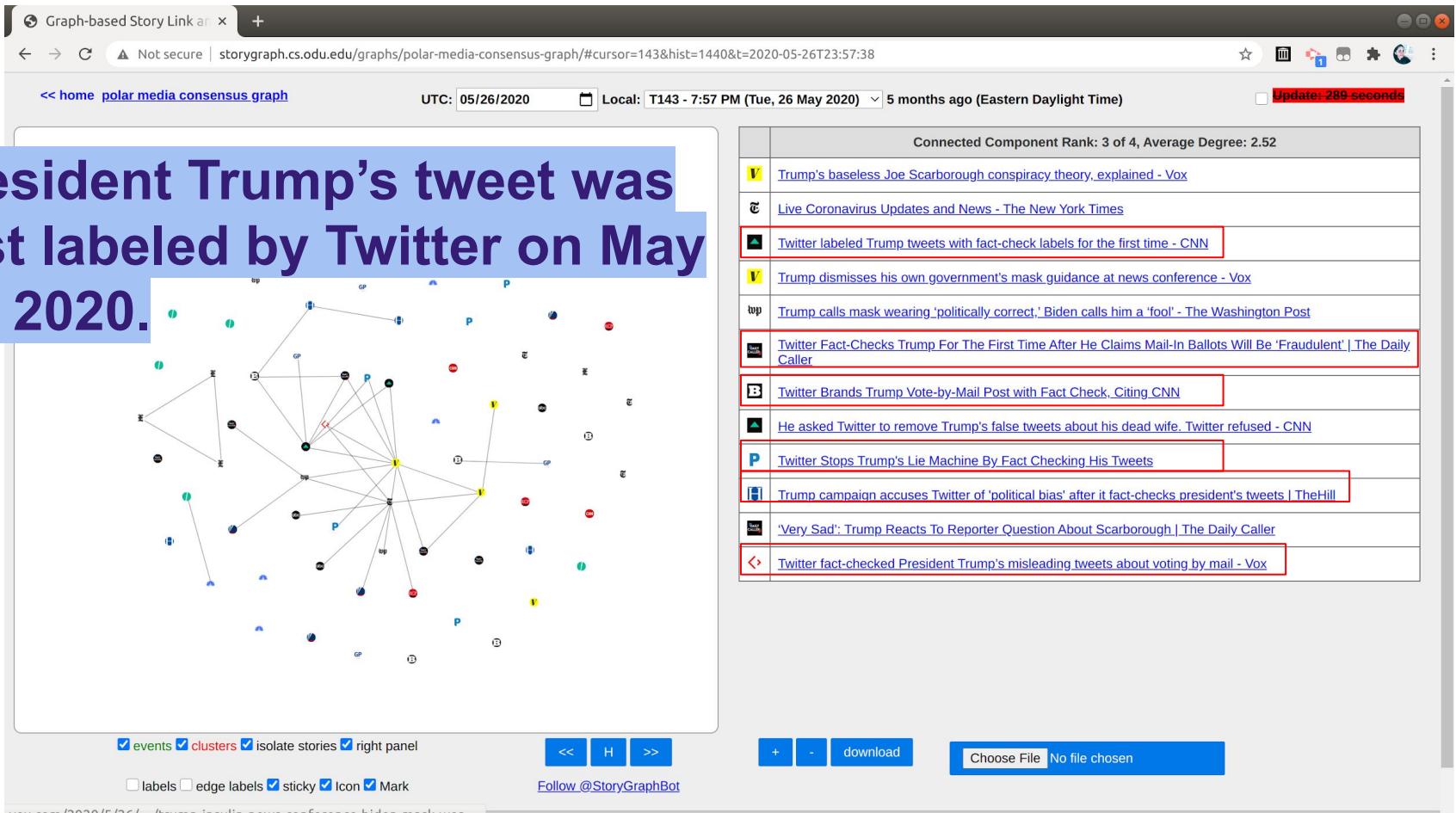


Analyzing President Trump's Tweets Labeled by Twitter

CS895 - Web Archiving Forensics, Fall 2020
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Two Types Of Labels

Fact-check Labels



Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump

There is NO WAY (ZERO!) that Mail-In Ballots will be anything less than substantially fraudulent. Mail boxes will be robbed, ballots will be forged & even illegally printed out & fraudulently signed. The Governor of California is sending Ballots to millions of people, anyone.....

