DS 200 Lab2 Gather Real-Time Twitter Data Using Keywords and Hashtags

Aug 28, 2018

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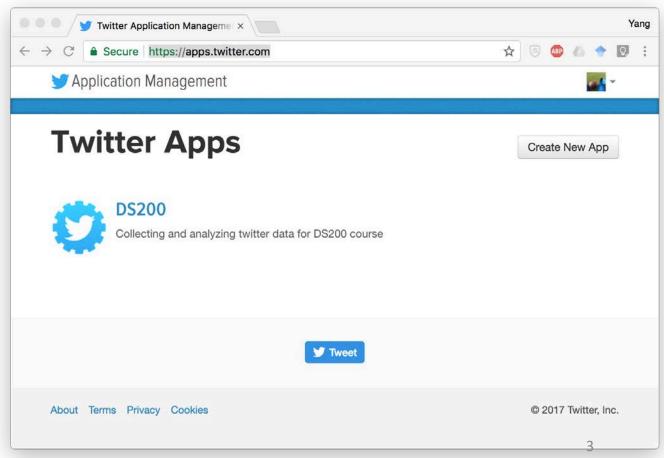
LA: Luewi Lei

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Login In to Twitter Developer

- Go to https://apps.twitter.com/
- Login with your Twitter account



Apply for a Twitter developer account



Application Management



Twitter Apps

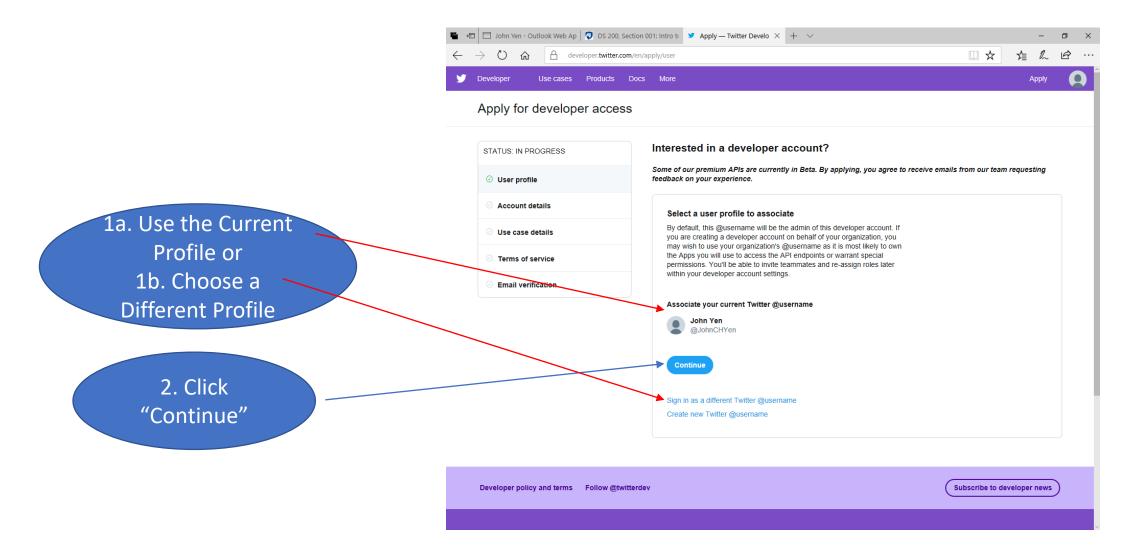
As of July 2018, you must apply for a Twitter developer account and be approved before you may create new apps. Once approved, you will be able to create new apps from developer.twitter.com.

For the near future, you can continue to manage existing apps here on apps.twitter.com. However, we will soon retire this site and consolidate all developer tools, API access, and app management within the developer portal at developer.twitter.com. You will be able to access and manage existing apps through that portal when we retire this site.

