

# Exploring the Wisdom of Crowds

Week 2

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# Results of our mini wisdom of crowds experiment

What is the total area of India? (km<sup>2</sup>)



**Correct answer**

3,287,590 km<sup>2</sup>

**Mean guess**

8,245,802 (18<sup>th</sup> percentile)

**Correct answer**

3,287,590 km<sup>2</sup>

**Mean guess**

8,245,802 (18<sup>th</sup> percentile)

**Max guess**

100,000,000

Correct answer

3,287,590 km<sup>2</sup>

Median

1,500,000 (72<sup>st</sup> percentile)

## Truncated mean

First remove largest and smallest 5% of values,  
and then take the mean of the remaining values

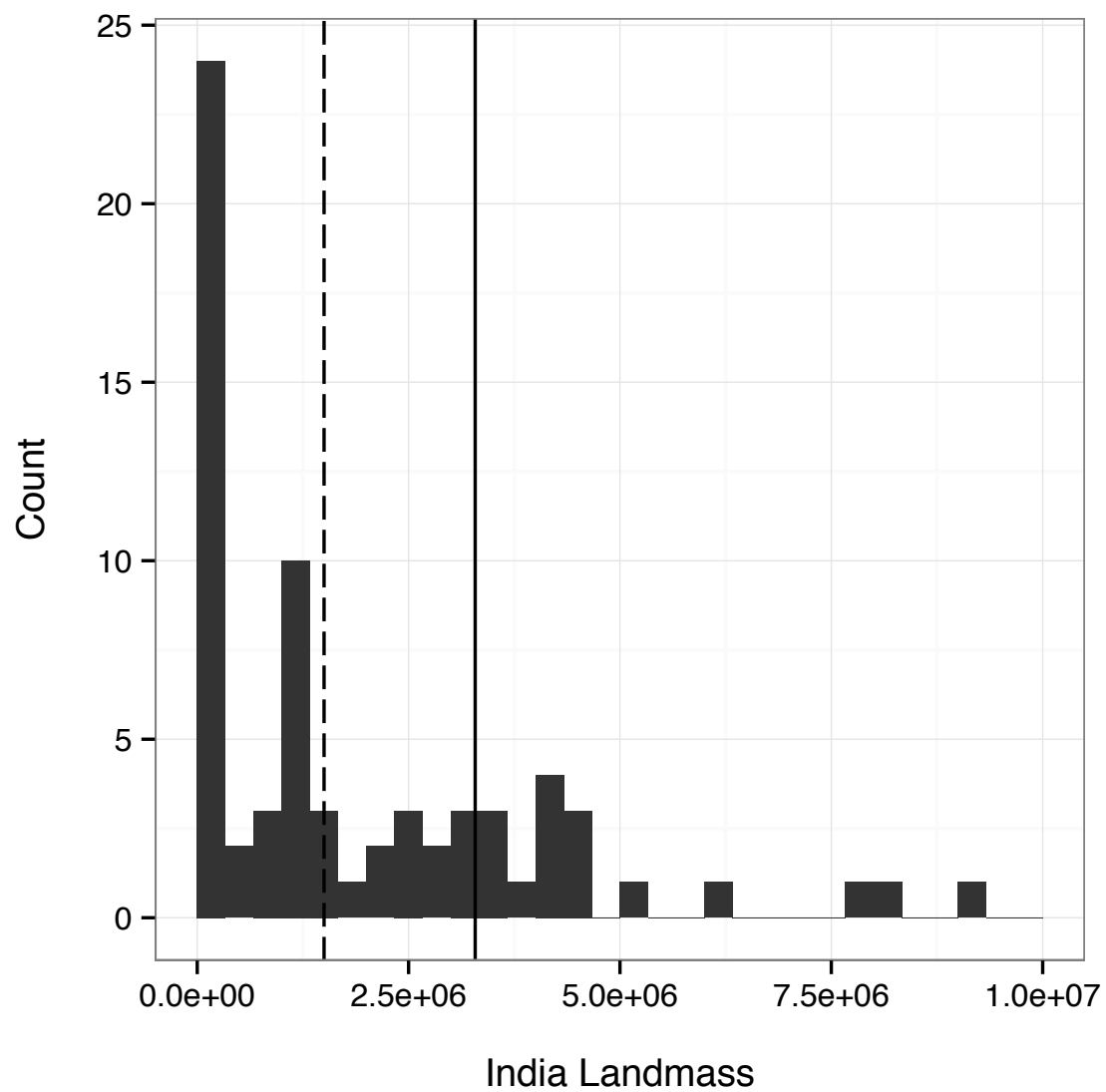
Correct answer

3,287,590 km<sup>2</sup>

Truncated mean

4,135,343 (81<sup>st</sup> percentile)



