

# Using Twitter in the organization of anti-government protests in Croatia

Mato Brautovic, PhD  
University of Dubrovnik  
mbraut@unidu.hr

# Twitter and protests

- Twitter has quickly proven itself as a successful platform for activist operations.
- Twitter's advantage over other online social media is the brevity of posts which can be sent quickly using mobile phones, and the ease of following of the posts by other users for the same reasons.
- Twitter has been used during anti-government demonstrations, among others, in Moldova, Iran, Tunisia, Egypt and Croatia
- Activists are able to use Twitter for(Posteorus, 2010):
  - recruitment,
  - spreading information,
  - focusing their activities
  - and attracting media attention.
- Activists use hash-tags in order to organize and rally around a certain campaign or event

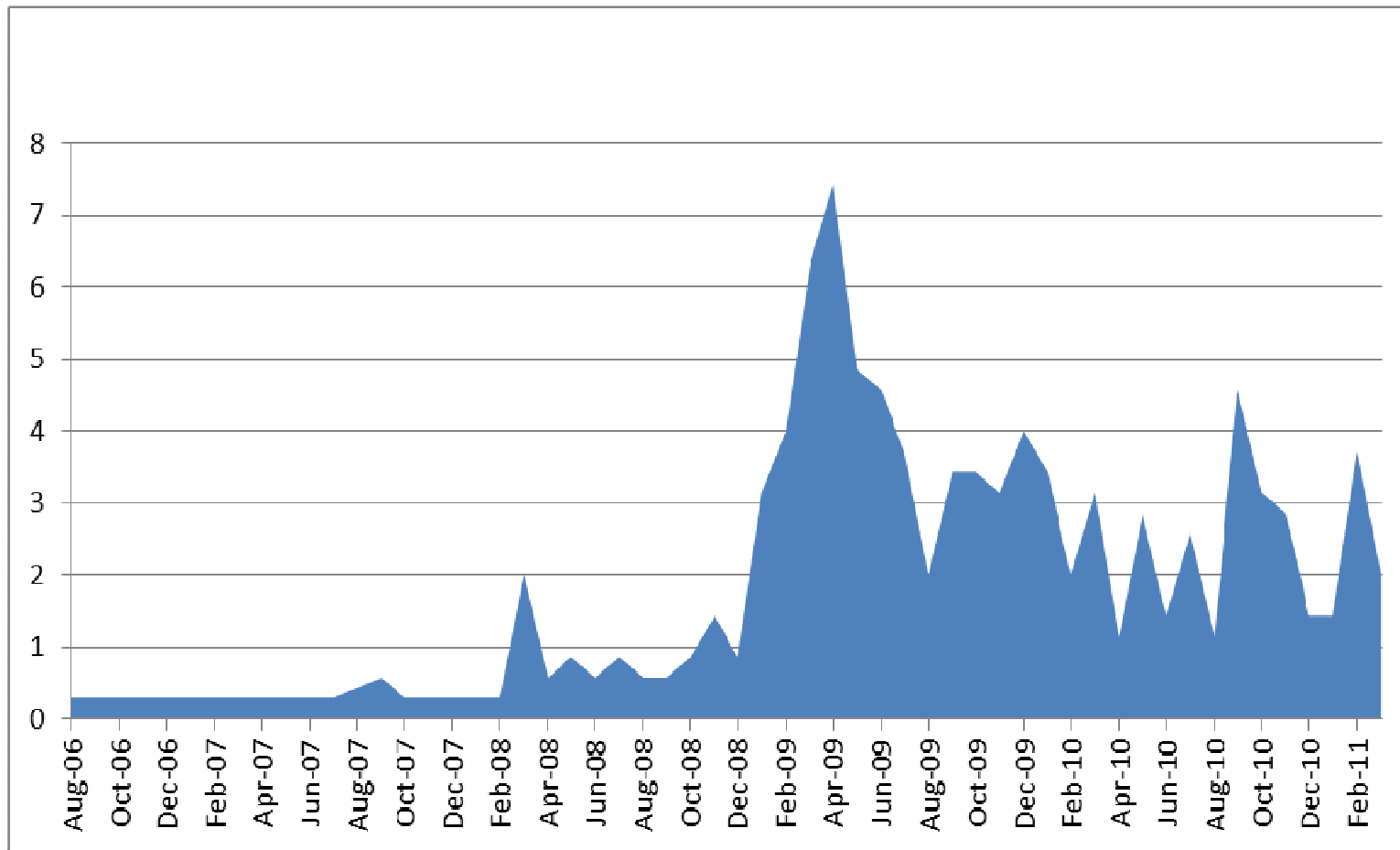
# Anti government protest

- Anti-government demonstrations in Croatia have started in February and lasted until April 9, 2011
- The initiative for launching of the demonstrations has been started using the Facebook fan page Great protest for the overthrow of Government (<http://www.facebook.com/prosvjed>).
- The most numerous ones were those in the capital city Zagreb.

# Metodology

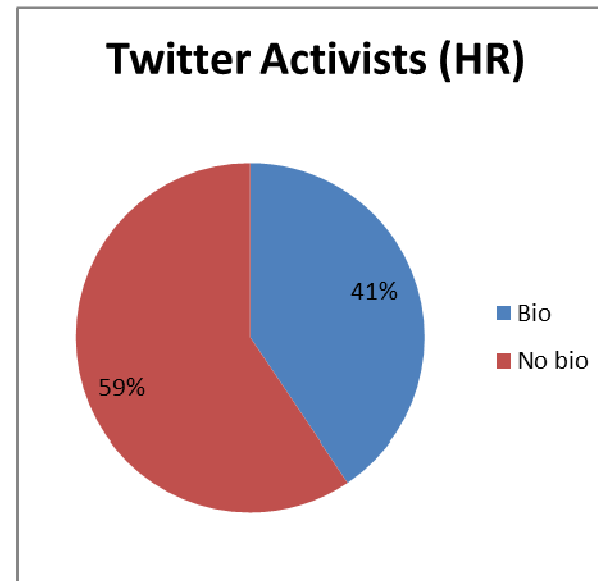
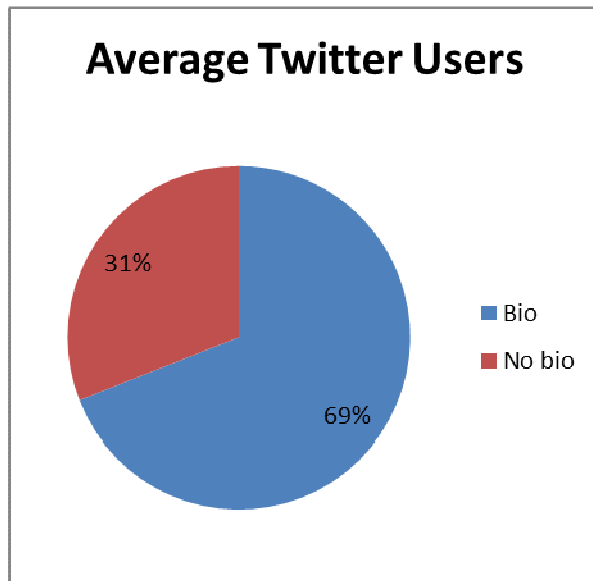
- Data collection for the research included two types of primary source data:
  - Data on activist Twitter users (profiles)
  - Data on activist Twitter posts
- For the first point, user data has been collected on March 9, 2011. Collection encompassed 347 of the total 772 protesters using Twitter to publish protest-themed posts in the period between March 2 and April 2, 2011, or 45,3 percent of the total population publishing protest-themed posts.
- Second type of data has been collected between March 2 and April 2, 2011. 9967 messages containing the hash-tag #prosvjed has been collected.

