

Mapping Rumours and Information Diffusion: Research update 26/03/2019

Since the previous research update, we have completed the first phase of data collection. This has consisted of scraping the internet for tweets related to the five largest successful mergers, collecting those tweets that mention one or more of the relevant companies and one or more of a list of key words such as “merger”, “deal”, “takeover” etc. WE have done preliminary statistical analysis on this set of tweets and with the help of a team of annotators (all graduate students), we have gone through the process of manually annotating these tweets. We have now identified an additional set of mergers (who ultimately proved unsuccessful and were not completed) and scraped the internet for tweets on these mergers. In addition, we have extended the window of tweets for the previously studies mergers and collected additional tweets for these.

The next step is to manually annotate these additional tweets, something that should start in the near future. Once the annotation process is complete, we will start working on the machine learning model and use the annotated tweets to train the model.