



Accessing Social Media Data

A Case Study On Weibo

Name: Tao Li

Student ID:14854440

Advisor: Dr. Kenneth Johnson

Dr. Shahper Vodanovich

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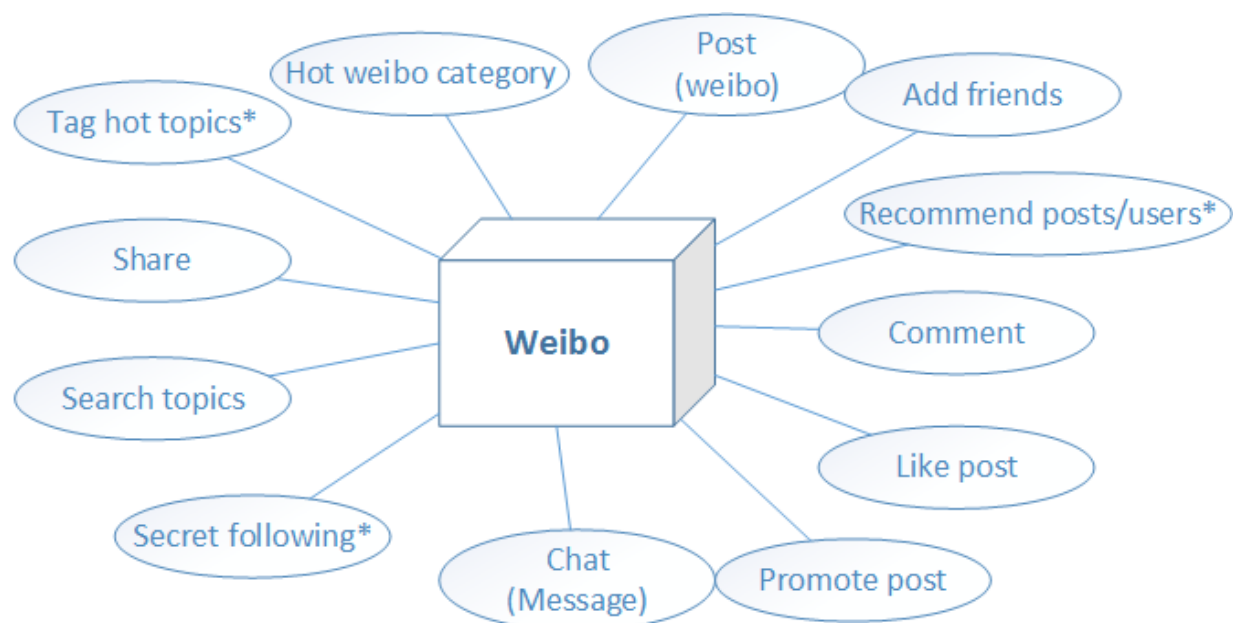
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Introduction

What is Weibo?

Weibo (微博) is a Chinese microblogging website. Akin to a hybrid of Twitter and Facebook, it is one of the most popular sites in China, in use by well over 30% of Internet users, with a market penetration similar to the United States' Twitter. It was launched by Sina Corporation on 14 August 2009, and as of December 2012 has 503 million registered users. By the third quarter of 2015, Sina Weibo has 222 million subscribers and 100 million daily users. About 100 million messages are posted each day on Sina Weibo. (Sina Weibo Wikipedia, 2009)

What can you do on Weibo?



* Tag hot topics: Weibo could let users put a tagged topic in their post. When they search for a specific topic, if the words behind the tag '#' match with the specific topic, the post will list out on the page. (e.g. **This is a test!** #HelloWorld)

* Secret following: You can follow users' page secretly which means the users you are following will not show up in the following column on your profile page.

* Recommend posts/users: Weibo can recommend posts and users by analysing user's past post and following users.

The Weibo Social Media Platform

How to access Weibo?

Go to <http://www.weibo.com/> and click on [立即注册微博](#) to create a new account. For overseas users, the page will redirect to <http://overseasweibo.com> automatically (Click on [免费注册](#) to create a new account instead). Then you should see the interface on the left side below.

個人註冊 | 官方註冊

* 信箱: ✓

或使用手机注册

* 設置密碼: 中: 您的密碼還可以更複雜些

* 驗證碼:  換一換

[立即註冊](#)

[微博服務使用協議](#)
[微博個人資料保護政策](#)
[全國人大常委會關於加強網絡資訊保護的決定](#)

→

Verify via SMS

To avoid malicious registration, verify your phone number

Location:

Mobile:

[Get A-Code for free](#)

[Submit](#)

After you entered all the required information (email, password, verification code), the second page will pop up asking you to verify via SMS to avoid malicious registration (This is compulsory). Sadly, weibo can verify several countries phone number merely, and New Zealand is not in the choosing list. After you verified your email and phone number, you should be able to login into weibo by clicking. When the first time your login to weibo, the system will ask you to input your personal information like name etc. and you can select people to follow and select your interests. In this document, these steps will not be covered since it can be find on various websites which introduce weibo registration steps such as <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~lingwang/weiboguide/>.

How to post weibo?

You can post your weibo by putting words, emotion, photos, videos, topics, article, music or vote in the text area on your Home page below.

What's new with you? 已輸入6字

Hello world!

Emotion

Photo

Video

Topic

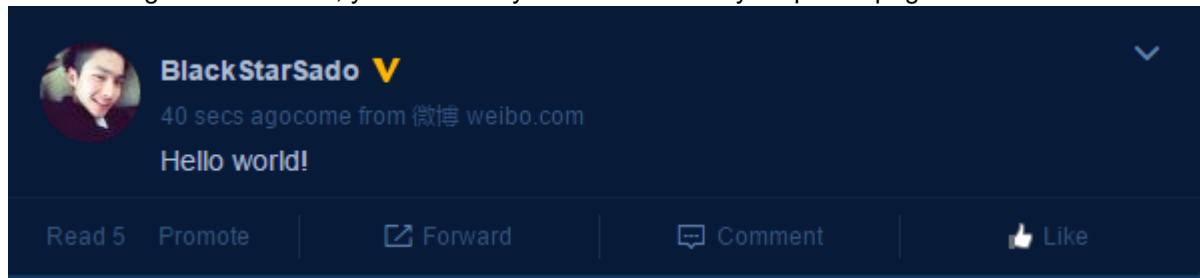
article

...

Public ▾

[Weibo](#)

After clicking 'Weibo' button, you can view your first weibo on your profile page.