# New Twitter Accounts Created (% of Accounts Created)

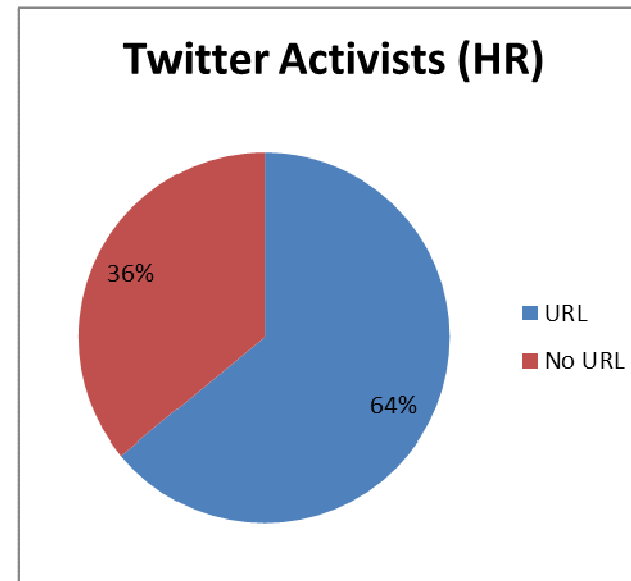
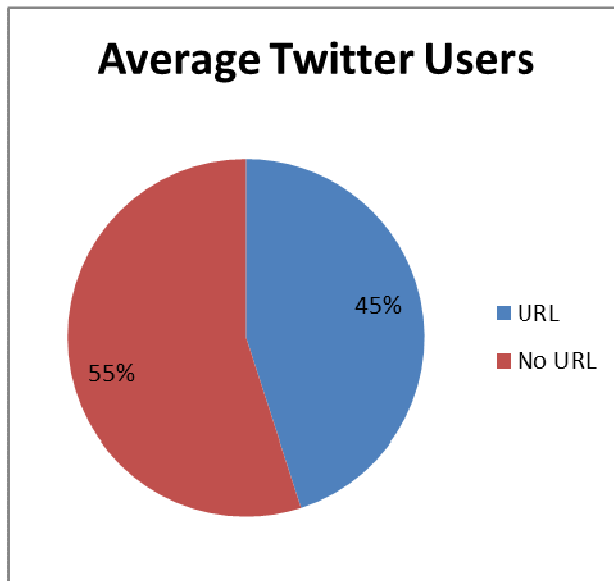


# Twitter Users with Bio

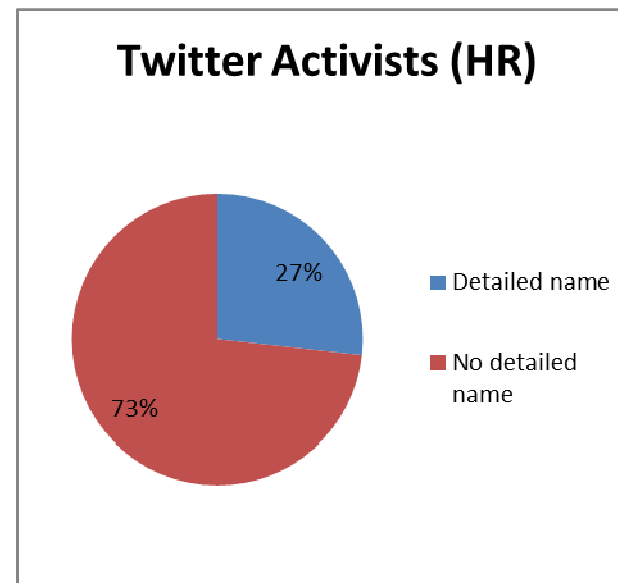
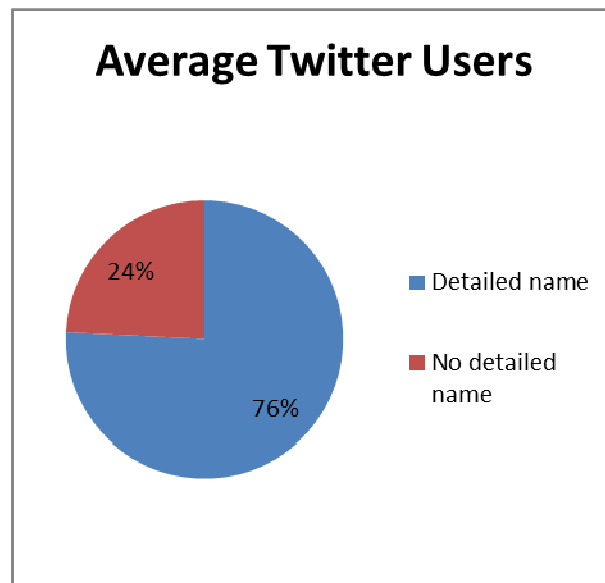
(% of users who provide a bio on their twitter profile)



