

Twitter Analysis: Identifying A Pro-Indonesian Propaganda Bot Network

September 3, 2019
Bots Indonesia

The ongoing conflict in West Papua has surged recently as the West Papuan freedom movement seeks independence from Indonesia.

While aggression has been documented on both sides, there are grave concerns that Indonesian security forces have been responsible for human rights abuses through the violent suppression of West Papuans in their pursuit of independence.

Hostilities have recently erupted in both Indonesia and West Papua. In August, protests were quashed by security forces with events seeing Papuan students tear gassed in their dormitories in East Java and security forces assisting violent mobs in an attack on Papuan protestors in Fakfak.

Much of the conflict has been waged on the streets, but the fight has also spilled over into the digital world — as censorship and disinformation. While there has been targeted internet disruption in Papua and Indonesia, and the banning of counter narrative YouTube content, something that has not been exposed, until now, is an active bot network disseminating pro-government content through major social media platforms.

The campaign, fuelled by a network of bot accounts on Twitter, expands to Instagram, Facebook and YouTube. The content is spread in Tweets using specific hashtags such as #FreeWestPapua, #WestPapuaGenocide, #WestPapua and #fwpc.

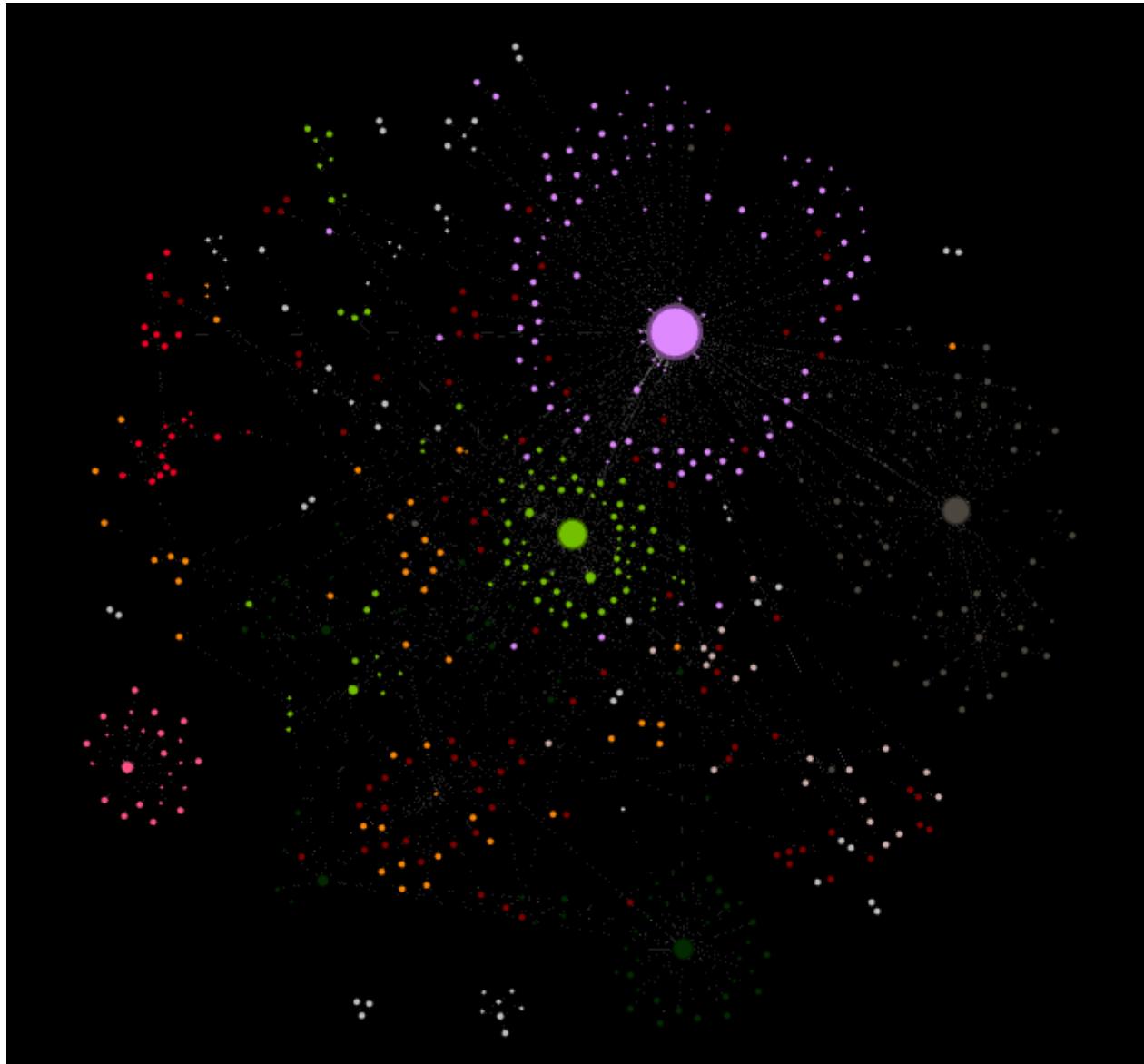
Conducting The Network Analysis

These findings came after capturing activity from Twitter using the #WestPapua and #FreeWestPapua tags from August 29 — September 2, 2019. The captured data was used to perform the network analysis.

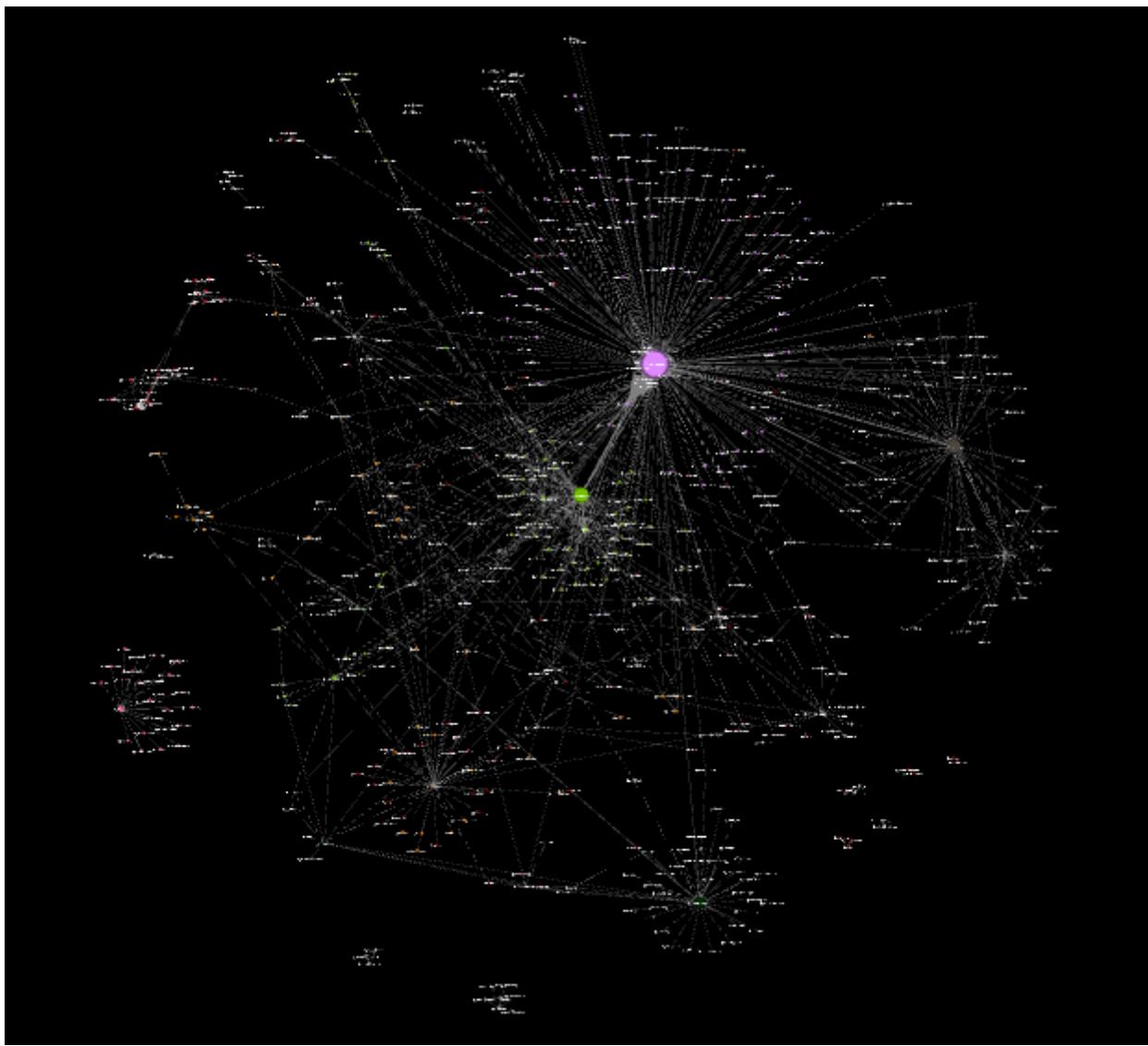
Using this data, I built an itemised dataset of:

- Usernames that tweeted the above tags
- Usernames that retweeted and liked the posts
- Timestamps
- URL
- The type of activity (tweet, retweet, quote, mention).

With this working dataset, I was able to visualise the respective networks via the open source visualisation platform Gephi. Below is a visualisation of the entire capture.



Opening the graph for analysis, labels and clusters are illustrated below:



The data is represented through two mediums: nodes and edges.

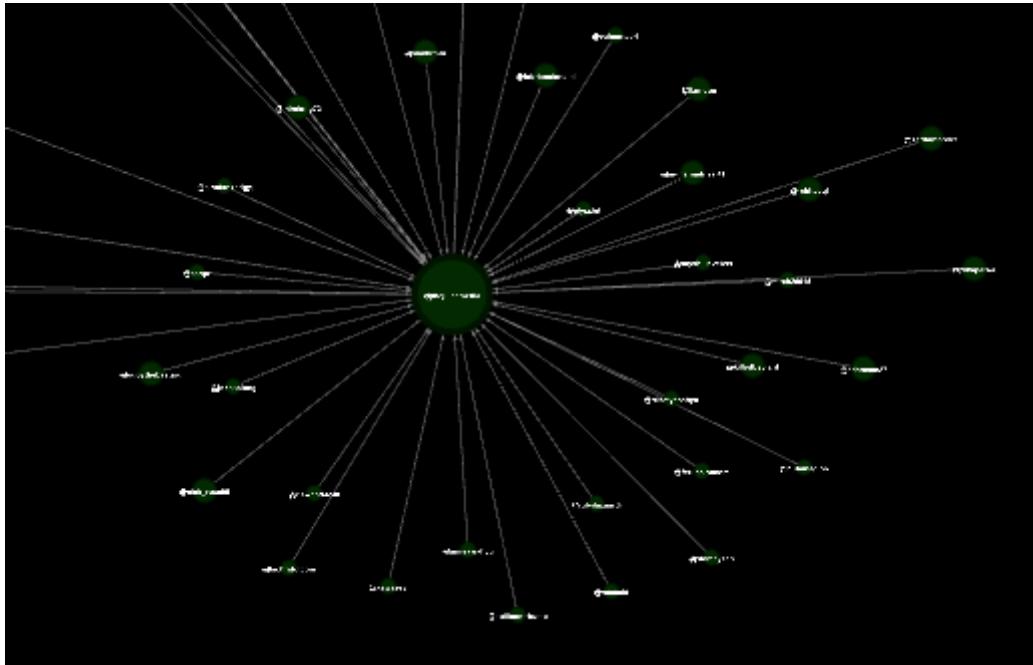
The nodes are the round coloured circles you are seeing, they are twitter accounts and vary in size based on the interaction of the account.

The edges are the lines between them. They represent the relationship between the accounts. In the captured data this is a mention, like, retweet or quote.

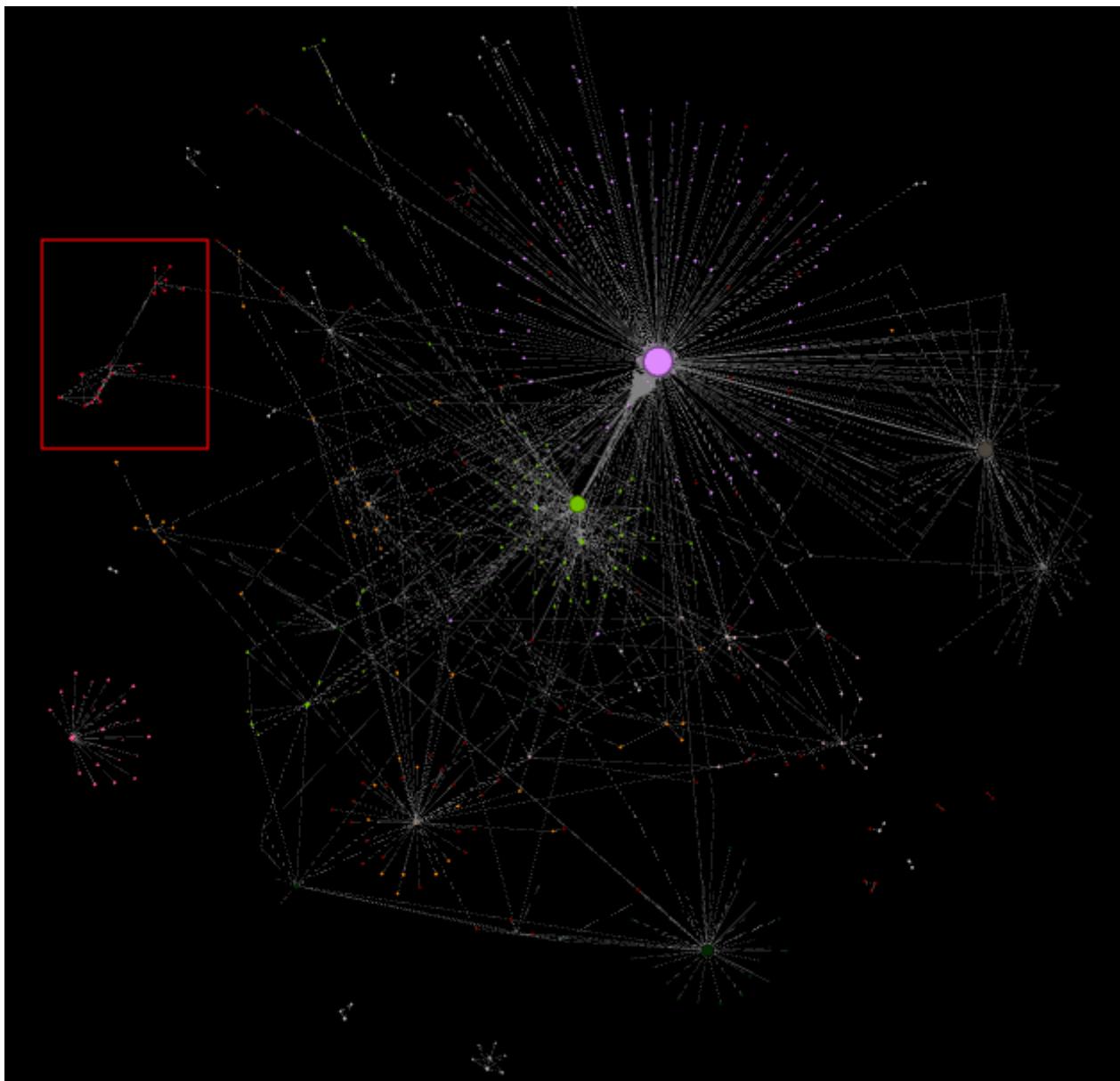
Most networks have “influencer” bubbles. These are the larger circles. They’re often accounts that have a large following. On the visualisation, they are represented much like perfectly shaped fireworks. Any interactions they have had are captured around them in circular fashion.