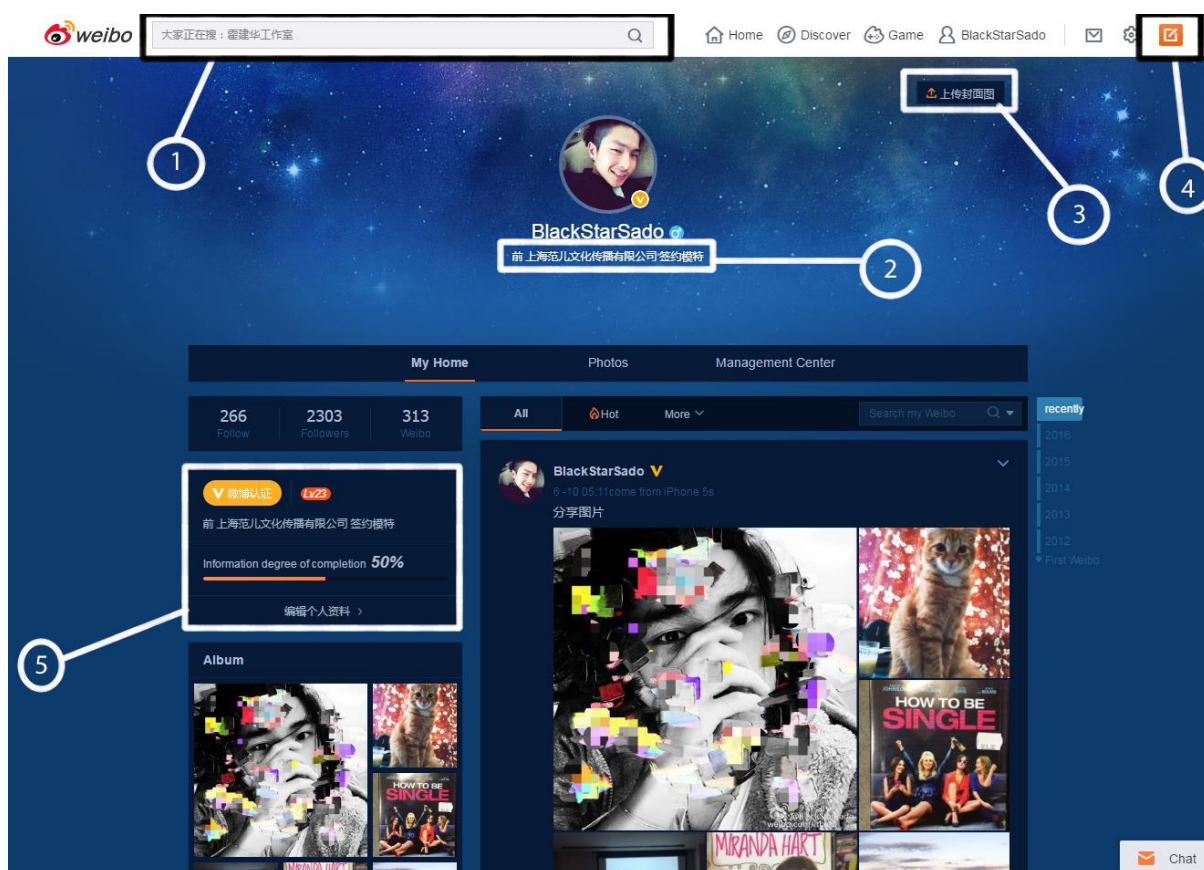



In the weibo posting picture above, there is a new feature that is different from other social media platform which is called 'Promote'. Users can use this feature to promote this specific posting to his or her own followers, potential followers and other users who search in a given category (You need to pay for this service).

Main features of an account

Profile page

By clicking your account name, you will be able to view your profile page.



1. Searching Text Area: You can search any particular post or repost by entering some key words.
2. Personal Authentication (Optional): This text bar shows your job title eg. Model, Writer (Need to upload relevant documents, like job contract, to prove this job title before other users can see it). After authenticated successfully, users can see a symbol 'V' after the name as verified . Verified users can have some privileges, for example, when other users enter some key

words which your post contained in the searching area, your post will be listed before other unverified user.

3. Change Background Image: You can change the background image of your profile page by clicking this button.
4. Posting: By clicking this button, you can post any image or article etc.
5. Personal Information Area: You can edit your profile here.



6. Repost - The format of repost is **Person A: This is a repost from B //@Person B: This is a repost from C //@Person C: The original post is D .**
7. When you repost other users' post or repost, you can also tag some specific users.
8. This area shows the number of view, repost, comment and like on your repost.
9. This area shows the number of repost, comment, like on the original post.

Home Page

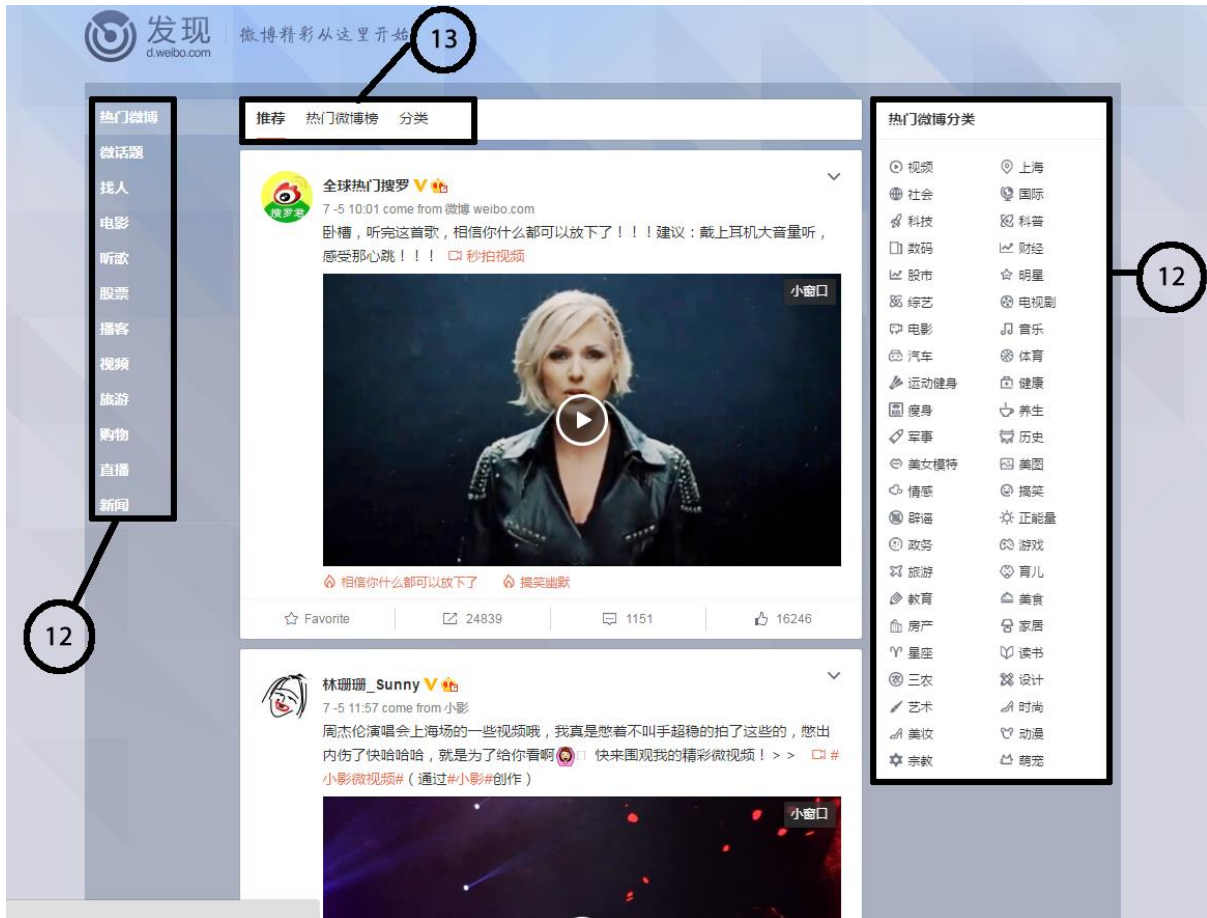
By clicking the Home Button, you will be enable to view the home page of Weibo



