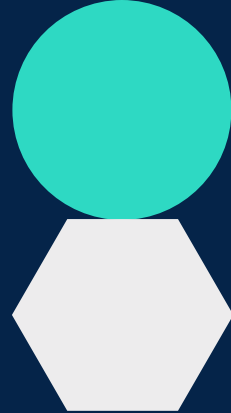




Using the Twitter API for Academic Research: A Brief Introduction

Christian Staal Bruun Overgaard

Why collect Twitter data?



Useful

- What content gets most attention?
- What are people tweeting about?
- How are online conversations changing over time?

Doable

- Apply for access
- R: `academictwitterR`
- Code-free option: Tweet Downloader
- Today's goal: all you need to get started

Accessing the Twitter API

01.

developer.twitter.com

02.

Sign up (w/ Twitter account)

03.

Apply for [Academic research access](#)* (might a week or so)

04.

Locate your Bearer Token [and save it!]

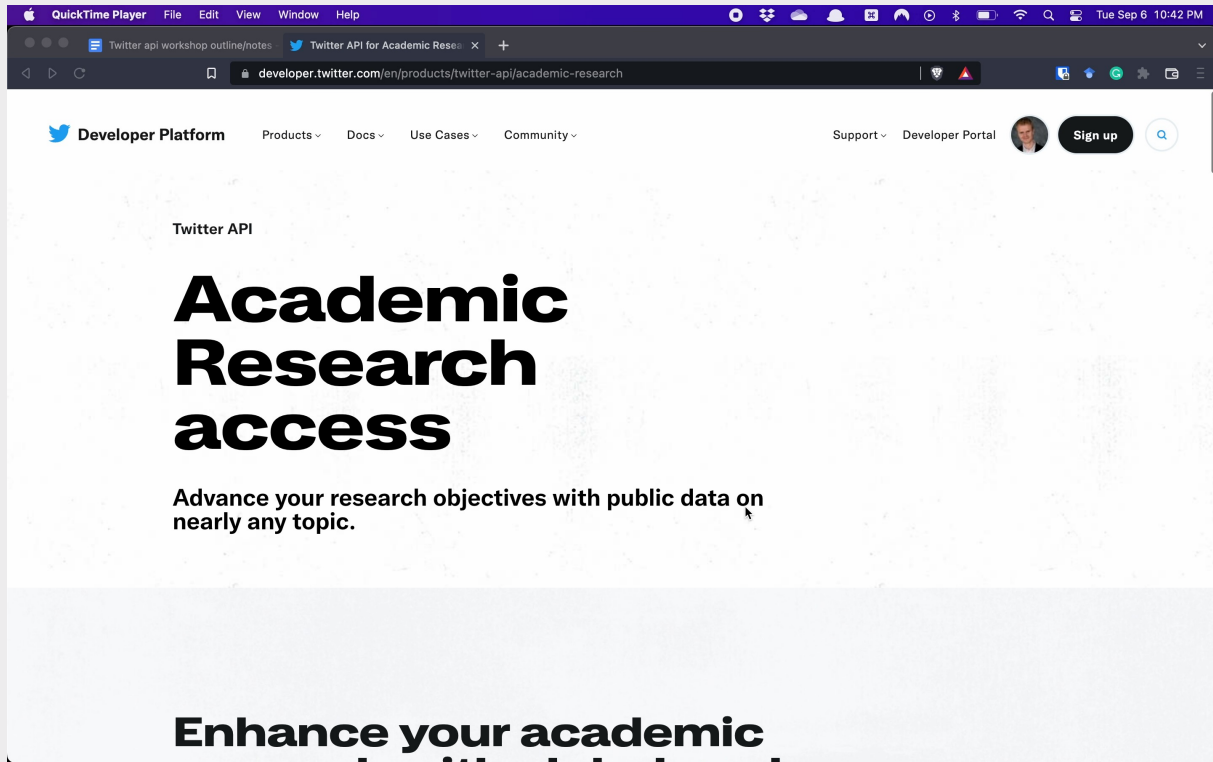


*<https://developer.twitter.com/en/products/twitter-api/academic-research>

When you have a developer account ...

01. Go to link*

02. Apply for
API access at
the bottom 🙌



*<https://developer.twitter.com/en/products/twitter-api/academic-research>

Applying for access

Template (methods):

"We plan on using a wide range of empirical methods to study these questions, including but not limited to textual analysis, qualitative analysis, natural language processing, network analysis, machine learning, and mixed methods approaches."

