

Information Design Course at Aalto University, Helsinki

Assignment: Improve Wikipedia!





The course was two weeks long.

The first week started with an introduction to information graphics, its genres (from maps to graphs) and techniques.

The first course assignment was to make new content for Wikipedia.



Brief:

Pick an economics-related Wikipedia article and improve it with information design.

You have two options: 1. Design from scratch 2. Redesign



1. New Design

Choose an interesting article. Clarify its contents with a display of relevant information.

Name your sources, be neutral, no original research, be bold.



2. Redesign

Choose an interesting article with poor graphics. Help out by taking the information in the picture and giving it a better form.



A place to start: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_economics_topics



Some Examples from the Course



Money creation

through fractal reserve banking (expansionary monetary policy)

1

CENTRAL BANK

extends a loan to a commercial bank: New commercial bank money is created. Central bank can also create money by purchasing financial assets.

COMMERCIAL BANK

keeps the required fraction of loan sum as deposit, and extends a loan to other commercial banks.

OTHER BANKS

also keep the required fraction as deposit, and are free to re-loan the rest. Because the loan counts as money, the total monetary supply increases.

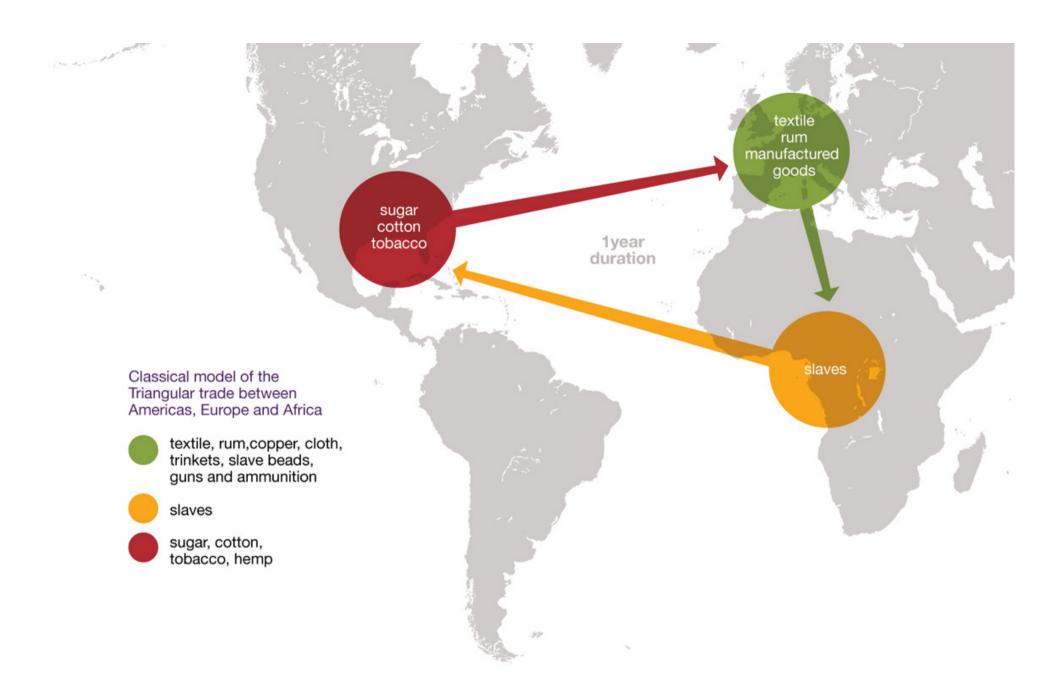
As a loan is paid back, more commercial bank money disappears from existence. Since loans are continually being issued in a normally functioning economy, the amount of broad money in the economy remains relatively stable.

