

Analyzing hashtag squatting by K-pop stans

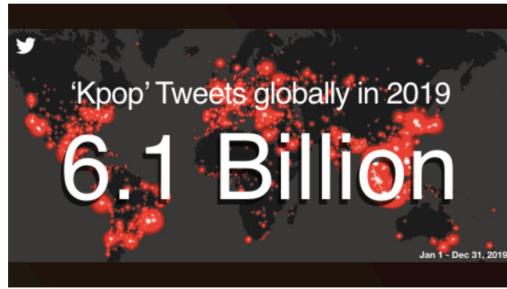
CS895 - Web Archiving Forensics, Fall 2020

Old Dominion University

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2020-12-17



<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2020-10-28/bts-k-pop-stars-are-fighting-qanon-and-maga-on-social-media>

https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/events/2020/KpopTwitter-rises-to-the-top-with-6-1-billion-global-tweets-in-2019.html

K-pop stans using their power for good



방탄소년단 @BTS_twt · Jun 4

우리는 인종차별에 반대합니다.

우리는 폭력에 반대합니다.

나, 당신, 우리 모두는 존중받을 권리가 있습니다. 함께 하겠습니다.

We stand against racial discrimination.

We condemn violence.

You, I and we all have the right to be respected. We will stand together.

#BlackLivesMatter

192.5K

992.8K

2.1M



Businessweek @BW · Oct 28

This spring, Daezy Agbakoba was the first to tweet the hashtag #MatchAMillion, imploring her fellow stans to add another \$1 million to BTS's Black Lives Matter donation.

They did so in a little over 24 hours trib.al/NIBCCdm

<https://twitter.com/bw/status/1321435392495800321>

https://twitter.com/BTS_twt/status/1268422690336935943

<https://colorwebmag.com/2020/06/22/bts-army-and-black-lives-matter-the-value-of-fandom-meshing-with-activism/>



Various instances K-pop stans takeovers



Businessweek @BW · Oct 28

In the past few months, K-pop stans have regularly hijacked QAnon and MAGA social media hashtags. They've led get-out-the-vote efforts against the president. And many were among the online pranksters who boasted about helping derail a Trump rally in Tulsa.



No One Fights QAnon Like the Global Army of K-Pop Superfans

BTS stans built the trolling blueprint for 4chan types, and they've proven they can disrupt it.

bloomberg.com

101

305

1.4K



<https://twitter.com/bw/status/1321435392495800321>

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2020-10-28/bts-k-pop-stans-are-fighting-qanon-and-maga-on-social-media>

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/04/us/kpop-bts-blackpink-fans-black-lives-matter-trnd/index.html>

@kritika_garg (kgarg001@odu.edu)



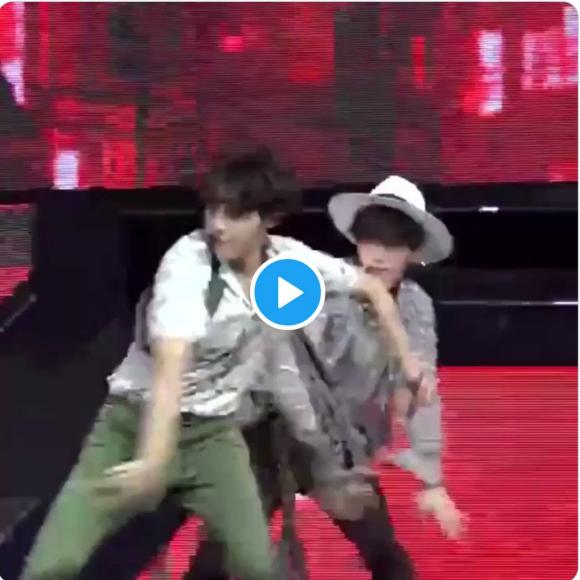
Dallas Police Dept @DallasPD · May 31, 2020

If you have video of illegal activity from the protests and are trying to share it with @DallasPD, you can download it to our iWatch Dallas app. You can remain anonymous. [@ChiefHallDPD](#) [@CityOfDallas](#)



erin
@skzjennie

here's a video, i'll dm you some more ❤️



4:19 PM · May 31, 2020



Hashtag squatting by K-pop stans



brobro
@PotatoGod19

#QAnon don't mind me just flooding some more hashtags



6:00 AM · Jun 5, 2020 · Twitter for Android
<https://twitter.com/PotatoGod19/status/1268845192339247106>

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/04/us/kpop-bts-blackpink-fans-black-lives-matter-trnd/index.html>

https://twitter.com/Dialu_dmonz/status/1268453197154320391,

https://web.archive.org/web/20201114223610if_/https://twitter.com/stevenspats/status/1327702114122883072

