

NCAT (Net Corpus Administration Tool): Concordancing and data visualisation in web-derived corpora

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1. Towards a “sociolinguistics of mobility” for English-lexifier pidgins and creoles

- nonstandard language use and multilingual practices in **postcolonial diasporic web forums** from Nigeria
- **vernaculars** vs. **repertoires**; local **speech communities** vs. web-based **communities of practice**
- structural features of **varieties / dialects** vs. resources for the creation of **medium-specific styles**
- from *Varieties of English around the World* through *Postcolonial Englishes* to the *Sociolinguistics of Globalization* and the role of Global English in a multilingual world

2. Drawing the dialect map of cyberspace for the “Corpus of Cyber-Nigerian” (CCN)



Fig. 1: Search item *a* → CCN is global, with three regional foci

Fig. 2: Search item *whack* → contact among varieties



Fig. 3: Search item *wetin be* → Precise geolocation

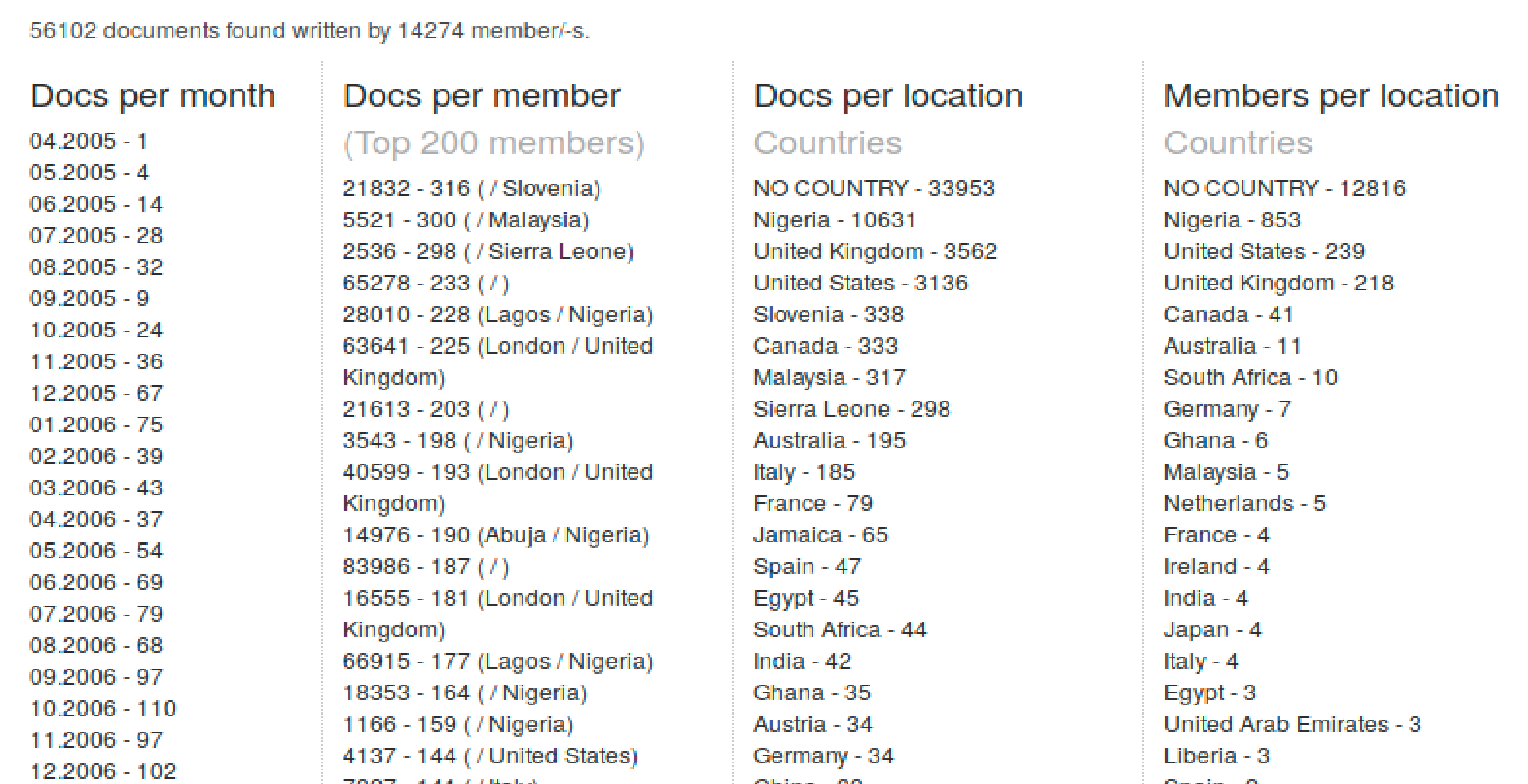


Fig. 4: Info Stats for *wetin be* → statistics for the map

3. Data-Base

- Corpus of “Cyber-Nigerian” (CCN)
- <http://www.nairaland.com>
- 302,714 members
- 19,169,867 posts
- 843 million tokens
- 2005 - 2014

4. Sample Text

e no go better for v too...wetin do dis one i no understand o,i
never violated any rules n regulations for here n even if i do e
no warrant such pronouncements, haba! biko,ma binu,I'm
sorry gan. E go better for all of us! (CCN, 15657020)

4. Research with NCAT

Honkanen, Mirka. Forthcoming. *World Englishes on the Web: The Nigerian Diaspora in the United States* (Varieties of English around the World). Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Honkanen, Mirka. Forthcoming. “This word no get concrete meaning oo’: Pragmatic markers in Nigerian multilingual online communication.” In *Communicative Action and Interaction in Africa* (Pragmatics & Beyond New Series), edited by Susanne Mohr, Jemima A. Anderson and Klaus Schneider. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Heyd, Theresa. 2015. The metacommunicative lexicon of Nigerian Pidgin. *World Englishes*, 34, 669-687.

Heyd, Theresa. 2016. Narratives of Belonging in the Digital Diaspora: Corpus Approaches to a Cultural Concept. *Open Linguistics*, 2(1), 287-299.

For technical specifications & references please see hand-out ↘