Click

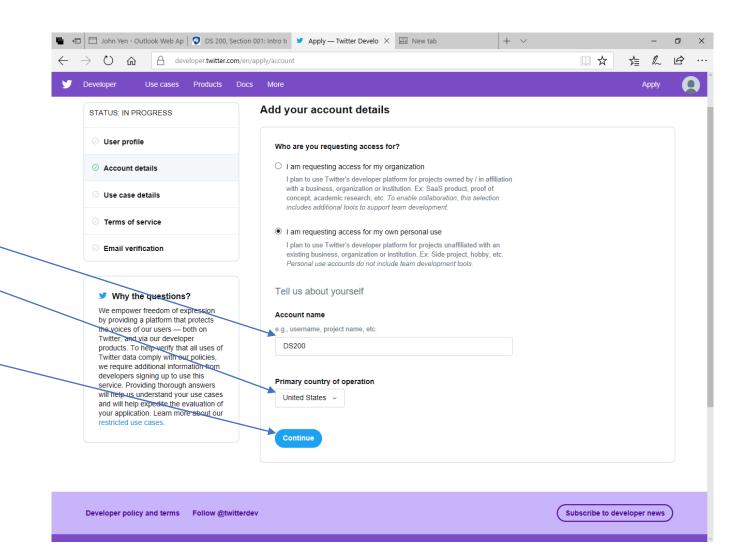
Apply for a developer account

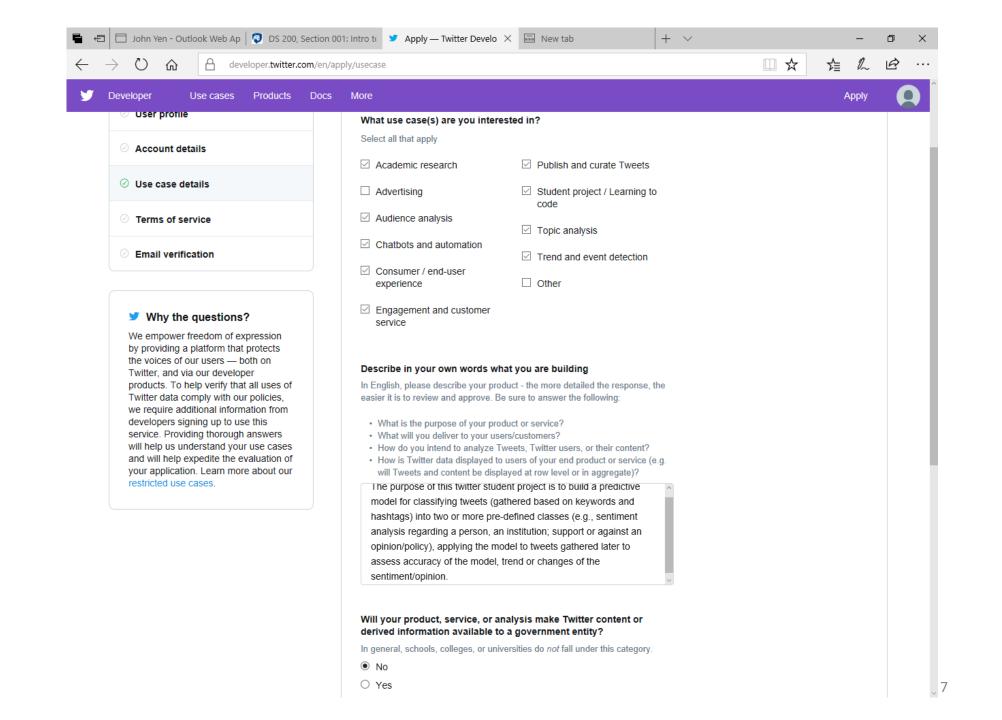
Select a Twitter user profile to the developer account



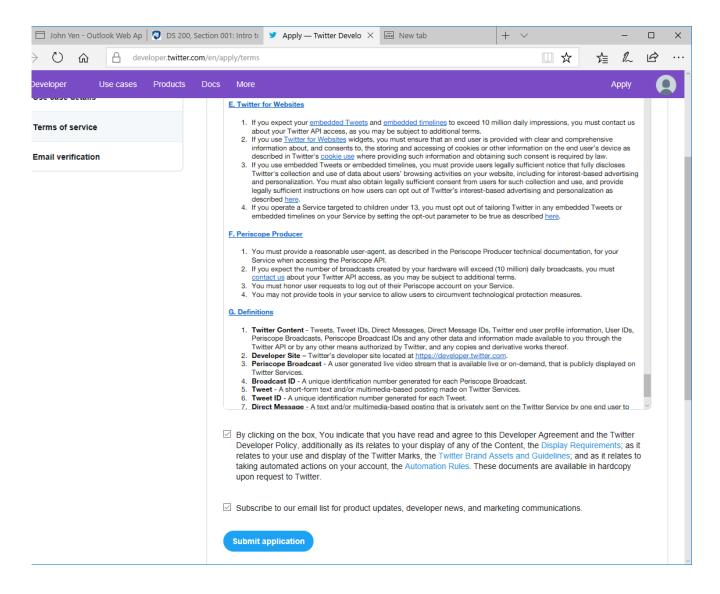
Request access to a development account for personal use

