Dear confused journalists: I found the bots you have been looking for. They amplify trolls. They impersonate. They spam. They are funded by oligarchs. What more could you want in a story?

And unlike @SecureDemocracy, I have actually shown my work. Gather round.

First things first. Here are the accounts in question. They posted nearly 600 links to @Sharebluearticles from Jan. 22-28th

@SecureDemocracy says they don't this because they would rather have us watch their snazzy dashboard while troll masters and bots continue to flourish. 🤔

Let's dig in. All of these posts were made

using @Buffer. Buffer allows users to post the identical tweet (or retweet) on up to 150 separate accounts with a single click. It's called Buffer because it allows you to queue up posts to go out according to a programmable schedule.

Scheduling of the buffer queue is important because it can be programed to emulate a human twitter user. A good way to get favs while sleeping in. Obviously, one can still go overboard with it, as can be seen here. This was annoying and it continued for more than 24 hours.

One of the accounts that was constantly showing up was @DruidCityMedia, a PR firm founded by @SallyAlbright.

Could all this be related?

🤦She just tweeted it out!

Lets see what her bots have been up to.

Lots of Shareblue astroturfing.

Amplifying Game Theorist @EricGarland is one of their primary duties. Odd.

Some of the people they impersonate include a Olympic ice skater and a tragically deceased woman from Florida.

View image on Twitter

liking online
@likingonline

Why is @Shareblue using the photo of a Meaghan Delcourt on their @GwenBarstow sockpuppet account to spam articles? cc:@SallyAlbright

6:25 PM - Feb 21, 2018

♡ 553   💬 297 people are talking about this

Some people on Twitter seem to get really upset when I have pointed out that they get amplified by bots.

liking online
@likingonline

Amazing, so you are getting amplified by Brock troll sockpuppets you and don't even know it? twitter.com/marcushjohnson…

11:14 PM - Feb 26, 2018

♡ 117 💬 46 people are talking about this ⓘ

Some try to deal with it by "actually laughing."

liking online
@likingonline

Woah, who would have thought the Senior Editor of @enews would be getting astroturfed by @Shareblue? twitter.com/natfinnonE/sta…

11:48 PM - Feb 26, 2018

♡ 34 👤 See liking online's other Tweets ⓘ

Adam, he had a minor meltdown here.

liking online
@likingonline

Look, Adam you seem like a smart guy - did you even read the report? Not once did I claim that you "use any fucking system to boost anything." What I am claiming is that you have been retweeted more than 1000 times by Shareblue's sockpuppets in the past month. twitter.com/AdamParkhomenk…

4:02 PM - Feb 17, 2018

♡ 115 💬 40 people are talking about this ⓘ

Others choose to ignore. Or block in the case of [@EricBoehler](#) and [@NeeraTanden](#)

liking online
@likingonline

Proud of you for calling out @mikefarb1 on his grift & failure to show his work. We eagerly await you giving the same treatment to @SecureDemocracy for failing to show their work Re: Hamilton68.
twitter.com/RVAwonk/status…

7:53 AM - Feb 22, 2018

♡ 18   See liking online's other Tweets

In the spirit of openness and education, you can explore, visualize, and download the data from ~250k retweets from these sockpuppets here.

View image on Twitter

liking online
@likingonline

I made a web app for exploring recent tweets that have been amplified by Sally's Shareblue sockpuppets. You can sort, search, and filter by the retweeted account. It also produces nice retweet frequency plots of individual accounts. Enjoy.
likingonline.shinyapps.io/shareblue_sock…

5:18 AM - Feb 28, 2018

♡ 119   💬 82 people are talking about this

Some of my favorites:

mage on Twitter   image on Twitter   ⓘ

liking online
@likingonline

Replying to @likingonline

How about we see what other messages she is getting paid to amplify? Hey look here's a popular clapback.. Nope, it's just Sally.

7:41 AM - Jan 26, 2018

♡ 111   💬 51 people are talking about this

You can read the original report here.

[View image on Twitter](#)   ⓘ

liking online
@likingonline

Here's my fresh Shareblue astroturf analysis and write-up. Just in time for troll indictment day, awesome. shareblueastroturf.netlify.com

12:36 PM - Feb 16, 2018

♡ 509 ◯ 369 people are talking about this

I also analyzed the database of 'malicious Russian linked tweets" from the IRA troll farm here.

liking online
@likingonline

A quick analysis of the database provided by NBC containing "200,000 tweets that Twitter has tied to "malicious activity" from Russia-linked accounts during the 2016 U.S. presidential election."
nbcnews.com/tech/social-me…

3:00 PM - Feb 19, 2018

Twitter deleted Russian troll tweets. So we published more than 200,000 of them.

Twitter doesn't make it easy to track Russian propaganda efforts — this database can help

nbcnews.com

This was the most interesting finding