Third Sprint Review (Results)

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What was the Aim for this Sprint?

The objective for this sprint was:

1. To closely analyse my sources, for models and quantifiable data.
2. Find models, and start thinking about how I can use them in my essay.

What was Achieved in this Sprint?

In this sprint session:

1. I managed to find a more exact topic question (instead of "what is the effects of misinformation on COVID?", I started looking into how to answer "How can the spread and effects of misinformation be reduced?").
2. I found examples of the results of misinformation, involving COVID. For example, after a statement from the former President Donald Trump, many people in Nigeria began buying Chloroquine, a drug actually used to treat Malaria. Not only did it fail to properly treat COVID, but it also lead to an extreme price hike in the drug, which made it difficult to access for its intended purpose [1].

1. Busari S, Adebayo B. Nigeria records chloroquine poisoning after Trump endorses it for coronavirus treatment. CNN; 2020 Mar 23

What was Achieved in this Sprint? (cont.)

1. I found articles that focused more on attempts to reduce misinformation involving COVID. The article "Addressing COVID-19 Misinformation on Social Media Preemptively and Responsively" discusses the attempts and studies that have been made involving the prevention of misinformation. For example, using a sample group of around 1500 people, they found that, while they could change the misconception that a hot bath will raise body temperature, they were unable to change the misconception that a hot bath was effective in preventing COVID infections[2]. The article provides good examples in demonstrating the issues with misinformation; even with proper evidence and educated officials, it can be difficult to change a misconception, once it has taken root.

2. I found that many of my articles, that I had chosen earlier, work even better with my current question than my original question. To me, this is a good indication that I made the right decision.

2. E.K. Vraga, L. Bode. Addressing COVID-19 Misinformation on Social Media Preemptively and Responsively. Emerging Infectious Diseases. (2021). http://doi:10.3201/eid2702.203139.

What was Achieved in this Sprint? (Cont.)

1. I found an article that also discusses what makes people so susceptible to misinformation. The article "Effects of misinformation on COVID-19 individual responses and recommendations for resilience of disastrous consequences of misinformation" discusses what makes instances of misinformation easy to accept. Understanding this can help people reduce its spread. By understanding why people believe misinformation, we can possibly educate them why these reasons can lead to misconceptions and falsehoods[3]. While this is not to answer my topic question, it would answer the possible questions, such as "how can misinformation be a serious issue?".

3. Zapan Barua, Sajib Barua, Salma Aktar, Najma Kabir, Mingze Li. Effects of misinformation on COVID-19 individual responses and recommendations for resilience of disastrous consequences of misinformation, Progress in Disaster Science, (2020). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2020.100119.

What was Not Achieved in this Sprint?

In this sprint, I failed:

1. To find/form models that I feel I could use. While I am finding data to use in my essay topic, I am having difficulty in understanding how I can use this to create a model. At this point, figuring this out is my primary concern!

Questions!

1. What should I do to help me better identify how to form the models? Am I overcomplicating what I need to do?
2. While I am very satisfied with my current topic question, I want to ask if there is anything that should be further narrowed down.