Get the facts about mail-in ballots

8:17 AM · May 26, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

36.1K Retweets 11.7K Quote Tweets 125.3K Likes



<https://twitter.comrealDonaldTrump/status/1265255835124539392>

Violated Twitter Rules Labels



Donald J. Trump

@realDonaldTrump

This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about spreading misleading and potentially harmful information related to COVID-19. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)

Flu season is coming up! Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu. Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!

8:03 AM · Oct 6, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

[View Quote Tweets](#)



<https://twitter.comrealDonaldTrump/status/131344984413992961>

10 Tweets have been labeled so far

There are three tweets with fact-check labels and seven tweets with violated twitter rules labels

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump
There is NO WAY (ZERO!) that Mail-In Ballots will be anything less than substantially fraudulent. Mail boxes will be robbed, ballots will be forged & even illegally printed out & fraudulently signed. The Governor of California is sending Ballots to millions of people, anyone.....
[Get the facts about mail-in ballots](#)
8:17 AM · May 26, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump
Because of the new and unprecedented massive amount of unsolicited ballots which will be sent to "voters", or wherever, this year, the Nov 3rd Election result may NEVER BE ACCURATELY DETERMINED, which is what some want. Another election disaster yesterday. Stop Ballot Madness!
twitter.com/TrueTheVote/st...
[Learn how voting by mail is safe and secure](#)
This Tweet is unavailable.
7:36 AM · Sep 17, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone
17.8K Retweets 2.4K Quote Tweets 53.2K Likes

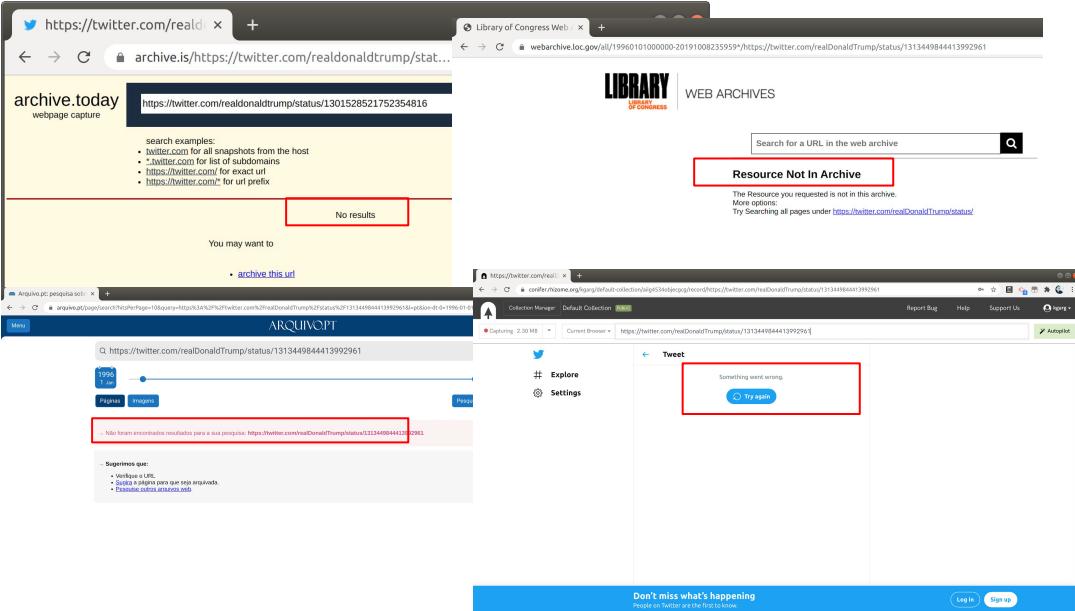
Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump
This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about spreading misleading and potentially harmful information related to COVID-19. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)
Flu season is coming up! Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu. Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with the lethal!!!
8:17 AM · May 26, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump
This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about civic and election integrity. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)
NORTH CAROLINA: To make sure your Ballot COUNTS, sign & send it in EARLY. When Polls open, go to your Polling Place to see if it was COUNTED. IF NOT, VOTE! Your signed Ballot will not count because your vote has been posted. Don't let them illegally take your vote away from you!
9:10 AM · Sep 12, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone
[View Quote Tweets](#)

Tweet IDs

1. 1313449844413992961
2. 1306557587375128576
3. 1304769412759724033
4. 1301528521752354816
5. 1301528522582786049
6. 1297495295266357248
7. 1275409656488382465
8. 1266231100780744704
9. 1265255835124539392
10. 1265255845358645254

These Tweets are mostly archived in IA.



