

Interpreting some of Twitter's API changes

August 16, 2012 ° ∞ ° Read Later

Twitter has posted *some* of their upcoming API-policy lockdowns and restrictions in this post from Michael Sippey, euphemistically titled "Changes coming in Version 1.1 of the Twitter API".

First, from Twitter's Display Guidelines, which will become requirements for all apps:

"Individual Tweet" section

Embedding tweets in a blog post in any way other than their dynamic embed code is effectively prohibited:

Doing Sociology with Twitter?

or the user

[5b] "Th

Issues of ownership and control in live social research....

(or: challenges to methodological sovereignty)



Digitization is enabling new ways of organising social life as well as of analysing it (Law, Ruppert and Savage, 2010)

Digitization may also reconfigure the relation between social life and its analysis (Rogers, 2010; Kelty, 2008)

The facilitation and analysis of social life intersect in potentially new ways in digital platforms:

How does this affect the relations between the object, methods and concepts of sociological research? those between data, techniques and methods?

The promise of digitization for sociology – some explanations

- Explosion of social traces and of analytical devices deploying this traceability of social life (Beer, 2012)
- Digital platforms materialize sociological concepts and phenomena, such as 'the performance of the self' (Hogan, 2010) or actor networks (Latour and Venturini, 2012)
- Real-time research: digitization highlights the potential of social research techniques to intervene in social life (Back and Lury, 2012).

Do these explanations consider the changing divisions of labour in digital sociology - if so how?

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import scraperwiki
import lxml.html
import json
import urllib

index = 'http://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=List_of_Occupy