Below is a representation of what happens when an “influencer” bubble usually posts a tweet. In this example, the account in the center is @thejuicemedia. They recently

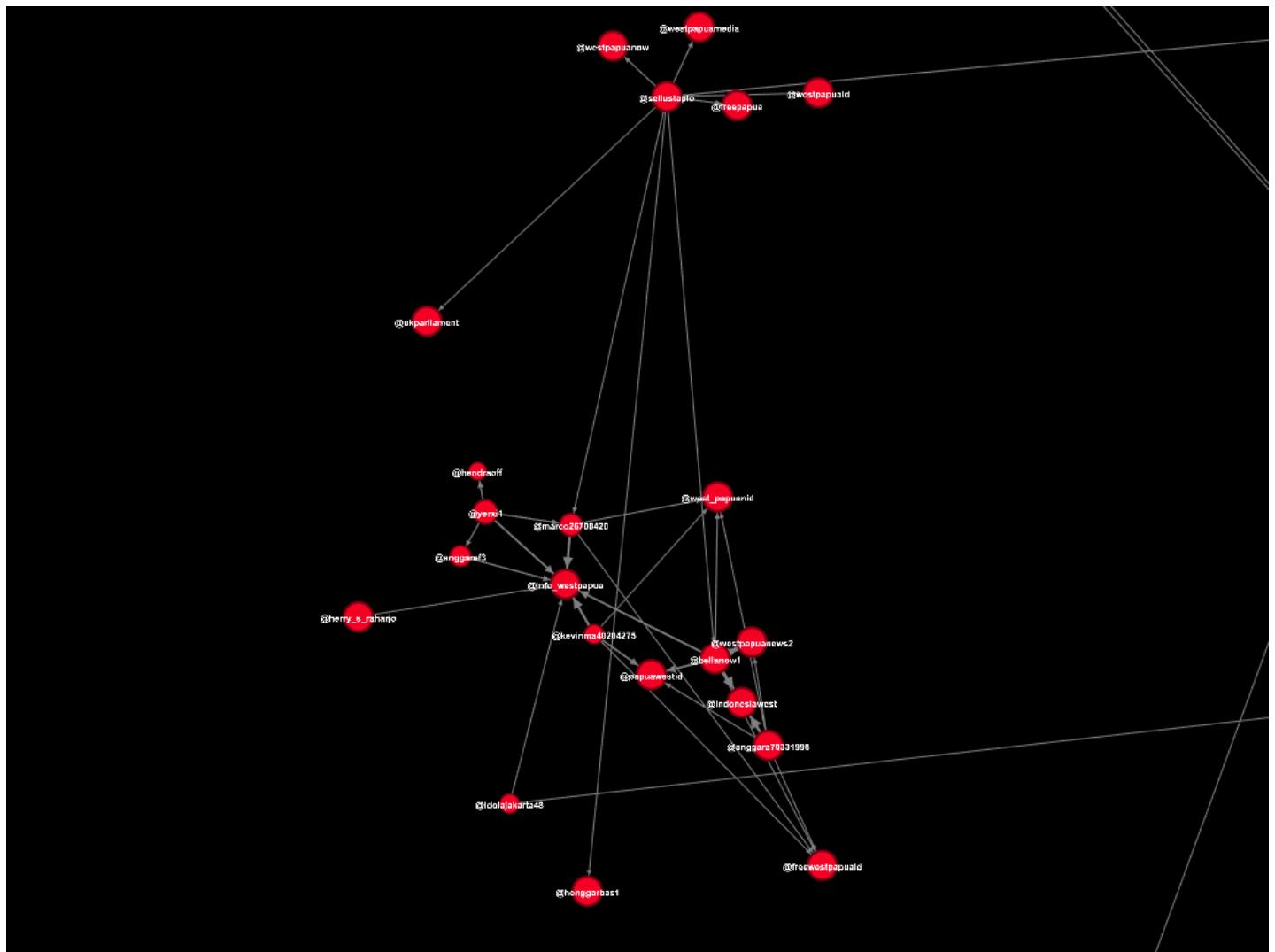
posted a satire video on YouTube which was banned in Indonesia after the Indonesian Government made a legal complaint to YouTube.



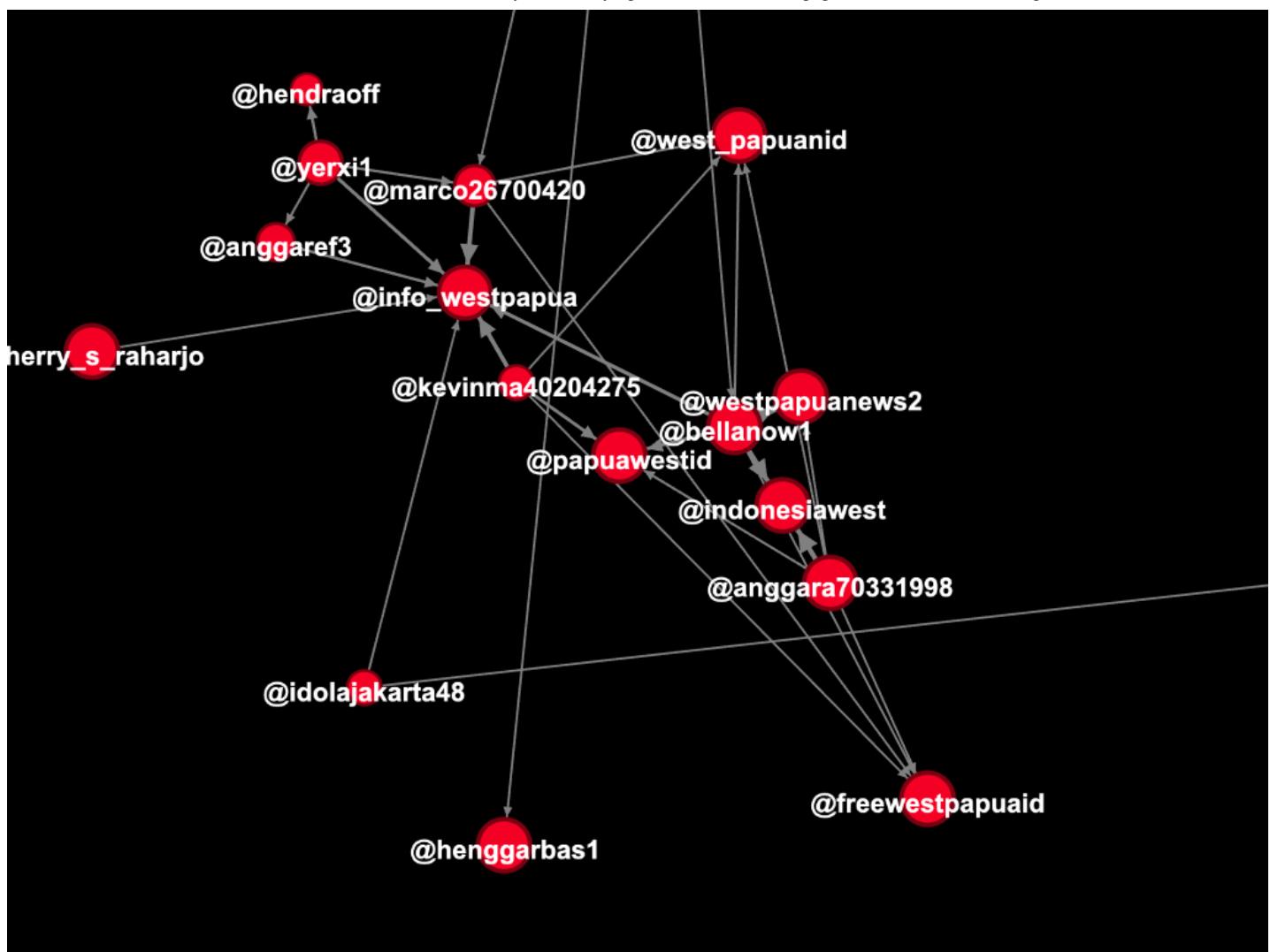
One of these networks has a unique appearance in comparison to the others. I have highlighted it below in a red box.