10. This is a text area for posting. Also you can see some blue text on the right top corner of this area, it is the recommended hot weibo at the moment.
11. You can sort and group the users you have followed here e.g. Celebrity, Company.

Discover Page

By clicking 'Discovery' button, you will be able to view the discovery page of Weibo.



12. These two are the hottest weibo categories.

13. By choosing this area, you can view the recommended weibo or the hottest weibo at the moment (Recommended/Hottest Weibo/ Category).

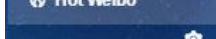
Usual Activity – Browsing

Here's the steps you will take if you want to browse weibo.

If you want to search some weibo or users just input the key words in this text area. After click the magnifying glass, you should be able to see the page below.



The left column of this page is weibo which contain the keyword ('Hello World' in this example). And the right top column '相关用户' (Relevant Users) list all the users who has the keyword in their user names. You can click '更多' button on the right corner to see more users with the keyword in their user names. Below this column is the relevant interesting pages, for example weibo or pages with #HelloWorld tag, places/shops have 'HelloWorld' in their name and songs have the keyword inside.

If you want to browse hot postings at the moment, you can click  on the Home page ('热门微博' if you choose Chinese in the language setting). This will redirect to the page below.

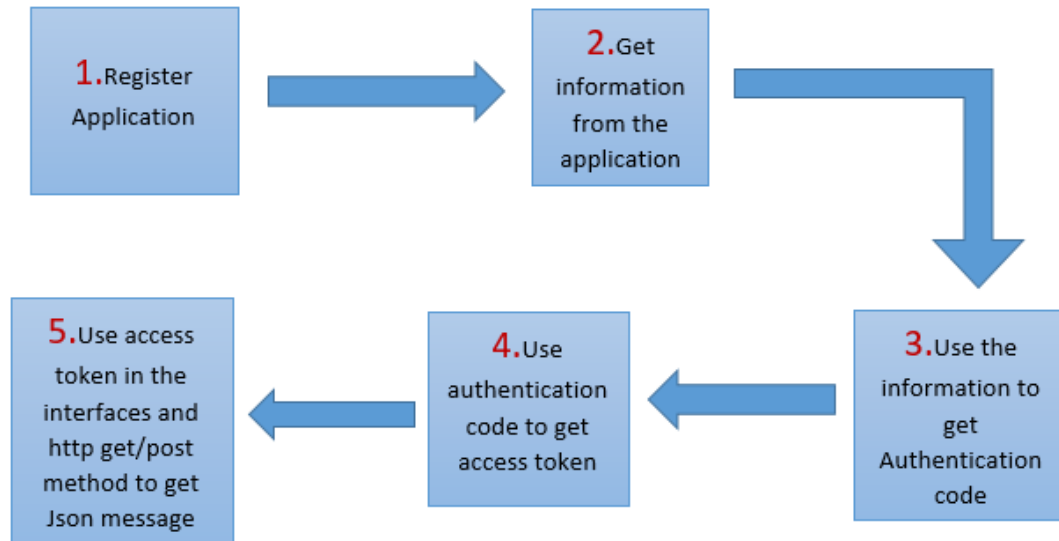


The left column is the hottest posting (weibo) at the moment. And the right column '热门微博分类' is all the categories you can choose from, such as '推荐'---recommend, '视频'---video, '科技'---technology etc.

Weibo API

How to access various weibo interfaces?

To access Weibo API successfully, you need to follow the steps below.



1. Register Application: To register application, you need to go to

开发者类型: ☒ 个人 ☐ 公司

个人开发者只可创建微连接应用，不可创建微服务应用，公司开发者可创建所有类型

* 开发者名称:
请填写开发者名称

* 所在地区:
请填写你所在的城市

* 邮箱:
请务必填写常用邮箱，最主要联系方式

* 联系电话:
请填写你的联系电话，如010-62676666

* 聊天工具:
MSN, QQ, Gtalk至少填写一项

* 网站:
请填写你的个人网站地址

* 紧急联系人姓名:
请填写紧急联系人姓名。

* 紧急联系人电话:
请填写紧急联系人电话。

☒ 关注微博开放平台，如有问题无法解决可私信咨询。

<http://open.weibo.com/> and click on '登录' on the right top corner to login. Then clicking '编辑开发者信息'(Edit developer information) and choosing '个人'(Person). And filling in all the necessary information. '开发者名称'(Developer Name), '所在地区---新西兰'(Location—"New Zealand"), '邮箱'(Email), '联系电话'(Contact phone), '聊天工具'(Chatting app---choose from QQ, MSN and Gtalk), '网站'(Website), '紧急联系人姓名'(Emergency Contacts), '紧急联系人电话'(Emergency Contacts's phone number). After clicking '提交' to submit, you should go to your email account to confirm your registration.