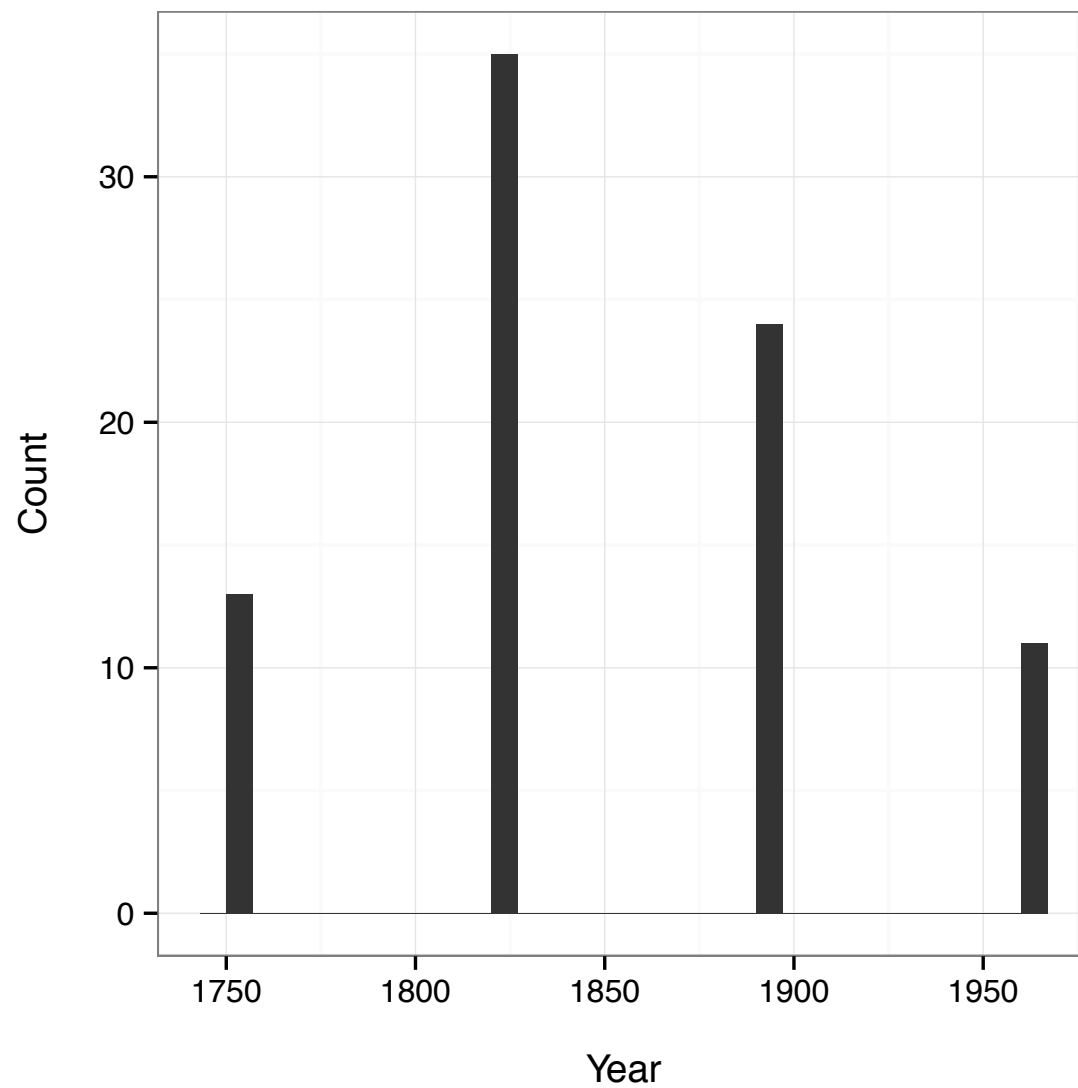


In what year was this painting made?



