



# Articulations of WikiWork: Uncovering Valued Work in Wikipedia through Barnstars

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The Information School  
University of Washington



University of Washington

# Overview: Motivation

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- Mass collaborations are a new means to organize large-scale efforts toward the production of important resources
- Wikipedia is a pioneering effort founded upon deliberative principles
- We need to know the range of work that sustains these efforts
- We do a grounded analysis of “Barnstars”, tokens of appreciation exchanged amongst Wikipedians to recognize valued work

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# Overview: Contributions

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- Identify the span of valued work in Wikipedia
  - categories of work beyond editing are highly valued
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# Outline

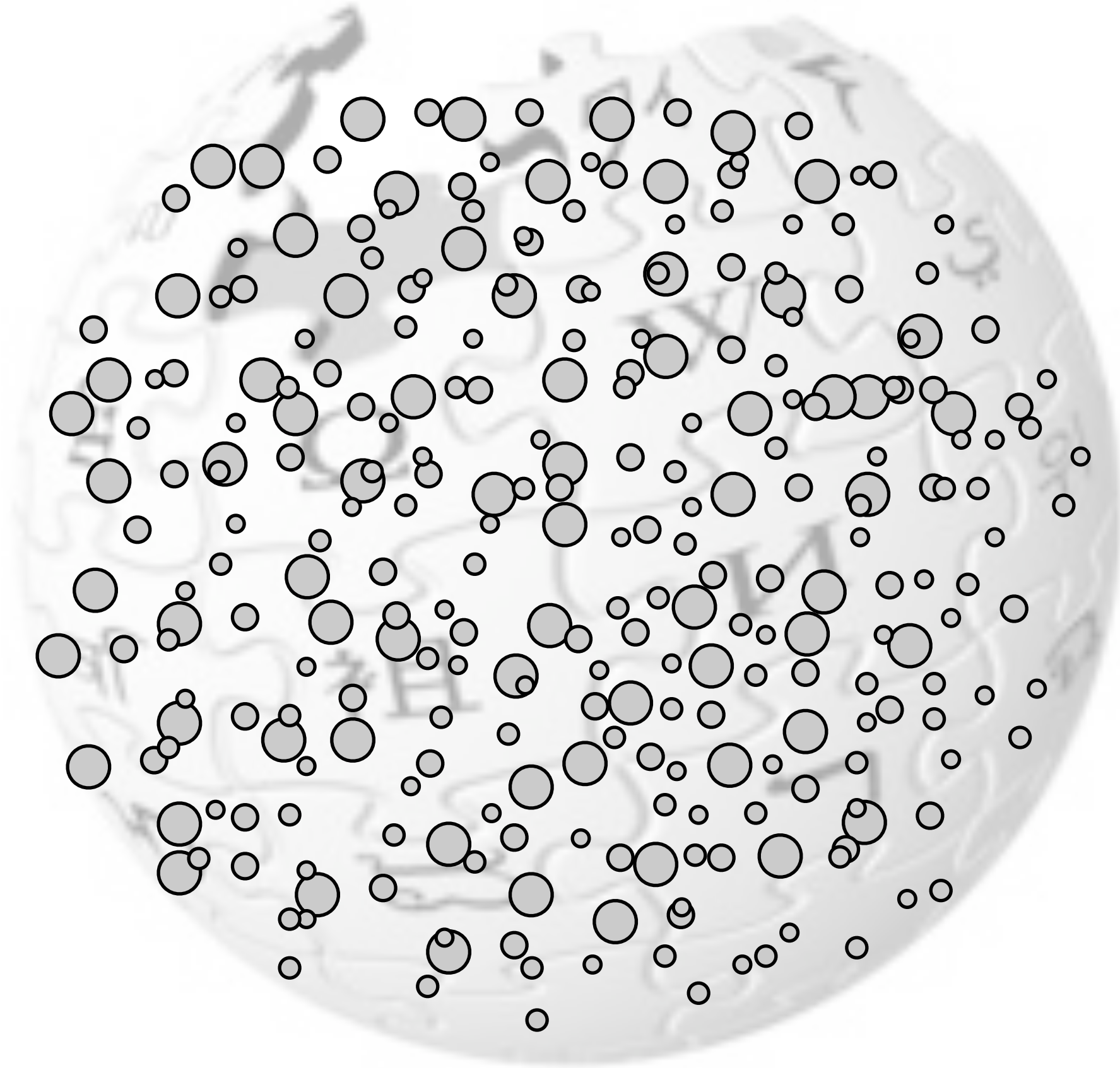
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- ✓ Study motivation
- **Wikipedia anatomy**
- Methodology
- Range of Work
- The Class Instance Pattern

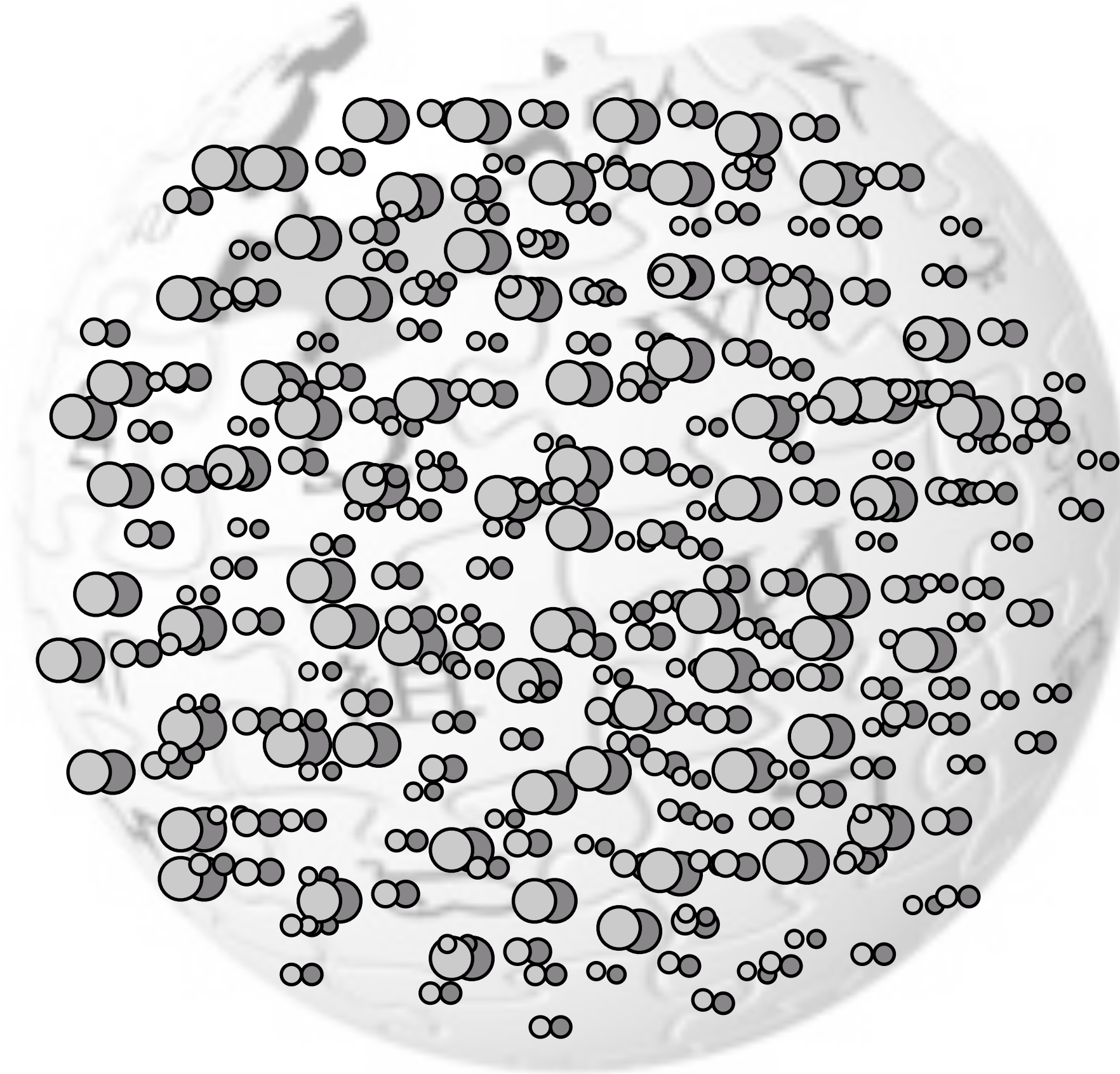


Wikipedia is a collection of hyperlinked pages

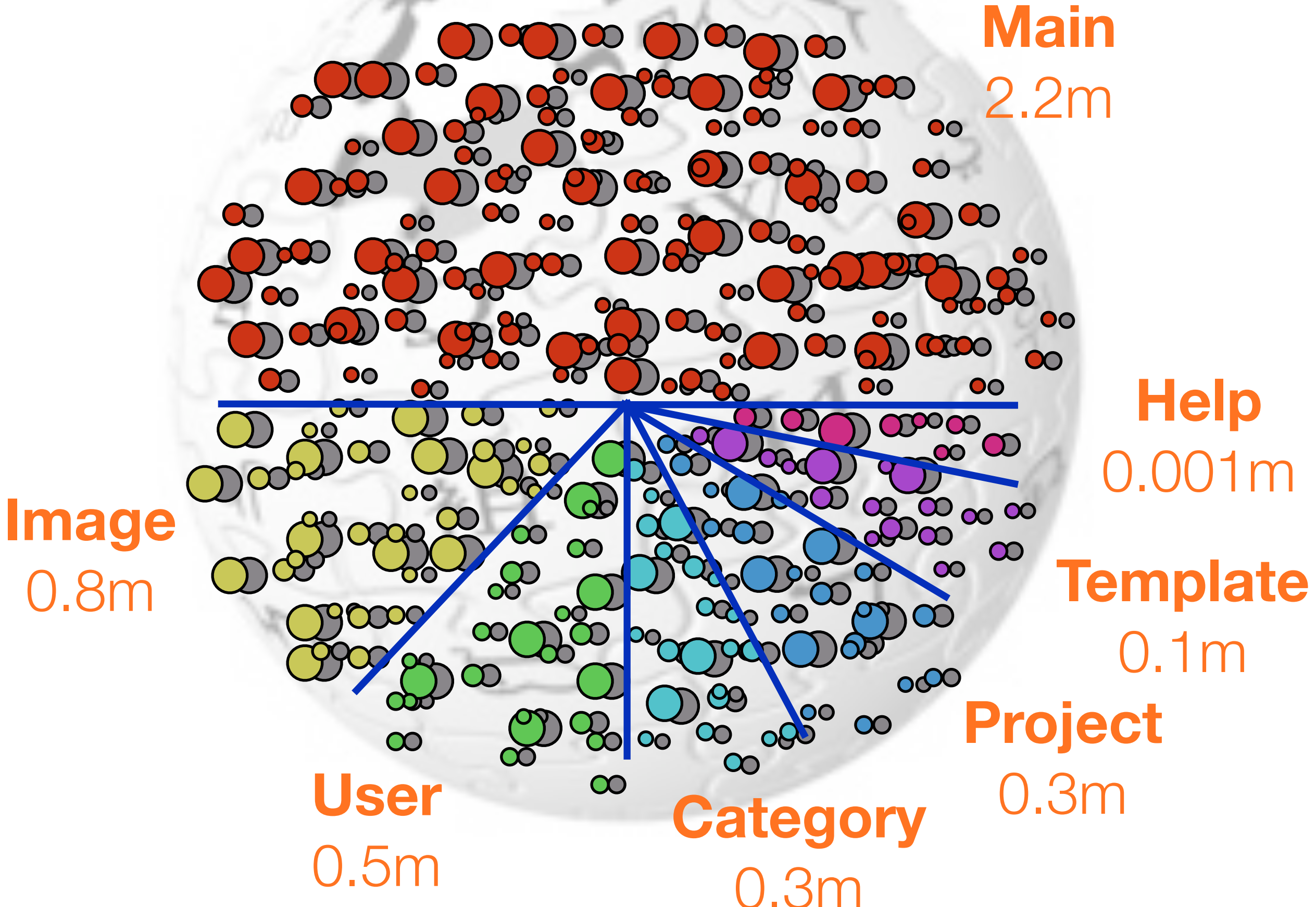




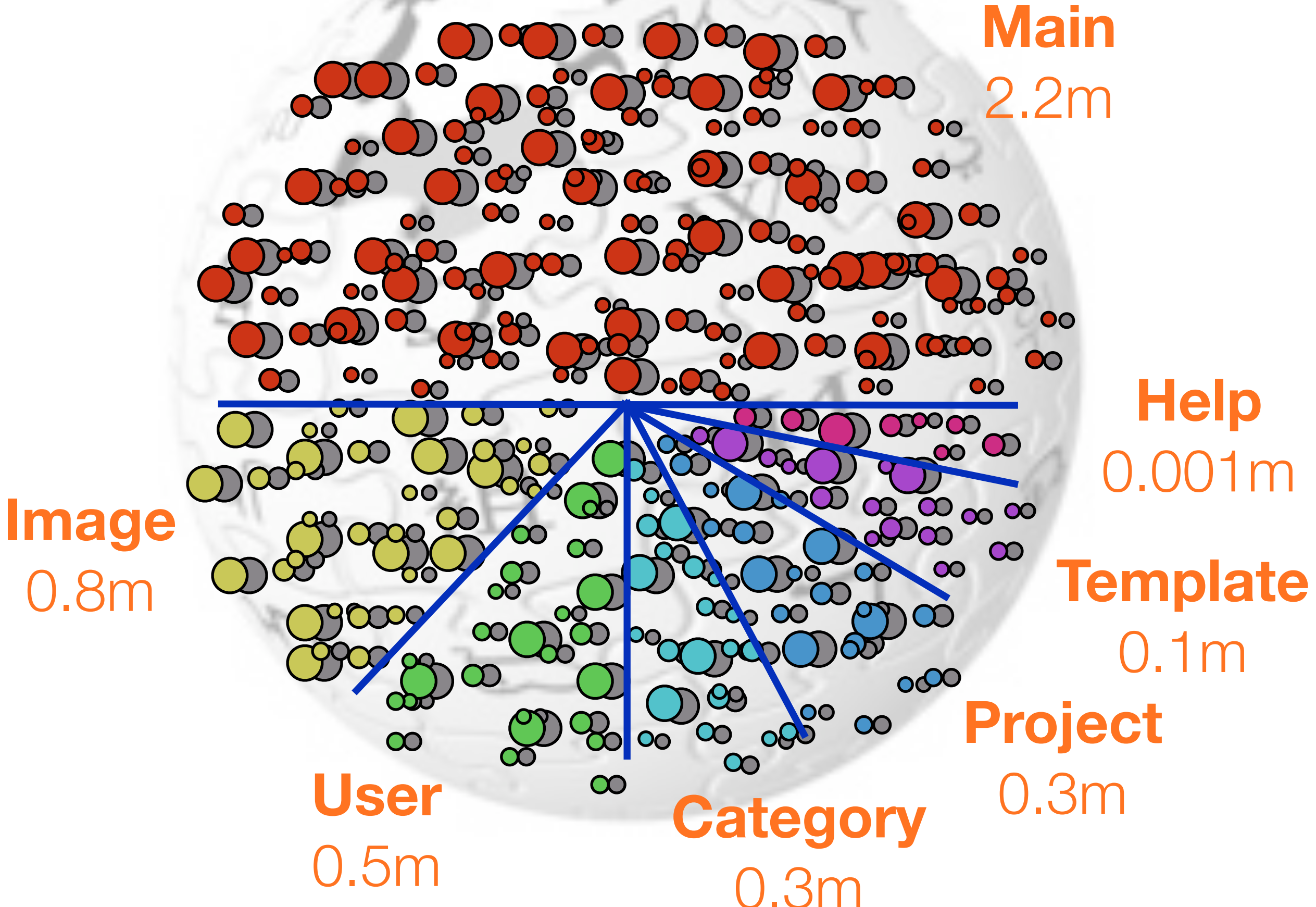
Every page has a talk page



# Pages divided into 7 namespaces

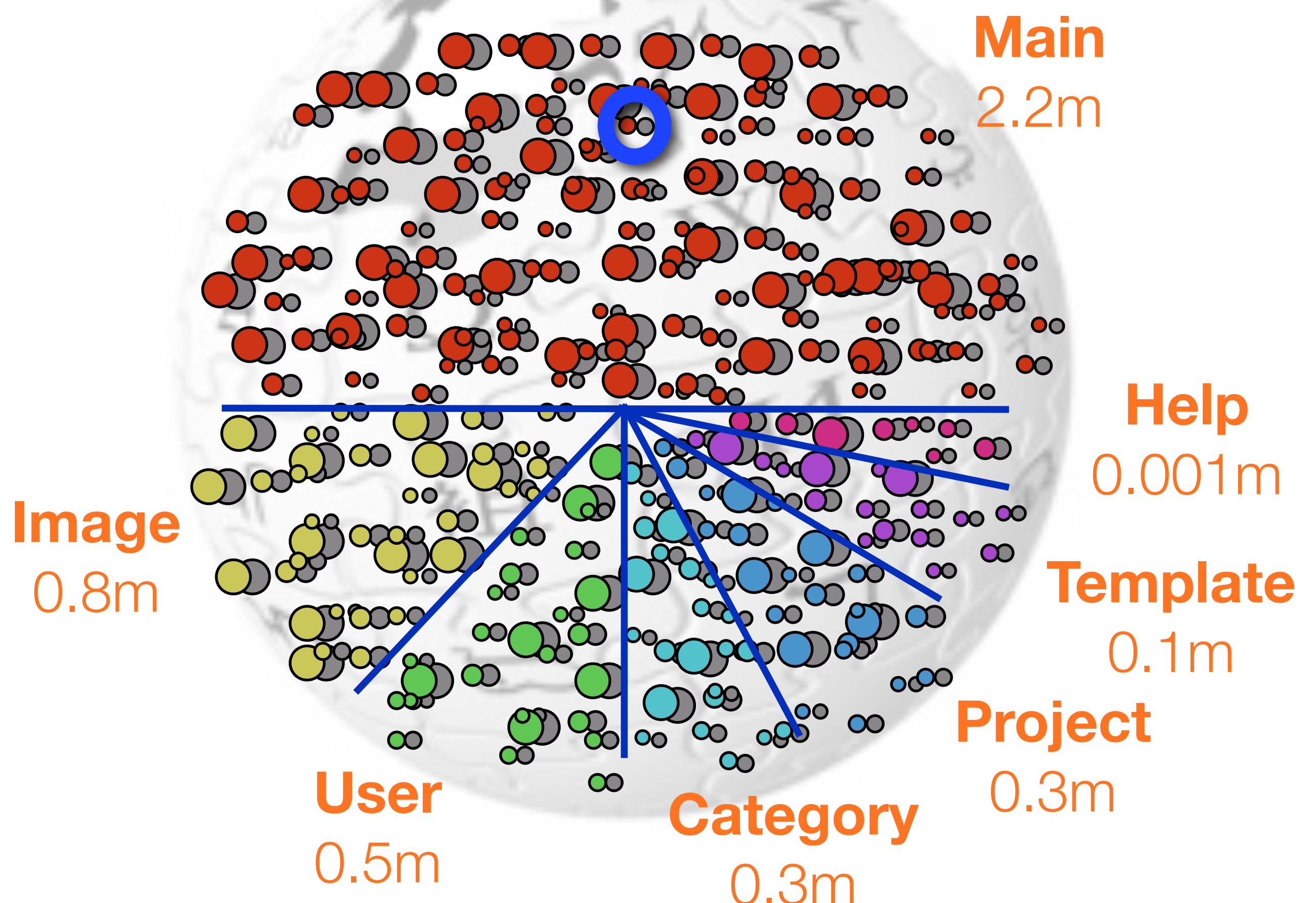


# Pages divided into 7 namespaces

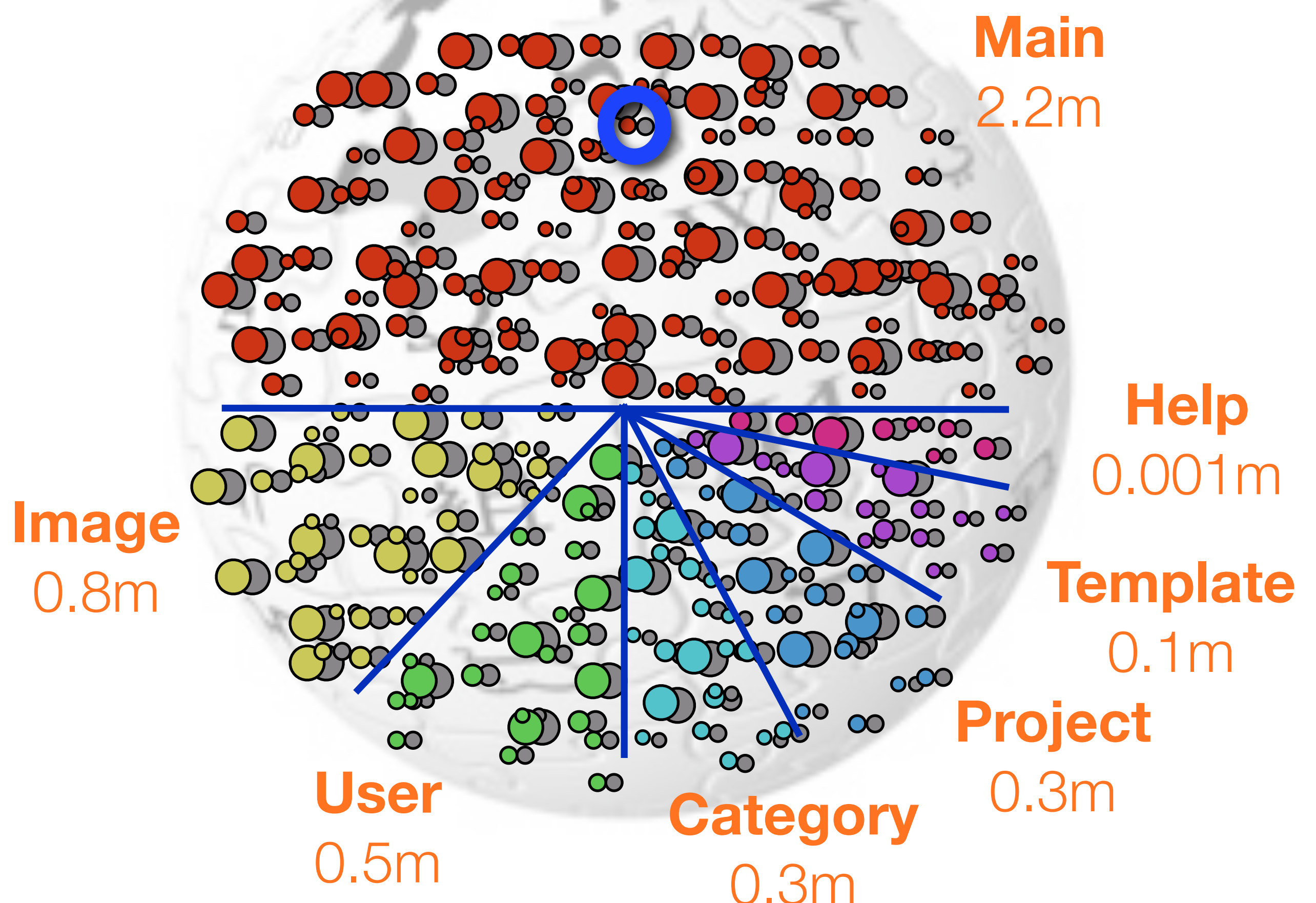




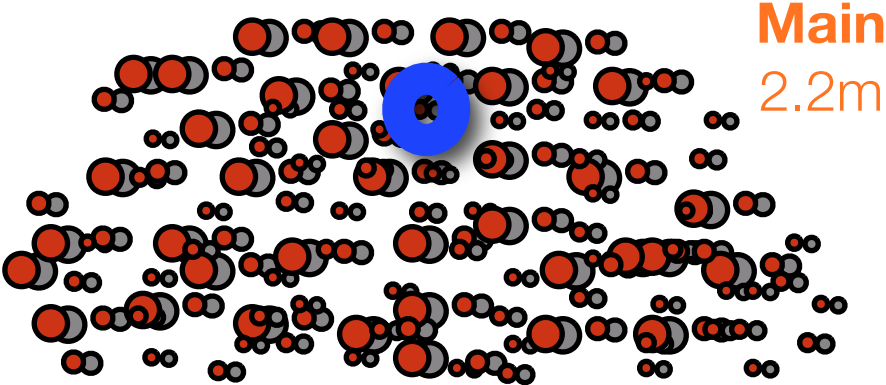
# Pages divided into 7 namespaces



# Pages divided into 7 namespaces



# Namespaces: Main



Main  
2.2m

**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)

interaction

- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact Wikipedia](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Help](#)

search

toolbox

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Printable version](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Cite this article](#)