2. Get the information from the application: You

will be redirected to the initial webpage by clicking the link in your registration email. Now you need to create a web app by clicking '微连接' → '立即创建微连接' → '网页应用'(Web App). Then filling in the app name





in '应用名称' text area and click '创建' to create. You should be able

to view your App key and App secret by going to '基本信息' on the left column. Here is the example.

- 3. Use Information to get Authentication code:** Before getting the code, you should set the Redirect URI first. To set a Redirect URI, first click on the second button('高级信息'=advanced information) in the submenu that should be open now. Then, you should see a bar with the words "OAuth2.0 授权设置". To edit this, click on the button on the right side of that bar('编辑'=edit). You should have to fill the two empty fields with an URL address. In most cases, it does not matter what you choose. The first field('授权回调页') will be your Redirect URI, which is needed to authenticate your application. After these are all

OAuth2.0 授权设置		编辑
授权回调页 :	https://github.com/spencerlee92	
取消授权回调页 :	https://github.com/spencerlee92	

done, you should be able to use the HTTP get method to achieve the authentication code. The example url is:

https://api.weibo.com/oauth2/authorize?client_id=39436539&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fgithub.com%2Fspencerlee92&response_type=code Please change the red part in this url to your own information. Client_id → your app key Redirect_url → the address you put in the OAuth(Must be encoded by URLEncode). After sending the message, you should see the authentication window below. To authorize, click on the red button(授权=authorize). Now you should be redirected to your redirect page which is <https://github.com/spencerlee92?code=70648ff0641f37837a4c64bccadf9e32> in this case. The red part is your authentication code.

- 4. Use authentication code to get access token:** For this step, you need to use the HTTP POST method to get access token. The server is on https://api.weibo.com/oauth2/access_token and the parameter you need is : https://api.weibo.com/oauth2/access_token?client_id=39436539&client_secret=a4cfc94d6054a7e9a732441d1ccb438&grant_type=authorization_code&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fgithub.com%2Fspencerlee92&code=70648ff0641f37837a4c64bccadf9e32 Please change the red part to your own information. Client_id → your app key Redirect_url → the address you put in the OAuth(Must be encoded by URLEncode) Code → your authentication code. To use HTTP POST method, you can use my java application to send the parameter. The return message would be similar to this :

```
{"access_token":"2.00xusAWD0YuxsZ10f9689fa7sloHJC","remind_in":"157679999","expires_in":157679999,"uid":"3221452355"}
```

 → red part is the access token.

- 5. Use access token in the interfaces and http get/post to get Json message:** In the part, I will use one example which returns a list of hot posts in a given category like food. The example url is: https://api.weibo.com/2/suggestions/users/hot.json?client_id=39436539&access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB&category=FOOD Category can be: DEFAULT, ENT, MUSIC, FASHION, LITERATURE, BUSINESS, SPORT, SPORTS, HEALTH, AUTO, HOUSE, TRIP, STOCK, FOOD, FATE, ART, TECH, CARTOON, GAMES, MEDIUM, MARKETER

More API example:

2/trends/hourly.json → Return the hot topics in recent hour

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/trends/hourly.json?access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB

Sample output:

```
{
  "trends": {
    "2016-07-20 16:01": [
      {
        "name": "聿十四",
        "query": "聿十四",
        "amount": "291285",
        "delta": "291285"
      },
      {
        "name": "不知空姐为何要漂亮",
        "query": "不知空姐为何要漂亮",
        "amount": "270793",
        "delta": "270793"
      },
      {
        "name": "欧阳娜娜",
        "query": "欧阳娜娜",
        "amount": "230479",
        "delta": "230479"
      },
      {
        "name": "女子花 320 万买豪宅",
        "query": "女子花 320 万买豪宅",
        "amount": "187248",
        "delta": "187248"
      },
      {
        "name": "友谊小船作者崩溃",
        "query": "友谊小船作者崩溃",
        "amount": "177403",
        "delta": "177403"
      },
      {
        "name": "明道碰瓷",
        "query": "明道碰瓷",
        "amount": "156343",
        "delta": "156343"
      },
      {
        "name": "马布里拿中国绿卡",
        "query": "马布里拿中国绿卡",
        "amount": "141969",
        "delta": "141969"
      },
      {
        "name": "跑男韩国",
        "query": "跑男韩国",
        "amount": "120223",
        "delta": "120223"
      },
      {
        "name": "倪妮",
        "query": "倪妮",
        "amount": "101085",
        "delta": "101085"
      },
      {
        "name": "快捷酒店白床单",
        "query": "快捷酒店白床单",
        "amount": "96999",
        "delta": "96999"
      }
    ]
  },
  "as_of": 1469001666
}
```

In the above part, name and query are the topic name. Amount and Delta are the amount of reading number.

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json OutPut
name	string	Weibo searching key word	"name": "聿十四"
query	string	Weibo querying key word	"query": "聿十四"
amount	Number	The total amount of reading	"amount": "291285"

2/statuses/public_timeline.json → Return the latest public weibos.

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/statuses/public_timeline.json?access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB

