Propaganda Exploratory Data Analysis

Created by Zorian Kulyk

```
In [1]: import json
    import numpy as np
    import pandas as pd
    import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
    import seaborn as sns
    import plotly.express as px
    import warnings
    warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
In [2]: import plotly.io as pio
    pio.renderers.default = "notebook"
```

Intro

The primary goal is to make to EDA based on telegram data from russian propagandistic channels from 2015 to 2023 years.

- Intro
 - Data Preprocessing
- EDA
 - How many unique hannels does data consist of? What is the period from the first and last messages in collected data?
 - How many messages do we have overall? How is the number of messages distributed over time?
 - How many messages are per channel? How is the number of messages distributed per channel over time?
 - What is normalized message distribution per channel over time?
 - What is the length of message distribution?
 - What is the length of message distribution per channel over time?
 - What is the distribution of the message by sensitive topic?
 - What is the distribution of the message by sensitivity over time?
 - What is the message distribution by toxicity?
 - What is the message distribution by toxicity over time?
 - Which channels are the most toxic by the number of toxic messages?
 - What is the number of reactions distribution?
 - What is the number of toxic reactions regarding toxic messages over time?

- Which channels have the most toxic auditory?
- How many views do we have overall? What is the number of views distribution over time?
- How many views are per channel? What is the number of views distribution per channel?
- What are the top channels by views per message?
- How many views per message over time?
- What is channel distribution by most reposted messages?
- Consclusions
- Limitations

Columns explanation:

- id post id
- date post date and time (should be UTC+0)
- views self explanatory
- reactions self explanatory
- to id the same for all posts within channel (can be used to separate posts from comments)
- fwd from the part "from_id=PeerChannel(channel_id=...)" contains info on the id of channels the post of forwarded from
- message self explanatory
- type text if only contains text, other if media files are present (does not mean that there's no text)
- duration available for posts with media
- channel name name used as @ handle
- frw_from_title name of channel (public not the handle)
- frw from name channel_name of channel (the handle)
- msg entity not useful can be dropped
- datetime datetime object for post
- message len number of characters and messages
- reactions_dict serialized dict with reactions count
- reactions num sum of all reactions
- from id id of source channel
- to id id of target channel
- sensitive-topic sensitive topic

classified with https://huggingface.co/apanc/russian-sensitive-topics), 18 classes-https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.05345 (https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.05345)

toxicity - label if message is toxic
 classified with https://huggingface.co/s-nlp/russian toxicity classifier (https://huggingface.co/s-nlp/russian toxicity classifier)

Data Preprocessing

At first, we will perform preprocessing, such as dropping unuseful columns, wrangling numeric values, handling data types, etc. Next, we will start our EDA.

```
In [3]: PATH = r"data/data.csv"
    data = pd.read_csv(PATH)
    data.head()
```

Out[3]:

	Unnamed: 0	id	date	views	reactions	to_id	fwd_from	message	type	duration	 frw_from_name
0	0	189123.0	2022-12-19 09:56:04+00:00	98413.0	NaN	PeerChannel(channel_id=1101170442)	NaN	ФТС России ожидает роста товарооборота с Китае	text	NaN	 NaN
1	1	189122.0	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	120179.0	NaN	PeerChannel(channel_id=1101170442)	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	 NaN
2	2	189121.0	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	116172.0	NaN	PeerChannel(channel_id=1101170442)	NaN	NaN	video	12.0	 NaN
3	3	189120.0	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	115171.0	NaN	PeerChannel(channel_id=1101170442)	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	 NaN
4	4	189119.0	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	118174.0	NaN	PeerChannel(channel_id=1101170442)	NaN	Буэнос-Айрес наутро после праздника	video	10.0	 NaN

5 rows × 22 columns

→

```
In [4]: data.shape
```

```
Out[4]: (8108693, 22)
```

Drop unuseful columns.

```
In [5]: data.drop(["Unnamed: 0", "date", "reactions", "to_id", "msg_entity"], axis=1, inplace=True)
```

```
In [6]: data.head(3)
```

Out[6]:

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	frw_from_title	frw_from_name	datetime	message_len	reactions_dict	reactic
0	189123.0	98413.0	NaN	ФТС России ожидает роста товарооборота с Китае	text	NaN	rian_ru	NaN	NaN	2022-12-19 09:56:04+00:00	205	0	
1	189122.0	120179.0	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	rian_ru	NaN	NaN	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	
2	189121.0	116172.0	NaN	NaN	video	12.0	rian_ru	NaN	NaN	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	
4													•

We have inappropriate channel names when the "channel" column values are not real. We will handle it with predefined column "frw_from_name" and replace it with the correct names.

```
In [7]: data["frw_from_name"][data["frw_from_name"].notna()][:3]
```

Out[7]: 506201 readovkaru 506256 readovkaru 506311 suverennews

Name: frw_from_name, dtype: object

```
In [8]: data.iloc[506311]
 Out[8]: id
                                                                       48014.0
         views
                                                                      217874.0
                            MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022, ...
         fwd from
         message
                            Почему Россия до сих пор не избавилась от тран...
         type
                                                                         photo
         duration
                                                                           NaN
         channel
                                                                  readovkanews
         frw from title
                                                          Суверенная экономика
         frw from name
                                                                   suverennews
         datetime
                                                     2022-12-01 15:45:47+00:00
         message len
                            [{"reaction": "\ud83d\udc4d", "count": 699, "c...
         reactions dict
         reactions num
                                                                           803
                                                                  1551891830.0
         from id
         to id
                                                                    1260622817
         sensitive-topic
                                                               politics, racism
         toxicity
                                                                       neutral
         Name: 506311, dtype: object
In [9]: real channel name = data["frw from name"].fillna(data["channel"])
In [10]:
         data = data.copy()
         data["channel"] = real channel name
         data.drop(["frw from title", "frw from name"], axis=1, inplace=True)
In [12]:
         data.head(3)
Out[12]:
                                                                                                                            40 14
```

	Id	views	twa_trom	message	type	duration	cnannei	datetime	message_ien	reactions_dict	reactions_num	_trom_ia	_to_ia
0	189123.0	98413.0	NaN	ФТС России ожидает роста товарооборота с Китае	text	NaN	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:56:04+00:00	205	0	0	NaN	1101170442
1	189122.0	120179.0	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
2	189121.0	116172.0	NaN	NaN	video	12.0	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442

Next, we will check data types and wrangle missing values.

```
In [13]:
         data.dtypes
Out[13]: id
                            float64
         views
                            float64
         fwd from
                             object
                             object
         message
                             object
         type
         duration
                            float64
         channel
                             object
         datetime
                             object
         message len
                             int64
         reactions dict
                             object
         reactions num
                             int64
         from id
                            float64
         to id
                              int64
         sensitive-topic
                             object
         toxicity
                             object
         dtype: object
         data["datetime"] = pd.to datetime( data["datetime"])
In [14]:
         data.shape
In [15]:
Out[15]: (8108693, 15)
In [16]: | messages num = len( data.id.unique())
         messages num
Out[16]: 515512
```

Surprisingly, we have a small number of unique IDs in comparison to the shape of our data. We are about to find the problem.

```
In [17]: _data["id"].value_counts()
Out[17]: 1.0
                      299
         440.0
                      269
         569.0
                      268
         337.0
                      268
         504.0
                      268
                     . . .
         410019.0
                        1
                        1
         6635705.0
         316220.0
                        1
         407800.0
                        1
         7220606.0
                        1
         Name: id, Length: 515512, dtype: int64
In [18]: _data[_data["id"] == 1].head(3)
Out[18]:
```