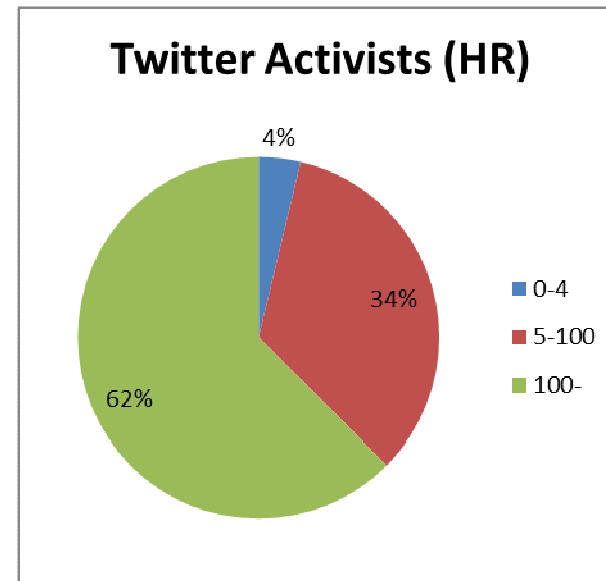
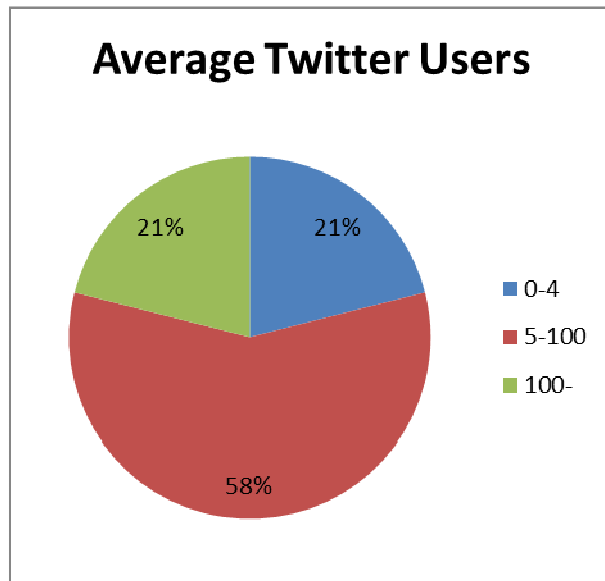
# Twitter Users with Website URL (% of users who provide a URL on their twitter profile)



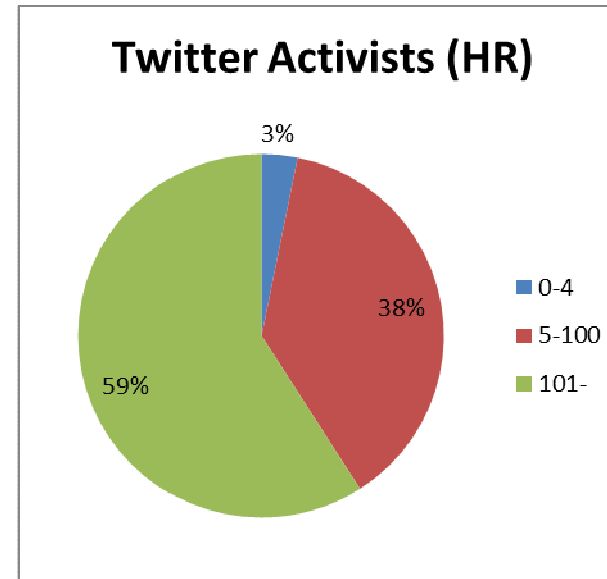
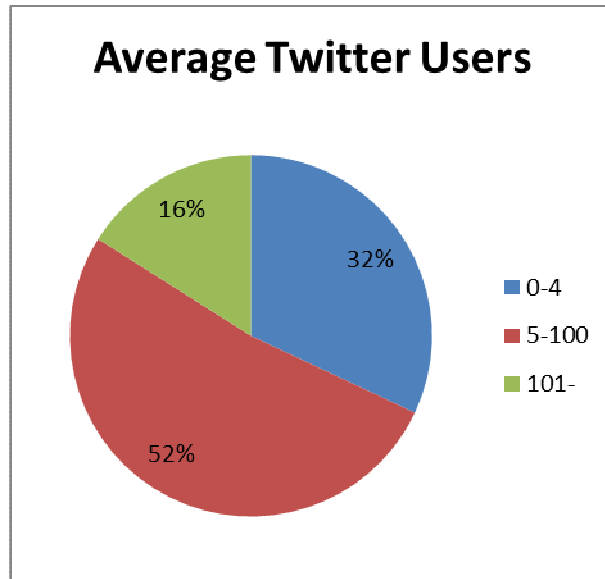
# Twitter Users with Detailed Name (% of users who provides a detailed name on twitter profile)



