



Dr. Ángel Obregón Sierra  
Dr. Jorge Oceja Castanedo

# University students in the educational field and Wikipedia vandalism



# Wikipedia

- Wikipedia is an online, open and free encyclopaedia edited collaboratively.
- 5th most visited website and the most used online encyclopaedia.
- Volunteer editors from around the world can edit its content.



# Vandalism

- Everyone can edit, allowing users to intentionally provide incorrect information.
- The Cambridge Dictionary defines vandalism as “any activity that is considered to be damaging or destroying something that was good”.
- For us, the editors, is “any change made to content with the intent to compromise its integrity”.

Line 90:

In 1997, use of sponges as a [[tool]] was described in [[Bottlenose Dolphin]]s in [[Shark Bay]]. A dolphin will attach a marine sponge to its [[rostrum (anatomy)|rostrum]], which is presumably then used to protect it when searching for food in the sandy [[sea floor|sea bottom]]. <ref name="Smolker 1997">{{cite journal | author=Smolker, R.A., "et al." | title=Sponge-carrying by Indian Ocean bottlenose dolphins: Possible tool-use by a delphinid }} Journal=Ethology | Year=1997 | Volume=103 | Pages=454-465}}</ref> The behaviour, known as "sponging", has only been observed in this bay, and is almost exclusively shown by females. This is the only known case of tool use in [[marine mammal]]s outside of [[Sea Otter]]s. An elaborate study in 2005 showed that mothers most likely teach the behaviour to their daughters. <ref name="Krutzen 2005">{{cite journal | author=Krutzen M, Mann J, Heithaus MR, Connor RC, Bejder L, Sherwin WB | title=Cultural transmission of tool use in bottlenose dolphins | journal=[[Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences]] | volume=102 | issue=25 | year=2005 | pages=8939-8943}}</ref>

===By humans===

==== Skeleton as absorbent====

{{main|Sponge (tool)}}

In common usage, the term "'sponge"' is applied to the skeleton of the animal, from which the tissue has been removed by [[maceration (bone)|maceration]] and washing, leaving just the [[spongin]] scaffolding. [[calcium|Calcareous]] and [[silicon dioxide|siliceous]] sponges are too harsh for similar use. Commercial sponges are derived from various species and come in many grades, from fine soft "lamb's wool" sponges to the coarse grades used for washing cars.

The manufacture of [[rubber]]-, [[plastic]]- and [[cellulose]]-based synthetic sponges has significantly reduced the commercial sponge [[fishing]] industry in recent years.

The [[luffa]] "sponge", also spelled "loofah," commonly sold for use in the kitchen or the shower, is not derived from an animal sponge, but from the [[locule]]s of a gourd ([[Cucurbitaceae]]).

====Antibiotic compounds====

Sponges have [[medicine|medicinal]] potential due to the presence of [[antimicrobial]] compounds in either the sponge itself or their microbial [[symbiosis|symbiont]]s. <ref>See e.g. Teeyapant R, Woerdenbag HJ, Kreis P, Hacker J, Wray V, Witte L, Proksch P. (1993) Antibiotic and cytotoxic activity of brominated compounds from the marine sponge *Verongia aerophoba*. "Zeitschrift für Naturforschung. C, Journal of biosciences"''48''::939-45. </ref>

====Bibliography====

Line 90:

In 1997, use of sponges as a [[tool]] was described in [[Bottlenose Dolphin]]s in [[Shark Bay]]. A dolphin will attach a marine sponge to its [[rostrum (anatomy)|rostrum]], which is presumably then used to protect it when searching for food in the sandy [[sea floor|sea bottom]]. <ref name="Smolker 1997">{{cite journal | author=Smolker, R.A., "et al." | title=Sponge-carrying by Indian Ocean bottlenose dolphins: Possible tool-use by a delphinid }} Journal=Ethology | Year=1997 | Volume=103 | Pages=454-465}}</ref> The behaviour, known as "sponging", has only been observed in this bay, and is almost exclusively shown by females. This is the only known case of tool use in [[marine mammal]]s outside of [[Sea Otter]]s. An elaborate study in 2005 showed that mothers most likely teach the behaviour to their daughters. <ref name="Krutzen 2005">{{cite journal | author=Krutzen M, Mann J, Heithaus MR, Connor RC, Bejder L, Sherwin WB | title=Cultural transmission of tool use in bottlenose dolphins | journal=[[Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences]] | volume=102 | issue=25 | year=2005 | pages=8939-8943}}</ref>

+ get a life losers

====Bibliography====



# Vandals

- Wikipedia estimates that vandal activities constitute around 1% to 5% of all the editing.
- Articles most commonly vandalised are those of a controversial nature, works that focus on political or religious affairs, biographies of famous people, and articles about recent events.
- These articles can be protected or semi-protected by administrators, and it's possible to block to users too.
- Most research on vandalism focuses on possible prevention methods such as programming bots and algorithms for detection.



