# In Search of Emerald City

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# Sample: Colours (now serious)

- red
- blue
- green
- yellow
- white
- black

## Sample: Languages

- English:
  - o the UK, the US, Canada, Australia, South Africa
- German:
  - Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg
- Spanish:
  - Spain, 10 countries of Latin America, Equatorial Guinea, the US
- Italian:
  - o Italy, Switzerland, San-Marino
- Russian:
  - Russia, Belarus, Transnistria (partially)
- Chinese:
  - China (PRC with Hong Kong and Macau), Taiwan, Singapore

## 青色 is for this colour...



### ...and for this one. Feel difference?



## And even for both of these!

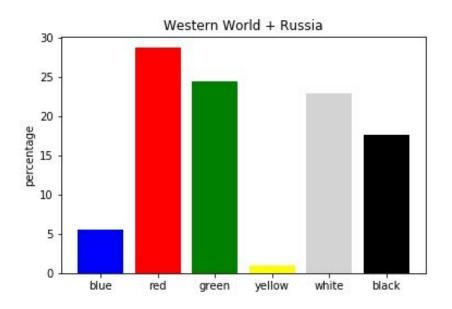


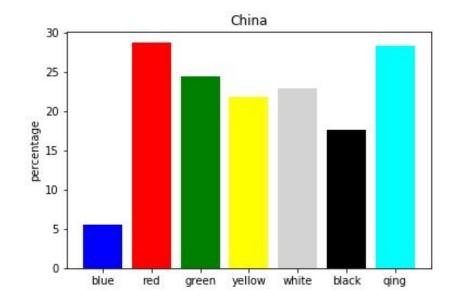
no, that's a joke

# Comparison: color-to-language

	red	blue	yellow	green	white	black	total
Russian	1626	153	19	144	814	509	3265
English	431	252	40	1492	553	467	3235
German	129	8	6	228	159	175	705
Spanish	16	31	10	70	173	85	385
Italian	164	11	5	74	162	209	625
Chinese (- qing)	25	3	23	1	21	4	77
total	2391	458	103	2009	1882	1449	8292

## Comparison: Chinese VS other languages





#### **Observations**

Spanish world: the least number of 'colored' settlements in our sample (excluding China)

Spanish & Italian: very fond of BLACK and WHITE

Spanish & English: almost no BLUE in metropolies

Russian: Belarus is more fond of BLACK, WHITE and BLUE

English: the biggest number of GREEN across the world

Italian & German: the least difference between RED, GREEN, WHITE and BLACK

## Observations (2)

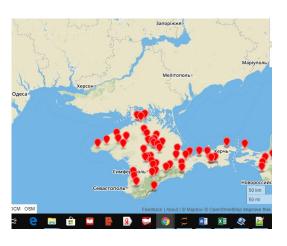
- Russian: the biggest number of RED across the world
- RED is the most popular colour in the sample (probably due to communism in Russia and the former USSR)
- YELLOW is the least popular one
  - o is yellow less 'basic'?..

#### Transnistria: 8 "red" settlements of 110 as a whole

Similar to Kaliningrad Oblast and Crimea







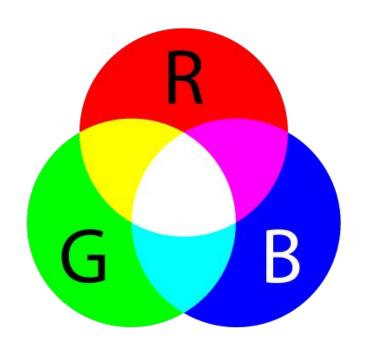
Kaliningrad Oblast

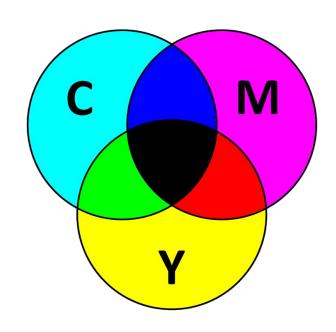
Transnistria

Crimea

## Classical approach - Berlin & Kay 1969

# RGB-languages VS CMYK-languages?





#### **Problems**

- Europe+Russia: homonyms for some colours in some countries
  - more exact regex
  - manual check
  - multilingual sample
- China: little dataset
  - use of English, Chinese traditional and simplified regex
  - manual adding of cities which could be found via Google.maps
  - China has its own analogue of Wikipedia with no access to its databases
- Settlements with unclear etymology
  - Vienna a theory that the name is from Vindobona which is from a Celtic word for 'white' but still not clear

#### **Future Horizons**

- more precise samples with local languages:
  - o Russia: "Красный"+ "Кызыл" + "Улан" + "Ал..." +etc.
- Disambiguation of words with the same root:
  - Russia: "Синицы" not blue, but a bird
  - China: 黄林 can be for 黄河+林
- Study on symbolism of each colour in different countries
  - Is BLUE a color of christianity?
  - Is RED really a color of communists?
- Sample of Muslim countries
  - will GREEN become as popular as other colors?

# Thank you for your attention!

