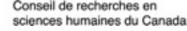
'An Infinite Archive?' Historical Explorations in the Internet Archive's Wide Web Scrape

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Why?

Historians need to think about Computational Methods in an era of web archives.

".... [n]ow expectations have inverted. Everything may be recorded and preserved*, at least potentially."

- James Gleick, The Information

^{*} an overstatement, of course, but a useful one



We have too much information to make sense of with normal methods.

The 80TB Wide Web Scrape [March - December 2011]

```
ca,yorku,justlabour)/ 20110714073726
http://www.justlabour.yorku.ca/ text/html
302 3I42H3S6NNFQ2MSVX7XZKYAYSCX5QBYJ
http://www.justlabour.yorku.ca/index.php?
page=toc&volume=16 - 462 880654831
WIDE-20110714062831-crawl416/
WIDE-20110714070859-02373.warc.gz
```

Top-Level Domain	Number of Distinct URLs Downloaded in Sample	Number of Overall URLs in Wide Web Scrape (selected domains)	Percentage of URLs Captured
.com	29,219,706	1,260,409,874	2.32%
.org	2,489,050	96,681,268	2.57%
.net	2,438,903	140,726,805	1.73%
.edu	350,482	6,620,283	5.29%
.gov	97,484	2,205,332	4.42%
.mil	10,268	103,507	9.92%
.ca	622,365	8,512,275	7.31%
.uk	464,991	21,870,821	2.13%
.fr	239,160	13,654,404	1.75%
.in	105,287	3,736,316	2.82%
.cn	5,499,593	133,105,864	4.13%
.ke	4883	37,871	12.89%
TOTAL	41,542,172	1,687,664,620	2.46%

Methods

(or the fun of playing with WARC files themselves)

#Ian Milligan

WordPress.com

Ian Milligan

A Digital, Public, and Youth Historian of 20th-Century Canada

Skin to content

- * Home
- About Me
- · cv
- Teaching
- * My Digital History Work
 - + Current Work/Project Description
 - + Project Proposal (SSHRC)
- * "Rebel Youth"

Visualizing Locations in the Internet Archive .ca Wide Scrape Sample

Standard

Taking the full text of my sample of my Canadian (.ca only) websites (currently being finessed to amount 622,365 URLs out of a scrape total of 8,512,275 or 7.31%), I ran it through Stanford NER and extracted popular locations, organizations, and people. This is a morning's work, mainly as I let my desktop crunch away at some other stuff, so I really need to preface the post that the data has not been cleaned up.

The results were interesting but fairly dry: "Canada" was the top location, for example, followed by Ontario, Toronto, Ottawa, Alberta, etc. The United States comes out as under-represented mainly because we have so many spellings of the word (US, u s, America, United States, etc.). There will be a similar issue with the United Kingdom. If this turns into `real' research rather than tinkering, again, there's a lot of cleaning up to do. But overall, we can get a rough sense of different countries and how they appeared in this sample.

Thanks to IBM Many Eyes we can throw this stuff at the wall and see what comes out.

Screen Shot 2014-02-06 at 11.47.16 AM

In this graphic, we see different countries and how they are mentioned. With the caveats that this is rough data, we can see the big parties

Arrow keys: Up and Down to move. Right to follow a link; Left to go back. H)elp O)ptions P)rint G)o M)ain screen Q)uit /=search [delete]=history list



Canada faces US in battle for women's hockey Olympic gold

The Globe and Mail - 3 hours ago

They started out together on the 1998 Canadian Olympic team. Jayna Hefford and Hayley Wickenheiser – the last two players remaining from ...