Sample output (Part of):


```
{
  "statuses": [
    {
      "created_at": "Wed Jul 20 16:27:52 +0800 2016",
      "id": "3999351951513931",
      "mid": "3999351951513931",
      "idstr": "3999351951513931",
      "text": "还需要再强大的心理",
      "textLength": 18,
      "source_allowclick": 0,
      "source_type": 1,
      "source": "<a href='\"http://app.weibo.com/t/feed/6vtZb0\"' rel='\"nofollow\"'>微博weibo.com</a>",
      "favorited": false,
      "truncated": false,
      "in_reply_to_status_id": "",
      "in_reply_to_user_id": "",
      "in_reply_to_screen_name": "",
      "pic_urls": [],
      "geo": null,
      "user": {
        "id": "5892064204",
        "idstr": "5892064204",
        "class": 1,
        "screen_name": "徐牵董徐摄感",
        "name": "徐牵董徐摄感",
        "province": "35",
        "city": "1",
        "location": "福建福州",
        "description": "",
        "url": "",
        "profile_image_url": "http://tva4.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.50.250.50/006qKv3Cjw1f2jvrfawtcj306y09q0to.jpg",
        "profile_url": "u/5892064204",
        "domain": "",
        "weihao": "",
        "gender": "f",
        "followers_count": 56,
        "friends_count": 64,
        "pagefriends_count": 0,
        "statuses_count": 105,
        "favourites_count": 0,
        "created_at": "Sun Apr 03 22:25:40 +0800 2016",
        "following": false,
        "allow_all_act_msg": false,
        "geo_enabled": true,
        "verified": false,
        "verified_type": -1,
        "remark": "",
        "ptype": 0,
        "allow_all_comment": true,
        "avatar_large": "http://tva4.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.50.250.250.180/006qKv3Cjw1f2jvrfawtcj306y09q0to.jpg",
        "avatar_hd": "http://tva4.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.50.250.250.1024/006qKv3Cjw1f2jvrfawtcj306y09q0to.jpg",
        "verified_reason": "",
        "verified_trade": "",
        "verified_reason_url": "",
        "verified_source": "",
        "verified_source_url": "",
        "follow_me": false,
        "online_status": 0,
        "bi_followers_count": 4,
        "lang": "zh-cn",
        "star": 0,
        "mbtype": 2,
        "mbrank": 1,
        "block_word": 0,
        "block_app": 0,
        "credit_score": 80,
        "user_ability": 0,
        "urank": 4,
        "reposts_count": 0,
        "comments_count": 0,
        "attitudes_count": 0,
        "isLongText": false,
        "mlevel": 0,
        "visible": {
          "type": 0,
          "list_id": 0,
          "biz_feature": 0,
          "darwin_tags": [],
          "hot_weibo_tags": [],
          "text_tag_tips": [],
          "userType": 0,
          "positive_recom_flag": 0
        }
      }
    }
  ]
}
```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json OutPut
idstr	string	Weibo ID of string	"idstr": "3999351951513931"
created_at	string	Created time	"created_at": "Wed Jul 20 16:27:52 +0800 2016"
id	int64	Weibo ID	"id": "3999351951513931"
text	string	Weibo content	"text": "还需要再强大的心理"
source	string	Weibo source	"source": "微博weibo.com"
favorited	boolean	Whether it is favorited	"favorited": false
truncated	boolean	Whether it is truncated	"truncated": false
in_reply_to_status_id	int64	The reply's ID	"in_reply_to_status_id": ""
in_reply_to_user_id	int64	Replyer ID	"in_reply_to_user_id": ""
in_reply_to_screen_name	string	Replyer nickname	"in_reply_to_screen_name": ""
mid	int64	Weibo MID	"mid": "3999351951513931"
bmiddel_pic	string	Medium picture	"bmiddel_pic": ""
original_pic	string	Original picture	"original_pic": ""
thumbnail_pic	string	Thumbnail picture	"thumbnail_pic": ""
reposts_count	int	Repost count	"reposts_count": 0
comments_count	int	Comment count	"comments_count": 0

annotations	array	Weibo annotation information	"annotations": ""
geo	object	Geography information	"geo": null
user	object	User profile that posted the weibo	user: {"id": 5892064204, "idstr": "5892064204", "class": 1, "screen_name": "徐牵董徐摄感", "name": "徐牵董徐摄感", "province": "35", "city": "1", "location": "福建 福州"}

2/ suggestions/users/hot.json → Return the suggest hot weibos according to category

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/suggestions/users/hot.json?client_id=39436539&access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB&category=FOOD

category - possible categories:

DEFAULT, ENT, MUSIC, FASHION, LITERATURE, BUSINESS, SPORT, SPORTS, HEALTH, AUTO, HOUSE, TRIP, STOCK, FOOD, FATE, ART, TECH, CARTOON, GAMES, MEDIUM, MARKETER

Sample output (Part of):

```
[{"id":1360746095,"idstr":"1360746095","class":1,"screen_name":"刘冠廷 Will","name":"刘冠廷 Will","province":"11","city":"5","location":"北京 朝阳区","description":"百体健康研究机构 CEO。美丽健康，从百体开始！","url":"http://blog.sina.com.cn/liuguanting","profile_image_url":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180.50/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg","profile_url":"guanting","domain":"guanting","weihao":"","gender":"m","followers_count":394198,"friends_count":99,"pagefriends_count":0,"statuses_count":658,"favourites_count":0,"created_at":"Fri Aug 28 16:14:31 +0800 2009","following":false,"allow_all_act_msg":false,"geo_enabled":true,"verified":true,"verified_type":0,"remark":"","status":{"created_at":"Sun Jun 19 15:13:41 +0800 2016","id":"3988099257777014","mid":"3988099257777014","idstr":"3988099257777014","text":"特别感谢你们的祝福！@刘蔚粉丝后援会","source_allowclick":0,"source_type":1,"source":"<a href='\"http://app.weibo.com/t/feed/3G5oUM\"' rel='\"nofollow\"'>iPhone 5s</a>","favorited":false,"truncated":false,"in_reply_to_status_id":"","in_reply_to_user_id":"","in_reply_to_screen_name":"","pic_urls":[],"geo":null,"annotations":[{"mapi_request":true}], "reposts_count":0,"comments_count":0,"attitudes_count":0,"isLongText":false,"mlevel":0,"visible":{"type":0,"list_id":0},"biz_feature":0,"hasActionTypeCard":0,"darwin_tags":[],"hot_weibo_tags":[],"text_tag_tips":[],"userType":0,"positive_recom_flag":0,"gif_ids":"","ptype":1,"allow_all_comment":true,"avatar_large":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180.1024/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg","avatar_hd":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180.1024/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg","verified_reason":"百体健康研究机构 CEO、著名健康塑形专家","verified_trade":"1153","verified_reason_url":"","verified_source":"","verified_source_url":"","verified_
```

```
state":0,"verified_level":1,"verified_type_ext":0,"verified_reason_modified":"","verified_contact_name":"","verified_contact_email":"","verified_contact_mobile":"","follow_me":false,"online_status":0,"bi_followers_count":26,"lang":"zh-cn","star":0,"mbtype":0,"mbrank":0,"block_word":0,"block_app":0,"credit_score":80,"user_ability":8,"urank":13}
```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json Output
id	int64	User UID	"id": 1404376560,
idstr	string	Weibo ID of string	"idstr":"1360746095"
screen_name	string	User screen name	"screen_name":"刘冠廷 Will"
name	string	User name	"name":"刘冠廷 Will"
province	int	User province ID	"province":"11"
city	int	User city ID	"city":"5"
location	string	User location	"location":"北京 朝阳区"
description	string	User Personal description	"description":"百体健康研究机构 CEO。美丽健康，从百体开始！"
url	string	User blog url	"url":"http://blog.sina.com.cn/liuguanting"
profile_image_url	string	User profile image url (China), 50x50pixel	"profile_image_url":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180.50/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg"
profile_url	string	User profile url address	"profile_url":"guanting"
domain	string	User personalize domain address	"domain":"guanting"
weihao	string	User weihao (ID for user who has weibo special service)	"weihao":""
gender	string	Gender M→male F→Female N→unknown	"gender":"m"
followers_count	int	User followers count	"followers_count":394198
friends_count	int	User friends count	"friends_count":99
statuses_count	int	User weibo count (post&repost)	"statuses_count":658
favourites_count	int	User favourites weibo count (post&repost)	"favourites_count":0
created_at	string	User register time	"created_at":"Fri Aug 28 16:14:31 +0800 2009"
following	boolean	*Not support this field right now	"following":false
allow_all_act_msg	boolean	If allowed other user send me private message , true : yes , false : no	"allow_all_act_msg":false
geo_enabled	boolean	If allowed to identify user location , true : yes , false : no	"geo_enabled":true
verified	boolean	If user is verified user, "V"→ VIP account , true : yes , false : no	"verified":true
verified_type	int	*Not support this field right now	"verified_type":0