Zooming in on that constellation provides me with a series of Twitter accounts acting in a behaviour that is not normal in comparison to the other networks.

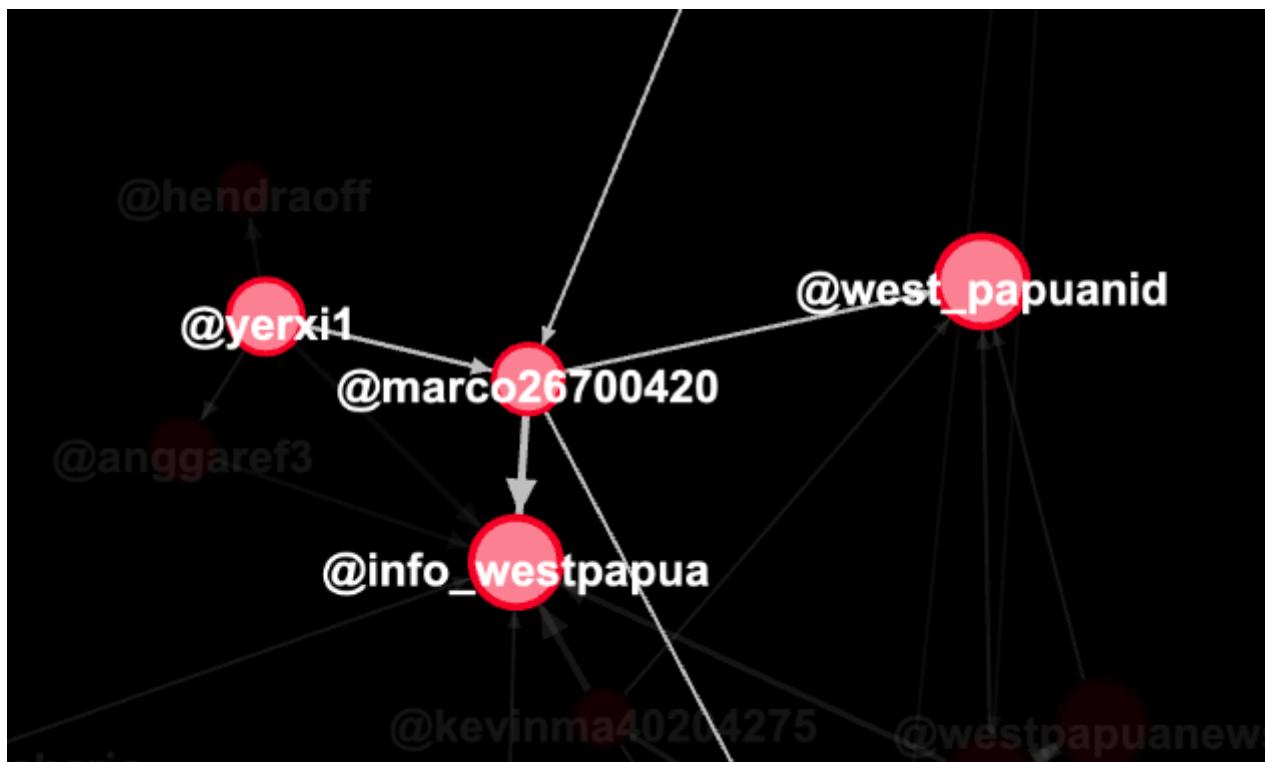


I'll zoom in on the cluster of accounts causing this irregularity in the system so we can identify the accounts responsible.



Twitter Level Analysis

In that network we can identify the individual accounts that are reacting with each other in this different manner. First, let's take a look at the account @marco26700420. I archived the account through the Wayback Machine.



This bot was created in June 2019. Its purpose is to disseminate information attached to various hashtags about West Papua and the freedom movement.

marco
@marco26700420
Joined June 2019
37 Following 25 Followers
Not followed by anyone you're following

A simple Yandex reverse image search on the profile image shows this account is not genuine.

Яндекс

To find

Search **Pictures** Video Cards Market News Air Music More

Similar Images

Sites where the picture occurs



Opinions's hahathanks - GirlsAskGuys

www.girlsaskguys.com

Relationships.



What's the most intense workout plan you've ever tried? - GirlsAskGuys

www.girlsaskguys.com

thebamboozler

We can identify it is a bot as its followers and the accounts it is following match with the names in this network. All of the tweets are the same as the others, with the same tags. Many of those tweets imply that this account is pushing an interesting perspective, for example:

"What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here."

This exact sentence was published by many of the other bots in their own individual tweets using the hashtags #westpapuagenocide and #freewestpapua. The content of the video is about "what Indonesia is trying to hide in West Papua." It lists better budget monitoring through an app built by the government.

A gif-version of the video can be viewed [here](#).



marco @marco26700420 · 17h

What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.

#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua
#letwestpapuavote



From [Papua West](#)



This same text and video has been re-uploaded to other accounts in the network — all at similar times. All of these accounts use stolen profile images.

bella now @bellanow1 · 12h
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapauvote](#)

anggaref @anggaref3 · 8h
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapauvote](#)

KALEB EDOWAI @edowai_kaleb · Aug 31
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua](#)

kevin marco @kevinma40204275 · 8h
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapauvote](#)

mayaverat8 · 7h
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapauvote](#)

RickRick09 @RickRick09 · 6h
What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here.
[#westpapuagenocide #freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapauvote](#)

Another bot going by the handle [@yerxi1](#), focuses more on retweeting action. We can see it in the graph below. It tags other accounts when it does a retweet mention.



Here is the Twitter account:

JFB? Jennie.
@yerxi1
Roleplayer of Kim Jennie.
Joined January 2019
471 Following 249 Followers
Not followed by anyone you're following

For the profile image, after a quick Yandex reverse image search and a [termed Google reverse image search](#) I found out that the Twitter name gives it away. It's [Jennie Kim](#) – a South Korean rapper (obviously not the real one).

These two accounts are only a part of the network visualised, and the data of that network is only made of tweets captured during a five-day period, so it is likely that there are many more accounts in this bot network than what has been displayed on the graph. Those accounts can be identified by viewing each individual account's followers, and accounts that it is following.

We have seen that there are a number of correlating accounts in this network, but what are they promoting, and where?

