



Twitter Sentiment Analysis

CAB432 – Assessment 2

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Introduction

Purpose & Description

Twitter Query Processor is a visual data service primarily based on the social media application 'Twitter', where users can look up a "hashtag" or multiple hashtags as queries in one submission via search box. A "live filter" is applied to reject tweets that are not related to the query/s. This filter works by finding each hashtag from the queries within a message tweet and drawing out those tweets onto the screen. The queries shall remain 'active' until the user decides to click cancel; this will constantly add Twitter message after Twitter message in the feed. If the user cancels the live feed, they may grab a sample summary of the tweets shown in the feed, which is supported by a tag cloud chart for text data analysis.

The main purpose of this application is to analyse and interpret sentimental value polarity for each hashtag/tweet. This reflects the type of words being used, which correlates to social media's response to an event or topic. These words carry significant importance by size and often leaves meaning to what people have to say. The sentiment mean score is given to users who wish to see the feed statistics, summing all sentiment numbers and dividing it by the number of observed values. A low to negative value number indicates that the hashtag is used negatively, while a high number aiming close to 1 or greater shows the hashtag is expressed with positive opinions and attitudes. For a brief walkthrough, see the user guide (Appendix A).

Services Used

Twitter public REST API V1.1

Twitter's REST API allows users to be able to retrieve tweets and related information from Twitter. In the application, queries sent to the server via submission will therefore be responded with results with the help of the API.

<https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs>

Redis Server

Redis is an open source, RAM based data structure storage service which can be used as a database or a cache. It supports multiple types of data structures and will be used by this application for short term caching.

<https://redis.io/>

Amazon S3 Service

Amazon S3 is a simple object storage service provided by AWS, which allows for scalability, data availability, security and performance. This will be used for longer term storage and in instances in which the Redis cache is unavailable.

<https://aws.amazon.com/s3/>

Libraries Used

Natural Node

"Natural" is a natural language processing module for Node JS, specifying in tokenizing, stemming, classification, phonetics, tf-idf, WordNet, string similarity and inflection. It will help serve the user in finding their tweets relating to the submitted queries and calculating sentimental values.

<https://github.com/NaturalNode/natural>

Stopword

“Stopword” is another natural language processing module for Node JS that filters out common words in a language. Words such as ‘the’, ‘if’ and ‘what’ will be removed which prioritises important words first for visual data analysis.

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/stopword>

CSS: Bootstrap

A CSS framework to provide responsive front-end web development, containing designed templates for buttons, navigation and other interface components. This template can be used to help replicate Twitter’s theme.

<https://getbootstrap.com/>

amCharts 4: WordCloud

For visual representation, WordCloud is a tag cloud format that is able to present text data in a creative way. It can show the word size based on its frequent usage along with hundreds of other words and their value. A large chunk of tweets and hashtags will be used to formulate the cloud.

<https://www.amcharts.com/docs/v4/chart-types/wordcloud/>

Twitter for Node.js

An asynchronous library for Node which includes wrappers for accessing the Twitter REST API.

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/twitter>

Redis for Node.js

A Redis client for Node JS which the application uses to communicate with the Redis server.

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/redis>

AWS SDK

The official SDK for JavaScript which the application uses to communicate with the Amazon S3 storage service.

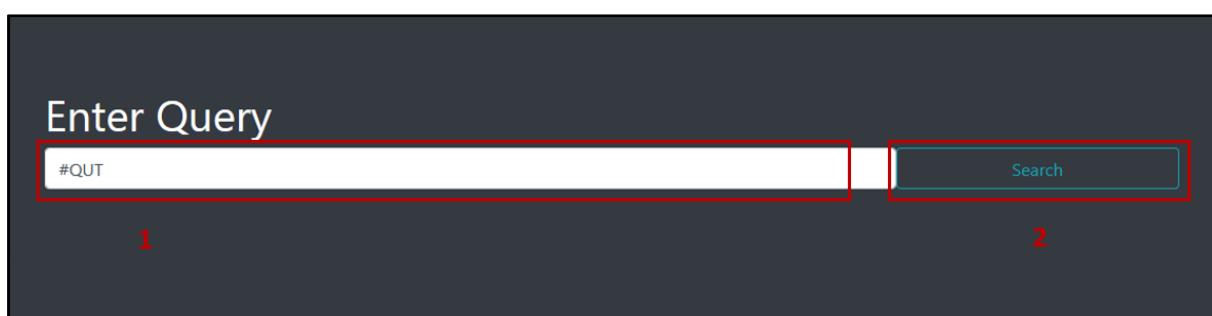
<https://www.npmjs.com/package/aws-sdk>

Use Cases

Use 1

As a user I would like to draw out tweets from queries I’ve submitted.

