

27-29 March 2019
National Library of Australia, Canberra

Australian Academy of the Humanities'
2nd Humanities, Arts and Culture Data Summit
and
3rd international DARIAH Beyond Europe workshop



#DARIAHBeyondEurope #HACDS2019

Digital methods in the QUT Digital Media Research Centre



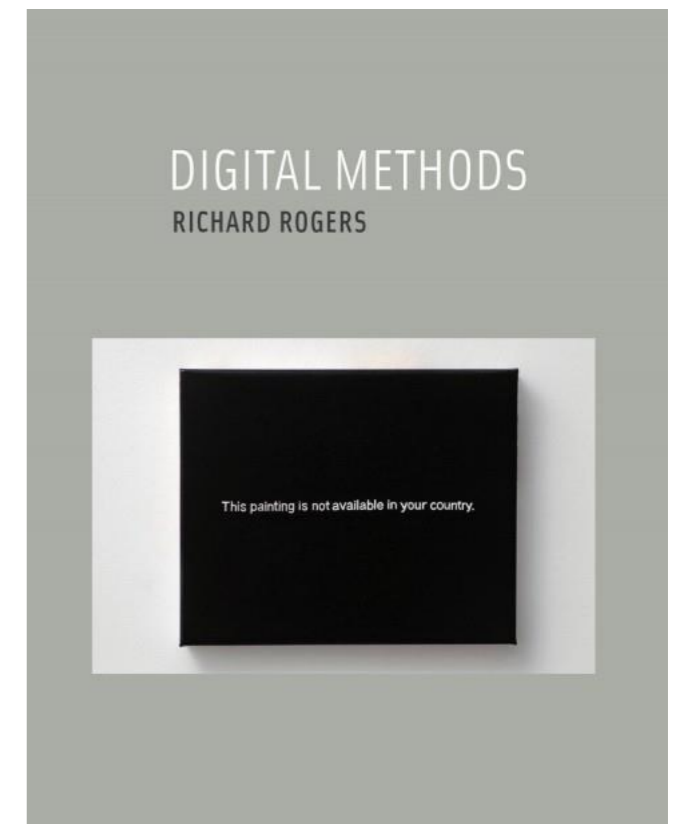
Digital Media
Research Centre

Jean Burgess | @jeanburgess

Humanities, Arts and Culture Data Summit | Canberra | March 2019

Digital methods

1. Using ‘the methods of the medium’ (Rogers, 2013; 2017) to study the internet’s role in culture and society
2. Critical digital methods have co-evolved with digital media technologies and business models
3. From HTML pages to apps, platforms, and algorithms



