

# Real-time network analysis in R using Twitter

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April 7, 2010

## **Abstract**

Social networking services generate a tremendous amount of relationship data on a near continuous basis. This network data can be exploited for any number of reasons, e.g., community detection, network evolution or key actors analysis, but as analysts we require the tools to efficiently collect this data and separate the elements of interest. Twitter is particularly well suited for this type of analysis, as its open API provides ready access to this data, which is inherently social. In this talk, I will describe how to use a combination of tools in R; specifically, `twitterR` and `igraph`, to seamlessly extract, parse, and analyze social data from Twitter in near real-time. This discussion will be accompanied by a live demonstration of this methodology using members of the audience.