- Choose a name for your development account (e.g., DS 200)
- Choose "United States" as the country of operation
- Click continue





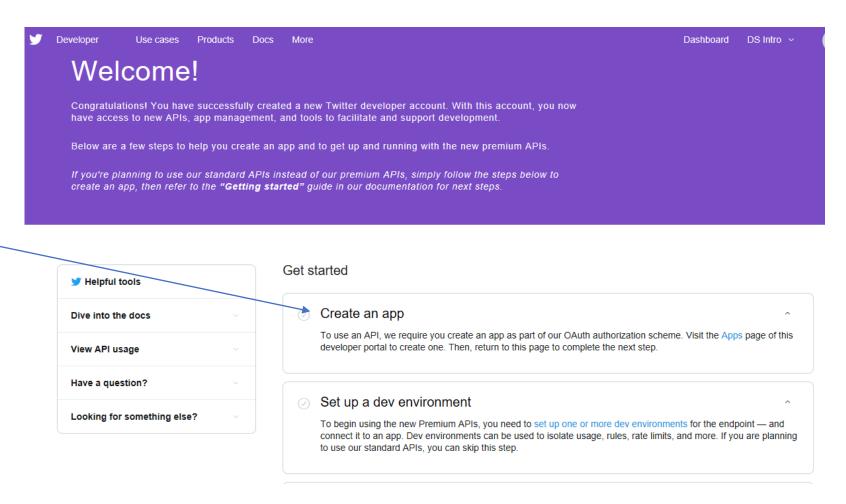
Read and agree to the Terms of Service



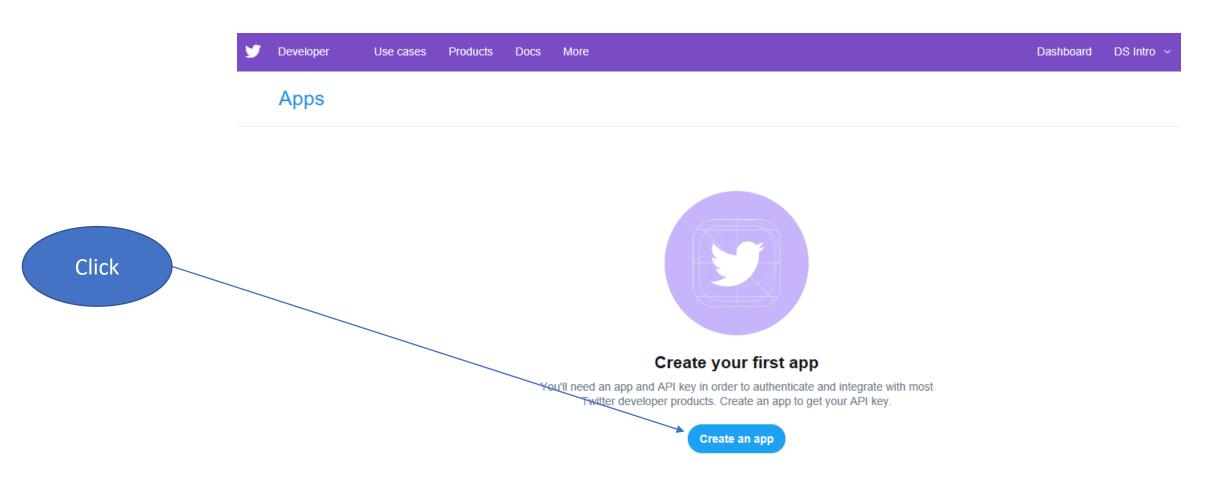
You will receive a confirmation email on your e-mail address associated with the account.

After you click the confirmation link on your email, you can create a Twitter App

