

Political Bias and Factualness in News Sharing across more than 100,000 Online Communities

Galen Weld, Maria Glenski, Tim Althoff

University of Washington & Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Across 35 million news links shared on reddit we find:

- Politically right-leaning communities have less ideologically consistent users than politically left-leaning communities, leading to higher variance in the political bias of news links shared in right-leaning communities.
- Current upvoting and crossposting behaviors tend to reduce the visibility of extremely biased and low factual content.
- Users who submit extremely biased and low factual content tend to leave reddit more quickly than others.
- Extremely biased and low factual content is highly concentrated, being shared from a small set of news sources by a small set of users in a small set of subreddits.