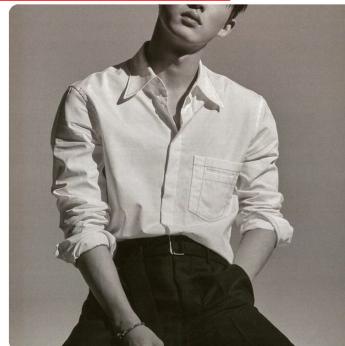
<https://web.archive.org/web/20201216111615/https://twitter.com/shavehairhanbin/status/1268426082631462919>



hambean 😊张扬 | Hanbin is Our Be...
@shavehairhanbin

Follow

Blessing these ridiculous hashtags with hanbin's ridiculously amazing photoshoot 😭
😭 thank me later #WhiteOutWednesday
#WhiteLifeMatter



11:15 PM - 3 Jun 2020

9 Retweets 124 Likes

3 9 124



Andrew Stevens
@stevenspats

Obserwuj

Oh so pretty #MillionMAGAMarch



11:57 - 14 lis 2020

17 podań dalej 175 polubień

3 17 175



Namjin_Hope
@Dialu_dmonz

The only blue thing that matters is Namjoons hair ✨
#blueLivesMatter



Jun 4, 2020 · Twitter for Android

2 Quo



Suspended K-pop stan accounts & deleted tweets

The screenshot shows a news article from Rolling Stone. The header includes a search bar, a 'Send a Tip' button, a 'Log In' button, and a 'SUBSCRIBE' button. Below the header are navigation links for 'Menu', 'Music', 'TV', 'Movies', 'Politics', 'Culture', 'Charts', 'Pro', 'Newsletters', and 'Shop'. The main headline is 'K-Pop Power: Fandoms Unite to Take Over #WhiteLivesMatter Hashtag on Twitter'. A sub-headline states: 'The united effort effectively drowned out the white-supremacist messaging that organizers of the hashtag were likely hoping to spread'. The author is listed as 'By TIM CHAN'. The date is 'JUNE 3, 2020 3:30PM ET'. A 'Trending' section features a photo of a woman wearing sunglasses. The main content discusses K-pop fans using hashtags like '#BlackLivesMatter' and '#BLM' to support Black Lives Matter. It includes a photo of several K-pop stars. A sidebar on the right shows 'More from CNN' with links to stories about the vaccine and the State Department.

<https://archive.is/KK184>
<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/04/us/kpop-bts-blackpink-fans-black-lives-matter-trnd/index.html>
https://twitter.com/BTS_SNIPPER/status/1268002561585557506?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw
https://twitter.com/MonbebesArmy/status/1268218193002115072?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw
<https://twitter.com/cheesejessicaaa/status/1268278823134482433?s=20>

Most of the tweets shared in these news article are unavailable or suspended.

https://twitter.com/BTS_SNIPPER/status/1268002561585557506?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

← Tweet

This Tweet is unavailable.

https://twitter.com/MonbebesArmy/status/1268218193002115072?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

← Tweet



This Tweet is unavailable.