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[article](#) [discussion](#) [edit this page](#) [history](#) [watch](#)

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## Jimmy Wales

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Jimmy Donal "Jimbo" Wales** (born 7 August 1966<sup>[2]</sup> in Huntsville, Alabama<sup>[3][4]</sup>) is an **American Internet entrepreneur** known for his role in founding **Wikipedia**<sup>[5][6][7]</sup> and other wiki-related projects, including the charitable **Wikimedia Foundation** and the for-profit company **Wikia, Inc.**<sup>[8]</sup>

### Contents [hide]

- 1 Personal life
- 2 Education
- 3 Career
  - 3.1 Wikipedia and Wikimedia Foundation
  - 3.2 Wikia
  - 3.3 Media appearances and honors
- 4 Issues and Controversy
  - 4.1 Bomis
  - 4.2 Wikipedia biography
  - 4.3 Birthdate
- 5 Personal philosophy
- 6 Published work
- 7 References
- 8 External links
  - 8.1 Audio/video

### Personal life

[\[edit\]](#)

**Jimmy Donal "Jimbo" Wales**

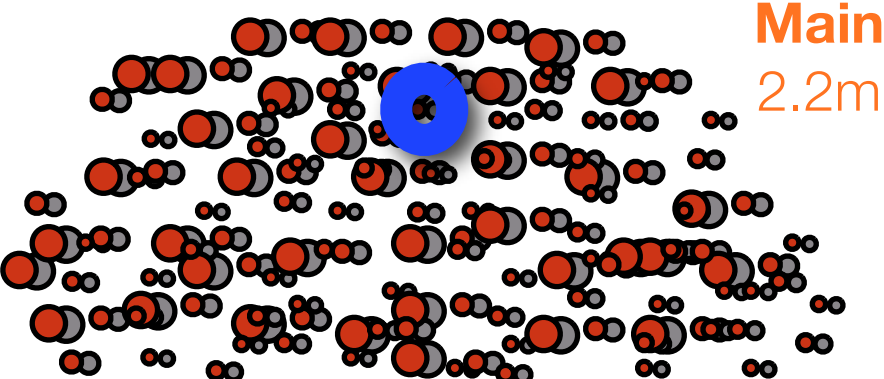
**Born** August 7, 1966 (age 41)  
Huntsville, Alabama, U.S.

**Occupation** President of **Wikia, Inc.**; Board member and Chair Emeritus of the **Wikimedia Foundation**

**Spouse** Christine<sup>[1]</sup>



# Namespaces: Main



- navigation
- [Main page](#)
  - [Contents](#)
  - [Featured content](#)
  - [Current events](#)
  - [Random article](#)

- interaction
- [About Wikipedia](#)
  - [Community portal](#)
  - [Recent changes](#)
  - [Contact Wikipedia](#)
  - [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
  - [Help](#)

search

- toolbox
- [What links here](#)
  - [Related changes](#)
  - [Upload file](#)
  - [Special pages](#)
  - [Printable version](#)
  - [Permanent link](#)
  - [Cite this article](#)

Leafman my talk my preferences my watchlist my contributions log out

article discussion **edit this page** history watch

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of the project's [\[\[Spokesman|spokesperson\]\]](#) and promoter through speaking engagements and media appearances.

His work with Wikipedia, which has become the world's largest encyclopedia, prompted [''\[\[Time \(magazine\)|Time\]\]''](#) magazine to name him in its 2006 list of the world's most influential people.[<ref name=Anderson>Anderson, Chris \(April 30, 2006\). "\[http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1187286,00.html Jimmy Wales: The \(Proud\) Amateur Who Created Wikipedia\]". ''\[\[Time \(magazine\)|Time\]\]''. Retrieved on \[\[2006-05-08\]\].</ref>](#) Wales is the [''\[\[de facto\]\]''](#) leader of Wikipedia,[<ref name="Holden Frith">](#)

```
{{cite news
|first=Holden
|last=Frith
|url=http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/the_web/article1571519.ece
|title=Wikipedia founder launches rival online encyclopaedia
|publisher=[[The Times]]
|date=March 26, 2007
|accessdate=2008-03-07}}
```

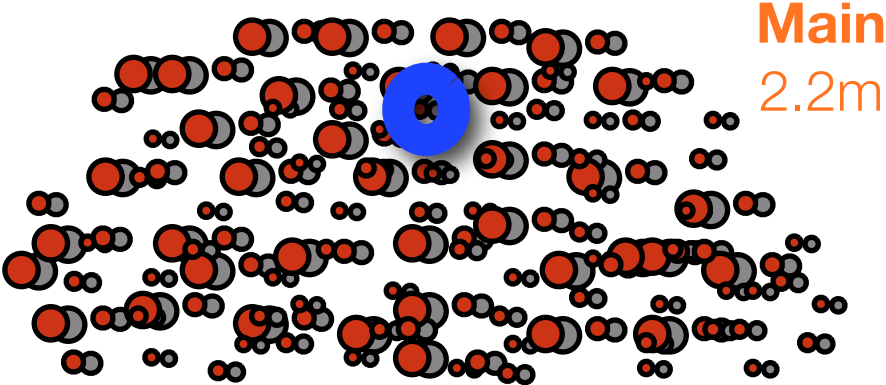
[</ref>](#)[<ref name="Economist2008"/>](#) whose role in the project has gained broad media attention and has led to controversy.[<ref name=Anderson />](#)[<ref>](#)

```
{{cite news
|url= http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/business/technology/2003525473_btwikipedia15.html
|title=He's the "God-King," but you can call him Jimbo
|author=Smith Was
```

Personal life

[\[edit\]](#) Spouse [Christine<sup>\[1\]</sup>](#)

# Namespaces: Main



navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)

interaction

- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact Wikipedia](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Help](#)

search

toolbox

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Printable version](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Cite this article](#)

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[article](#) [discussion](#) [edit this page](#) [history](#) [watch](#)

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## Revision history of Jimmy Wales

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([Latest](#) | [Earliest](#)) [View](#) (previous 50) ([next 50](#)) ([20](#) | [50](#) | [100](#) | [250](#) | [500](#))

For any version listed below, click on its date to view it. For more help, see [Help:Page history](#) and [Help:Edit summary](#).

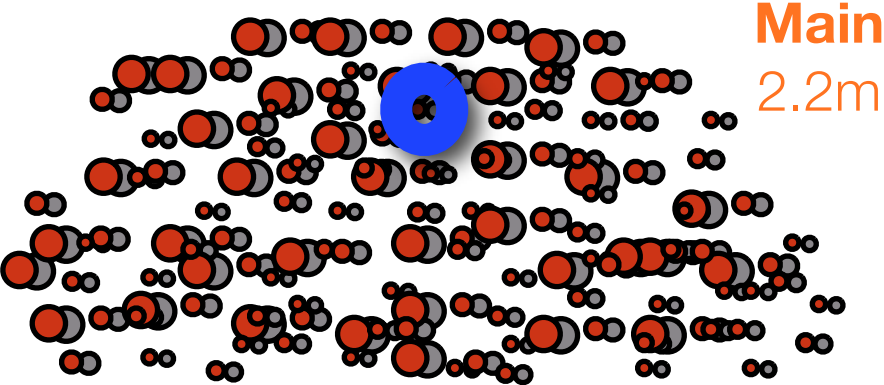
(cur) = difference from current version, (last) = difference from preceding version,  
**m** = [minor edit](#), [→](#) = [section edit](#), [←](#) = [automatic edit summary](#)

### Compare selected versions

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- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 21:48, 30 October 2007 [Vondort](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) (36,195 bytes) (*→[Education](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 21:48, 30 October 2007 [Vondort](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) (36,197 bytes) (*→[Personal life](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 03:12, 30 October 2007 [Kathleen.wright5](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) **m** (36,148 bytes) (*→[Wikipedia and Wikimedia Foundation](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 00:52, 29 October 2007 [A.Z.](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) **m** (36,151 bytes) (*Undid revision 167745491 by [Shaggman47](#) ([talk](#))*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 00:51, 29 October 2007 [Shaggman47](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) (35,315 bytes) (*→[Personal life](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 22:03, 28 October 2007 [AlleborgoBot](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) **m** (36,151 bytes) (*robot Adding: [tg:Ҷимбо Вейлс](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 17:22, 28 October 2007 [Jhurlburt](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) (36,122 bytes) (*→[External links - Trimming excessive external links as per Wikipedia guidelines WP:EL.](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 06:02, 27 October 2007 [LaraLove](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) **m** (38,353 bytes) (*→[Wikipedia biography - Oops. Removing double closing parenthesis.](#)*) ([undo](#))
- [\(cur\)](#) [\(last\)](#) [↻](#) 06:01, 27 October 2007 [LaraLove](#) ([Talk](#) | [contribs](#)) (38,354 bytes) (*→[Wikipedia biography - Quotations per](#)*)



# Namespaces: Main



- navigation
- [Main page](#)
  - [Contents](#)
  - [Featured content](#)
  - [Current events](#)
  - [Random article](#)

- interaction
- [About Wikipedia](#)
  - [Community portal](#)
  - [Recent changes](#)
  - [Contact Wikipedia](#)
  - [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
  - [Help](#)

search

- toolbox
- [What links here](#)
  - [Related changes](#)
  - [Upload file](#)
  - [Special pages](#)
  - [Printable version](#)
  - [Permanent link](#)
  - [Cite this article](#)

Leafman my talk my preferences my watchlist my contributions log out

article discussion edit this page history watch

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explain the change and its purpose.

[Tualha \(Talk\)](#) 19:38, 13 July 2007 (UTC)

I will use a more relevant quote. Thanks for your concern. Please review. [QuackGuru talk](#) 20:05, (UTC)

That one will do, though it can be trimmed. Thanks. [Tualha \(Talk\)](#) 21:17, 13 July 2007 (UTC)

## First sentence in the education section

That part I fixed yesterday in the education section is logically inconsistent. It reads like the school was donating the software not Jimbo's user page so I have right to fix it, right? Why has it been undone then? [greg park avenue](#) 13:23, 23 July 2007 (UTC)

## Birthdate

**I just blogged about this** [↗](#).--[Jimbo Wales](#) 09:34, 8 August 2007 (UTC)

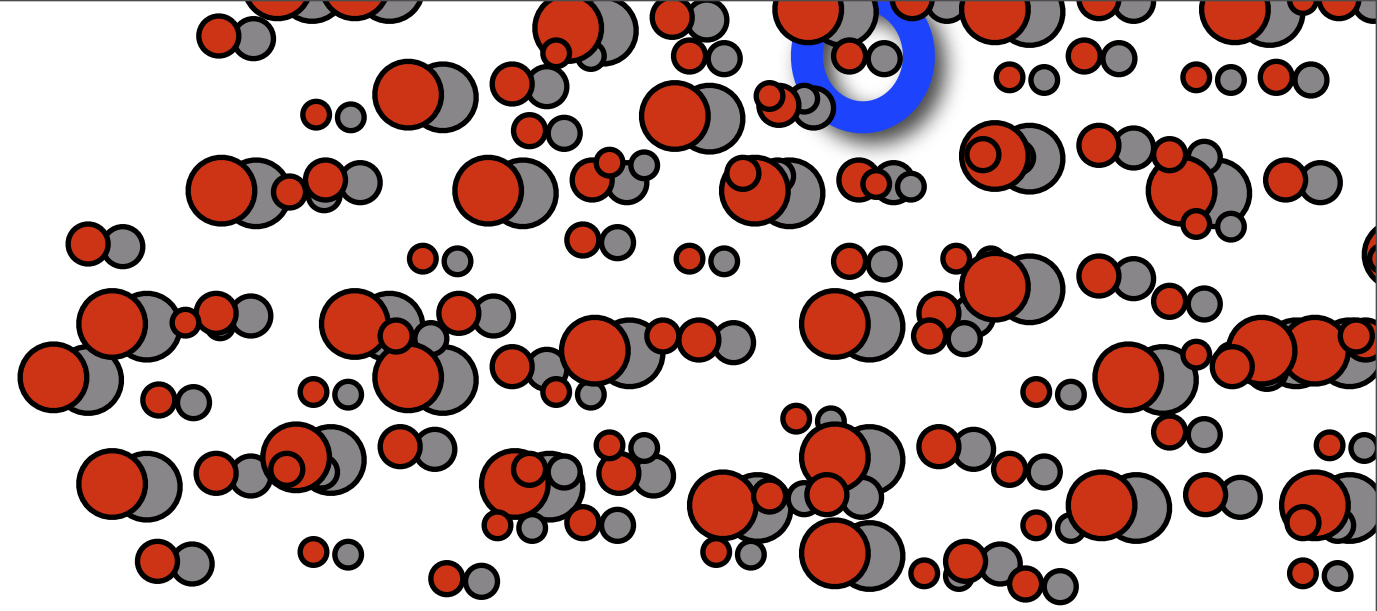
Supposedly, he was born on the 8th, and *Britannica* also thinks its the 7th. See [this blog entry](#) [↗](#) from *The Oregonian* newspaper, [the previous, related blog entry](#) [↗](#) about an interview with him, [Ward Cunningham](#) and the newspaper, as well as a print article [Open-source thinking](#) [↗](#). [Jason McHuff](#) 22:49, 27 July 2007 (UTC)

It looks like a reporter from a major newspaper has reported on a public records search, confirming what I have been saying. According to my birth certificate, August 7th is not my birthdate. Perhaps someday I will produce a note from my mom for an article. And perhaps I will just continue to have a bit of fun with this. :)--[Jimbo Wales](#) 09:12, 8 August 2007 (UTC)

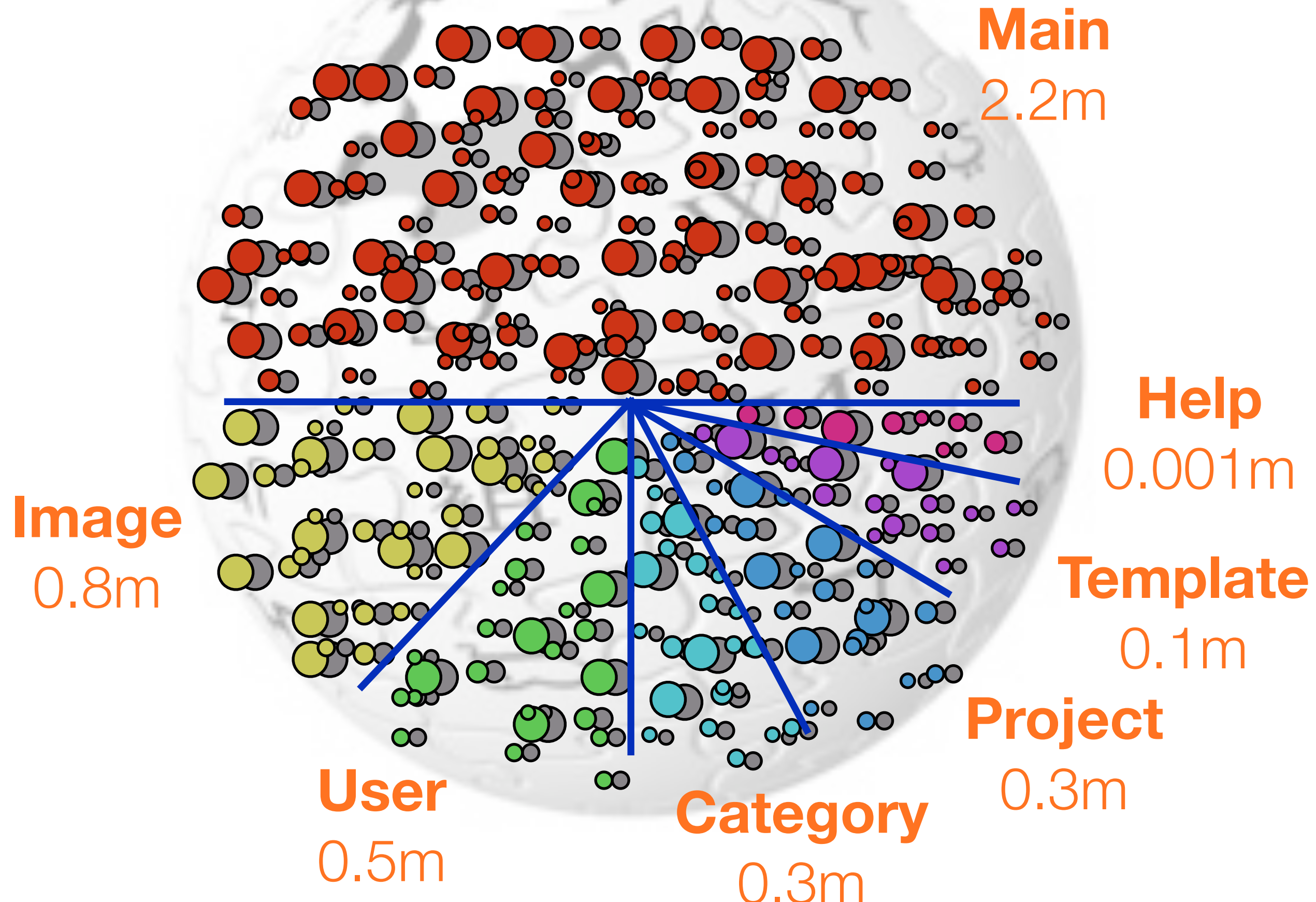
Mr. Wales has stated that his birthday is Aug. 7th, 1966. Links to these admissions can be found [here](#) [↗](#) and [here](#) [↗](#). Also [Biography](#) and [Who's Who is America](#) list his birthday as being the 7th. [68.117.211.187](#) 07:21, 28 July 2007 (UTC)

I hope I am not the only one who is amused that this anonymous ip number calls a discussion of my date of birth a

# Namespaces: Main

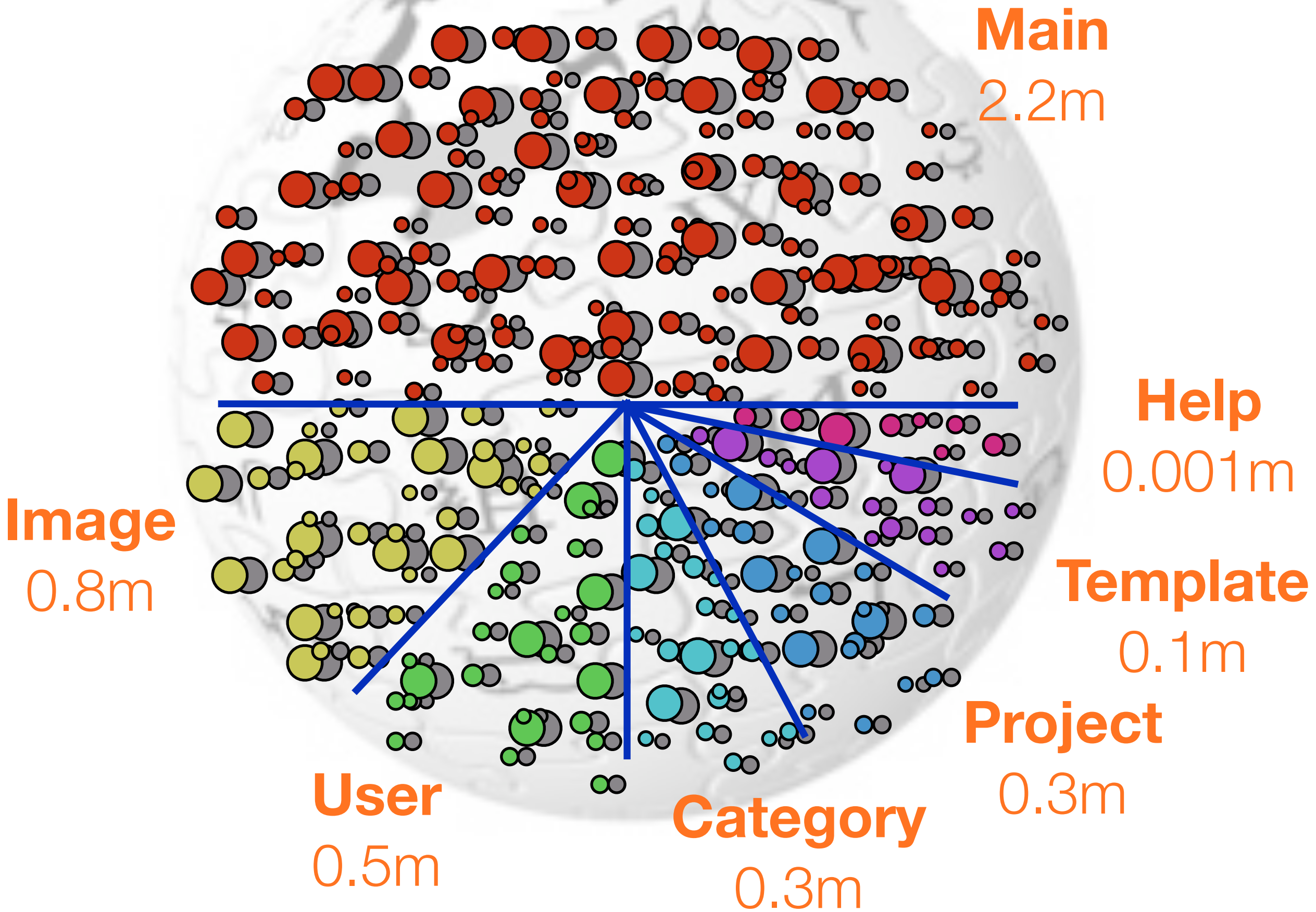


# Pages divided into 7 namespaces





# Pages divided into 7 namespaces



# Pages divided into 7 namespaces





- [project page](#)
- [discussion](#)
- [edit this page](#)
- [history](#)
- [move](#)
- [watch](#)

## Wikipedia:Verifiability

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*"WP:V" redirects here. For information on vandalism, see Wikipedia:Vandalism.*

 **This page documents an official policy on the English Wikipedia.** It has wide acceptance among editors and is considered a standard that all users should follow. When editing this page, please ensure that your revision reflects consensus. When in doubt, discuss first on the talk page.