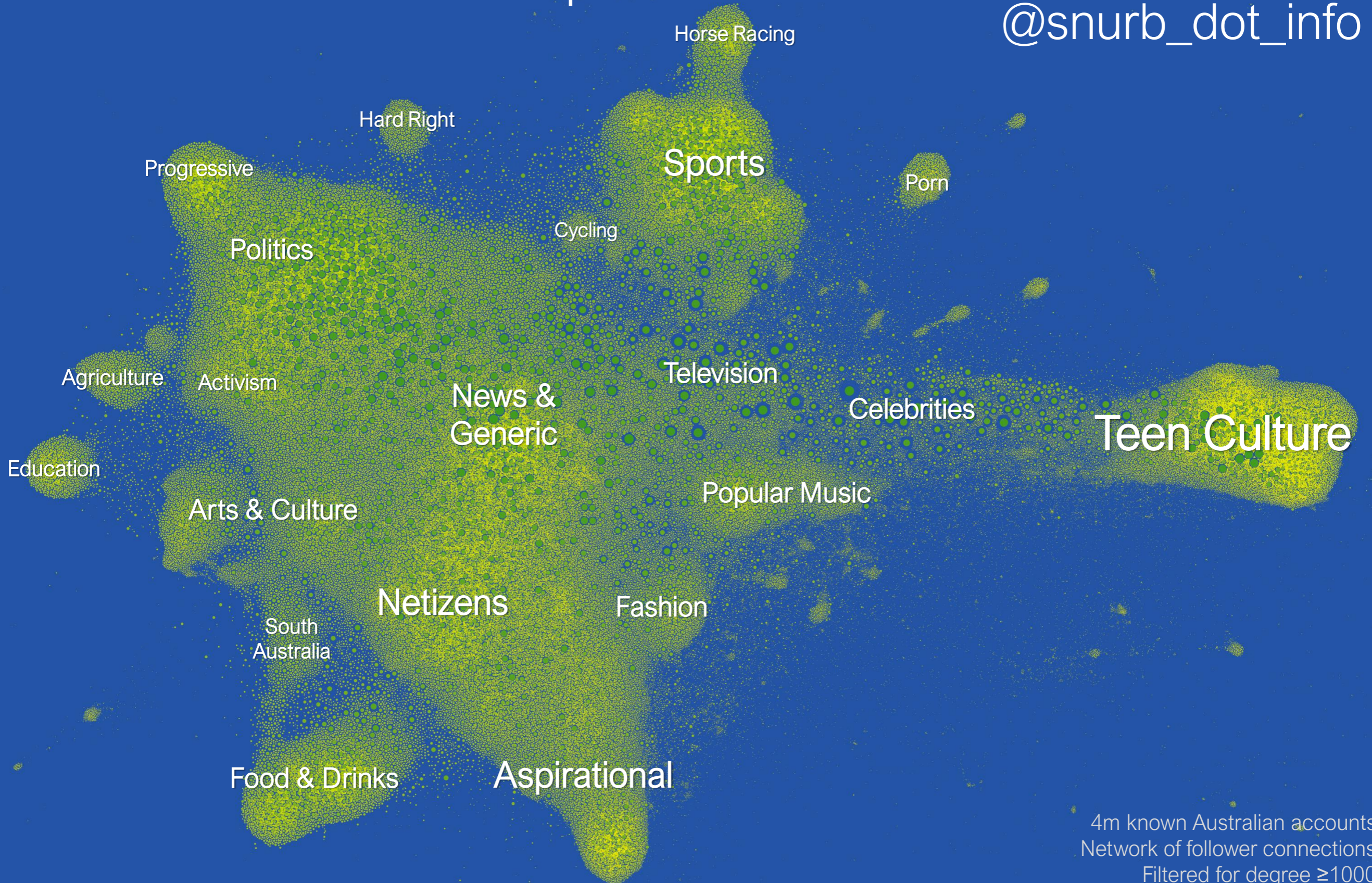
QUT Digital Observatory

Building on TrISMA ARC LIEF (QUT + 6 other universities + NLA)

- 3.7 million Australian Twitter accounts, 2.4+ billion tweets captured to date
- 1+ million new tweets per day, from 140,000 daily active users
- Comprehensive map of follower/followee network structure
- Trends over time