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	datetime	message_len	reactions_dict	reactions_num	_from_id	_to_id	sensi t
187754	1.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	rian_ru	2017-02-28 16:45:55+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442	1
327499	1.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	bbbreaking	2018-07-05 17:36:16+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1394050290	1
466067	1.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	rt_russian	2016-03-28 10:11:37+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1036362176	1

 \blacksquare

```
In [19]: _data[_data["id"] == 440].head(3)
```

Out[19]:

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	datetime	message_len	reactions_dict	reactions_num	_from_id	_to_
187338	440.0	310.0	NaN	Автобус насмерть сбил более 30 человек на Гаит	photo	NaN	rian_ru	2017-03-12 18:26:19+00:00	94	0	0	NaN	110117044
465657	440.0	726.0	NaN	☑ Путин вручил кубок «Гран-при Россия» «Формул	text	NaN	rt_russian	2016-05-01 15:10:33+00:00	161	0	0	NaN	103636217
505731	440.0	8885.0	NaN	Рукожопые московские мастера уничтожили рарите	text	NaN	breakingmash	2017-06-23 08:26:52+00:00	1007	0	0	NaN	111762856
4													>

As a result, we have possibly many garbage data that we need to clear.

```
In [20]: na_messages = _data[(_data["message"].isna()) & (_data["type"] == "text")]
```

In [21]: na_messages.head(3)

Out[21]:

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	datetime	message_len	reactions_dict	reactions_num	_from_id	_to_id
25070	163979.0	1132817.0	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	rian_ru	2022-05-20 00:00:13+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
25071	163978.0	1132637.0	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	rian_ru	2022-05-20 00:00:13+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
25072	163977.0	1133752.0	NaN	NaN	text	NaN	rian_ru	2022-05-20 00:00:13+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
4													

```
In [22]: _data.drop(na_messages.index, inplace=True)
```

Finally, we should wrangle our "reactions_dict" and convert it to the .json format for future work.

```
In [23]: _data["reactions_dict"] = _data["reactions_dict"].apply(lambda x: json.loads(x))
In [24]: _data.head()
```

Out[24]:

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	datetime	message_len	reactions_dict	reactions_num	_from_id	_to_id
0	189123.0	98413.0	NaN	ФТС России ожидает роста товарооборота с Китае	text	NaN	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:56:04+00:00	205	0	0	NaN	1101170442
1	189122.0	120179.0	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
2	189121.0	116172.0	NaN	NaN	video	12.0	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
3	189120.0	115171.0	NaN	NaN	photo	NaN	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	0	0	0	NaN	1101170442
4	189119.0	118174.0	NaN	Буэнос-Айрес наутро после праздника	video	10.0	rian_ru	2022-12-19 09:51:57+00:00	35	0	0	NaN	1101170442
4													>

EDA

Now, we will start to explore data. We will take a look at more general data info, patterns, and distributions. But also, we will try to find more complicated relations and finally make conclusions.

Q1-2: How many unique channels does data consist of? What is the period from the first and last messages in collected data?

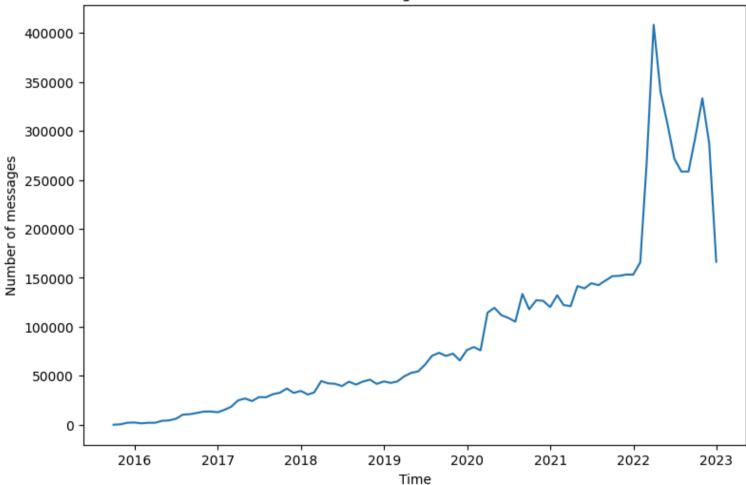
```
In [24]: channel_num = len(_data["_to_id"].unique())
print(f"The number of channels: {channel_num}")
```

The number of channels: 309

```
In [25]: period = ( data["datetime"].max() - data["datetime"].min()).days / 365
          print(f"The data time period: {period:.2f} years")
          The data time period: 7.26 years
          Q3-4: How many messages do we have overall? How is the number of messages distributed over time?
In [26]: messages num = data[' from id'].isna().sum()
          print(f"The number of unique messages in data: {messages num}")
          print(f"The number of reposted messages in data: { data.shape[0] - messages num}")
          The number of unique messages in data: 6055304
          The number of reposted messages in data: 2002753
In [27]: data sorted = data.sort values("datetime")
          data sorted.head(3)
Out[27]:
                        views fwd_from
                                         message
                                                   type duration
                                                                   channel
                                                                               datetime message_len reactions_dict reactions_num _from_id
                                                                                                                                           _to_id
                                                                                                       [{'reaction':
                                                                              2015-09-22
                                                                                                     '4'. 'count': 8.
           5282295 9.0 1841.0
                                   NaN
                                                                  varlamov
                                                                                                                          12
                                                                                                                                  NaN 1005684212
                                                  sticker
                                                                          16:12:02+00:00
                                                                                                         'chosen':
                                                                                                         False...
                                         Тестирую
                                                                                                       [{'reaction':
                                          какую-то
                                            новую
                                                                             2015-09-22
                                                                                                     '🍊', 'count': 5,
           7768626
                    2.0
                         355.0
                                                            NaN otsuka_bld
                                                                                                                                  NaN 1004504016
                                   NaN
                                                                          21:19:46+00:00
                                         приблуду
                                                                                                         'chosen':
                                        телеграма-
                                                                                                         False...
                                                                                                       [{'reaction':
                                                                                                     '🆰', 'count': 3,
           5282294 19.0 1865.0
                                   NaN
                                                                  varlamov
                                                                                                                                  NaN 1005684212
                                            Круто
                                                                          07:54:47+00:00
                                                                                                         'chosen':
                                                                                                         False...
In [28]: data sorted.set index("datetime", inplace=True)
In [29]: messages by month = data sorted[" to id"].resample("1M").count()
```

```
In [30]: def plot_annotations(xlabel, ylabel, title):
    plt.xlabel(xlabel)
    plt.ylabel(ylabel)
    plt.title(title);
```





We have a general tendency to grow up and expected a dramatic jump in the number of messages after Russian-Ukrainian war beginning.

Q5-6: How many messages are per channel? How is the number of messages distributed per channel over time?

During next EDA questions, we will focus primarily on the top 20 channels by specific metrics to get an overall picture from data.

A more detailed explanation about limitations will be in *limitations*.