 **This page in a nutshell:** Material challenged or likely to be challenged, and all quotations, must be attributed to a reliable, published source.

The threshold for inclusion in Wikipedia is **verifiability, not truth**. "Verifiable" in this context means that any reader should be able to check that material added to Wikipedia has already been published by a **reliable source**. Editors should provide a reliable source for quotations and for any material that is challenged or is likely to be challenged, or it may be removed.

**Wikipedia:Verifiability** is one of Wikipedia's core content policies. The others include [Wikipedia:No original research](#) and [Wikipedia:Neutral point of view](#). Jointly, these policies determine the type and quality of material that is acceptable in Wikipedia articles. They should not be interpreted in isolation from one another, and editors should try to familiarize themselves with all three.

Project  
0.3m

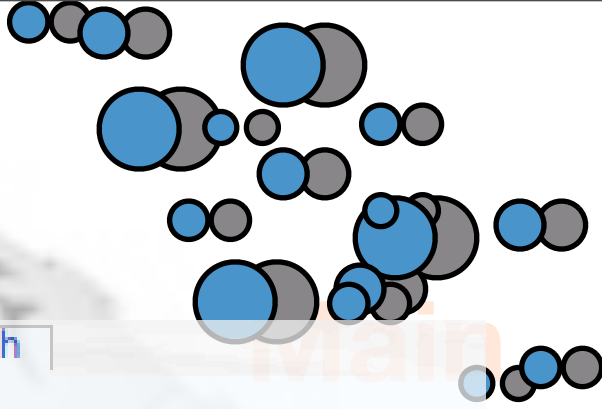
Help  
0.001m

template  
0.1m

0.5m

0.3m

# Pages divided into 7 namespaces



[project page](#) [discussion](#) [edit this page](#) [history](#) [move](#) [watch](#)

## Wikipedia:Verifiability

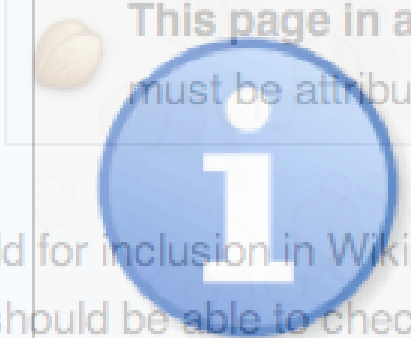
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## Wikipedia:Articles for deletion

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This page documents an **official policy** on the English Wikipedia. It has wide acceptance among editors and is considered a standard that all users should follow. When editing this page, please ensure that your revision reflects consensus. When in doubt, discuss first.

**Before listing an article for deletion here, consider whether a more efficient alternative is appropriate:**



- For problems that do not require deletion, including duplicate articles, needing improvement, pages needing redirects, or POV problems, be sure to fix the problem or tag the article appropriately.

- If an article is a copyright violation, please list it at [Wikipedia:Copyright violations](#).
- Some articles may qualify for speedy deletion; please refer to the [speedy deletion criteria and process](#).
- For non-controversial deletions, please refer to the [proposed deletion process](#).
- For a potentially controversial merger, consider listing it at [proposed merges](#).

Wikipedia:Verifiability is one of Wikipedia's core content policies. The others include [Wikipedia:No original research](#), [Wikipedia:Neutral point of view](#). Jointly, these policies determine the type and quality of material that is acceptable in Wikipedia articles. They should not be interpreted in isolation from one another, and editors should try to familiarize themselves with all three.

**Articles for deletion (AfD)** is where [Wikipedians](#) discuss whether an article should be deleted. Articles listed here are debated for up to five days, after which the [deletion process](#) proceeds based on Wikipedia community [consensus](#). The page is then either kept, [merged](#) and/or [redirected](#), [transwikied](#) (copied to another [Wikimedia project](#)), [renamed/moved](#) to another title, [userfied](#) to the creator's user page or user talk page, or deleted based on the [deletion policy](#).

Project  
0.3m

Help  
0.001m

Template  
0.1m

# Pages divided into 7 namespaces

- [template](#)
- [discussion](#)
- [view source](#)
- [history](#)
- [watch](#)

## Template:Fact

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*[citation needed]*



### Template documentation

*This documentation is transcluded from [Template:Fact/doc](#).* (edit)

### Purpose

This [template](#) is used in articles to identify sentences or short passages which need an [inline citation](#). It produces a superscripted notation like the following:

Humphrey Bogart is the greatest actor that ever lived.  
*[citation needed]*

Use this template to "tag" information which may be

Main  
0.2m

Template  
0.1m

Help  
0.001m

Project  
0.3m

# Pages divided into 7 namespaces

- [template](#)
- [discussion](#)
- [view source](#)
- [history](#)
- [watch](#)

## Template:Fact

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

WikiText:

```
{{fact}}
```

Rendered html:

```
mechanized corps. [citation needed]
```

superscripted notation like the following:

Humphrey Bogart is the greatest actor that ever lived.  
*[citation needed]*

Use this template to "tag" information which may be

Template  
0.1m

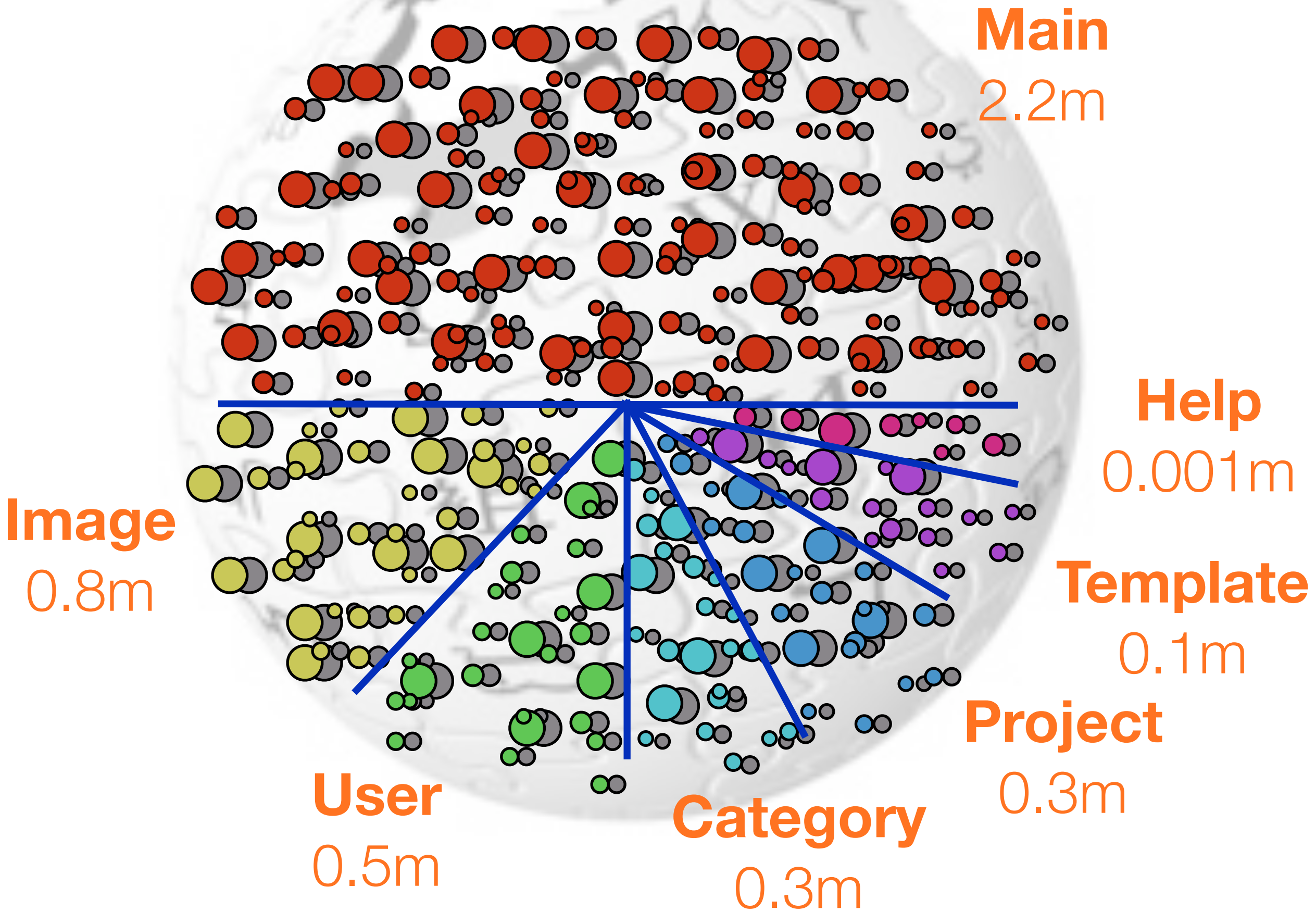
Main  
.2m

help  
001m

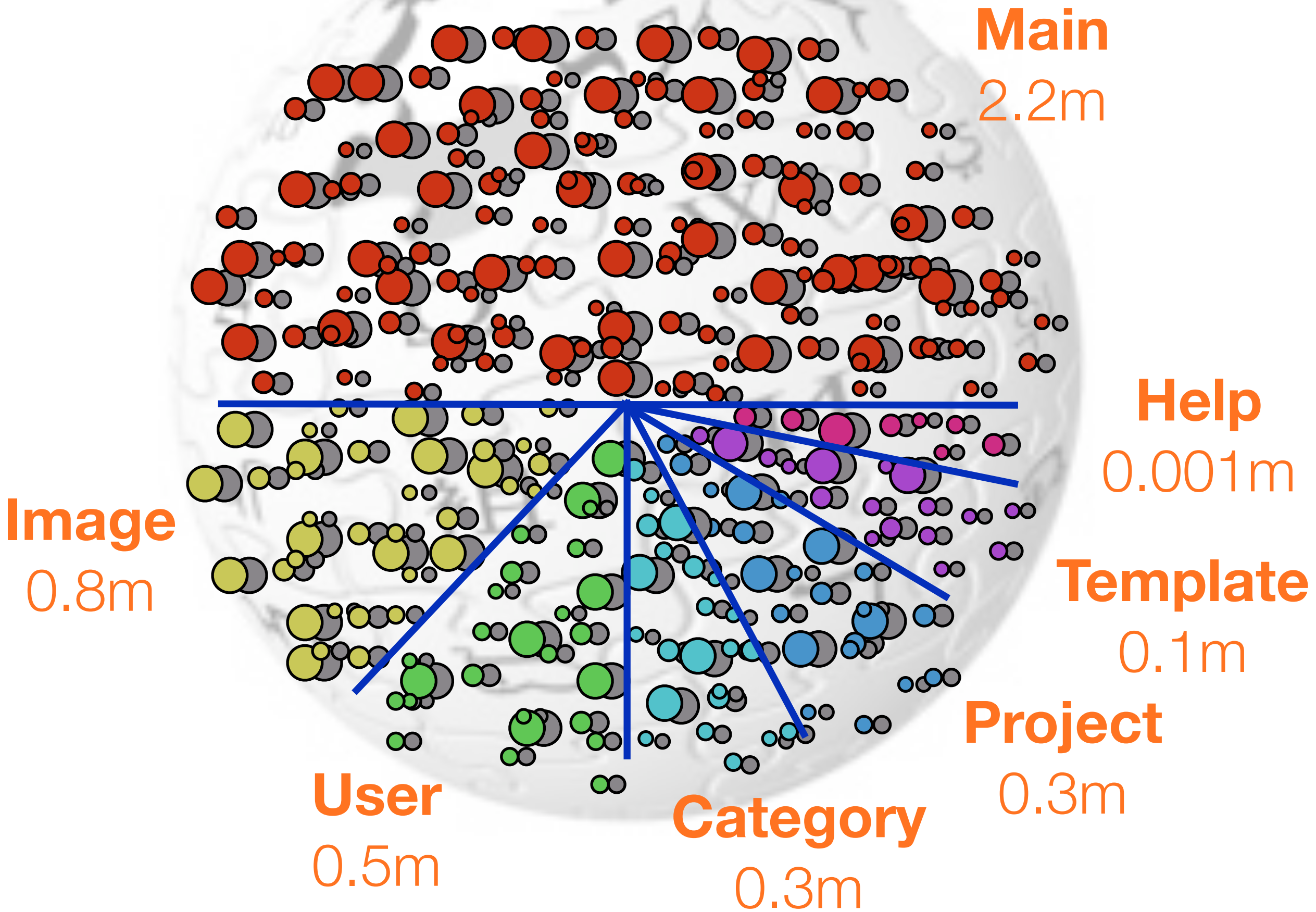
Project  
0.3m



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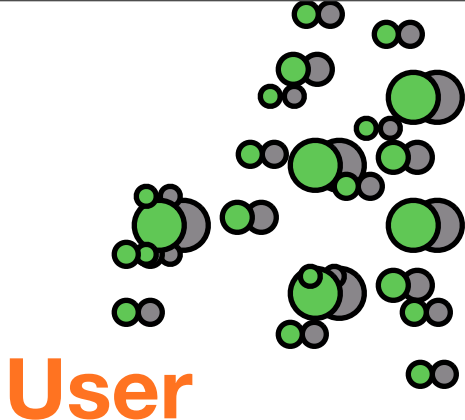


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# Every registered user has their own page



- [user page](#)
- [discussion](#)
- [edit this page](#)
- [history](#)
- [watch](#)

## User:Rlevse

Status: **Sleeping.**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

### MY USER PAGE

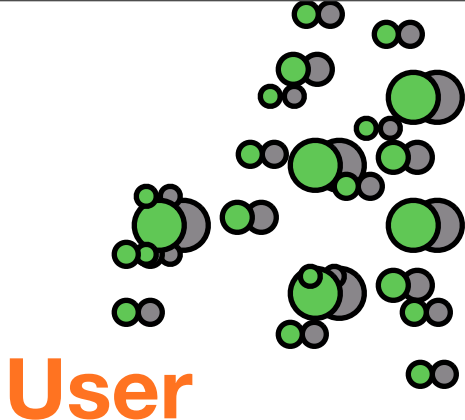
- [Home](#)
- [Talk](#)
- [About me](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Articles](#)
- [eMail](#)
- [Contributions](#)
- [Images](#)
- [Notebook](#)
- [Sandbox](#)
- [Todo](#)

**Sawadee krap!** (Hello!) I am Rlevse. My main interests here on Wikipedia are building and helping others to build the encyclopedia in a positive environment. As you know, that's sometimes easier said than done, but if we all cooperate to build the encyclopedia, it can be done and wiki can become a model for international cooperation. My main topics of interest are [Scouting](#), [History](#), [Culture](#) and article improvement. My wife, [JoJo](#) is from [Thailand](#), so I am interested Thai articles too. I was a Russian linguist in the [U.S. Navy](#) but am now retired from the Navy and work as a computer systems engineer. I also speak some German, Japanese, and Thai. There is more about me on my [about](#) page.

My history on wikipedia: First edit as an IP - Nov 03, 2005; created my Rlevse account - Nov 15, 2005; became admin on Feb 27, 2007; became an arbitration clerk in November 2007; became a Commons admin Dec 7, 2007; became a bureaucrat on Jul 29, 2008; became a checkuser on Oct 06, 2008. If you need help in any of those areas, let me know.

- This user has written contributed to **fifteen articles** on [Wikipedia](#).
- This user has written contributed to **one F** on [Wikipedia](#).
- This user has written contributed to **one F** [Wikipedia](#).
- This user has been **Awesome Wikip**

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Thanks for pointing out the article on [Minnie Spotted-Wolf](#). I'll take a look and try to find more information  
[ERcheck](#) ([talk](#)) 03:07, 8 October 2006 (UTC)

### Thanks

- Thank you very much for the barnstar! It is very nice of you to take the time to do that, and it means a lot. Encouragement like you've just provided really helps me to keep plugging along when the wiki-frustrated brotherhood, [Johntex](#)<sup>talk</sup> 02:48, 8 October 2006 (UTC)

### Appreciation



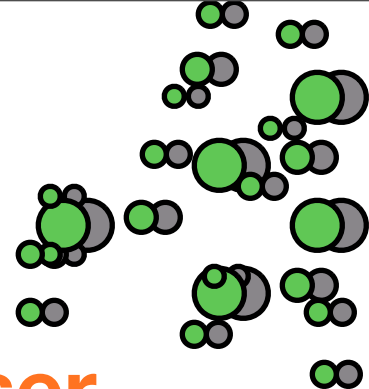
## The Working Man's Barnstar

To **Rlevse**:

This barnstar is given in recognition of and appreciation for your work in updating poor references for the [USMC Portal](#).

Thank you, [ERcheck](#) 11:26, 8 October 2006 (UTC)

Every registered user has their own page



User

- “Barn-raising” metaphor
- Adopted in Wikipedia starting in 2004
- Means to recognize valuable work
- Anyone can create, customize and give out barnstars

user page

Thanks for p  
ERcheck (tal

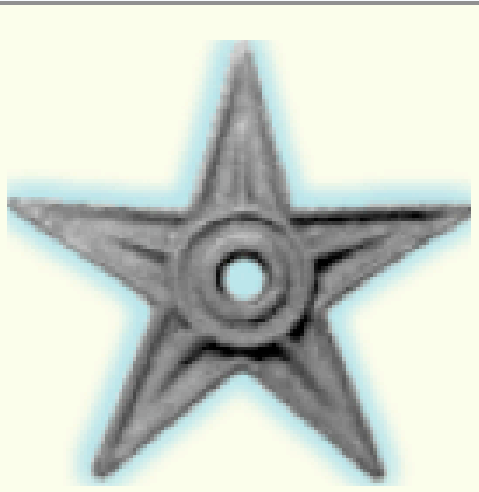
### Thanks

- Thank yo  
Encourag  
brotherho

ore information

and it means a  
the wiki-frustra

### Appreciation



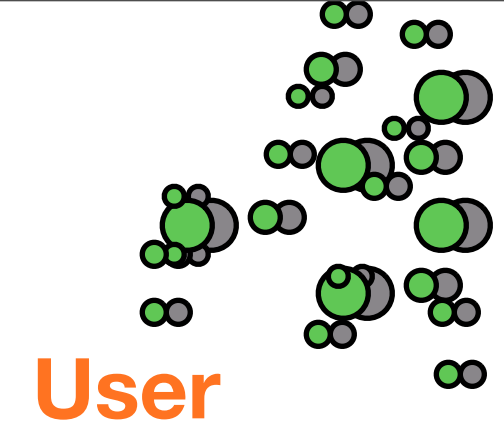
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We study these barnstars to identify the range of valued work across Wikipedia



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## Appreciation



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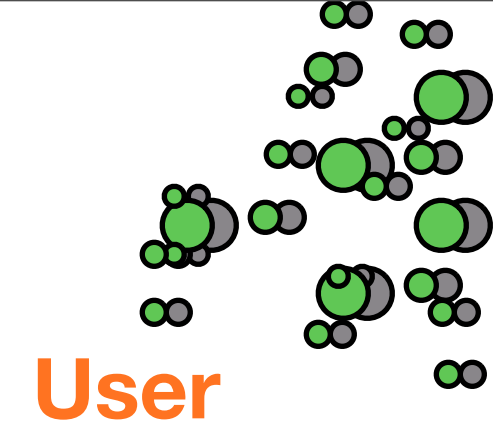
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# User:Rlevse

Status: **Sleeping.**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## MY USER PAGE

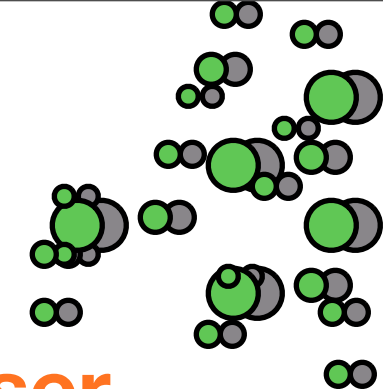
Home | Talk | About me | **Awards** | Articles | eMail | Contributions | Images | Notebook | Sandbox | Todo | To

**Sawadee krap!** (Hello!) I am Rlevse. My main interests here on Wikipedia are building and helping others to build the encyclopedia in a positive environment. As you know, that's sometimes easier said than done, but if we all cooperate to build the encyclopedia, it can be done and wiki can become a model for international cooperation. My main topics of interest are [Scouting](#), [History](#), [Culture](#) and article improvement. My wife, [JoJo](#) is from [Thailand](#), so I am interested Thai articles too. I was a Russian linguist in the [U.S. Navy](#) but am now retired from the Navy and work as a computer systems engineer. I also speak some German, Japanese, and Thai. There is more about me on my [about](#) page.

My history on wikipedia: First edit as an IP - Nov 03, 2005; created my Rlevse account - Nov 15, 2005; became admin on Feb 27, 2007; became an arbitration clerk in November 2007; became a Commons admin Dec 7, 2007; became a bureaucrat on Jul 29, 2008; became a checkuser on Oct 06, 2008. If you need help in any of those areas, let me know.

