

BEER 2021 Abstract:

Identifying radicalized individuals in a timely manner grows increasingly important against the backdrop of the January 6th Capitol attacks and growing political polarity. By examining radicalization as a multifaceted psychological process, several key variables appear as indicative of radicalization. Identifying these variables with any real-time capability is difficult without automation. Natural language processing is a tool that can be used to identify psychological variables associated with radicalization, allowing for an automated means of collecting quantitative data from a qualitative source. Applications of nonlinear dynamics and time-series analysis can then be applied to this quantitative data to reveal underlying patterns and trends in the process of political radicalization.