Canada vs. USA: Olympic women's hockey final live coverage

Canada.com - 11 minutes ago

Canadians Just Barely Survive A Historic Hockey Scare

Toronto Star - Feb 19, 2014











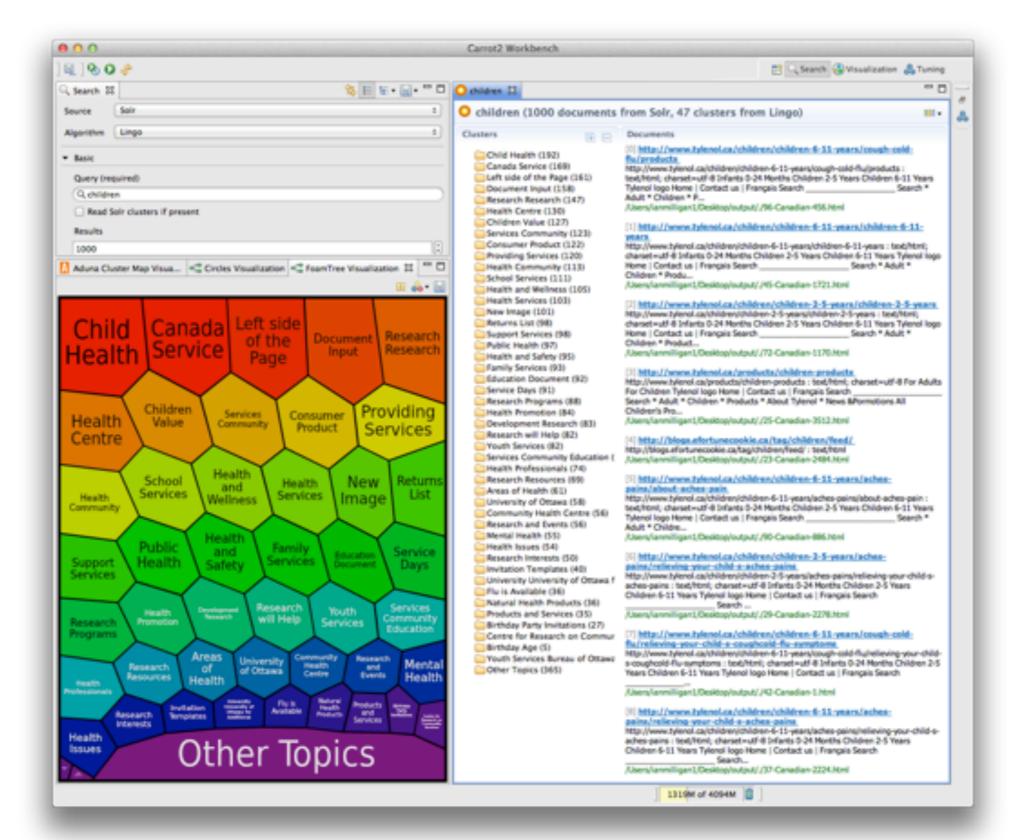


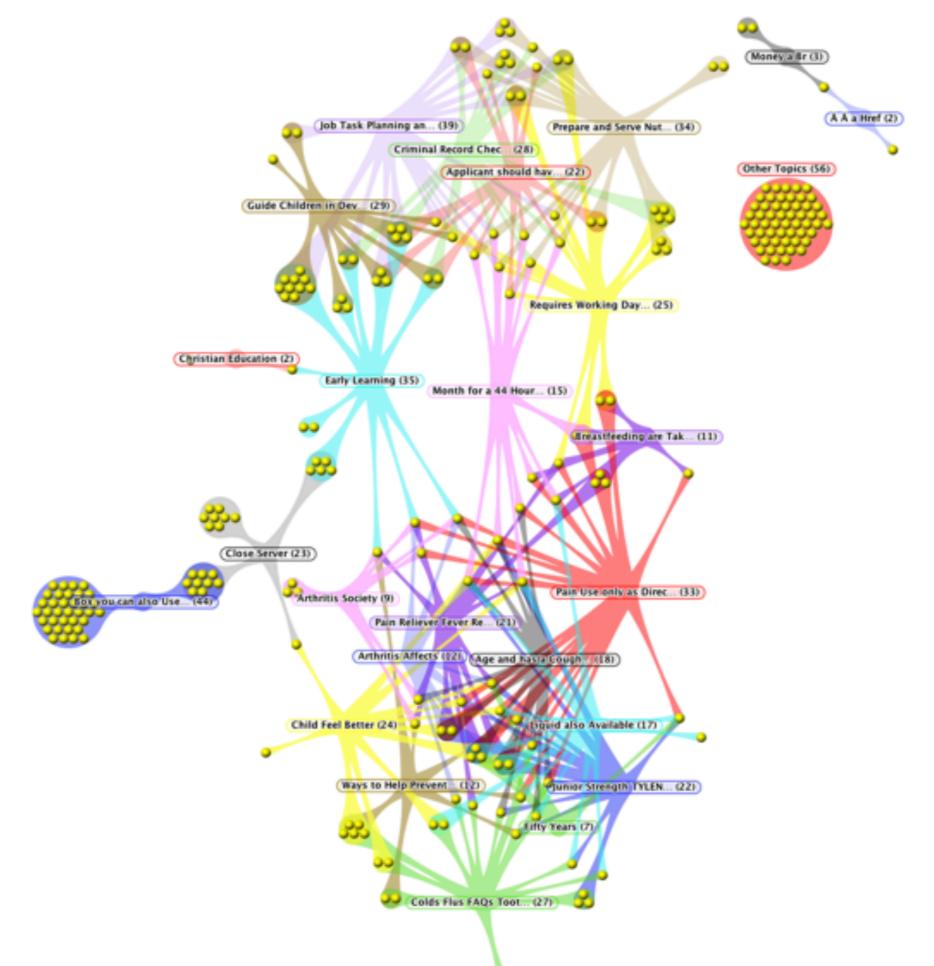
CTV News

Globalnews.ca Bleacher Report CBSSports.com

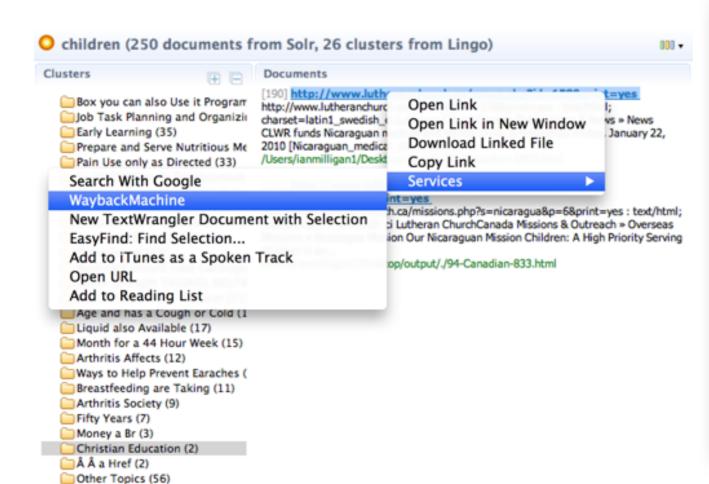
all 2840 news sources »