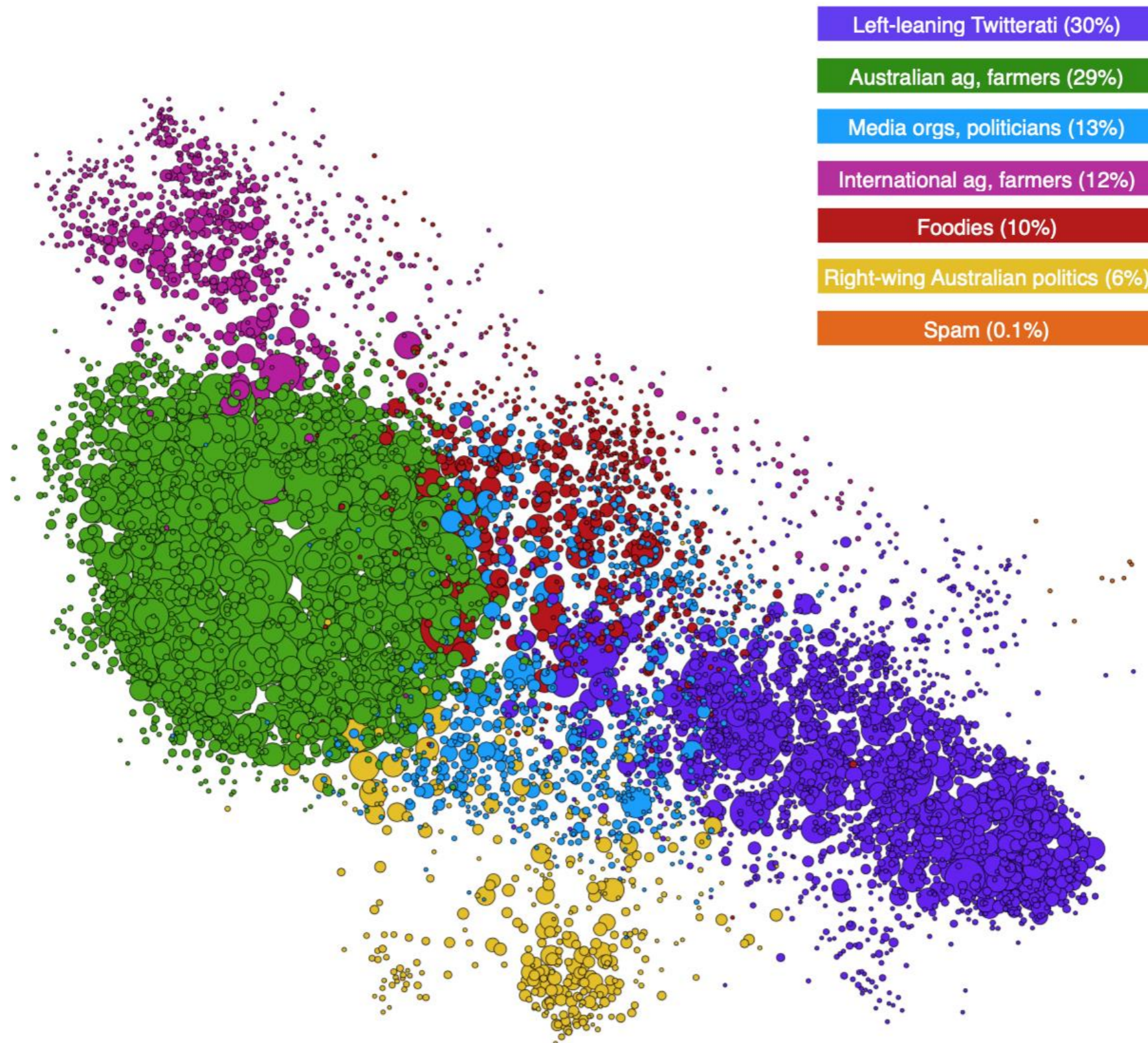
The Australian Twittersphere

Axel Bruns
@snurb_dot_info



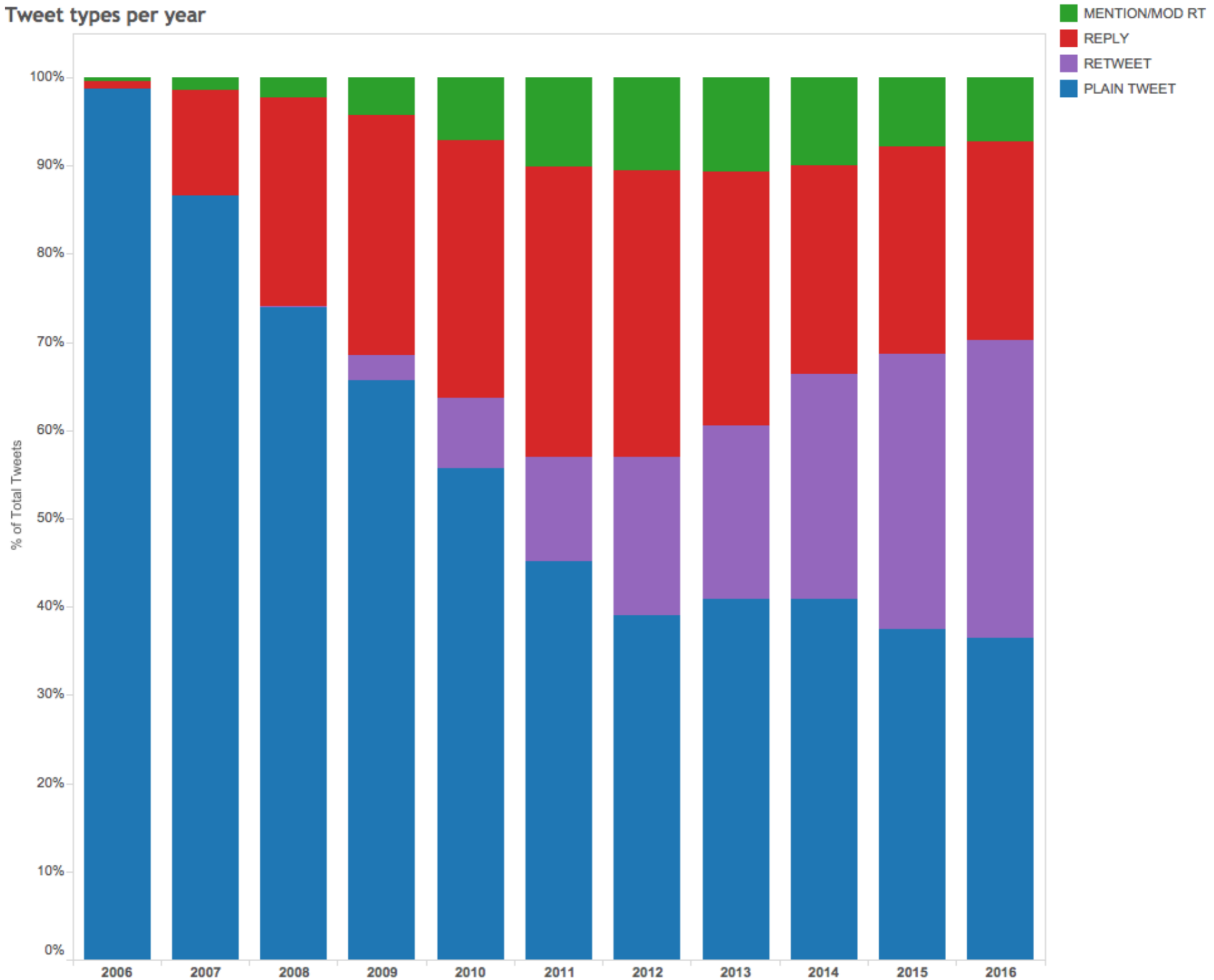
4m known Australian accounts
Network of follower connections
Filtered for degree ≥ 1000
→255k nodes (6.4%), 61m edges
Edges not shown in graph