Correct answer

1890



Correct answer

1890

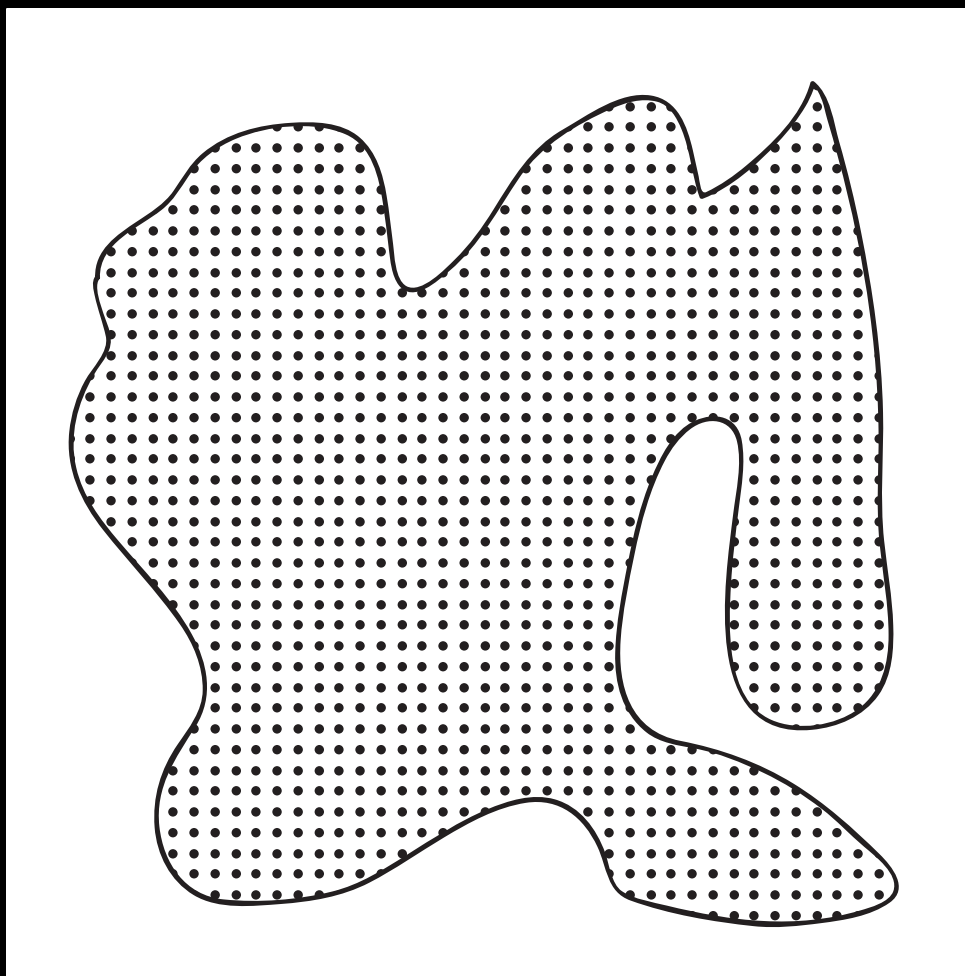
Mean answer

1847

Median answer

1820

How many dots are in the figure?



Correct answer

1149

Mean guess

73,623 (2<sup>nd</sup> percentile)