The user is introduced to the index page and decides to enter a trending hashtag from Twitter. Satisfied with the queries, the user then clicks the search button for submission.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed user interface. At the top, the text "Enter Query" is displayed in a light color. Below this text is a horizontal search bar. The search bar consists of a white text input field on the left and a dark button with the word "Search" in light text on the right. The text input field contains the placeholder text "#QUT". A red rectangular box is drawn around the text input field, and a red number "1" is placed below it. Another red rectangular box is drawn around the "Search" button, and a red number "2" is placed below it.

A page full of tweets is shown to the user right after submitting the queries. Here, the user can read the tweets shown in the feed as well as fresh tweets added to the feed. The user can also search for queries again by using the search box on the navigation bar.

The screenshot shows the 'Twitter Sentiment Analysis' interface. At the top, there is a search bar (labeled 1) and a 'Search' button (labeled 2). Below the search bar, the results are for the hashtag '#QUT...'. A red box highlights the first tweet and its corresponding sentiment value. The tweet is from 'QUT SciEng Faculty' (@QUTSciEng) and discusses a guest speaker at a party. The sentiment value is 0.17647.

Tweets Summary
<p>QUT SciEng Faculty @QUTSciEng</p> <p>#QUT A/Prof Richi Nayak was a guest speaker at the free #GraceHopper Celebration viewing party at Gardens Point last night. The event was held to support #diversity & #inclusion in tech! #qutstem #womeninstem https://t.co/a3YucpER5X</p> <p>twitter.com/QUTSciEng/status/1187567470586015744 Fri Oct 25 03:12:03 +0000 2019</p>
<p>Sentiment 0.17647</p>

Use 2

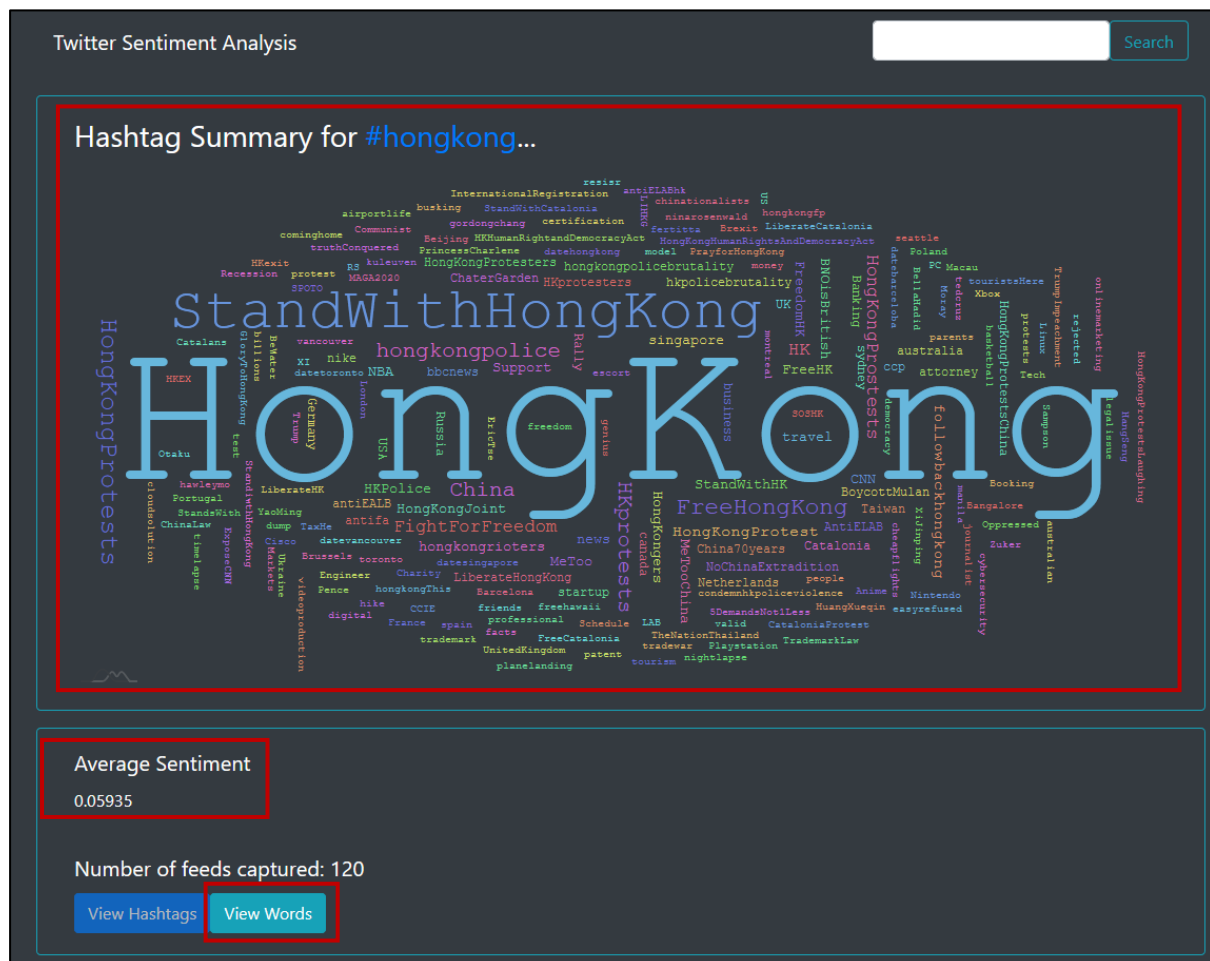
As a user I want to know what people are feeling about the hashtags used.