Issue mapping - #agchatoz (Burgess, Galloway & Sauter)



Twitter over time (Burgess)

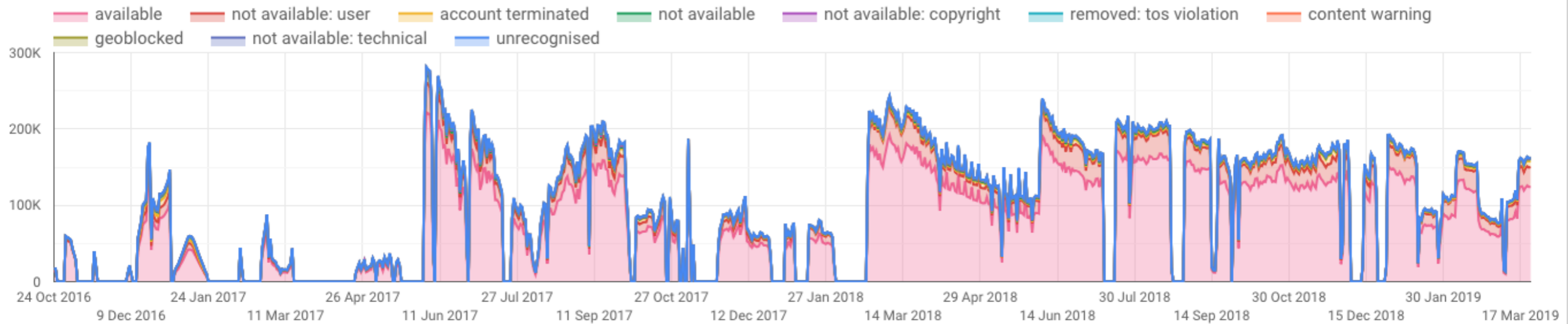
Tweet types per year



Regulating internet content through notice & takedown (DECRA - Nicolas Suzor)

Proportion of YouTube videos removed (random sample)

