

# rtweet: Collecting Twitter Data

A proposal for

*POLS 904: Statistical Computing*

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## 1 Background

My research examines the intersection of new media environments and political communication using innovative quantitative research methods. My current work analyzes “big data” to better understand the relationship between selective exposure and social media.

In working to systematically collect and wrangle large amounts of data, I created and now maintain *rtweet*, the successor package to *twitteR* for collecting Twitter data. Originally developed to collect data for my dissertation, *rtweet* now features numerous diverse methods for interacting with Twitter APIs and represents the future of open-source efforts in collecting Twitter data.

## 2 proposal

Most of the work toward creating the package is already done. I have already published *rtweet* on CRAN and have received a fair amount of feedback via email and Github. I still want to add a couple new features and implement at least a handful of improvements, but my next big goal is to advertise the package and have my work count toward something a little more tangible. With this in mind, for my course project in *Statistical Computing and Foundations*, I propose that I write and submit an article about *rtweet* to the *R Journal*.