remark	string	User's remark message , only return this field hen query this specific user	"remark":""
status	object	Return part of the user's latest weibo	"status":{"created_at":"Sun Jun 19 15:13:41 +0800 2016","id":"3988099257777014","mid":"3988099257777014","idstr":"3988099257777014","text":"特别感谢你们的祝福！@刘蔚粉丝后援会","source_allowclick":0,"source_type":1,"source":"iPhone 5s","favorited":false,"truncated":false,"in_reply_to_status_id":"","in_reply_to_user_id":"","in_reply_to_screen_name":"","pic_urls":[],"geo":null,"annotations":[{"mapi_request":true}], "reposts_count":0,"comments_count":0,"attitudes_count":0,"isLongText":false,"mlevel":0,"visible":{"type":0,"list_id":0},"biz_feature":0,"hasActionTypeCard":0,"darwin_tags":[],"hot_weibo_tags":[],"text_tag_tips":[],"userType":0,"positive_recom_flag":0,"gif_ids":""}
allow_all_comment	boolean	If allowed to comment on user's weibo , true : yes , false : no	"allow_all_comment":true
avatar_large	string	User's avatar image url , 180x180 pixels	"avatar_large":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg"
avatar_hd	string	User's avatar image url (high quality)	"avatar_hd":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.180.180.1024/511b566fjw1e8qgp5bmzyj2050050aa8.jpg"
verified_reason	string	The reason provided when user become a VIP user (user identity)	"verified_reason":"百体健康研究机构 CEO、著名健康塑身专家"
follow_me	boolean	If this user is following the login user, true : yes , false : no	"follow_me":false
online_status	int	If user is online currently , 0 : not online、 1 : online	"online_status":0
bi_followers_count	int	User's bi-direction follower count	"bi_followers_count":26
lang	string	User's current lang preference , zh-cn : Simplified Chinese , zh-tw : Traditional Chinese , en : English	"lang":"zh-cn"

2/tags.json → Return the tags list

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/tags.json?uid=2874609232&access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB

Sample output (Part of):

```
[{"285": "音乐", "weight": 6668742, "flag": 1}, {"781": "唱歌", "weight": 1211164, "flag": 1}, {"1330": "英语", "weight": 425999, "flag": 1}, {"283": "电影", "weight": 4582878, "flag": 1}, {"1686": "乐观", "weight": 901820, "flag": 1}, {"287": "时尚", "weight": 10948531, "flag": 1}, {"977": "射手座", "weight": 633589, "flag": 1}, {"1725": "90 后", "weight": 3939987, "flag": 0}, {"829": "旅行", "weight": 3230979, "flag": 1}, {"788": "美剧", "weight": 539988, "flag": 1}]
```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json Output
The number display “285”, “781” and “1330” etc	String	This field displayed tag name, the number before is the tag's ID	"285": "音乐"
weight	Number	This field return the number of weibo that has this tag.	"weight": 6668742

2/comments/show.json → Return comments of one weibo by the weibo ID

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/comments/show.json?id=12438492184&access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB

Sample output (Part of):

```
{
  "comments": [
    {
      "created_at": "Wed Jun 01 00:50:25 +0800 2011",
      "id": 12438492184,
      "text": "love your work.....",
      "source": "<a href='http://weibo.com' rel='nofollow'>新浪微博</a>",
      "mid": "202110601896455629",
      "user": {
        "id": 1404376560,
        "screen_name": "zaku",
        "name": "zaku",
        "province": "11",
        "city": "5",
        "location": "北京 朝阳区",
        "description": "人生五十年，乃如梦如幻；有生斯有死，壮士复何憾。",
        "url": "http://blog.sina.com.cn/zaku",
        "profile_image_url": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/50/0/1",
        "domain": "zaku",
        "gender": "m",
        "followers_count": 1204,
        "friends_count": 447,
        "statuses_count": 2908,
        "favourites_count": 0,
        "created_at": "Fri Aug 28 00:00:00 +0800 2009",
        "following": false,
        "allow_all_act_msg": false,
        "remark": "",
        "geo_enabled": true,
        "verified": false,
        "allow_all_comment": true,
        "avatar_large": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/180/0/1",
        "verified_reason": "",
        "follow_me": false,
        "online_status": 0,
        "bi_followers_count": 215
      },
      "status": {
        "created_at": "Tue May 31 17:46:55 +0800 2011",
        "id": 11488058246,
        "text": "求关注。",
        "source": "<a href='http://weibo.com' rel='nofollow'>新浪微博</a>",
        "favorited": false,
        "truncated": false,
        "in_reply_to_status_id": "",
        "in_reply_to_user_id": "",
        "in_reply_to_screen_name": "",
        "geo": null,
        "mid": "5612814510546515491",

```



```

    "reposts_count": 8,
    "comments_count": 9,
    "annotations": [],
    "user": {
      "id": 1404376560,
      "screen_name": "zaku",
      "name": "zaku",
      "province": "11",
      "city": "5",
      "location": "北京 朝阳区",
      "description": "人生五十年，乃如梦如幻；有生斯有死，壮士复何憾。",
      "url": "http://blog.sina.com.cn/zaku",
      "profile_image_url": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/50/0/1",
      "domain": "zaku",
      "gender": "m",
      "followers_count": 1204,
      "friends_count": 447,
      "statuses_count": 2908,
      "favourites_count": 0,
      "created_at": "Fri Aug 28 00:00:00 +0800 2009",
      "following": false,
      "allow_all_act_msg": false,
      "remark": "",
      "geo_enabled": true,
      "verified": false,
      "allow_all_comment": true,
      "avatar_large": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/180/0/1",
      "verified_reason": "",
      "follow_me": false,
      "online_status": 0,
      "bi_followers_count": 215
    }
  },
  ...
],
"previous_cursor": 0,
"next_cursor": 0,
"total_number": 7
}