#

<https://twitter.com/cheesejessicaaa/status/1268278823134482433?s=20>

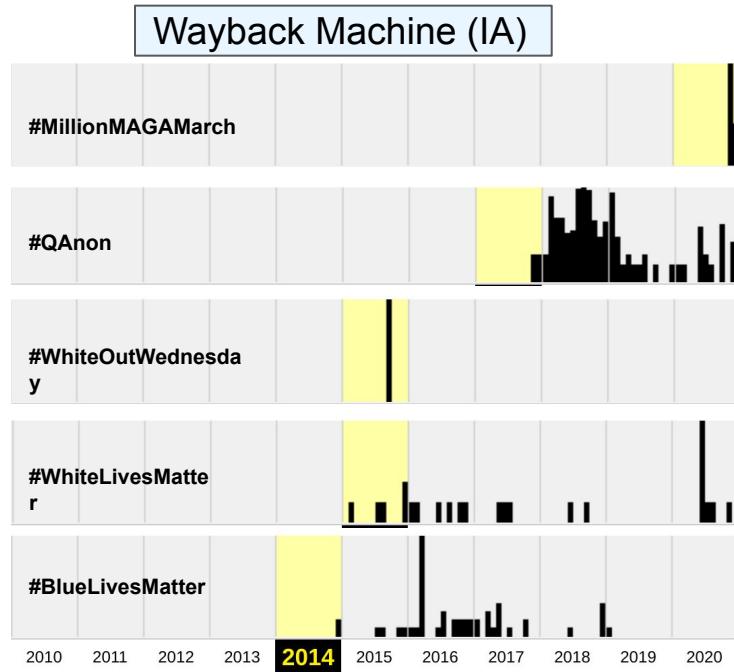
← Tweet



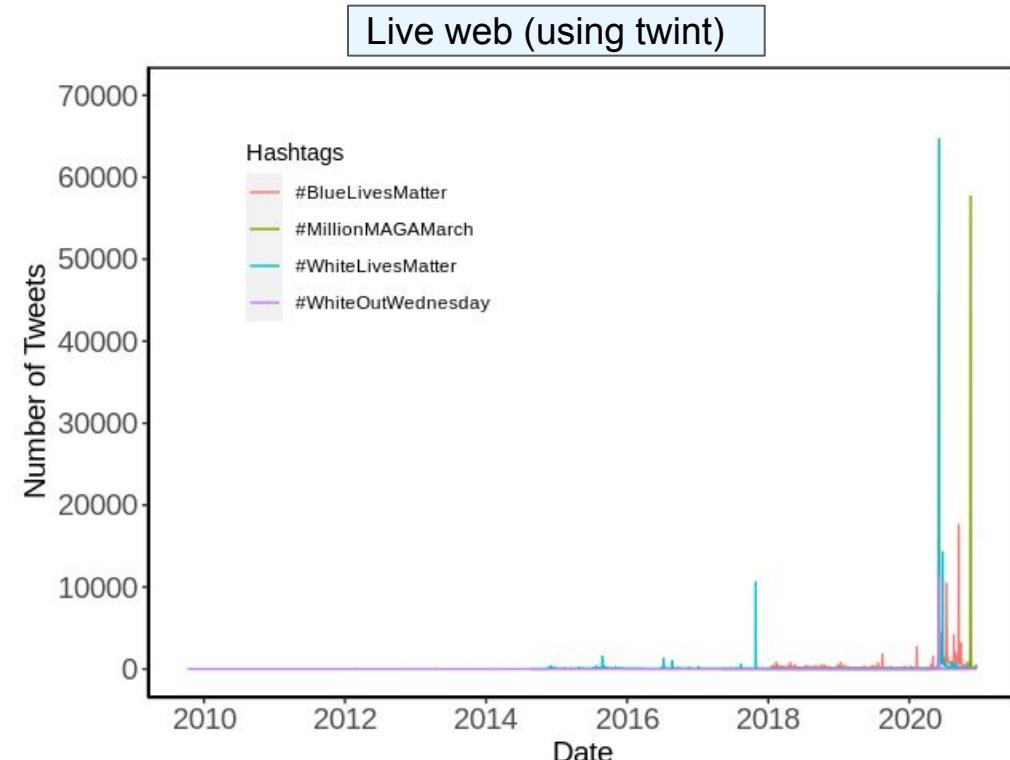
This Tweet is from a suspended account. [Learn more](#)

#

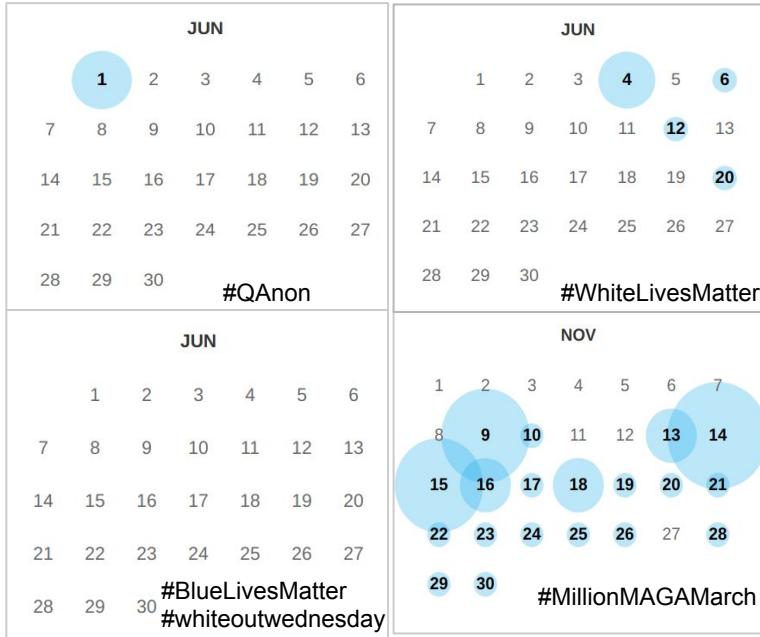
How well are these hashtags archived?



https://web.archive.org/web/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch
https://web.archive.org/web/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/WhiteLivesMatter
https://web.archive.org/web/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/QAnon
https://web.archive.org/web/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/BlueLivesMatter
https://web.archive.org/web/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/whiteoutwednesday



How well are these events archived?



https://web.archive.org/web/*/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch
https://web.archive.org/web/*/https://twitter.com/hashtag/WhiteLivesMatter
https://web.archive.org/web/*/https://twitter.com/hashtag/QAnon
https://web.archive.org/web/*/https://twitter.com/hashtag/BlueLivesMatter
https://web.archive.org/web/*/https://twitter.com/hashtag/whiteoutwednesday

\$ curl -s

<http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/WhiteLivesMatter> | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Jun 2020*" | awk -v FS=/ '{print \$3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n

5 web.archive.org

\$ curl -s <http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/QAnon> | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Jun 2020*" | awk -v FS=/ '{print \$3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n

2 web.archive.org

\$ curl -s

<http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/whiteoutwednesday> | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Jun 2020*" | awk -v FS=/ '{print \$3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n

2 archive.md

\$ curl -s <http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/BlueLivesMatter> | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Jun 2020*" | awk -v FS=/ '{print \$3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n

-

\$ curl -s

<http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch> | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Nov 2020*" | awk -v FS=/ '{print \$3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n

2 archive.md

28 wayback.archive-it.org

32 web.archive.org

No tweets in most of IA & Archive-It mementos

Find filters · Show

New to Twitter?
Sign up now to get your own personalized timeline!

