

'The 21st Century's 100 Greatest Films'

Did Film Critics Tend to Choose More Films By Directors From Their Countries?

By Meghnad Bose

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What are we looking for?

- In 2016, the BBC published a list of "**the 21st century's 100 greatest films**"
- **177 critics polled from 36 countries around the world**
- **But wait, are critics more likely to pick films "from their countries"?**

How Do We Do This?

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Step 1

Scrape the BBC's page and create a dataframe of all the info on the page

Step 2

Think of a proxy for the data we're looking for!

Step 3

Scrape a secondary data source and find the birthplace of the directors

Step 4

Join the two dataframes!

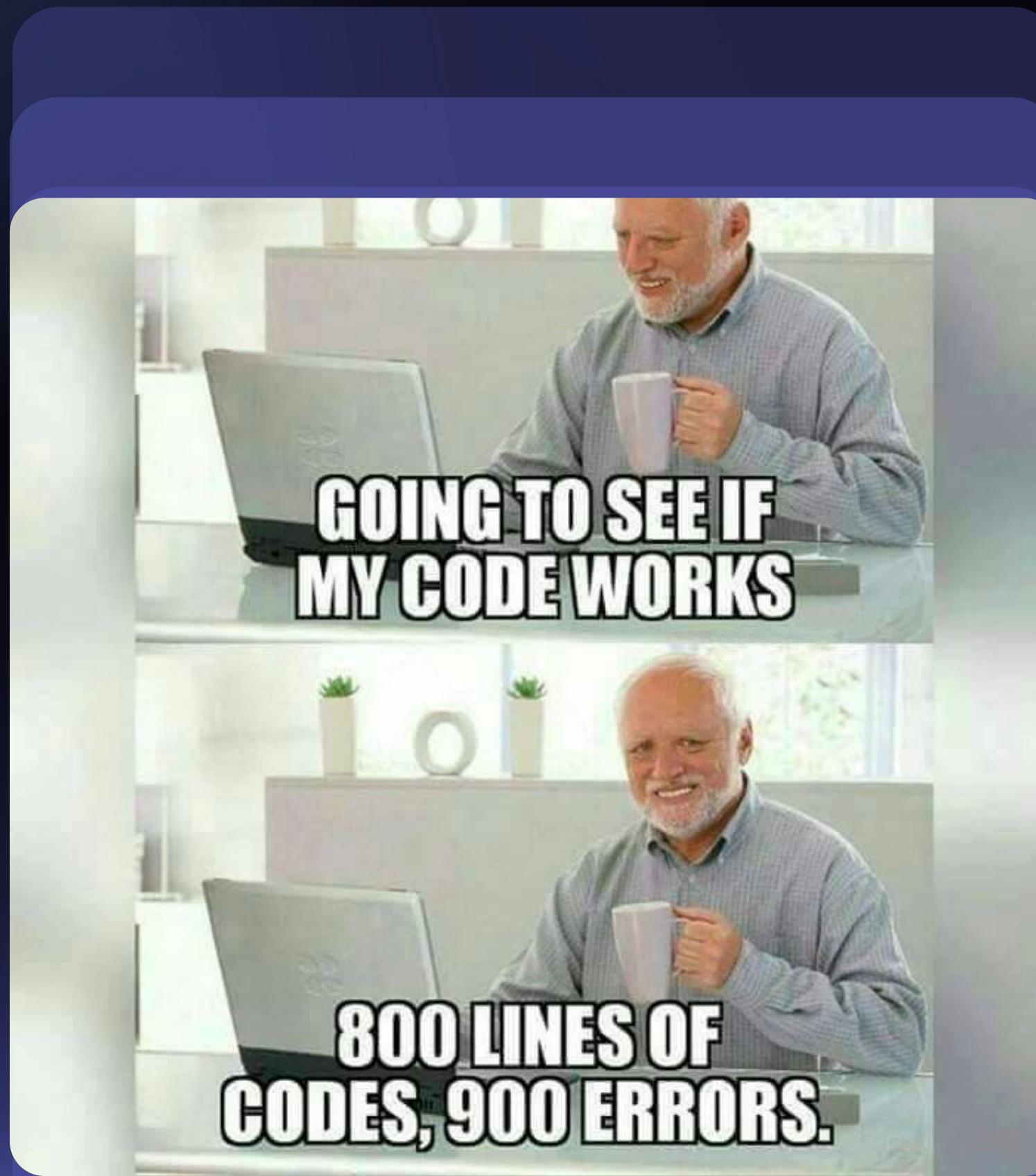
Step 5

Sanity checks: Does our data seem correct? How do we know?