The number of messages can indicate the size of channel and existence time.

```
In [32]: messages_per_channel = _data["channel"].value_counts()
messages_per_channel = pd.DataFrame(messages_per_channel).reset_index()
messages_per_channel
```

Out[32]:

	index	channel
0	karaulny	433223
1	glavmedia	214209
2	swodki	195695
3	rian_ru	187882
4	tass_agency	170539
2030	KOnOfff	1
2031	religiontoday	1
2032	RUS_peacekeeper	1
2033	sportrumours	1
2034	rcokmo	1

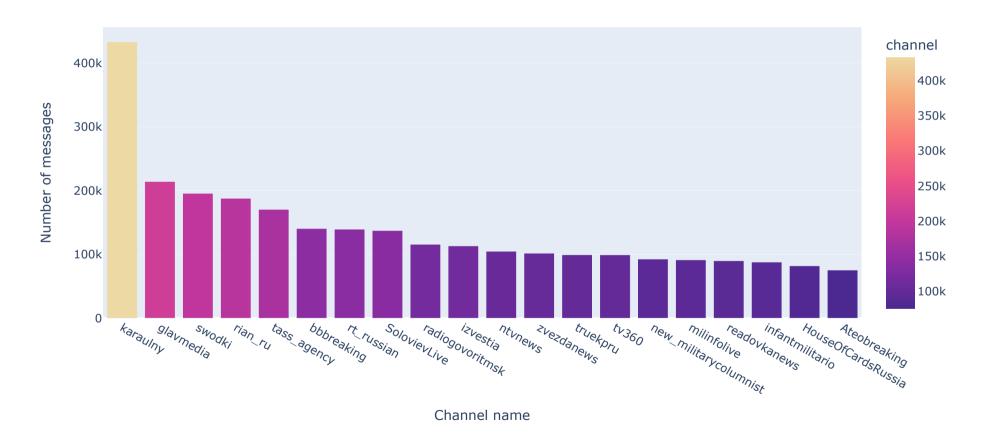
2035 rows × 2 columns

```
In [33]: top20_by_messages = messages_per_channel[:20]["index"].tolist()
```

```
In [34]: print(f"The overall number of messages from the top 20 channels by messages:"
    f" {messages_per_channel['channel'][:20].sum() / messages_num * 100:.2f}%")
```

The overall number of messages from the top 20 channels by messages: 45.79%

Top 20 channels by number of messages



We can remark <code>karaulny</code> as an undisputable leader by number of messages. Other leaders in the top five are <code>glavmedia</code>, <code>swodki</code>, <code>rian_ru</code>, and <code>tass_agency</code>. These great number of messages in leaders can indicate more maturity of channels, spam channels, or channels with great impact on the community. We will understand it later after better exploration.

```
In [36]: messages_per_channel_new = pd.DataFrame(data_sorted["channel"].copy())
    messages_per_channel_new["number"] = 1
    messages_per_channel_new.head(3)
```

Out[36]:

channel number

datetime 2015-09-22 16:12:02+00:00 varlamov 1 2015-09-22 21:19:46+00:00 otsuka_bld 1 2015-09-23 07:54:47+00:00 varlamov 1

```
In [37]: messages_per_channel_over_time = messages_per_channel_new.groupby("channel").resample("1M").sum()
    messages_per_channel_over_time
```

Out[37]:

number

channel	datetime	
AG_DPR	2022-05-31 00:00:00+00:00	1
	2022-06-30 00:00:00+00:00	0
	2022-07-31 00:00:00+00:00	0
	2022-08-31 00:00:00+00:00	0
	2022-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	3
zvezdanews	2022-08-31 00:00:00+00:00	3377
	2022-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	3281
	2022-10-31 00:00:00+00:00	3987
	2022-11-30 00:00:00+00:00	3188
	2022-12-31 00:00:00+00:00	2158

30439 rows × 1 columns

Out[38]:

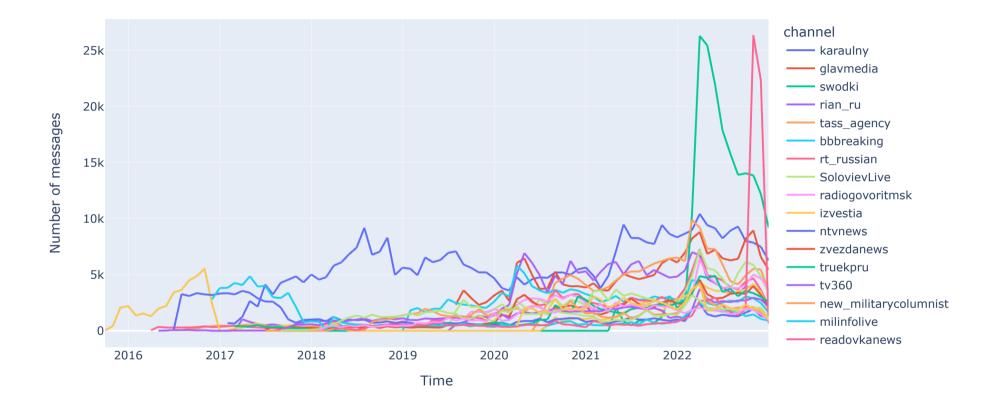
channel	AG_DPR	AKID_channel	ARTolmachev	ASGasparyan	ATC_ATC	Abbasdjuma	Above_All_Public	Ad_Ping	AdvokatDyablo	Agdchan	zluci
datetime											
2015-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2015-10-31 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2015-11-30 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2015-12-31 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2016-01-31 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	

5 rows × 2035 columns

4

In [39]: top20_by_messages_over_time = messages_per_channel_over_time[top20_by_messages]

Top 20 channels by number of messages over time



Again, we can remark <code>karaulny</code> as quite inconsistent in terms of the number of messages over time but overall a great amount as expected from the plot in Q5. We can also see that the oldest channels are <code>izvestia</code>, <code>ntvnews</code>, <code>rt_russian</code>, and <code>tv360</code>. They tend to become less popular in comparison with new big channels.

All channels suddenly explainably increased in March-April 2020 due to the coronavirus epidemic beginning.

Also, remarkable channels are swodki and readovkanews both have dramatic increases in March 2022 and October 2022 appropriate. It indicates a

high probability that swodki is paid a channel. For readovkanews, it seems strange because they posted more than 25% of messages from all channel

Q7: What is normalized message distribution per channel over time?

We are interested in taking a look at a normalized number of message distributions for top channels over time. It can indicate unusual behavior regardless of the number of messages during the period for each channel.

Top 20 channels by number of messages over time normalized

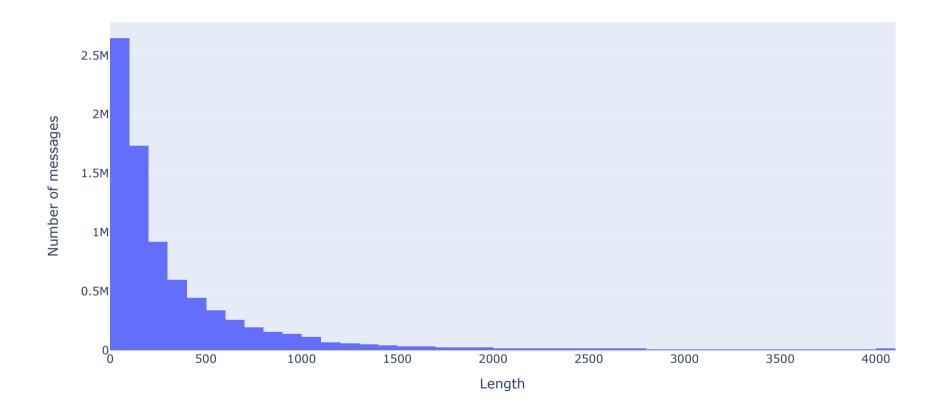


With the normalized version, we can remark "died" channels such as <code>izvestia</code>, <code>milinfolive</code>, <code>ntvnews</code> from the greatest by the number of messages over time. They tend to post in the early years of channel creation and approximately average the number of messages over time with natural fluctuations.