Max guess

5,000,000

Correct answer

1149

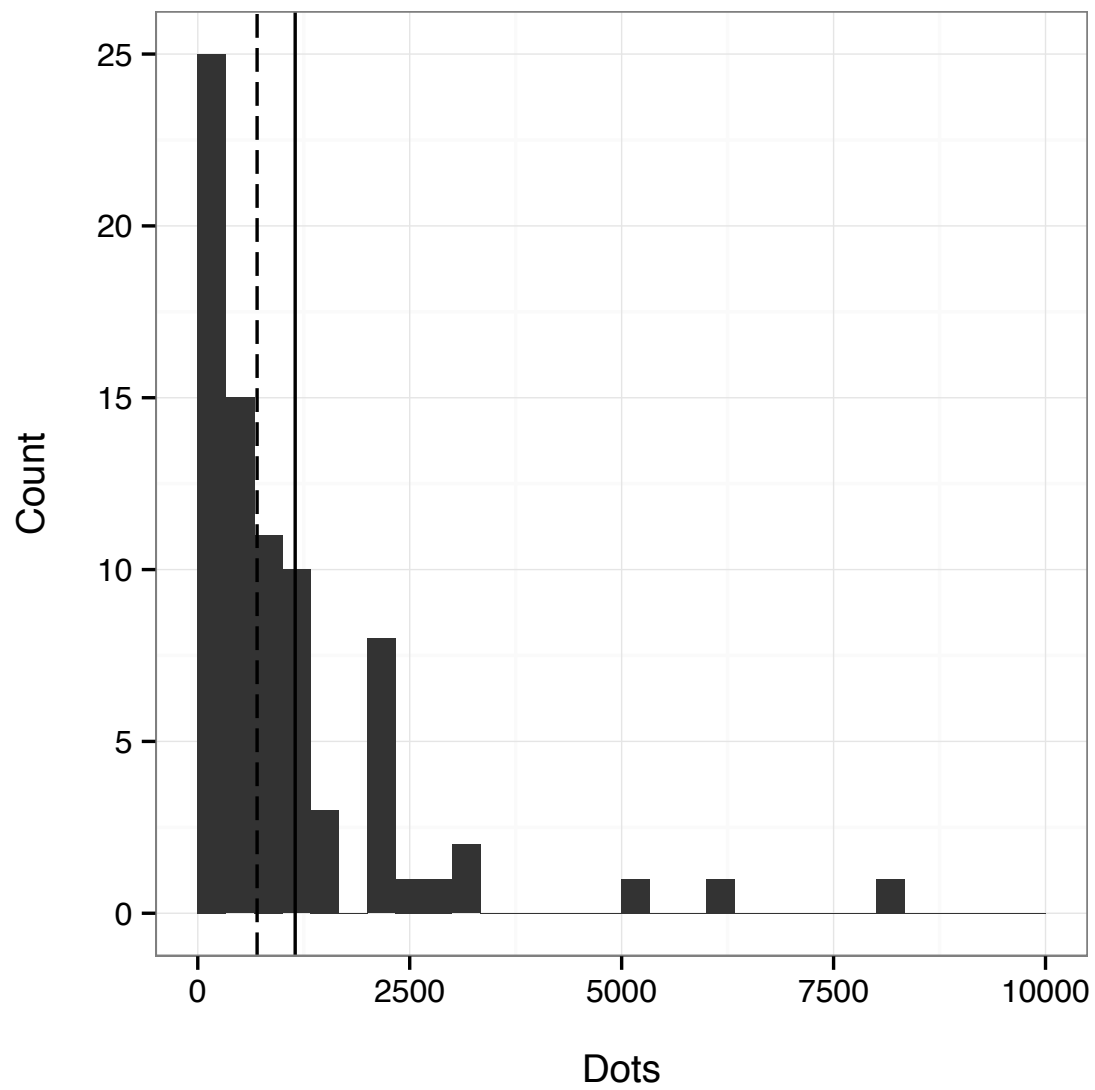
Median

700 (73<sup>rd</sup> percentile)

Truncated mean

995 (88<sup>th</sup> percentile)





# India vs. Pakistan

Cricket World Cup, Game 4

How many runs do you think  
each team will score?