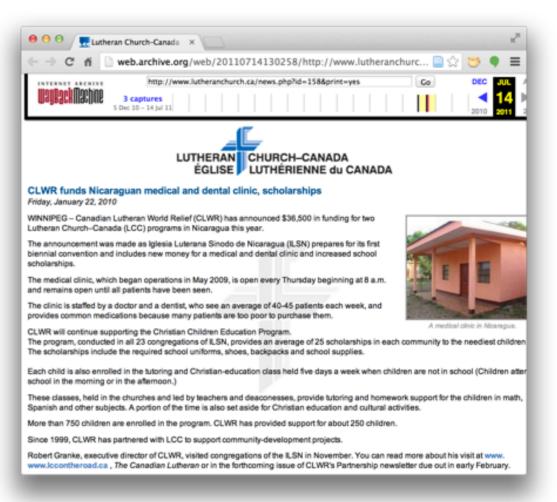






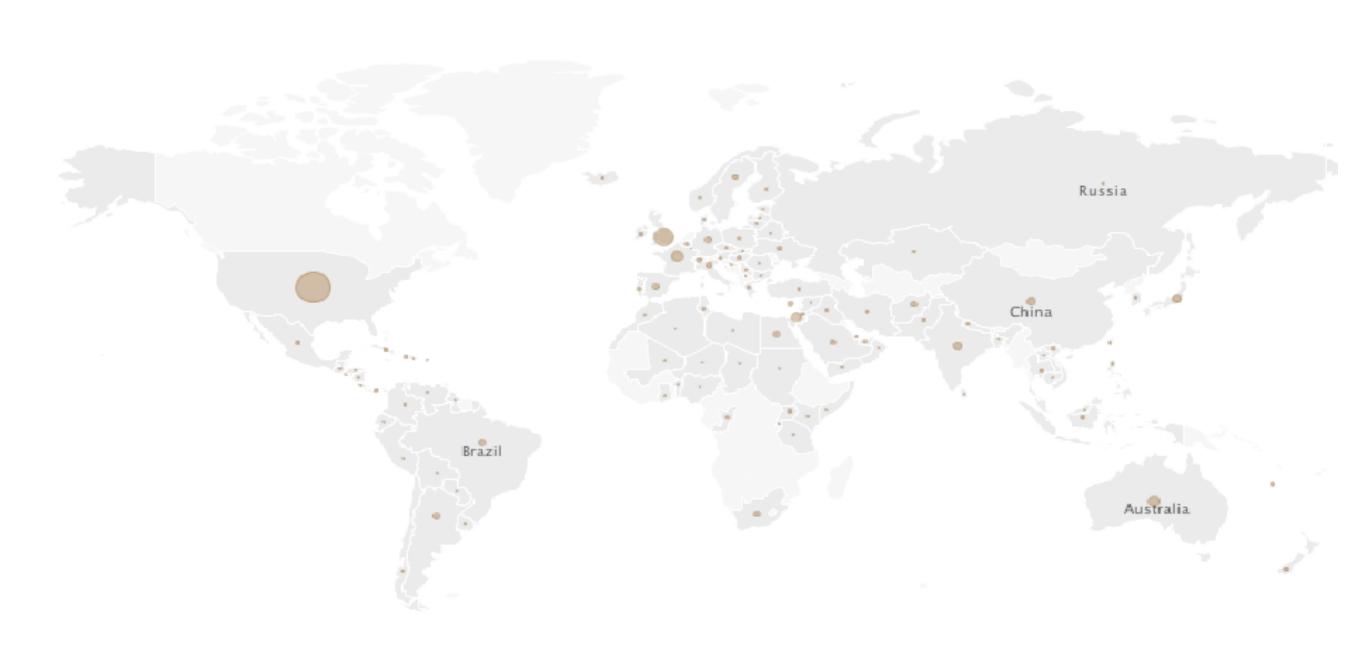




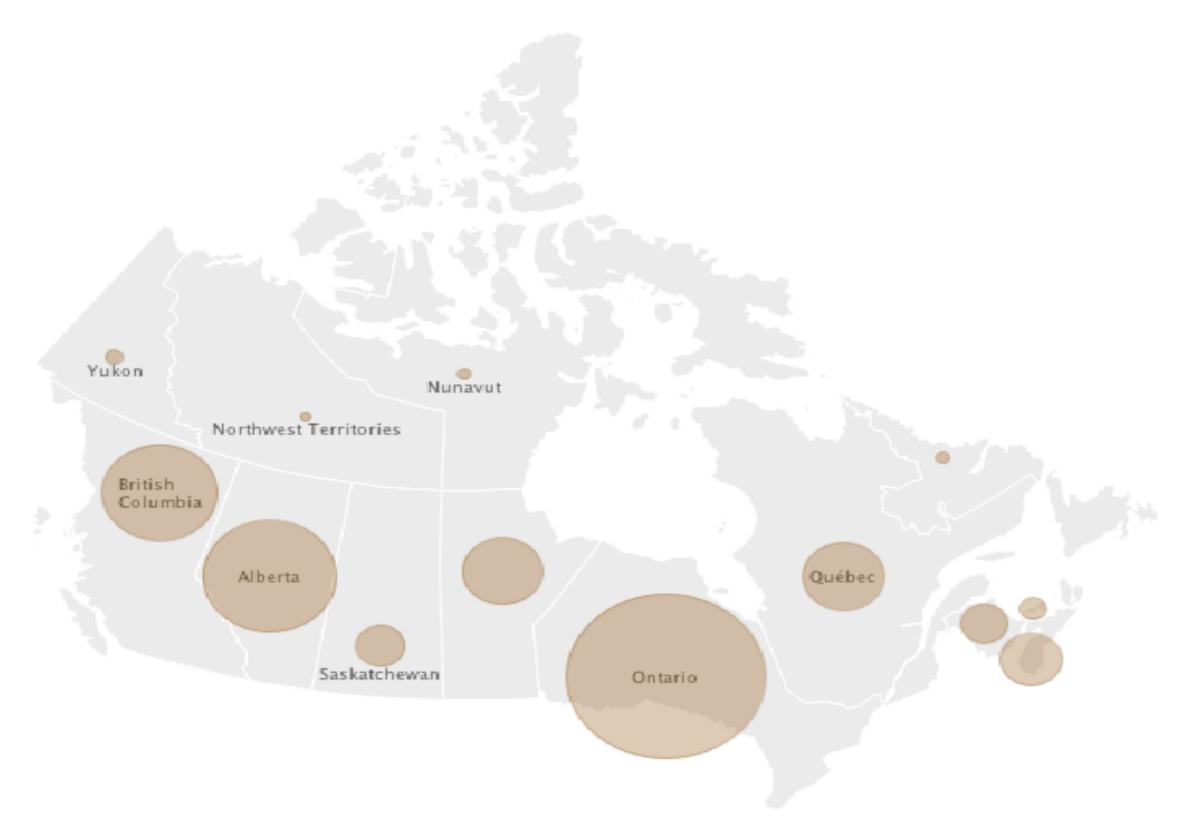