Click to Create a Twitter App

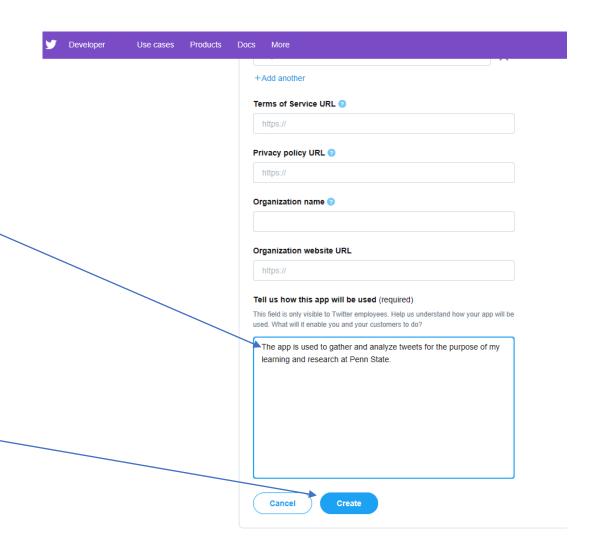


Obtain An API key to create a Twitter App



Create a Twitter app

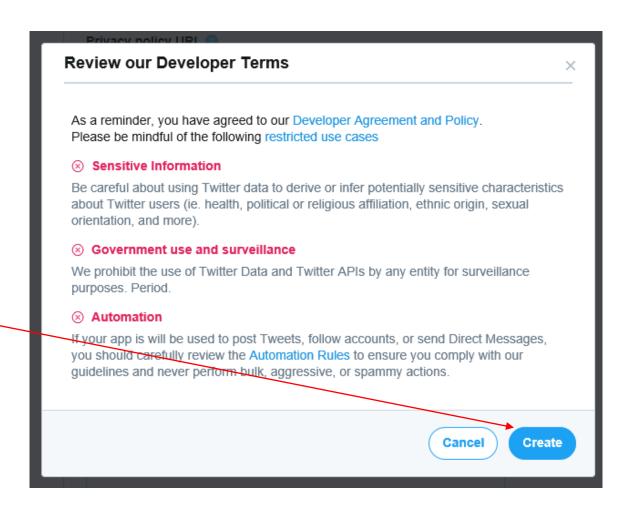
- Fill in all the necessary information
- "App name", "Application description",
 "Website URL", and "Tell us how this App will be used" are required
- "Website" could be your Facebook homepage, your personal home page, etc.
- Scroll down and click on "Create"



Review Developer Terms

1. Read a summary of the Developer Terms

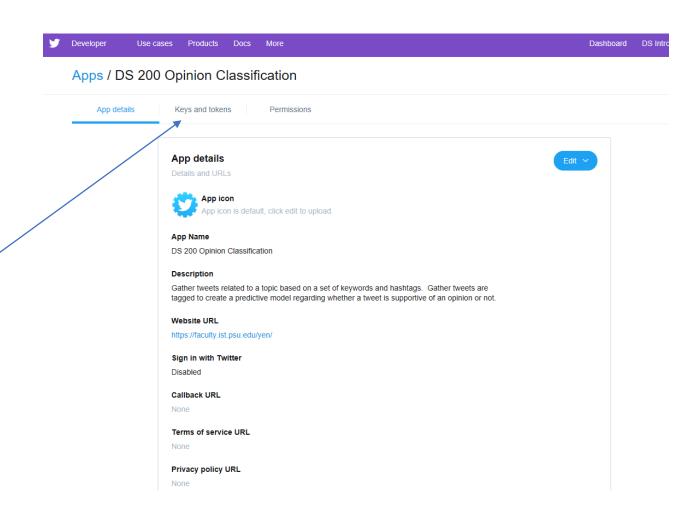
2. Click "Create"



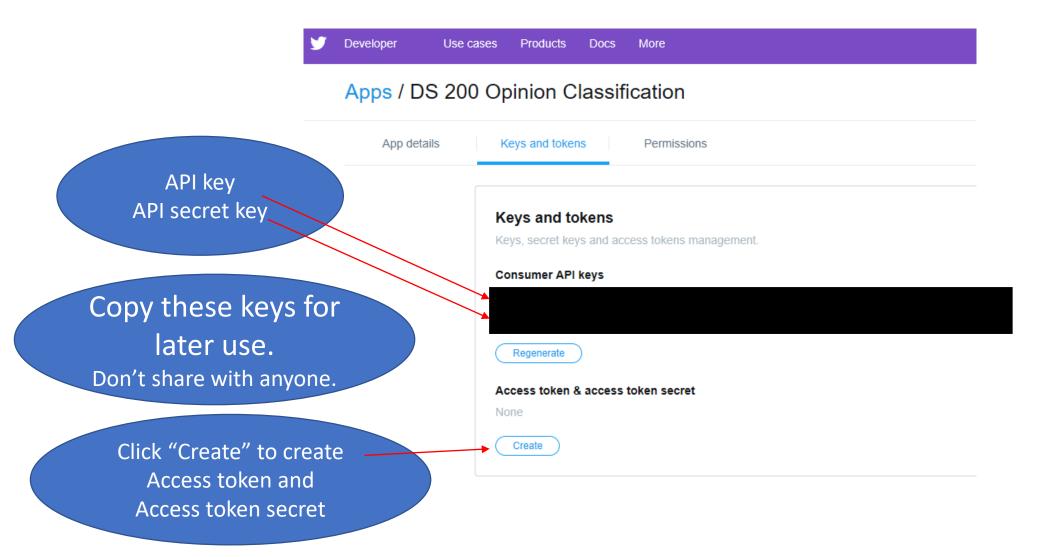
Create Keys and Tokens for Tweets Gathering