-  This user has written contributed to **fifteen articles** on [Wikipedia](#).
-  This user has written contributed to **one F** on [Wikipedia](#).
-  This user has written contributed to **one F** [Wikipedia](#).
-  This user has been **Awesome Wikip**

# We study these barnstars to identify the range of valued work across Wikipedia



I Lear

I am honored and humbled to have received these awards:

[user page](#) | [discussion](#) | [edit this page](#) | [history](#)

## User:Rlevse

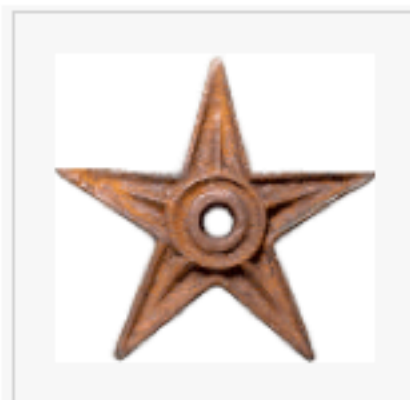
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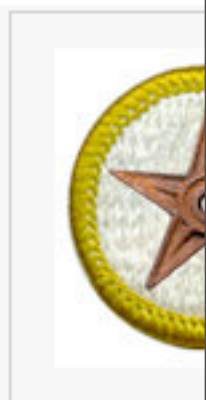
The **Wiki Merit Badge**, for [History of merit badges \(Boy Scouts of America\)](#) FA article, [Smack](#) 19:27, 29 December 2005



The **Original Barnstar**, in recognition of your contributions to *numerous Scouting*-related articles, particularly by bringing [History of merit badges \(Boy Scouts of America\)](#) to Featured Article status, I, [Rebelguys2](#), present you this [Barnstar](#)! 21:35, 28 Januray 2006



Rlevse, Thanks so very much for supporting the recent [FAC of Cheers](#). It was successful and *Cheers* has been promoted! I'm looking forward to hopefully getting *Cheers* on the front page. In the mean time, please accept this [Beer](#) as a token of my gratitude. Cheers! [Staxringold](#) 11:59, 30 January 2006



I, [evrik](#), award [Scouting Barnstar](#) [Rlevse](#) for his contributions to related article February 2006

**Sawadee krap!** (Hello!) I am Rlevse. My main interest others to build the encyclopedia in a positive environmer than done, but if we all cooperate to build the encyclop model for international cooperation. My main topics of article improvement. My wife, [JoJo](#) is from [Thailand](#), s Russian linguist in the [U.S. Navy](#) but am now retired from engineer. I also speak some German, Japanese, and Thai. My history on wikipedia: First edit as an IP - Nov 03, 2005 became admin on Feb 27, 2007; became an arbitration c admin Dec 7, 2007; became a bureaucrat on Jul 29, 2008 need help in any of those areas, let me know.



**Scouting Barnstar**, I just want to say thanks for all of



**Scouting Tireless Contributor Award**, a sash



I, [Wim van Dorst](#), give you this [Scouting barnstar](#) for



The **Barnstar Diligence**, In



# Outline

---



- ✓ Study motivation
- ✓ Wikipedia anatomy
- **Methodology**
- Range of Work
- The Class Instance Pattern

# Studying valued work across Wikipedia

---



# Studying valued work across Wikipedia

---



- Barnstars as observations
  - + Widespread community practice
  - + In-situ observations by community members
  - Biased toward experienced observers
  - Descriptions of work, but not of work practice

# Studying valued work across Wikipedia

---



- Barnstars as observations
  - + Widespread community practice
  - + In-situ observations by community members
  - Biased toward experienced observers
  - Descriptions of work, but not of work practice
- Do not confuse “articulations of WikiWork” with barnstars
  - Barnstars describe work, but do not articulate it; however...
    - ▶ Barnstars articulate the work of recognizing work
    - ▶ Barnstars may articulate work by reifying a division of work
  - We do not consider these articulating aspects of barnstars here

# Methodology: Grounded analysis of barnstars

---

## Extraction

Nov. 2006 Dataset

Parser

14k Barnstars



# Methodology: Grounded analysis of barnstars

## Extraction

Nov. 2006 Dataset

Parser

14k Barnstars

Random sample  
of 300

Codebook  
generation



Met

Extr

Nov. 2

## Editing Work

minor	copy-editing
media	images, audio
initiative	starting articles, stubs
major	substantial textual addition to an article
achievement	shepherding an article to a higher quality level
classification	categorizing articles, adding templates
redesign	large-scale refactoring, merging pages
translation	to or from another language
attribution	citing sources, removing unsourceable info
general	

## Social and Community Support Actions

commitment	to an article, a wiki-project
teaching	mentorship, question-answering
leadership	of wikiprojects & other initiatives
humor and cheer	being funny, cheering others up
user page design	helping to design another's user page
rewarding	recognizing the achievements of others
welcoming	welcoming newcomers
general	

## Border Patrol

vandal fighting	reverting damage to unspecified namespace
deletion	article notability, spam removal
vandal fighting	reverting damage to user pages
vandal fighting	reverting damage to articles
sockpuppets	finding users operating multiple accounts

mple



Met

Extr

Nov.

### **Border Patrol**

<u>vandal fighting</u>	reverting damage to unspecified namespace
<u>deletion</u>	article notability, spam removal
<u>vandal fighting</u>	reverting damage to user pages
<u>vandal fighting</u>	reverting damage to articles
<u>sockpuppets</u>	finding users operating multiple accounts
<u>legal</u>	copyright violations, fair use rationale
<u>general</u>	

### **Administrative**

<u>privilege granting</u>	helping vet potential administrators
<u>intervention</u>	formal mediation of user conflicts
<u>quality designation</u>	determining article status (e.g. Featured)
<u>technical action</u>	exercise of privileged power
<u>general</u>	

### **Collaborative Actions and Disposition**

<u>disposition</u>	civility, accepting of criticism, keeping cool
<u>adherence</u>	policy interpretation, integrity
<u>diplomatic action</u>	conflict mediation, consensus-seeking
<u>explanation</u>	rationale for an edit, decision, or standard
<u>general</u>	

### **Meta-Content Work**

<u>template</u>	design of applicable templates
<u>tool programming</u>	design & support of tools (e.g. bots)
<u>forums / portals</u>	creation & support of help desks
<u>classification</u>	category creation & organization
<u>process &amp; policy</u>	policy authoring & process design
<u>archiving</u>	storing away old discussions
<u>general</u>	



mple



# Methodology: Grounded analysis of barnstars

## Extraction

Nov. 2006 Dataset

Parser

14k Barnstars

Random sample  
of 300

Codebook  
generation



# Methodology: Grounded analysis of barnstars



## Extraction

Nov. 2006 Dataset

Parser

14k Barnstars

Random sample of 2400

Random sample of 300

## Coding

- Divided into six bins
- Two coders per bin, independent coding
- Resolve conflicts through discussion

Codebook generation

# Methodology: Grounded analysis of barnstars



## Extraction

Nov. 2006 Dataset

Parser

14k Barnstars

Random sample of 2400

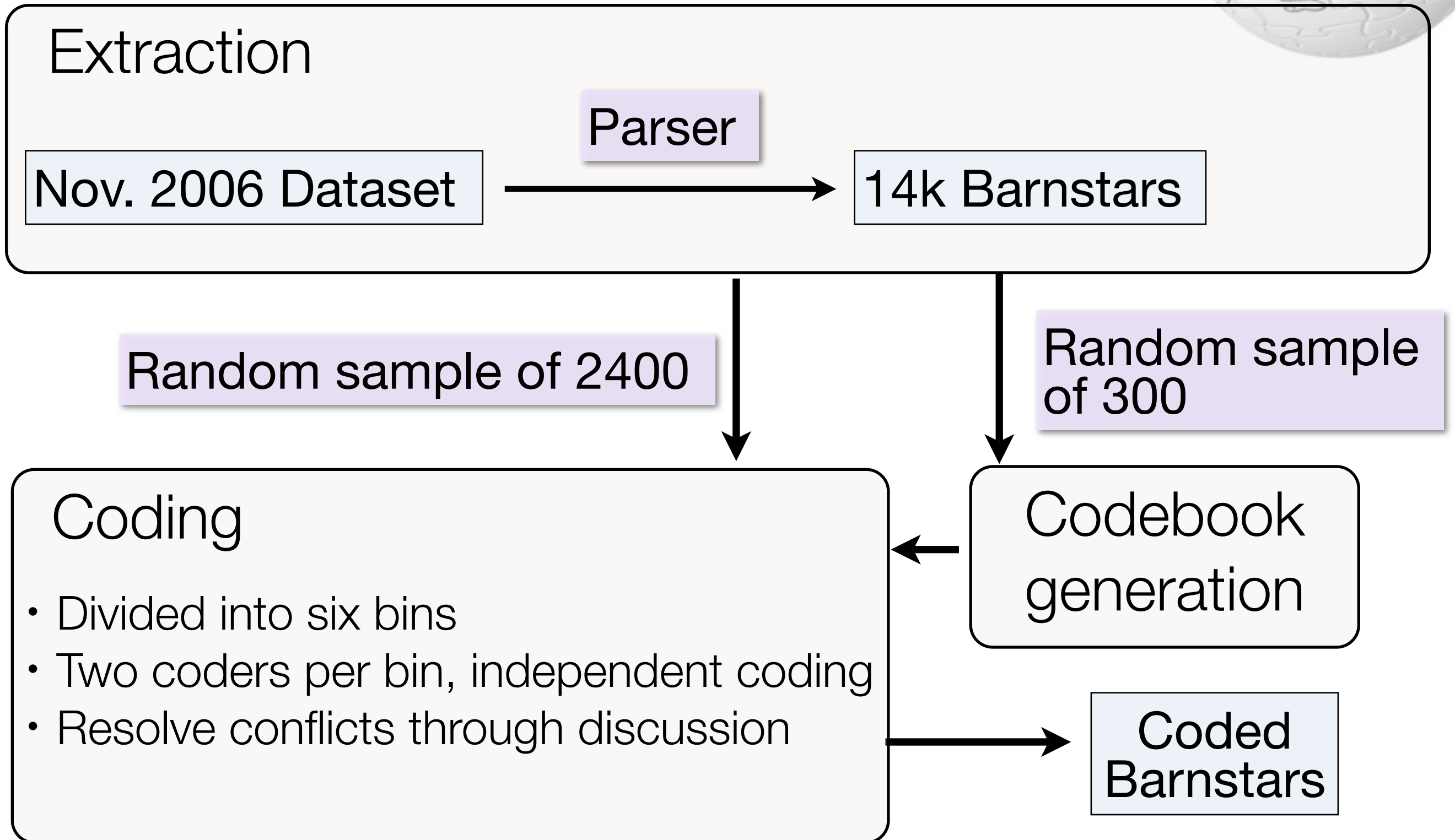
Random sample of 300

## Coding

- Divided into six bins
- Two coders per bin, independent coding
- Resolve conflicts through discussion

Codebook generation

Coded Barnstars



# Outline

---



- ✓ Study motivation
- ✓ Wikipedia anatomy
- ✓ Methodology
- **Range of Work**
- The Class Instance Pattern



# Results: high-level breakdown



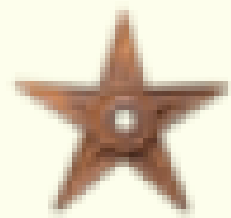
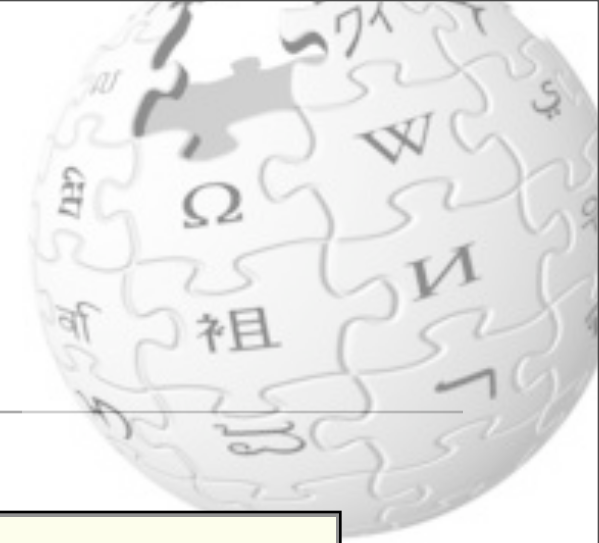
Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

# Results: high-level breakdown



## The Minor Barnstar

Pretty much every article on my watchlist has been touched by the improvatory hand of Rich Farmborough, and I feel it is time I paid my dues to he :) Thanks Rich! [Jdcooper](#) 16:47, 20 February 2006 (UTC)

Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
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# Results: high-level breakdown

Category	% Codes Applied
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Undifferentiated	14.6%



**The Random Acts of Kindness Barnstar** for someone who has gone that extra mile, to help mop the troubled brows of two much-valued editors - [Ballista](#) 07:19, 14 June 2006 (UTC)

# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
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## Results: high-level breakdown

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Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%



For standing with me this morning to revert all of those AOL vandals hell-bent on causing as much trouble as possible, I award you this barnstar.

**digital\_me** <sup>(Talk•Contribs)</sup>

22:41, 18 August 2006  
(UTC)

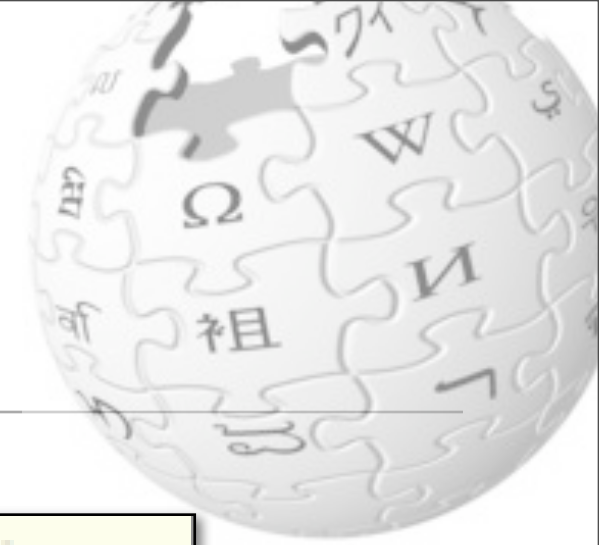
# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%



# Results: high-level breakdown



## The Defender of the Wiki Barnstar

For blocking pagemove vandals, offensive usernames, and doing your job well!! Oh, and keep the good work up!!

**TheM62Manchester** 22:27, 26 August 2006 (UTC)

Meta-Content Work

4.2%

Undifferentiated

14.6%

# Results: high-level breakdown




Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

## Results: high-level breakdown

Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%



I award you for  your calmness and level-headedness when editing and discussing controversial articles.  
**Asterion** 18:01, 9 April 2006 (UTC)

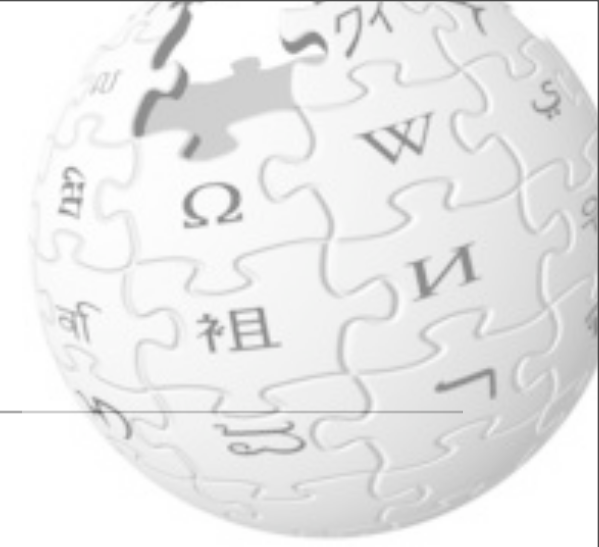
# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%



# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
----------	-----------------

## The Barnstar of Good Humor



I award you this barnstar for creating `{{ORLY?}}` which will henceforth be used to annotate all dubious claims on articles like [4chan](#) and [YTMND](#). [Ashibaka](#) [tock](#) 01:14, 13 May 2006 (UTC)

Dispositions	
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

# Results: high-level breakdown



Category	% Codes Applied
Editing Work	27.8%
Social and Community Support Actions	24.9%
Border Patrol	11.2%
Administrative	9.3%
Collaborative Actions and Dispositions	8.0%
Meta-Content Work	4.2%
Undifferentiated	14.6%

Direct editing work is NOT even the majority of acknowledged work

# Implications: Reflecting work

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# Implications: Reflecting work

---

- Reputation systems can incentivise desired behavior  
...must be grounded in what a community values



# Implications: Reflecting work

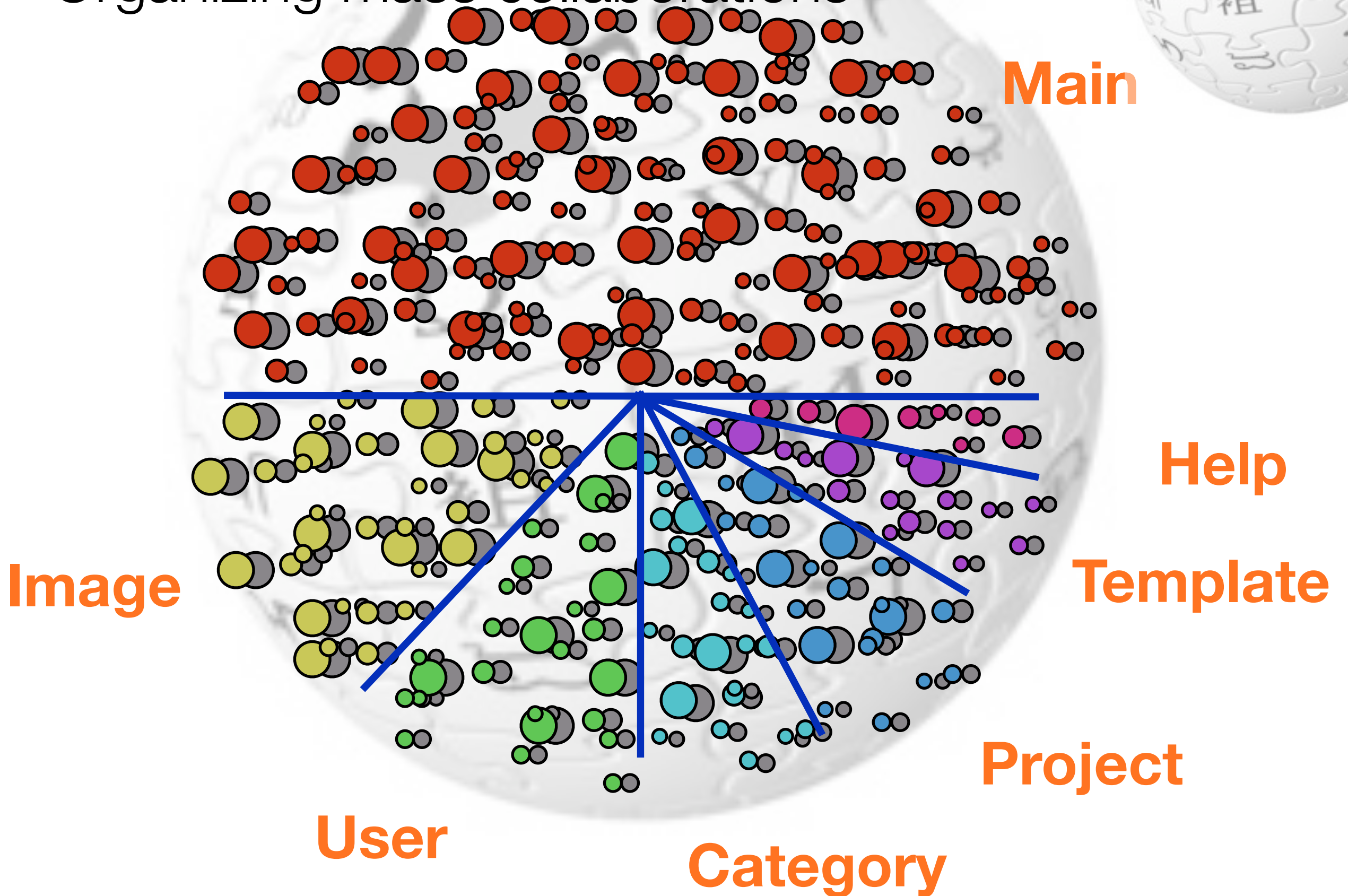
---



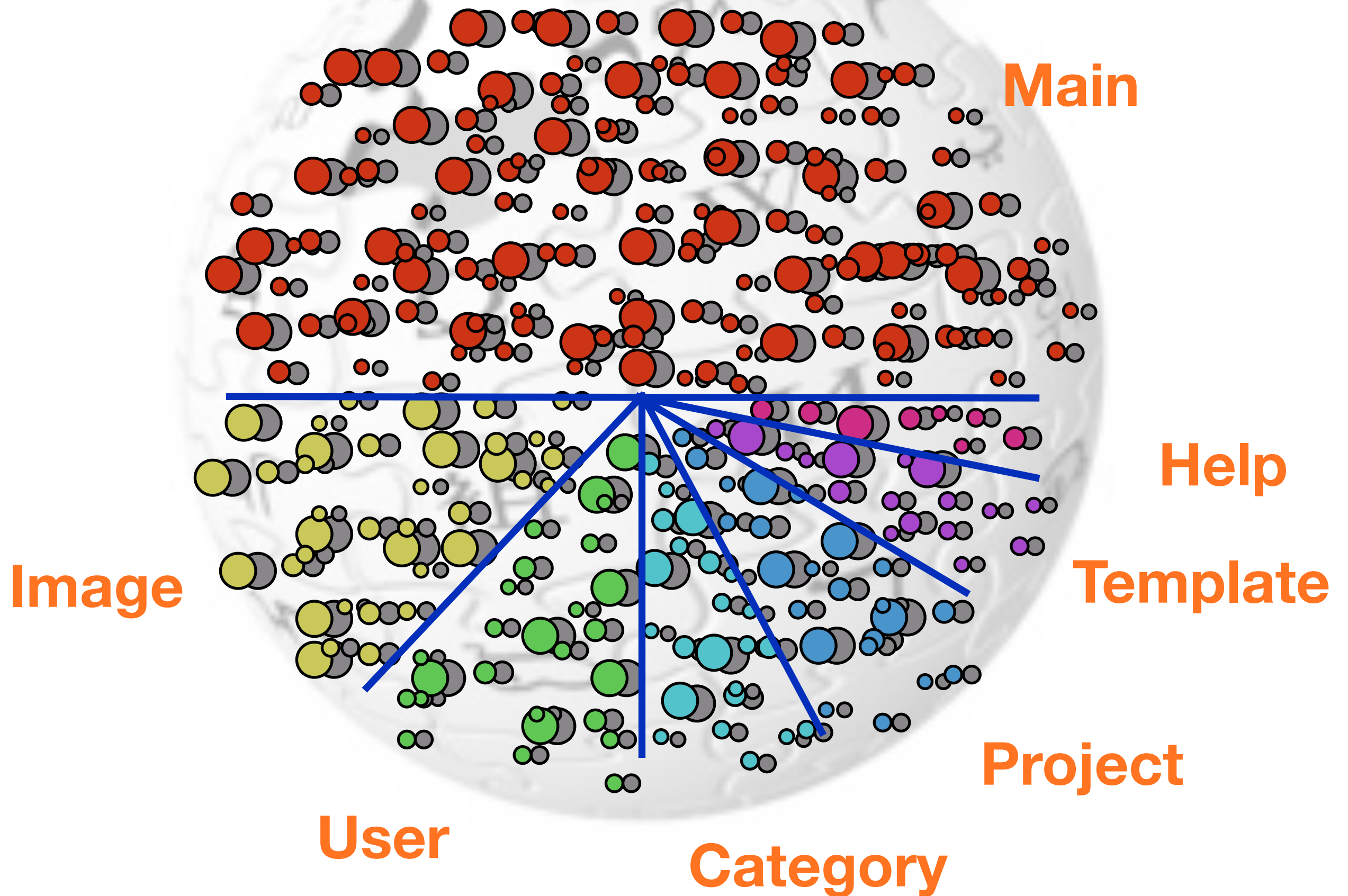
- Reputation systems can incentivise desired behavior
  - ...must be grounded in what a community values
- Need reputation *frameworks* for complex cooperative work
  - provide composable primitives for defining a reputation
  - collaborative negotiation of what constitutes a reputation
  - allow valuations of work to grow with the community