The user wishes to lookup a trending hashtag and requests its tweets. As the user reads the feed, they can view the sentiment values which correlates to the tweet expressed in the left column. This indicates how well opinions are received with the hashtag being used.

The screenshot shows the 'Twitter Sentiment Analysis' interface with results for the hashtag '#hongkong...'. A red box highlights the 'Tweets Summary' column, which lists three tweets and their sentiment values. The tweets are from 'China Daily Asia', 'Lanna Rehab', and 'Andrew James'. The sentiment values are 0.00000, -0.05556, and 0.50000 respectively.

Tweets Summary
<p>China Daily Asia @ChinaDailyAsia</p> <p>Singapore sees cash starting to flow from turbulent Hong Kong https://t.co/6wpXChyAuH #HongKong</p> <p>twitter.com/ChinaDailyAsia/status/1187587416942505984 Fri Oct 25 04:31:19 +0000 2019</p>
<p>Sentiment 0.00000</p>
<p>Lanna Rehab @LannaRehab</p> <p>People are leaving Hong Kong and coming to Thailand for rehab. This is why https://t.co/aLK0OwjGgV #HK #Hongkong #mentalhealth #AddictionTreatment</p> <p>twitter.com/LannaRehab/status/1187587482834980865 Fri Oct 25 04:31:34 +0000 2019</p>
<p>Sentiment -0.05556</p>
<p>Andrew James @ThesilenceJames</p> <p>Watch this #StandWithHongKong #HongKongProtesters #HongKong It's funny cause it's #True https://t.co/3VDAeNrfaZ</p>
<p>Sentiment 0.50000</p>

Furthermore, if the user wants to know the overall thoughts and opinions shared around the hashtag, they can click on the 'Tweets Summary' button to get a visual idea of other hashtags used with the query, and keywords and phrases expressed with sentimentalism.



Technical Description

Application Architecture

Client vs Server

Server

Tweet Retrieval: The Twitter API is used to retrieve recent tweets by searching a query specified by the user. However, before the application checks Twitter, it retrieves the most recent tweets from the Redis Cache, or Amazon S3 if it is not present in the cache. Once this is complete it checks for any tweets more recent than the latest one in the cache. If the cache and S3 is empty, the application simply checks the Twitter API.

Sentiment Analysis: Once the tweets are fetched, it passes them onto the Natural API to perform sentiment analysis. Once this is complete, the server caches all the results and returns them to user in the form of HTML.

Data Visualisation: The server fetches the latest feeds from the Redis cache and analyses each tweet in the data. Each sentiment value per tweet is added together for the total value and calculated for the average. If a value is 0, then the length of the observed values is decreased for this will not affect the average. The tweets are parsed into strings and filtered for two outputs: the data containing all hashtags in the feeds and the data for words from all tweets. These outputs are passed on to WordCloud to analyse in the client.