\$ curl -s

```
http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1313449844413992961  
2961 | grep datetime | awk -v FS=/ '{print $3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n
```

87 web.archive.org

\$ curl -s

```
http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/127540965648838  
2465 | grep datetime | awk -v FS=/ '{print $3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n
```

4 archive.md

161 web.archive.org

\$ curl -s

```
http://memgator.cs.odu.edu/timemap/link/https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/126623110078074  
4704 | grep datetime | awk -v FS=/ '{print $3}' | sort | uniq -c | sort -n
```

4 perma.cc

16 wayback.archive-it.org

36 archive.md

748 web.archive.org

How well are these tweets archived?

Tweet	Internet Archive	Archive.is
1313449844413992961	87	10
1306557587375128576	48	2
1304769412759724033	43	3
1301528521752354816	27	2
1301528522582786049	8	1
1297495295266357248	38	7
1275409656488382465	167	4
1266231100780744704	756	36
1265255835124539392	310	13
1265255845358645254	102	7

Table 1. The number of mementos in IA and Archive.is for the 10 labeled tweets.

Data is tabulated using Memgator & CDX API on 2020-10-14T21:45.

<https://github.com/oduwsdl/MemGator>,

<https://github.com/internetarchive/wayback/blob/master/wayback-cdx-server/README.md>

Old UI and new UI mementos in IA

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of a Twitter post from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) on August 23, 2020. The left screenshot shows the 'Old UI' memento, and the right shows the 'new UI' memento.

Left Screenshot (Old UI):

- The URL in the address bar is <https://web.archive.org/web/20200823210018/https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248>.
- The tweet content: "So now the Democrats are using Mail Drop Boxes, which are a voter security disaster. Among other things, they make it possible for a person to vote multiple times. Also, who controls them, are they placed in Republican or Democrat areas? They are not Covid sanitized. A big fraud!"
- The timestamp: 4:25 AM - Aug 23, 2020.
- The interaction icons below the tweet are highlighted with a red box: reply, retweet, and like.
- Below the tweet, there is a video thumbnail showing Donald Trump and Mike Lindell.
- The URL at the bottom is <https://web.archive.org/web/20200823210018/https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248>.

Right Screenshot (new UI):

- The URL in the address bar is <https://web.archive.org/web/20200823112607/https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248>.
- The tweet content is identical to the left screenshot.
- The timestamp: 7:25 AM - Aug 23, 2020 - Twitter for iPhone.
- The interaction icons below the tweet are highlighted with a red box: reply, retweet, like, and share.
- The URL at the bottom is <https://web.archive.org/web/20200823112607/https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248>.

WSDL Blog describing this change in detail: <https://ws-dl.blogspot.com/2020/07/2020-07-15-twitter-was-already.html>

Twitter has added label to old UI mementos as well.

Donald J. Trumpさんのツイート

https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248
40 captures

23 Aug 2020 - 5 Oct 2020

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

So now the Democrats are using Mail Drop Boxes, which are a voter security disaster. Among other things, they make it possible for a person to vote multiple times. Also, who controls them, are they placed in Republican or Democrat areas? They are not Covid sanitized. A big fraud!

4:25 - 2020年8月23日

このツイートは、市民と選挙の清廉性についてのTwitterルールに違反しています。ただし、Twitterではこのツイートに公共性があると判断したため、引き続き表示できます。詳細は[こちら](#)

© 2020 Twitter Twitterについて ヘルプセンター 規約 プライバシーポリシー クッキー 広告について

The earliest old UI memento with label I could find is from Aug 26, 2020.

New UI mementos in IA can be deceiving

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://web.archive.org/web/20200823112607/https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/1297495295266357248> highlighted by a red box. The browser interface includes a search bar, a date range selector (23 Aug 2020 - 5 Oct 2020), and a calendar view for July, August, and September 2020. The main content is a tweet from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) dated 7:25 AM on Aug 23, 2020, via Twitter for iPhone. The tweet text is: "So now the Democrats are using Mail Drop Boxes, which are a voter security disaster. Among other things, they make it possible for a person to vote multiple times. Also, who controls them, are they placed in Republican or Democrat areas? They are not Covid sanitized. A big fraud!" Below the tweet, there is a note: "This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about civic and election integrity. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)". At the bottom of the tweet card, there are links for "Show Retweets with comments".