print 'Scraping ' + index + '...'
raw json = scraperwiki.scrape(index)
```

The re-distribution of social research

Digital techniques play a key role in formatting the empirical object of social research: this affects the division of labour in social research:

- 1) it changes the distribution of agency between data, technique, method (eg the data organise the research design)
- 2) to do research with digital platforms is to import categories that are native to the medium into social research

How to render this productive for social research, derive analytic starting capacities from the medium for sociological research?

Scraping http://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=List_of_Occupy_movement_pro

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runfinished

Twitter and the re-distribution of social research methods

Kev events

08:32 AM

Twitter bears some similarities with participatory traditions in social research, such as the mass observation movement (Savage & Burrows, 2009):

non-sociologists (users) act as observers

Twitter as an analytic apparatus poses constraints:

restricted data capture, opaque sampling the 'tweet' as unit of analysis, the phenomenon of the trend

The challenge for sociological research:

How can Twitter as a research apparatus – and analytic culture – be re-purposed for sociological analysis?

Most retweeted



@RupertMurdochPR RupertMurdochPR his Close To Hell

You pack of limey mongrels, if it wasn't for me and #notw you would never have known that celebrities like cocaine and vicars get randy.

Most frequent words

vote priority mp wednesday stop tell powergrab hacking

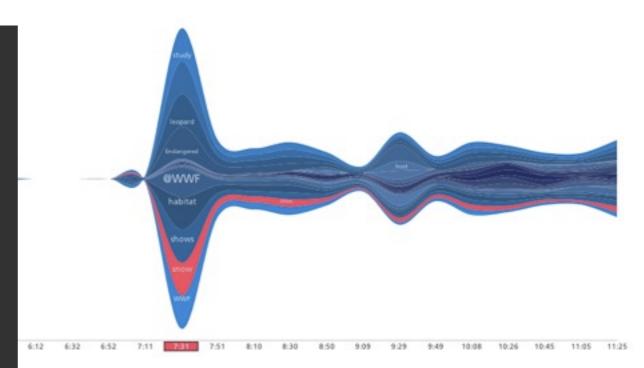
re-purposing Twitter for social research?

Twitter StreamGraph for climate change

• The rise to prominence of live research: the tracking of the currency of actors and issues in real-time

- Liveliness: Can we analyse the activity of issues in other terms than currency?
- As opposed to liveness: currency or hotness. (How to study popularity?)

How to study the happening of issues?





Case study: Lifelines of issue terms

Focus on **hashtag mining** as technique for analysing variability of issue terms over time.

- 1. Are hashtags a suitable format for analysing liveliness of issue terms?
- 2. What are the possible alternatives for frequency analysis?

- Rather than defining what rises and falls (Downs 1974), we may detect what is active and changes in association.
- **Co-word analysis**: methodological strategy to study innovations dynamics (Callon et.al 1983), and happening content (Danowski 2009, Marres & Weltevrede, 2012).