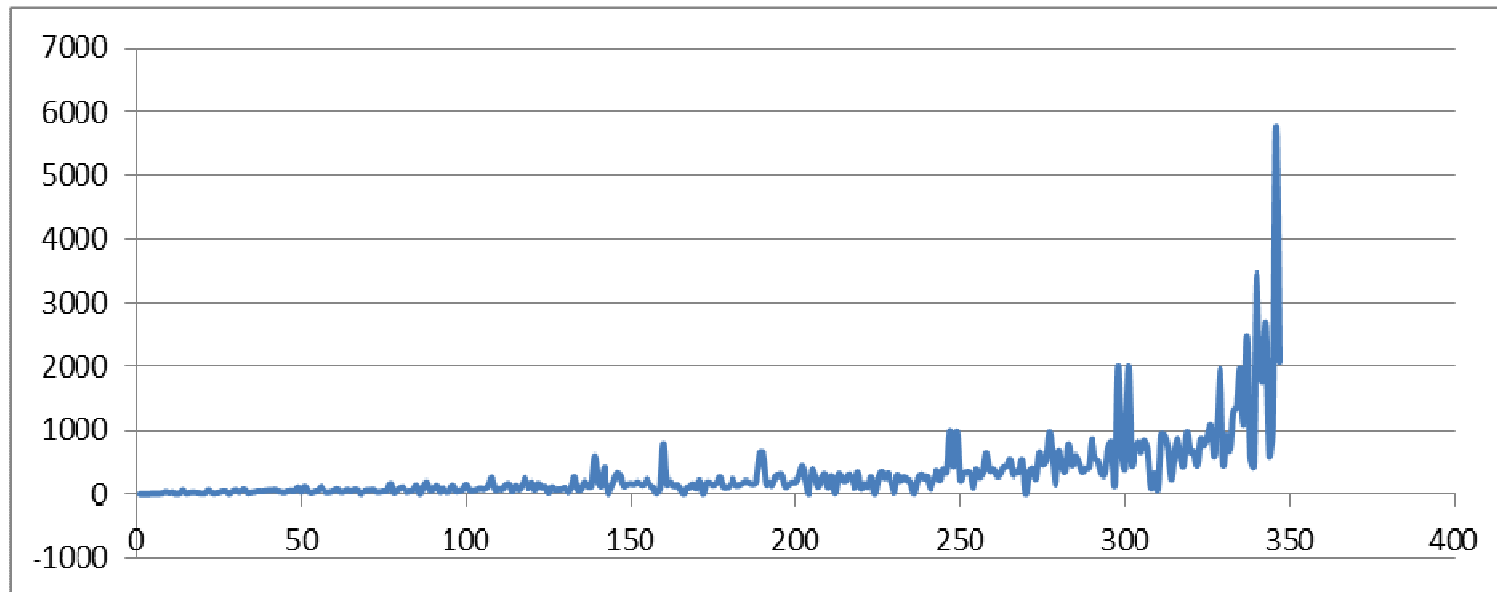
# Number of Friends a User Follows



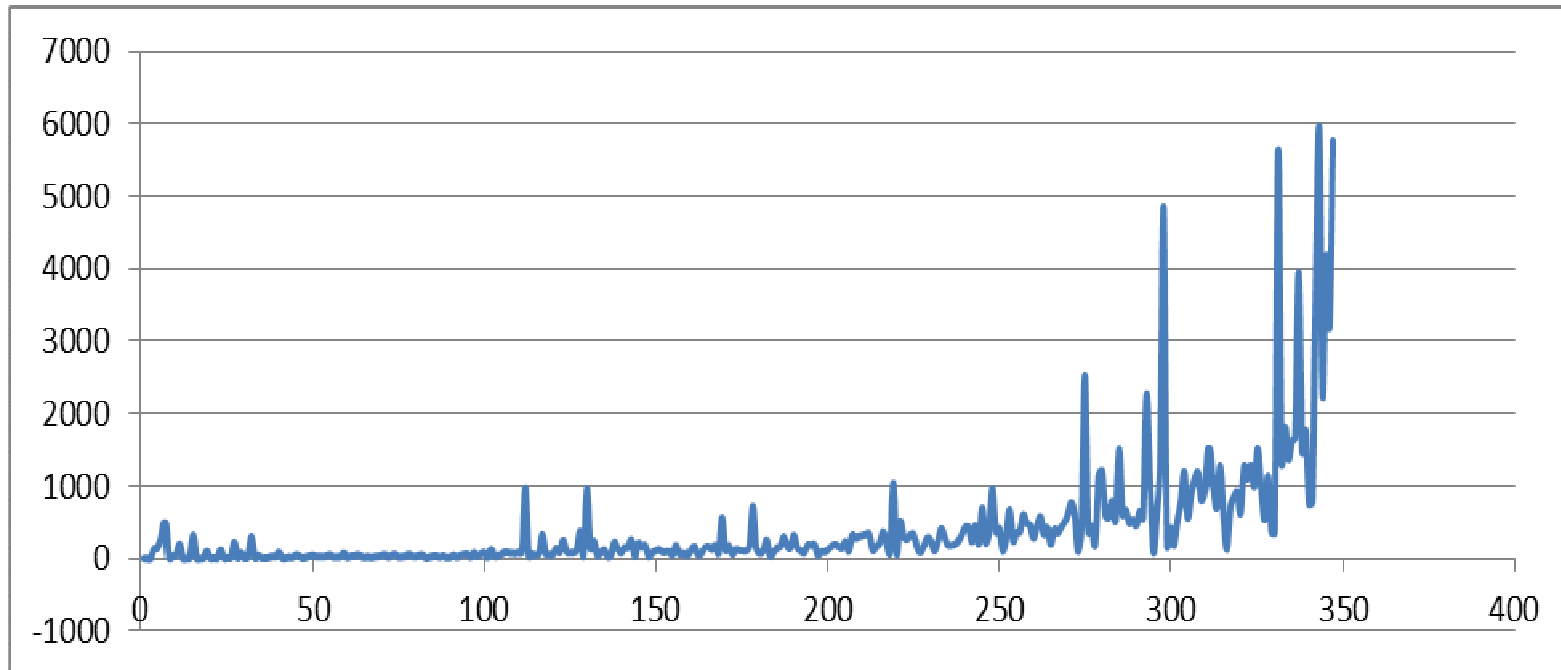
# Number of Followers a user has