Original tweet
created at :
2020-08-23T11:25:
59Z

*According to this
memento the tweet
was labeled within
1 min and 8 secs.*

Temporal Violations in new UI mementos in IA

https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump/status/129749520560572410

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about civic and election integrity. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)

So now the Democrats are using Mail Drop Boxes, which are a voter security disaster. Among other things, they make it possible for a person to vote multiple times. Also, who controls them, are they placed in Republican or Democrat areas? They are not Covid sanitized. A big fraud!

7:25 AM · Aug 23, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

+9 Hours

Original tweet created at :
08-23-2020
11:25:59

According to this memento the tweet was labeled within 1 min and 8 secs.

Temporal Violations in composite Mementos:
<https://ws-dl.blogspot.com/2015/12/2015-12-08-evaluating-temporal.html>

Distribution of old and new UI mementos in IA.

Tweet	Internet Archive			Archive.is
	Total	new UI	Old UI	
1313449844413992961	87	13	74	10
1306557587375128576	48	5	43	2
1304769412759724033	43	11	32	3
1301528521752354816	27	5	22	2
1301528522582786049	8	5	3	1
1297495295266357248	38	6	32	7
1275409656488382465	167	13	154	4
1266231100780744704	756	75	681	36
1265255835124539392	310	32	278	13
1265255845358645254	102	8	94	7

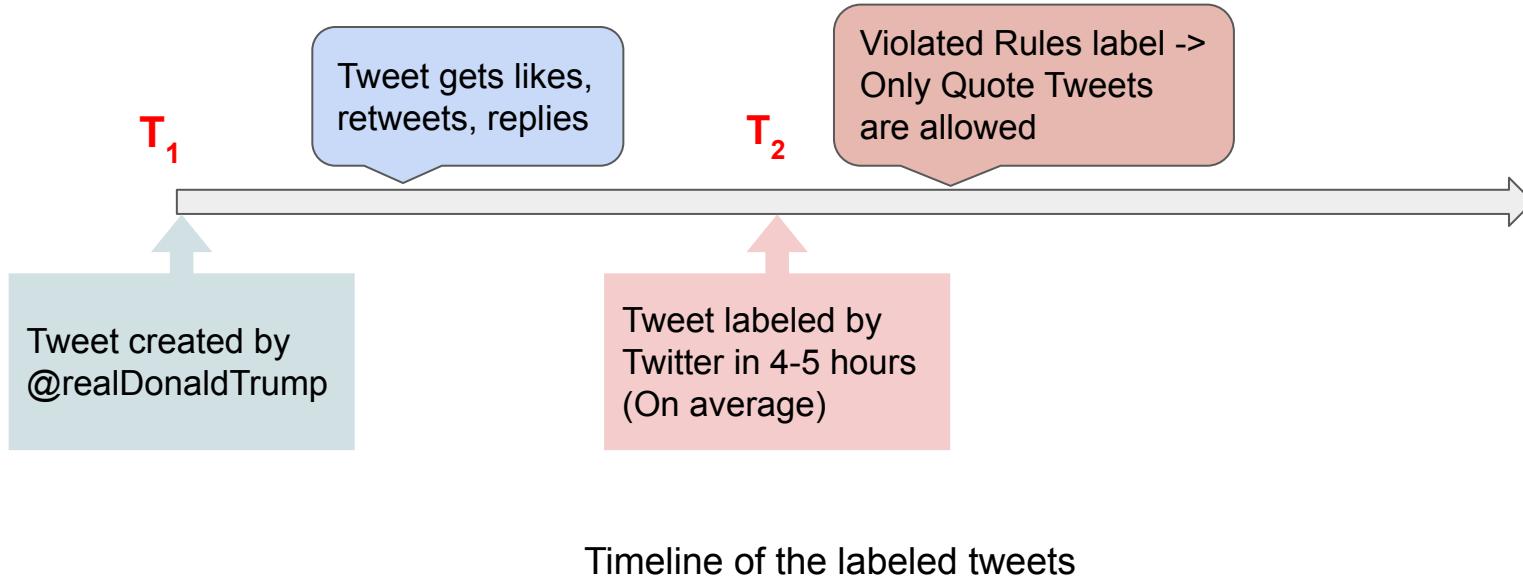
Table 1. The number of old UI and new UI mementos in IA for the 10 labeled tweets.

Data is tabulated using Memgator & CDX API on 2020-10-14T21:45.

