

Draft number 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

How Information Grows

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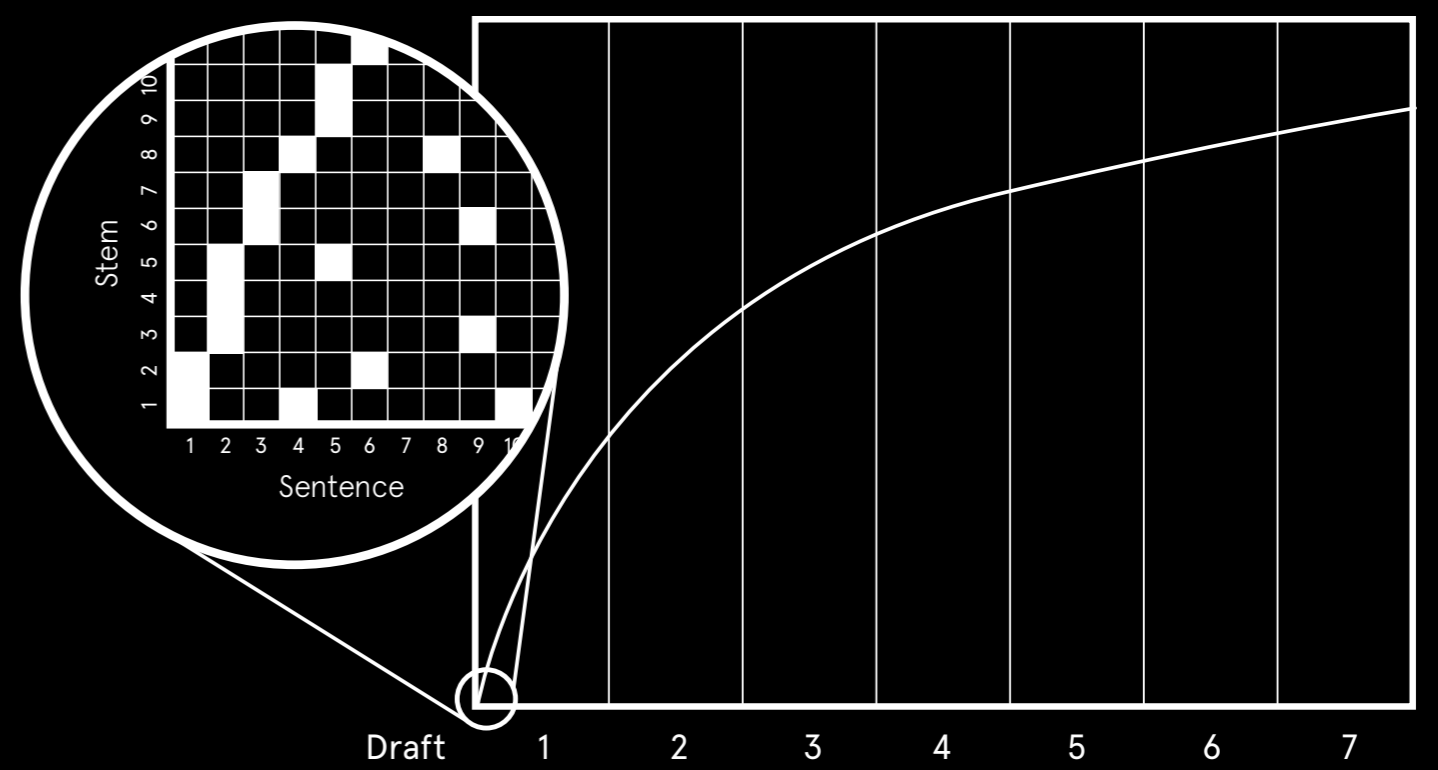
how-info-grows.baltazarperez.com

Text is a human product, intellectual but also physical. A book cannot be made in one blow, but through small increments and iterations.

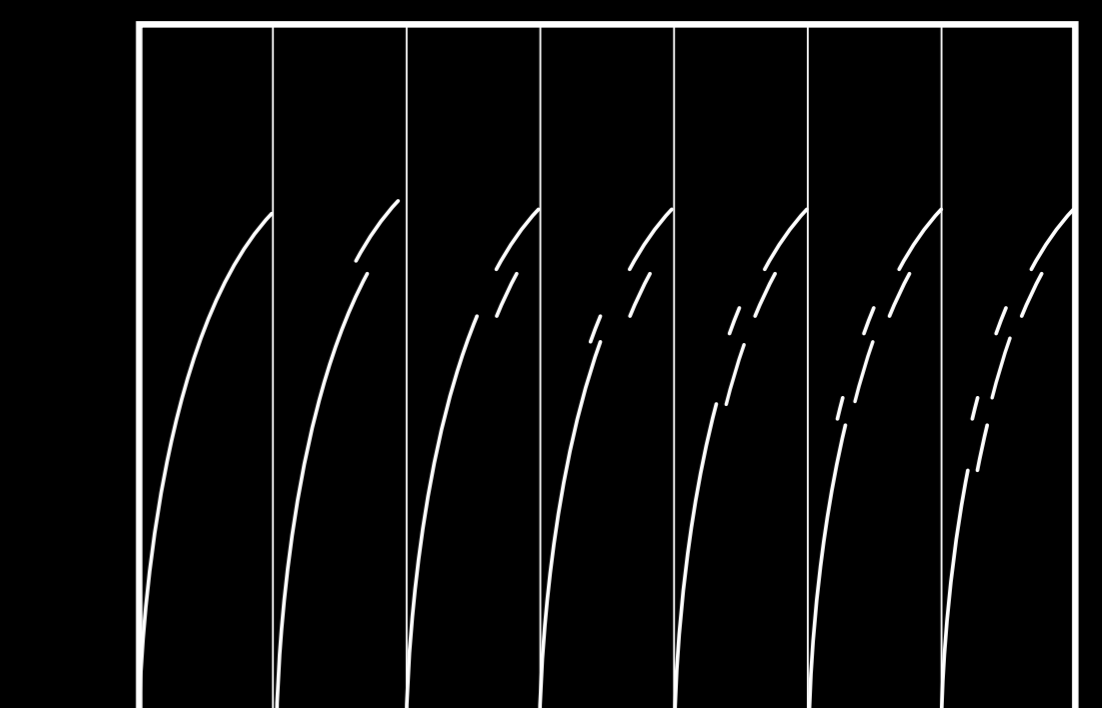
Fifteen drafts of a 250-page book are visualized here in one image. We concatenated the drafts, then reduced the words to stems. From left to right, sentences are displayed as columns where the stems appear as white dots. From bottom to top, each row is a unique stem, stacked in order of appearance. This order is maintained throughout the drafts.

In the first drafts, new stems are rapidly introduced, forming the "new words" curve that delineates the left border. This curve is steep until about Draft number 8, where writing slows down and the editing stage begins.

By doing the same visualization process but starting from a different draft (in a draft loop), editing behaviour at different stages of the writing process becomes clear. Scan the QR code or visit the project webpage to see the full loop.



Draft 1 2 3 4 5 6 7



Draft 3 4 5 6 7 1 2