## Our study

- If students, especially student teachers, regularly vandalize Wikipedia, they are wilfully degrading the quality of a resource they might need in their future educational practices.
- This work first aims to answer to what extent university students vandalize Wikipedia.
- We also seek to determine both students' and Wikipedia editors' perceptions of why people vandalize.



# Methodology

Three instruments were created and validated for this mixed method sequential explanatory design.


- 1) Questionnaire (967 responses) to university students in the educational field.
- 2) Focus group to university students in the educational field in the University of Barcelona.
- 3) Interviews with Wikipedia expert editors.



## Results questionnaire

- The Mann-Whitney Test revealed that students' tendency not to vandalize remains stable regardless of gender.
- We also carried out a Kruskal-Wallis test for k independent samples, and a Mann-Whitney test to compare the different age groups.
- Results show that there is a meaningful difference between students under 23 (5.3 % of them vandalize) and both students from 24 to 30 (1.9 %) and from 31 to 40 (0%). The rest of the groups do not show differences, probably due to the sample size.

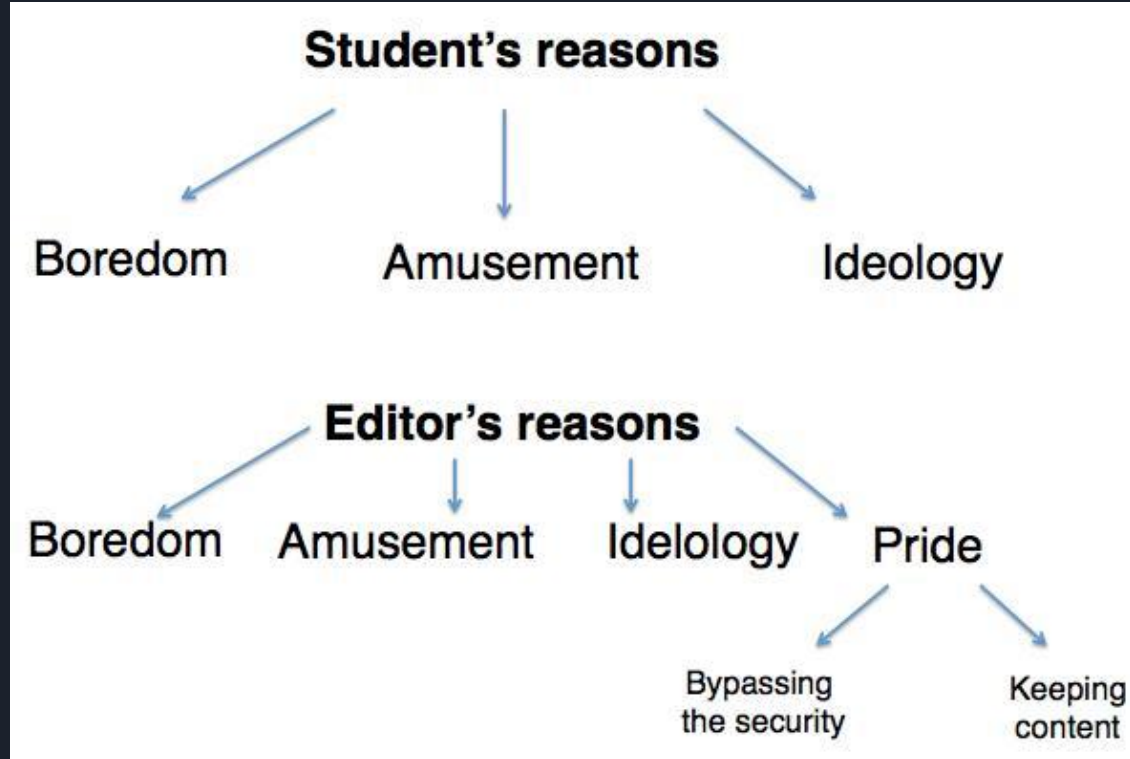




	No		Yes	
	Answers	Percentage	Answer	Percentage
Total	928	95.9 %	39	4.03%
Gender				
Male	180	94.2%	11	5.8 %
Female	748	96.4 %	28	3.6 %
Age				
Under 23	620	94,7%	35	5,3%
24-30	209	98,1%	4	1,9%
31-40	76	100,0%	0	0%
41-50	16	100,0%	0	0%
Over 51	7	100,0%	0	0%

**Table 1: Percentages of students who have vandalized Wikipedia**

# Results focus group and interviews





## Discussion

- Vandalism is not common in university students enrolled in the educational field, and that probably this trend is shared by the rest of university students, as mentioned by Cobb.
- Qualitative results showed that students and editors agree that boredom, amusement and ideology comprise the primary reasons why people vandalize.
- Editors added the notion of pride, both in being able to hack a system's security and in preserving one's own content.



# Conclusions

- Most of the constructs that emerged from our study can be linked to implicit theories approach to studying online trolling.
- Thacker and Griffiths mention trolling as a source of entertainment for the troll and those around them.
- Also the idea of pride might be associated with the implicit assumption of low self-confidence.