<https://github.com/oduwsdl/MemGator>,

<https://github.com/internetarchive/wayback/blob/master/wayback-cdx-server/README.md>

It takes an average of 4-5 hours for Twitter to label Trump's tweets



Tweets engagements before label

Scraped mementos with old Twitter UI to collect engagements.

- 3 out of 7 tweets labeled for violation did not have any old UI mementos with engagements
- The label time (T2) is found using the first old UI memento with label or with help of Twitter's announcement about the labeled Tweet.

The screenshot shows two tweets from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) on the web.archive.org interface. The top tweet is dated October 6, 2020, and the bottom tweet is dated September 3, 2020. Both tweets have their engagement counts (Retweets and Likes) highlighted with red boxes. A Twitter Safety notice is also visible.

Top Tweet (Oct 6, 2020):

Flu season is coming up! Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu. Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!

5:03 · 6 oct. 2020

37.503 Retweets 156.535 Me gusta

Bottom Tweet (Sep 3, 2020):

This Tweet is available

We placed a public interest notice on two Tweets in this thread for violating our Civic Integrity Policy, specifically for encouraging people to potentially vote twice.

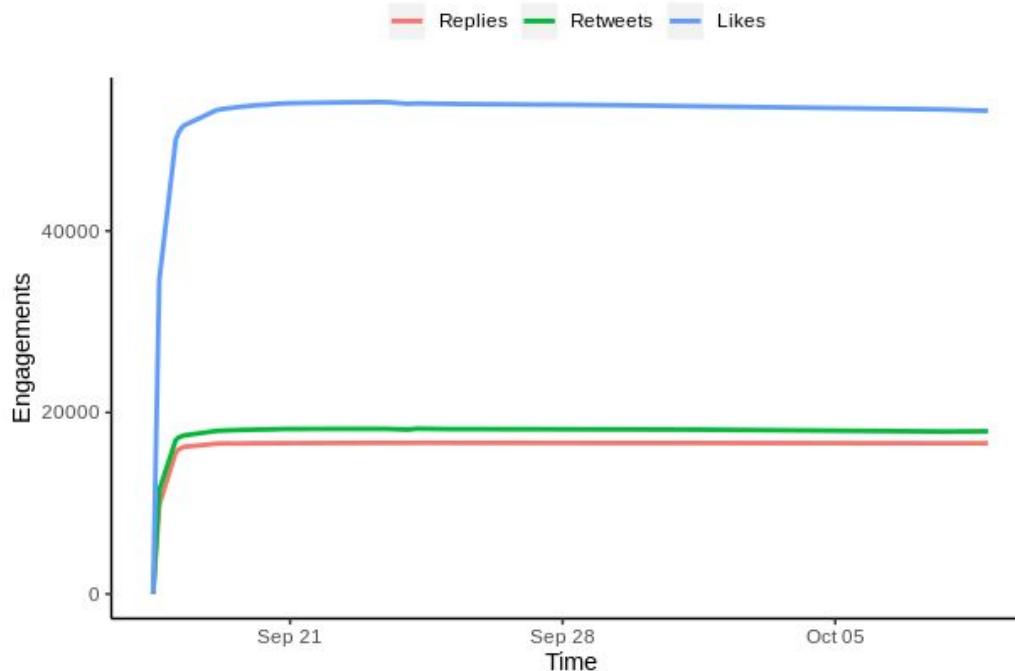
This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about civic and election integrity. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)

2:32 PM · Sep 3, 2020 · Twitter Web App

857 Retweets 203 Quote Tweets 1.6K Likes

Engagements with Trump's potential misleading Tweet regarding mail-in ballots

Engagements over time with Trump's mail-in ballots misinfo tweet



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

Because of the new and unprecedented massive amount of unsolicited ballots which will be sent to "voters", or wherever, this year, the Nov 3rd Election result may NEVER BE ACCURATELY DETERMINED, which is what some want. Another election disaster yesterday. Stop Ballot Madness!
[twitter.com/TrueTheVote/st...](https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1306557587375128576)

Learn how voting by mail is safe and secure

This Tweet is unavailable.