Website, Facebook, Youtube & Instagram Accounts

Many of the accounts refer back to more active accounts. One of the more active accounts in the network is [@PapuaWestcom](#).

[Follow](#)

Papua West

@PapuaWestcom

PapuaWest.com is an online media which provides updated information related to business in the West Papua region.

⌚ Papua Barat, Indonesia ⚡ papuawest.com 📅 Joined August 2018

0 Following 211 Followers

Not followed by anyone you're following

[Tweets](#)[Tweets & replies](#)[Media](#)[Likes](#)

This account runs tweets with video campaigns, some of which are promotional material for the Indonesian government and military in their work in West Papua. The video in the tweet below can be viewed [here](#).

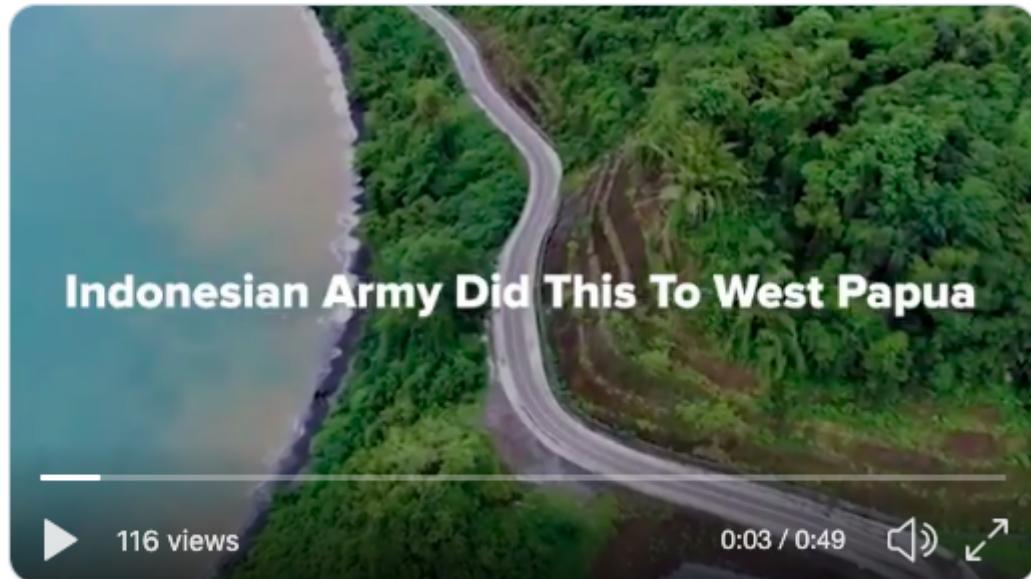
Pinned Tweet



Papua West @PapuaWestcom · Mar 6

Building West Papua is not easy. What are the challenges of building West Papua?

#WestPapuaIndonesia #WestPapua #Papualand #PapuaIndonesia
#ExplorePapua #Infrastructure #TransPapua #EconomyPapua #Education



1

3

4



This twitter account promotes the website [Papua West](#). The about section of the site claims: "PapuaWest.com is an online media which provides updated information related to business in the West Papua region". The page is not only running a Twitter account, but also a [Facebook Page](#) with 50,000+ followers and a YouTube channel, where it spreads the same video content.

This screenshot shows the Facebook page for Papua West (@aboutpapuawest). The page has 56,297 likes and 56,484 followers. A recent post features a video thumbnail of a person wearing a red and white headband with 'RI' on it, pointing. The video title is 'West Papua is Indonesia. We are all brothers.' The post has 1.4K likes, 100 comments, and 41 shares. The page also includes sections for About, Community, and Page Transparency.

About Papua West

Presenting you with updated information related to discrepancy issues on West Papua.

Community

Invite your friends to like this Page
56,297 people like this
56,484 people follow this

About

Send Message
papuawest.com
Community
Suggest Edits

Page Transparency

Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.

If you peruse the network, you will find another interesting Twitter account — [@West_Papua_ID](#). It works in conjunction with the network to boost tweets and, much like the bot account of Papua West (above), it has its own accounts on other social media platforms and a website.

West Papua Indonesia
@West_Papua_ID

West Papua Indonesia is media that discusses about pluralism fact and data in West Papua.

⌚ Papua Barat, Indonesia ⌚ westpapuaindonesia.com 📅 Joined August 2018

349 Following **262** Followers

Not followed by anyone you're following

@West_Papua_ID's website is westpapuaindonesia.com, and links to a popular [YouTube account](#), an [Instagram account](#) with 10.3k followers and a [Facebook page](#) with 152k followers, all of which are disseminating the same pro-Indonesian Government material about West Papua.

The Instagram account of Westpapua.id runs all of the same content as what the bot network was posting on Twitter.

westpapua.id [Follow](#)

290 posts 10.3k followers 334 following

West Papua Indonesia
Discussing pluralism, Bhineka Tunggal Ika, and West Papua.
westpapuaindonesia.com

[POSTS](#) [TAGGED](#)

Kami Minta Maaf
pada Seluruh Warga Papua

BAGI MU NEGERI
KAMI MENGABDI UNTUK PAPUA

Pembelaan 'Monyet' di Surabaya
Kerusuhan di Manokwari, Pap'

I ran an [Instagram audit](#) on the account which resulted in a 34% real follower count.

westpapua.id
Followers: 10.3K

Average: 187.5
Expected: 350.6 Average: 6.6
Expected: 11.0

Estimated Real Followers:
34%

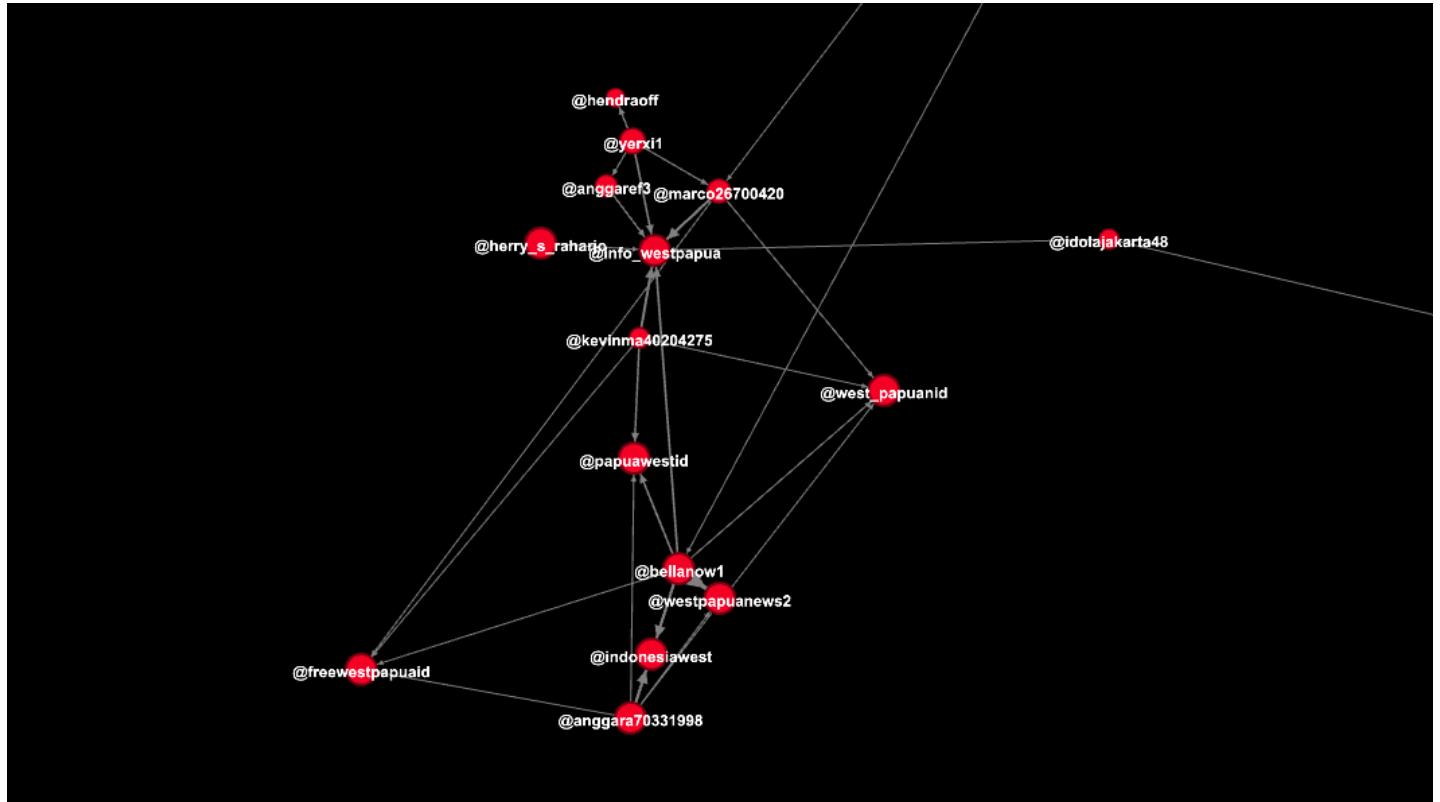
[authentique_inc](#) 16.4K [Subscribe](#) 2.3K [Embed](#)