Named Entity Recognition as another approach?

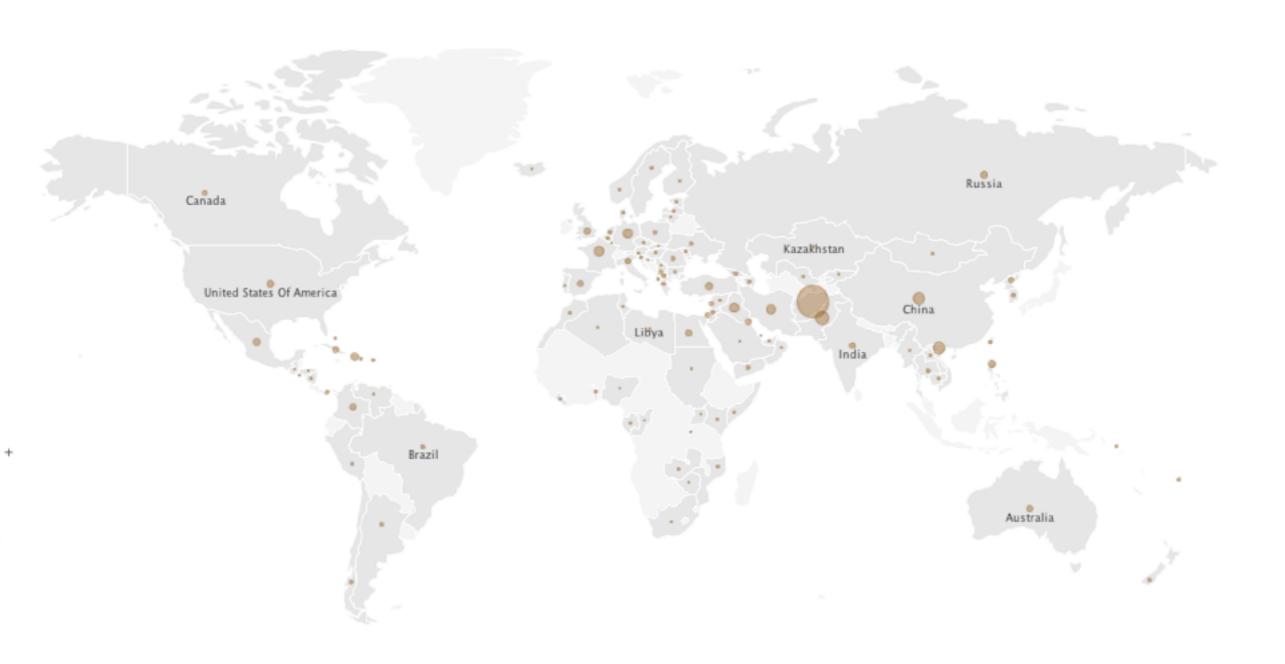
Countries Mentioned in .ca TLD (excluding Canada)