You will see a web page for your twitter App, showing the App name, description, and URL you provided in the previous step.

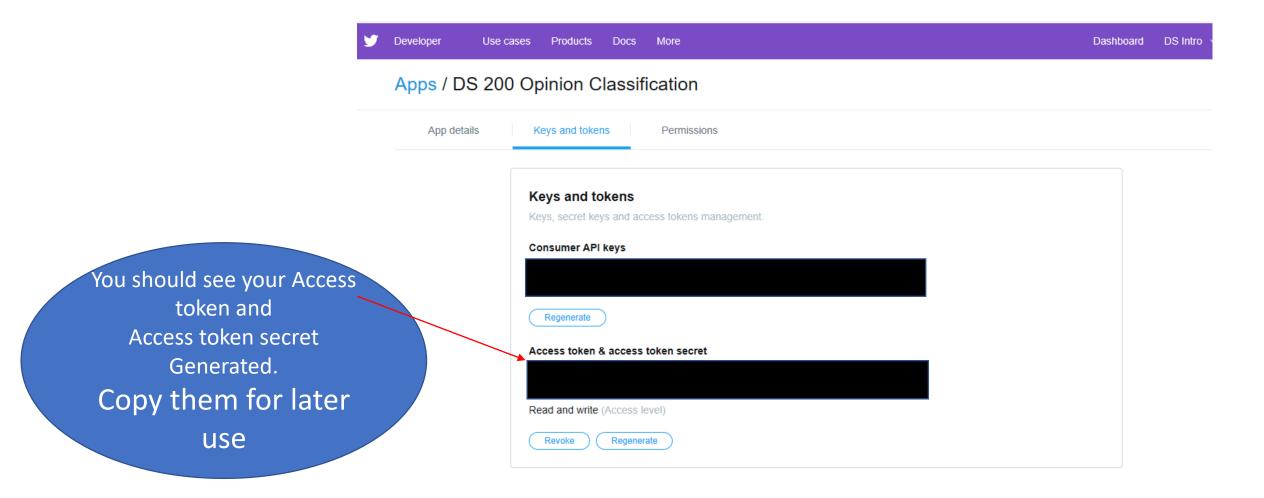
Click
"Keys and tokens"



You will see your Consumer API keys



Access token & Access token secret



Obtain Twitter Keys for Tweets Gathering -- Done

- Now you have four long keys for the following:
- API key
- API secret key
- Access token
- Access token secret

 These are what you need for using Twitter API (Application Program Interface) to gather tweets

Install tweepy package

Open Command Line (Windows) or Terminal (Mac/Linux)

• Type: pip install tweepy

Use pip3 in case you also have python2 in your system

- For Windows, go to next page
- For Mac, skip next page, go to slide 20.

Copy the Python code for Gathering Tweets (Windows)

- Download the gather_tweets_pipeline.py file from Canvas.
- Open Command Line in Windows
- Create a directory for the lab using "mkdir" command
 - E.g., "mkdir C:\Users\YourName\MyDocument\DS200lab3" for Windows
- Enter the directory where you download get_tweets_pipeline.py
 - E.g., "cd C:\Users\YourName\Downloads" for Windows
- Copy the file to your lab3 directory
 - E.g., "copy get_tweets_pipeline.py C:\Users\YourName\MyDocument\DS200lab3" for Windows

Copy the Python code for Gathering Tweets (Mac/Linux)

- Download the gather_tweets_pipeline.py file from Canvas.
- Open Terminal in Mac/Linux
- Create a directory for the lab using "mkdir" command
 - E.g., "mkdir ~/DS200lab3" for Mac/Unix ("~" refers to your home directory)
- Enter the directory where you download get_tweets_pipeline.py
 - E.g., "cd ~/Downloads" for Mac/Linux
- Copy the file to your lab3 directory
 - E.g., "cp get_tweets_pipeline.py ~/DS200lab3" for Mac/Linux

Download one of the text editors

We need a text editor suitable for editing code.