Sign up

Worldwide trends

- Mattis 680K Tweets
- #earthquake 55.8K Tweets
- #RHOBH 13.4K Tweets

#WhiteLivesMatter

All 5 IA mementos in June have no tweets

https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/*https://twitter.com/hashtag/millionmagamarch
<https://web.archive.org/web/20201115070443/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch>
<https://web.archive.org/web/20200604132654/https://twitter.com/hashtag/WhitelivesMatter>

Find filters · Show

New to Twitter?
Sign up now to get your own personalized timeline!

Sign up

Worldwide trends

- Crawford 57.5K Tweets
- Gucci 73.1K Tweets
- Antifa 955K Tweets
- #WinFreePSS 39.6K Tweets
- Proud Boys 284K Tweets

#millionmagamarch

IA mementos after 14 Nov, 2020 have no tweets

No results for #millionmagamarch

You are viewing an archived web page, collected at the request of [Mark Graham](#) using [Archive-It](#). This page was captured on 22:44:10 Nov 15, 2020, and is part of the [General Crawls](#) collection. The information on this web page may be out of date. See [All versions](#) of this archived page. Found 0 archived media items out of 0 total on this page.

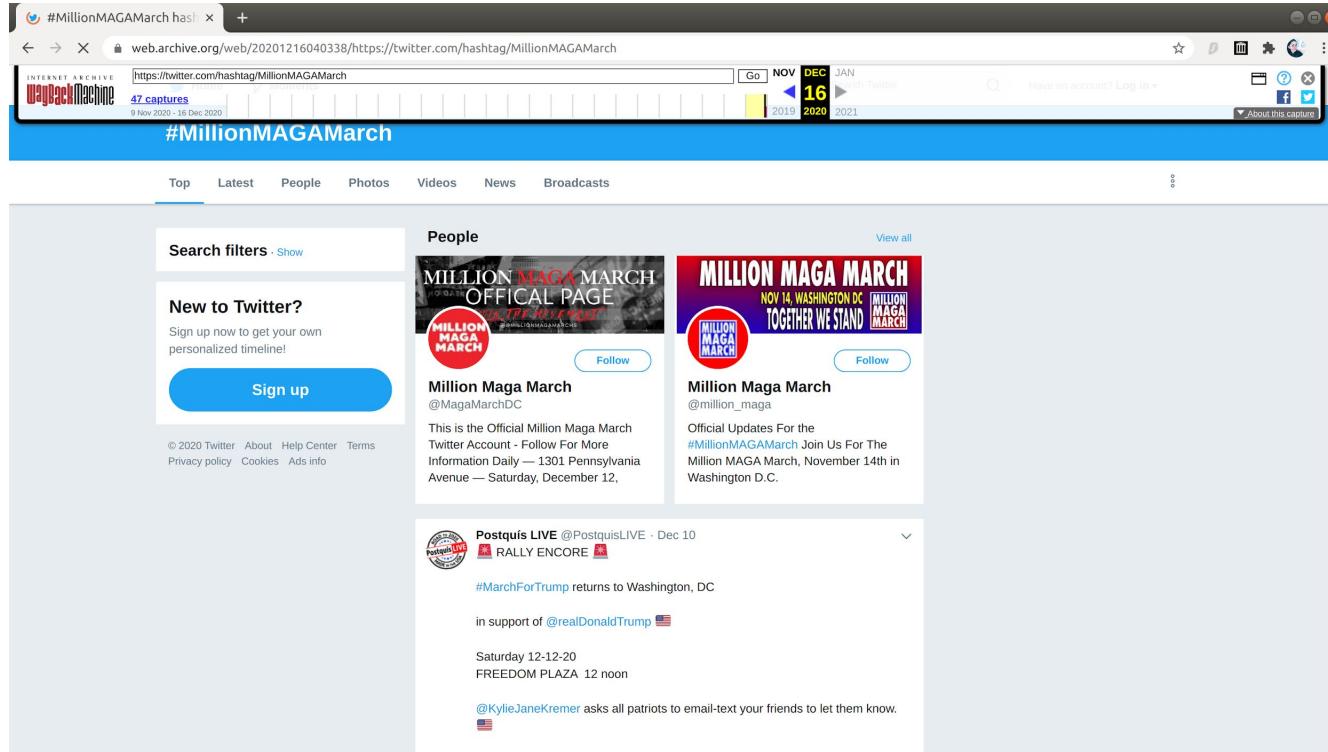
People

View all

Donald J. Trump 
@realDonaldTrump
45th President of the United States of America
Washington, DC • Vote.DonaldJTrump.com

No tweets!!