Provinces Mentioned in .ca TLD



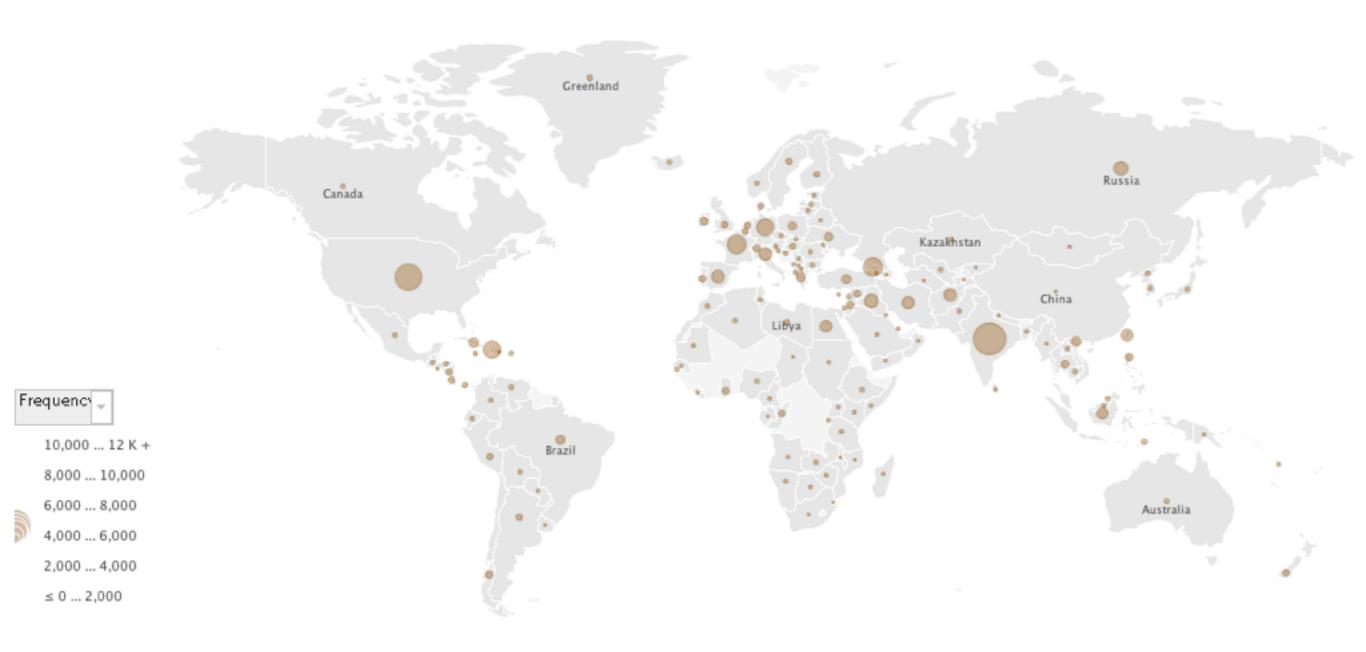
Countries Mentioned in .mil TLD



Countries Mentioned in .gov TLD



