Wikipedia Editor Drop-Off

A Framework to Characterize Editors' Inactivity

Marc Miquel i Ribé

Eurecat, Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya
marc.miquel@ce.eurecat.org

Cristian Consonni

Eurecat, Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya
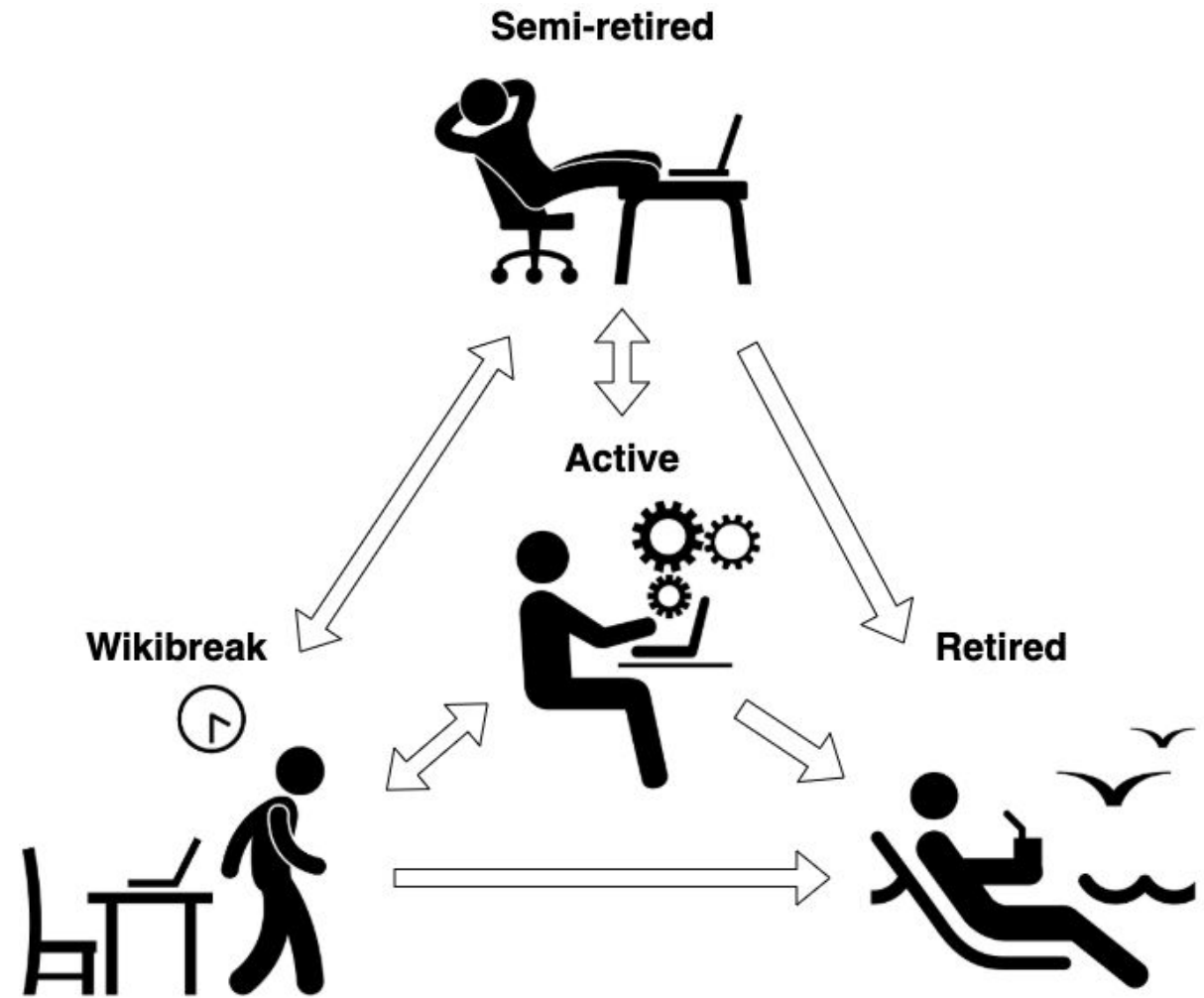cristian.consonni@acm.org

David Laniado

Eurecat, Centre Tecnològic de Catalunya
david.laniado@eurecat.org

We know little about the process by which experienced editors leave.

1. States of Drop-off

According to research and community definitions.

2. Characterization

- **Inactivity Metrics**
  - **Fixed thresholds**
    90 days: minimum threshold for missing Wikipedians (en, de, zh);
    180 days: flag removal for stewards;
    365 days: 0% response rate from survey of editors who have left;
    730 days: community review for admins (global policy)

  - **Thresholds for groups and individuals**

- **Activity Decrease Metrics**

3. Main hypotheses from community and academic literature

1) **abrupt interactions or conflict with other editors**
   - received reverts;
   - discussions;
   - controversial pages;
   - role and activity restrictions;

2) **excess in the number and spread of interactions**

3) **lack of interactions with editors with similar characteristics.**

Characterizing drop-off and identifying the interactions that precede it

it may be possible to assess the **general community health**, and ultimately propose changes to improve it.

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Thank you very much!

References (if you want to know more)

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