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Twitter's handling of right-wing users

Bachelor/Master-Seminar: Data Analysis - Cyber-Crime and undesirable online behaviours

What are we doing?
- Overview over topics/hashtags/tweets in far-right circles/„bubbles" on German Twitter
- collecting data on accounts and behaviour (interactions, who they „target", who they retweet)
- building bots using collected data to counteract those accounts („honeybots")
- analyzing „life-span" of honeybots (reports against bot-account)

How is data collected?
- mainly Python Tweepy library and exports in excel or CSV
- maybe VBA for data visualization
- bots with Python+Tweepy, „Cheap Bots Done Quick"(JSON/Tracery) (online tool to create bots using a JSON file with phrases to tweet)

How we plan to implement
- run several python scripts to collect data from those right users by searching for certain keywords, visualize WordClouds to see what is trending
- as we get more data we can specify better keywords and hashtags, maybe in connection to current events
- using this data to make a certain amount of bots (maybe 50)
- analyze the interaction with these bots with Python
- visualize the results

Why is it relevant?
- more AfD-politicians are using Twitter actively, large number of followers
- far-right movement is even more present on Social Media, but Twitter has less strict rules (compared to Facebook)
- interesting to see if/how fast Twitter will remove bots, which are attacking right users or if the others are deleted first

What are the results we are expecting?
- experiment confirms/contradicts our assumptions that twitter not only has a problem with far-right users, but also does not actively remove them from the platform, even though they are being reported by those they harass

Main sources:
- https://medium.com/@NoraReed/hook-bait-and-camouflage-making-a-honeybot-28a9ccfe0bed
- https://datascienceplus.com/twitter-analysis-with-python/
- https://cheapbotsdonequick.com