7:36 AM · Sep 17, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

17.8K Retweets 2.4K Quote Tweets 53.1K Likes



Tweeted at:

2020-09-17 11:36:18 UTC

Labeled no later than:

2020-09-17 15:31:00 UTC

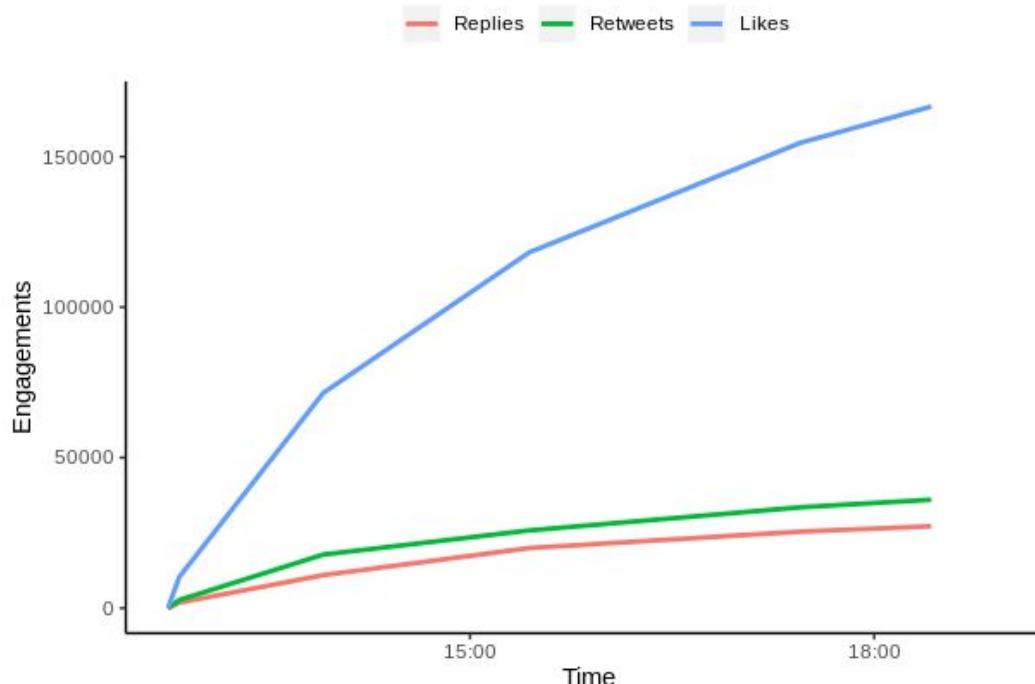
Change settings

<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1306557587375128576>

View

Engagements with Trump's “Autonomous-zone” tweet using old UI mementos

Engagements with Trump's autonomous-zone tweet before label



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about abusive behavior. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)

There will never be an “Autonomous Zone” in Washington, D.C., as long as I’m your President. If they try they will be met with serious force!

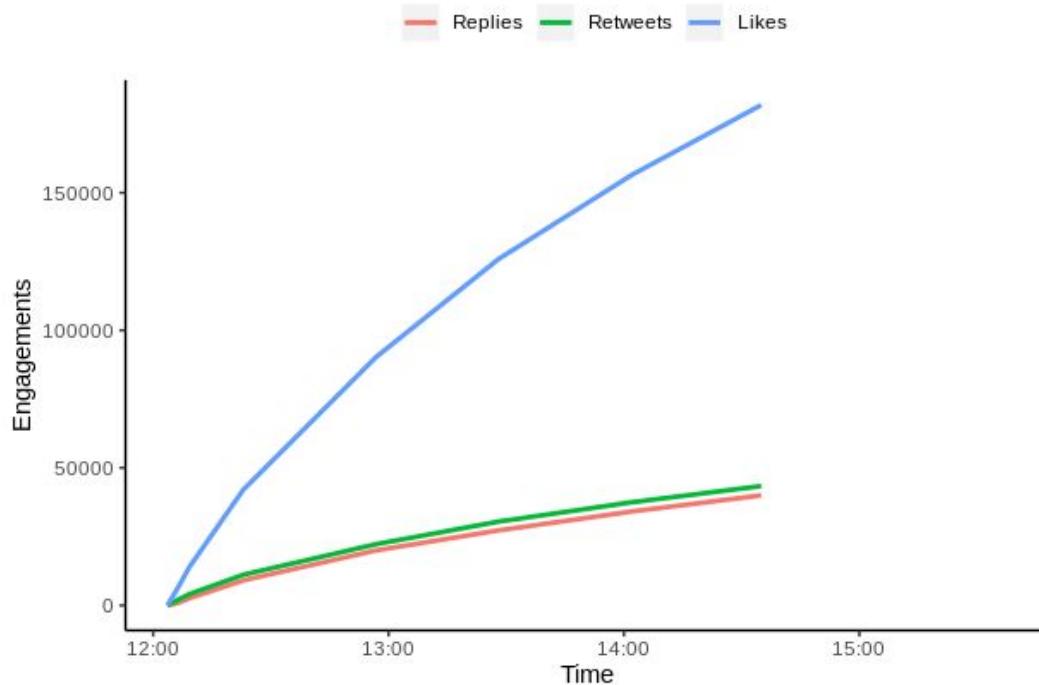
8:45 AM · Jun 23, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