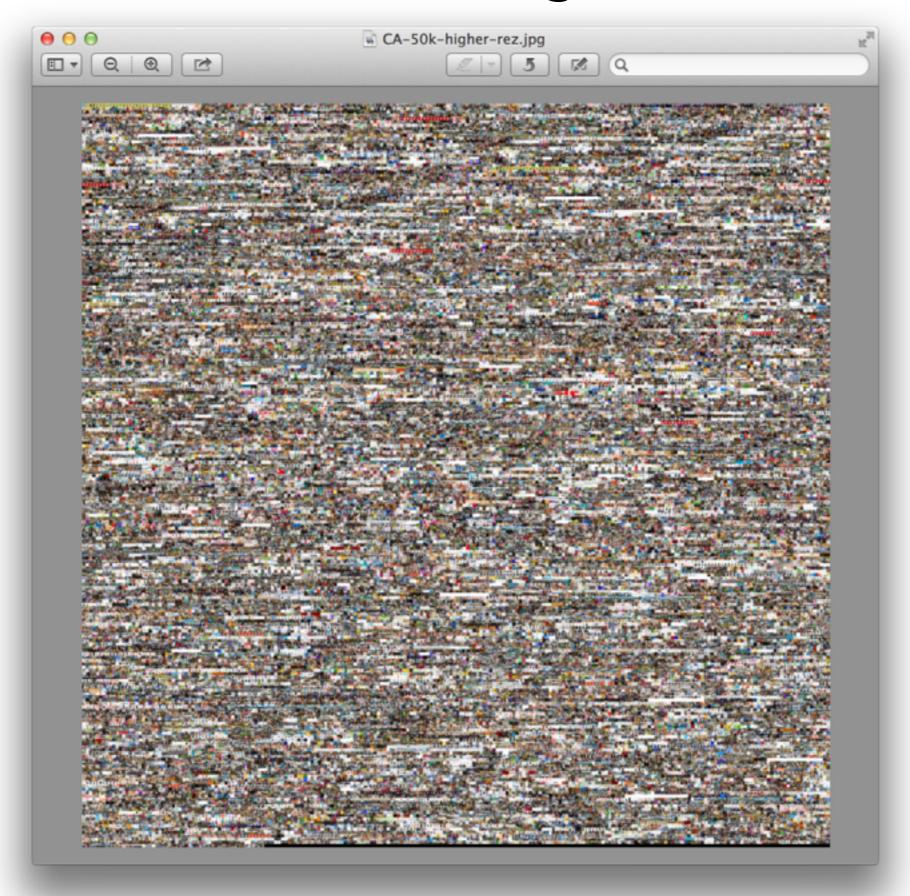
Countries Mentioned in .edu TLD



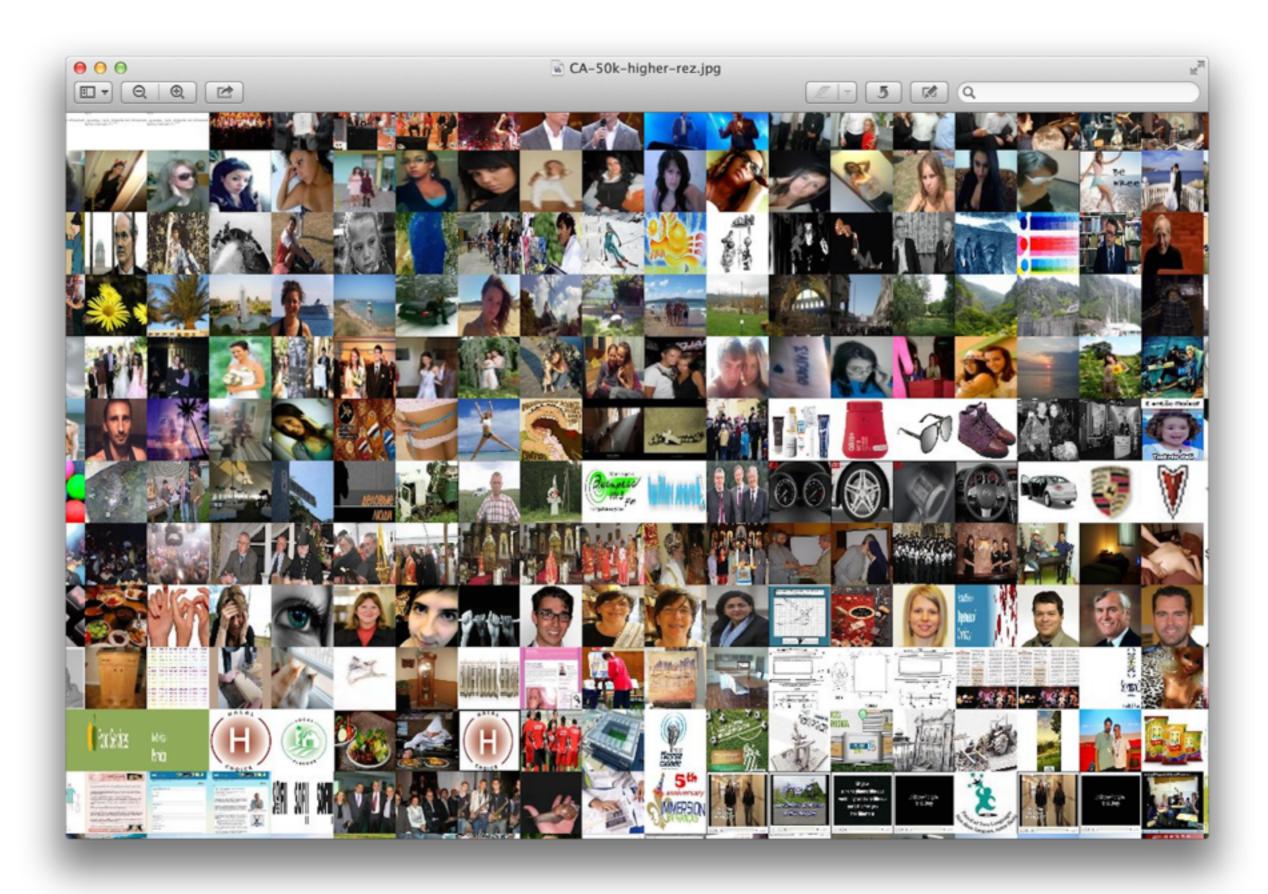
Countries Mentioned in .uk TLD (excluding UK)