## Correct answer

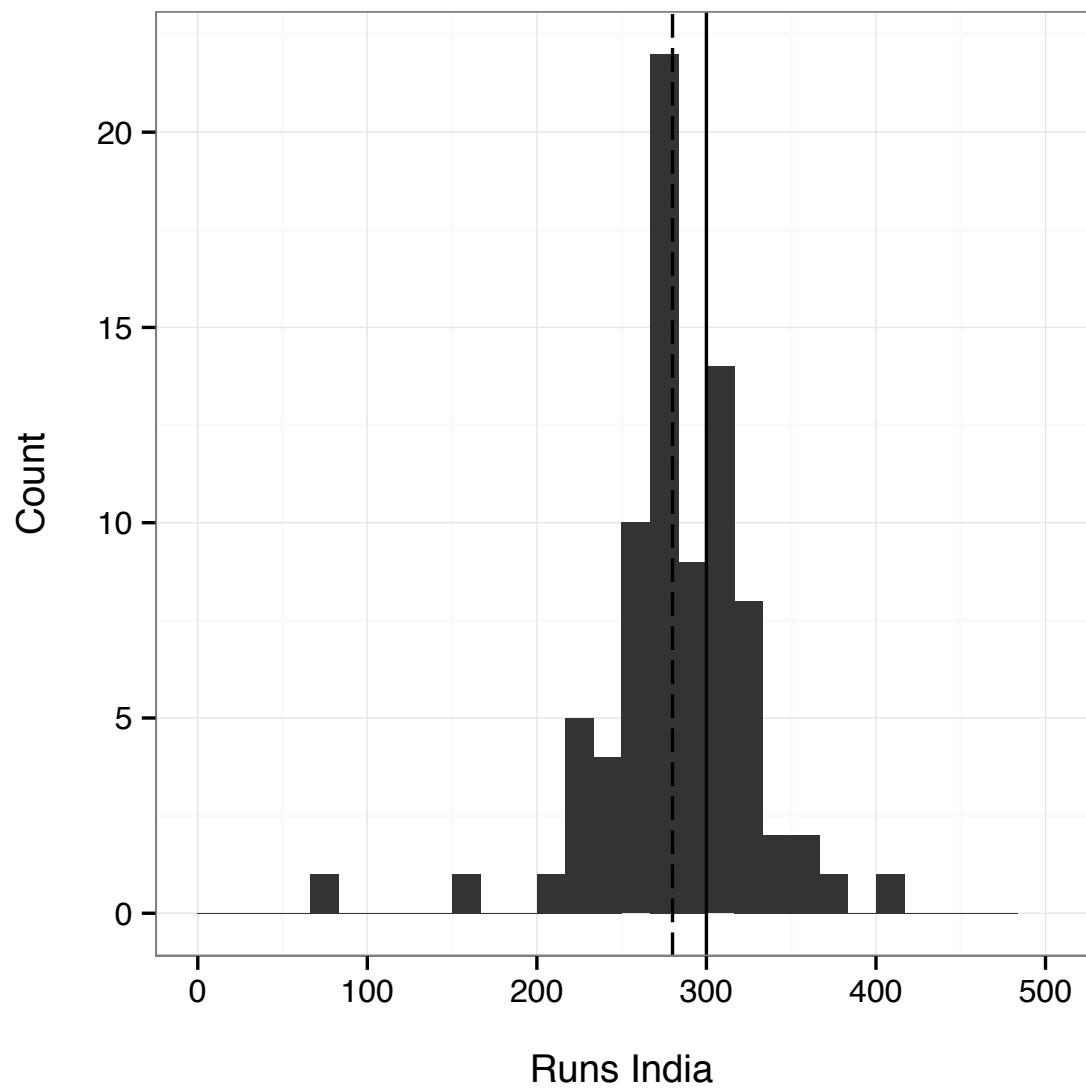
300 (India) - 224 (Pakistan)

