

# Mining Radicalisation Trajectories from Social Media Discourse

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## ABSTRACT

to do

## Categories and Subject Descriptors

H.4 [Information Systems Applications]: Miscellaneous;  
D.2.8 [Software Engineering]: Metrics—*complexity measures, performance measures*

## General Terms

Theory

## Keywords

ACM proceedings, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, text tagging

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this study is to understand the paths that social media users exhibit, in their discourse and behaviour, on the way to discussing and sharing radicalised social media content.

Assumptions:

1. That ‘sharing’ of radicalised/fundamental content is a *signifier* of radicalisation.

### 1.1 Research Questions

1. **RQ1:** Can we identify ‘catalysts’ of radicalisation? And are they evident within the data?
2. **RQ2:** What influences people to change their discourse? And what does ‘change’ actually look like?
3. **RQ3:** [Seriously draconian, so not sure about this one] How can we forecast radicalisation?

### 1.2 Steps

In order to conduct this research we will carry out the following research steps:

1. *Data Gathering and Validation:* Use the data provided by D. Greene with the 652 user ids to first validate that those users exist and to also examine how recent their data is. Then gather the followers of those *source* (652) users and pick out the ones based in the UK. Repeat these steps to gather a sufficient number of people to analyse - i.e. going 2-hops away.
2. *Radicalisation Mining:* Create techniques to detect when someone has shared/posted radical content. At first we can just track when this occurs and what the content is that those users are sharing.
3. *Catalyst Detection:* Once we have developed the approach to pick out when someone is sharing radical content, then we can identify the points at which they begin this (i.e. changepoint analysis techniques could be used here). Once we have that then we examine the conditions under which users tend to change - we can also pick out how such conditions provide the setting for users to be influenced in what they share

I think that we can probably stop the work at this point and we will have enough, without having to do the forecasting of radicalisation.