



Russian troll posts on tweeter analysis

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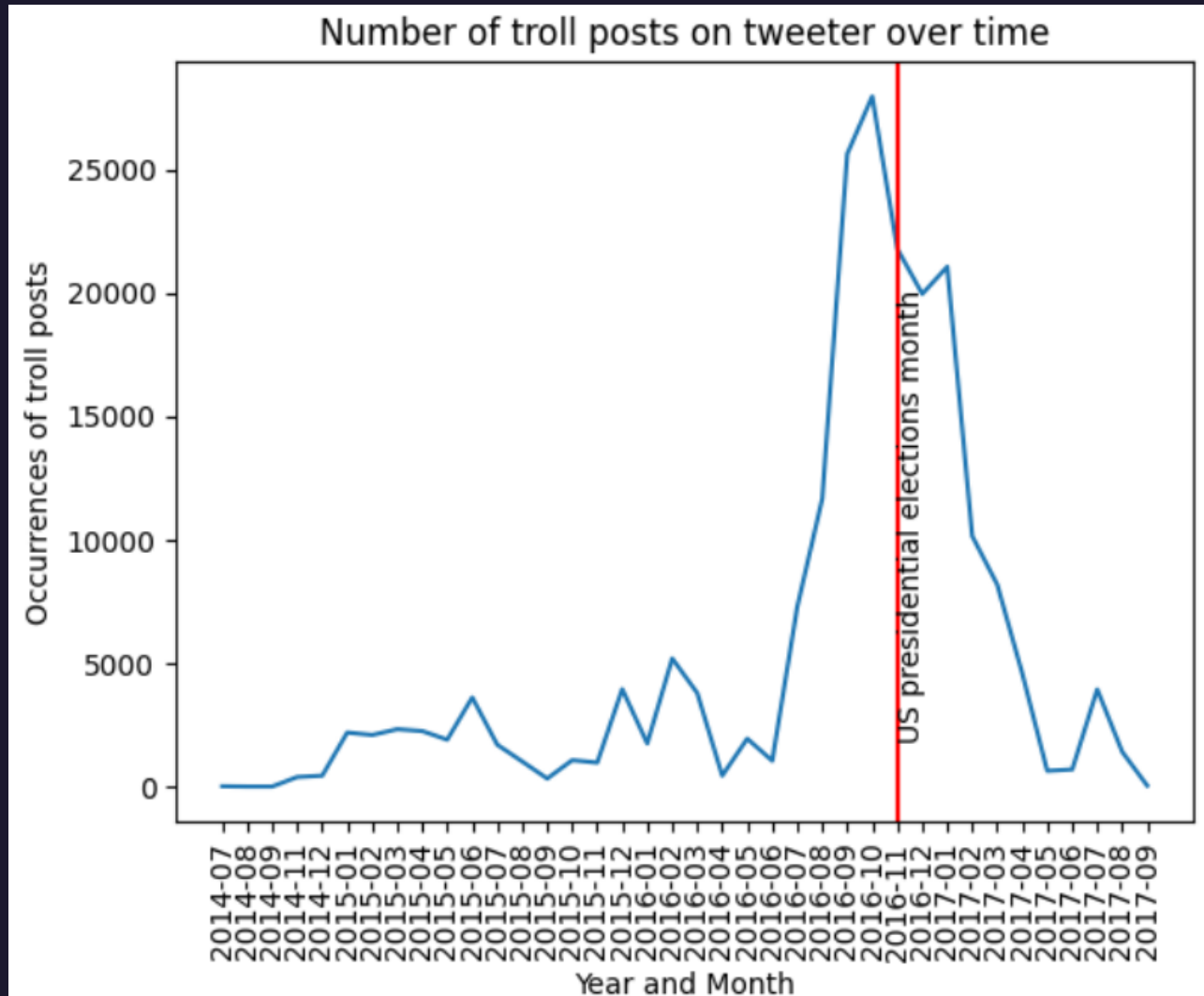
Analysis background

During the 3 US presidential debates and presidential elections on 8 November 2016, the number of Russian-related accounts were blocked on twitter – they were considered as trolls trying to influence the elections.

Having troll tweets and troll user accounts data, it is interesting to analyze the network and details concerning the troll tweets occurrences.