We now know that these accounts are pushing and circulating promotional content on the Indonesian relationship with West Papua, we have identified who (or what) is doing it, and where it is taking place. Now we can look at how the bot network runs.

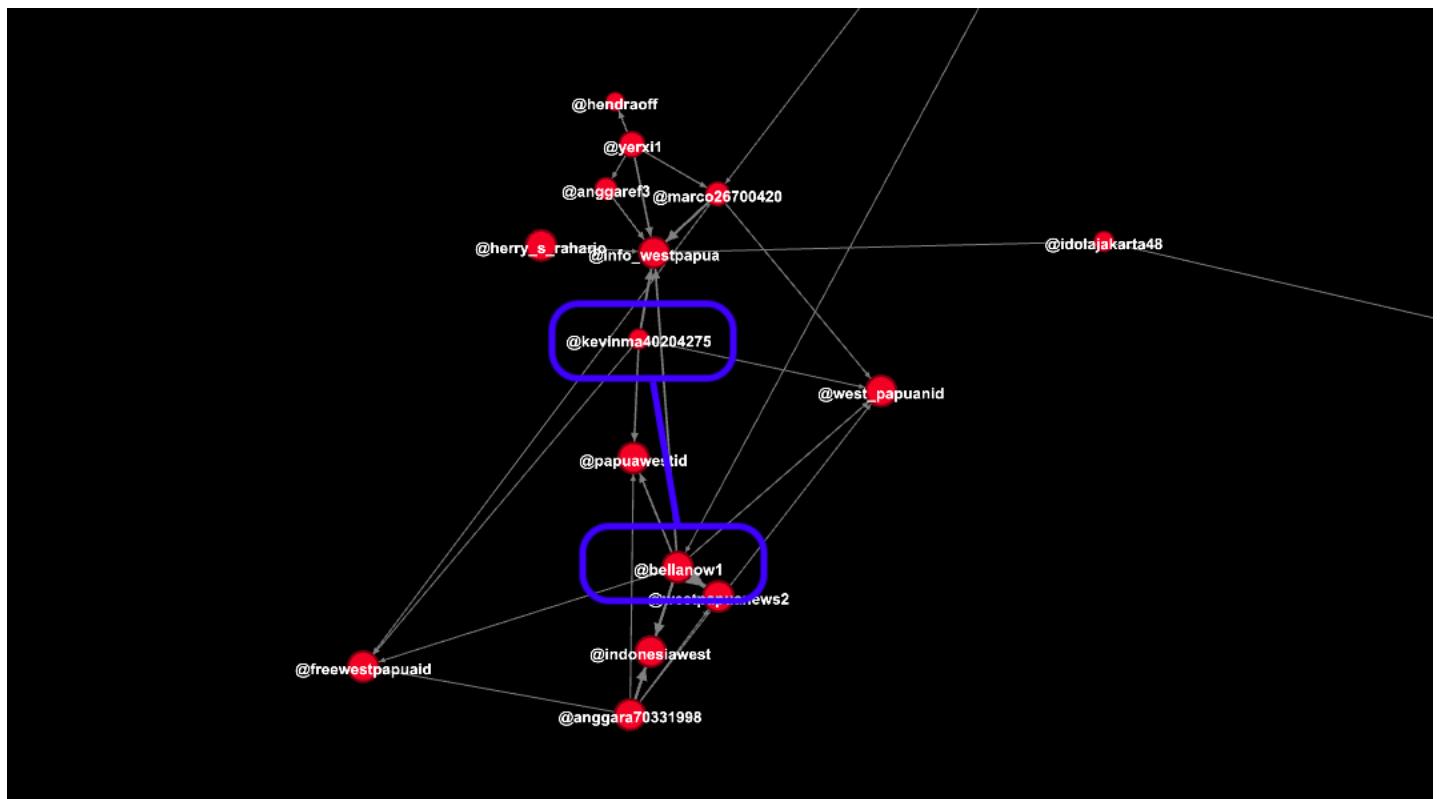
Bot Deployment Analysis

A further analysis of the bot network can tell us how it works in its automated posting. For this we can look at the time any activity was deployed from the accounts.

To do that, I selected and compared randomly chosen accounts out of the network cluster identified earlier.



For the purpose of this post, I will use the following two in the comparison:
@kevinma40204275 and @bellanow1.



To identify when these bots deployed their content, I pulled all of their past tweets into a spreadsheet. I did this by using a Python script available on GitHub called [Twint](#).

I pulled all of the tweets using the code:

```
sudo twint -u bellanow1 -media -o papuabots1 -csv
```