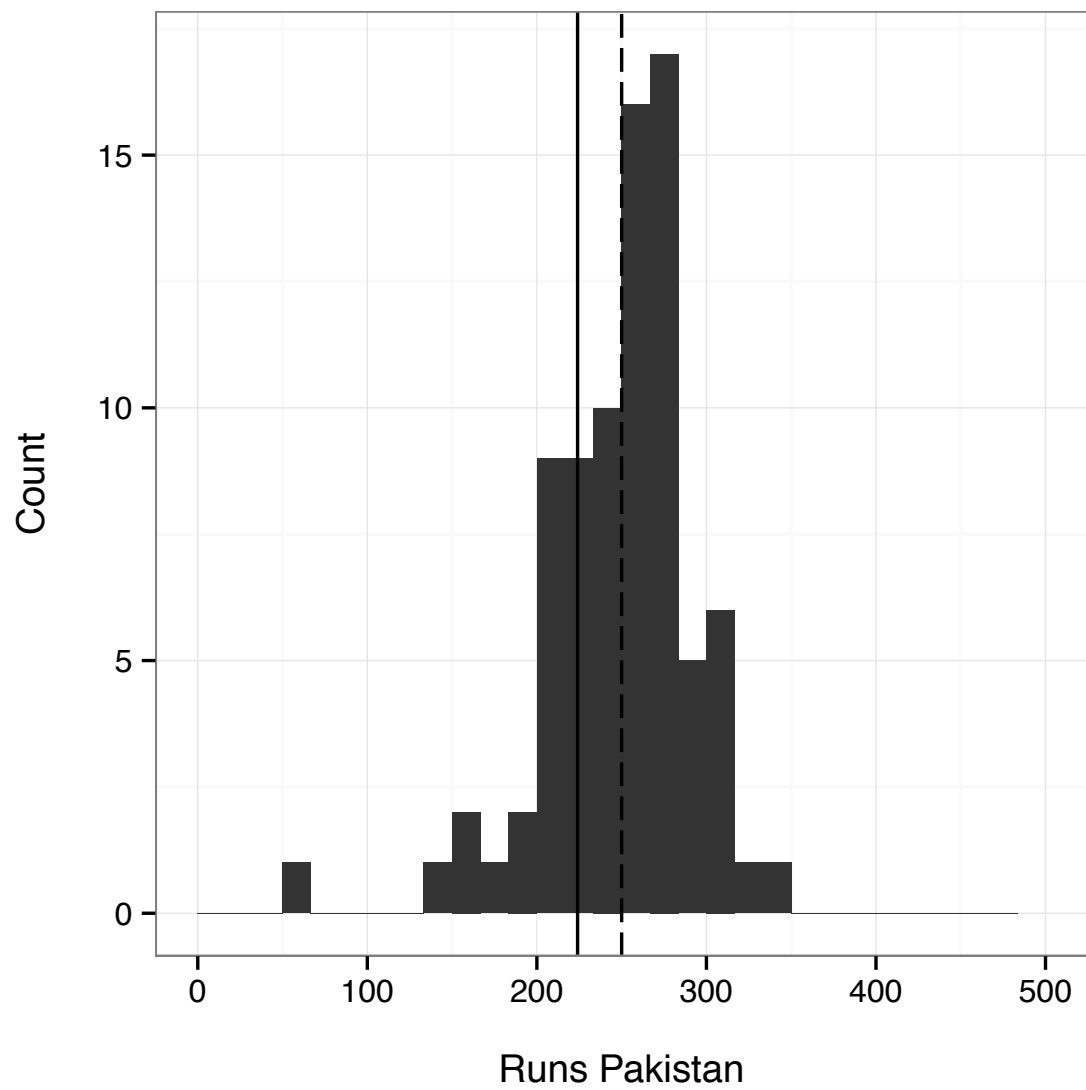
## Median (India)

280 (72<sup>nd</sup> percentile)

## Median (Pakistan)

250 (66<sup>th</sup> percentile)





**The aggregation method matters**  
need to account for extreme values

**Crowd estimate reasonably good**  
better than 70 – 80% of participants  
[ in these examples ]

[ doc/inClass\_exp/survey\_results.pdf ]

And the platform  
design winners are...

## Team Traceback

Alok Shankar, Arvind Srikantan, Chiraag Sumanth,  
Bhargav HS, Ramesh Arvind

## Team Visionastra

Tushar Dobhal, Atif Ahmed, Mayank Pahadia,  
Vikas Yaligar, Mani Shankar

## Team Visionaries

Sudheer Vazrapu, Sukanya Venkataraman,  
Venkat Nirmal, Kasyap Varma, Anusha Singh



# Literature review

Analysis of WoC in a specific domain  
(e.g., weather forecasts, combinatorial optimization)

Development of novel aggregation methods

General study of WoC  
(e.g., effects of social influence, crowd size)

# GitHub

submit usernames by **noon PST today**  
[ for pushing changes / tracking progress ]

do not create extraneous branches;  
push directly to the repository

## Assignment

[ all teams ]

continue literature review  
rate tasks

## Assignment

[ platform design teams ]

continue prototyping