We are also interested in taking a look at the length of message distribution over time. We try to capture unusual lengths and possibly indicate bots or the flow of similar messages among different channels.

```
In [43]: messages len = data["message len"].value counts()
         messages len
Out[43]: 0
                 1041792
                   49855
         34
         90
                   23809
         89
                   23557
         91
                   23199
         3687
                      30
         3330
                      30
         3689
                      29
                      27
         3463
                      20
         3725
         Name: message len, Length: 4097, dtype: int64
```

The message length distribution



The plot has an exponential distribution. There are no unusual patterns.

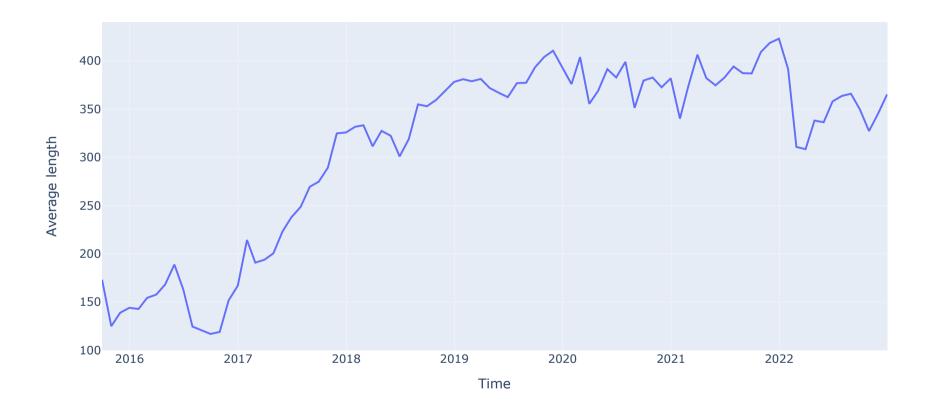
```
In [45]: avg messages len over time = data sorted["message len"].resample("1M").mean()
         avg messages len over time
Out[45]: datetime
         2015-09-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                     173.082192
        2015-10-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                     124.960080
         2015-11-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                     138.917917
         2015-12-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                     144.012414
         2016-01-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                     142.808650
                                       . . .
         2022-08-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                     365.890684
         2022-09-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                     349.736278
         2022-10-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                     327.168505
         2022-11-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                     344.851138
```

365.161868

Freq: M, Name: message len, Length: 88, dtype: float64

2022-12-31 00:00:00+00:00

The average message length over time



We have a general tendency to grow up over time. The growth of channels can explain the tendency to write longer messages.

Q9: What is the length of message distribution per channel over time?

Now, we explore Q8 more deeply for the greatest channels by the number of messages.

The length of message distribution for the top 20 channels by the number of messages over time



We can see the quite consistent average length of messages except readovkanews with weird fluctuations that strengthen hypothesis about paidness above.

Q10: What is the distribution of the message by sensitive topic?

The message distribution by sensitive topic can define more aggressive message context.

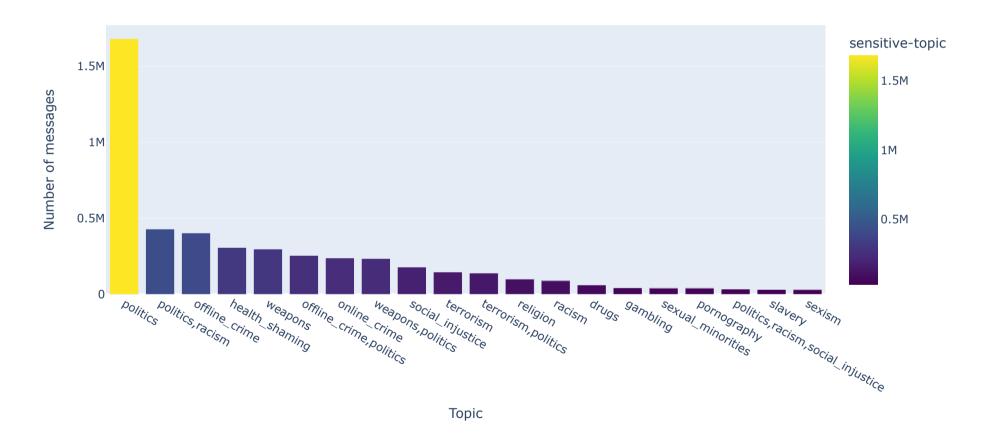
In [25]: sensitive_distribution = pd.DataFrame(_data["sensitive-topic"].value_counts()).reset_index().drop(0)
sensitive_distribution

Out[25]:

	index	sensitive-topic
1	politics	1681172
2	politics,racism	428896
3	offline_crime	403535
4	health_shaming	307993
5	weapons	297420
64	offline_crime,terrorism,racism,religion	2
65	offline_crime,pornography,social_injustice	1
66	terrorism,politics,racism,social_injustice	1
67	pornography,slavery	1
68	body_shaming,racism	1

68 rows × 2 columns

Top 20 topics by number of messages



We can see the expected outcome with the majority of messages related to politics or crimes topics from propagandistic channels. There are unusual health_shaming topic in the top 5 among others.

We also drop None values as unclassified and noise in general despite the great number.

Q11: What is the distribution of the message by sensitivity over time?

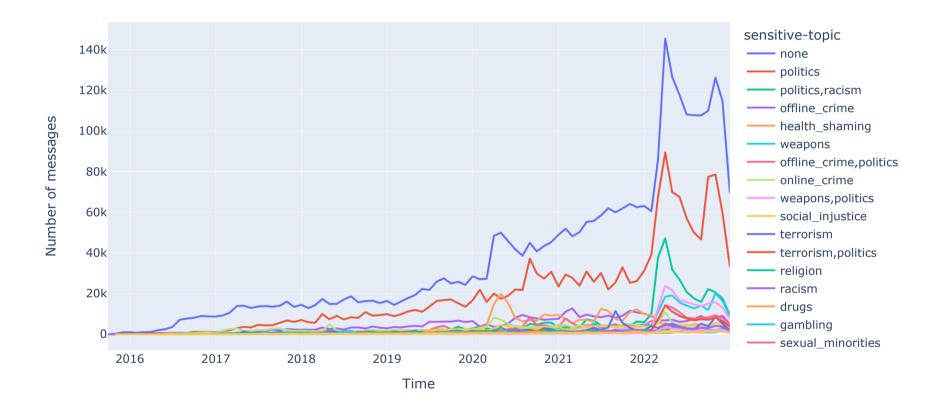
Out[52]:

sensitive-topic	body_snaming	body_snaming,nealth_snaming	body_snaming,racism	body_snaming,sexism	body_snaming,social_injustice	arugs	drugs,healtr
datetime							
2015-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
2015-10-31 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	8.0	
2015-11-30 00:00:00+00:00	1.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	18.0	
2015-12-31 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	13.0	
2016-01-31 00:00:00+00:00	5.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	9.0	

5 rows × 69 columns

4

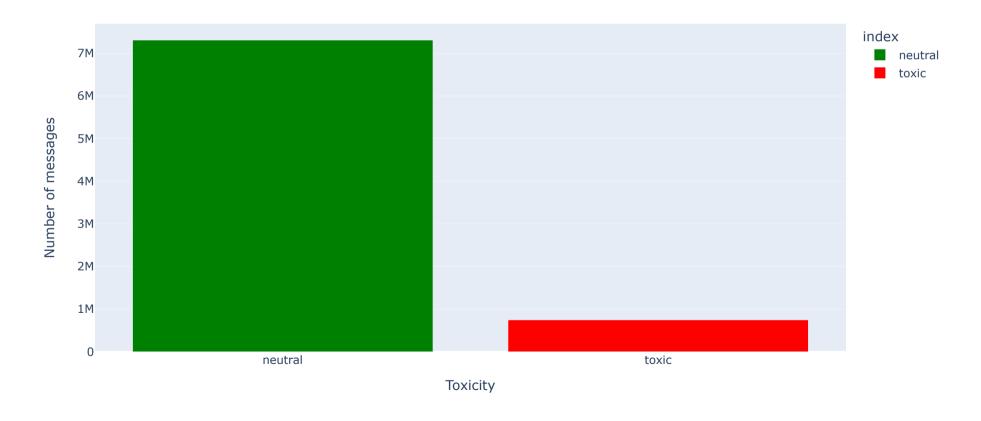
Top 20 sensitive topic distribution by number of messages over time



We can explainably see the growth of the ${\tt politics}$ topic over time. There are no unusual patterns.