The Dataset

Twitter Analytics

-Data Selection

Select the dataset:

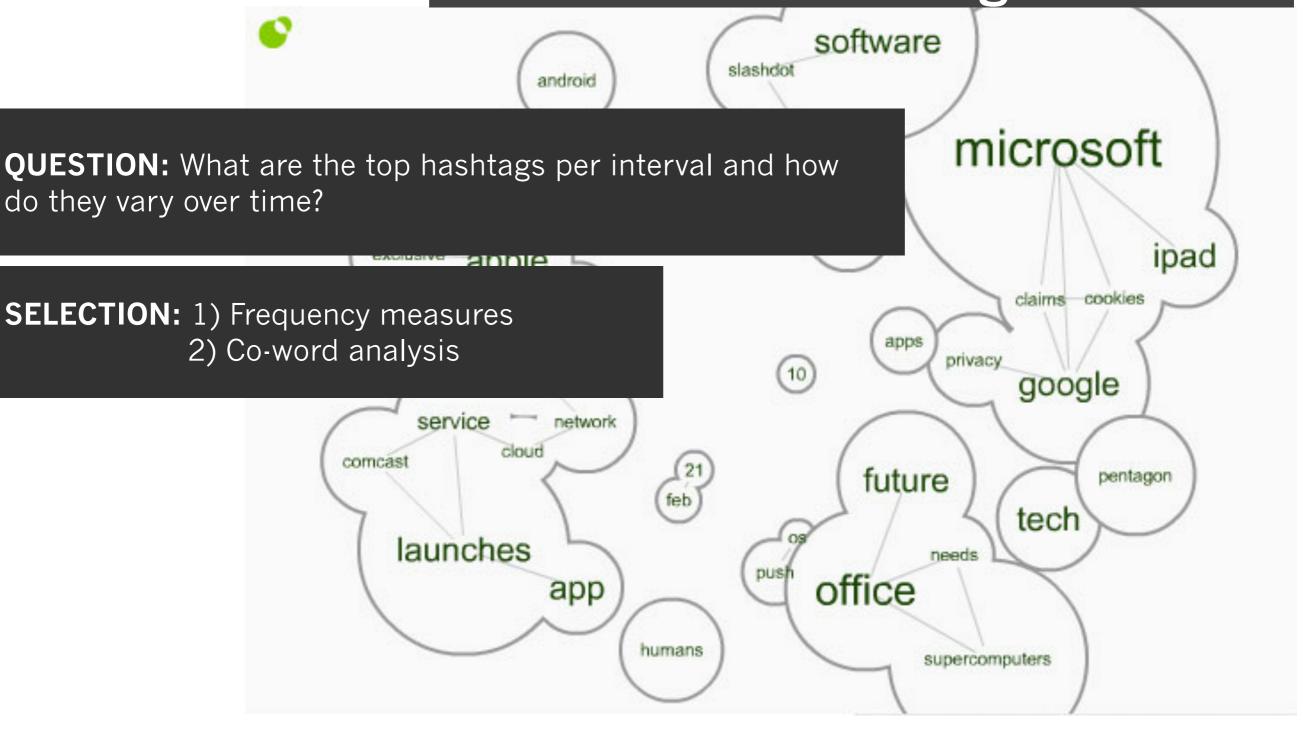
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of ye	our selection-		
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exclude:		Tweets containing no	
		77.6% links	
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	2012-03-01 2012-06-22	11.5%	
Enddate:		11.6%	
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Enddate: Number of tw 4,000 3,000	2012-06-22 203786	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	20.06 01.06 05.00

- Twitter data for "Climate Change".
- Period: 01.02. 15.06
- Interval: six 2 week intervals
- Total 204795 tweets.
- Focus on hashtags, their variation & internal relations.

Project conducted during the Co-word Machine (Goldsmiths) and the Digital Methods Summer School (Amsterdam)

Noortje Marres, Carolin Gerlitz, Esther Weltevrede, Erik Borra, David Moats, Sara Kjellberg, Tally Yaacobi-Gross, Jill Hopke, Kalina Dancheva, Diego Dacal, Alessandro Brunetti, Johannes Paßmann, Albrecht Hofheinz, Colleen Reilly, Bernhard Rieder.

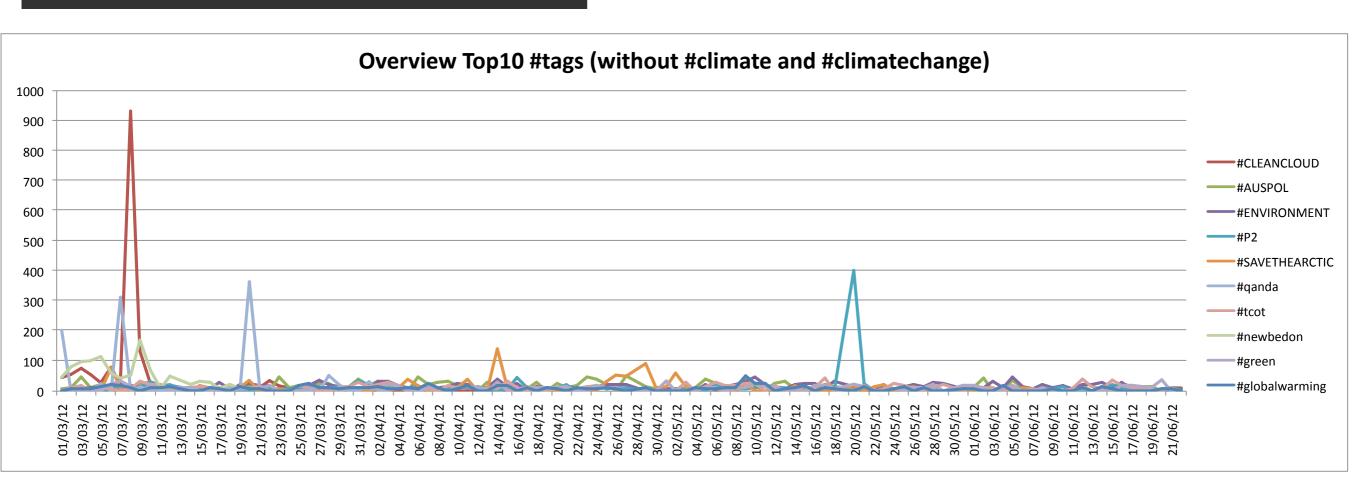
1. Hashtags over time



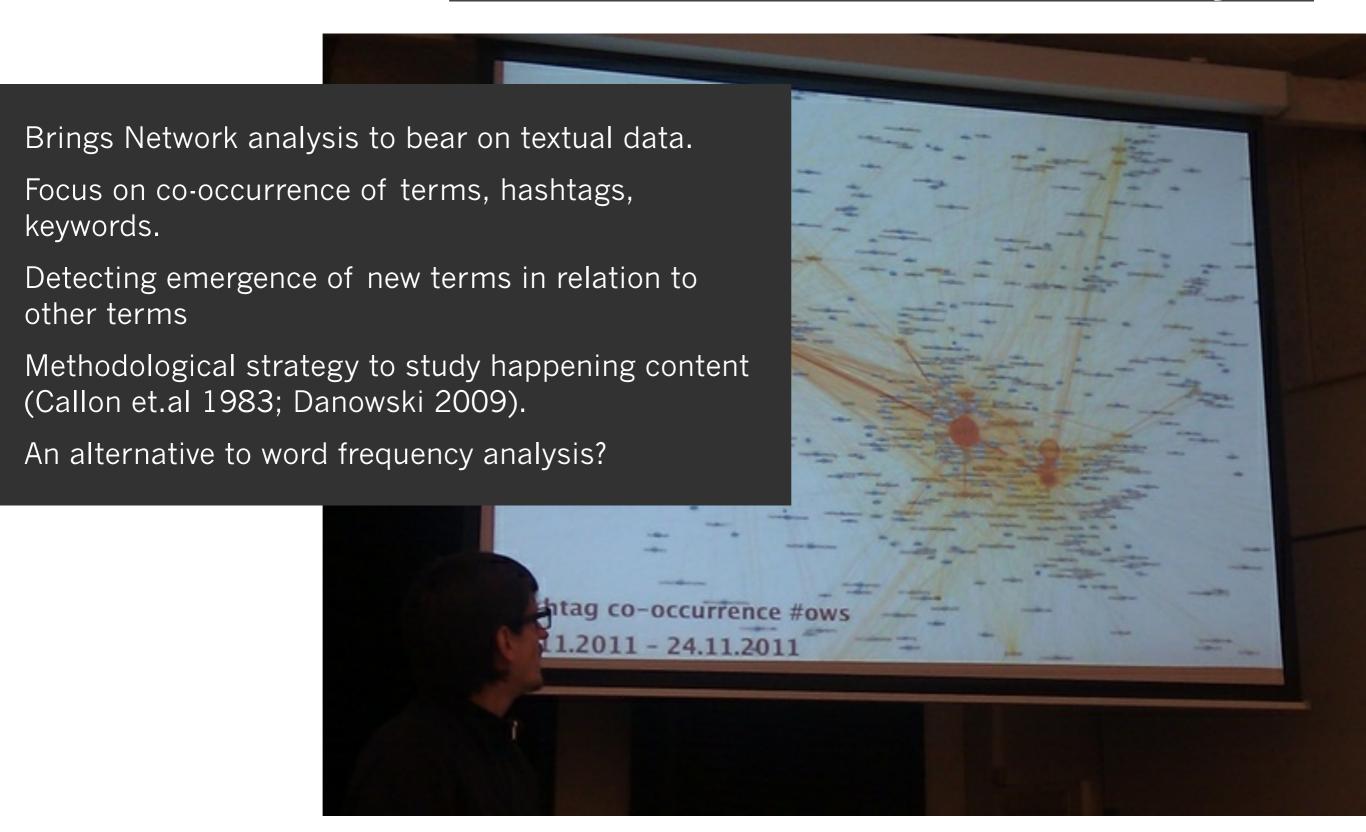