# Organizing mass collaborations



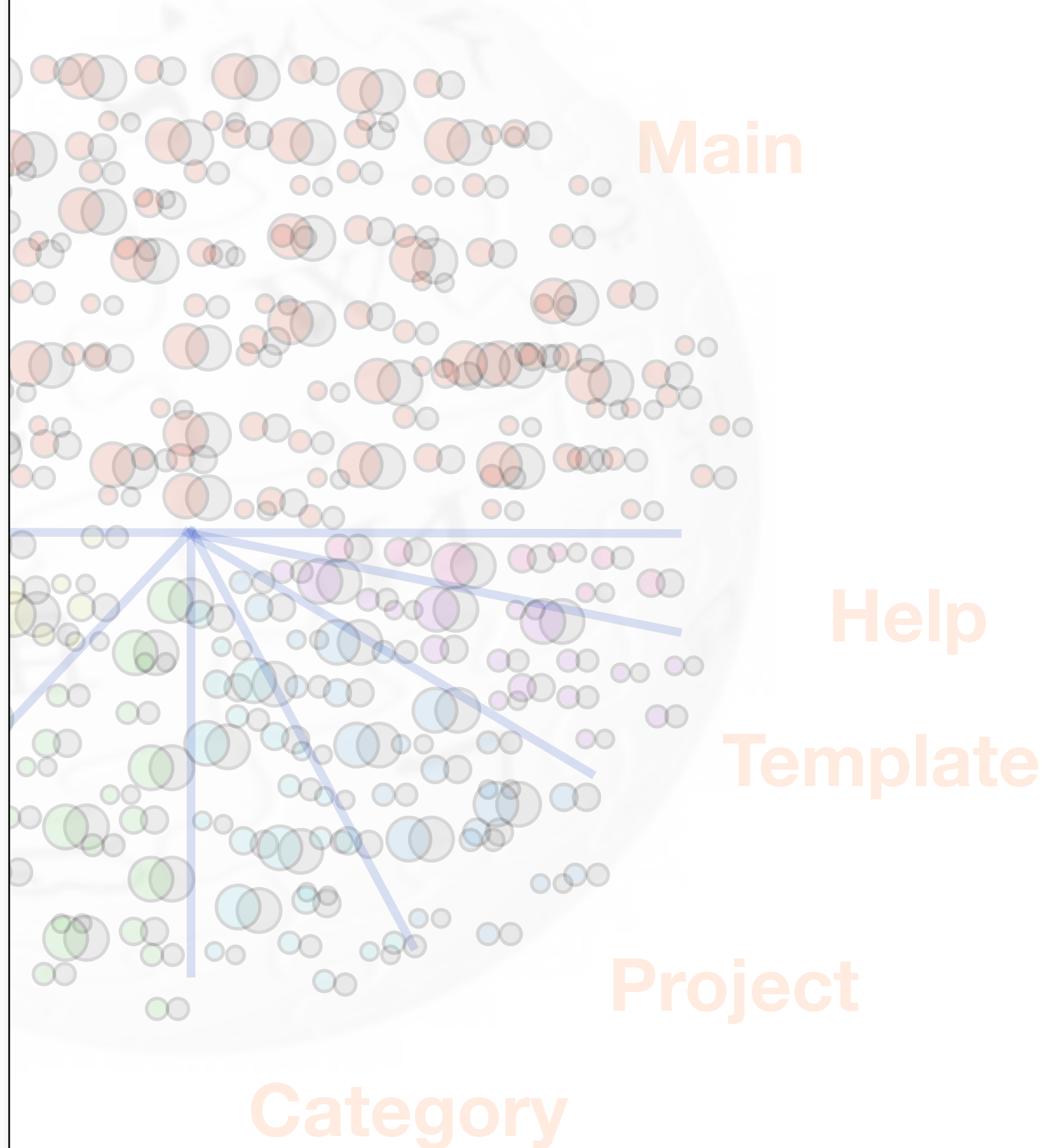
# Organizing mass collaborations



# Creating a template



I award you this barnstar for your outstanding work on the embryology template. Grouping many articles into an easily understood navigation pane ensures that all readers have access to the whole picture.





## Creating a template



I award you this barnstar for your outstanding work on the embryology template. Grouping many articles into an easily understood navigation pane ensures that all readers have access to the whole picture.

## Applying a template



**I User:Nichalp/sg** award Bhadani for his persistent effort to tag all Indian cities with the wikiproject Indian cities tag. July 8, 2005 08:14 (UTC)

# Outline

---

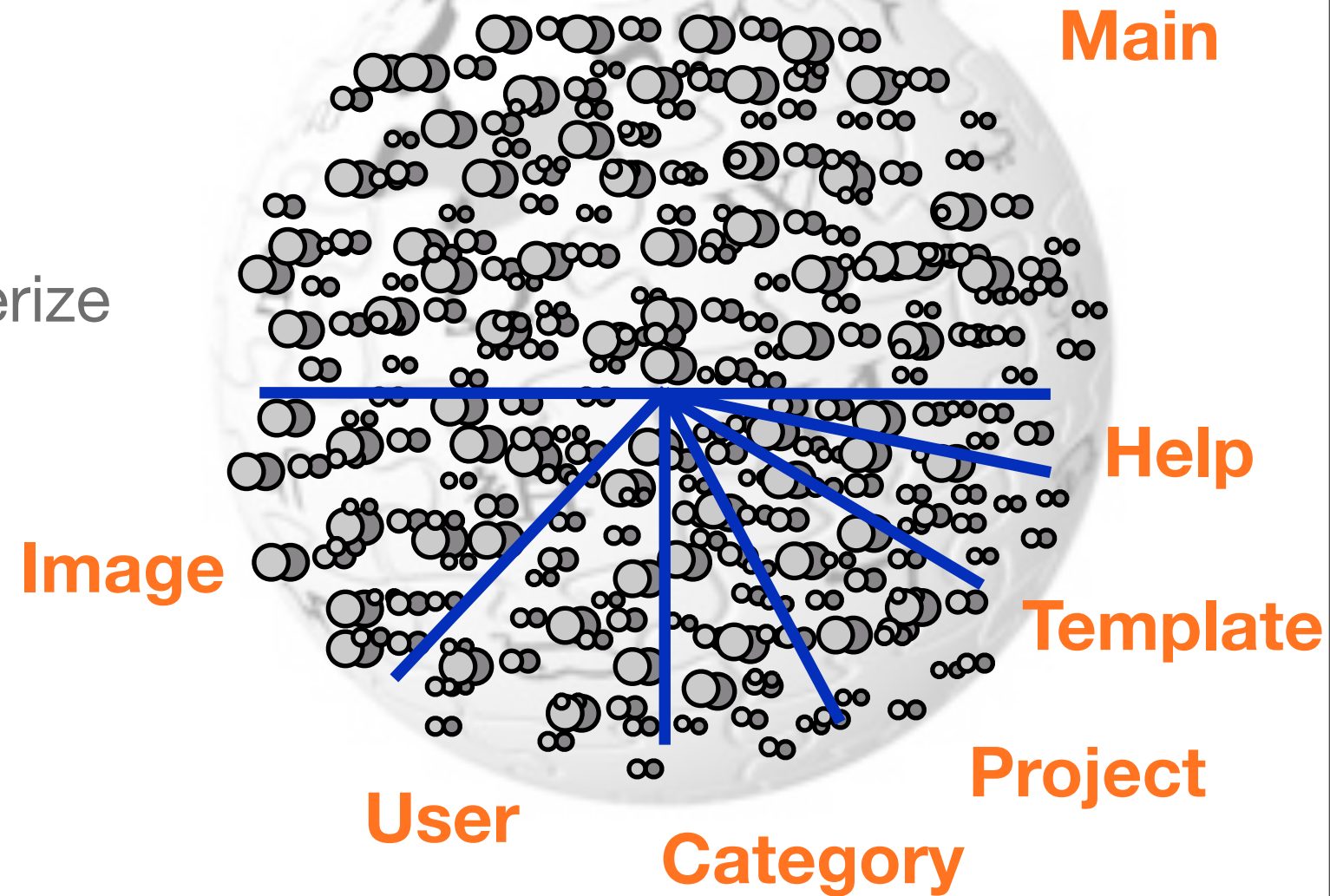


- ✓ Study motivation
- ✓ Wikipedia anatomy
- ✓ Methodology
- ✓ Range of Work
- **Articulating WikiWork: The Class / Instance Pattern**



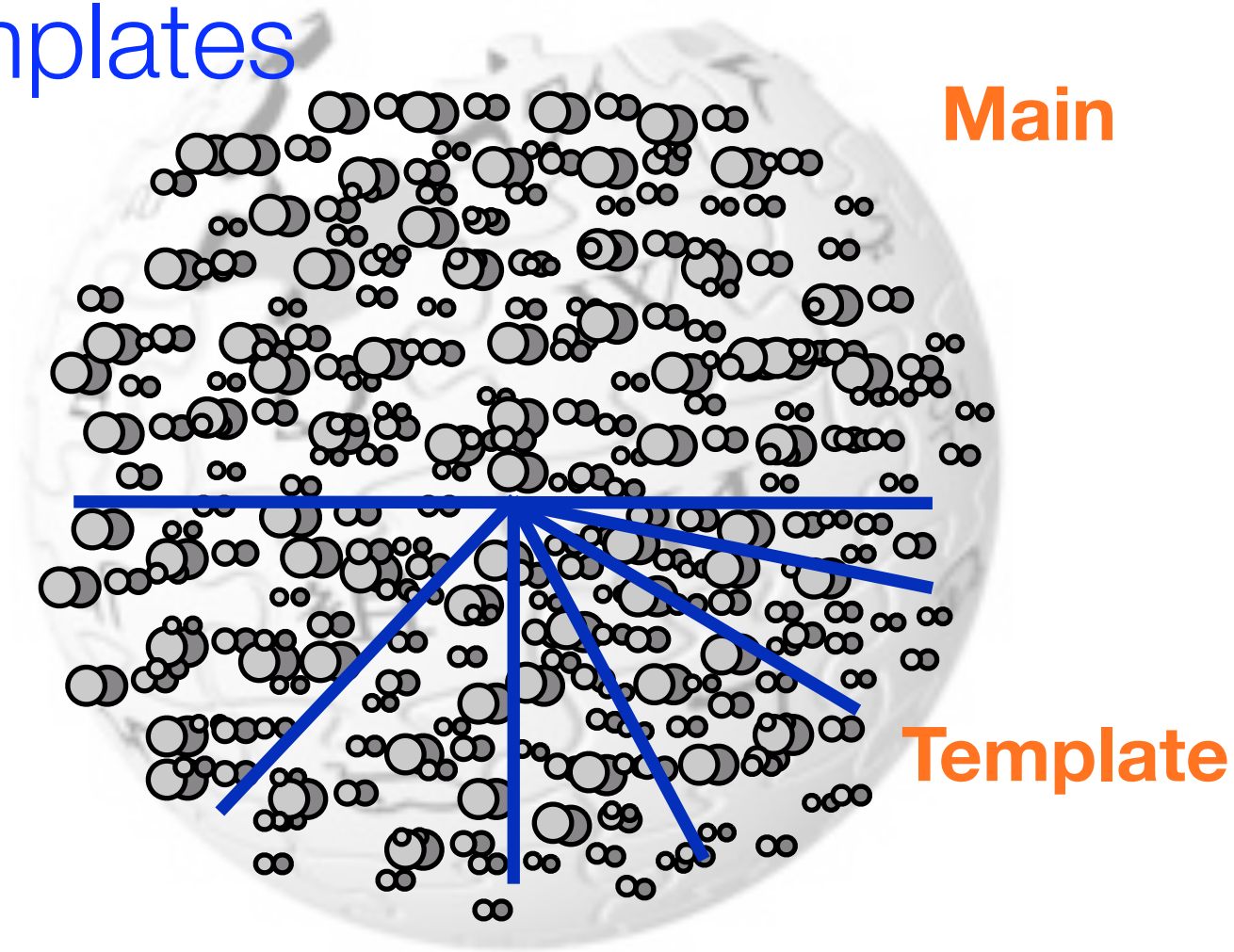
# Class/instance pattern

- editors create work *classes* that structure activity
- editors *instantiate* and parameterize classes to do work



# Class/instance pattern : templates

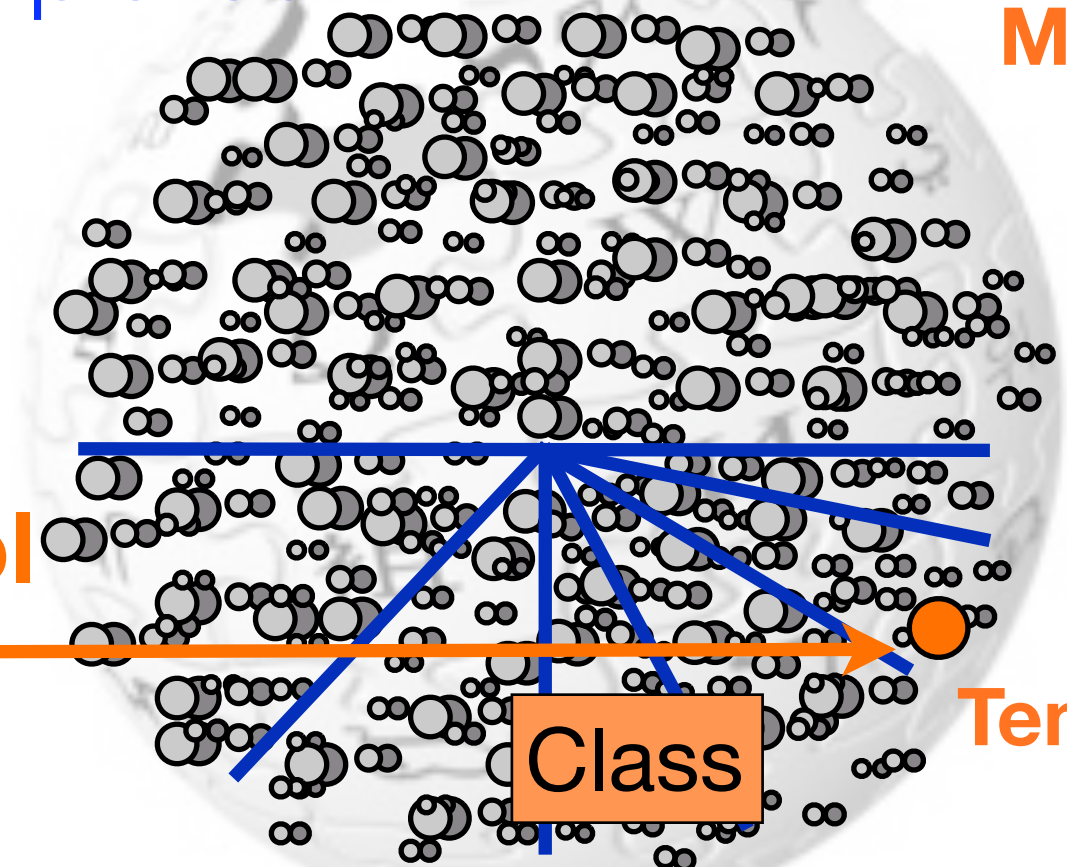
- editors create work *classes* that structure activity
- editors *instantiate* and parameterize classes to do work



# Class/instance pattern : templates

- editors create work *classes* that structure activity
- editors *instantiate* and parameterize classes to do work

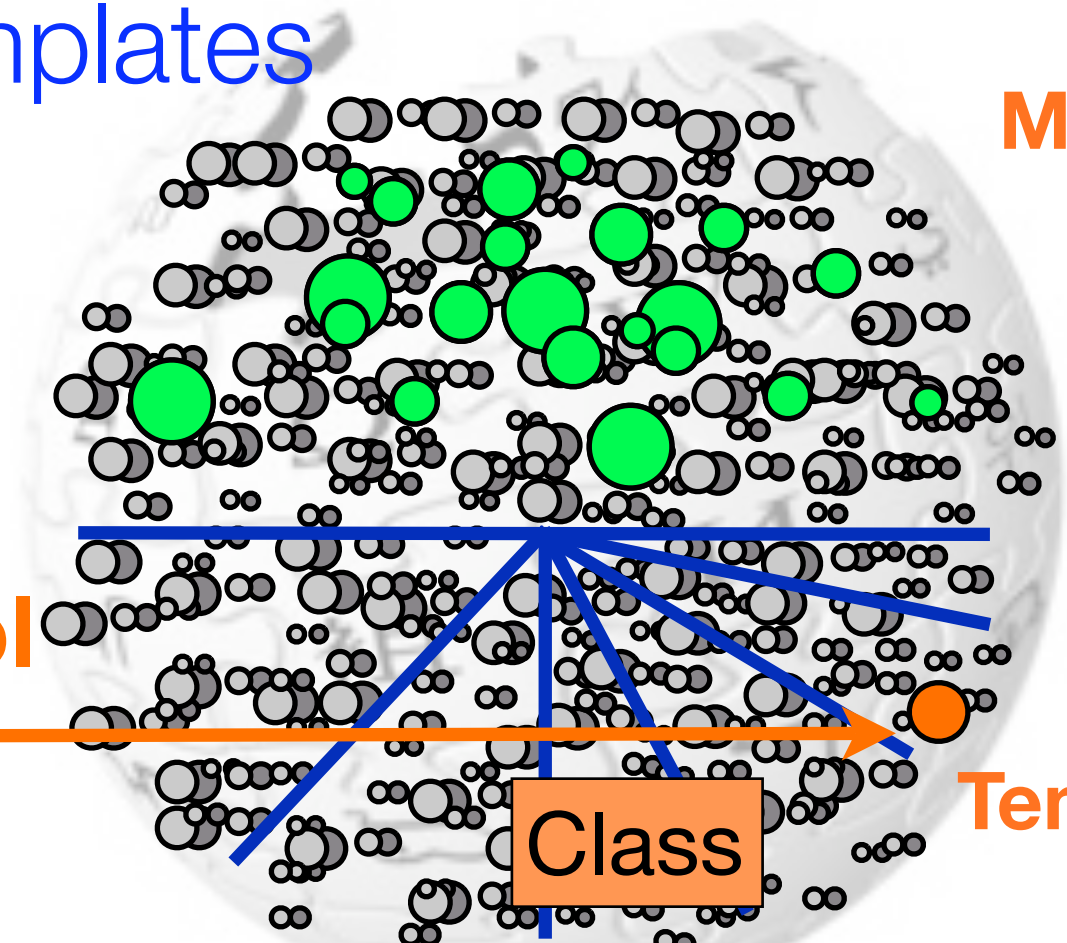
Secondary school  
template



```
{{Infobox Secondary school
| name           =
| native_name   =
| logo           =
| motto         =
| established    =
| type          =
| category_label =
| category       =
| gender_label  =
| gender        =
| affiliations  =
| affiliation    =
| president     =
| chairman_label =
| chairman      =
```

# Class/instance pattern : templates

- editors create work *classes* that structure activity
- editors *instantiate* and parameterize classes to do work



Main

Secondary school  
template

Instances

Class

Template

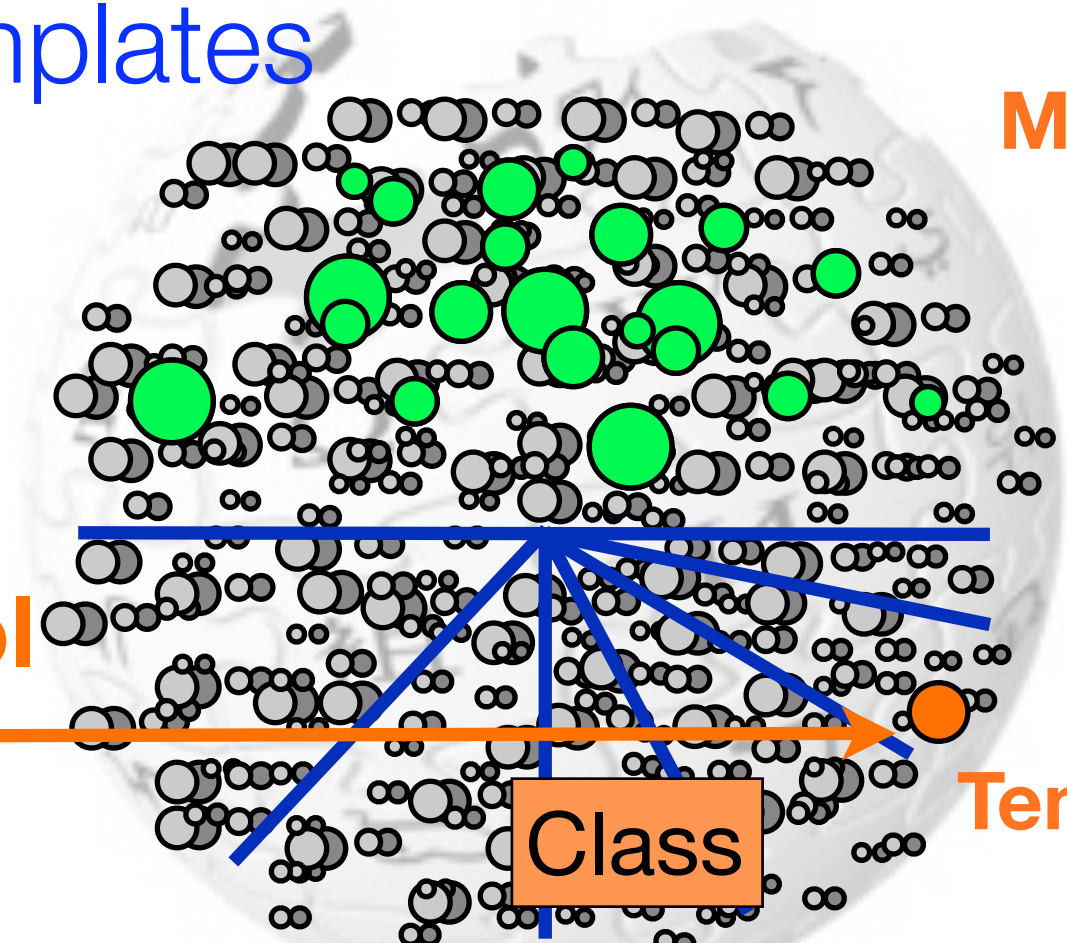
<b>Motto</b>	The world's leading teaching
<b>Motto</b>	"Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination" --John Dewey
<b>Established</b>	1938
<b>Type</b>	Public (Selective Magnet) Secondary
<b>Principal</b>	Valerie J. Reidy
<b>Founder</b>	Morris Meister
<b>Faculty</b>	139 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Grades</b>	9-12

```
{{Infobox Secondary school
| name           =
| native_name    =
| logo           =
| motto          =
| established     =
| type           =
| category_label =
| category       =
| gender_label   =
| gender         =
| affiliations   =
| affiliation     =
| president      =
| chairman_label =
| chairman       =
```