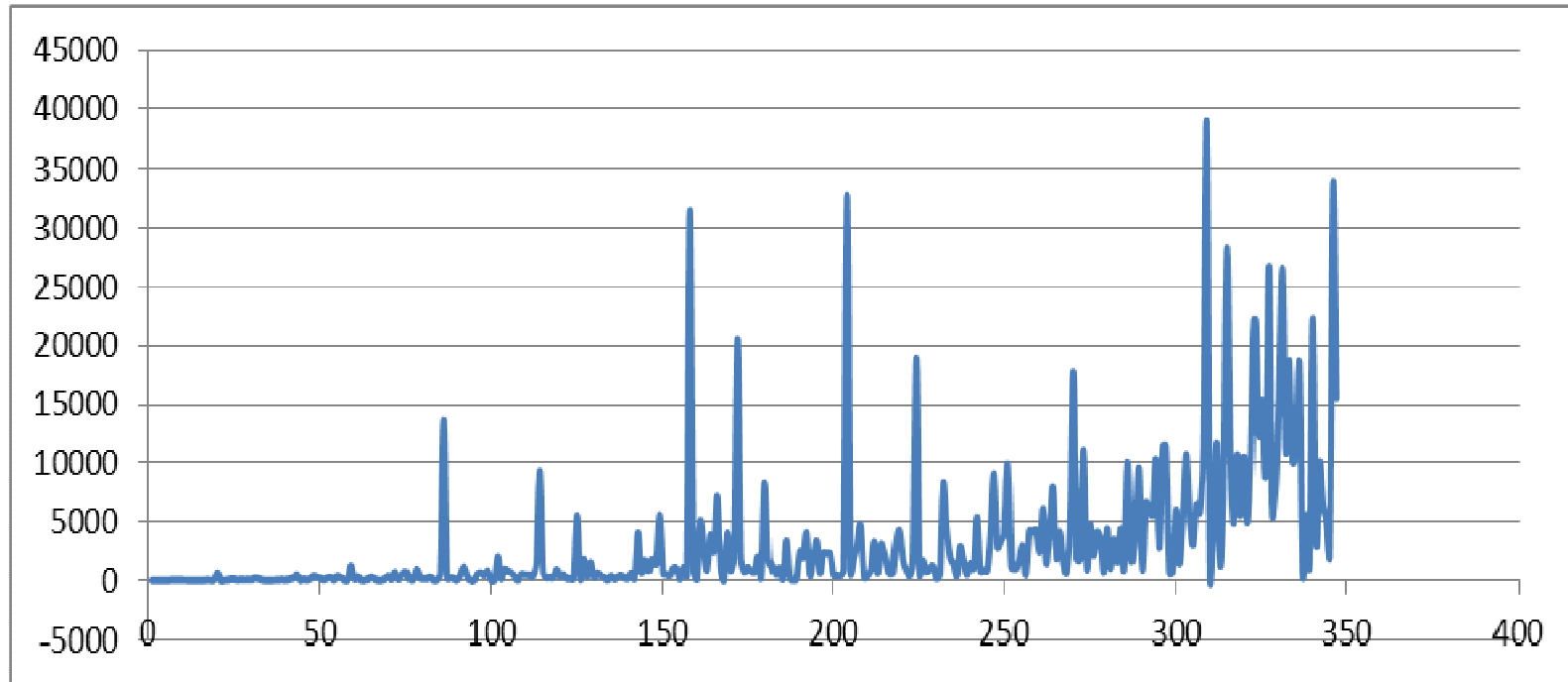
# Friends vs. Average Number of Followers



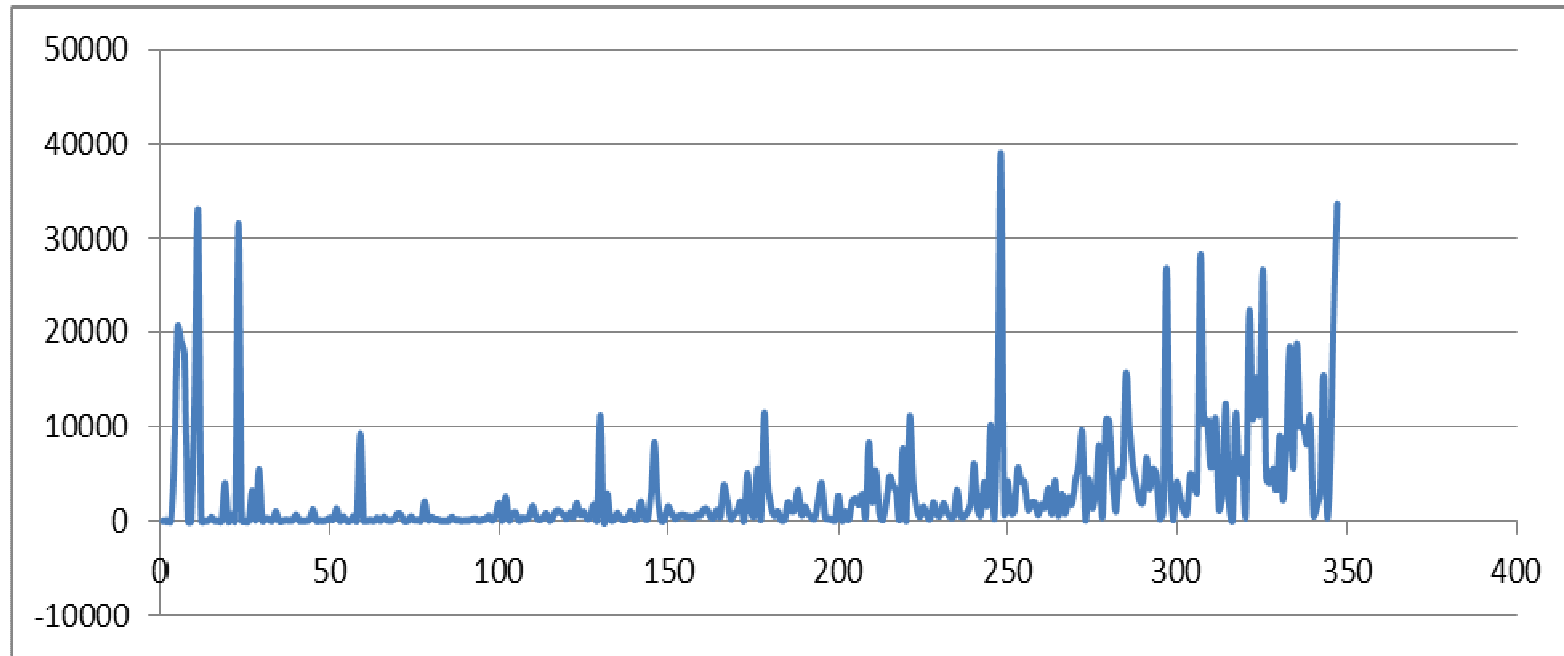
# Followers vs. Average Number of Friend