Step 6

Create the map

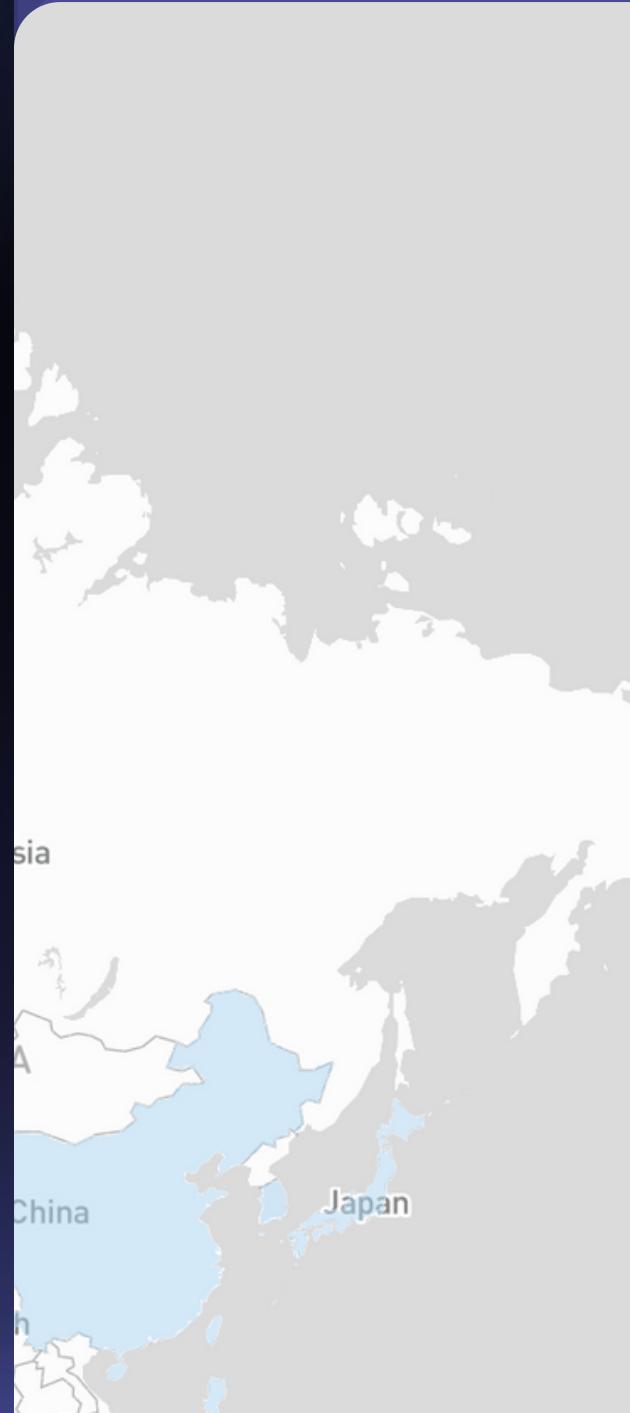
WATCH OUT!



Inaccuracies in a dataset?

After all this time? **Always.**

WATCH OUT!



Critics from India picked films by directors from the following countries:

- India (12 times)
- USA (8 times)
- Help! Couldn't find! (5 times)**
- China (4 times)
- France (3 times)
- New Zealand (3 times)
- UK (3 times)
- Hong Kong (2 times)
- Mexico (2 times)
- Chile (1 times)
- Germany (1 times)
- Hungary (1 times)

Inaccuracies in a dataset?

After all this time? **Always.**

The SOS that stayed on: “Help, couldn’t find!”

WATCH OUT!

BBC

Home News Sport Business Innovation Culture Travel Earth

5. Caché (Michael Haneke, 2005)
6. Mulholland Drive (David Lynch, 2001)
7. Lourdes (Jessica Hausner, 2009)
8. Red Road (Andrea Arnold, 2006)
9. Boyhood (Richard Linklater, 2014)
10. Tony Manero (Pablo Larraín, 2008)

Tim Appelo – The Wrap (US)

1. No Country For Old Men (Joel and Ethan Coen, 2007)
2. Spirited Away (Hayao Miyazaki, 2001)
3. A Separation (Asghar Farhadi, 2011)
4. Pan's Labyrinth (Guillermo Del Toro, 2006)
5. Finding Nemo (Andrew Stanton and Lee Unkrich, 2003)

Inaccuracies in a dataset?

After all this time? **Always.**

The **SOS** that stayed on: “Help, couldn’t find!”