# Class/instance pattern : templates

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



Secondary school  
template

Instances

Class

Template

**Motto** The world's leading teaching

**Motto** "Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of imagination" --John Dewey

**Established** 1938

**Type** Public (Selective Magnet)  
Secondary

**Principal** Valerie J. Reidy

**Founder** Morris Meister

**Faculty** 139<sup>[1]</sup>

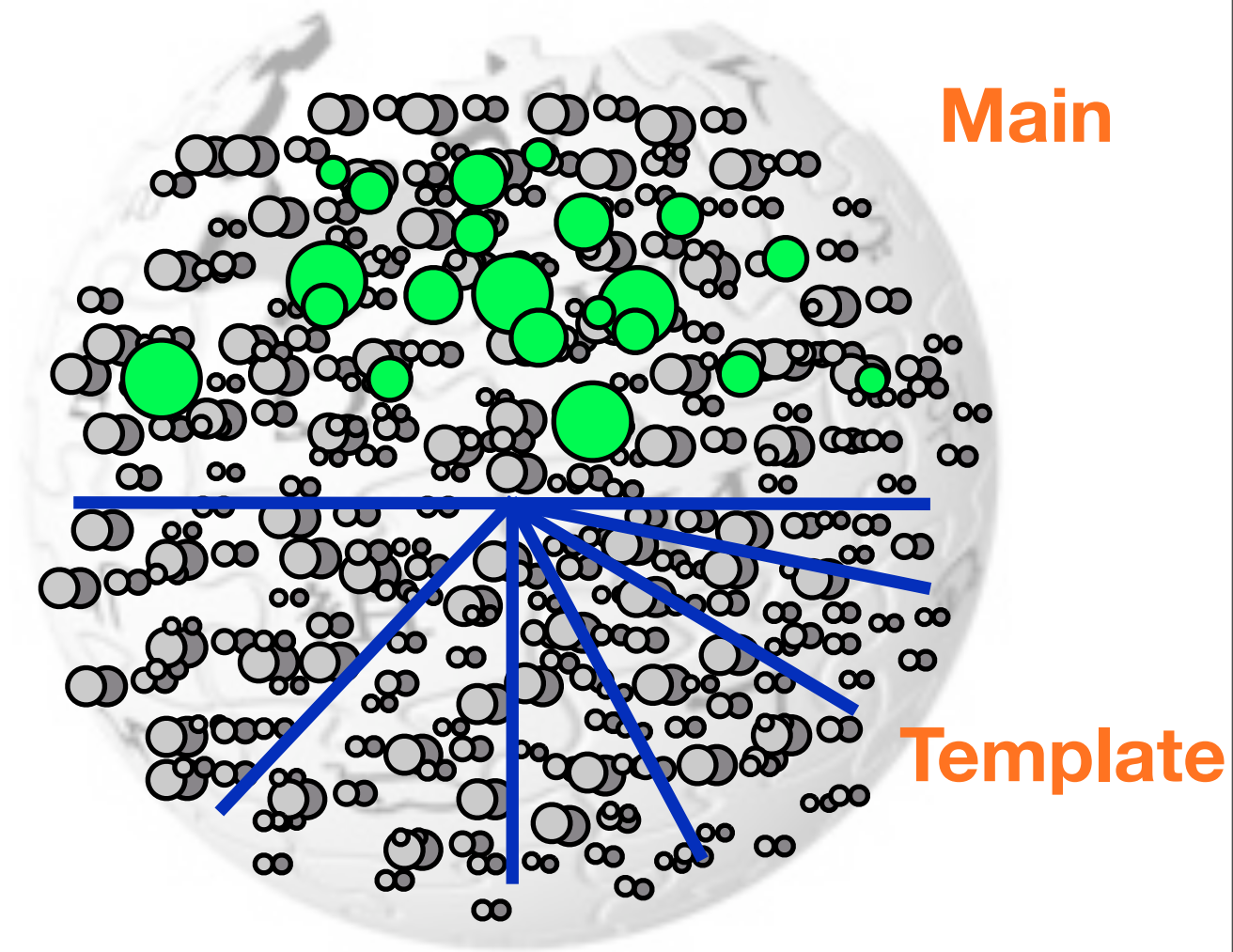
**Grades** 9-12

```
{{Infobox Secondary school
| name           =
| native_name   =
| logo           =
| motto         =
| established    =
| type          =
| category_label =
| category       =
| gender_label  =
| gender        =
| affiliations  =
| affiliation    =
| president     =
| chairman_label =
| chairman      =
```



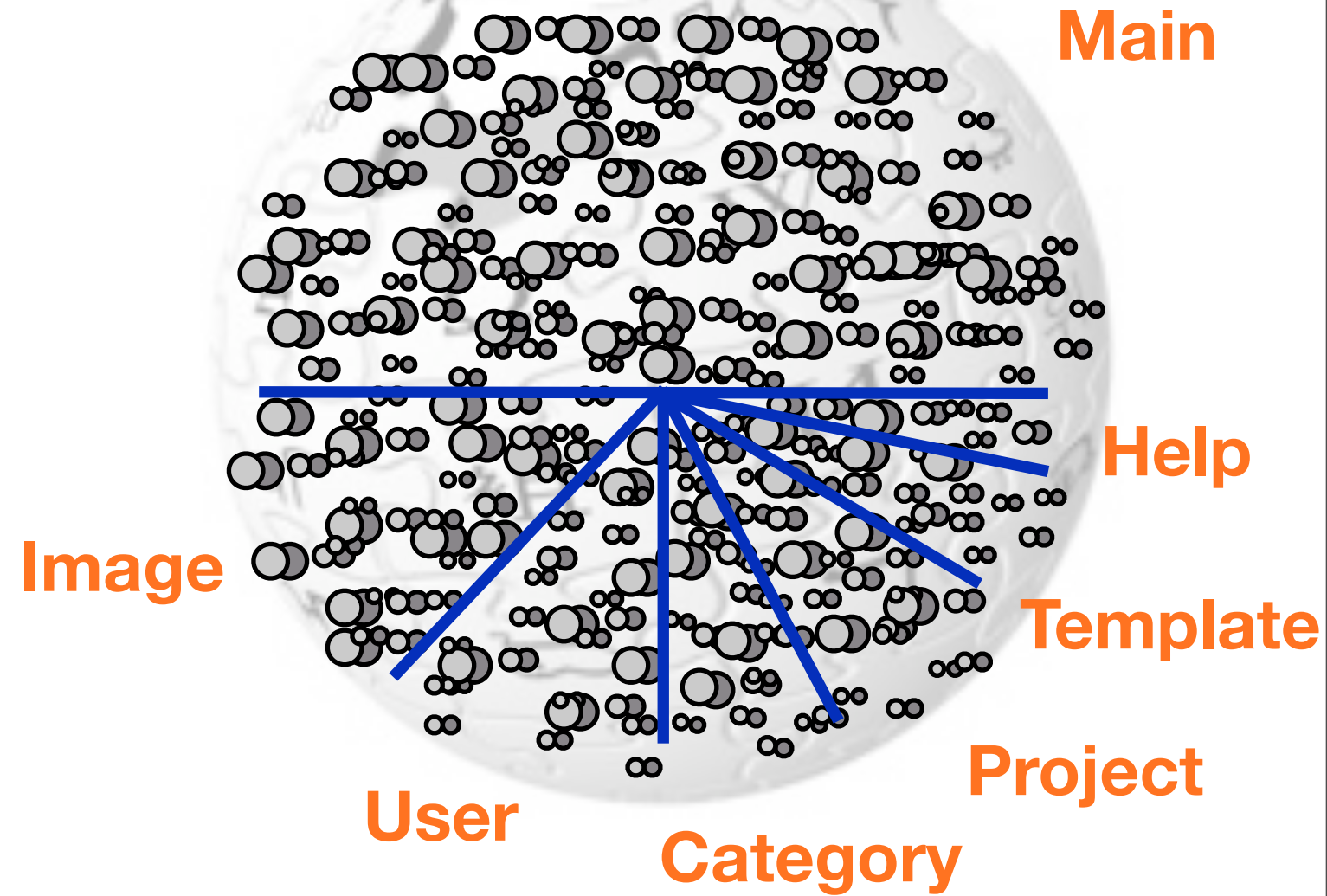
# Class/instance pattern

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



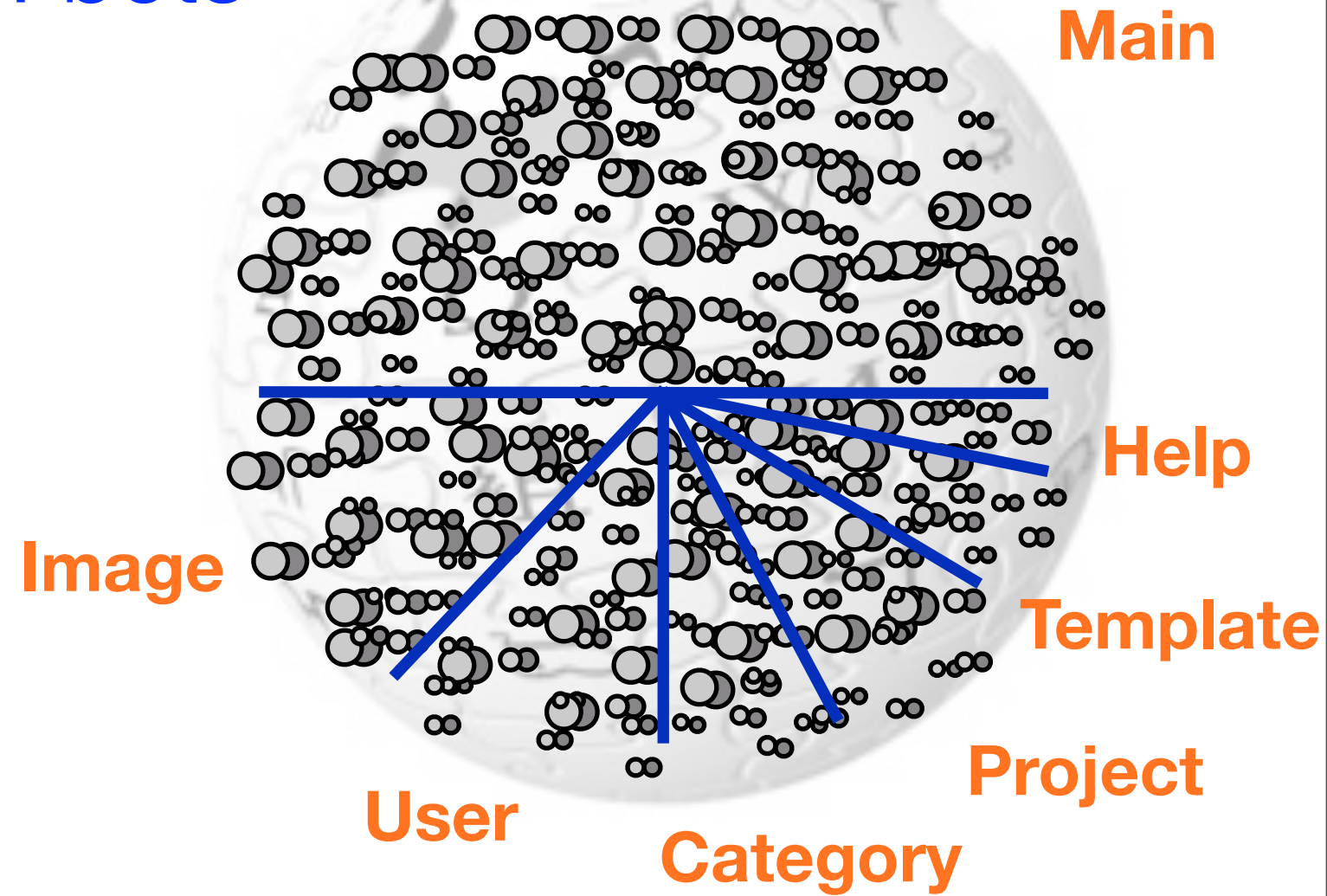
# Class/instance pattern

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



# Class/instance pattern : bots

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



# Class/instance pattern : bots

- a class scopes work at its instantiation

## Bots

- software agents that perform repetitive tasks
- programmed and run by editors
- **a bot's code is a static articulation of work**

Main

lp

template

Project

User

Category

# Class/instance pattern : bots

- a class scopes work at its instantiation

## Bots

- software agents that perform repetitive tasks
- programmed and run by editors
- **a bot's code is a static articulation of work**

Cluebot



User

Class

```
include 'cluebot3.config.php';  
include '../wikibot.classes.php'
```

```
function splitintosections ($data) {  
    preg_match('/^(.*)((?<=<br><br><br>)<br><br><br>)/', $data, $header);  
    echo $data."\\n\\n\\n";  
    print_r($header);  
    $d = $header[2];  
    $header = $header[1];  
    preg_match_all('/(?<=<br><br><br>)<br><br><br>', $data, $ret);  
    $ret[1] = $header;
```



# Class/instance pattern : bots

- a class scopes work at its instantiation

## Bots

- software agents that perform repetitive tasks
- programmed and run by editors
- **a bot's code is a static articulation of work**

Cluebot

User

Class

Instances

■ 04:46, 1 September 2008 ([hist](#)) ([diff](#)) m Us

■ 04:13, 29 October 2008 ([hist](#)) ([diff](#)) m

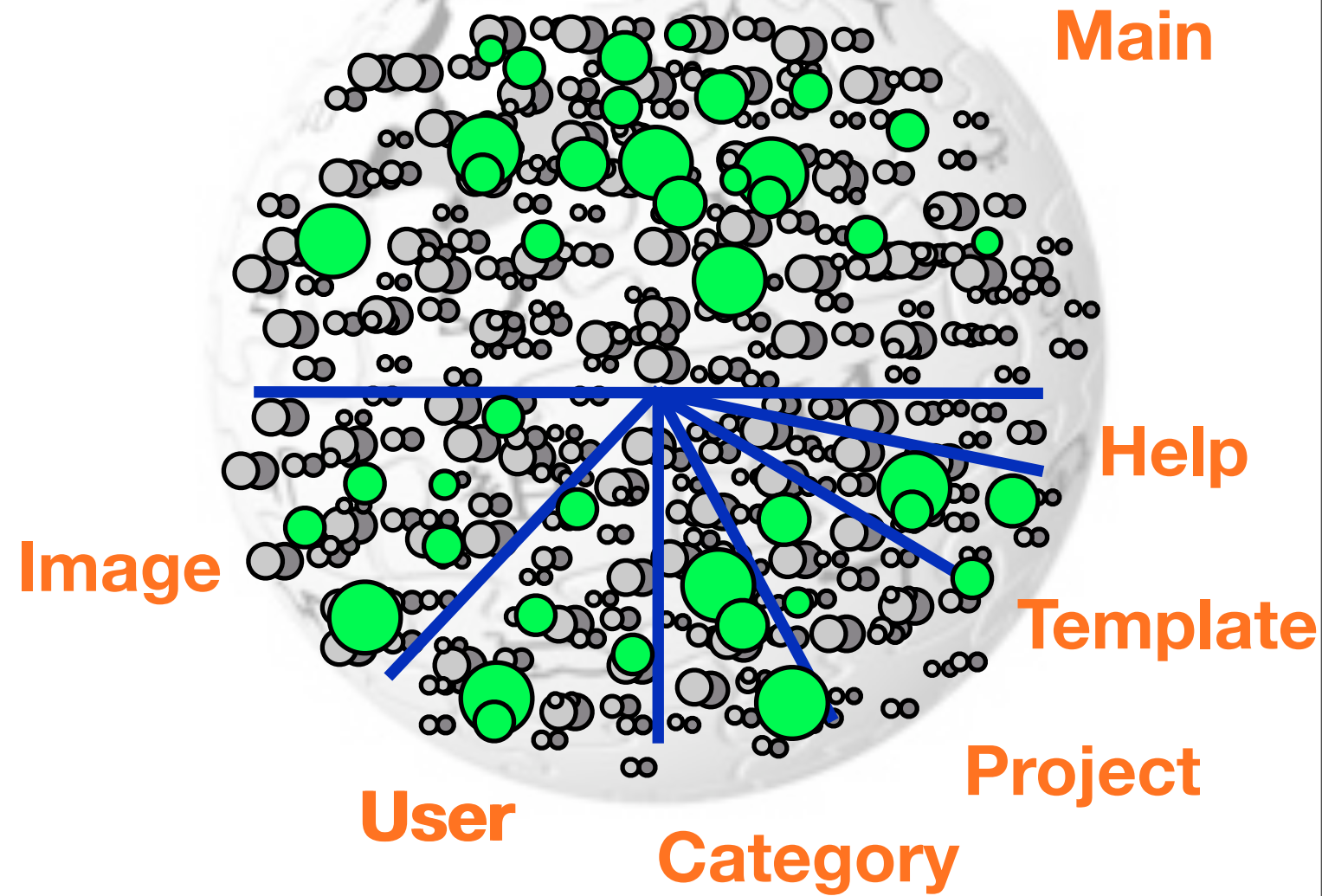
[User talk:Elucidate](#) (*Archiving 1 discussion to [User talk:Elucidate/Archives/2008/October](#). (BOT)*) ([top](#))

```
include 'cluebot3.config.php';  
include '../wikibot.classes.php'
```

```
function splitintosections ($d  
    preg_match('/^(.*)((?<  
    echo $data."\n\n\n";  
    print_r($header);  
    $d = $header[2];  
    $header = $header[1];  
    preg_match_all('/(?<=  
    $ret = array();  
    $ret[1] = $header;
```