# Followers vs. Number of Messages



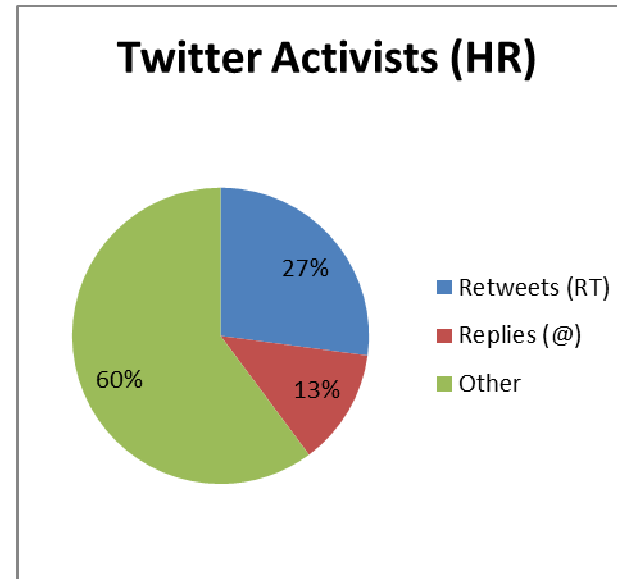
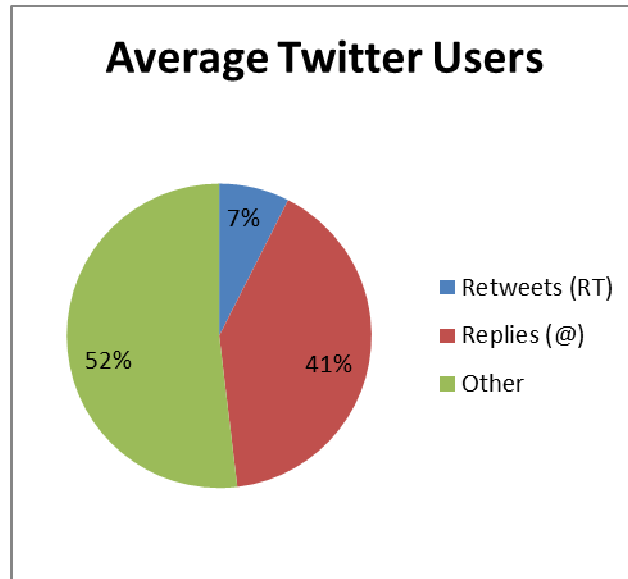
# Friends vs. Number of Messages



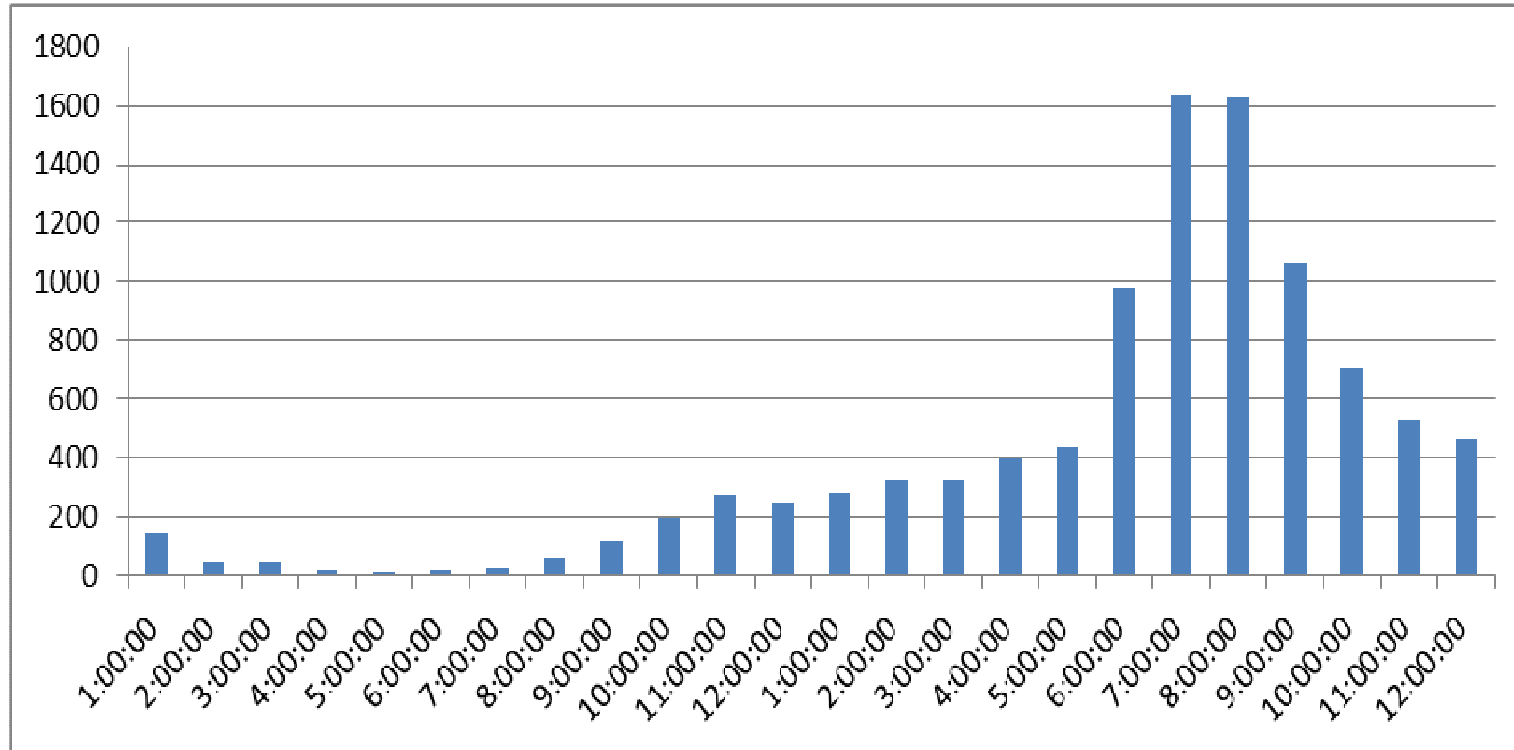
# Number of messages posted by users

Number of messages	Number of users	
	Average Twitter Users (Metaxa and Mustafar, 2010:2)	Twitter Activists (HR)
1	22482	281
2-3	9121	172
4-7	4090	120
8-15	2002	62
16-31	1093	47
32-63	524	27
64-127	227	11
128-255	88	11
256-511	36	3
512-1024	10	2

