Fake News on Twitter

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Introduction

Online Social Media Security Landscape is Changing

We conducted a Study to Understand the use of Twitter in Spreading of Fake-News in the North Sea Region

- We collected Tweets data in three different ways
  1. Search terms based Tweets collection
  2. Snowball search around key users
  3. Geo-Location search covering the North Sea region

- Tweets from Ukraine, Crimea, Euromaiden and NATO searches
- Dataset includes over 3 million tweets i.e. around 100 Gb data
- Filtered Tweets to find messages sharing URL links
- Over 50 thousand tweets are sharing possible fake-news articles
- We find patterns in data including key-entities, topics and trends
- We used dense sub-graph extraction to find botnets

Data Collection and Analysis Workflow

Analysis

Fake News Community

Echo-Chamber

Fake-NewsBursts

Results & Discussion

Main Takeaways

- A complex data collection strategy is needed to identify the spread of Fake-News
- The users spreading fake-news like to mention more to get attention, but use common hashtags.
- Fake-News URLs are more likely to be shared than general-news.
- Bots are often used to speed-up diffusion

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