The WikiBatmen

Identity disclosure on Wikipedia

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Wikipedia

- Open project - platform for collaboration
- ‘the sum of all human knowledge’
- Peer-review system -> Neutral Point of View Policy (NPOV)
- Low entry barrier - user login not required

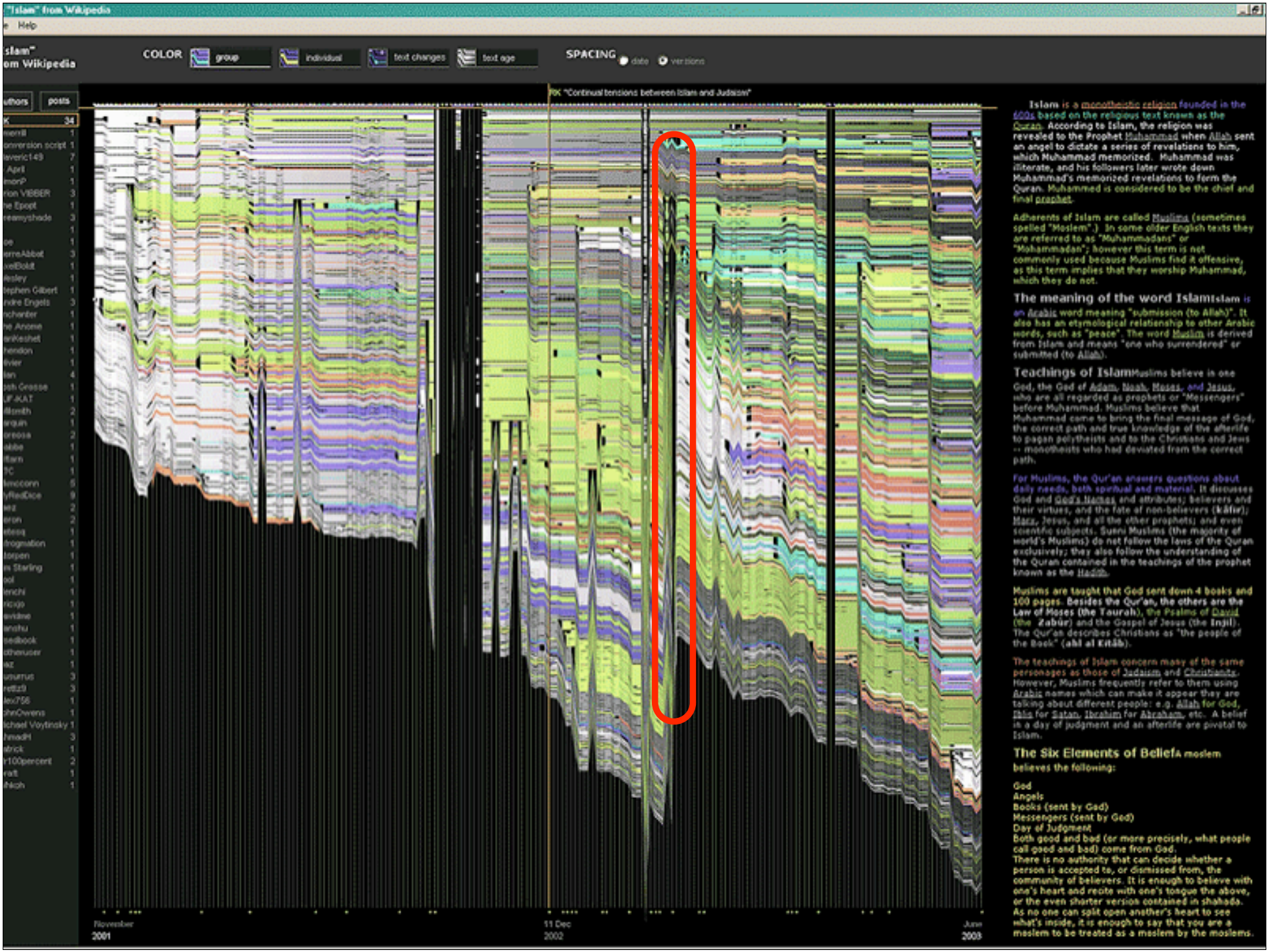
My Interests

- Organizational Structure
- Psychological Dynamics
  - Identity Disclosure
  - Vigor of edits

History Flow Visualization

- Viegas, F. B., Wattenberg, M., & Dave, K. (2004). *Studying cooperation and conflict between authors with history flow visualizations.* Paper presented at the CHI 2004, Vienna, Austria.

- Visualizing edit patterns
- Different colors noting the different proportion of contributions
- Across time