Below is a screenshot of what that looks like when the command is performed.

```
Last login: Mon Sep 2 13:00:48 on ttys000
$ cd twint/
$ sudo twint -u bellanow1 --media -o papuabots12 --csv

1168517163491055968 2019-09-02 14:32:56 BST <bellanow1> 3 Good News from West Papua pic.twitter.com/lrlH8r25Xs #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168510738892505088 2019-09-02 14:07:22 BST <bellanow1> On August 2nd, 2019, British activists held a protest against ULMWP (United Liberation Movement for West Papua), asking them to stop using unde
rage children as soldiers in West Papua conflict. pic.twitter.com/2P4H920unC #westpapua #fwpc #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia
1168456280888836999 2019-09-02 13:07:21 BST <bellanow1> Is West Papua Left Behind pic.twitter.com/BaJcIML853 #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #freewestpapua west papua #SaPapu
aSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168486598686142982 2019-09-02 12:32:54 BST <bellanow1> I'm not afraid to die, for Merah-Putih! Indonesia Undisputed! Location: Fak Fak, Papua Barat, 21 Agustus 2019 #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaInd
onesia #PelukPapua #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc west papua #KitaSatuIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168486538333699985 2019-09-02 12:07:24 BST <bellanow1> Meet Listra Kogoya, First Female Lieutenant from West Papua Mountains pic.twitter.com/KmZp5W6uRR #freewestpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaInd
onesia #PelukPapua
1168471862285725696 2019-09-02 11:32:52 BST <bellanow1> For brothers and sisters in Papua, Indonesia regrets profusely, sincerely apologetic for what has been done. Regardless of race, ethnicity, rel
igion, and skin color; I am you are, we are, they are Indonesia. pic.twitter.com/V2HKHC0iR #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia west papua
1168457752872663042 2019-09-02 10:36:51 BST <bellanow1> #RT #Info_Westpapua: 6. As a result, shopping centers and offices are still closed. School activities are closed until conditions are conducive.
#westpapua #papua #TNIBisaJagaPapua pic.twitter.com/z0K89qvU
116845775756475894272 2019-09-02 10:36:51 BST <bellanow1> #RT #Info_Westpapua: 5. The gripping demonstration was marked by acts of destroying security forces' cars, stoning, destruction of public facilities to the burning of the office of the Papuan People's Assembly. #westpapua #papua #TNIBisaJagaPapua pic.twitter.com/Ck6SGE183Q
1168457746628617728 2019-09-02 10:36:50 BST <bellanow1> #RT #Info_Westpapua: 2. Kapendam XVII / Cenderawasih CPL Lieutenant Colonel Eko Daryanto said there were as many as 1,000 people who claimed to
be afraid of going home because of the clashes between demonstrators and residents #westpapua #papua #TNIBisa... pic.twitter.com/yW5oVPsGEX
1168457742127992720 2019-09-02 10:36:49 BST <bellanow1> #RT #Info_Westpapua: TNI-Polri Deploy 10 Trucks for Evacuation of Masses Who Afraid to Return #westpapua #papua #TNIBisaJagaPapua pic.twitter.
com/MANxNeJmz4
11684583219498859944 2019-09-02 10:07:19 BST <bellanow1> Two young West Papuan women, Vanda Korisiana from Abepura and Martha Itaar from Jayapura are making history. especially those in West Papua to b
e a pride of their country. pic.twitter.com/s960tLFEx #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua #PelukPapua
1168429138757943298 2019-09-02 08:07:23 BST <bellanow1> Why are there Papuans who wanted to be independent while the other majority wanted to be united with Indonesia? pic.twitter.com/kKKwzMKd8MB #fr
eewestpapua #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc west papua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua #PelukPapua
1168411482859507712 2019-09-02 07:33:00 BST <bellanow1> There is much more of Indonesia, a nation with more than 17,000 islands, worth discovering beyond Bali. pic.twitter.com/HFV0ahVXmy #westpapua
#SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua west papua #PelukPapua
11683359644642537472 2019-09-02 07:32:55 BST <bellanow1> What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here. pic.twitter.com/xNYeCsbW9 #westpapuagenocide
#freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapuavote
1168314429366161408 2019-09-02 01:32:20 BST <bellanow1> Lighting Up West Papua pic.twitter.com/TDDlautBla #PelukPapua #fwpc #freewestpapua #westpapua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia
1168269654692288890 2019-09-01 23:32:52 BST <bellanow1> Is West Papua Left Behind pic.twitter.com/BaJcIML853 #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #freewestpapua west papua #SaPapua
aSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168275555779415424 2019-09-01 22:32:52 BST <bellanow1> 3 Good News from West Papua pic.twitter.com/lrlH8r25Xs #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168269854785946620 2019-09-01 22:07:02 BST <bellanow1> Two young West Papuan women, Vanda Korisiana from Abepura and Martha Itaar from Jayapura are making history. especially those in West Papua to b
e a pride of their country. pic.twitter.com/s960tLFEx #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua #PelukPapua
1168269456340836352 2019-09-01 21:32:52 BST <bellanow1> For brothers and sisters in Papua, Indonesia regrets profusely, sincerely apologetic for what has been done. Regardless of race, ethnicity, rel
igion, and skin color; I am you are, we are, they are Indonesia. pic.twitter.com/V2HKHC0iR #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia west papua
1168239259904624897 2019-09-01 19:32:53 BST <bellanow1> #RT #Info_Westpapua: Meet Listra Kogoya, First Female Lieutenant from West Papua Mountains pic.twitter.com/KmZp5W6uRR #freewestpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaInd
onesia #westpapua #fwpc #PelukPapua
1168154774098698240 2019-09-01 14:32:56 BST <bellanow1> There is much more of Indonesia, a nation with more than 17,000 islands, worth discovering beyond Bali. pic.twitter.com/HFV0ahVXmy #westpapua
#SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua west papua #PelukPapua
1168139678456057334 2019-09-01 12:32:57 BST <bellanow1> What are some secrets that Indonesia have been hiding in West Papua? Find out the answers here. pic.twitter.com/xNYeCsbW9 #westpapuagenocide
#freewestpapua #westpapua #fwpc west papua #letwestpapuavote
11681245754322990613 2019-09-01 12:07:27 BST <bellanow1> Why are there Papuans who wanted to be independent while the other majority wanted to be united with Indonesia? pic.twitter.com/kKKwzMKd8MB #fr
eewestpapua #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc west papua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1168126913225126917 2019-09-01 11:07:27 BST <bellanow1> Lighting Up West Papua pic.twitter.com/TDDlautBla #PelukPapua #fwpc #freewestpapua #westpapua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia
1168094374879124545 2019-09-01 19:32:53 BST <bellanow1> I'm not afraid to die, for Merah-Putih! Indonesia Undisputed! Location: Fak Fak, Papua Barat, 21 Agustus 2019 #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaInd
onesia pic.twitter.com/e1DrMKaiHN #freewestpapua #westpapua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #fwpc west papua #KitaSatuIndonesia #PelukPapua
1167928273159897088 2019-08-31 23:32:54 BST <bellanow1> On August 2nd, 2019, British activists held a protest against ULMWP (United Liberation Movement for West Papua), asking them to stop using unde
rage children as soldiers in West Papua conflict. pic.twitter.com/2P4H920unC #westpapua #fwpc #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia
1167913173204094982 2019-08-31 22:32:53 BST <bellanow1> There is much more of Indonesia, a nation with more than 17,000 islands, worth discovering beyond Bali. pic.twitter.com/HFV0ahVXmy #westpapua
#SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia #fwpc #freewestpapua west papua #PelukPapua
116786787297648128 2019-08-31 19:32:53 BST <bellanow1> 3 Good News from West Papua pic.twitter.com/lrlH8r25Xs #fwpc #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #PelukPapua
1167861399428583426 2019-08-31 19:07:10 BST <bellanow1> Lighting Up West Papua pic.twitter.com/TDDlautBla #PelukPapua #fwpc #freewestpapua #westpapua #SaPapuaSaIndonesia #KitaSatuIndonesia
1167816079369998336 2019-08-31 16:07:04 BST <bellanow1> For brothers and sisters in Papua, Indonesia regrets profusely, sincerely apologetic for what has been done. Regardless of race, ethnicity, rel
igion, and skin color; I am you are, we are, they are Indonesia. pic.twitter.com/V2HKHCi171 #westpapua #KitaSatuIndonesia west papua
1167807489389437953 2019-08-31 15:32:56 BST <bellanow1> I'm not afraid to die, for Merah-Putih! Indonesia Undisputed! Location: Fak Fak, Papua Barat, 21 Agustus 2019 #KitaSatuIndonesia #SaPapuaSaInd
```