[View Quote Tweets](#)
<https://twitter.comrealDonaldTrump/status/1275409656488382465>

Tweeted at:
2020-06-23 12:45:32 UTC
Labeled no later than:
2020-06-23 18:46:00 UTC

Extracted engagements from old UI mementos

Engagements with Trump's covid-19 misinfo tweet before label



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

This Tweet violated the Twitter Rules about spreading misleading and potentially harmful information related to COVID-19. However, Twitter has determined that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible. [Learn more](#)

Flu season is coming up! Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu. Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!

8:03 AM · Oct 6, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone
<https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1313449844413992961>
[View Quote Tweets](#)

Tweeted at:
2020-10-06 12:03:40 UTC
Labeled no later than:
2020-10-06 15:37:45 UTC

Engagement with quote tweets

A screenshot of a tweet from Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump). The tweet reads: "Flu season is coming up! Many people every year, sometimes over 100,000, and despite the Vaccine, die from the Flu. Are we going to close down our Country? No, we have learned to live with it, just like we are learning to live with Covid, in most populations far less lethal!!!". Below the tweet, it says "8:03 AM · Oct 6, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone". At the bottom left, there is a link "View Quote Tweets" with an arrow pointing to it.

A screenshot of the Twitter interface showing a list of quote tweets. The first quote tweet is from @noktu (@vidrar_noktu) dated Oct 7, 2020, with the text: "HAHAHA THEY DID IT AGAIN". The second quote tweet is from @DerkDerksen (@derk_derksen) dated Oct 7, 2020, with the text: "Censorship from the big social media giants dictating what is real and what is fake. If they try to block it, it only shows it interferes with their agenda." The third quote tweet is from @ActualCanadian_NL (@Canadian_NL) dated Oct 7, 2020, with the text: "This is the most truthful tweet about the actual threat of this non-virus. #Twitter is policing the @realDonaldTrump and undermines the #FreedomOfSpeech. #Twitter is a dirty marionette in the hands of the deep state. Dirty toys." The interface includes a sidebar for trending topics and a messages section at the bottom right.

Scraped quote tweets page using Chrome dev console.

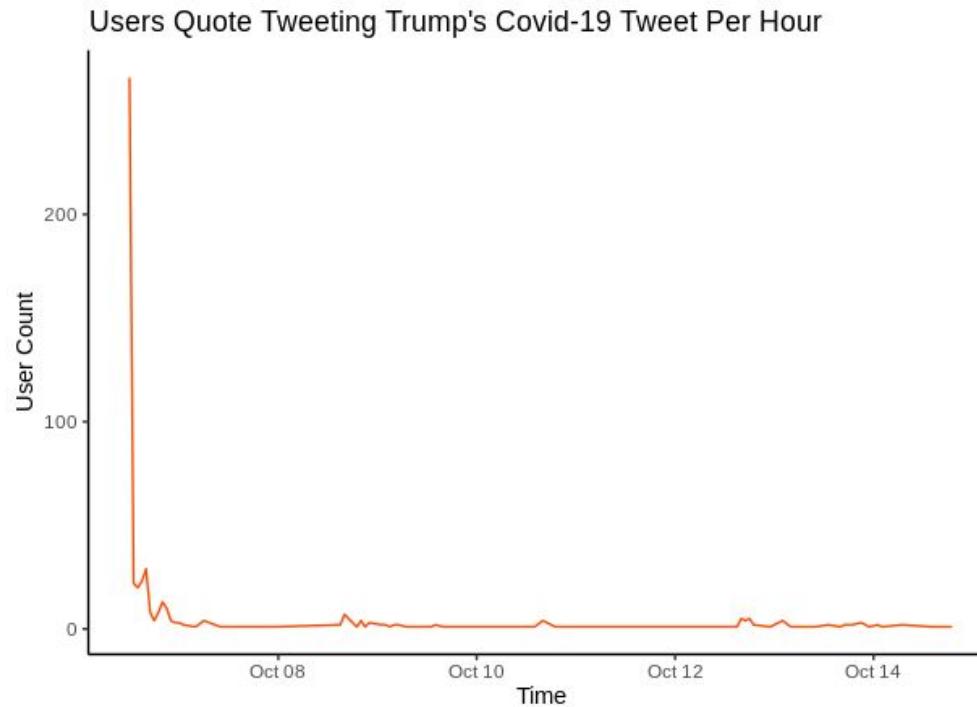
Extracted tweets using Haralyzer.

