community



What does this mean for Wikipedia?

- ▶ Concentration of written knowledge from more active users (skew to male-oriented focus on information)
- ▶ Risk of ignoring information in areas that aren't known for English-speakers

What can we do?

- ▶ Increase outreach initiatives, and encourage women to edit the site
- ▶ Decrease tolerance of attacks of those who are not in the majority, including sexism, racism, and homophobia
- ▶ Make it easier to edit, but don't alienate the old-timers