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Anssi Kokkonen





Triangular Trade diagram by Sasa Kerkos

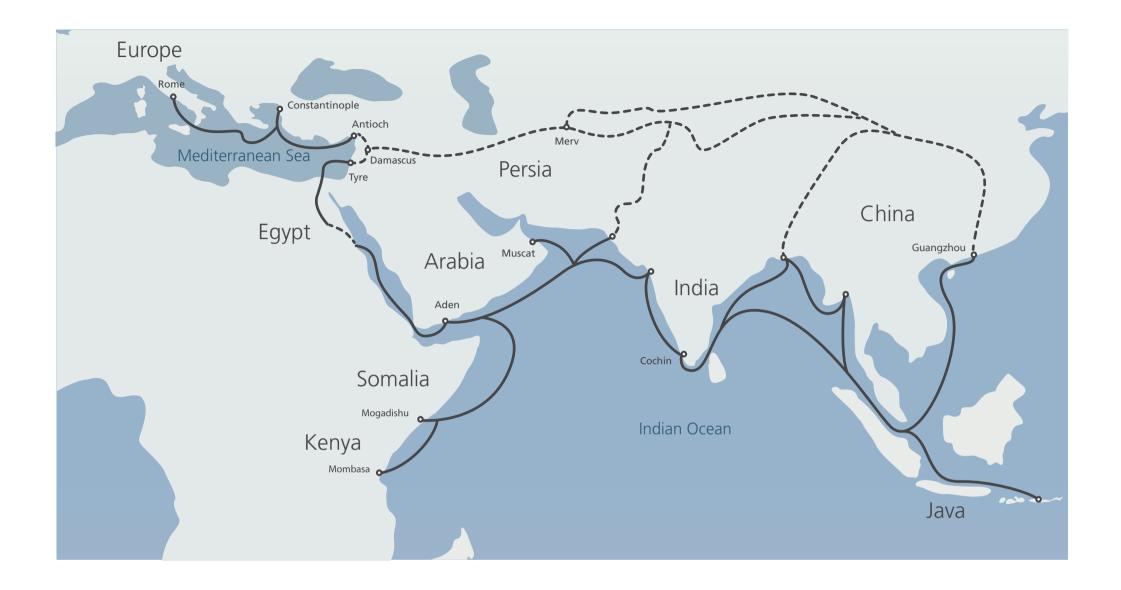


GDP and Population of European Countries in 2010 GDP's presented in relation to EU average GDP per capita

Luxembourg Slovenia Lithuania (Non-EU) Croatia Bulgaria Slovakia Ireland Finland Hungary Denmark Czech Republic Portugal (Non-EU) Norway Romania Greece Austria (Non-EU) Switzerland Sweden Belgium Netherlands Poland (Non-EU) Turkey Spain Italy	8,4 8,6 17,9 19,5 121 11,28 33,6 142,5 150,7 139,4 150,7 111,7	39,1	1127,8 1141111111111111111111111111111111111	88,4	
İtaly France United Kingdom				1704,2 1705,3	2352,9

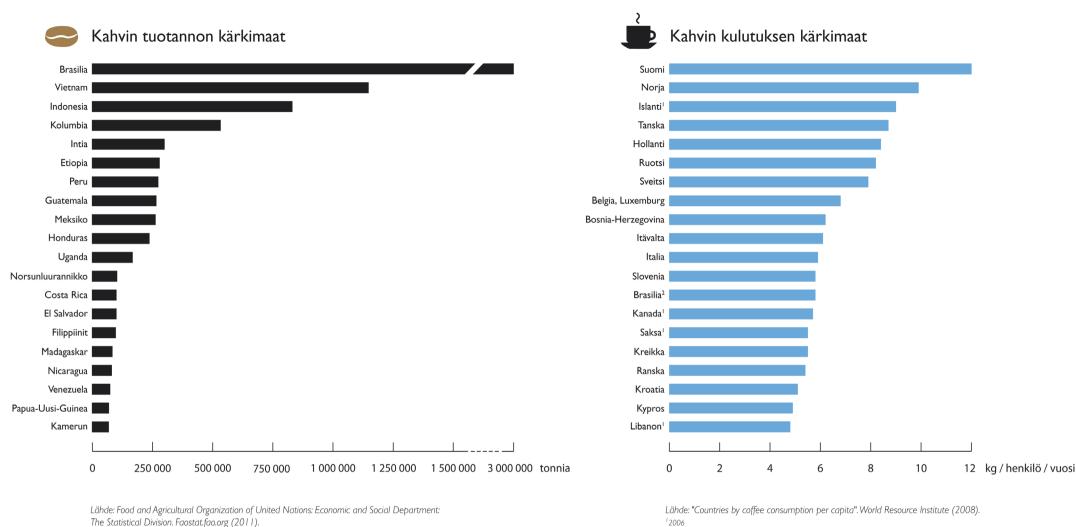
Karoliina Liimatainen





The Silk Road in vector format by Jutta Joutjärvi





²2008

Top countries in coffee production and consumption. Work by Emilia Ahonen



THE BIG MAC INDEX

How many burgers you get for \$100 USD?