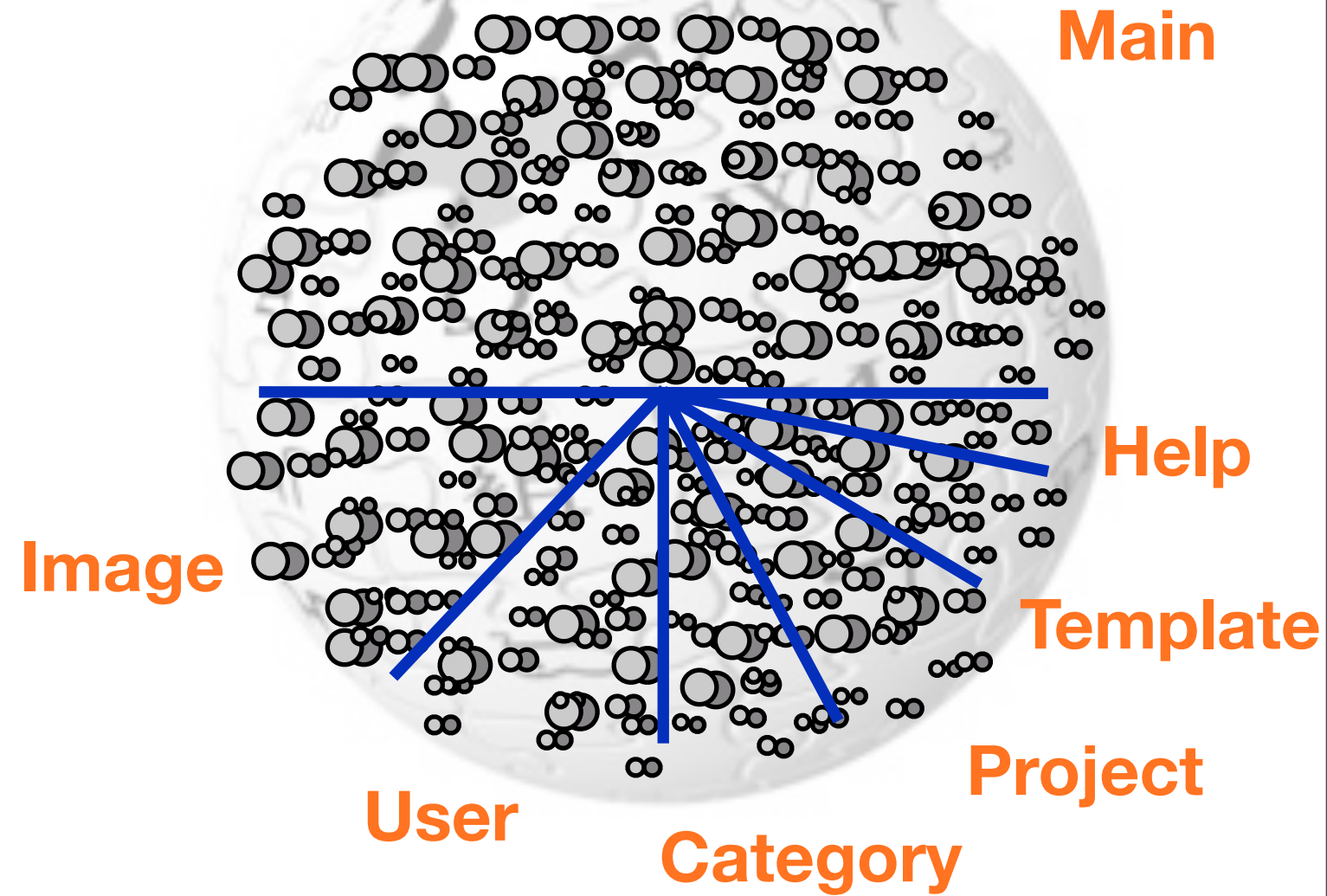
# Class/instance pattern

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



# Class/instance pattern

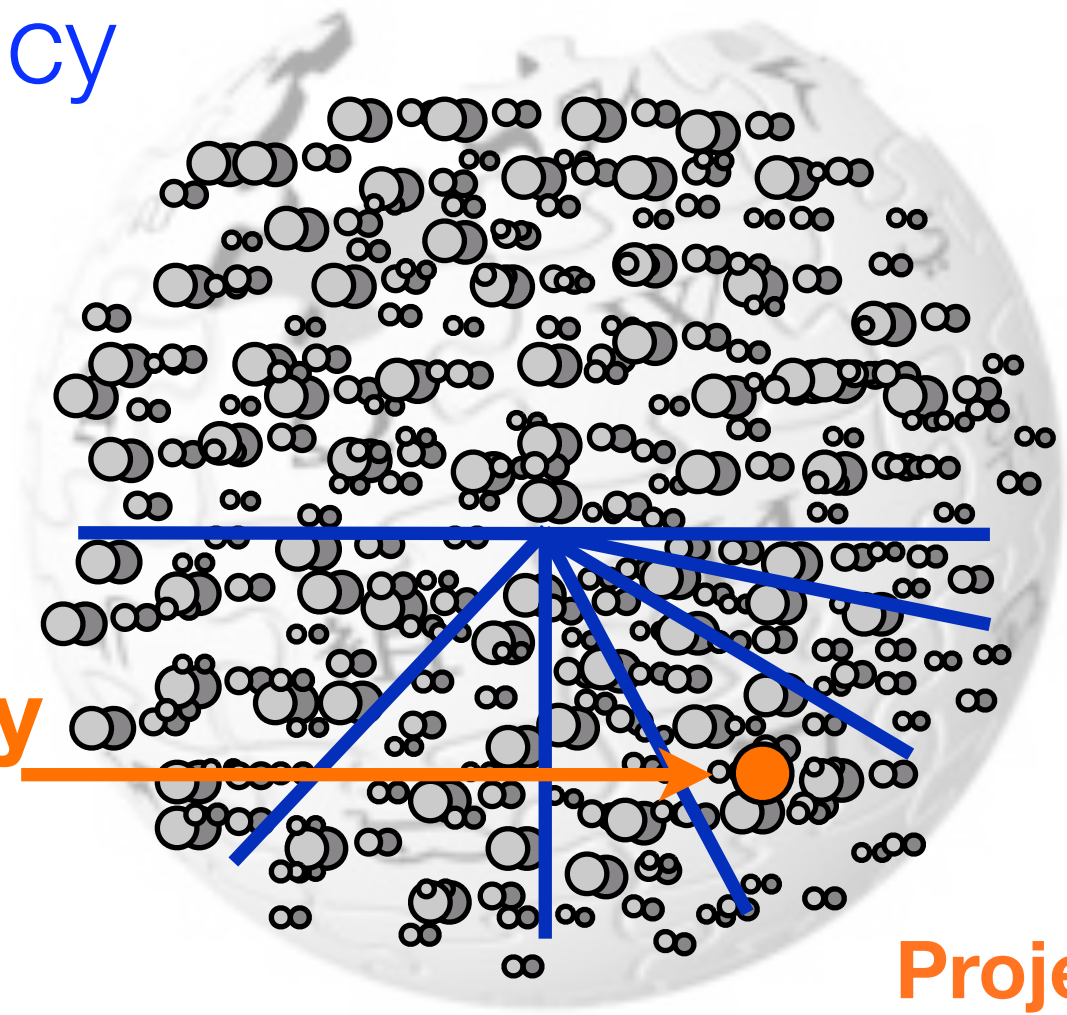
- a class scopes work at its instantiation



# Class/instance pattern: **policy**

- a class scopes work at its instantiation

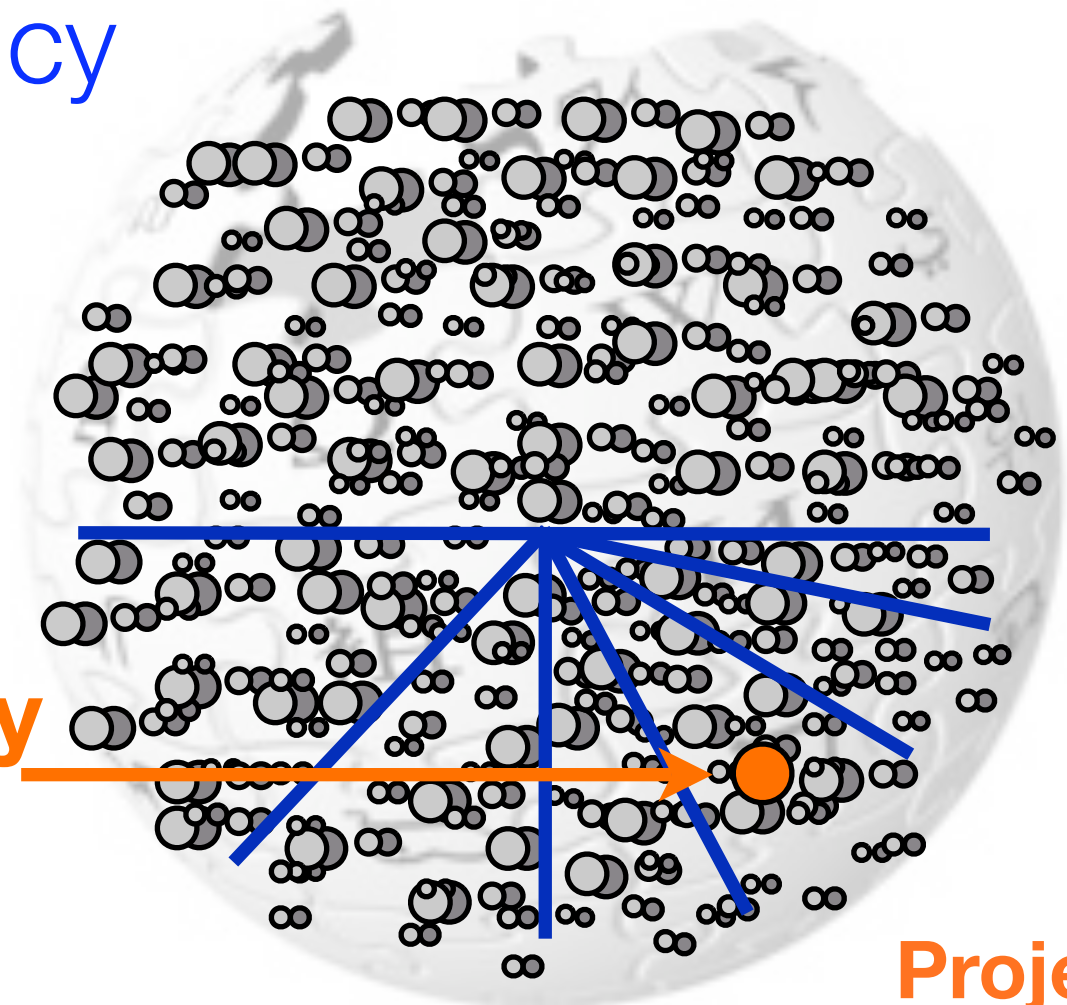
**Verifiability  
policy**



**Project**

# Class/instance pattern: **policy**

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



**Verifiability  
policy**

**Class**

**Project**

[project page](#) | [discussion](#) | [edit this page](#) | [history](#) | [move](#) | [watch](#)

## Wikipedia:Verifiability

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*"WP:V" redirects here. For information on vandalism, see [Wikipedia:Vandalism](#).*

**This page documents an [official policy](#) on the **English Wikipedia**. It has wide acceptance among editors and is considered a standard that all users should follow.**

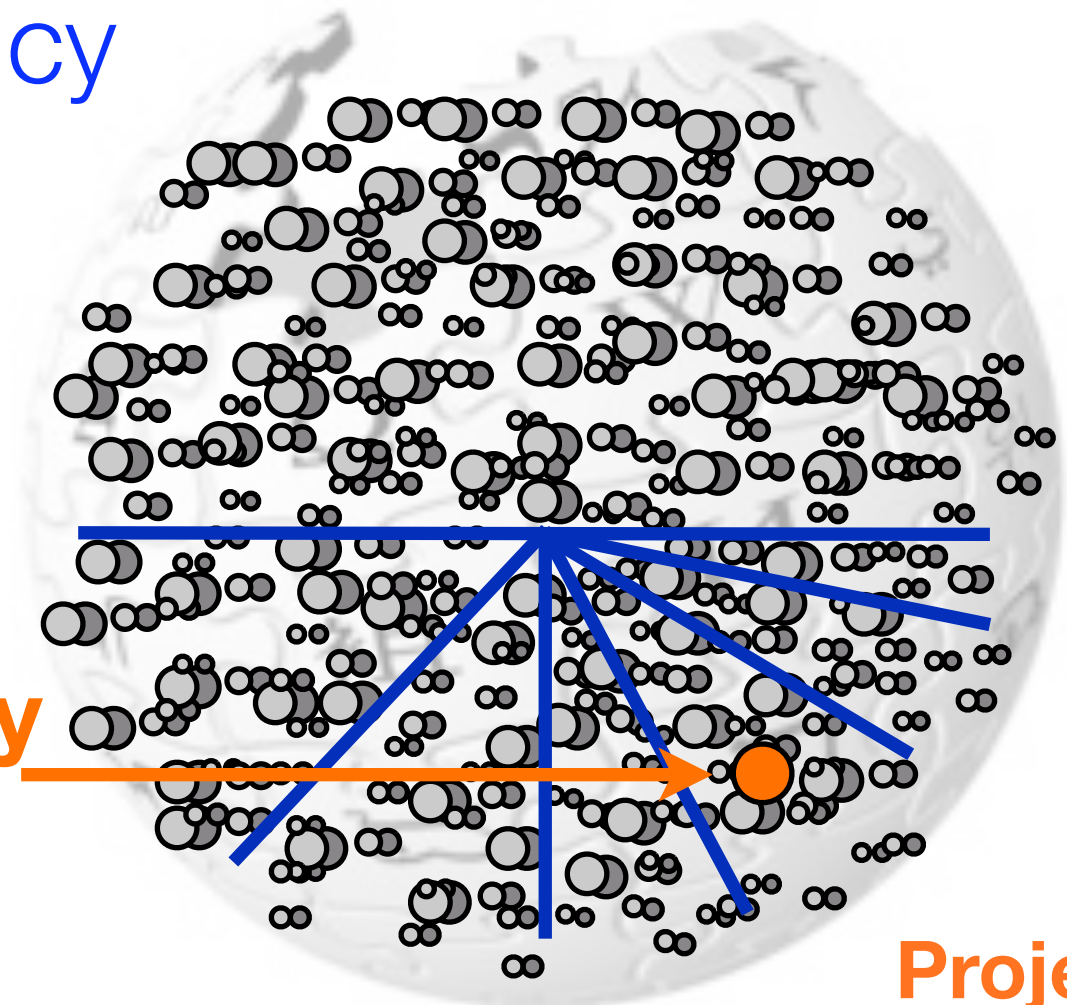
✓ When editing this page, please ensure that your revision reflects [consensus](#). When in doubt, discuss first on the [talk page](#).

**This page in a nutshell:** Material challenged or likely to be challenged, and all quotations



# Class/instance pattern: **policy**

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



**Verifiability  
policy**


**Class**

**Project**


[project page](#) | [discussion](#) | [edit this page](#) | [history](#) | [move](#) | [watch](#)

## Wikipedia:Verifiability

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



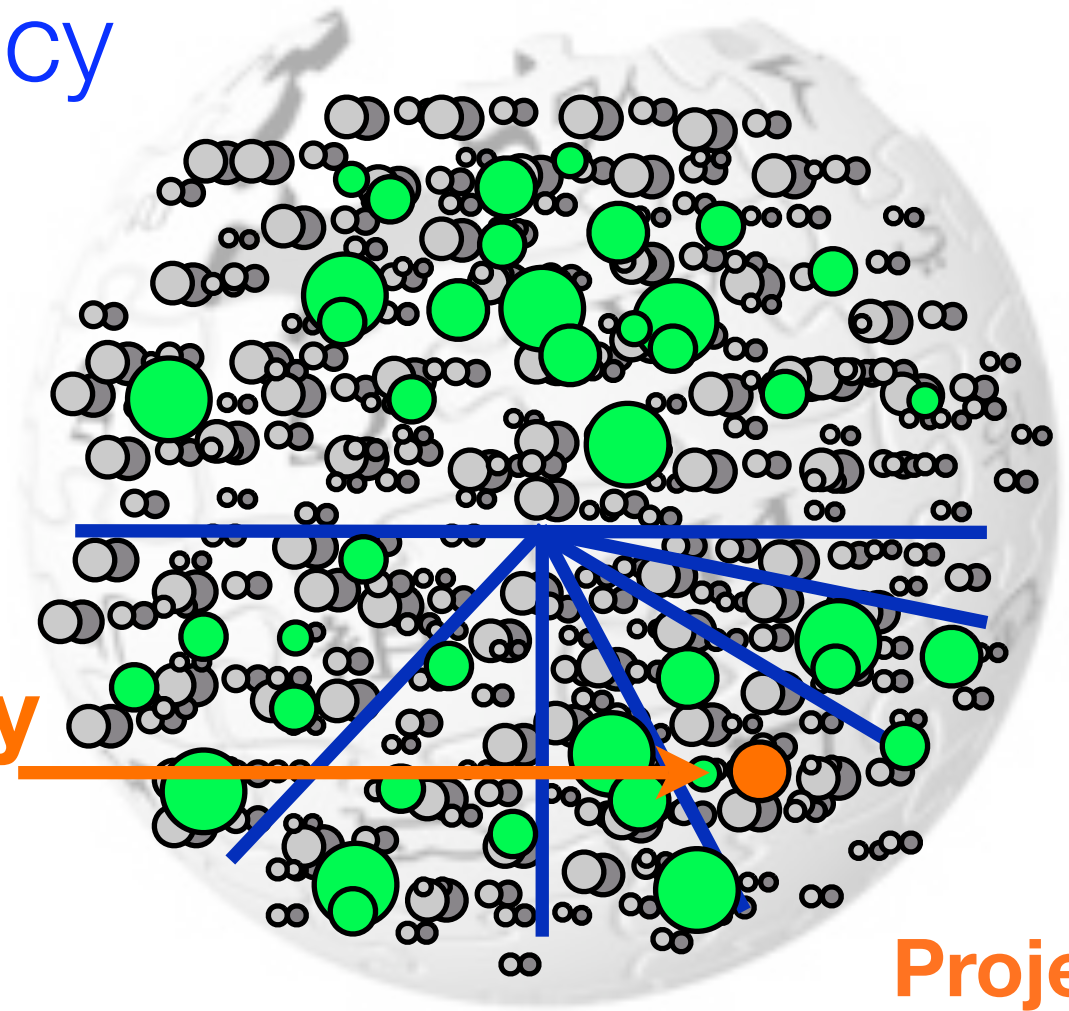
**This page in a nutshell:** Material challenged or likely to be challenged, and all quotations, must be attributed to a reliable, published source.



**This page in a nutshell:** Material challenged or likely to be challenged, and all quotations

# Class/instance pattern: policy

- a class scopes work at its instantiation



Instances

Per Wikipedia policy, Wales' statement cannot be used as a source. See [Wikipedia:Verifiability](#), "Articles and posts on Wikipedia may not be used as sources." This certainly includes statements in user space. [Quatloo \(talk\) 00:34, 3](#)

Marc Also, as a reminder, wikipedia's [verifiability and reliable sources](#) policy indicates that claims in Wikipedia require exceptionally high-quality reliable sources; if such sources are not available, the material should not be included." The claim of a so-called consensus

warmi **Removed two sentences that cannot be verified**

overw

'conse

directl

[Diff](#) . Essentially, the problem is that racism, discrimination, and eugenics

and **not** out of evolution. While it is true that social darwinism has cultural



# Class/instance pattern: [policy](#)

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We can adhere to the letter of the policy and pretend that they aren't separated, even though there is clear evidence that they are. Or, we can recognize that sentence as being a measure to prevent people from posting [Instances](#) then sourcing it elsewhere, and accept the man's statements about his life as definitive. I prefer the latter. -[Amarkov moo!](#) 00:45, 3 March 2008 (UTC)

There is no need to pretend anything. We can adhere to the policy by not addressing the matter, since it is not important and doesn't need to be in the encyclopedia. If it were important, there'd be a [WP:RS](#). There is not. [Quatloo \(talk\)](#) 01:38, 3 March 2008 (UTC)

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# Class/instance pattern: policy

- a class scopes work  
instantiation

## Policies

- provide a common language and strategies of action [1]
- widely referenced in discussions [2,3,4]
- hyperlinking fosters close loop between self-governance and authoring activities [3]
- policies articulate future deliberative work

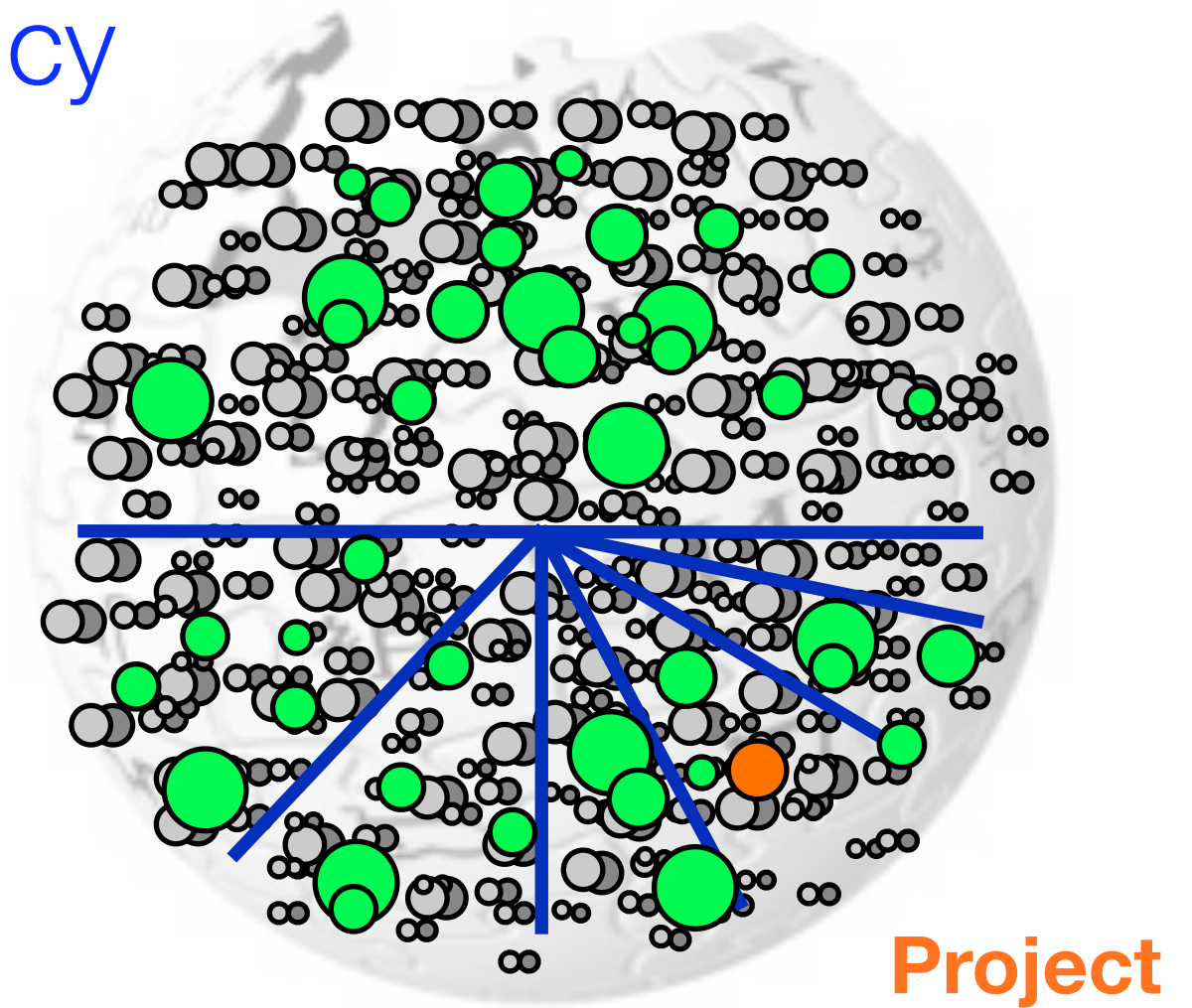
**Project**

- [1] Viegas et al. HICSS '07
- [2] Kriplean et al. GROUP '07
- [3] Beschastnikh et al. ICWSM '08
- [4] Forte et al. HICSS '08