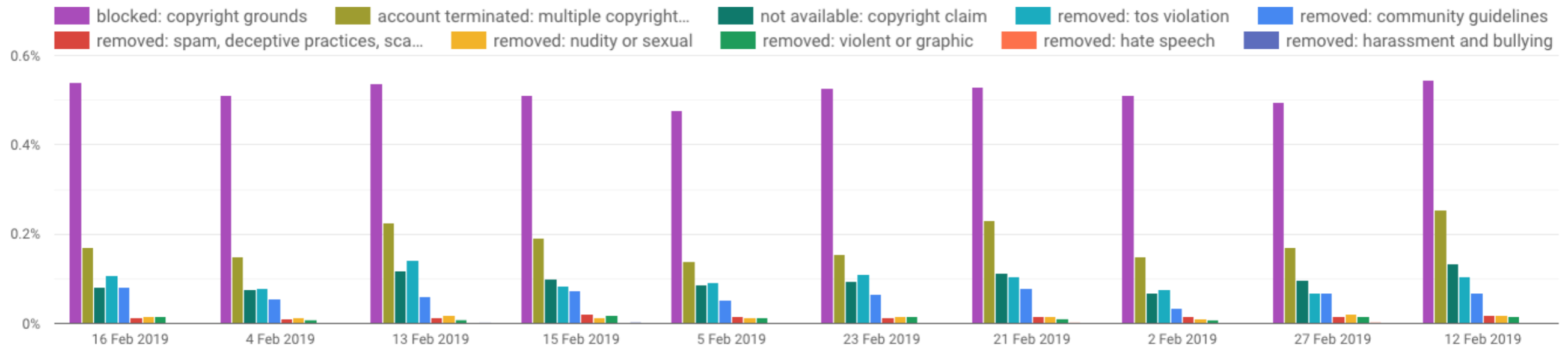
Beta - work in progress.
Contact [Nicolas Suzor @nicosuzor](mailto:nicosuzor@qut.edu.au) (QUT) for more information



More granular removal reasons (where available)

1 Feb 2019 - 28 Feb 2019

short_message





YouTube stops recommending alt-right channels

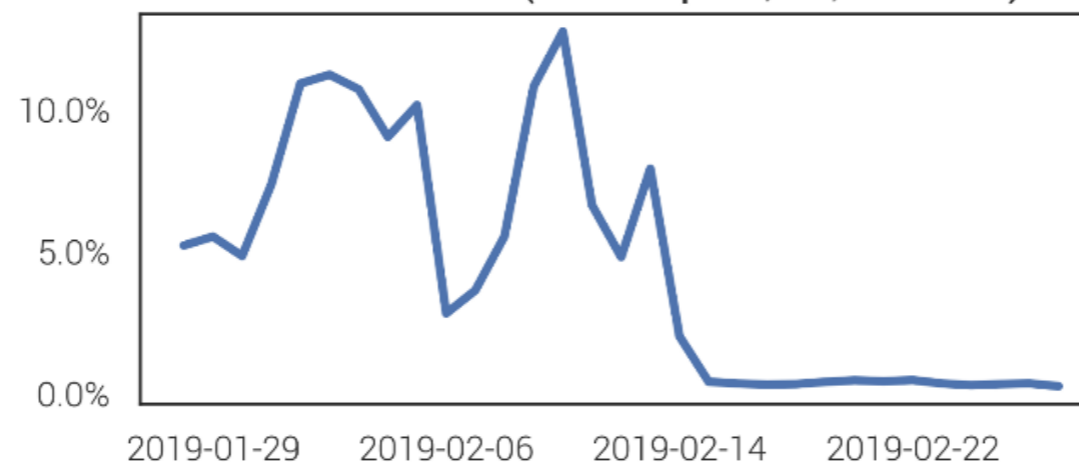


Nicolas Suzor

Feb 28 · 5 min read

In a long-awaited move, YouTube seems to have made major changes to its ‘up next’ recommendations.

Proportion of videos recommending Data & Society’s list of alternative influence channels (total sample: 3,754,774 videos)



We can see a sharp decline in recommendations for ‘alternative influence’ channels.

We used the 80+ YouTube channels listed by [Rebecca Lewis](#) in her report on [Alternative Influence Networks on YouTube](#) as a starting point. These are influential ‘alt-right’ channels that push reactionary views—“a general opposition to feminism, social justice, or left-wing politics”, “from mainstream versions of libertarianism and conservatism, all the way to overt white nationalism.”

Using a random sample of 3.6 million videos over the last month, we counted the number of times that a video from one of these channels was recommended by YouTube.

Thank you!
@jeanburgess