Archiving hashtag Twitter URI using SPN



<https://web.archive.org/web/20201216040338/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch>

Extracting Mementos using CDX API

```
$ curl -s http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch\* | grep datetime | grep "datetime=.*Nov 2020*" | awk '{print $1}' | awk '{print substr($0, 2, length($0)-3)}' >> URLs_mmm
```

```
$ curl -s "https://web.archive.org/cdx/search/cdx?url=https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch&matchType=prefix" | awk '$2~/^202011/' | awk '{print "http://web.archive.org/web/" $2 "/" $3}' >> URLs_mmm
```

```
$ sort URLs_mmm | uniq | head -5
```

```
https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/20201114211527/https://twitter.com/hashtag/MillionMAGAMarch?src=hash
https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/20201114211638/https://twitter.com/hashtag/millionmagamarch?src=hash&lang=fr
https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/20201114211713/https://twitter.com/hashtag/millionmagamarch?src=hash&lang=en
https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/20201114211740/https://twitter.com/hashtag/millionmagamarch?src=hash&lang=ar
https://wayback.archive-it.org/all/20201114211806/https://twitter.com/hashtag/millionmagamarch?src=hash&lang=ja
```

```
#Number of URM collected for each hashtag
```

```
$ wc -l URLs_*
2623 URLs_mmm.sorted
447 URLs_wlm.sorted
151 URLs_blm.sorted
104 URLs_QAnon.sorted
33 URLs_wow.sorted
```

<https://github.com/internetarchive/wayback/tree/master/wayback-cdx-serverhtml>

Number of Tweets extracted from the live web and the web archives.

Hashtag (month)	Live tweets	Archived Tweets	Archived (deleted)
MillionMAGAMarch (Nov)	99,189	427	77
BlueLivesMatter (Jun)	119,100	319	84
QAnon (Jun)	251,534	292	125
WhiteLivesMatter (Jun)	118,167	85	27
WhiteOutWednesday (Jun)	13,749	24	4

