

(Intro to project)

Wikipedia is a community with many contributors. It strives to be an unbiased place for Truth to be presented to readers. People can have different ideas of what is the truth about different events, however, especially when a topic is current or controversial. In addition, the site is often subject to vandalism, which according to Wikipedia, is where someone adds or removes content in an attempt to compromise the integrity of the website. To help combat this, Wikipedia often edit protects pages. Edit protection prevents certain people from changing content on a page, and can block anyone from only unregistered users to everyone but top-level administrators.

Although some pages such as administrative ones are always locked, many normal Wikipedia pages are only locked during certain periods of time when the issue is most controversial. Our visualization helps Wikipedia editors to analyze edit protection trends and make connections between multiple articles.

(demo of system)

Because of constraints, we were unable to create a complete working dataset. The visualization you see here runs entirely off of simulated data that is formatted as we would a full dataset.

When the user first comes to the page, they see four main sections. The navigation pane, filters, details section, and the article listings.

In the listings section you can see the major categories of Wikiprojects, groupings of Wikipedia articles based on topics. The sections are sized relative to the total amount of articles within them. We can then click on the History section to expand it.

Here we can see the Wikiprojects subcategories under History. We can go to other categories by clicking to a different section, or press 'Home' to return to the top level.

Let's now look at what articles are in the History of Science wikiprojects. Once inside a subcategory, we can either navigate back to History. or to the top level. We could also jump directly to other subcategories. Although the encoded size and text information is now hidden, holding your mouse over a section will tell you what a category is and how large it is.

Each individual Wikipedia article is now shown on the page. The bars of color signify when they were under edit protection, with different colors corresponding to different forms of edit protection. We can mouseover individual articles to also view a graph of the number of edits alongside the dates of edit protection. This view allows users to easily see edit protection trends across multiple articles in a category, and make connections. In the future we hope to further facilitate this by allowing users to choose specific dates they wish to view the data between, allowing them to sort the listings by the date that they were first locked in the selected time period, and allowing filtering of the presented data.

When a specific article is clicked, the detail pane at the bottom of the screen changes. It currently only shows a larger graph of the specific page, but in the future we plan to highlight all articles that are linked to from the page, and also show additional details in this section such as trend data from Google Trends, and a link back to the actual Wikipedia page.