Text editor possibilities:

- Windows: Notepad++, sublime text, Atom
- Mac/Linux: Atom, sbulime text, gedit, vim, etc.

Download Notepad++:

https://notepad-plus-plus.org/download/v7.5.8.html

Download Atom:

http://atom.io





Edit the Python code using Text Editor

- Open get_tweets_pipeline.py file using one of the text editors (NOT WORD)
- For Notepad++, select "File", then "Open", find the get_tweets_pipeline.py file

```
C:\Program Files:\Notepad++\change.log - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Tools Macro Run Plugins Window ?

| Carrier |
```

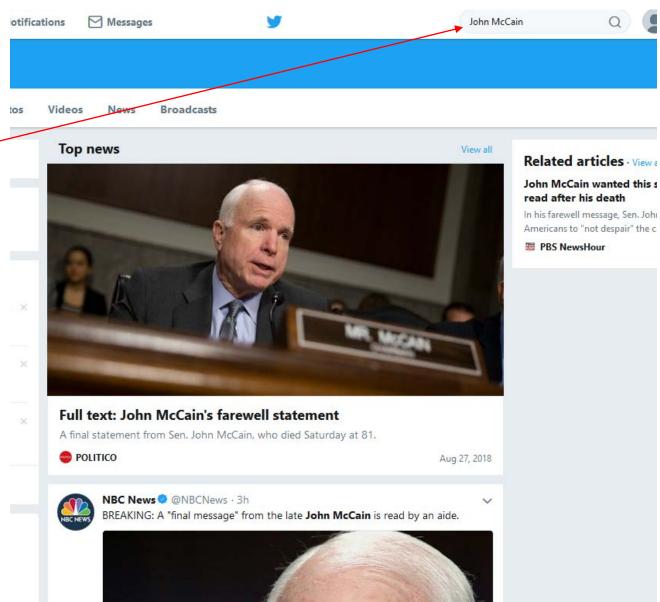
Add API keys to gater_tweets_pipeline.py

- Scroll down to the middle of the file, you will find four assignments for the API keys we gathered earlier.
- Enter API key,
 API secret key,
 Access token,
 Access token secret
 between the two quotes
- They are strings assigned to the corresponding variables.
- Save the file get_tweets_pipeline.py (If you don't save, you will loose the changes you made above)

```
print(status)
                return True
100
101
102
       # Get the str representation of the current date and time
103
     def current datetime str():
104
           return f'{datetime.datetime.now():%Y-%m-%d %H-%M-%S}'
107
110
111
112
113
114
115
           auth = OAuthHandler(consumer key, consumer secret)
116
           auth.set access token(access token, access secret)
           api = tweepv.API(auth)
117
118
119
120
121
           print('Welcome to the user interface of gathering tweets pipeline!')
122
           print('You can press "Ctrl+C" at anytime to abort the program.')
123
           print()
```

How to choose keywords and hashtags?

1. Log in to Twitter.com, use the search box on the upper right.



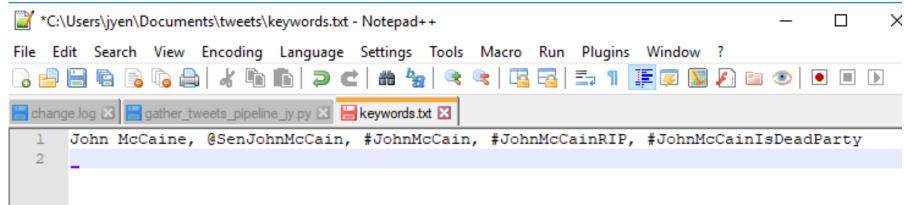
Scroll down to find hashtags, twitterIDs that occur frequently

 Example: @SenJohnMcCain showed up in a few tweets



Create a new file of keywords using a text editor

- Create this file using a Text Editor (File -> New)
- How a key word file (using Notepad++) looks like



- Hashtags need to be preceded with #
- TweeterIDs need to be preceded with @
- Multiple key words and hashtags are allowed
- Multiple lines are allowed
- Save this keyword file as "keywords.txt" in the same directory as get_tweets_pipeline.py

Start the pipeline for gathering tweets

- Open Command Line in Windows, or Terminal in Mac/Linux
- Enter the directory (e.g., DS200lab) to which you copied the downloaded files get_tweets_pipeline.py
 - E.g., "cd C:\Users\MyDocument\DS200lab" for Windows
 - E.g., "cd ~/DS200lab" for Mac/Linux
- Invoke get_tweets_pipeline.py to start the "pipeline" for gathering tweets

```
python gather_tweets_pipeline.py (For Windows)
python3 gather_tweets_pipeline.py (For MacOS/Linux)
```

Step 1

Choose the way to specify your key words

- Recommend to enter keywords through a file
- Benefit of using a file: Reuse the keywords and hashtags each time you gather tweets facilitate comparing tweets gathered in different time.