Used JQ to extract the user count and user details from the tweets.

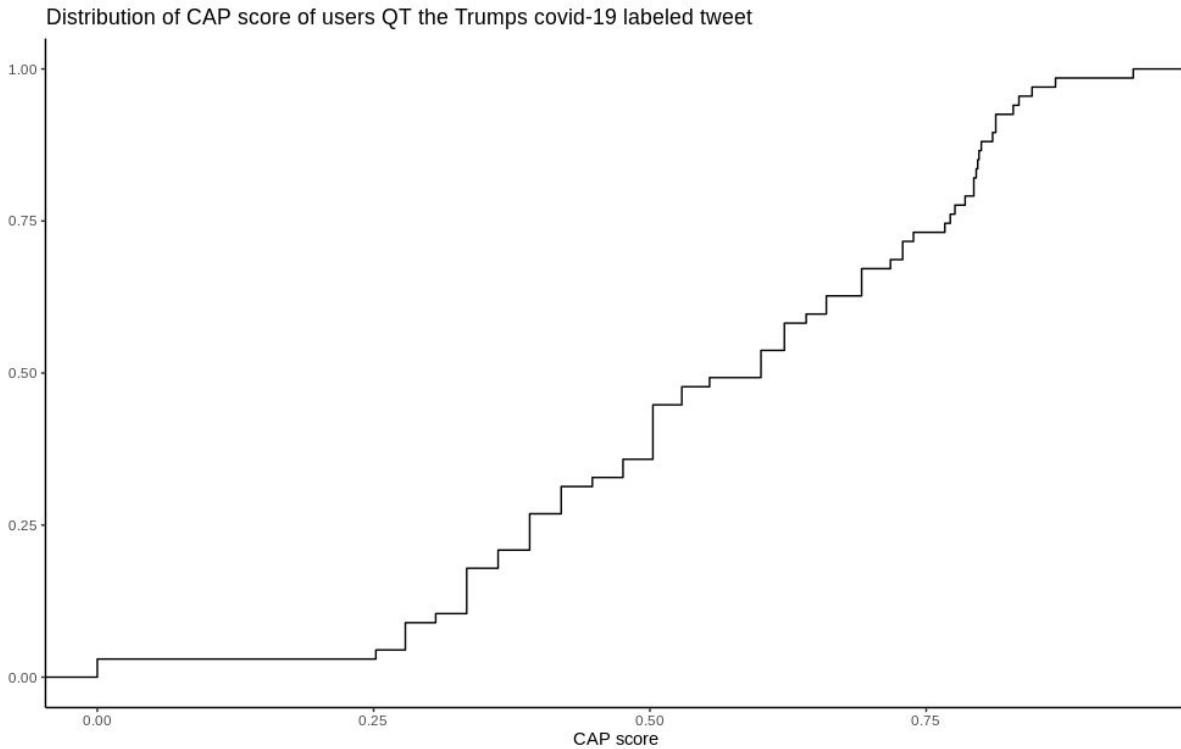
<https://pypi.org/project/haralyzer/>
<https://stedolan.github.io/jq/>

https://twitter.comrealDonaldTrump/status/1313449844413992961/retweets/with_comments

Approx 60% of Quote Tweets (517) were tweeted before the label



High probability of bot quote tweeting the Trump's labeled Covid-19 tweet



The distribution of
Botometer Complete
Automation Probability
(CAP) score

<https://botometer.osome.iu.edu/>

Summary

- Collected 10 of President Trump's tweets labeled by Twitter.
- The mementos of these tweets can be found in IA, archive.is and perma.cc. These tweets are mostly archived in IA's Wayback Machine.
- The new UI mementos in IA are subject to temporal violations.
- On average, Twitter labeled the Trump tweet within 4-5 hours.
- The engagements with the tweet showed a similar pattern. Likes increase drastically. Retweets are more than replies.
- 60% of quote Tweets collected of Trump's Covid-19 tweet were tweeted before the label.
- There is a higher probability that bot accounts are quote tweeting the Covid-19 tweet.