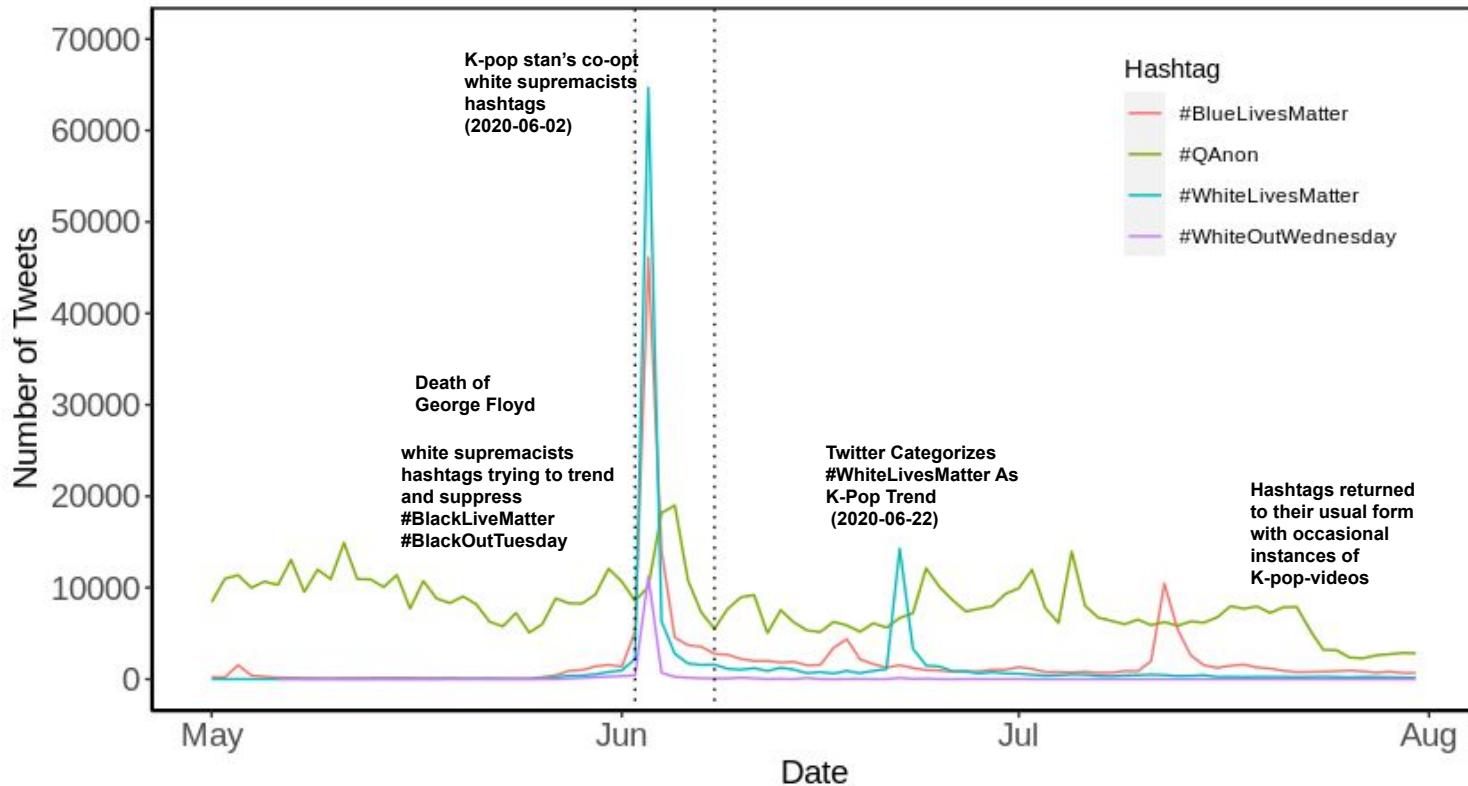
Examples of unavailable tweets

The image displays four examples of tweets that are no longer available on the original platform (Twitter) but can be viewed through web archiving.

- mei lei (@merekare) - Nov 8, 2020:** "Who's going to #MillionMAGAMarch hit me up about a hotel pls". This tweet is still visible on the Twitter interface.
- Alan Mizell (@AlanMizell) - Nov 8, 2020:** "Don't forget to totally ignore these racist on Saturday and have pancakes instead. #MillionMAGAMarch". This tweet is still visible on the Twitter interface. Below it is a photograph of a stack of pancakes with syrup being poured over them.
- fairykitties (@fairykitties) - Jun 27, 2020:** "debuting my #WhiteLivesMatter fancam bc if you thought you could be racist here then jinsoul and i have news for you". This tweet is shown in its archived state on the Wayback Machine, with the media content (fancam) missing.
- Jordan Sather (@Jordan_Sather_) - Jun 10, 2020:** "Twitter's CEO follows this account. Wonder why 🤔胸怀 All assets activated... #QAnon twitter.com/YourAnonCentra ...". This tweet is shown in its archived state on the Wayback Machine. A screenshot of the Twitter profile page for Jordan Sather shows that the account is now inactive (blue checkmark removed) and has been followed by the Twitter CEO, Jack Dorsey (@jack).

<https://web.archive.org/web/20201109172025/https://twitter.com/merekare/status/1325528260344770560>
<https://web.archive.org/web/20200607173958/https://twitter.com/fairykitties/status/1269616658668113920>
<https://twitter.com/AlanMizell/status/1327380319394213899>
https://twitter.com/Jordan_Sather_/status/1270829461710057474

K-Pop stans take over racist Twitter hashtags



Top retweets on June 2, 2020 with #WhiteLivesMatter



michael gow tolson
@GowTolson

A black criminal dies in custody in the USA and the world goes ape, with rioting and looting. A white, food producing farmer is tortured and killed every week in South Africa for no other reason than being white - yet never a mention!

#WhiteLivesMatter

2:18 AM · Jun 2, 2020 · Twitter Web App



President-Elect Devon Hofmeyr
@devon_hofmeyr

Black lives don't matter to black people unless a black person is killed by a white person. #GeorgeFloyd
#BlackLivesMatter 🥺 #WhiteLivesMatter

8:23 AM · Jun 2, 2020 · Twitter for Android

131 Retweets 20 Quote Tweets 584 Likes



<https://twitter.com/eliyahdaniel/status/1268207738175107072>

https://twitter.com/devon_hofmeyr/status/1267793970563776518

<https://twitter.com/YourAnonCentral/status/1268212962235318278>

<https://twitter.com/GowTolson/status/1267701982921457664>

Top retweets on June 3, 2020 with #WhiteLivesMatter



anonymous
@YourAnonCentral

Report from the battle: The Anonymous K-Pop division #OpFanCam has successfully conquered the #BlueLivesMatter and #WhiteLivesMatter hashtags. A major victory over online fascism's messaging tools, their fascist incel troops have been completely decimated.