1. The limits of frequency

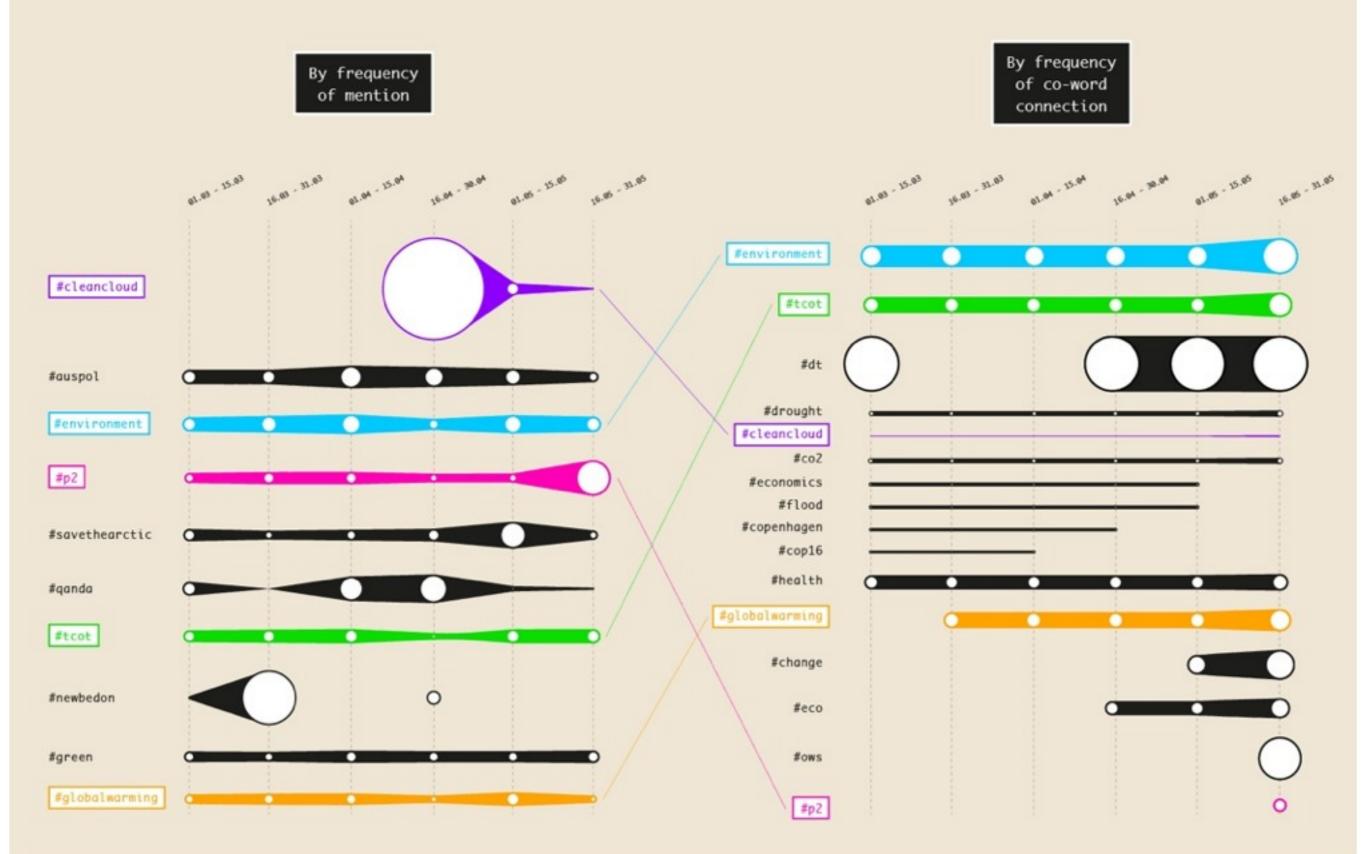
Top hashtags per day.

- Bursts have short durations.
- Frequency helps to understand what is a hashtag (publicity device, issue transformer).
- Question of medium-specificity (on Twitter issues are likely to last a day)

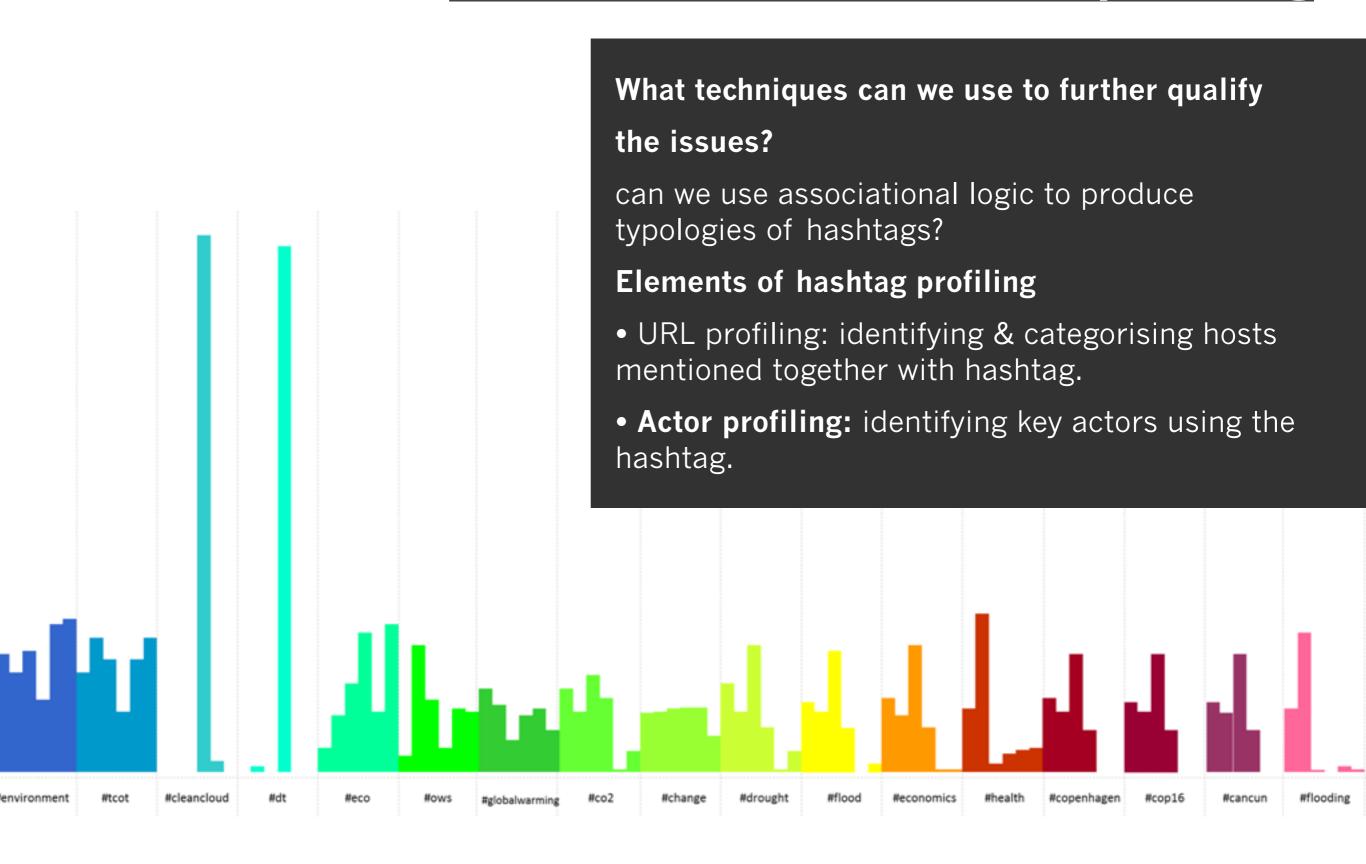


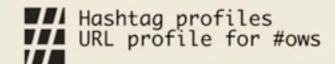
Co-word analysis





4. Actors profiling

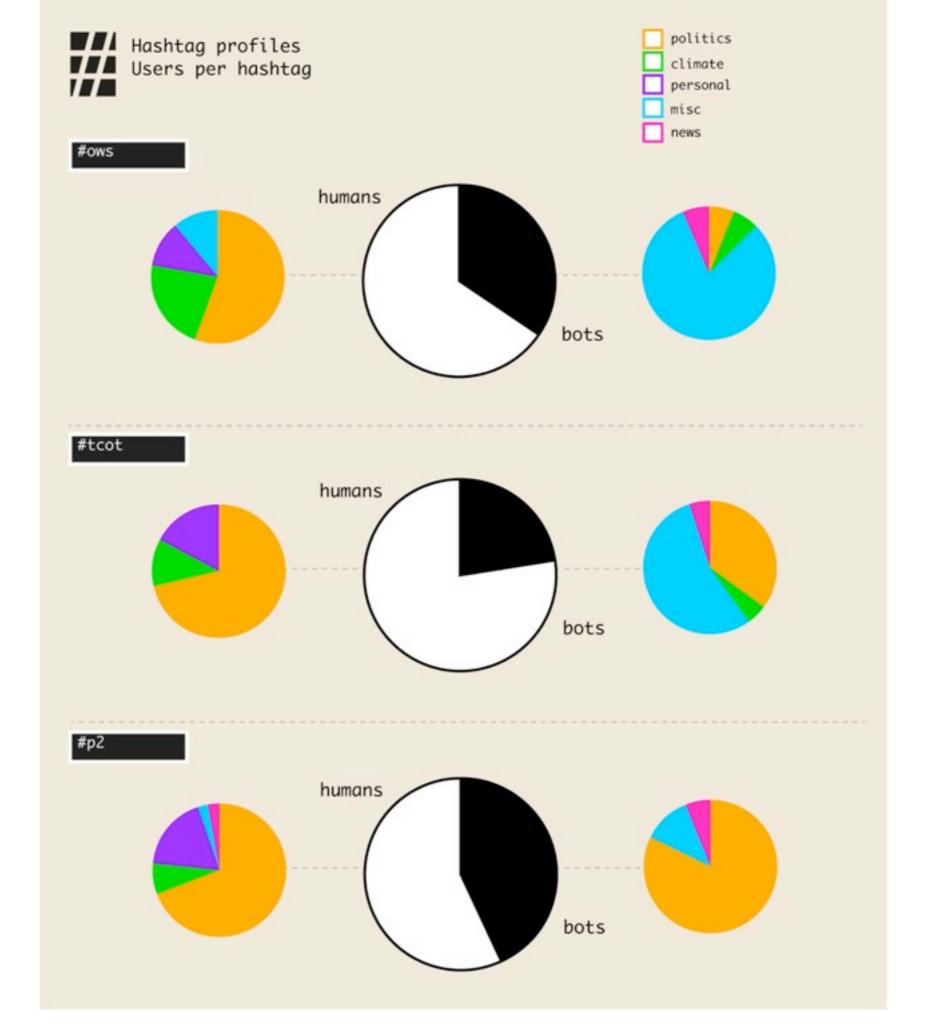






majority.fm (390)

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personalliberty.com (3) thenation.com (3) motherjones.com (2) politicalwire.com (1)
dailydemocrat.com (1)
 savethearctic.org (118) truth-out.org (7) occupyboston.org (6)
commondreams.org (6) blogs.kqed.org (6) insideclimatenews.org (4) thinkprogress.org (4)
occupythegame.com (3) stwr.org (3) climatedots.org (2) occupycorporatism.com (2)
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nicholasmirzoeff.com (1) charlesbivona.com (1)
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3. Associational profile

Identifying hashtag lifelines through relational profiles.

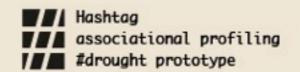
- Associational profiles: Detect changing co-hashtag relations over time.
- Which hashtags co-occur with each other?

