Hi to this week’s module. My name is Johanna. I’m an open source investigator from Germany and I’ve looked for Bellingcat. At Bellingcat we do digital investigations on a daily basis. We look, for example, at topics like environmental degradation, international conflicts, far right movements and many more things. And I’m very happy to be part of this course and to be able to work with so many great people who are also interested in digital investigations.

In the previous modules, you learned a lot about how to investigate people and Web sites. In this module, we will look much more at the connections between them. I introduce you to the field of network analysis. The process of looking at the connections between people and entities to gain insights for your investigations.

So this is what we will cover. First, we will talk about Why network analysis is so useful for investigations. You might also want to have a look at this week’s readings for that, gy the way.

Then my colleague Ben Strick, who works for BBC Africa and who’s also Bellincat contributor, will show you how he used network analysis to identify a coordinated information campaign across several social media platforms and websites.

I want to make this module as practical as possible. And since I know that many of you will be interested in using social media data for network analysis, I will show you how you can get your own Twitter data and how you can create your own first network graph using that data from Twitter. So I hope that sounds good to you. Let’s start.