Twitter Setup Guide

For Python

Beforehand

* Have a Twitter account made
  + **If not**, make an account at <https://twitter.com/signup?lang=en>
    - Enter email and name text boxes
    - Enter a phone number
      * This is something that is actually mandatory for the Twitter API because it assumes you’re using the API for app reasons, so having a phone attached to the account is needed.
      * This will send a verification code in a text to that number, which will be needed to verify that number.
    - Enter a username (twitter handle) (@example)
      * This is seen by other users
      * This can be changed later
      * It *has* to be a unique handle
      * It is specifically used in the code to gather the tweet timeline
    - Topics of interest are optional
    - Importing contacts is optional
    - Following accounts is optional
    - Turning on notifications is optional
    - Verify the account by confirming the email that was sent to the account email
* Be signed into the desired twitter account through your web browser
* Install the Python Twitter Library:
  + pip install python-twitter

Setup

1. Go to <https://apps.twitter.com>
2. Click **Create New App**
3. Insert a name
   1. This must be unique
4. Insert a description
5. Insert your application’s website url
   1. (<http://ee.bradley.edu/projects/proj2018/iot_display/>)
6. Select the box after you’ve “read and agreed” with the Twitter Developer Agreement
7. Click **Create your Twitter Application**
8. Click on the “Keys and Access Tokens” at the middle-top of the screen
9. Here, you’ll need 4 keys to fill into the Twitter code:
   1. Consumer Key (API Key)
   2. Consumer Secret (API Secret)
   3. Access Token
   4. Access Token Secret
10. These should be copy and pasted into the correct locations in the code

Code

The following code can be found on our GitHub at, <https://github.com/bdaszkiewicz/info_display>

Additionally, the code will be shown below. The username (Twitter handle) and the 4 keys must be input into the code, and the rest of the functionality can be adjusted and amended to depending on what additional aspects wanted to be added.

|  |
| --- |
| import twitter |
|  |  |
|  | def getTweets(): |
|  |  |
|  | #"You can get all 4 by heading over to # https://apps.twitter.com. # |
|  |  |
|  | #Once there, sign in with your Twitter account and click on “Create New App” button. |
|  |  |
|  | #Fill in required information (note that app name must be unique) |
|  | # and select “Create Your Twitter Application”. |
|  |  |
|  | #You will be taken to your application view. |
|  | # There click on “Keys and Access Tokens” tab. |
|  | # Look for section called Token Actions and click on “Create my Access Token”. |
|  | # The page should refresh, and if everything went well you should see both |
|  | # Consumer Key/Secret and Access Token/Secret." |
|  | # - (@akras14) |
|  |  |
|  | api = twitter.Api(consumer\_key=xyz', #Fill in -- Replace with user twitter keys |
|  | consumer\_secret='xyz', #Fill in |
|  | access\_token\_key=xyz', #Fill in |
|  | access\_token\_secret='xyz') #fill in |
|  |  |
|  | #print(api.VerifyCredentials()) |
|  |  |
|  | t = api.GetUserTimeline(screen\_name="realDonaldTrump", count=5) #Put username here, can change count |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | #"The following command uses list comprehension |
|  | #which is just a hipster way of doing a for loop on every Tweet, |
|  | #converting it to a Dictionary via built in “AsDict” method, |
|  | #and storing all of the converted Tweets into a List." |
|  | # -(@akras14) |
|  |  |
|  | tweets = [i.AsDict() for i in t] |
|  |  |
|  | returnedTweet = ['time','text'] |
|  | returnedTweetsList = [] |
|  |  |
|  | for t in tweets: |
|  | #print('\n', t['id'], t['text']) |
|  | #print('Time: ' + t['created\_at']) |
|  | #print(t['text'] + '\n') |
|  | text = t['text'] |
|  | text = text.encode('ascii', 'ignore') |
|  | returnedTweet[0] = t['created\_at'] |
|  | returnedTweet[1] = text |
|  |  |
|  | #Below, searches each tweet and updates status |
|  | #technically last tweet will change the last status |
|  | if (t['text'].find("\*Available")): |
|  | status = 3; |
|  | #Status 3 = Available |
|  | if (t['text'].find("\*Busy")): |
|  | status = 2; |
|  | #Status 2 = Busy |
|  | if (t['text'].find("\*Away")): |
|  | status = 1; |
|  | #Status 1 = Away |
|  | if (t['text'].find("\*hide")) or (t['text'].find("\*offline")): |
|  | status = 0; |
|  | #Status 0 = Hide availability meter |
|  |  |
|  | returnedTweetsList.append(returnedTweet[0:]) |
|  |  |
|  | returnObject = [returnedTweetsList,status] |
|  |  |
|  | return (returnObject) |

Save this code and run it after the 4 keys have been put in at the top and the correct username has been entered, and it should return the (‘count’) latest tweets

References

<https://www.alexkras.com/how-to-get-user-feed-with-twitter-api-and-python/>

<https://python-twitter.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>