

Icons | Human <-> Robot |

Create list of attributes

Create graphic depicting bot

Website Names

Elding - Lightning Strike, Kills trolls in mythology

BotSpot

Attributes

Bots:

Recent Creation

High Post Volume

Post Behavior - Simple RT

Media Source + URL shortener

Repetition

Troll:

Potentially Older Creation

Inflammatory

Shared:

Random Username

Odd Post Time relative to Geolocation/Profile

How to Spot a Bot or Troll

Bots

It is suspected that

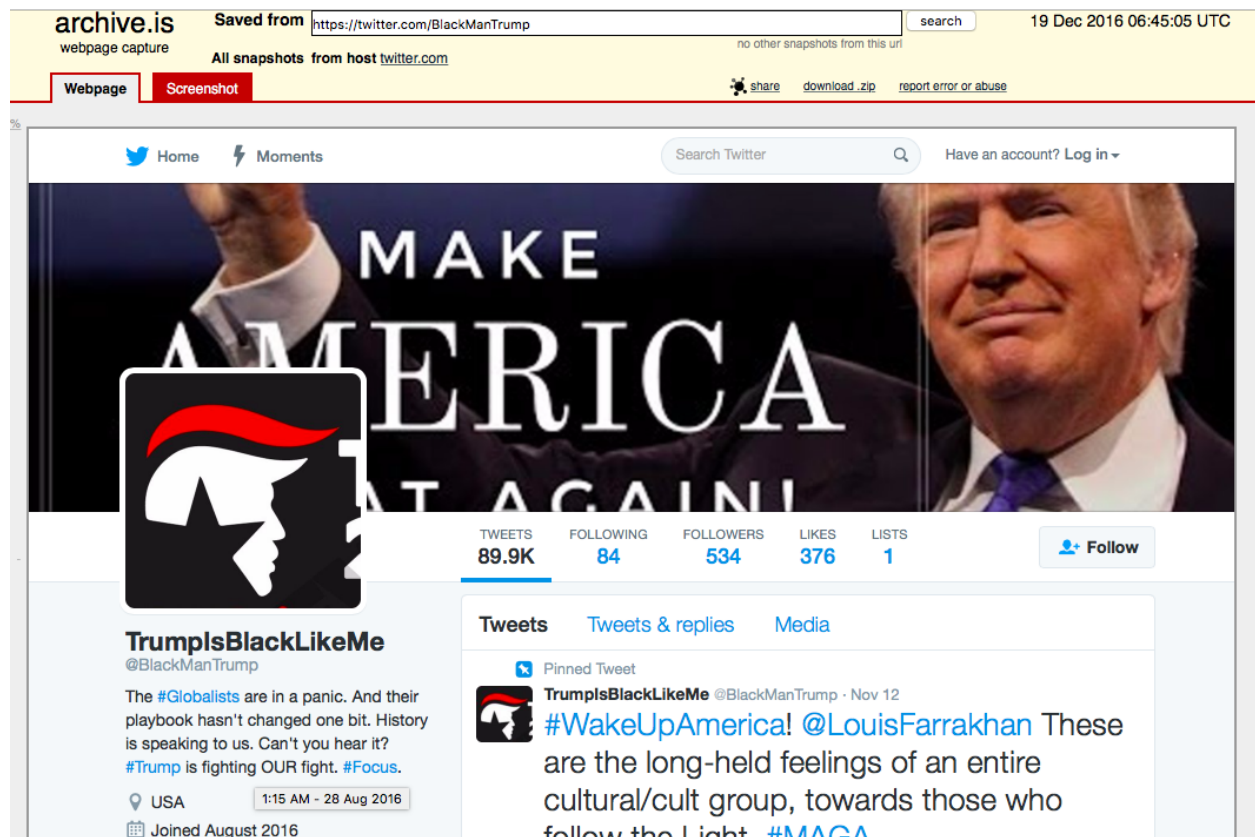
Two-thirds (66%) of all tweeted links were shared by bots. (Pew Research Center 2018)

Ways to Spot a Potential Bot:

Examine the number of posts by the number of days it has been active.

“For example, the account [@sunneversets100](#), an amplifier of pro-Kremlin messaging, was created on November 14, 2016. On August 28, 2017, it was 288 days old. In that period, it posted 203,197 tweets...” (Medium.com)

Another example of a bot account;



Their profile is vague and lacks identifying information.

The username of the account might be gibberish, contain many numbers and characters, or generic.

A way to determine the plausibility for the account user to be “real” is to conduct a reverse image search. Bots typically will have either no profile picture or utilize a random photo from the internet.

Reverse Image Search on Profile Pictures show stolen image

The account retweets heavily from other sources. On the other side, it could have a very low post activity and yet it possesses a high number of retweets. This is due to the possibility of a botnet in which bots like and retweet the post for the purpose of aggregation.

The content posted by a bot tends to revolve around a common variable, whether that be entertainment, politics, etc.

Bots tend to utilize URL shorteners to disguise links to various sources as well as track users that click on the link.

Another trend that is common with bots is between each post, the ratio of likes and retweets are fairly proportional.

Trolls

Trolls tend to post content that is inflammatory. These provoke individuals to react, typically angering users. The topics are usually controversial.



The Internet Troll is typically persistent in their behaviour, actively targetting individuals to provoke them into responding, and will respond to threads in which they have provoked individuals.