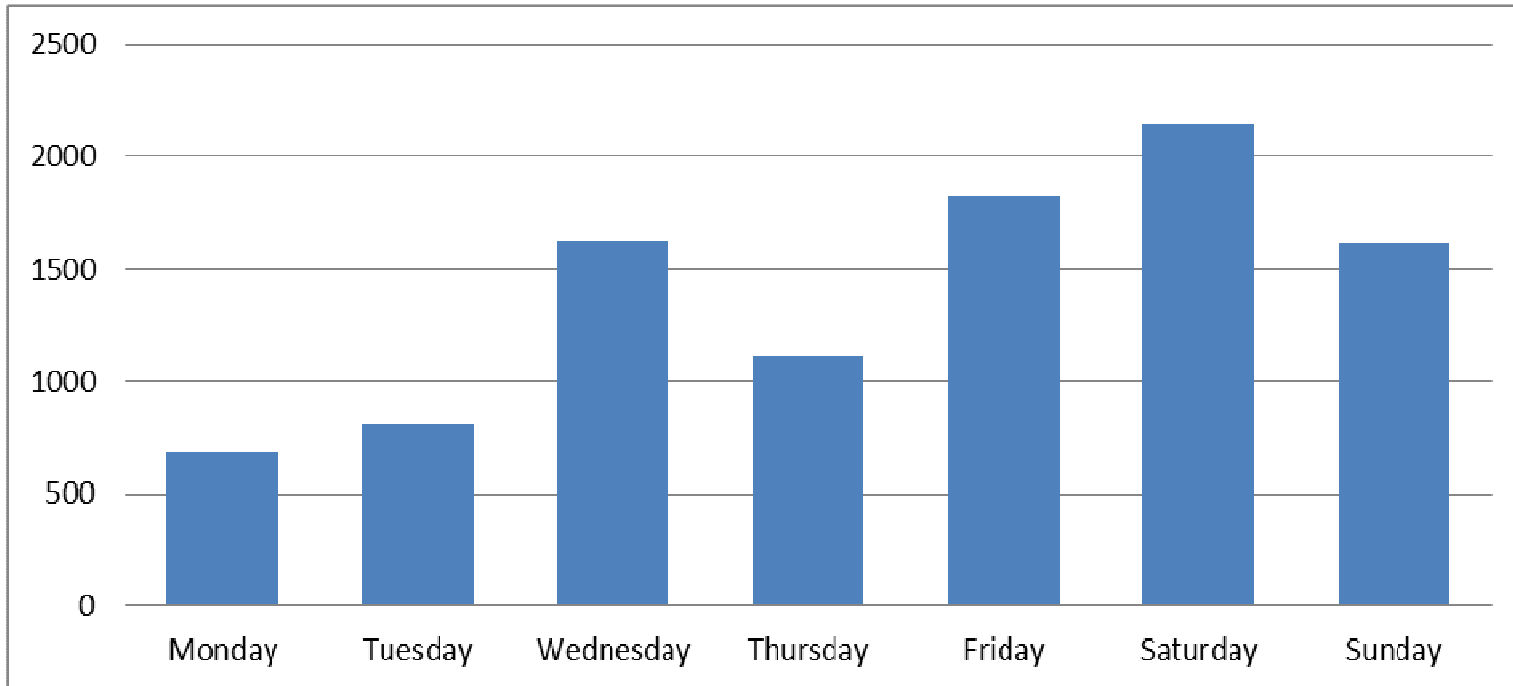
# Number of tweets by message type



# Post publishing hours



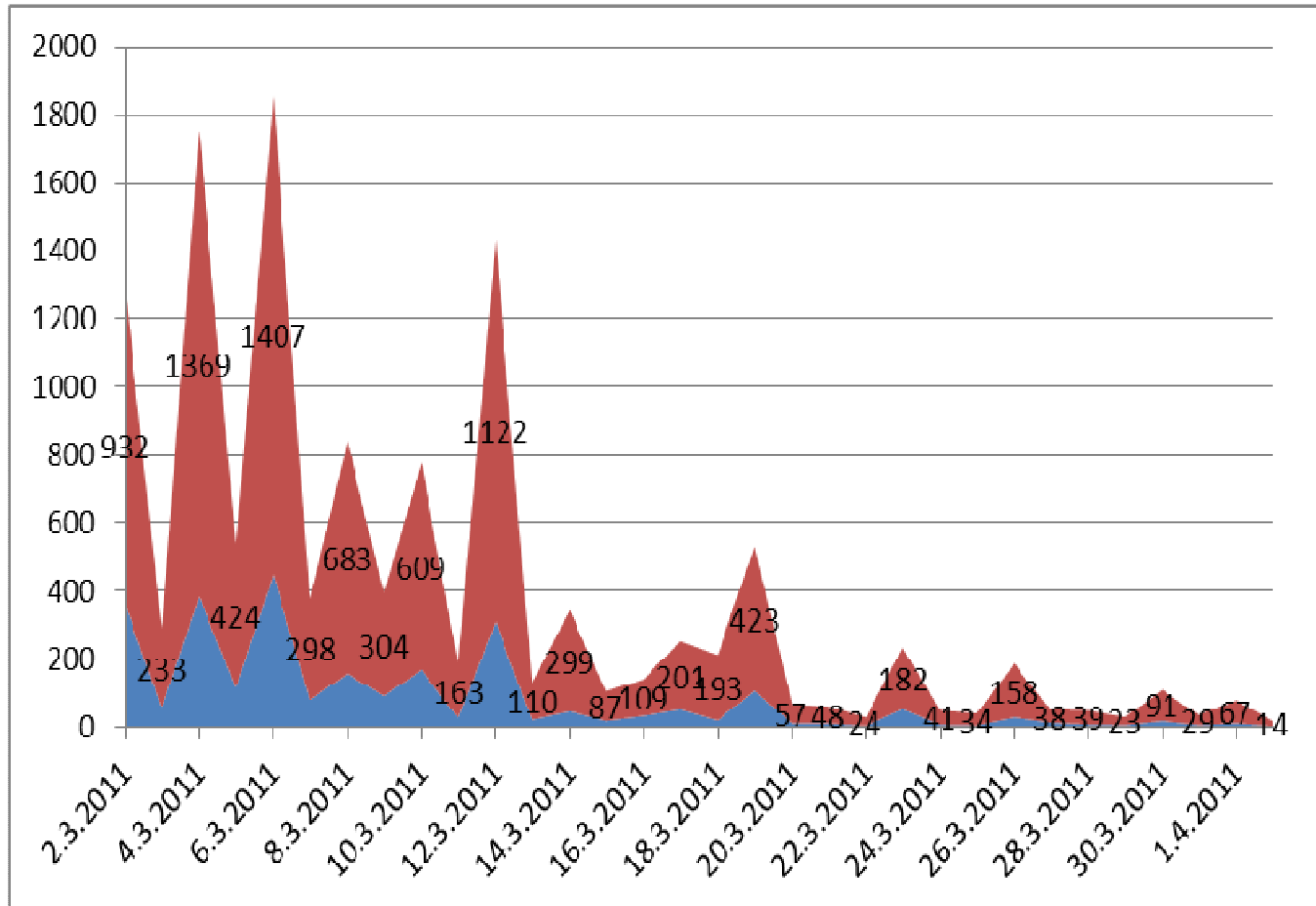
# Post publishing days



# Number of chain retweet messages

RTs/messages	Number of messages			
	Average Twitter Users (Metaxa and Mustafar, 2010:2)		Twitter Activists (HR)	
1	47730	63%	2704	75%
2	21090	28.00%	762	21.11%
3	5349	7.10%	130	3.60%
4	939	1.25%	13	0.36%
5	149	0.20%	-	-
6	47	0.06%	-	-
7	18	0.02%	-	-