```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json Output
created_at	string	Created time	"created_at": "Wed Jun 01 00:50:25 +0800 2011"
id	int64	Comment ID	"id": 12438492184
text	string	Comment content	"text": "love your work....."
source	string	Comment source	"source": "新浪微博"
mid	int64	Comment MID	"mid": "202110601896455629"
user	object	User profile that posted the comment	"user": { "id": 1404376560, "screen_name": "zaku", "name": "zaku", "province": "11", "city": "5", "location": "北京 朝阳区", "description": "人生五十年，乃如梦如幻；有生斯有死，壮士复何憾。", "url": "http://blog.sina.com.cn/zaku", "profile_image_url": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/50/0/1", "domain": "zaku", "gender": "m",

			<pre> "followers_count": 1204, "friends_count": 447, "statuses_count": 2908, "favourites_count": 0, "created_at": "Fri Aug 28 00:00:00 +0800 2009", "following": false, "allow_all_act_msg": false, "remark": "", "geo_enabled": true, "verified": false, "allow_all_comment": true, "avatar_large": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/180/0/1", "verified_reason": "", "follow_me": false, "online_status": 0, "bi_followers_count": 215 </pre>
status	object	The weibo that is commented	<pre> "status": { "created_at": "Tue May 31 17:46:55 +0800 2011", "id": 11488058246, "text": "求关注。", "source": "新浪微博", "favorited": false, "truncated": false, "in_reply_to_status_id": "", "in_reply_to_user_id": "", "in_reply_to_screen_name": "", "geo": null, "mid": "5612814510546515491", "reposts_count": 8, "comments_count": 9, "annotations": [], "user": { "id": 1404376560, "screen_name": "zaku", "name": "zaku", "province": "11", "city": "5", "location": "北京 朝阳区", "description": "人生五十年，乃如梦如幻；有生斯有死，壮士复何憾。", "url": "http://blog.sina.com.cn/zaku", "profile_image_url": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/50/0/1", "domain": "zaku", "gender": "m", "followers_count": 1204, "friends_count": 447, "statuses_count": 2908, "favourites_count": 0, "created_at": "Fri Aug 28 00:00:00 +0800 2009", "following": false, "allow_all_act_msg": false, "remark": "", "geo_enabled": true, "verified": false, "allow_all_comment": true, "avatar_large": "http://tp1.sinaimg.cn/1404376560/180/0/1", "verified_reason": "", "follow_me": false, "online_status": 0, "bi_followers_count": 215 } } </pre>
reply_comment	object	Replied comment information	<pre> "reply_comment": "" </pre>

2/users/show.json → Return user profile by user ID.

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/tags.json?uid=2874609232&access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB

Sample output (Part of):

```
{
  "id": 2874609232,
  "idstr": "2874609232",
  "class": 1,
  "screen_name": "BlackStarSado",
  "name": "BlackStarSado",
  "province": "400",
  "city": "16",
  "location": "海外 其他",
  "description": "心里住着一天喝三杯牛奶的胖梵高",
  "url": "",
  "profile_image_url": "http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.512.512.50/ab570e50jw8f10bpxde8ij20e80e8t96.jpg",
  "cover_image_phone": "http://ww4.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.640.640.640/a1d3feabjw1ecat3p2p2qj20hs0hsmz4.jpg",
  "profile_url": "ltbleu",
  "domain": "ltbleu",
  "weihao": "",
  "gender": "m",
  "followers_count": 2303,
  "friends_count": 263,
  "page_friends_count": 2,
  "statuses_count": 314,
  "favourites_count": 66,
  "created_at": "Thu Jul 19 18:20:57 +0800 2012",
  "following": false,
  "allow_all_act_msg": false,
  "geo_enabled": true,
  "verified": true,
  "verified_type": 0,
  "remark": "",
  "status": {
    "created_at": "Thu Aug 18 12:18:08 +0800 2016",
    "id": 4009798355661424,
    "mid": "4009798355661424",
    "idstr": "4009798355661424",
    "text": "这难道不会被人用作的梗么.....",
    "source_allowclick": 0,
    "source_type": 1,
    "source": "<a href='\"http://app.weibo.com/t/feed/2dFDRp\"' rel='\"nofollow\"'>iPhone SE</a>",
    "favorited": false,
    "truncated": false,
    "in_reply_to_status_id": "",
    "in_reply_to_user_id": "",
    "in_reply_to_screen_name": "",
    "pic_urls": [],
    "geo": null,
    "reposts_count": 0,
    "comments_count": 0,
    "attitudes_count": 0,
    "isLongText": false,
    "mlevel": 0,
    "visible": {
      "type": 0,
      "list_id": 0
    },
    "biz_feature": 0,
    "hasActionTypeCard": 0,
    "darwin_tags": [],
    "hot_weibo_tags": [],
    "ext_tag_tips": [],
    "userType": 0,
    "positive_recom_flag": 0,
    "gif_ids": [],
    "ptype": 0,
    "allow_all_comment": true,
    "avatar_large": "http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.512.512.180/ab570e50jw8f10bpxde8ij20e80e8t96.jpg",
    "avatar_hd": "http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.512.512.1024/ab570e50jw8f10bpxde8ij20e80e8t96.jpg",
    "verified_reason": "前 上海范儿文化传播有限公司 签约模特",
    "verified_trade": "1082",
    "verified_reason_url": "",
    "verified_source": "",
    "verified_source_url": "",
    "verified_state": 0,
    "verified_level": 3,
    "verified_type_ext": 0,
    "verified_reason_modified": "",
    "verified_contact_name": "",
    "verified_contact_email": "",
    "verified_contact_mobile": "",
    "follow_me": false,
    "online_status": 0,
    "bi_followers_count": 53,
    "lang": "en",
    "star": 0,
    "mbtype": 0,
    "mbrank": 0,
    "block_word": 0,
    "block_app": 0,
    "credit_score": 80,
    "user_ability": 0,
    "urank": 23
  }
}
```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json Output
id	int64	User ID	"id":2874609232
screen_name	string	User nickname	"screen_name":"BlackStarSado"
name	string	Friendly displayed name	"name":"BlackStarSado"
province	int	Province ID user located	"province":"400"
city	int	City ID user located	"city":"16"
location	string	Address user located	"location":"海外 其他"
description	string	User description	"description":"心里住着一天喝三杯牛奶的胖梵高"
url	string	Url of the user's blog	"url": ""
profile_image_url	string	Profile image	"profile_image_url":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.512.512.50/ab570e50jw8f10bpxde8ij20e80e8t96.jpg"