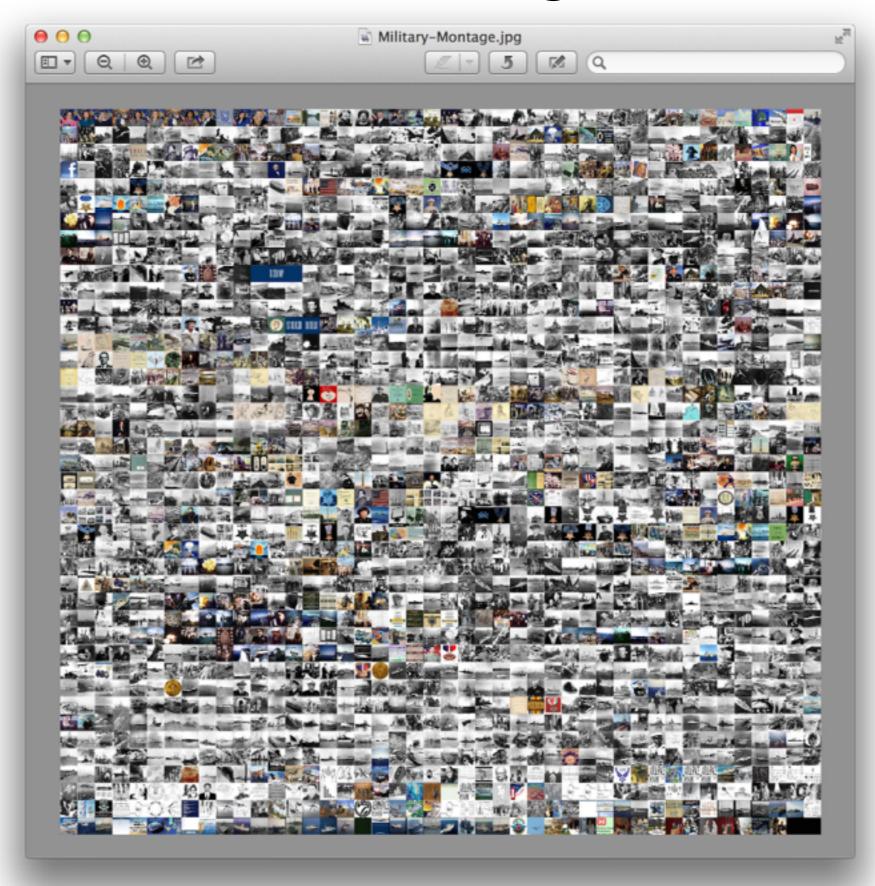
.ca montage



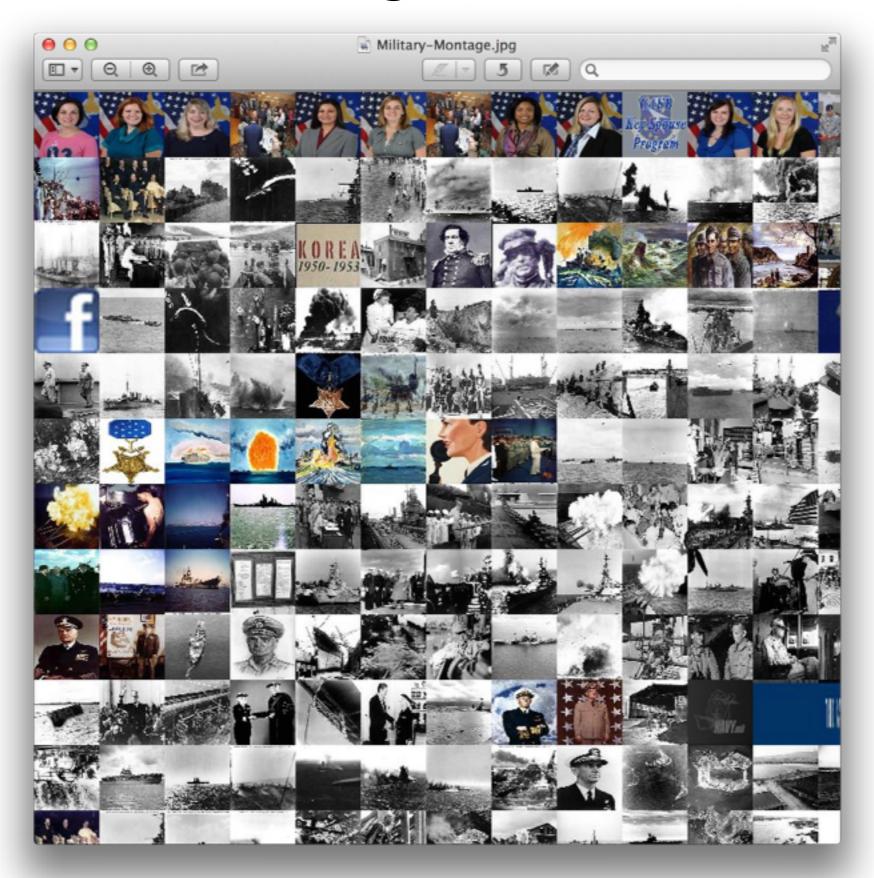
.ca montage (zoomed in)