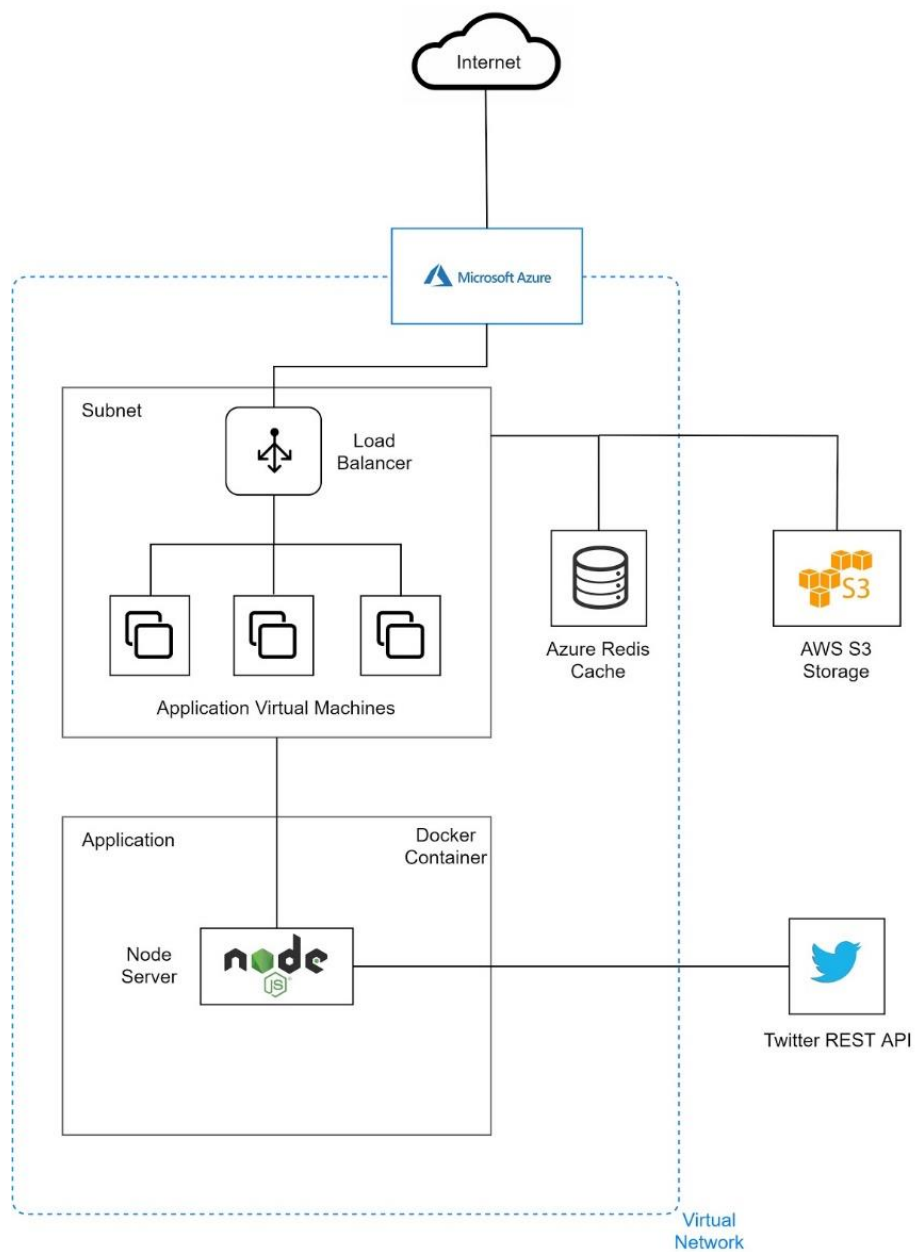
Client

Webpage: The results of the sentiment analysis are shown in the form of a HTML page.

Live Filter: A JavaScript timer fires every 5 seconds, calling a GET request to the server to retrieve all tweets newer than the latest in the page. The response to this is JSON, which is used to dynamically update the page with new tweets.

Data Visualisation: Supported by amCharts 4, the WordCloud retrieves the data passed by the server to load a visual representation of text data for a summary of hashtags and notable keywords expressed in tweets.

