Data Journalism Portfolio – Tom Saunders

Trump's Tweets (link) (code) January 2021

I built an interactive, scrolling visualisation of all of Donald Trump's tweets over the last four years. I paired this with a tooltip which dynamically formats Trump's tweets as they would have appeared on his timeline.

Languages used: D3js, jQuery, CSS, HTML

What happened to US Treasuries in March? (link) (code) December 2020

Using d3js and jQuery to build a scroll-anchored framework, I designed this piece to demonstrate how interactive techniques can be used to explain complex financial concepts.

Languages used: D3js, jQuery, CSS, HTML

2020 Election Forecast (link) (code) November 2020

After my placements at The Times, The Telegraph and INews were postponed due to COVID-19, I spent my time building an election model. The model was an implementation of Drew Linzer's 2008 paper on the subject, with correlated priors.

I spoke to Elliot Morris about the model, who rather presciently noted that I wasn't including a global polling error. Overall, my model only predicted one less state than that of The Economist.

Languages used: D3js, jQuery, CSS, HTML (Visualisation), Stan + R (Model)

COVID-19 Test Tracker (code) May 2020

I built this tracker using Selenium, RegEx and Pandas to scrape government websites for testing numbers. It was listed as an internal data source by The Financial Times for a while but is currently unmaintained due to other commitments taking priority.

Languages used: Python (Selenium + Pandas)

A Study of Twitter (link) (code) April 2020

I used the Twitter API to monitor the tweets and followers/friends of accounts considered 'political influencers' in the UK. I then used network analysis through Gephi to uncover the particular communities within political Twitter. I also used Facebook's Machine Learning library, Fasttext, to analyse the sentiment of each tweet, which I used to chart the divisiveness of particular topics.

Languages used: Gephi, Python (back-end), CSS + HTML + jQuery, Plotly Dash (Visualisation)

Chexit.co.uk (link) (code) September 2019

During the Brexit saga, I designed this database of every MP's vote on over 50 different Brexit divisions. The back-end was built using MySQL and PHP and it was highly commended by journalists such as Henry Zeffman and Sam Coates. It was also featured on the Twitter account of Our Future Our Choice, a Pro-EU youth group.

Languages used: PHP + MySQL, Ajax, JavaScript, CSS + HTML