The toxicity can show increasing of propaganda and the most propagandistic channels.

Toxicity distribution by messages

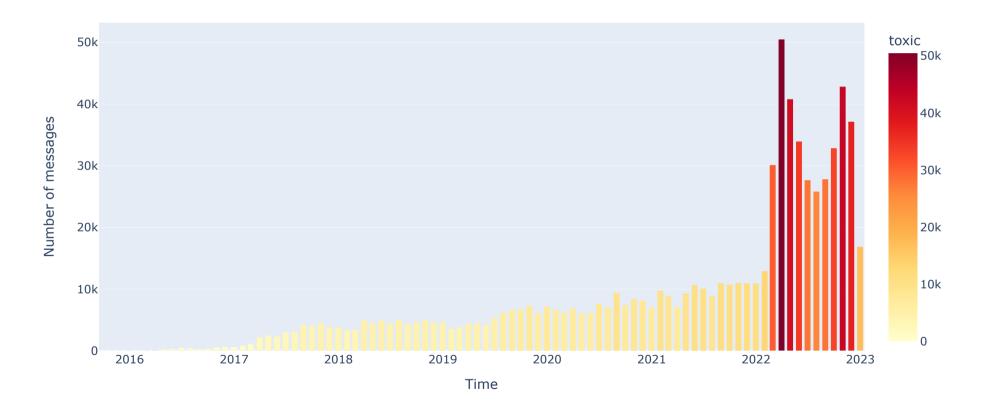


Q13: What is the message distribution by toxicity over time?

In [56]: toxic messages = pd.DataFrame(toxicity over time["toxic"]).reset index()

```
In [55]: | toxicity over time = pd.DataFrame(data sorted["toxicity"]).groupby("toxicity").resample("1M").count()
          toxicity over time = toxicity over time.reorder levels(
              ["datetime", "toxicity"]).unstack().droplevel(level=0, axis=1)
          toxicity over time.head()
Out[55]:
                         toxicity neutral toxic
                        datetime
           2015-09-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                    68
                                           5
           2015-10-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                   491
                                          10
           2015-11-30 00:00:00+00:00
                                   2077
                                          55
           2015-12-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                   2237
                                          99
           2016-01-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                  1488
                                         38
```

Toxicity distribution by messages over time



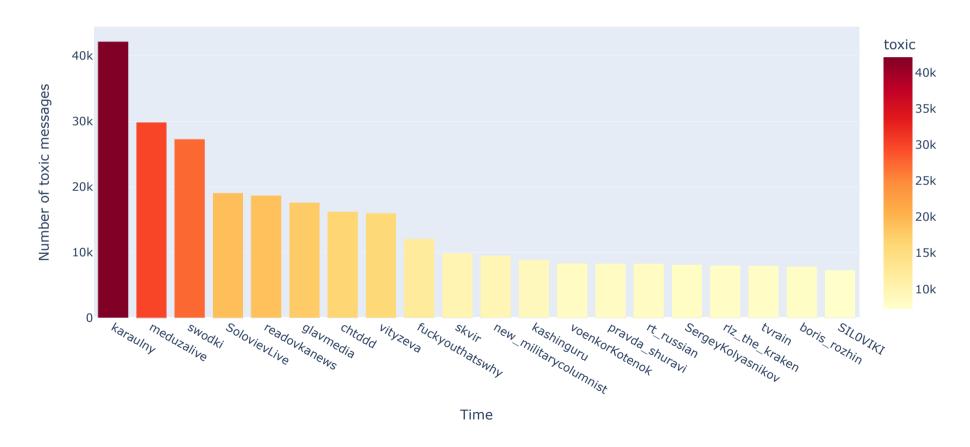
We can see the expected outcome with a tendency to toxicity growth and a dramatic jump after the beginning of the war. There are no unusual patterns.

In [58]: toxicity_by_channel = data_sorted[["channel", "toxicity"]].value_counts().unstack()["toxic"].sort_values(ascending=Faltoxicity_by_channel.head()

Out[58]: channel

karaulny 42193.0
meduzalive 29878.0
swodki 27294.0
SolovievLive 19095.0
readovkanews 18707.0
Name: toxic, dtype: float64

Top 20 channels by number of toxic messages



We can remark <code>karaulny</code> is also an undisputable leader by the number of toxic messages. From the results earlier, it has the greatest number of messages so that's normal. The same is related to <code>swodki</code>, <code>SolovievLive</code>, <code>glavmedia</code>, and <code>rt_russian</code>.

There are unexpected other leaders such as meduzalive and readovkanews in the top 5. The first is not even in the top 20 channels by the number of

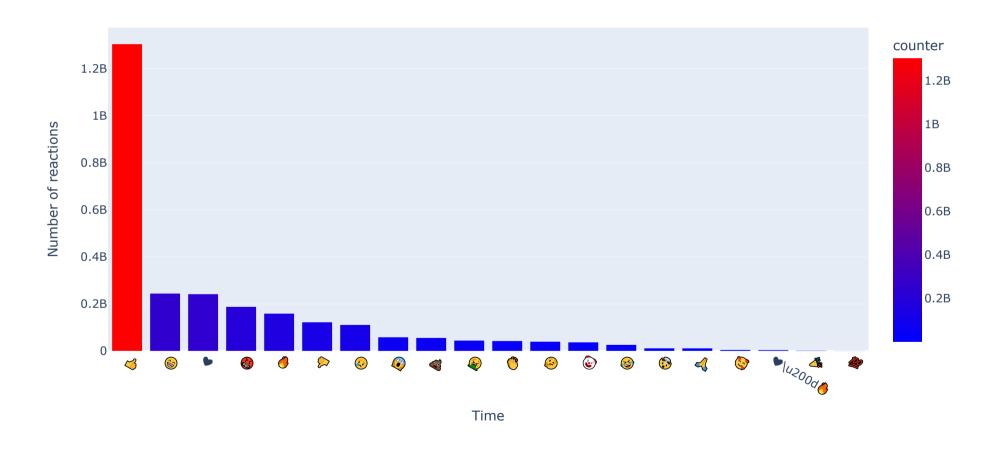
messages but it has the second place in toxicity rating. The second is almost last in the previous top but on of the leaders now. It can also indicate paidness.

Q15: What is the number of reactions distribution?

242675507 188818058 160038768

The reaction distributions can tell us about people's resonance with messages — primarily on toxic messages.