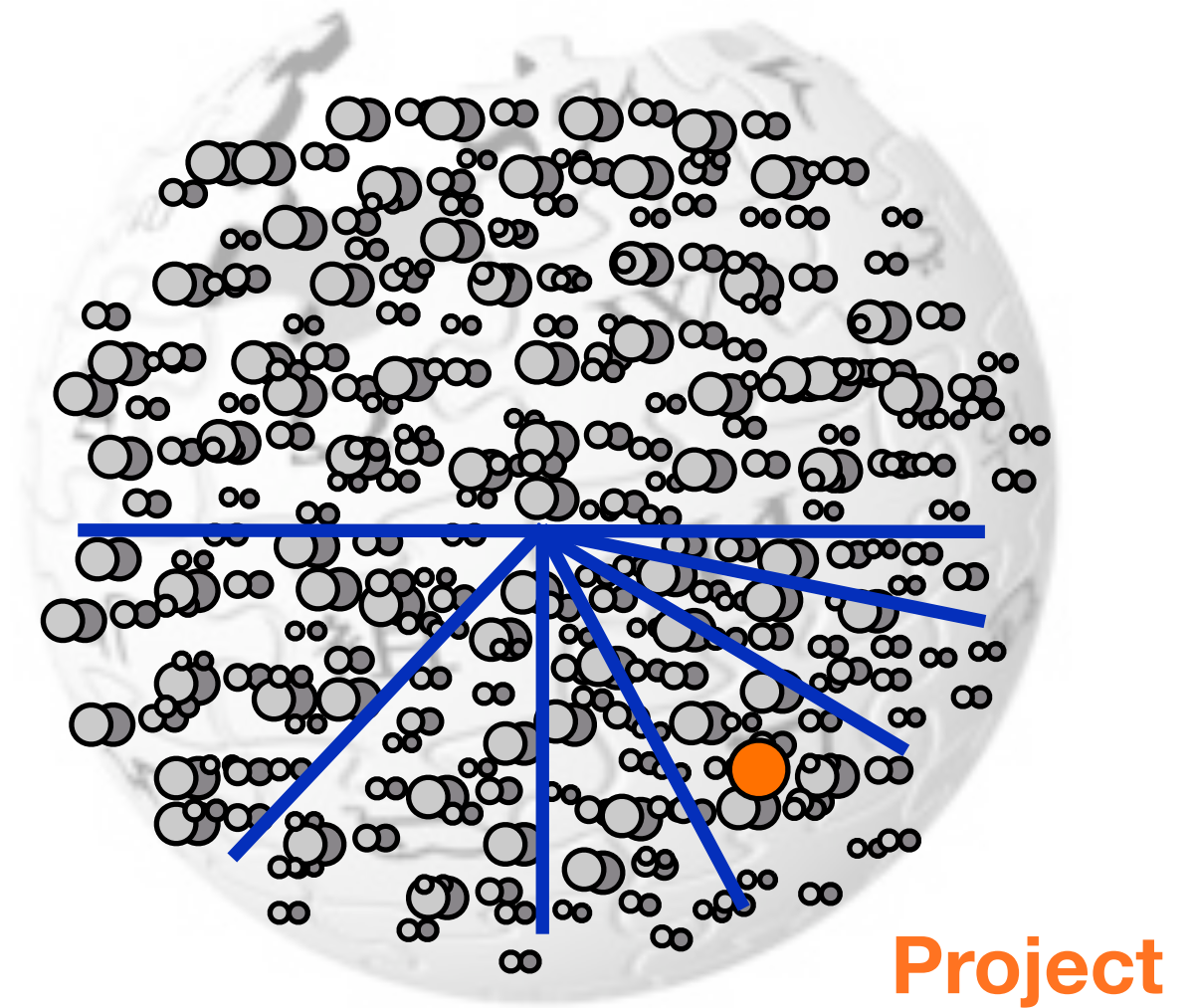
# Class/instance pattern: policy

- a class scopes work at its instantiation
- scopes consensus-seeking efforts into distinct spaces
- scale participation while maintaining project coherence



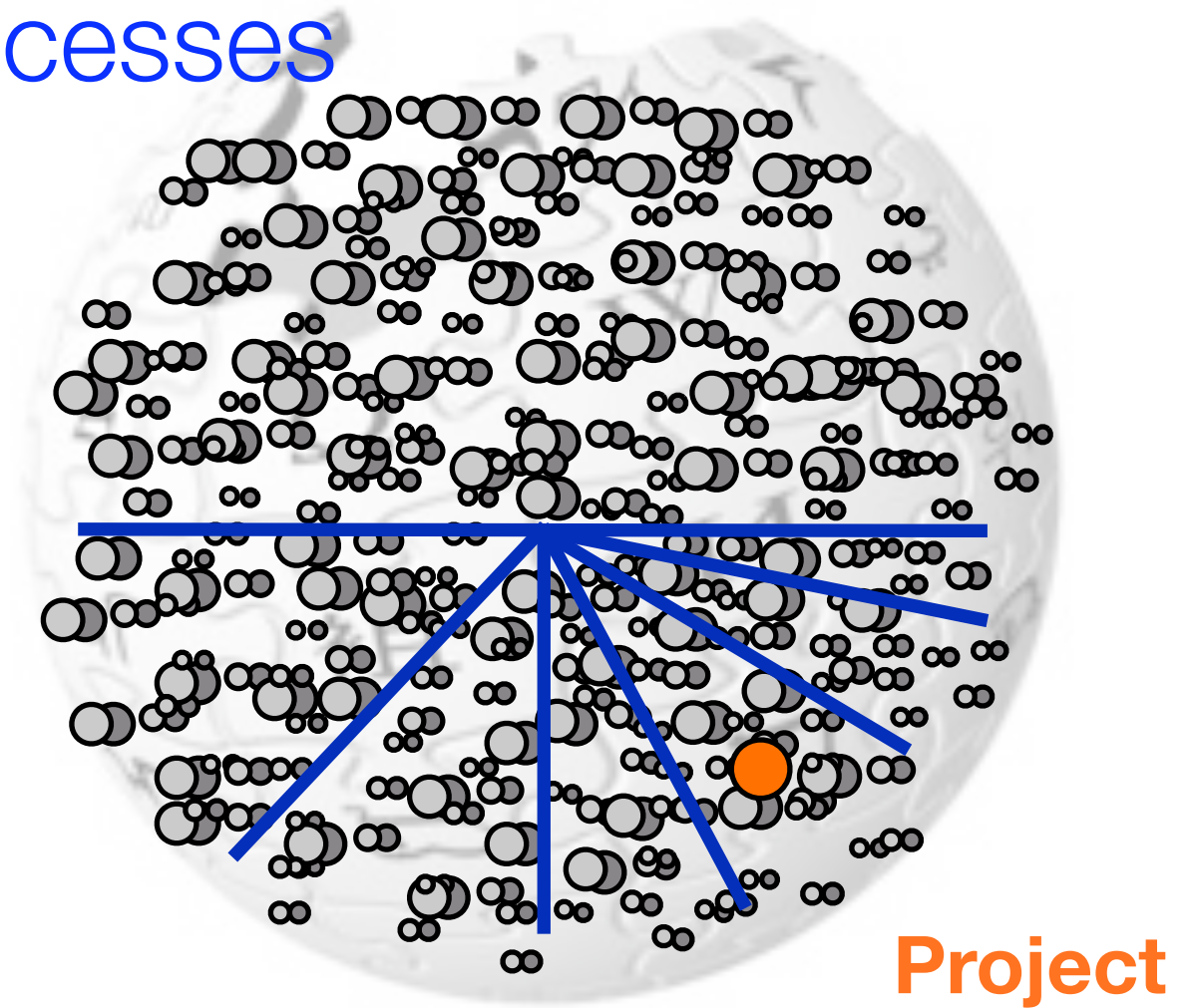
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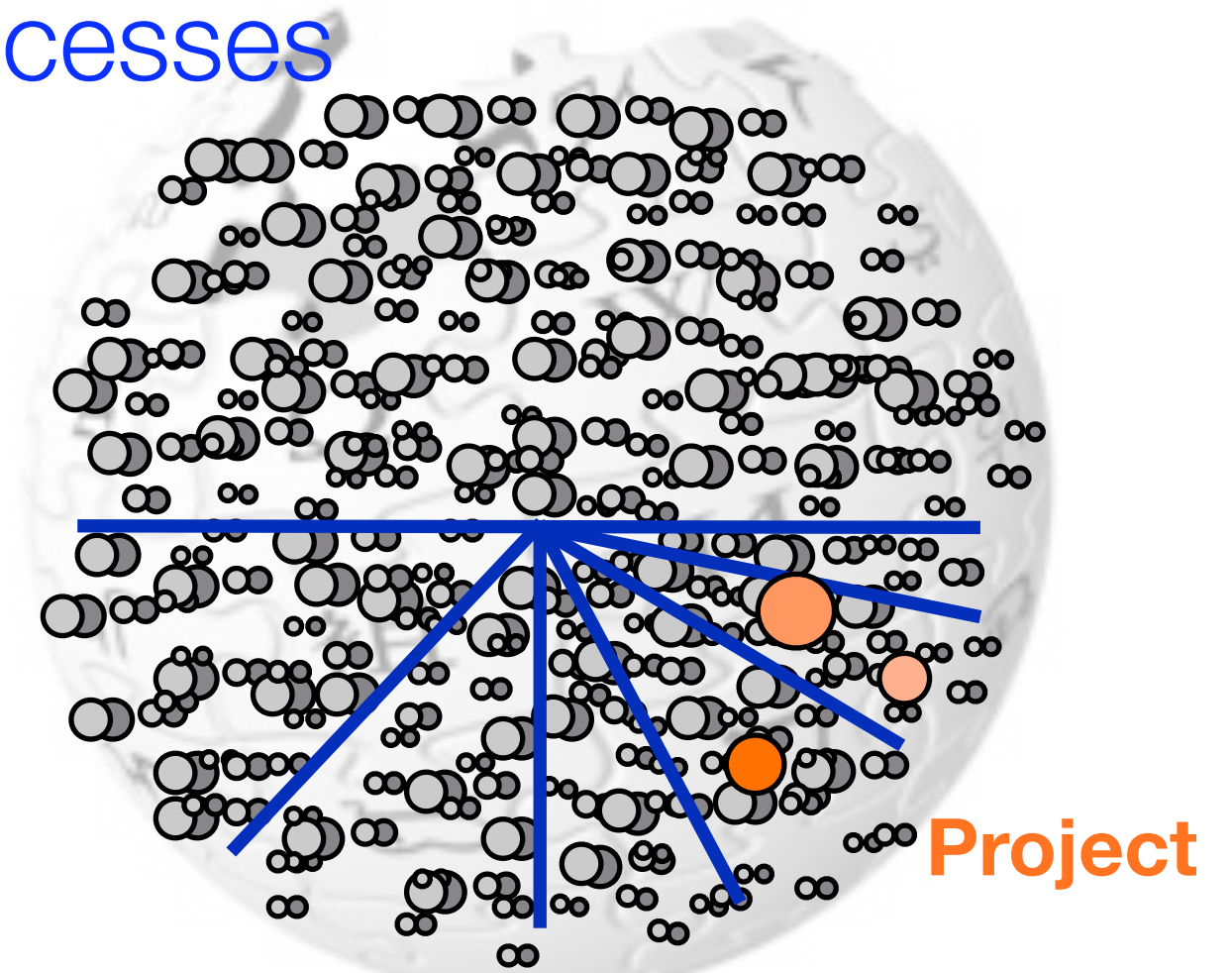
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## Page deletion processes

### Classes

### Judgement

Speedy Delete

“Obvious”

Proposed Deletion

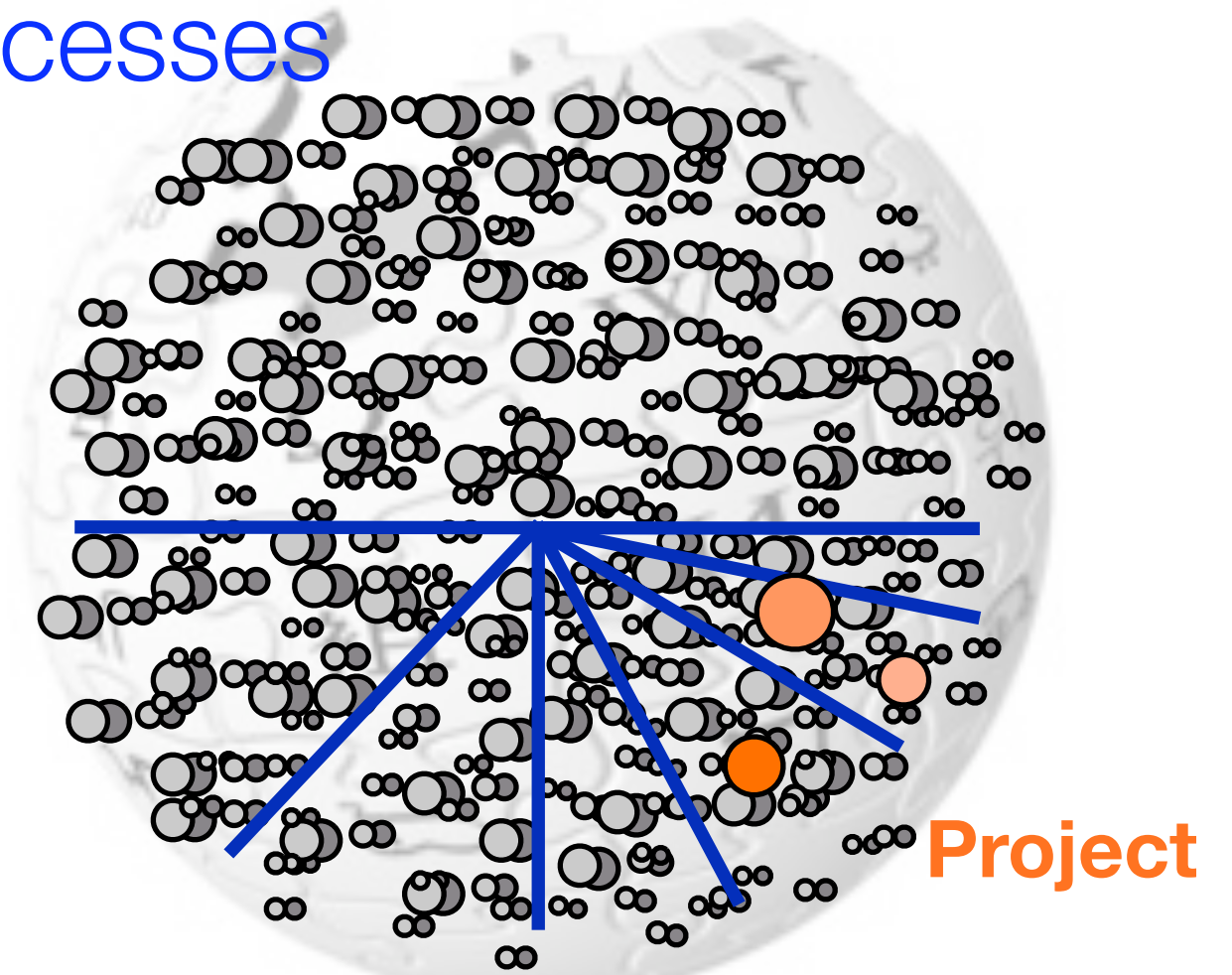
Deletion Discussion

Ambiguous



# Class/instance pattern : processes

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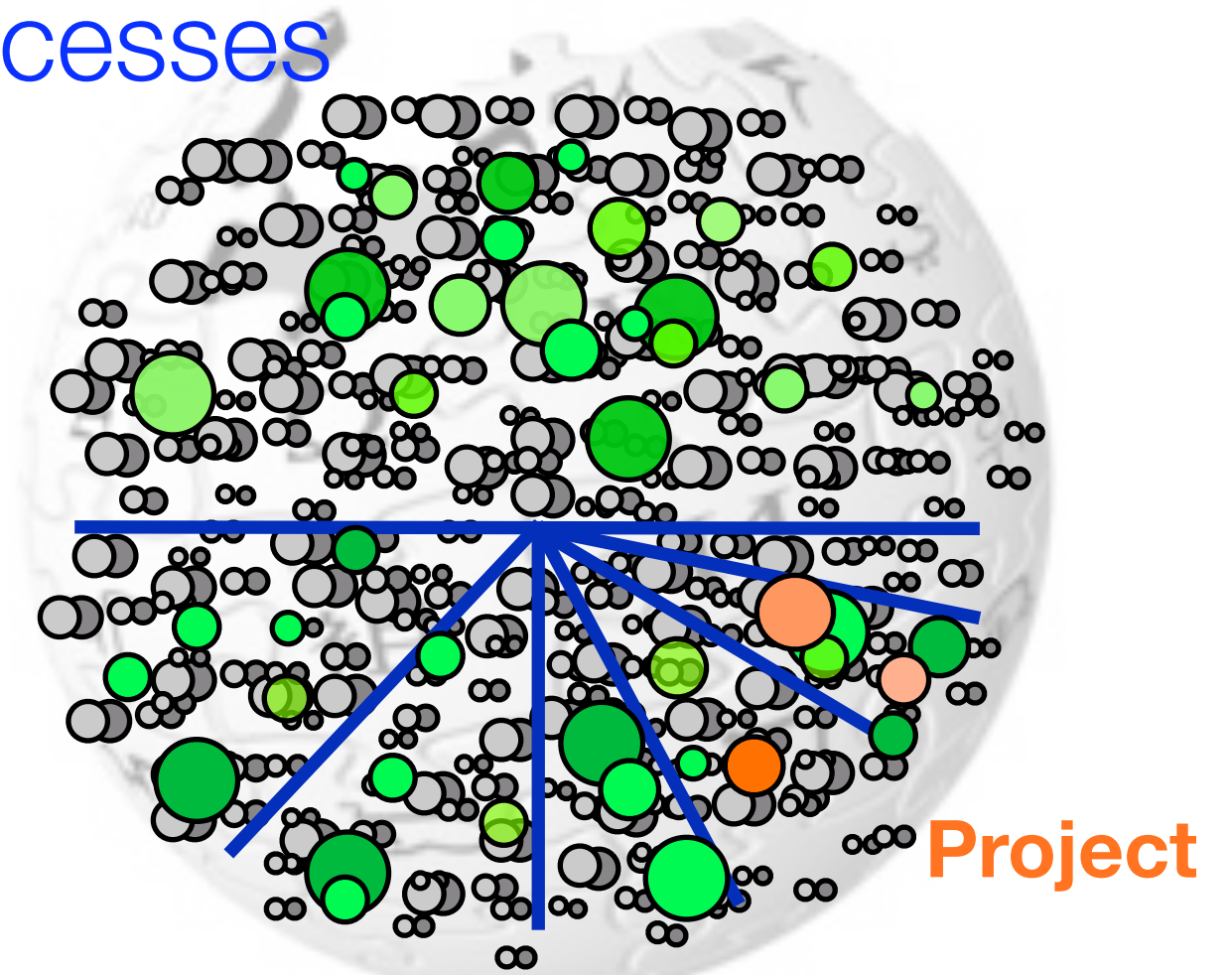
## Page deletion processes

	<u>Protocol</u>	<u>Classes</u>	<u>Judgement</u>
<b>Uni-lateral</b>	Admin can delete without discussion	Speedy Delete	↑ “Obvious”
	Admin can delete if nobody objects after 5 days	Proposed Deletion	
<b>Arduous deliberation</b>	Discussion for 5+ days	Deletion Discussion	↓ Ambiguous



# Class/instance pattern : processes

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## Page deletion processes

### Instances

`{ { db-g11 } }`

`{ { subst:prod } }`

`{ { subst:afd1 } }`

### Classes

Speedy Delete

Proposed Deletion

Deletion Discussion

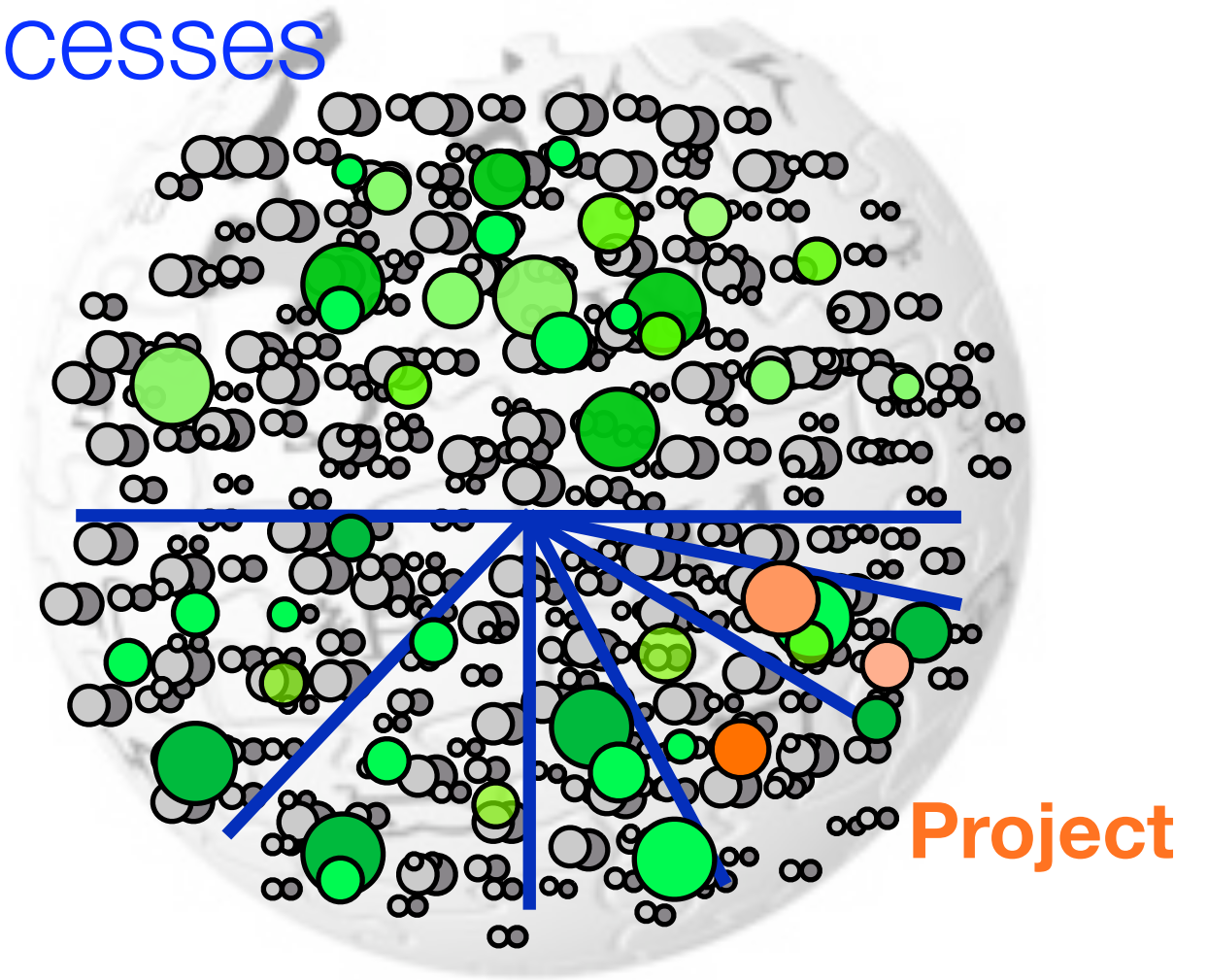
### Judgement

↑ "Obvious"

↓ Ambiguous

# Class/instance pattern : processes

- a class scopes work at its instantiation
- scopes consensus-seeking efforts into distinct spaces
- scale participation while maintaining project coherence
- attract appropriate editors for deliberation



# Implications: Class / Instance

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- Editors must recognize the appropriate class for a given situation
  - ...but its difficult to keep abreast of the large number of processes
- Need to support editors in classifying situations
- *Normative Indexing*
  - leverage instantiations of classes to build predictive model for identifying potentially relevant classes

# Conclusions

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# Conclusions

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- Collected and coded barnstars for valued work
  - direct editing work is NOT the majority of the valued work
  - instead, found a wide range of work
  - implications for reflecting work with composable reputation



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  - identified the class/instance pattern
  - gave four examples
  - implications for supporting editors in classifying situations

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  - page-level coordination vs. project-wide articulation work

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  - See our paper 4 more detailz and implications!!1**
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Travis Kriplean



David W. McDonald



Ivan Beschastnikh

**Questions?**