In this presentation, I show, the analyses of trolls' hashtags, tweets and users' details and retweet pagerank values.

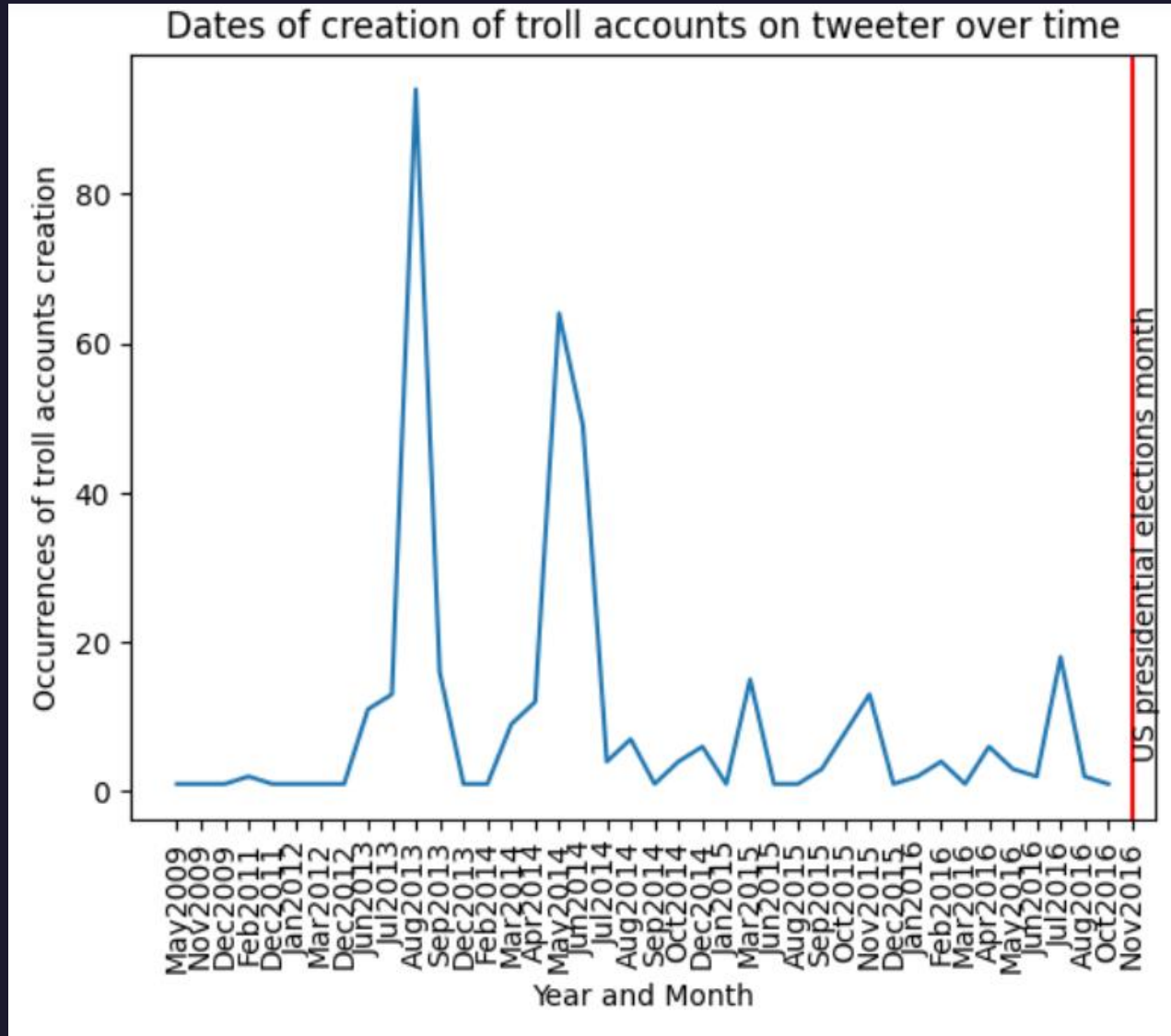
Histogram – troll posts creation



There is a noticeable increase in troll tweets right before the elections date (during presidential debates), but also in the few months following the elections – probably to argue people.