Top 20 reactions by number of reactions



Q16: What is the number of toxic reactions regarding toxic messages over time?

```
In [64]: reactions on toxic message = data[["datetime", "reactions dict"]][ data["toxicity"] == "toxic"]
In [65]: reactions on toxic message = reactions on toxic message[reactions on toxic message["reactions dict"].apply(len) > 0]
        reactions on toxic message.head()
Out[65]:
                          datetime
                                                  reactions dict
         327501 2022-12-20 10:07:01+00:00 [{'reaction': '-/---', 'count': 280, 'chosen': Fal...
         327549 2022-12-19 19:41:25+00:00 [{'reaction': '-\( \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) ', 'count': 1833, 'chosen': Fa...
         In [66]: reactions on toxic message df = pd.DataFrame(0, index=list(range(reactions on toxic message.shape[0])),
                                                                columns=reactions counter df.index.tolist())
        reactions on toxic message df.head()
Out[66]:
                                               😳 \u200d 💻
                                 0
                                    0
                                                                             0
        5 rows × 57 columns
In [67]: for ind, reactions in enumerate (reactions on toxic message ["reactions dict"]):
            for reaction in reactions:
                reactions on toxic message df.loc[ind, reaction["reaction"]] += reaction["count"]
```

```
In [68]: reactions on toxic message df.head()
Out[68]:
                                             😡 ... 💿 📀\u200d 💻 🤝
             280
          1 1089
                   2 259
          2 1833
                  50 260
                             0 15
                          8 13 32
                      4 412 36 7 12 18 0
          4 2467
         5 rows × 57 columns
In [69]: reactions on toxic message df.set index(reactions on toxic message["datetime"], inplace=True)
In [70]: top reaction on toxic message = reactions on toxic message df.apply(lambda x: x.idxmax(axis="columns"), axis=1)
In [71]: reactions on toxic message df final = pd.DataFrame(top reaction on toxic message.copy()).reset index()
         reactions on toxic message df final["counter"] = 0
         reactions on toxic message df reset = reactions on toxic message df.copy().reset index()
         for ind in reactions on toxic message df final.index:
             reactions on toxic message df final.loc[ind, "counter"] = \
             reactions on toxic message df reset.loc[ind, reactions on toxic message df final.loc[ind, 0]]
         reactions on toxic message df final.head()
Out[71]:
                        datetime 0 counter
          0 2022-12-20 10:07:01+00:00 🔥
                                      280
          1 2022-12-20 08:05:12+00:00 🔥
                                      1089
          2 2022-12-19 19:41:25+00:00 🔥
                                      1833
          3 2022-12-19 17:26:06+00:00 🔥
                                      3074
          4 2022-12-19 17:00:02+00:00 🔥
                                      2467
In [72]: reactions on toxic message df final = reactions on toxic message df final.rename(columns={0: "reaction"}).set index("
```

```
In [73]: top10_reactions_on_toxic_messages = reactions_on_toxic_message_df_final.groupby("reaction").sum().sort_values("counter
          top10_reactions_on_toxic_messages
Out[73]:
                    counter
          reaction
               <u>4</u> 227812130
                   45938776
                   35728074
                   35365099
                   18763458
                   15642011
                   13237527
                    7669266
                    7595682
                    6319854
In [74]: reactions_on_toxic_message_df_final.shape
```

Out[74]: (264641, 2)

Out[77]:

reaction	△			•	(₹	(Q)			
datetime										
2015-09-27 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	4.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2015-10-11 00:00:00+00:00	1.0	NaN	NaN	0.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2015-10-25 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	NaN	NaN	0.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2015-11-08 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	NaN	NaN	0.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2015-11-22 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	NaN	NaN	0.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
2022-12-11 00:00:00+00:00	8140108.0	1511614.0	NaN	786474.0	449860.0	776955.0	433844.0	NaN	156729.0	NaN
2022-12-18 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	1419464.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	185076.0	NaN	281501.0
2022-12-25 00:00:00+00:00	4444099.0	740712.0	NaN	514389.0	234038.0	353423.0	176587.0	NaN	98768.0	NaN
2023-01-01 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	52692.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	21838.0	NaN	24928.0
2023-01-08 00:00:00+00:00	NaN	NaN	NaN	305.0	2405.0	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN

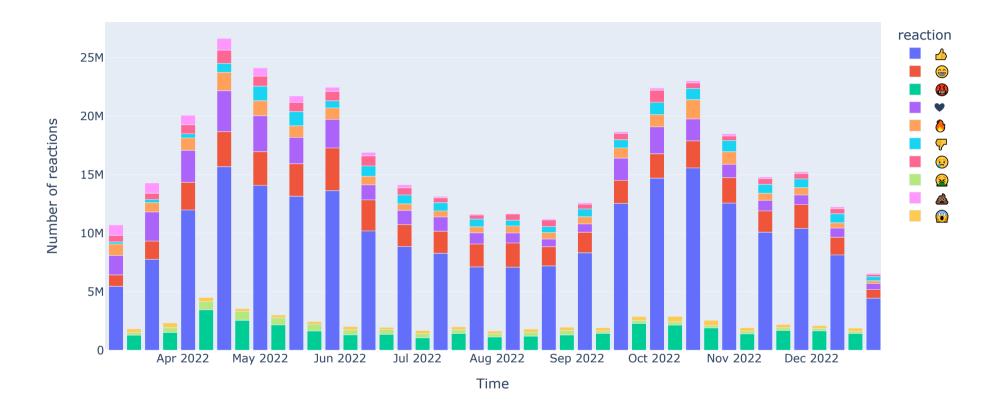
368 rows × 10 columns

Interquartile range: 175.25
Mean: 1125195.32

mean - 1.5*iqr: 1124932.44

```
In [79]: rotm_df_final = rotm_df_final[rotm_df_final.sum(axis=1) > 1124932]
```

Top 10 reactions to toxic messages over time



We can remark on the great number of positive toxic reaction in toxic messages. It means the majority of people react positively to russian propaganda.

Q17: Which channels have the most toxic auditory?

We will calculate metric of auditory toxicity by formula:

```
In [83]: toxic reactions on toxic message num = reactions on toxic message df[toxic reactions on toxic message].sum(axis=1)
In [84]: views per toxic message = data[["datetime", "views", "channel"]][( data["toxicity"] == "toxic") & ( data["reactions of the context o
In [85]: views per toxic message ["toxic reaction"] = toxic reactions on toxic message num.tolist()
                               views per toxic message.head()
Out[85]:
                                                                                            datetime
                                                                                                                          views
                                                                                                                                             channel toxic_reaction
                                 327501 2022-12-20 10:07:01+00:00 18226.0 rt russian
                                                                                                                                                                                            307
                                 327515 2022-12-20 08:05:12+00:00
                                                                                                                    56732.0 rt russian
                                                                                                                                                                                          1488
                                 327549 2022-12-19 19:41:25+00:00 113352.0 rt russian
                                                                                                                                                                                         2145
                                                                                                                                                                                         4026
                                 327562 2022-12-19 17:26:06+00:00 107156.0 rt russian
                                                                                                                                                                                         2976
                                 327564 2022-12-19 17:00:02+00:00 112156.0 rt russian
                             views per toxic message = views per toxic message.set index("datetime").sort index()
In [86]:
                              views per toxic message.head()
Out[86]:
                                                                                                  views
                                                                                                                              channel toxic_reaction
```

1

datetime		
2015-09-23 17:49:06+00:00	1792.0	varlamov
2015-09-25 15:14:57+00:00	1629 N	tvrain

 2015-09-25 15:14:57+00:00
 1629.0
 tvrain
 3

 2015-10-05 06:01:07+00:00
 1387.0
 tvrain
 1

 2015-12-22 12:41:20+00:00
 170.0
 izvestia
 1

 2015-12-28 14:11:28+00:00
 411.0
 holmogortalks
 3

```
In [87]: top20_by_toxic_reactions = views_per_toxic_message.groupby("channel").sum().sort_values(
    "toxic_reaction", ascending=False)[:20]
top20_by_toxic_reactions.head()
```