And **SIBLINGS?**

The Visualization

What does it show us?

Hover over any country and find the number of directors' films were picked by critics from that country

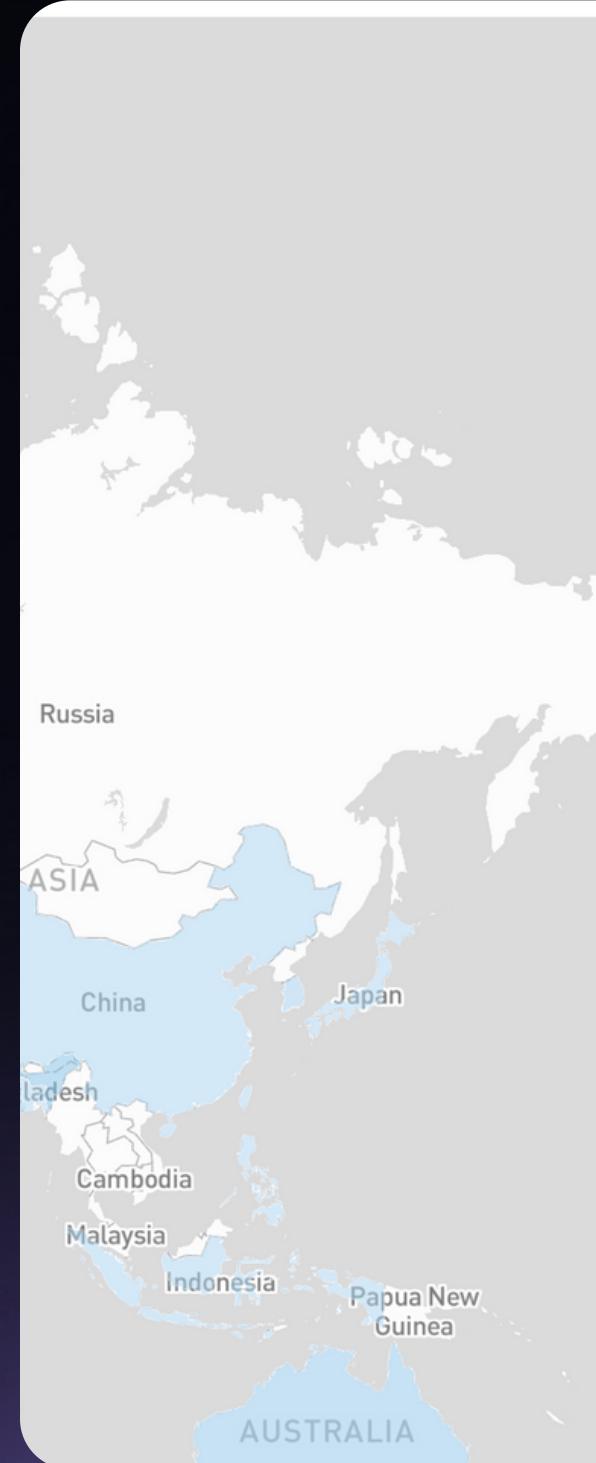


The Visualization

What does it show us?

• Hover over any country and find the number of directors' films were picked by critics from that country

• Click on any country and on the right, you will find a list showing how critics from that country made their picks, filtered by, you guessed it, country!



Critics from Brazil picked films by directors from the following countries:

USA (4 times)

Mexico (3 times)

Brazil (2 times)

Sweden (1 times)

Taiwan (1 times)

UK (1 times)

directors.



'The 21st Century's 100 Greatest Films'

Did Film Critics Tend to Choose More Films By Directors From Their Countries?

In 2016, the BBC published a list of "the 21st century's 100 greatest films" after polling 177 critics from 36 countries around the world.

In the map on the left, find out how often critics from a country picked films made by directors who were born in that country.

For example, click on India and you'll find that the five Indian critics who were polled by the BBC picked films made by Indian directors more than films made by directors from any other nationality.

How To Read The Map

ay, there are countries on the map and more country names showing up when you click on any of the countries on the map! We get that it could be a bit confusing. So, here's our breakdown of how to read the map.

When you hover over a country in the map, the number that pops tells you the number of directors whose films were picked by critics from that country.

2. When you click on a country in the map, say India, the list that pops up in this space will show you information about how the critics from India made their picks. Each line in the list represents how many times critics from India picked films made by directors from that country.

Got any more doubts, or have feedback regarding this map? Write to me at mb5153@columbia.edu!

Data visualization by Meghnad Bose | First published on 14 December 2023

Thank You!

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