Political manipulation bots were 2.5 times more effective than humans during the US Presidential debate

There were fewer of them than we thought, but that didn't diminish their power, say researchers.

BY **ZOEY CHONG** SEPTEMBER 13, 2018 12:11 AM PDT

Twitter logo is seen on an android mobile phone in front of

Twitter bots are really, really good at shaping your political opinion.

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You already know bots are capable of shaping our political views. Now new research shows they were more powerful than we thought.

Fake accounts were around 2.5 times more influential than humans during the 2016 US presidential debate, according to researchers from the Australian National University Wednesday.