

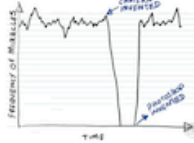
# Get Back! You Don't Know Me Like That:

## The Social Mediation of Fact Checking Interventions in Twitter Conversations

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### Motivation

False rumor, misinformation are important issues of public concern  
 Fast information spread due to new communication technologies  
 Lots of misinformation, news without trustworthy sources



Interventions to correct misinformation does not change attitudes  
 Nyhan & Reifler, 2010; Garrett, 2011

Misinformation is "sticky" - consistency with attitudes, beliefs  
 Ecker, Lewandowsky, & Tang, 2010

Fact-checks from friends more likely to be worthy of consideration  
 Garrett, Nisbet, & Lynch, 2013

### Example

Fact-checking intervention in an online conversation

### Research Questions

- Q1: Who snopees whom?**  
 How does status of snopers & snopees vary across relationships?
- Q2: Do snopees matter?**  
 Do people respond to being snooped?  
 Does it eventually change their minds?
- Q3: Where do snopees happen?**  
 Do they occur within or between subcommunities?  
 What does the structural contexts of snooping reveal?

### Data and Methods

**Fact-checking events**  
 Twitter gardenhose archive data from Jan 2012 – Aug 2013  
 Contains link to: Snopes.com, Politifact.com, Factcheck.org  
 Conversational: Snoper replies to snopee's tweet  
 Final: ~1600 fact-checking interventions

**Tweeting history**  
 History of Snopers and Snopees using public Twitter API  
 Up to 3200 tweets per user

**Social Network**  
 Follower information of all Snopees and Snopers (up to 5000)  
 Post-hoc directed follower network Snopers and Snopees

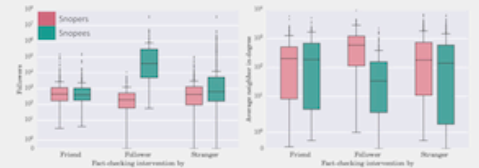
**Categorizing tweets**  
 Use Crowdfunder workers to label snooping tweets based on:  
 Intent: correcting facts, joke, supporting snopee's view, etc  
 On-going conversation vs out-of-the-blue  
 (was the snoper @mentioned before fact-check?)

### Terminology



### Results

Fact-checks by friends and strangers involve snopers and snopees with similar audience sizes  
 Fact-checks by followers are directed at "elite" users, but there are significant differences in the indirect audiences for these corrections



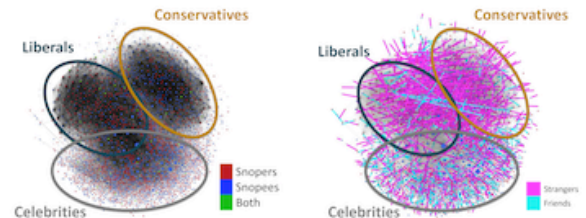
Snopes by friends trigger 3x more replies from snopee than snopes by followers or snopes by strangers

	Mentioned After	Not mentioned After
Friend	2.9%	97.1%
Follower	12.0%	88.0%
Stranger	4.2%	95.8%

Most snopes from strangers are challenges, but fewer from friends are challenges

	Challenges
Friend	65.8%
Follower	73.9%
Stranger	85.0%

Friends more likely (45%) to reply to friends' challenges than friends' general messages (25%)



Snopes occur in highly polarized network context  
 Stranger snopes occur between political camps → "partisan sniping"  
 Friend snopes occur mostly within "celebrity" cluster → No policing of misinformation within affinity groups