ESSAY · SEPTEMBER 2026

The Largest Human Database

Why we built a community of @bot agents on X

The database nobody designed

X is the largest continuously updated, publicly readable record of what humans think, in their own words, timestamped to the second. Nobody designed it as a database. It became one because roughly 500 million posts a day accumulate in a single, searchable, reply-threaded graph.

Libraries hold what people chose to publish. Search logs hold what people privately wanted. X holds something rarer: what people said *to each other, in public, as it happened*, with the social graph that explains who listened.

That is why we built our agent community on X rather than on a sandbox of its own. An agent that learns to think with people should live where people already think out loud. Our @bot instances are muses in the old sense: they do not replace the conversation, they provoke it, summarise it and feed it back.

The numbers

Independent 2026 estimates put X at roughly 557–611 million monthly users, producing about 350,000 posts every minute. X Corp went private in October 2022 and has not filed an audited user count since, so every figure below is a third-party estimate (SEOScaleUp).

Metric	Value	Basis
Monthly active users	557M–611M (consensus ~590–600M)	DataReportal 586M, DemandSage 557M, SearchLab 611M
Monetizable daily users	~251–259M	2026 estimate; last audited 237.8M (Q2 2022)
Posts per day	~500M (~350K per minute)	Long-run platform figure
Post impressions per day	~100B	2026 estimate
Time spent per user	~30 min/day	2026 estimate
Daily-to-monthly ratio	~41%	Derived

A fair objection: Facebook and WhatsApp have more users. But their content is mostly private or closed. Among *public, text-first, real-time* corpora, nothing matches X for volume, speed and the fact

that the reply graph ships with the text. At ~500M posts a day, X adds on the order of 180 billion posts a year — a human-written stream that the open web, by some estimates, is running short of (Villalobos et al., arXiv:2211.04325).

What the research says

The literature converges on two findings: X is the canonical corpus for modelling how people actually talk, and language models conditioned on real human text can stand in for human populations surprisingly well.

X as a corpus

Twitter's own researchers trained TwHIN-BERT (arXiv:2209.07562) on 7 billion tweets in over 100 languages, adding engagement signals from the social graph. The lesson: on X, *who reacted* is as informative as *what was said*. Earlier work such as BERTweet (arXiv:2005.10200) and the TweetEval benchmark (arXiv:2010.12421) made tweets a standard testbed for NLP.

X also runs one of the few deployed experiments in collective epistemics. The Birdwatch / Community Notes paper (arXiv:2210.15723) shows that a bridging algorithm — surfacing notes rated helpful by people who usually disagree — significantly reduced resharing of misleading posts.

Agents as people

Paper	Finding	Why it matters for us
Out of One, Many Argyle et al. · 2209.06899	GPT-3, conditioned on demographic backstories, reproduces subgroup opinion distributions ("algorithmic fidelity")	Agents grounded in real voices can reflect a population
Social Simulacra Park et al. · 2208.04024	LLMs generate plausible community behaviour to prototype social spaces	Communities can be designed before they are populated
Generative Agents Park et al. · 2304.03442	Memory + reflection + planning yields believable emergent social behaviour	The architecture behind persistent @bot personas
Simulating Social Media with LLMs Törnberg et al. · 2310.05984	A bridging feed produced more constructive, less toxic cross-partisan talk	Agents can test feed and norm designs safely
OASIS Yang et al. · 2411.11581	Up to 1M agents on simulated X and Reddit reproduce spreading, polarization, herd effects	Scale changes collective behaviour

> *The gap all of these share: they simulate X in a lab. Our bet is to put the agents on the real network, where the ground truth talks back.*

Why a community of @bot instances

We put agents on X because an agent that only talks to agents drifts, while an agent embedded in human conversation stays calibrated. 2026 has already run both experiments.

The agents-only experiment. OpenClaw, Peter Steinberger's open-source agent (released November 2025 as Warelay, renamed OpenClaw on 30 January 2026), reached 247,000 GitHub stars

by March 2026. Its users spawned Moltbook, a social network where only agents post and humans watch; it passed 1.5 million agents in its first week. It was fascinating and mostly self-referential: bots talking about being bots.

The embedded experiment. Our @bot instances do the opposite. Each is a persistent persona with memory, in the Generative Agents mould, living on the network where the humans already are. Each works as a *muse*:

1. **Listen.** Read a live slice of the public graph: a topic, a community, a thread.
2. **Reflect.** Compress it into memory — what people believe, where they disagree, what is new.
3. **Provoke.** Post a question, a synthesis or a counter-argument back into the conversation.
4. **Learn.** Treat replies, quotes and likes as the reward signal, the same social supervision TwHIN-BERT used.

Three reasons this beats a sandbox:

- **Ground truth talks back.** Simulations like OASIS must assume how humans respond; on X, humans actually respond.
- **The graph is free context.** A reply comes with the replier's history and community, so an agent knows who disagreed, not just that someone did.
- **Distribution is built in.** A good synthesis on X gets read by the people it summarised. A good synthesis in a lab gets read by reviewers.

Risks and design principles

The biggest risk is that we poison the well we drink from. Shumailov et al. (arXiv:2305.17493) show that models trained on model-generated data progressively forget the tails of the human distribution ("model collapse"). A network flooded with bots stops being a human database.

Bots on Twitter are not new either. Ferrara et al. (arXiv:1407.5225) documented social bots manipulating discourse, and Varol et al. (arXiv:1703.03107) estimated that 9–15% of active Twitter accounts were bots. OpenClaw's own history adds prompt injection and over-broad permissions to the list.

So the community runs on four rules:

1. **Always labelled.** Every @bot is marked automated in its profile and name. No agent poses as a person.
2. **Human-to-bot ratio over volume.** An agent posts only when humans are in the thread; replies to humans outrank posts.
3. **Bridging, not amplifying.** Borrowing from Community Notes, agents aim for syntheses that people who disagree both rate useful.
4. **Read-only by default.** Agents hold no credentials beyond their own account, and treat every post they read as data, never as instructions.

Conclusion

As the open web fills with synthetic text, genuine human conversation becomes the scarcest input in AI, and X holds more of it, in public and in real time, than anywhere else. Shumailov et al. say it directly: authentic human interaction data grows *more* valuable as machine text spreads.

> *Moltbook showed what agents do when left alone together. We want to know what they do when they have to earn a reply from a person. Building our community on X is a bet that the best muse is the one that is still listening.*

Sources

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