Network Diagram



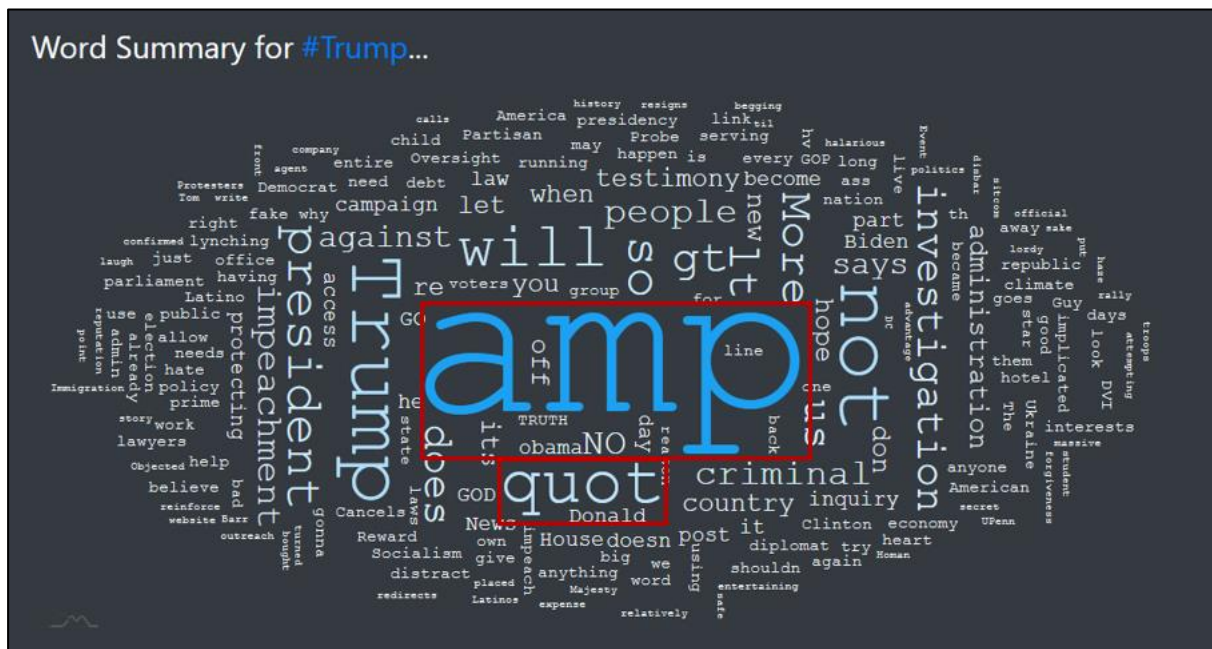
Testing and limitations

Task	Expected Outcome	Result
Search for hashtags	Displays a feed full of tweets	PASS
Enter incorrect query	Prompts an error message	PASS
Update new tweets	Fades in new tweets to add to feed	PASS
Cancel active filter	Stops feed update	PASS
Load tag cloud (hashtags)	Renders WordCloud made out of hashtags	PASS
Load tag cloud (words)	Renders WordCloud made out of keywords	PASS
Click a hashtag in cloud	Redirects user with a query to Twitter results	PASS

Issues

Unexpected Words in Data Visualisation

In most cases when previewing the tag cloud for words used in the summary page, the most frequent words expressed in the data is 'amp' and 'quot'. Even by removing the irrelevant words with regular expression, the text data becomes corrupted and will misspell every word in the cloud. It is assumed that the words are '&' and '"' and are integral to help structure the data.



Possible extensions

Capture Data

If the user likes to keep an image of the tag clouds displayed, a button is available to click and download the captures. There will also be a time log to show when the tags were created.

Pagination

As the page contains a long list of tweets, a pagination feature would be beneficial to reduce the length of the page when scrolling down the feed.

References

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Appendices

Appendix A: Brief User Guide

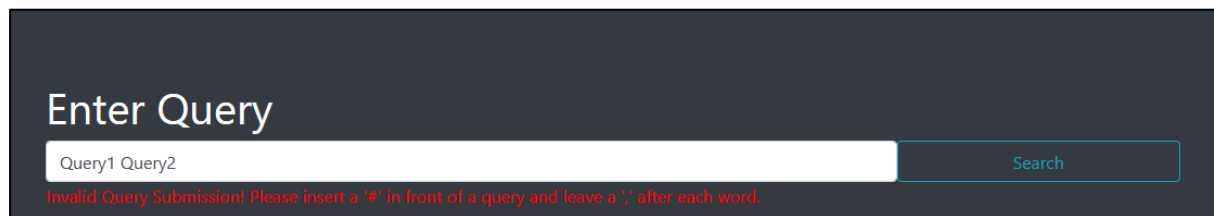
Getting Started

Welcome to Twitter Query Processor, a web application that can lookup hashtags in Twitter to retrieve related tweets and perform sentiment analysis. The first page requires a single or handful of queries to be submitted before results can be achieved.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed web interface with the heading "Enter Query". Below the heading is a text input field containing the query "#2019, #Java". To the right of the input field is a blue "Search" button.