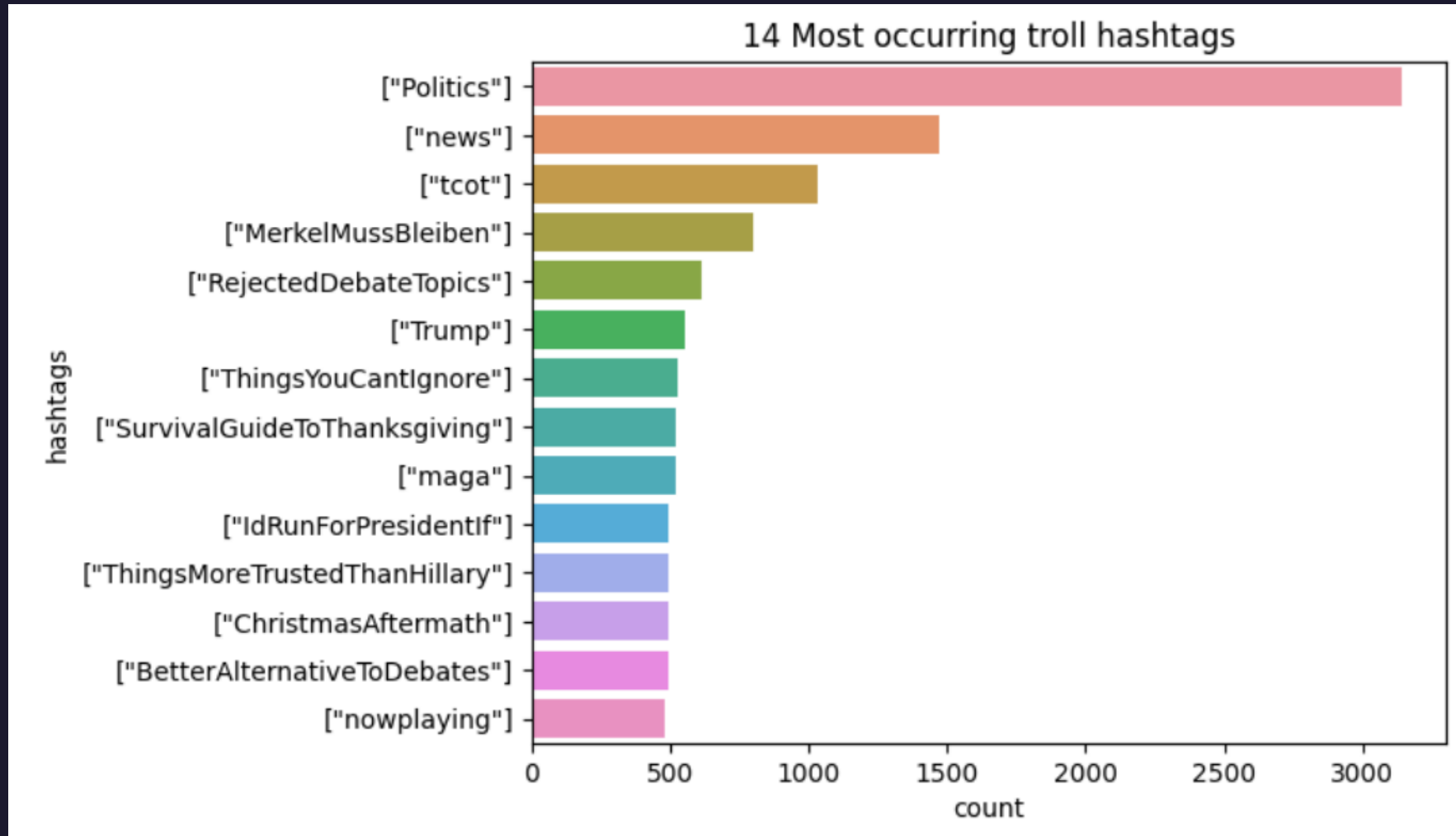


Histogram – troll accounts creation



Many troll user accounts were created far before the elections day, but there was an increase in July 2016.

Tweeter hashtags used by Russian trolls



The most occurring trolls' hashtags were **"Politics"**, or **"news"**.

Pagerank

This metric is widely used to “measure” the relative importance of a websites within their set of hyperlinked pages (in this case – troll users).

In this case, all **users retweets** constitute a network.

