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OBJECTIVES

Analyze debates about Saskatchewan's response to COVID-19 Government shutdowns on social media:

- Shutdowns;
- Mask mandates; and
- Vaccine mandates

Our project, uses web archival data from:

- Facebook;
- Twitter

to explore the differences in discussions of these policies by Saskatchewan residents on the platforms.

COLLECTION

We identified key actors including:

- Premier Scott Moe, Leader of the Saskatchewan Party;
- Ryan Meili, Leader of the Saskatchewan NDP;
- Proponents of stronger responses; and
- Proponents of looser restrictions

We collected the posts and replies of the identified persons.

Facebook data - collected using *WebRecorder*

Twitter data - collected using the v2 Twitter API

TOPICS

Replies are filtered based on engagement metrics:

- 'likes'
- 'retweets'

Topic modelling tools (*Mallet*, *Top2Vec*) will be used to structure Facebook and Twitter replies into two lists of topics. This process will include close reading and iteration to clean up the data.

TOPIC MODEL

- An overview of the most discussed terms and topics on Facebook and Twitter.
- A TF-IDF ranking system that suggests relevant social media discussions for news articles contained in *RememberRebuild's* Zotero database.

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

The Saskatchewan Archives Unleashed Cohort plans to produce a paper on the professional and popular reception of Saskatchewan COVID-19 Policy on the internet, with attention to the differences in reception on Facebook and Twitter.

“Mallet Logo,” www.mimno.io.

“Scott Moe Twitter Scrape,” Clifford and Cameron.

NETWORKS

- Replies are filtered based on engagement metrics.
- Remaining tweets or posts will be stripped down the key actor posts and their replies
- We will analyze the number and volume of intergroup connections.
- Network map of key actors and those who engage with them.

NETWORK MAP

Two network maps, from our Facebook and Twitter data, respectively, which depict the degree of interconnectedness, or separation between key actors' reply networks.

```
def main():
    # Specify the start time in UTC for the time period you want Tweets from
    start_time = datetime.datetime(2020, 3, 1, 0, 0, 0, datetime.timezone.utc)

    # Specify the end time in UTC for the time period you want Tweets from
    end_time = datetime.datetime(2022, 4, 1, 12, 0, 0, datetime.timezone.utc)

    # This is where we specify our query
    query = "from:PremierScottMoe"

    # Name and path of the file where you want the Tweets written to
    file_name = 'scottmoetweets.txt'

    # The search_all method call the full-archive search endpoint to get Tweets based on the query, start and end times
    search_results = client.search_all(query=query, start_time=start_time, end_time=end_time)

    # Twarc returns all Tweets for the criteria set above, so we page through the results
    for page in search_results:
        # The Twitter API v2 returns the Tweet information and the user, media etc.
        # so we use expansions.Flatten to get all the information in a single JSON
        result = expansions.Flatten(page)
        for tweet in result:
            # Here we are printing the full Tweet object JSON to the console
            print(json.dumps(tweet))
            # We will open the file and append one JSON object per new line
            with open(file_name, "a+") as filehandle:
                for tweet in result:
                    filehandle.write('%s\n' % json.dumps(tweet))

if __name__ == "__main__":
```



Scott Moe
@PremierScottMoe
Premier of Saskatchewan & Leader of the @SaskParty.