# RT vs. All Messages



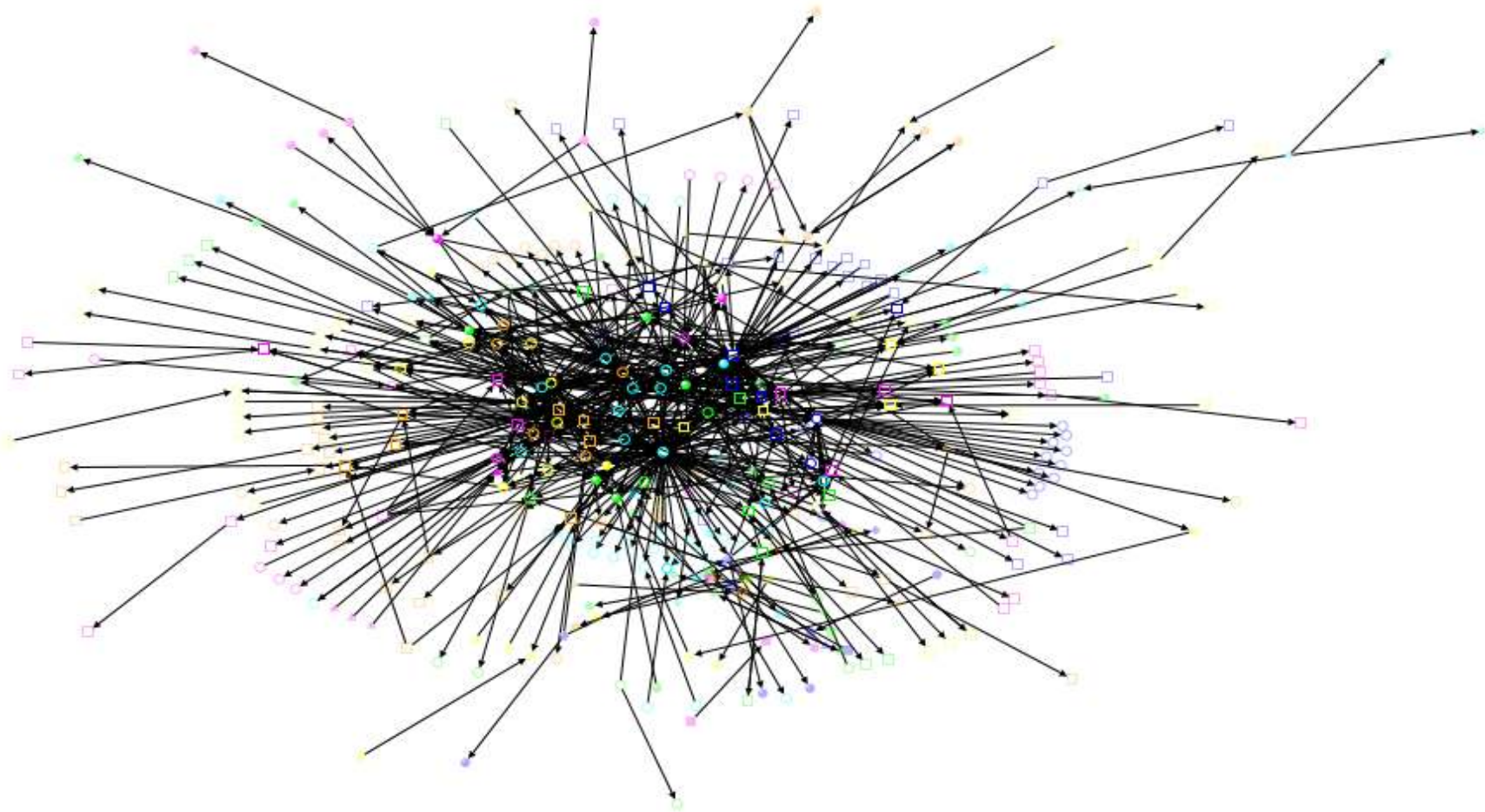
# Top 5 users

Number of Followers		Number of Friends		Number of Tweets		Number of @ other users		Number of @ unique user		Number of RT other users		Number of RT unique users		Number of Tweets #prosvjed	
jutarnji	1	demure4you	1	mattmarenic	1	misssophiae	1	misssophiae	1	mschatten	1	ipekarik	1	mschatten	1
demure4you	2	ivospigel	2	demure4you	2	ipekarik	2	ipekarik	2	msperic	2	misssophiae	2	msperic	2
nethr	3	radio_101	3	dalje	3	baky	3	hkomljenovic	3	dr_hindoo	3	frankuseta	3	misssophiae	3
afromusing	4	dubrovnik driver	4	sajnaires	4	krunovidic	4	baky	4	dpasaric	4	hkomljenovic	4	dr_hindoo	4
radio_101	5	jutarnji	5	romanbold	5	mschatten	5	krunovidic	5	almightywatashi	5	msperic	5	ipekarik	5

# Rho correlation of user influence

	Number of Followers	Number of Friends	Number of Tweets	Number of @ drugih korisnika	Number of @ korisnika	Number of RT drugih korisnika	Number of RT korisnika	Number of Tweets #prosvjed
Number of Followers	-	0.853	0.809	0.219	0.258	0.253	0.300	0.137
Number of Friends	0.853	-	0.632	0.220	0.256	0.286	0.291	0.188
Number of Tweets	0.809	0.632	-	0.204	0.240	0.226	0.252	0.072
Number of @ drugih korisnika	0.219	0.220	0.204	-	0.949	0.767	0.877	0.579
Number of @ korisnika	0.258	0.256	0.240	0.949	-	0.786	0.911	0.630
Number of RT drugih korisnika	0.253	0.286	0.226	0.767	0.786	-	0.799	0.773
Number of RT korisnika	0.300	0.291	0.252	0.877	0.911	0.799	-	0.753
Number of Tweets #prosvjed	0.137	0.188	0.072	0.579	0.630	0.773	0.753	-

# Social graph of twitter users





# Literature

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