Out[87]:

views toxic_reaction

channel		
SolovievLive	2.420025e+09	49350209
boris_rozhin	1.689987e+09	30768815
RVvoenkor	1.398225e+09	27583199
nevzorovtv	7.983234e+08	24172402
RKadyrov_95	6.794709e+08	22972179

In [88]: views_per_toxic_message = views_per_toxic_message.groupby("channel").resample("1M").sum()
 views_per_toxic_message.head()

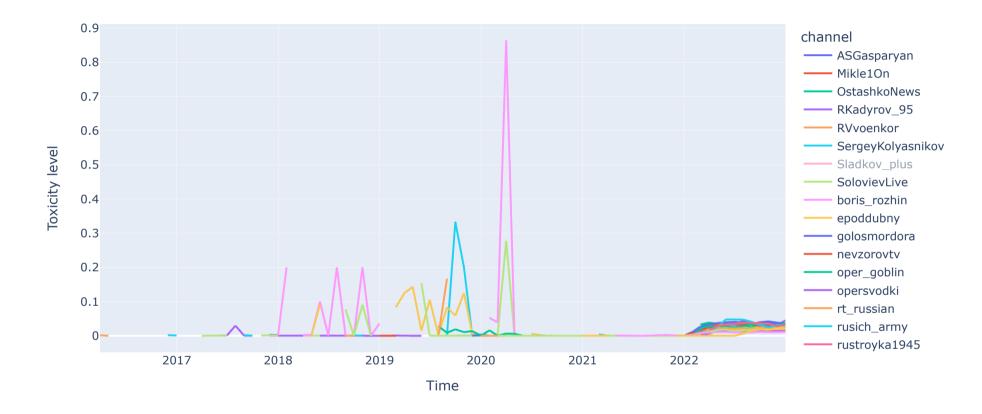
Out[88]:

views toxic_reaction

channel	datetime		
AG_DPR	2022-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	135762.0	1839
ASGasparyan	2019-08-31 00:00:00+00:00	66100.0	4
	2019-09-30 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	0
	2019-10-31 00:00:00+00:00	11466.0	3
	2019-11-30 00:00:00+00:00	0.0	0

```
In [89]: top20 by toxic reactions final = pd.merge(pd.DataFrame(top20 by toxic reactions.index), views per toxic message.reset
          top20 by toxic reactions final.head()
Out[89]:
                 channel
                                       datetime
                                                  views toxic_reaction
           0 SolovievLive 2019-06-30 00:00:00+00:00 151544.0
                                                                 31
                                                                 17
           1 SolovievLive 2019-07-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                71375.0
           2 SolovievLive 2019-08-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                40399.0
                                                                 35
           3 SolovievLive 2019-09-30 00:00:00+00:00 176371.0
                                                                  16
                                                                  7
           4 SolovievLive 2019-10-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                28900.0
          top20 by toxic reactions final["toxic perc"] = top20 by toxic reactions final["toxic reaction"] / top20 by toxic react
          top20 by toxic reactions final.head()
Out[90]:
                 channel
                                       datetime
                                                  views toxic_reaction toxic_perc
           0 SolovievLive 2019-06-30 00:00:00+00:00 151544.0
                                                                      0.000205
                                                                 31
           1 SolovievLive 2019-07-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                71375.0
                                                                  17
                                                                      0.000238
           2 SolovievLive 2019-08-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                40399.0
                                                                      0.000866
           3 SolovievLive 2019-09-30 00:00:00+00:00 176371.0
                                                                  16
                                                                      0.000091
           4 SolovievLive 2019-10-31 00:00:00+00:00
                                                28900.0
                                                                      0.000242
          top20 by toxic reactions final.drop(["views", "toxic reaction"], axis=1, inplace=True)
In [92]: top20 by toxic reactions final df = pd.pivot table(top20 by toxic reactions final, index=['datetime', 'channel']).unst
```

Top 20 channels by level of toxicity



We can remark high periodical very toxic resonance fluctuations for boris_rozhin and SergiyKolyasnikov both also at the top by number of toxic messages.

There are also leaders from previous tops such as <code>SolovievLive</code> and <code>rt russian</code>.

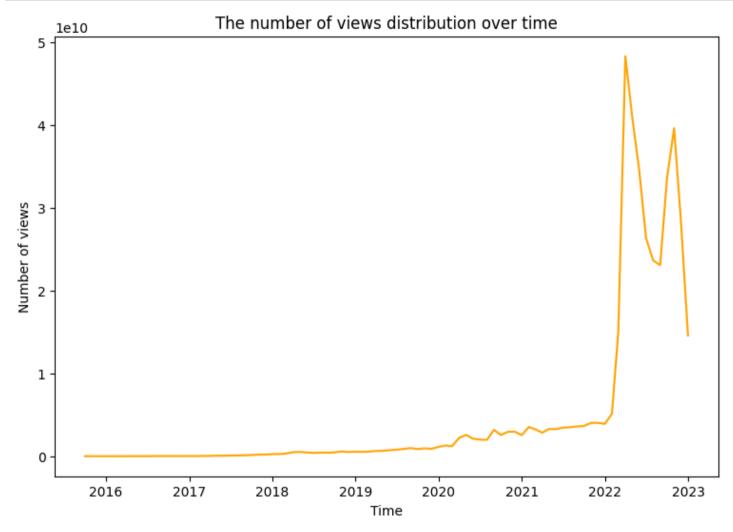
The other channels need more exploration regarding the number of messages and overall impact.

Q18-19: How many views do we have overall? What is the number of views distribution over time?

The views can show us a level of active auditory on channels. Some channels can send many messages but do have not many active readers.

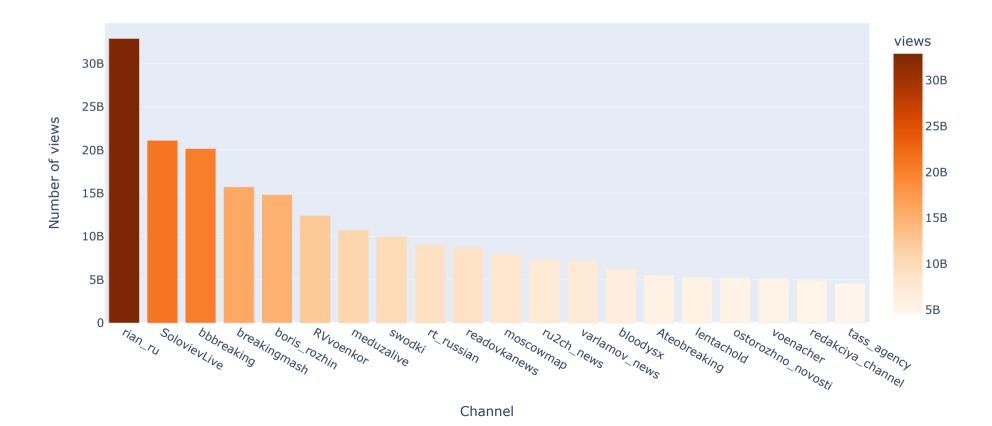
```
In [94]: views_num = _data["views"].sum()
print(f"The number of views for all time: {views_num / 10e9:.2f} billions")
```

The number of views for all time: 41.90 billions



We can see the expected outcome with a tendency to views growth and a dramatic jump after the beginning of the war. There are no unusual patterns.

Top 20 channels by the number of views



We can remark the several leaders rian_ru, SolovievLive, bbbreaking, swodki, rt_russian, readovkanews, and tass_agency that also leaders by the number of messages.

