

Title: Descriptive table for each hand-coded conspiracy related variables appendix for “Conspiracy and debunking narratives about COVID-19 origins on Chinese social media: How it started and who is to blame”

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Date: December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

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## Appendix C: Descriptive table for each hand-coded conspiracy related variables

The coding scheme was iteratively developed and pilot-tested with 100 randomly sampled Weibo posts from the final dataset. Six Chinese native speakers were trained and coded the posts independently. Inter-coder-reliability was satisfactory, with Krippendorff’s alpha for post type, origin types, responsibility attribution, and source cited at 0.834, 0.786, 0.804, 0.826, respectively. The table below provides the descriptive results of coding of each variable.

Variable Name	Distribution	N
<b>Post Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conspiracy posts = 923</li><li>• Debunking posts = 593</li><li>• Irrelevant to conspiracies or debunking = 5219</li></ul>	6735
<b>Origin Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nature/unknown origin = 350</li><li>• Human synthesis = 563</li><li>• Lab-edited = 636</li><li>• Bioweapon = 188</li><li>• 5G = 75</li><li>• E-cigarette = 0</li><li>• GMO = 7</li></ul>	1516 (subset to post types = conspiracy or debunking)
<b>Responsibility Attribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• China = 565</li><li>• The United States = 712</li><li>• Japan = 4</li><li>• Serbia = 1</li><li>• European Countries = 24</li><li>• Bill Gates = 2</li><li>• Other Countries = 36</li><li>• No clear responsibility attribution = 217</li></ul>	1516
<b>Source Cited</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chinese government = 47</li><li>• U.S. government = 13</li><li>• Other government = 36</li><li>• Scientists/Scholars = 438</li></ul>	1516

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- Celebrities = 52
  - Ordinary citizens = 234
  - Foreign media = 261
  - Chinese media = 280
  - Corporations = 2
  - NGO = 5
  - Others = 108
  - No source is cited in a post = 268
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