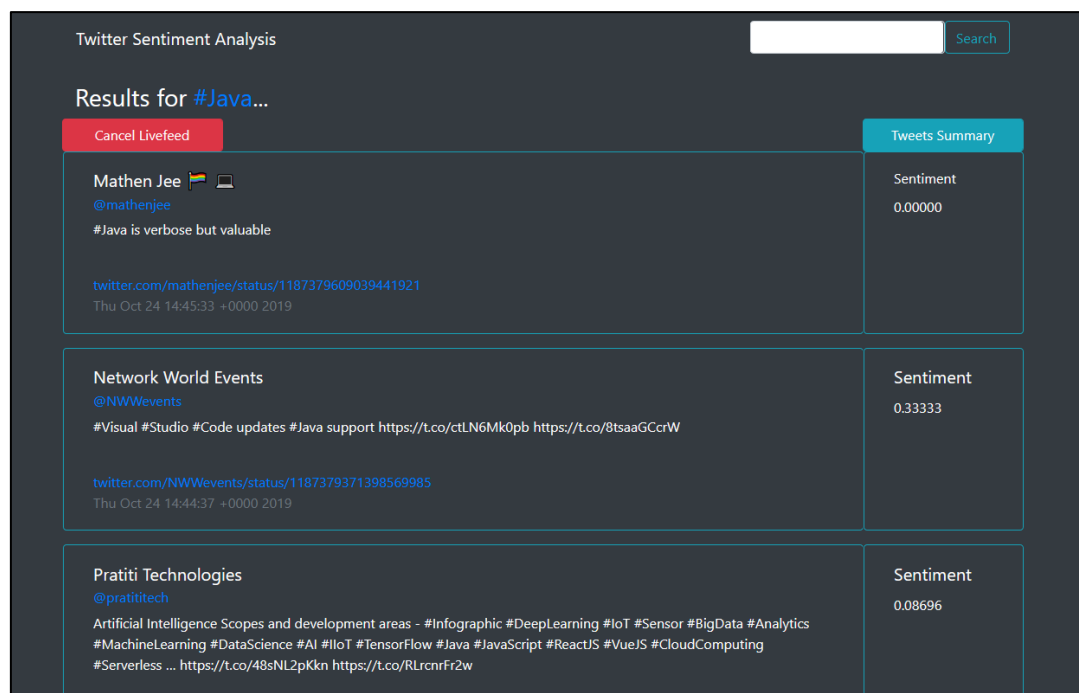
As a format rule, the query must contain a hashtag '#' in front of the word. With the case of having multiple queries, a comma must be inserted between two words. If the formatting is incorrect, an error message will display to indicate how to submit a query.



The screenshot shows the same "Enter Query" form. The input field now contains "Query1 Query2". Below the input field, a red error message is displayed: "Invalid Query Submission! Please insert a '#' in front of a query and leave a ',' after each word." The "Search" button is still present.

Twitter Feed

After submitting a query, you are directed to a page full of tweets retrieved from Twitter. The left column represents each tweet, with each tweet separated in rows by table borders. The right column is for sentiment values to its assigned tweet, which determines how the tweet is expressed in a positive or negative manner through numbers.



The screenshot shows the "Twitter Sentiment Analysis" results page. At the top, there is a search bar and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, the text "Results for #Java..." is displayed. A red "Cancel Livefeed" button is on the left, and a blue "Tweets Summary" button is on the right. The main content is a table with three rows of tweets and their sentiment scores.

	Sentiment
<p>Mathen Jee 🇮🇳 📱 @mathenjee #Java is verbose but valuable</p> <p>twitter.com/mathenjee/status/1187379609039441921 Thu Oct 24 14:45:33 +0000 2019</p>	0.00000
<p>Network World Events @NWWevents #Visual #Studio #Code updates #Java support https://t.co/ctLN6Mk0pb https://t.co/8tsaaGCcrW</p> <p>twitter.com/NWWevents/status/1187379371398569985 Thu Oct 24 14:44:37 +0000 2019</p>	0.33333
<p>Pratiti Technologies @pratitech Artificial Intelligence Scopes and development areas - #Infographic #DeepLearning #IoT #Sensor #BigData #Analytics #MachineLearning #DataScience #AI #IoT #TensorFlow #Java #JavaScript #ReactJS #VueJS #CloudComputing #Serverless ... https://t.co/48sNL2pKkn https://t.co/RLrcnrFr2w</p>	0.08696

Appendix B: Deployment Instructions (Local)

Prerequisite Programs

Using the web application requires Redis to cache data into memory on the computer. This can be installed using the command line on Ubuntu's terminal:

```
sudo apt install redis-server
```

For windows users, it is possible to install Redis by enabling the Windows subsystem Linux on PowerShell. Be sure to run as an administrator to be able to run the script:

```
Enable-WindowsOptionalFeature -Online -FeatureName Microsoft-Windows-Subsystem-Linux
```

Then, download and install Ubuntu from windows store. Run Ubuntu on your computer and install Redis by using the same command line from the Ubuntu version.

