

New editors not welcome: When Wikipedia articles trend



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WMF All-Hands 2011

User experience with trending articles

Engaging with readers of trending articles

Supporting editor activity with trending articles

Daily page views for semi-protected articles

random

semi-protected

Daily page views for semi-protected articles

	total page views	median page views
semi-protected	6.4M	565
random sample	109K	6



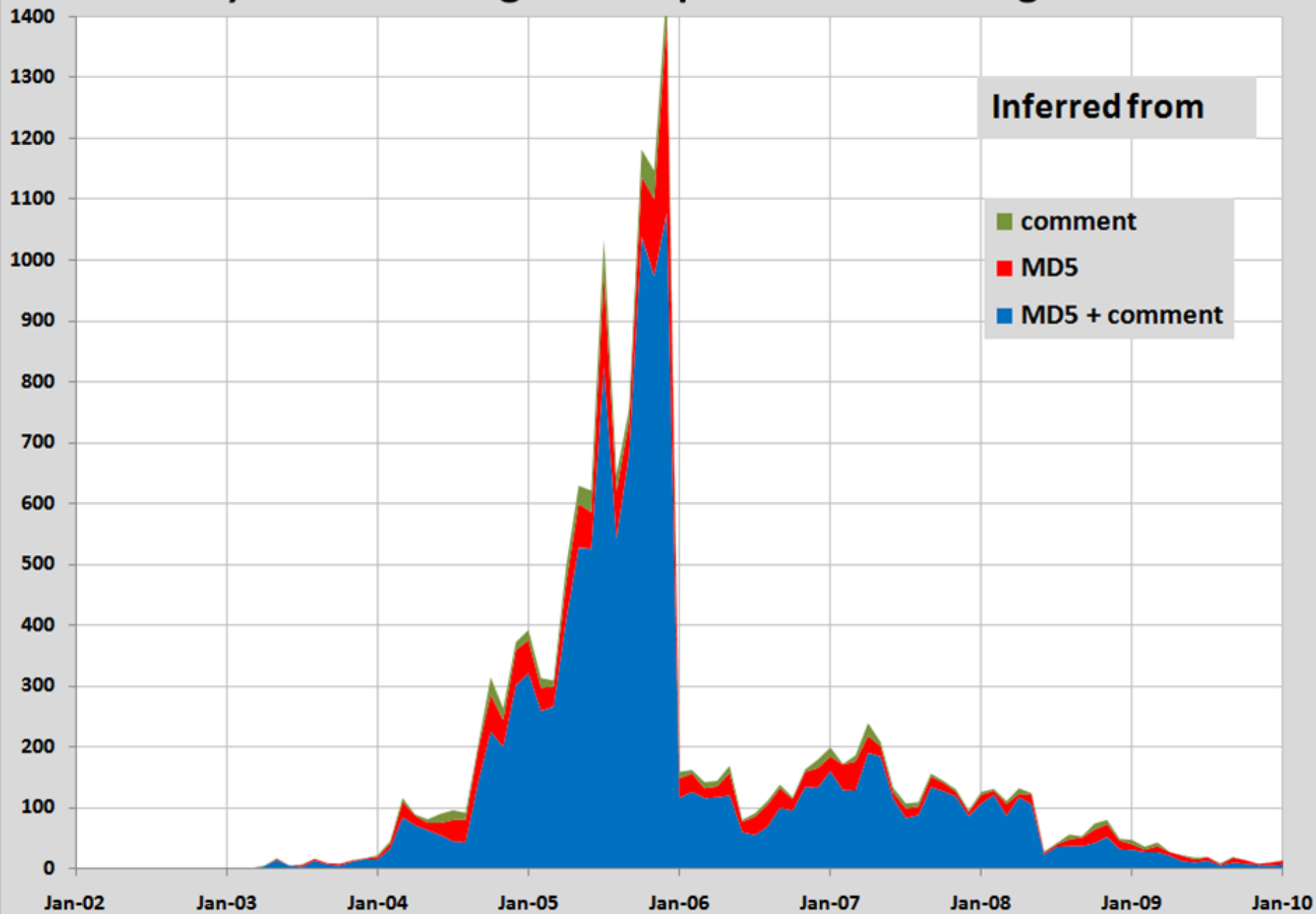
India: **7.8M**



Australia: **7.3M**



Monthly reverts on English Wikipedia article 'George W. Bush'










Article Feedback: Semi-protection of frequently rated articles

(10+ ratings per day)

46%

of frequently rated articles

Page
Celtic F.C. 
Nicole Polizzi 
Justin Bieber 
Mindless Behavior 
Barack Obama 
Illuminati 
United States 
Spontaneous human combustion
Death of Michael Faherty

31%

among top rated

60%

among lowest rated

Semi-protection of trending articles

(3x hourly views increase)

all trending articles

1.8%

edits by new registered users

7.4%

edits by new anonymous users

unprotected trending articles

3.5%

edits by new registered users

15.6%

edits by new anonymous users

4x more edits

to unprotected trending articles than to semi-protected trending articles

Coordination in high-traffic articles on rapidly changing events

2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami

533,700 page views in 1 day

Higher probability of **locks/conflicts**

Ineffective **on-site coordination**

Migration to IRC

Success of **encapsulated contributions**

208 edits to casualty count template





Engaging with readers of high-traffic articles

~~Edit article~~

Edit encapsulated sections of an article

Edit article with curation mechanism (flagged revisions?)

Rate article

Provide constructive feedback

Contribute sources/citations

Subscribe by email

Help perform general maintenance tasks

Learn that articles are not static
(even when they cannot be edited)

A trending/high-traffic article API to enable reader engagement features?

Image credits

Kittens and Flowers for the Ewoks

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Darth Vader is watching you

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<http://nitens.org/docs/slides/wmf-allhands-2011.pdf>