Step 1.1

• Type the file name to the prompt "Type your file name >>>"

```
Command Prompt - python gather_tweets_pipeline.py
C:\Users\jyen\Documents\tweets>copy gather tweets pipeline jy.py gather tweets pipeline.py
       1 file(s) copied.
C:\Users\jyen\Documents\tweets>python gather tweets pipeline.py
Welcome to the user interface of gathering tweets pipeline!
You can press "Ctrl+C" at anytime to abort the program.
How do you want to specify your key words?
Type "manual" or "file" >>> keyword
"keyword" is an invalid input! Please try again.
Type "manual" or "file" >>> file
Please input the file name that contains your key words.
Notes:
    The file should contain key words in one or multiple lines, and multiple key words should be separated by *COMMA*
        For example: NBA, basketball, Lebron James
   If the file is under the current directory, you can directly type the file name, e.g., "keywords.txt".
   If the file is in another directory, please type the full file name, e.g., "C:\Downloads\keywords.txt" (for Window
s), or "/Users/xy/Downloads/keywords.txt" (for MacOS/Linux).
Type your file name >>> keywords.txt
```

Step 1.2

Alternatively, you can input key words manually

```
~/GitHub/tweepy-exp(master) » python3 gather_tweets_pipeline.py

Welcome to the user interface of gathering tweets pipeline!
You can press "Ctrl+C" at anytime to abort the program.

How do you want to specify your key words?
Type "manual" or "file" >>> manual

Please input your key words (separated by comma), and hit <ENTER> when done.
Type the key words >>>
```

Type in your key words and/or hashtags, separated by comma

Step 1.2

Manual input of key words and hashtags

```
~/GitHub/tweepy-exp(master) » python3 gather_tweets_pipeline.py
Welcome to the user interface of gathering tweets pipeline!
You can press "Ctrl+C" at anytime to abort the program.
How do you want to specify your key words?
Type "manual" or "file" >>> manual
Please input your key words (separated by comma), and hit <ENTER> when done.
Type the key words >>> Lebron James, NBA, basketball
3 unique key words being used: ['basketball', 'NBA', 'Lebron James']
How many tweets do you want to gather?
Input an integer number, or just hit <ENTER> to use the default number 300.
Input an integer >>>
```

Step 2

 Decide the number of tweets you want to gather this time (recommend: 1000)