12:08 PM · Jun 3, 2020 · Twitter Web App

14.1K Retweets 1.1K Quote Tweets 116.4K Likes



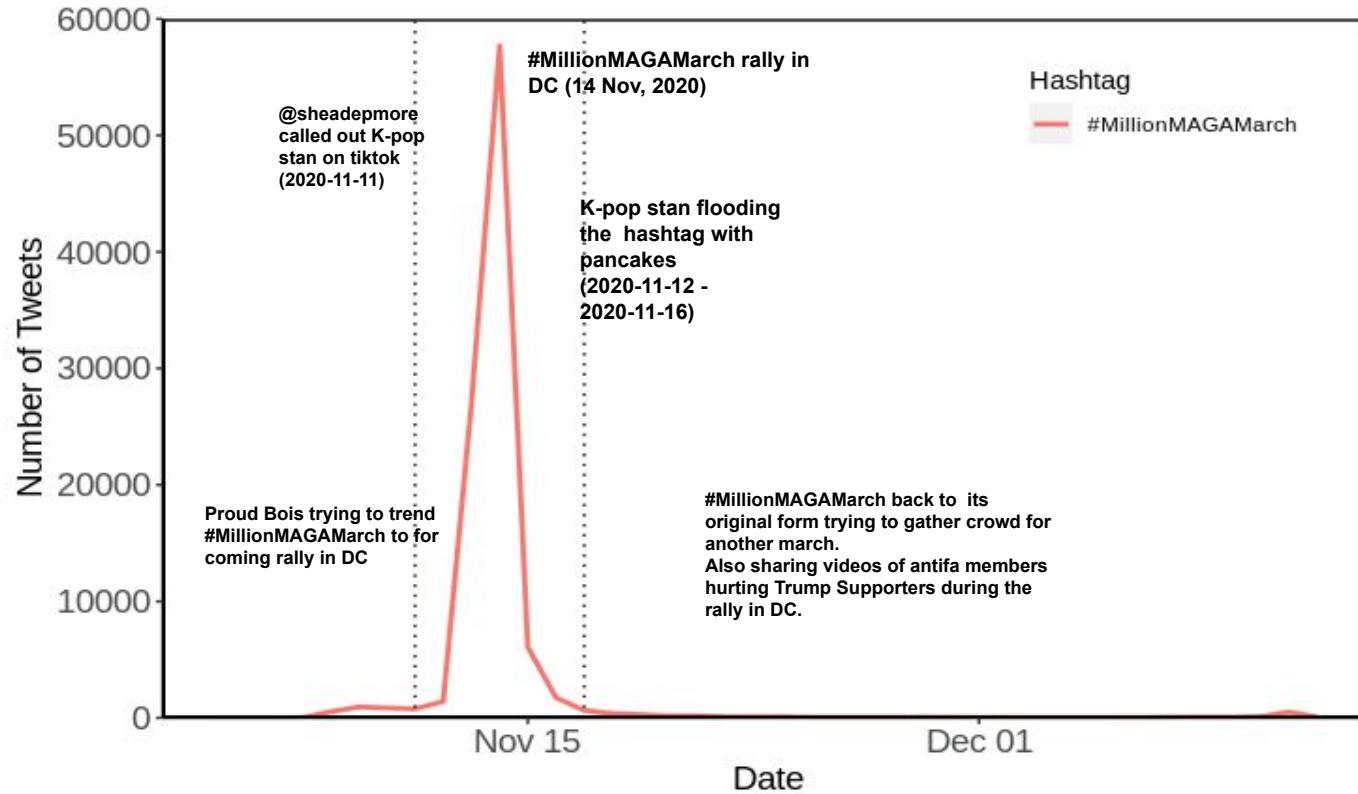
elijah daniel
@eliyahdaniel

why is it 8am and i am literally teary eyed that kpop twitter hijacked the #WhiteLivesMatter hashtag to drown out the racism and fill with fancams and petitions like.....never DRAG THEM AGAIN. kpop stans are FOR THE PEOPLE.

11:47 AM · Jun 3, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

8.1K Retweets 236 Quote Tweets 54.3K Likes

Flood of Pancakes (#MillionMAGAMarch)



Make America Pancake Again



Million Maga March
@MillionMagaMarch



Millions of Trump Supporters will be marching from the Supreme Court in Washington D.C. to the White House on Saturday November 14 #MillionMAGAMarch

Follow this account for updates & Info with regard to the upcoming MAGA march in Washington D.C.



10:30 PM · Nov 8, 2020 · Twitter Web App

8.8K Retweets 1.4K Quote Tweets 19.1K Likes



<https://www.sheadepmore.com/mapa2020>

https://twitter.com/oneunderscore_/status/1327340029128085507

<https://twitter.com/MilionMagaMarch/status/1325641852805115905>

[https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1327319294057848832](https://twitter.comrealDonaldTrump/status/1327319294057848832)

https://twitter.com/search?q=%23MillionMAGAMarch&src=typhead_click



Ben Collins
@oneunderscore_

K-Pop stans from TikTok are flooding the #MillionMAGAMarch hashtag with pictures of pancakes. It's basically unusable right now.

@SheaDepmore appears to have kicked it off.



2:58 PM · Nov 13, 2020 · Twitter Web App

9K Retweets 3.3K Quote Tweets 37.7K Likes



Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

Heartwarming to see all of the tremendous support out there, especially the organic Rallies that are springing up all over the Country, including a big one on Saturday in D.C. I may even try to stop by and say hello. This Election was Rigged, from Dominion all the way up & down!