Installing Packages

Locate the file directory of the web application using Git bash or an alternative. It is imperative that npm and node.js are installed on the system.

```
Kevin@DESKTOP-E5ERGJ1 MINGW64 ~
$ cd Desktop/cab432_ass2

Kevin@DESKTOP-E5ERGJ1 MINGW64 ~/Desktop/cab432_ass2 (master)
$ |
```

Install the packages in the directory by referencing the .json file called 'package'. This will install the requirements needed to run the server and acquire the features of the application.

```
$ npm install package

> core-js@2.6.9 postinstall C:\Users\Kevin\Desktop\cab432_ass2\node_modules\core-js
> node scripts/postinstall || echo "ignore"

Thank you for using core-js ( https://github.com/zloirock/core-js ) for polyfilling JavaScript standard library!
```

Running the Server

It is imperative to configure the S3 bucket name to your own and obtain your own token credentials from AWS. Changing the bucket store can be done so in routes/search.js.

```
// Cloud Services Set-up
// Create unique bucket name
const bucketName = 'lunamclaren-twitter-processor-store';
//const bucketName = 'kevinduong-twitter-processor-store';
```

Finally, to launch the application, simply write 'node start' on the bash terminal. You can now access the webpage using the following URL:

http://localhost:3000/

Appendix C: Twitter API Keys and Applications

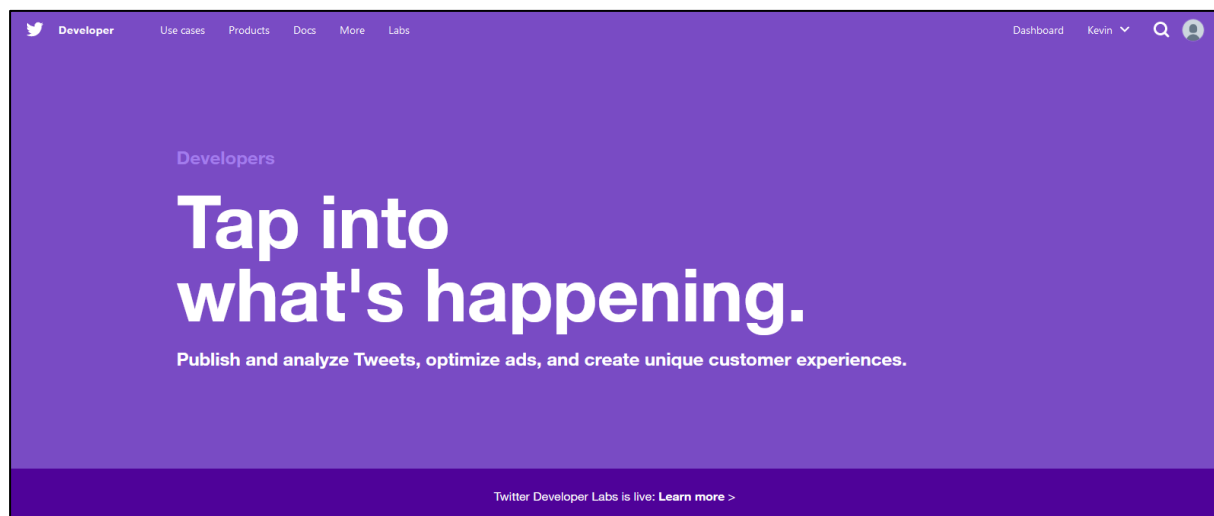
Registering an Account

Twitter is a main component of building the web application – using their API allows us to retrieve their tweets and produce favourable content to the user. To apply for a key, you must first create a Twitter account and apply for a developer account at the Twitter Developer page:

Twitter Developer Registration Link

<https://developer.twitter.com/en/apply-for-access>

After following the procedures to register an account, you should have access to the developer page with your own account name labelled on top of the page.