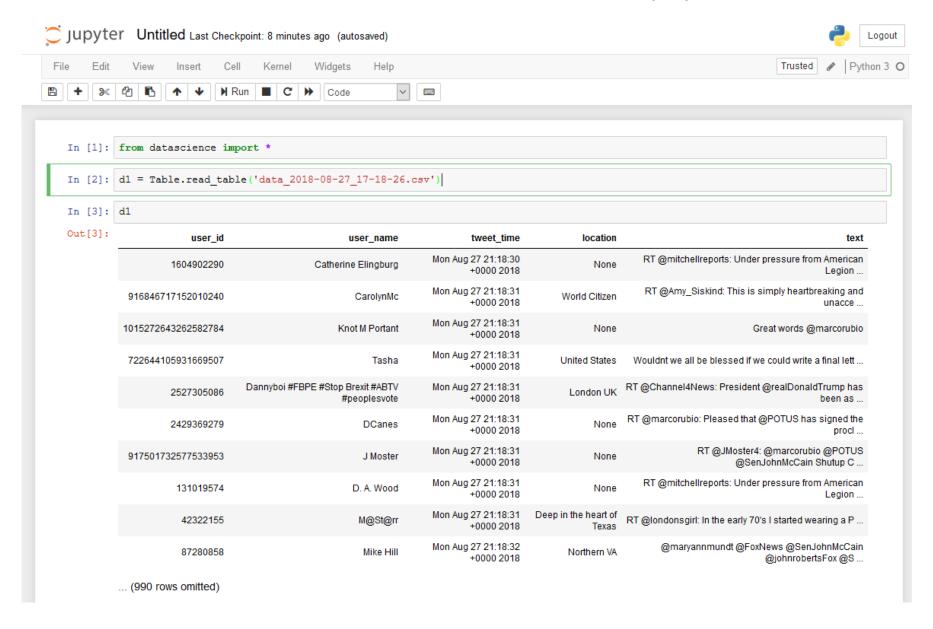
```
Command Prompt
    The file should contain key words in one or multiple lines, and multiple key words should be separated by *COMMA*.
       For example: NBA, basketball, Lebron James
   If the file is under the current directory, you can directly type the file name, e.g., "keywords.txt".
   If the file is in another directory, please type the full file name, e.g., "C:\Downloads\keywords.txt" (for Window
s), or "/Users/xy/Downloads/keywords.txt" (for MacOS/Linux).
 ype your file name >>> keywords
 keywords" is not a valid file name! Please check if the file exists.
Type your file name >>> keywords.txt
5 unique key words being used: ['#JohnMcCainRIP', 'John McCaine', '#JohnMcCain', '#JohnMcCainIsDeadParty', '@SenJohnM
How many tweets do you want to gather?
Input an integer number, or just hit <ENTER> to use the default number 300.
Input an integer >>> 1000
1000 tweets to be gathered.
Start gathering tweets ...
1000/1000 tweets downloaded
Maximum number reached.
It took 165.02477502822876 seconds to download 1000 tweets
C:\Users\jyen\Documents\tweets>
```

You can repeat step 1 and 2 to gather additional tweets.

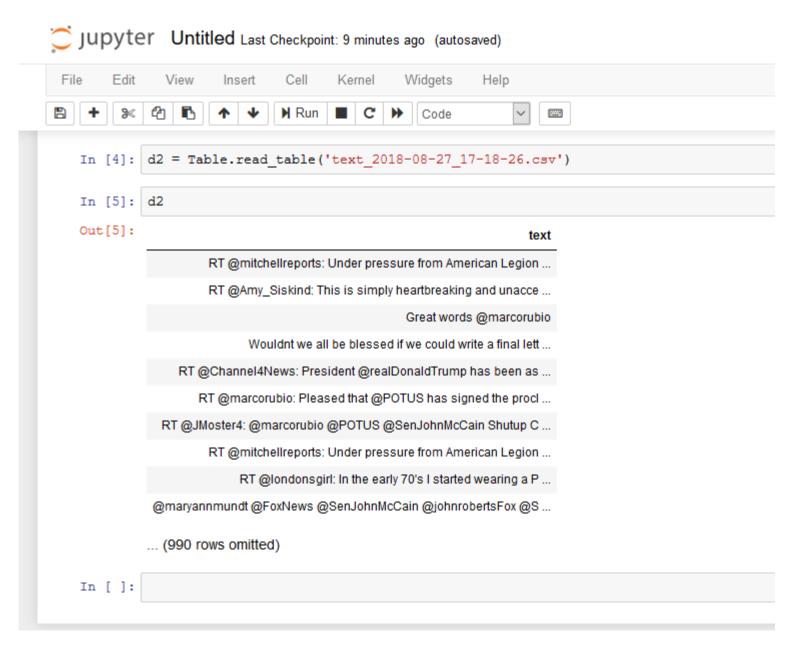
Step 3

- Wait until all tweets are gathered
- If you do not see the command prompt for a while (which means the number of tweets gathered has not reached the maximum you specified), you can choose to press "Ctrl+C" to interrupt. You will still be able to see the tweets gathered so far.
- Three files will be generated in the same directory for each run
 - raw_YYYY-MM-DD-HH-MM-SS.json (raw tweets from Twitter, JSON format)
 - data_YYYY-MM-DD-HH-MM-SS.csv (selected fields from raw tweets, CSV format)
 - text_YYYY-MM-DD-HH-MM-SS.csv (filtered tweets, where special characters in the body of tweets are removed)
 - YYYY-MM-DD is the date you gathered tweets
 - HH-MM-SS is the time your tweets files were generated

Load the CSV twitter file into Jupyter Notebook



Load the CSV file of the filtered tweets in Jupyter Notebook



Lab 2 Submission

- Submit two CSV files containing tweets you gathered (named "data_YYYY-MM-DD-HH-MM-SS.csv")
- Submit a screenshot of displaying the first ten tweets of these two files in Jupyter notebook.