domain	string	The user's personalized weibo url	"domain":"ltbleu"
gender	string	Gender, m--male, f--female, n-- unknown	"gender":"m"
followers_count	int	Followers count	"followers_count":2303
friends_count	int	Friends count	"friends_count":263
statuses_count	int	Weibo count	"statuses_count":314
favourites_count	int	Favorites count	"favourites_count":66
created_at	string	Created time	"created_at":"Thu Jul 19 18:20:57 +0800 2012"
following	boolean	Whether the current user is following the user	"following":false
allow_all_act_msg	boolean	Whether all the people can send direct message to the user	"allow_all_act_msg":false
geo_enabled	boolean	Whether can have the geography information	"geo_enabled":true
verified	boolean	Whether the user is verified by his real identity, marked with "V"	"verified":true
allow_all_comment	boolean	Whether all the people can comment the user's weibo	"allow_all_comment":true
avatar_large	string	Profile large image	"avatar_large":"http://tva3.sinaimg.cn/crop.0.0.512.512.180/ab570e50jw8f10bpxde8ij20e80e8t96.jpg"
verified_reason	string	verification reason	"verified_reason":"前 上海范儿文化传播有限公司 签约模特"
follow_me	boolean	Whether the user is following the current user	"follow_me":false
online_status	int	Whether the user is online , 0 : offline、1 : online	"online_status":0
bi_followers_count	int	The count of the users that are following the user and are being followed by the user	"bi_followers_count":53
status	object	The latest weibo of the user	{},"status":{"created_at":"Thu Aug 18 12:18:08 +0800 2016","id":4009798355661424,"mid":4009798355661424,"idstr":"

			4009798355661424","text":"这难道不会被人用作的梗 么.....","source_allowclick":0,"source_type":1,"source": "iPhone SE","favorited":false,"truncated":false,"in_reply_to_status_id": ","in_reply_to_user_id":"","in_reply_to_screen_name":"","pic_urls":[],"geo":null,"reposts_count":0,"comments_count":0,"attitudes_coun t":0,"isLongText":false,"mlevel":0,"visible":{"type":0,"list_id":0},"biz_ feature":0,"hasActionTypeCard":0,"darwin_tags":[],"hot_weibo_tag s":[],"text_tag_tips":[],"userType":0,"positive_recom_flag":0,"gif_ids ":""}
--	--	--	---

2/search/suggestion/users.json → Return the user related to the key words

Sample url:

https://api.weibo.com/2/search/suggestions/users.json?access_token=2.00CLZXID0NPTfC7e6159df6cmzqnBB&q=%E6%AC%A7%E6%B4%B2

The string after q is the key word and must be in URL encoding. Here I use example '欧洲' → European

Sample output (Part of):

```
[{"screen_name": "\u51e4\u51f0\u536b\u89c6\u6b27\u6d32\u53f0", "followers_count": 6969769, "uid": 1741801024}, {"screen_name": "\u6b27\u76df\u6b27\u6d32\u7406\u4e8b\u4f1a\u4e3b\u5e2d", "followers_count": 5578934, "uid": 2126860757}, {"screen_name": "\u4e0e\u6b27\u6d32\u6709\u5173\u7684\u4e00\u5207", "followers_count": 3594033, "uid": 2245075615}, {"screen_name": "\u7f8e\u53ef\u99a8\u6b27\u6d32\u98df\u54c1\u57ce", "followers_count": 1908667, "uid": 2579984292}, {"screen_name": "\u6b27\u6d32\u8db3\u7403\u8bba\u575b", "followers_count": 1230694, "uid": 2342039023}, {"screen_name": "\u65b0\u534e\u6b27\u6d32", "followers_count": 1431597, "uid": 2631656081}, {"screen_name": "\u6b27\u6d32\u5bb6\u5c45\u6d3e", "followers_count": 877369, "uid": 5747171296}, {"screen_name": "\u51a0\u519b\u6b27\u6d32CCTV", "followers_count": 1112269, "uid": 1893624415}, {"screen_name": "\u6b27\u6d32\u5927\u5730", "followers_count": 633688, "uid": 5745465694}, {"screen_name": "\u5929\u57ce\u6b27\u6d32\u57ce", "followers_count": 922440, "uid": 2978998622}]
```

Field Description:

Returned Field	Field Type	Field Description	Json Output
Screen_name	Number	Return user's screen name encoding	"screen_name": "\u51e4\u51f0\u536b\u89c6\u6b27\u6d32\u53f0"
followers_count	Number	User followers count	"followers_count": 6969769
uid	Number	User ID	"uid": 1741801024

API Document Website:

Please go to: <http://open.weibo.com/> → Click '文档'(Document) → Choose language from right corner (Default language is Chinese, you can choose from Chinese and English) or you can just enter the url: <http://open.weibo.com/wiki/首页/en> Weibo provide lots of API you can use. But some interfaces need higher authentication like user who has legal document to provide they are from some companies.
Table Output:

<div><input type="text"/></div> <div><div>Quicklinks ▾</div><div>Documation ▾</div><div>API Documation</div><div>OAuth</div><div>Downloads ▾</div></div>	<div>API文档 V2/en</div> <div>Contents [hide]</div> <div><div>1 Weibo API</div><div>1.1 Read API</div><div>1.2 Write API</div><div>2 Comments API</div><div>2.1 Read API</div><div>2.2 Write API</div><div>3 Users API</div><div>3.1 Read API</div><div>4 Friendships API</div></div>
--	---

Conclusion

What left to do?

Some APIs like statuses/upload_url_text (allow user to use the HTTP POST method to upload pictures or pictures' url). It has a red icon '高' at the end of the Chinese description which means user

statuses/upload_url_text

发布一条微博同时指定上传的图片或图片url 高

need to have a higher authority to use this interface. In order to apply for these higher level interfaces, you need to publish your web app and write the rational reason to demonstrate why you need to use higher authority. Then Weibo will check if you are allowed to use these interface or not in three working days. To apply higher interface, you app's '基本状态'(Basic Status) should be '上线'(Online).



After that you need to go to '我的应用' → '接口管理' → '申请权限' → choose the interface you want '选择申请的接口' → provide reasons why you need it by writing it down in the textarea '填写申请理由'.



Reference

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sina_Weibo
- Practical Guide for using Sina Weibo's API, Wang Ling, Guang Xiang. Retrieved from:
<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~lingwang/weiboguide/>