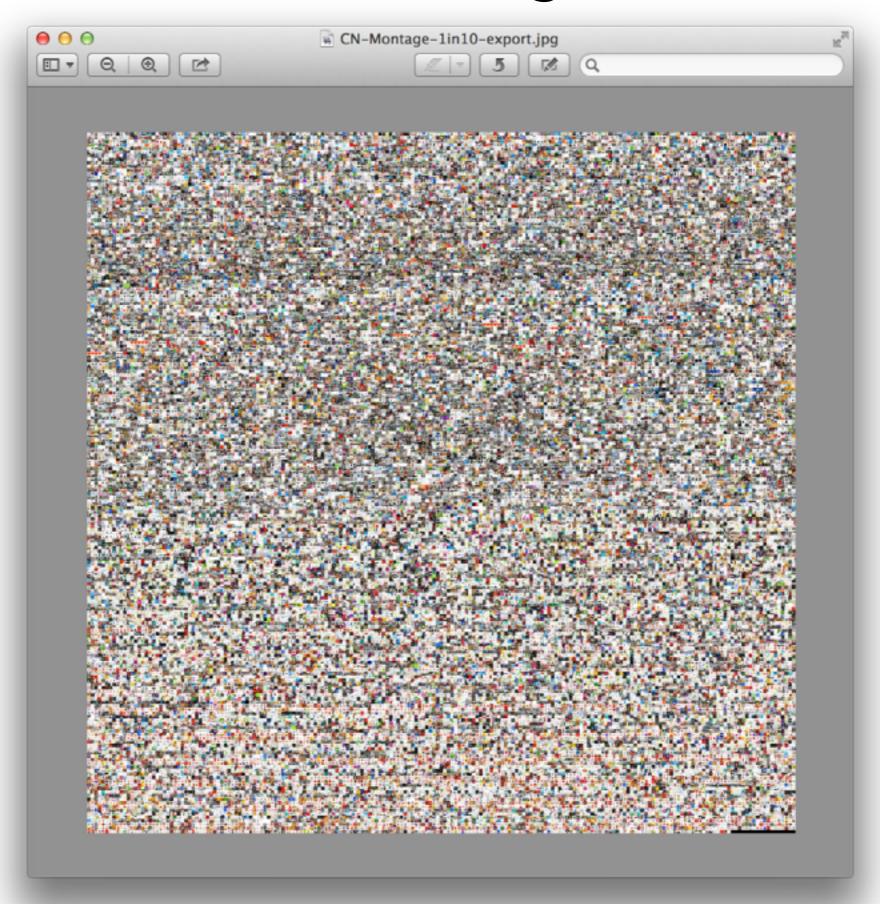
.mil montage



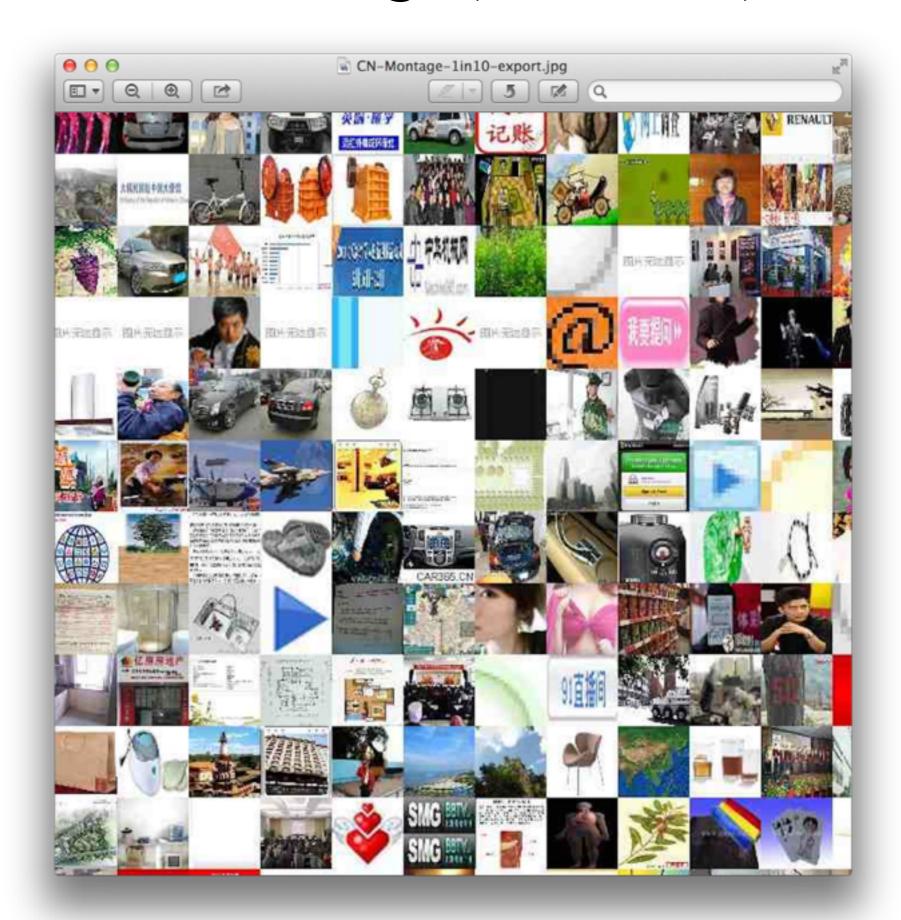
.mil montage (zoomed in)

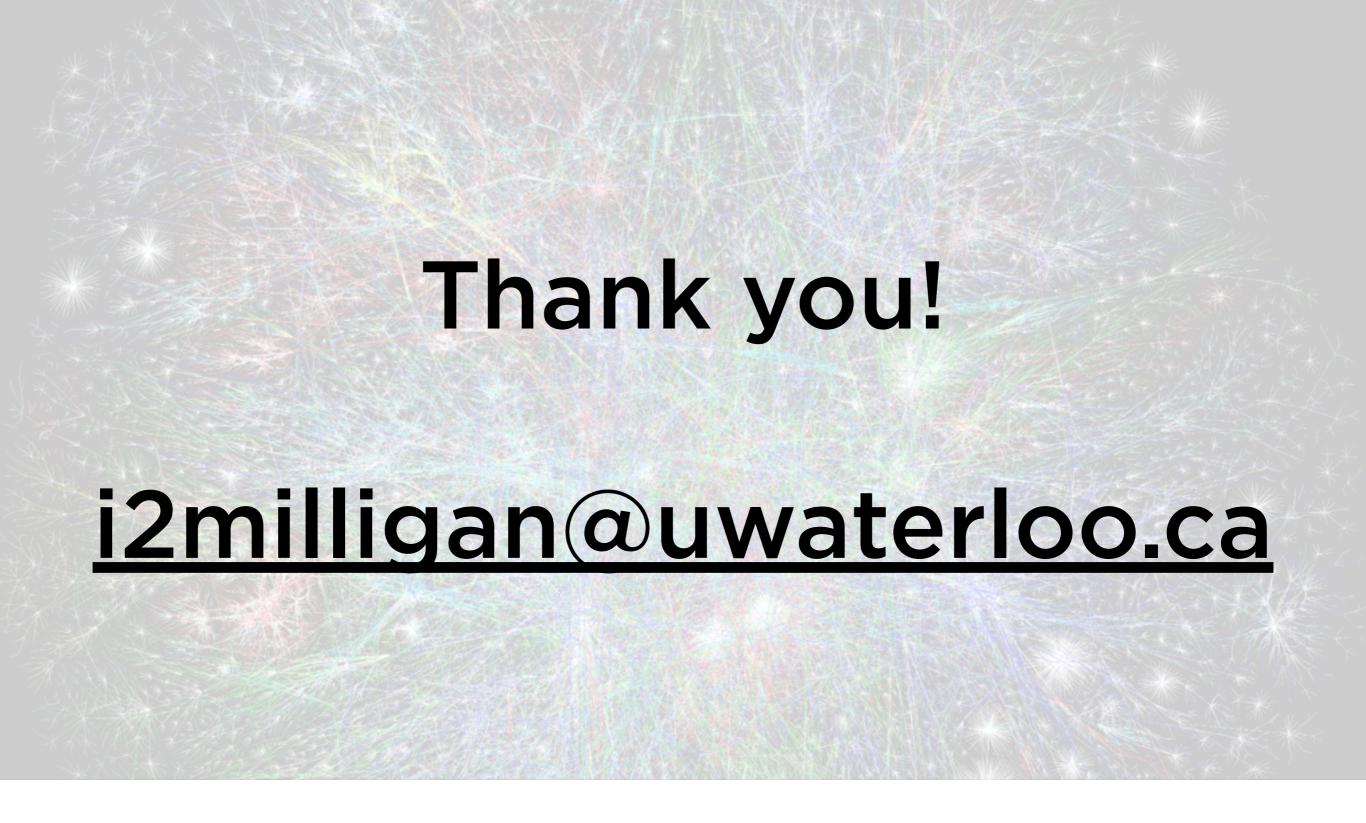


.cn montage



.cn montage (zoomed in)





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