What I now have is a spreadsheet with all of the tweet data from the @bellanow1 bot account. It is itemised in columns as I commanded Twint to pull it into a csv file.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	
1	id	conversation_id	created_at	date	time	timezone	user_id	username	name	place	tweet	mentions	urls	photos	replies_count	retweets_count	co_likes_count	hashtags	cashtags	link	retweeted
2	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	13:07:21 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Is West Papu	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#sapapuas	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
3	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	12:32:54 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	I'm not afraid	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#kitasatuin	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
4	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	12:07:24 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Meet Listra	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
5	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	11:32:55 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	For brothers	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
6	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	10:36:51 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	#RT @Info_V\Info_westp	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#rt	,#west	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
7	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	10:36:51 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	#RT @Info_V\Info_westp	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#rt	,#west	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
8	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	10:36:50 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	#RT @Info_V\Info_westp	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#rt	,#west	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
9	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	10:36:49 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	#RT @Info_V\Info_westp	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#rt	,#west	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
10	1.1685E+18	1.1685E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	10:07:19 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Two young V	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
11	1.1684E+18	1.1684E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	8:07:23 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Why are they	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
12	1.1684E+18	1.1684E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	7:33:00 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	There is muc	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
13	1.1683E+18	1.1683E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	2:32:55 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	What are soi	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
14	1.1683E+18	1.1683E+18	1.5674E+12	2/9/19	1:07:20 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Lighting Up	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#pelukpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
15	1.1683E+18	1.1683E+18	1.5674E+12	1/9/19	22:32:52 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	3 Good New	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#fwpc	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
16	1.1683E+18	1.1683E+18	1.5674E+12	1/9/19	22:07:02 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Two young V	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
17	1.1683E+18	1.1683E+18	1.5674E+12	1/9/19	21:32:52 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	For brothers	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
18	1.1682E+18	1.1682E+18	1.5674E+12	1/9/19	19:32:53 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Meet Listra	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
19	1.1682E+18	1.1682E+18	1.5674E+12	1/9/19	14:32:56 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	There is muc	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
20	1.1681E+18	1.1681E+18	1.5673E+12	1/9/19	13:32:57 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	What are soi	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
21	1.1681E+18	1.1681E+18	1.5673E+12	1/9/19	12:32:56 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Why are they	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
22	1.1681E+18	1.1681E+18	1.5673E+12	1/9/19	11:07:27 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Lighting Up	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#pelukpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
23	1.1681E+18	1.1681E+18	1.5673E+12	1/9/19	10:32:55 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	I'm not afraid	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#kitasatuin	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
24	1.168E+18	1.168E+18	1.5673E+12	1/9/19	4:32:56 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Is West Papu	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#sapapuas	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
25	1.1679E+18	1.1679E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	23:32:54 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	On August 2	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
26	1.1679E+18	1.1679E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	19:32:53 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	3 Good New	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#fwpc	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
27	1.1679E+18	1.1679E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	19:07:10 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Lighting Up	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#pelukpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
28	1.1678E+18	1.1678E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	16:07:04 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	For brothers	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
29	1.1678E+18	1.1678E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	15:32:56 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	I'm not afraid	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#kitasatuin	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
30	1.1678E+18	1.1678E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	15:07:24 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Meet Listra	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
31	1.1678E+18	1.1678E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	14:32:56 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	3 Good New	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#fwpc	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
32	1.1678E+18	1.1678E+18	1.5673E+12	31/8/19	14:07:24 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Why are they	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#freetwestp	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
33	1.1677E+18	1.1677E+18	1.5672E+12	31/8/19	11:07:25 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	There is muc	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
34	1.1677E+18	1.1677E+18	1.5672E+12	31/8/19	10:07:18 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	On August 2	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
35	1.1677E+18	1.1677E+18	1.5672E+12	31/8/19	8:32:55 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	What are soi	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpape	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
36	1.1677E+18	1.1677E+18	1.5672E+12	31/8/19	7:33:03 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Two young V	[]	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#westpapu	[]	https://twitt	FALSE
37	1.1677E+18	1.1677E+18	1.5672E+12	31/8/19	5:13:01 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	Is West Papu	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#sapapuas	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	
38	1.1674E+18	1.1674E+18	1.5672E+12	30/8/19	14:06:43 BST	1.1405E+18	bellanow1	bella now	#RT @Info_V\Info_westp	[]	["https://pbs	0	0	0	0	0	#rt	[]	https://twitt	FALSE	

I repeated the same process for @kevinma40204275 to match the two up and compare them. I could map these into a data visualiser, but my only interest was in looking at when the activity occurred.

In lining up the two against each other, we can see that the activity is indicative of automated processes. These accounts are working in an automated flow in sync with one another to post at different times in part of a much larger network of bots.

In looking at the sequences we can see that on the evening of the 25th, the bots conducted activity on 23:32:52, 23:32:54 and 0:32:54, 0:32:56, 3:32:54 and 3:32:55. There is repetition in timecodes and similarities across the board.

26/8/19	17:07:37 bellanow1	26/8/19	23:07:20 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	5:27:06 bellanow1	26/8/19	21:32:52 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	5:27:06 bellanow1	26/8/19	20:32:52 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	5:27:05 bellanow1	26/8/19	18:32:51 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	5:27:04 bellanow1	26/8/19	15:07:22 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	5:27:04 bellanow1	26/8/19	12:32:54 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	3:32:55 bellanow1	26/8/19	9:32:54 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	0:32:56 bellanow1	26/8/19	5:32:54 kevinma40204275
26/8/19	0:07:33 bellanow1	26/8/19	5:07:36 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	23:32:54 bellanow1	26/8/19	3:32:54 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	22:32:53 bellanow1	26/8/19	0:32:54 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	22:07:06 bellanow1	25/8/19	23:32:52 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	20:32:53 bellanow1	25/8/19	23:07:16 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	10:07:19 bellanow1	25/8/19	19:32:53 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	9:32:56 bellanow1	25/8/19	15:07:24 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	9:07:27 bellanow1	25/8/19	10:32:55 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	8:32:56 bellanow1	25/8/19	7:32:55 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	7:07:23 bellanow1	25/8/19	6:32:54 kevinma40204275
25/8/19	6:32:56 bellanow1	25/8/19	6:08:01 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	13:07:57 bellanow1	25/8/19	3:07:21 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	10:07:19 bellanow1	25/8/19	0:07:26 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	7:32:56 bellanow1	24/8/19	20:32:51 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	7:07:20 bellanow1	24/8/19	20:07:08 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	5:32:56 bellanow1	24/8/19	19:32:51 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	4:32:56 bellanow1	24/8/19	15:07:24 kevinma40204275
24/8/19	0:07:31 bellanow1	24/8/19	13:32:55 kevinma40204275
		24/8/19	10:07:17 kevinma40204275
		24/8/19	7:32:54 kevinma40204275
		24/8/19	7:07:18 kevinma40204275
		24/8/19	5:32:54 kevinma40204275
		24/8/19	1:32:54 kevinma40204275

Through these findings, I am able to say that an automated bot network is being used on Twitter and utilises other major social media platforms to disseminate propaganda about the Indonesian Government's involvement in West Papua, and that it is doing so by using hashtags on genocide and the West Papua freedom movement to drown out any anti-Indonesian government narrative.

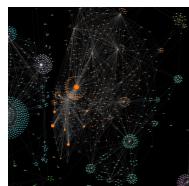
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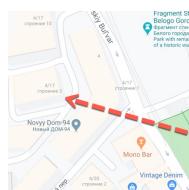
Benjamin Strick is a digital investigator with a background in law, military and technology and is the Director of Investigations for the Centre for Information Resilience. He specialises in open source intelligence (OSINT), satellite imagery, influence, data and maps.

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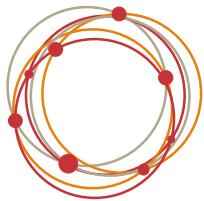
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