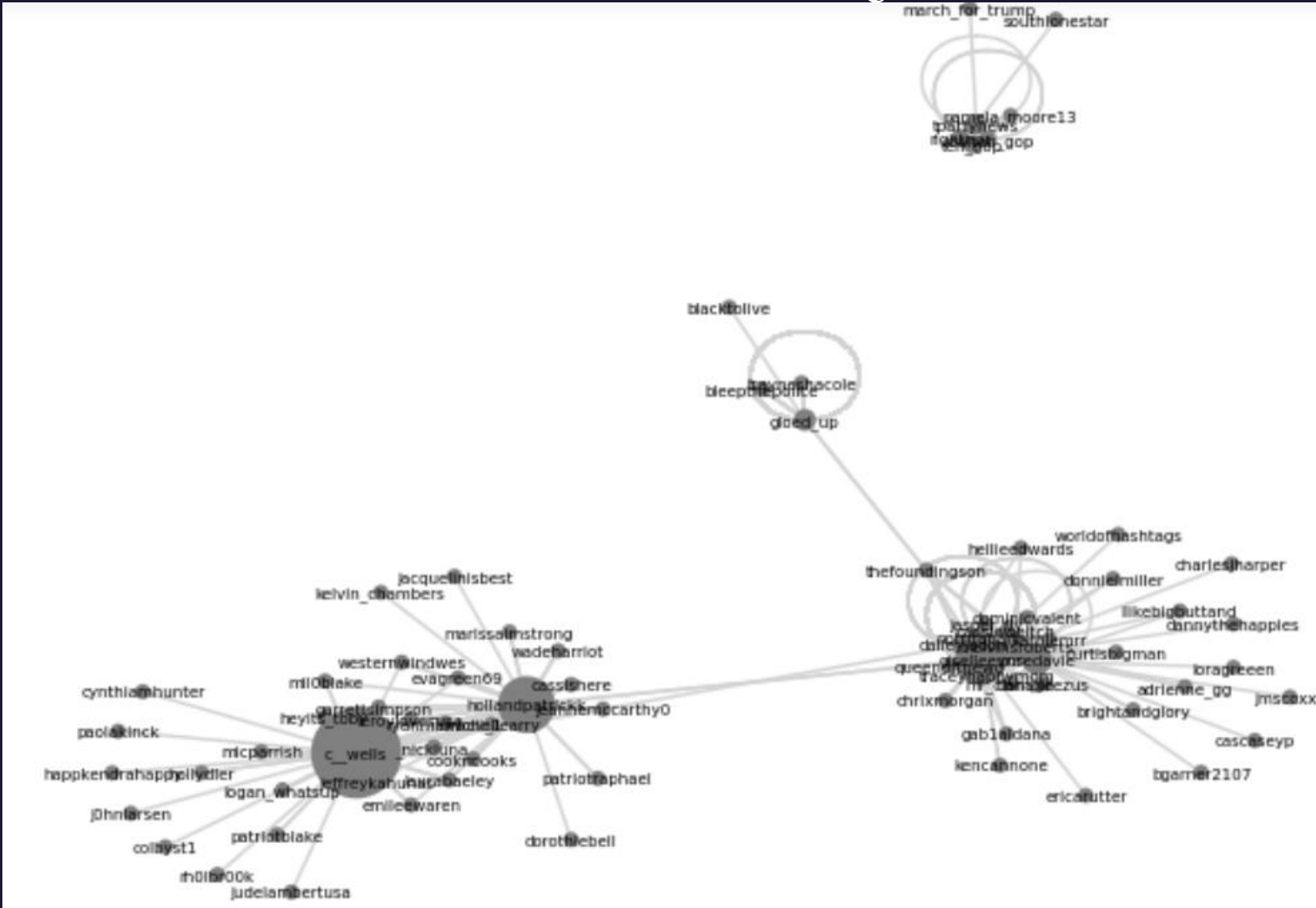
The used algorithm is based on:

<http://infolab.stanford.edu/pub/papers/google.pdf>

As we can see, **c_wells** was often retweeted by other trolls. It has the highest value of **pagetank**.

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Retweet analysis – communities



There are **3** (maybe 4) **discernible communities** retweeting themselves.

It looks like there were in reality more than 1 troll writing troll posts on tweeter. But the number of trolls was not that high, they were usually creating an *artificial crowd*.

Thank You
for your attention