This claim about election fraud is disputed

1:35 PM · Nov 13, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

80K Retweets 14.8K Quote Tweets 402.4K Likes



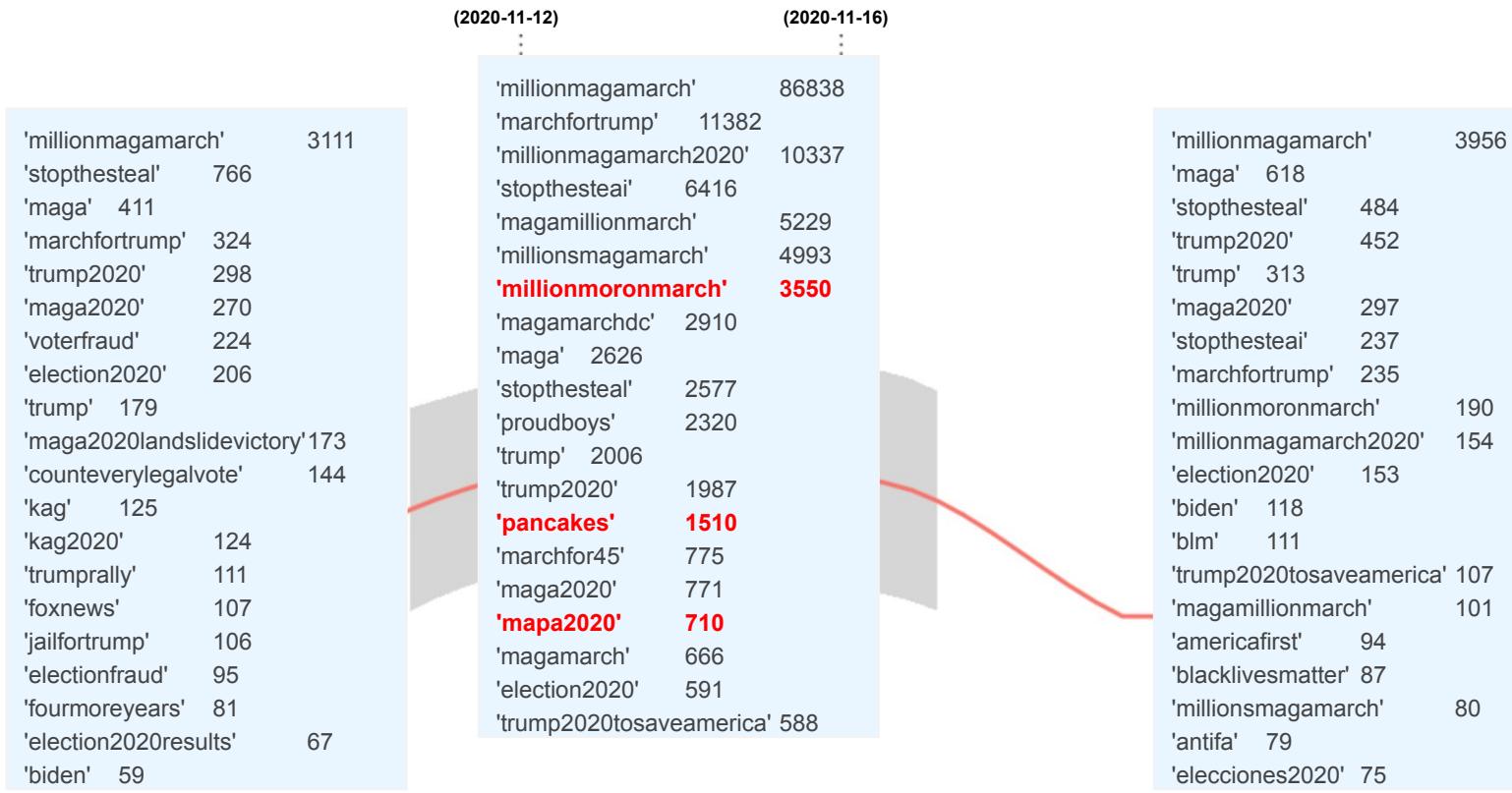
BitsyInAPearTree
@BitsyTTV

To all my Kpop Stans, we're flooding #millionmagmaMarch with photos and gifs of pancakes



12:59 AM · Nov 12, 2020 · Twitter for Android

Top hashtags tweeted with #MillionMAGAMarch



Summary

- Extracted tweets from the live web and the archive to study the instances of hashtag squatting on Twitter by K-pop stan groups.
- K-pop groups have taken over racist hashtags to discourse the hashtag from its intended purpose.
- The first instance of hashtags squatting by K-pop groups was started in June 2020. This effort was continued for more than a month and was successful in suppressing the hate messages trying to trend on Twitter at that time.
- The second instance of hashtag squatting (#MillionMAGAMarch) was short-lived (4-5 days) but was again successful in suppressing the hate messages on Twitter during the MAGA rally in DC.