

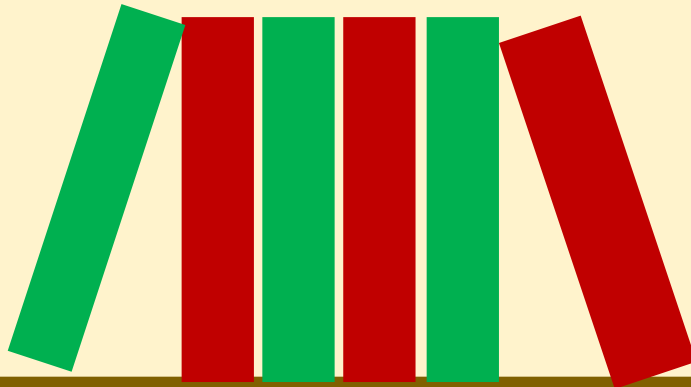
LA S'CHINTEIA



Talossa's Magazine of Everything

**TalossAnalysis:
Wittenberg Post
Counts**

Taro, par alt-J



**Interview with the
Royal Archivist**

Volume V

October 2019



Talossa's Magazine of Everything

Ian Plätschisch, Editor in Chief

Volume V

October 2019

Contents

TalossAnalysis: Wittenberg Post Counts

By Ian Plätschisch.....2

Interview with the Royal Archivist

By Ian Plätschisch.....5

Taro, par alt-J

By Iac Marscheir (Translator).....6

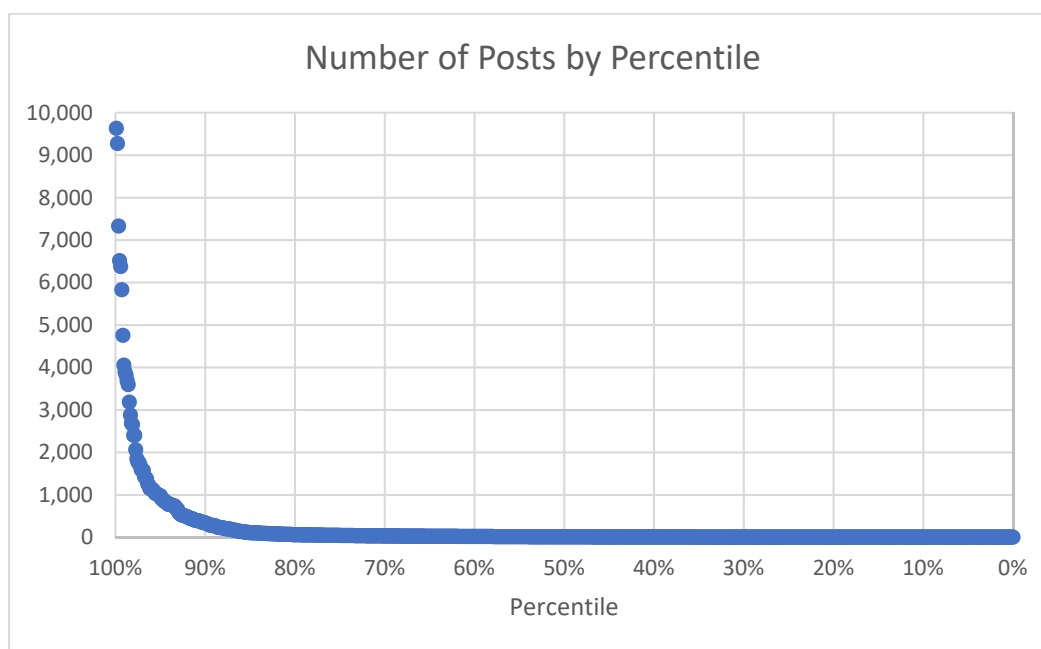
End Matter

TalossAnalysis: Wittenberg Post Counts

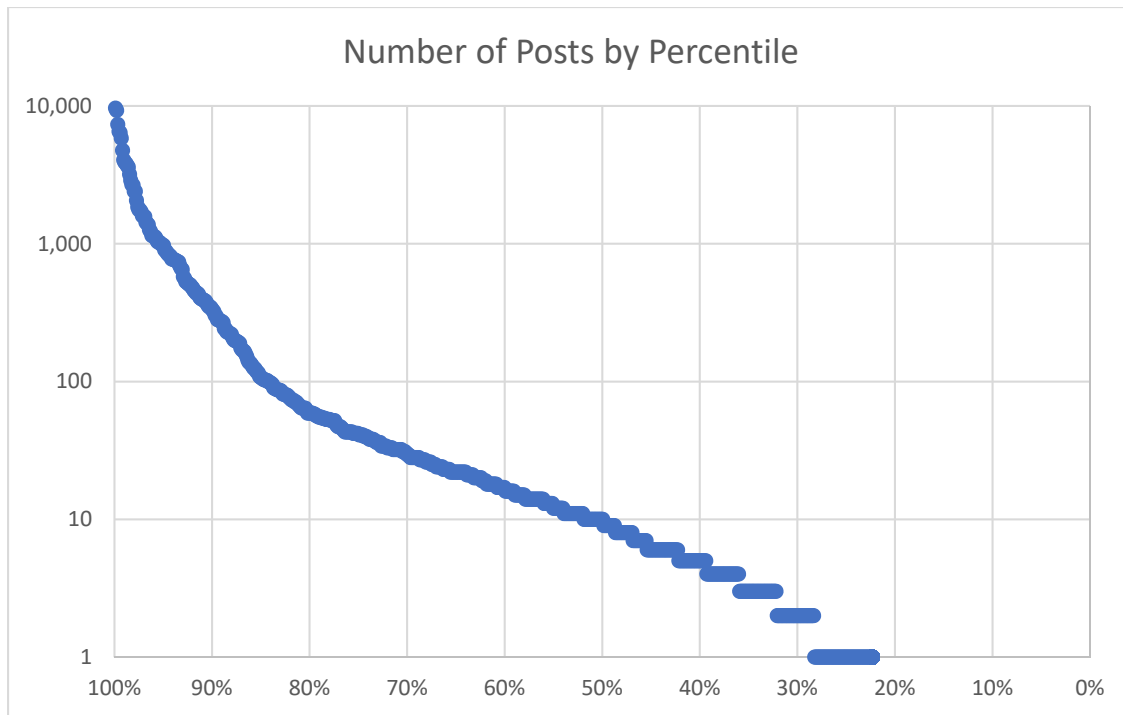
Ian Plätschisch

With the recent announcement that we will all soon be moving to a new Wittenberg forum, I thought it proper to conduct a retrospective on our current Wittenberg (formally Wittenberg XI). Specifically, an analysis of the number of posts made by various members since the current Wittenberg came into use (the earliest post I could find is from June 6th, 2004). As of this writing, there are 833 members.

The average number of posts is 191.54 posts, although the median number of posts is only 10 posts. This indicates the distribution of posts per member is extremely right-skewed; a few members have posted a very large number of times while most members have made very few posts. This is evident from the following chart:

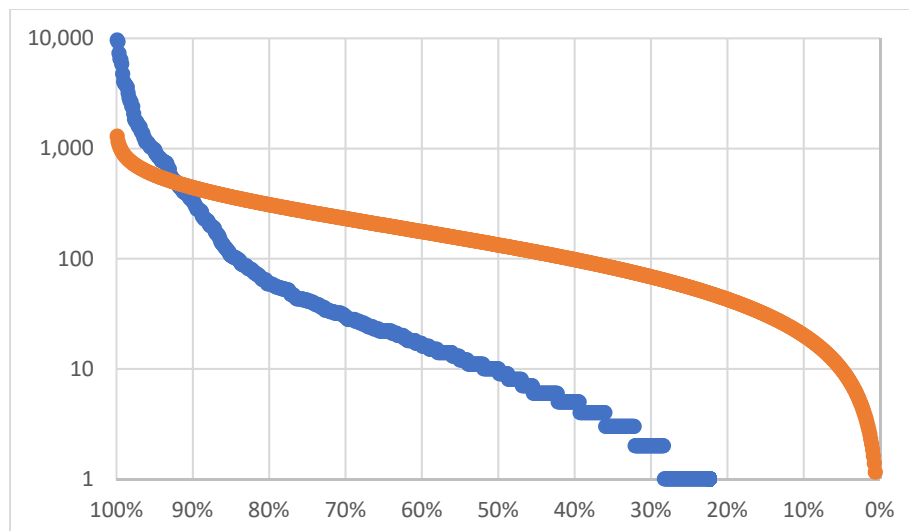


The x-axis displays the percentile of the post count of the member (for example, a member at 80% is in the 80th percentile of post count, indicating that they have made more posts than 80% of members). The y-axis displays the number of posts made by the member at that percentile. While posters in the top few percentiles have each posted several thousand times, the number of posts drops off quickly; the 90th percentile poster has made 339 posts, and values for lower percentiles are very difficult to see. Using a logarithmic scale for the y-axis makes it easier to read the plot past this point:



With this scale, it is easy to see that approximately 85% of Wittenberg members have made fewer than 100 posts. It is perhaps not surprising that many members (most of them immigrants who did not stick around long) have never posted or have posted only a few times. 186 members (the bottom 20% that is not displayed on the above plot) have never posted, and 442 members (more than 40%) have posted five or fewer times.