"Islam" from Wikipedia
Help
COLOR
group
individual
text changes
text age
SPACING
date
versions
authors
posts
"Continual tensions between Islam and Judaism"
November
2001
11 Dec
2002
June
2003
Islam is a monotheistic religion founded in the 600s based on the religious text known as the Quran. According to Islam, the religion was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad when Allah sent an angel to dictate a series of revelations to him, which Muhammad memorized. Muhammad was illiterate, and his followers later wrote down Muhammad's memorized revelations to form the Quran. Muhammad is considered to be the chief and final prophet.
Adherents of Islam are called Muslims (sometimes spelled "Moslem".) In some older English texts they are referred to as "Muhammadans" or "Mohammadan"; however this term is not commonly used because Muslims find it offensive, as this term implies that they worship Muhammad, which they do not.
The meaning of the word Islam
Islam is an Arabic word meaning "submission (to Allah)". It also has an etymological relationship to other Arabic words, such as "peace". The word Muslim is derived from Islam and means "one who surrendered" or submitted (to Allah).
Teachings of Islam
Muslims believe in one God, the God of Adam, Noah, Moses, and Jesus, who are all regarded as prophets or "Messengers" before Muhammad. Muslims believe that Muhammad came to bring the final message of God, the correct path and true knowledge of the afterlife to pagan polytheists and to the Christians and Jews -- monotheists who had deviated from the correct path.
For Muslims, the Qur'an answers questions about daily needs, both spiritual and material. It discusses God and God's Names and attributes; believers and their virtues, and the fate of non-believers (kāfir); Mary, Jesus, and all the other prophets; and even scientific subjects. Sunni Muslims (the majority of world's Muslims) do not follow the laws of the Quran exclusively; they also follow the understanding of the Quran contained in the teachings of the prophet known as the Hadith.
Muslims are taught that God sent down 4 books and 100 pages. Besides the Qur'an, the others are the Law of Moses (the Taurah), the Psalms of David (the Zabūr) and the Gospel of Jesus (the Injil). The Qur'an describes Christians as "the people of the Book" (ahl al Kitāb).
The teachings of Islam concern many of the same personages as those of Judaism and Christianity. However, Muslims frequently refer to them using Arabic names which can make it appear they are talking about different people: e.g. Allah for God, Iblis for Satan, Ibrahim for Abraham, etc. A belief in a day of judgment and an afterlife are pivotal to Islam.
The Six Elements of Belief
A moslem believes the following:
God
Angels
Books (sent by God)
Messengers (sent by God)
Day of Judgment
Both good and bad (or more precisely, what people call good and bad) come from God.
There is no authority that can decide whether a person is accepted to, or dismissed from, the community of believers. It is enough to believe with one's heart and recite with one's tongue the above, or the even shorter version contained in shahada.
As no one can split open another's heart to see what's inside, it is enough to say that you are a moslem to be treated as a moslem by the moslems.

70 Sample Pages

- Mass deletion (all content)

  revert in 2.8 minutes

- Mass deletion with obscene words involved

  revert in 1.7 minutes

IP Edits

- 24% of the total edits made by 'anonymous users'
- 2,728,953 out of a total of 11,216,050

http://en.wikipedia.org/wikistats/EN/TablesWikipediaEN.htm#namespaces

Research Questions

- Who are Wikipedians?
- Distribution of Old/New/IP users
- What do they disclose about themselves?
- Does the extent of disclosure correlate with the number of edits?

What is Anonymity?

- Should be defined differently on Wikipedia

  1. IP only

  2. Users with accounts but w/out user pages

  3. Users with accounts and provide information on their user pages

- *A Spectrum of Disclosure*

Research Aim

- Develop a construct in measuring the levels of disclosure/anonymity on Wikipedia

How?

- Capture 20 minutes of edits in Wikipedia
- 12 July 2005 0337 UTC time
- 1002 edits - 437 unique article edits
- 232 Unique users with user page, randomly analyze 100 of their user pages

Analyzing User Pages

- Created a 24-construct scale of Wiki-Disclosure with 3 categories
- Give score when user provides information that fall into any 24 constructs
- Correlate with user counts on Kate's tool

lser:Adam Carr

om Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

My Barnstar f National Merit, warded for all the work ou have put nto pages ertaining to ustralian istory and oliticians"

en	This user is a native speaker of English.

As at 30 June 2005, I have made 16,627 edits to Wikipedia. On 23 June I passed 1,000 articles on my Watchlist.

New from me: South Thailand insurgency, *The Age* (rewrite)

My first barnstar award

Please place comments at my Talk page. Please do not ask me about the sources of photos which I uploaded in the past. Those I have taken myself are tagged accordingly, all others may be deleted if they are thought to violate copyright.

My suggestions for fixing Wikipedia

Dr Adam Carr at the Temple of Olympian Zeus, Athens, April 2002

I have a PhD in history from the University of Melbourne. I have been a gay rights activist and journalist for many years. I am currently working as an advisor to a Member of Parliament and freelance writer on various subjects. I live in the Melbourne suburb of St Kilda. I am a member of the Australian Labor Party and I support the Melbourne Football Club.

My full biography and a variety of other things can be seen at my website. If you share my bizarre obsession with election statistics, you can visit my online archive, sephos: Adam Carr's Electoral Archive.

For an Australian flag and an Australian republic!

Demographic	Identity	Involvement
name	profile picture	purpose of participation
geographic location	sexual orientation	communication leads provided
occupation	political inclination	stress level
gender	religion	barnstar
age	personal history	addiction score
marital status	hobbies	sophistication of userpage
ethnicity		Wikipedia related info
education		interaction with fellow users
language		sophistication of page layout

Summation

- Three types of Disclosure
  - demographic information
  - identity
  - involvement
- OVERALL: summation of the 24-constructs

The Results

Quick Stats

- 437 unique authors
- 148 IPs (33.9%)
- 57 New Users (13%)
- 232 Old Hands (53%)

Is there correlation?

- What are the constructs that significantly correlate with the number of edits?

Demographic		Identity	Involvement	
name		profile picture	purpose of participation	
geographic	(.204)*	sexual orientation	communication leads provided	(.278)**
occupation		political incl.	stress level	
gender		religion	barnstar	(.570)**
age		personal history	addiction score	
marital status		hobbies	sophistication of userpage	
ethnicity			Wikipedia related information	(.234)**
education			interaction with fellow users	
language			sophistication of page layout	(.387)**
Total		Total	Total	(.425)**

Conclusion

- Research with limited scope (sample size)
- Edit count is not enough (Quality)
- Confused by bots
- correlation between IP and quality/quantity of edits
- indepth interview with the Wikibatmen