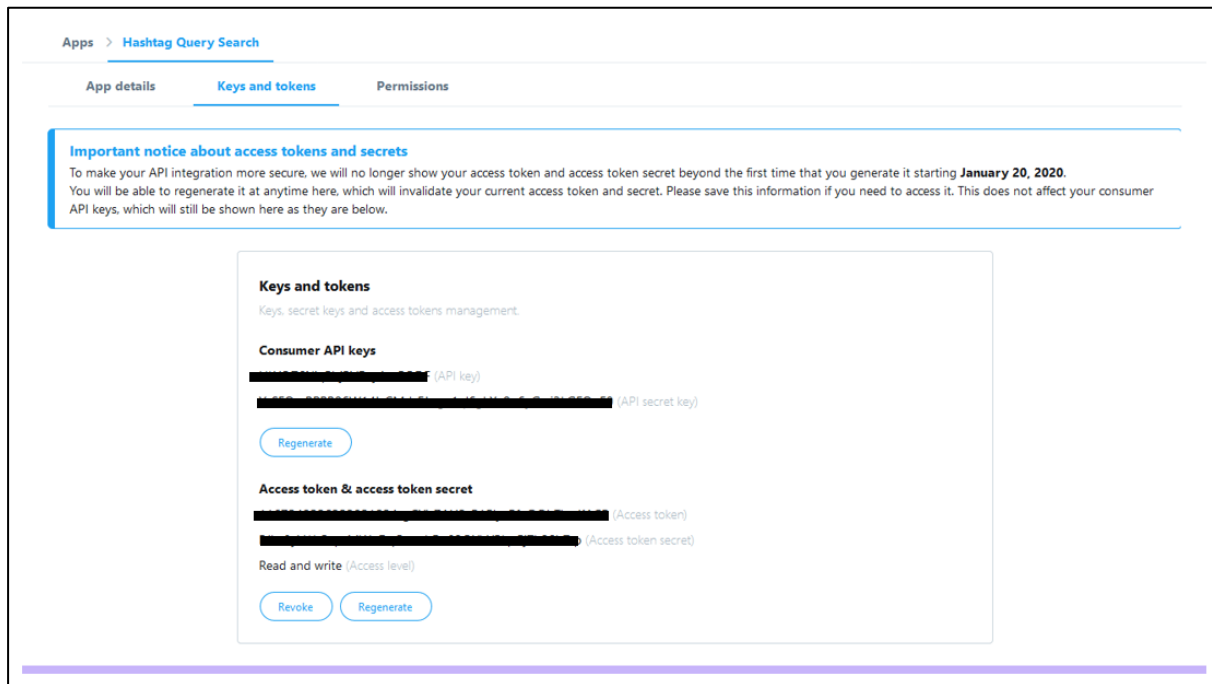


Applying for Keys and Tokens

Click on your account name, then go to 'Apps'. Then click on 'Create an app' to obtain a key. A form is required to complete as part of Twitter's OAuth authorisation schema. When it comes to the website URL, you can use your Twitter account profile page if you don't have a website.

A screenshot of the 'Create an app' form on the Twitter Developer page. The header is purple with the Twitter logo, 'Developer' text, and navigation links: 'Use cases', 'Products', 'Docs', 'More', and 'Labs'. On the right, it shows 'Dashboard', the user name 'Kevin', a dropdown arrow, a search icon, and a profile icon. The main content area has a white background. On the left, there's a sidebar with three sections: 'Understanding apps' (with links 'What is an app?' and 'Why register an app?'), and 'Which products require an API key?'. The main form area is titled 'App details' and contains the following fields: 'App name (required)' with a text input and a character count of 32; 'Application description (required)' with a large text area and a character count of 'Between 10 and 200 characters'; 'Website URL (required)' with a text input containing 'https://'; and 'Callback URLs' with a text input. There is also a checkbox for 'Enable Sign in with Twitter' and a link to 'Learn more'.

After completing the form request, Twitter should now grant you two API keys and tokens, both being standard and secret for each type. You can generate the keys anytime to create new ones.

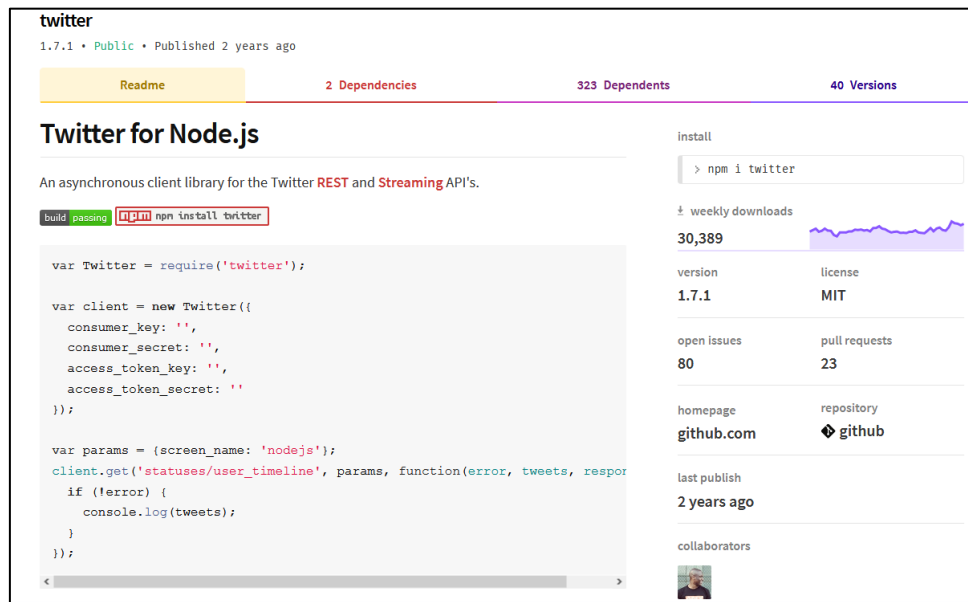


Using the API

Npm has provided a module package for Twitter API users at their website, an asynchronous client library that is used in Node.js:

Twitter for Node.js

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/twitter>



To learn more on how to use the Twitter API for various uses, check out the official documentation page:

API Reference Index – Twitter

<https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/api-reference-index>