What if we want to use this data to predict the number of posts by members of a different forum after a similar period of time? There are a variety of theoretical distributions that can be used to model a population in which there are many low values and a few high values. The most common is the exponential distribution. Using this distribution to approximate the number of posts made by a member at each percentile yields:



This model underpredicts the number of posts made by the top posters by a factor of 10 but overestimates the number of posts made by most members. The drop off in the number of posts made by the top members compared to other members is nowhere near as dramatic in the model as in the actual data, and therefore the model not a good fit for the data. A different distribution, such as a Pareto Distribution, could be used instead with perhaps better results.

Readers familiar with calculus-based probability may recall that the cumulative distribution function (cdf) of the exponential distribution is:

$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-\frac{x}{\lambda}}$$

The cdf $F(x)$ is the percentile of a certain observation x in the distribution (in this case, the percentile of a member who has made x posts), and λ is the mean of the distribution (191.54 in this case). To make the chart displaying the exponential distribution approximation, I calculated the predicted number of posts made by a member with a certain percentile, instead of the other way around. To do so required some algebra:

$$e^{-\frac{x}{\lambda}} = 1 - F(x) \quad \rightarrow \quad -\frac{x}{\lambda} = \ln(1 - F(x)) \quad \rightarrow \quad x = -\lambda \ln(1 - F(x))$$

Interview with the Royal Archivist

Ian Plätschisch

***La S'chinteia (LS):* What makes you so passionate about your role as Royal Archivist?**

Royal Archivist Gödafrieu Válcadac'h (GV): OCD. And I am sentimental. The memory of pre-Cybercit Talossa has left the country entirely, and I feel a duty to preserve as much of it as I can. This is the best explanation I can give at the moment.

***LS:* What are some key takeaways from pre-Cybercit Talossa you think every new citizen should know?**

GV: The Old-Growthers were and are regular people like you and me. Also, Ben Madison must not only be rightly known for his mistakes, but also lionized appropriately according to the fact but for him, none of us would know each other.

***LS:* What do you think are some of the most important historical Talossan texts for citizens to read?**

GV: Even with Ben Madison withholding the National Archives forevermore, it seems, it is still possible to reconstruct the whole of Talossan history, albeit from overly-biased sources. Àr Päts covers Talossan history in summary from from the start through 2003 (or 2008 if you read Ben's later versions). The Big History covers in detail Talossan history from the beginning through early 1990. Talossan National News covers in detail Talossan history from 1985 through 1997 save for ca. 1990-1992. We have almost no publicly-available Witt records before 1 June 2004, but beyond that date, Witt is fully intact. Many memories from 1998-2003 are still in Talossa, and the vast bulk of my limited media output is from those years. Eventually, I will need to put out a fully-detailed listing of all this, but I hope this will suffice for now.

***LS:* What do you hope Talossa and her citizens gain through the preservation of these materials?**

GV: Lessons learned from history. There is a reason why politics are the way they are, and that goes back to the 2004-2007 period.

Taro, par alt-J

Translated by Iac Marscheir

Taro, a song by the English indie rock band alt-J, was released in 2012.

Indo-

Cina, Capa laß' xhip

Vienind txhusca'l vegour

Per fotoarh, per recordarh

Del viind es la zuería

Avançent com' sieu'scasença

O-o-o-oh

Estinçel verm'alveu!

'N espanar violè ciunca'l maß es las mepras

Xhetat s'inalt, Capa atzariça

In la nura üd dal mina

Dolórattä cün 'n grült distonça

D'iens mediceu, colega, amemíc

O isch prócul dal gamba

Es da tu, Taro

O-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh

N'asperchetz ainciün uglhen

Téu t'aspercat ainciün v'uglhen

Tres

Bisquinc, Capa moarta

Tremblas, estofas lastas

Toct i colours es cuntzinas

Zeviennent grischuns

Pardesü dels pünts titeux
El retentiu isch aicì non pü
O-o-o-oh
Le photographe est mort
Circüm viennent toctziua, non ja la viva sanc el dolór
Squindat in simeinçe es qátor
Las poartas sint brätseascas
Dolórattä es sa próxim
À Capa, à Capa, Capa c'halam
Osprei nîbil, rëunitat cün sieu gamba
Es cün tu, Taro-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh
Taro-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh!
N'asperchetz ainciün uglhen
Téu t'aspercat ainciün v'uglhen

Oi, Taro!

End Matter

La S'chinteia is always hiring! If you want to write it, La S'chinteia wants to publish it. Get in touch with Ian Plätschisch if you would like to become a contributor (no set schedule, publish as many or as few times as you want) or staff writer. No experience required.

If you...

- Have feedback on one of our articles or an idea for an article
- Want to join our email list to get early access to new volumes
- Would like to get in touch with La S'chinteia for some other reason

Send Ian Plätschisch a message on Wittenberg or post in the Wittenberg thread corresponding to this volume.

Thanks for reading!