• Stable or	fluctuating	g associ	ation?			Slogans	langua	ge Cis2		
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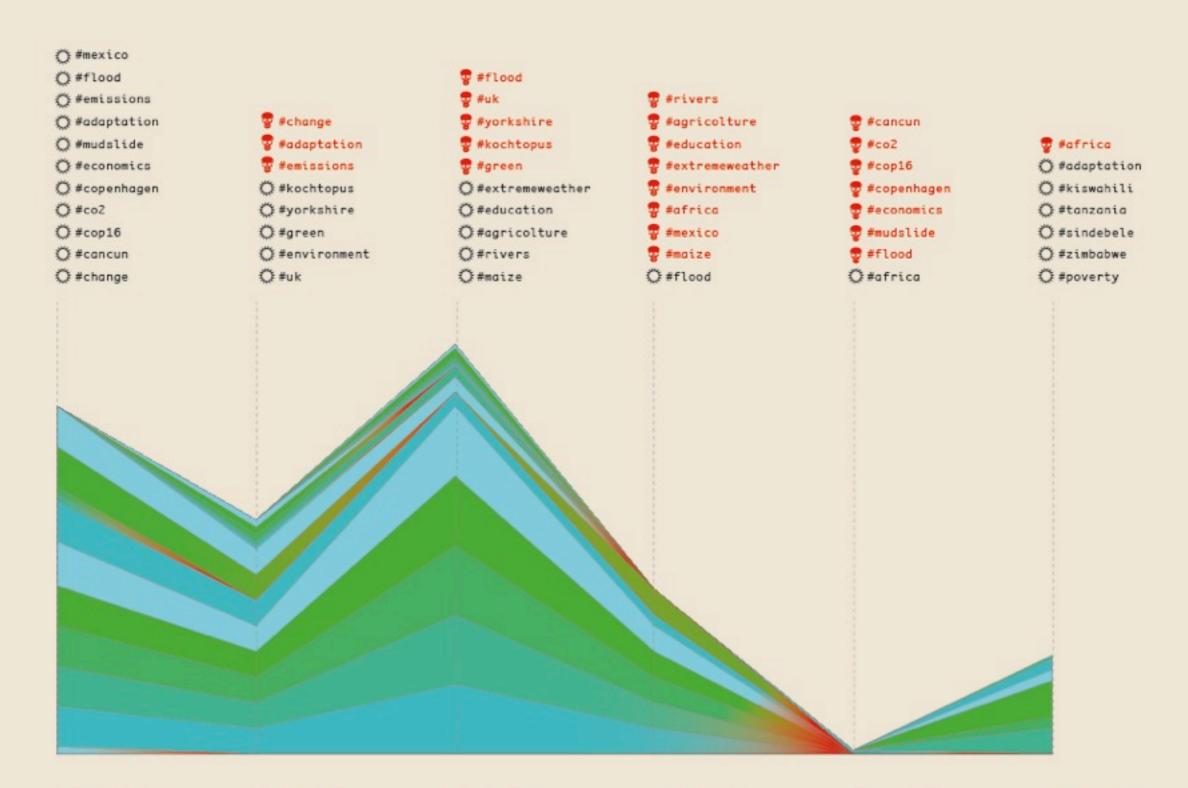
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Associational profiling

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6	#tarsands	1	5		#ngp (1), #unfccc (1), #agw (1), #science (1), #climatechan	#ciimatechange (2), #science (2), #agw (2), #ngp (2	#cndpoli (2), #ab
/	#job	0	1		#missouri (1)		
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	#energy	0	1		#climate (1)		
	#energy	1	6		#earthconservation (1), #data (1), #eco (1), #politicians (1)		
	#energy	2	9		#esg (1), #environment (1), #innovation (1), #sustain j, #		#climate (2), #cle
12	#green	0	8		#cdnpoli (1), #climate (4), #agw (1), #bcpoli (1), #cndpoli (
13	#green	1	3		#footprint (1), #mobile (1), #ict (1)	#ict (2), #mobile (2), #footprint (2)	#eu (2), #tarsand
14	#green	2	19		#policy (1), #minority (1), #action (1), #blog (1), #carbonta		#ict (2), #mobile
15	#agw	0	5		#cdnpoli (1), #climate (1), #green (1), #bcpoli (1), #climate	change (1)	
16	#agw	1	15	0.076980036	#cop18 (12), #cop17 (12), #unfccc (13), #un (5), #tcot (4),	#carbon (2), #vic (2), #ngp (2), #tarsands (2), #scien	#bcpoli (2), #cdn
17	#globalwarming	0	2		#climate (2), shows (2)		