Antti Vuorela demonstrated the Big Mac Index



THE BIG MAC INDEX

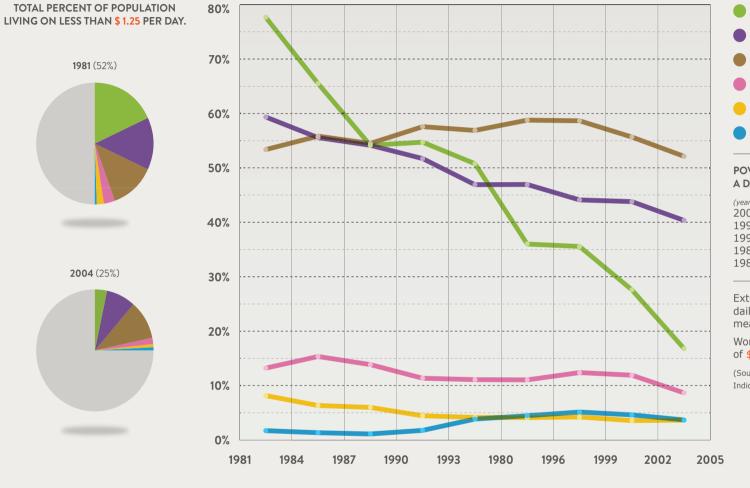
How many burgers you get for \$100 USD?



Antti Vuorela demonstrated the Big Mac Index (detail)



POPULATION LIVING ON LESS THAN \$ 1.25 PER DAY.





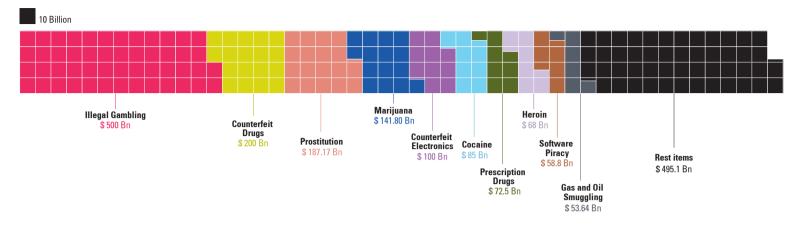
(Source: World Bank. 2007. World Development Indicators 2007. Washington, DC: World Bank.)

Tommi Leskinen



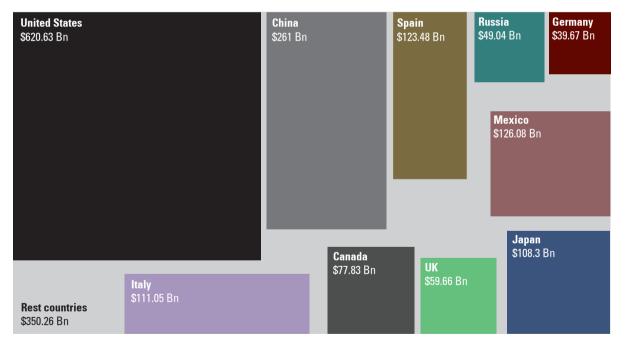
Black Market Ranking

Financial Value of all Black Markets \$1,943 Billion



Country Ranking

Financial Value of Countries Black Markets \$1,927 Billion



Black markets of the world. Work by Jinhee Kim



Course organized by Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture

Teachers: Jonatan Hildén, Juuso Koponen and Tommi Kovala, informaatiomuotoilu.fi

Introduction to Wikipedia and open licenses: Teemu Leinonen, Wikimedia Suomi