01. Know the rules

- Not for profit
- Think before making data public

02. Don't sweat it

03. Tips for the application

- **Topic:** Be broad. Examples: "Political communication" or "health communication."
- **Method:** Be wide-ranging but also specific (see template)

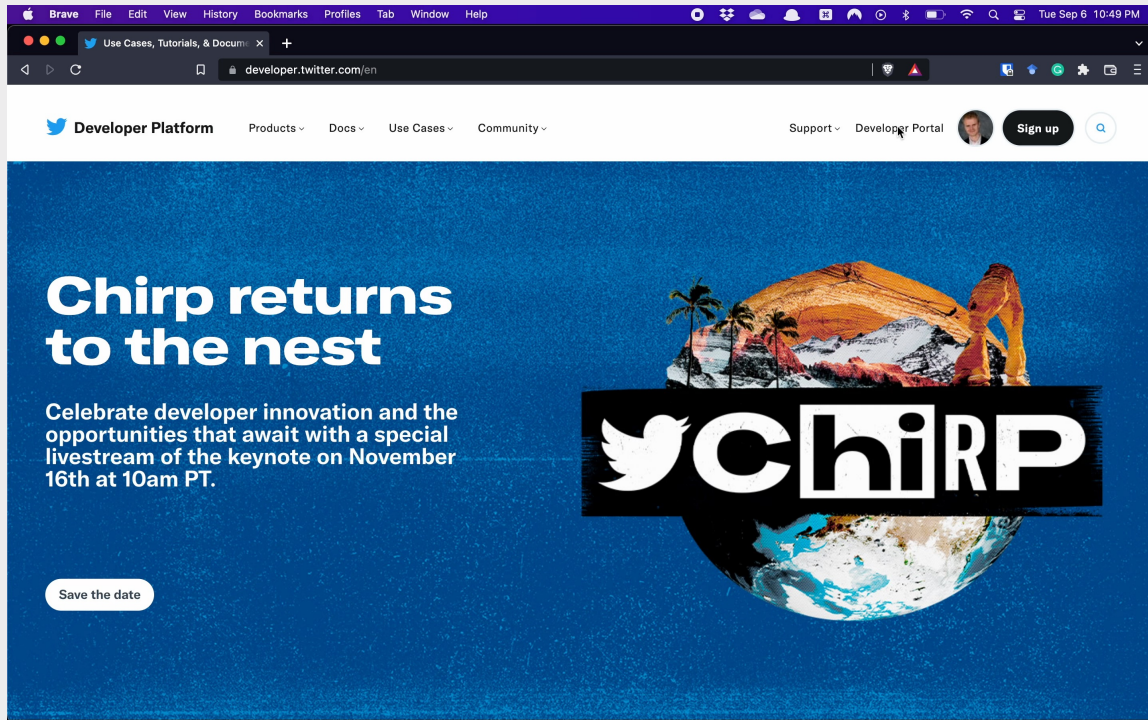
Once you have been approved

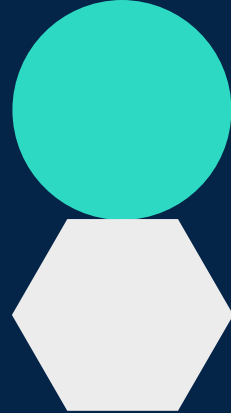
01. Locate your Bearer Token

- (a) developer.twitter.com
- (b) "Developer Portal"
- (c) Key icon 📌

02. Use Bearer Token

- (a) w/ academictwitter, or
- (b) Tweet Downloader





How to collect Twitter data?

(Once you have access and know your Bearer Token)

academictwitterR

- Wrapper for R
- <https://rdr.io/cran/academictwitterR/>
- Do live demo

Tweet Downloader

- Dashboard (no code needed)
- developer.twitter.com/apitools
- Do [live demo](#) [use Google Chrome]

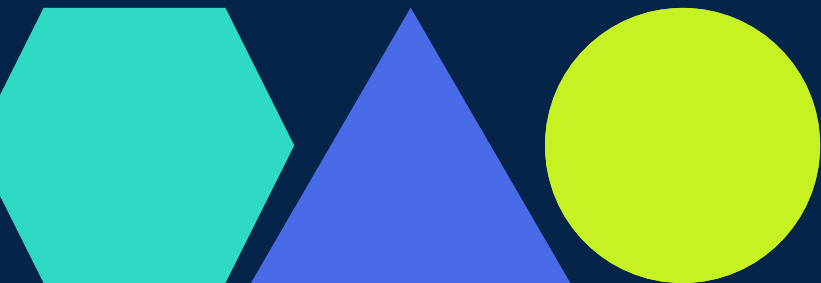


[LIVE DEMO]



Resources

- academictwitterR package documentation: [link](#). Learn more about the functions in the academictwitterR package.
- 381M Course Tutorials by Dr. Jo Lukito [public beta version]: [link](#). Lot's of great tips for learning about R. Chapter 10, “using APIs,” has some great info in downloading Twitter data.





Thank you!

Questions?

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Slide Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)