18	#globalwarming	1	4	0.534522484	#climate (1), shows (1), #eco (1), #climatechange (2)	#climatechange (2), #eco (2), shows (-0.66666666	shows (0.666666
19	#globalwarming	2	6	0.507092553	#climatechange (4), #oil (3), #energy (3), #argentina (3), #	#action (2), #argentina (2), #energy (2), #oil (2), #cl	#eco (2), shows
20	#unfccc	0	6		#law (1), #cdnpoli (1), #tarsands (1), #pmharper (1), #climate	ate (1), #report (1)	
21	#unfccc	1	10	0.018202892	#cop18 (12), #cop17 (12), #agw (13), #un (5), #tcot (4), #e	#ngp (2), #science (2), #climatechange (2), #eu (2),	#climate (2), #pr
22	#unfccc	2	3		#climate (4), #newzealand (4), #australia (4)	#australia (2), #newzealand (2), #climate (2)	#ngp (2), #tarsar
23	#climatechange	0	1		#agw (1)		
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26	#cop18	1	6		#cop17 (12), #unfccc (12), #agw (12), #un (5), #tcot (4), #e		
27	#cop17	1	6		#cop18 (12), #unfccc (12), #agw (12), #un (5), #tcot (4), #e		
28	#health	1	7		#climate (434), #flooding (433), #cleanairact (10), #congre		
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32	#san	1	6		#ca (3), #california (3), #jobs (4), #intern (4), #job (4), #acti		
33	#jobs	1	7		#ca (3), #san (4), #california (3), #intern (4), #job (4), #action		
34	#intern	1	6		#ca (3), #san (4), #california (3), #jobs (4), #job (4), #action		
35	#policy	2	4		#minority (1), #action (1), #blog (1), #green (1)		



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Comparison #environment & #drought



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16.60 - 31.60

01.04 - 15.04

16.04 - 10.04

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#unaustainable

16.03 - 31.03

81.84 - 15.84

35.04 - 38.04

16.65 - 31.65

Conclusion



Issue Mapping

Main

News

Recipes

Tactics

Cases

Tools

Readings & Materials

Log In Register

Main	Readings & Materials	Recipes	Tactics
Cases	Tools		

About th

- How does media liveliness map into issue liveliness?
- visualisat would say issue?', 'w issues hap mapping d no means
- Media-liveliness: bursty hashtags, hashtag decline.
- Can we conceive of medium-specificity and issue specificity as a spectrum?
- Digital neto issue dyna online; bed visualisatio
- Can we establish it empirically?

investigated in social and cultural research with the aim of developing new research methods (digital methods, live methods, post-social methods, plastic methods). Issue Mapping is specifically concerned with the application of online techniques, methods and content for the analysis of current affairs.

www.issuemapping.net