The boris_rozhin, swodki, SolovievLive, rt_russian, meduzalive, and readovkanews are also leaders in the top by the number of toxic messages.

The boris rozhin, SolovievLive, and rt russian are also leaders at the top by the level of auditory toxicity.

These channels are the greatest overall.

Surprisingly, karaulny is absent in the top.

The other channels need more exploration regarding the number of messages and overall impact.

```
In [111]: print(f"The overall number of views from the top 20 channels by views:"
    f" {top20_by_views['views'].sum() / views_num * 100:.2f}%")
```

The overall number of views from the top 20 channels by views: 51.47%

Q22: What are the top channels by views per message?

The views per message indicate more significance from one message on the channel.

Out[98]:

	channel_x	views	index	channel_y
0	AG_DPR	2.088561e+06	AG_DPR	5
1	AKID_channel	1.914200e+04	AKID_channel	6
2	ARTolmachev	6.989800e+04	ARTolmachev	4
3	ASGasparyan	1.435679e+09	ASGasparyan	30800
4	ATC_ATC	3.300000e+01	ATC_ATC	6

In [99]: views_per_message_by_channel = views_per_message_by_channel.drop("index", axis=1).rename(columns={"channel_y": "message_by_channel.head()

Out[99]:

	channel_x	views	messages
0	AG_DPR	2.088561e+06	5
1	AKID_channel	1.914200e+04	6
2	ARTolmachev	6.989800e+04	4
3	ASGasparyan	1.435679e+09	30800
4	ATC_ATC	3.300000e+01	6

In [100]: _data[_data["channel"] == "AG_DPR"]

Out[100]:

	id	views	fwd_from	message	type	duration	channel	datetime	message_len	reaction
1027519	8598.0	719876.0	MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022,	Республика ищет талантливых управленцев. Это м	video	34.0	AG_DPR	2022-10-04 10:43:56+00:00	139	
1027891	8203.0	573540.0	MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022,	Военные корреспонденты – это бойцы, воюющие	photo	NaN	AG_DPR	2022-09-10 09:25:56+00:00	573	
1029147	6896.0	542623.0	MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022,	«Вы их били, а мы их добьем! Победа будет за н	video	374.0	AG_DPR	2022-05-09 08:30:19+00:00	186	
1053857	41905.0	116760.0	MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022,	Демилитаризация вооруженных формирований Украи	video	130.0	AG_DPR	2022-09-13 13:10:34+00:00	269	[{'re≀ ' <mark>⊿</mark> ', ' 1214, 'cł
1054084	41677.0	135762.0	MessageFwdHeader(date=datetime.datetime(2022,	Самый тупой укрофейк…	photo	NaN	AG_DPR	2022-09-10 19:31:42+00:00	21	[{'rea ' <mark>.</mark> d', ' 1004, 'ch

```
In [101]: views_per_message_by_channel["views_per_message"] = views_per_message_by_channel["views"] / \
    views_per_message_by_channel["messages"]
    views_per_message_by_channel.head()
```

Out[101]:

	channel_x	views	messages	views_per_message
0	AG_DPR	2.088561e+06	5	417712.200000
1	AKID_channel	1.914200e+04	6	3190.333333
2	ARTolmachev	6.989800e+04	4	17474.500000
3	ASGasparyan	1.435679e+09	30800	46612.957208
4	ATC_ATC	3.300000e+01	6	5.500000

Interquartile range: 10.00

Mean: 3959.73

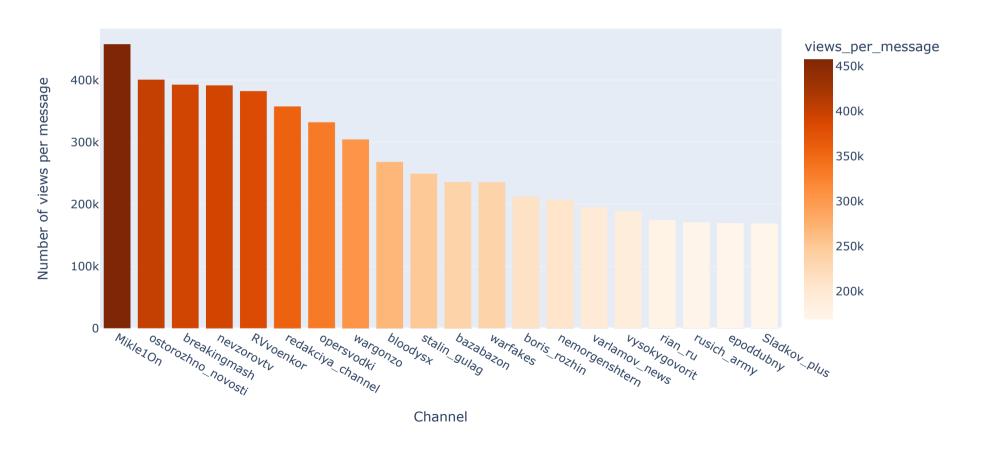
mean - 1.5*igr: 3944.73

In [103]: views_per_message_by_channel_final = views_per_message_by_channel[views_per_message_by_channel["messages"] > 3945]
views_per_message_by_channel_final.head()

Out[103]:

	channel_x	views	messages	views_per_message
3	ASGasparyan	1.435679e+09	30800	46612.957208
5	Abbasdjuma	1.075527e+08	11965	8988.940326
10	Alekhin_Telega	9.174188e+07	5798	15823.021042
25	Ateobreaking	5.582477e+09	75460	73979.285675
29	Baronova	7.413764e+07	21410	3462.757590

Top 20 channels by the number of views per message



We can remark the several leaders <code>boris_rozhin</code> and <code>rian_ru</code> that are also the leaders in other tops. The channel <code>epoddubny</code> is also in the leaders by the level of auditory toxicity.

Q23: How many views per message over time?

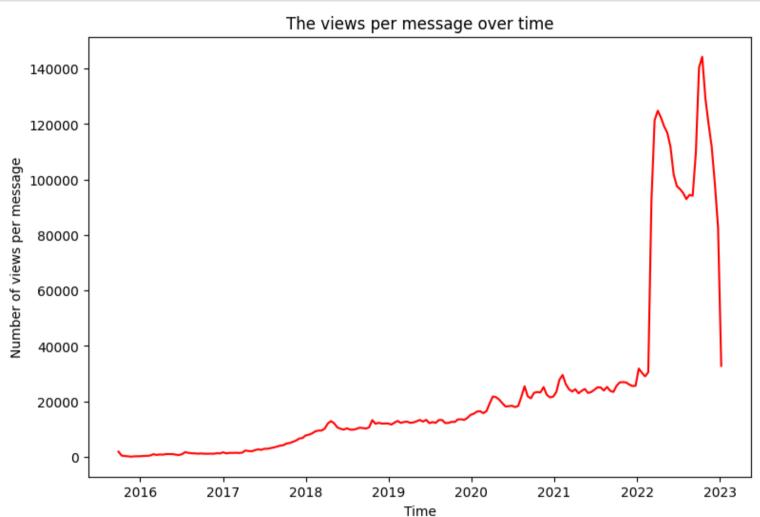
```
In [105]: views_per_message_over_time = _data[["datetime", "views"]].set_index("datetime")
    messages_num_2W = views_per_message_over_time.resample("2W").count().rename(columns={"views": "messages"})
    views_num_2W = views_per_message_over_time.resample("2W").sum()
    views_num_2W["messages"] = messages_num_2W
    views_num_2W["views_per_message"] = views_num_2W["views"] / views_num_2W["messages"]
    views_num_2W
```

Out[105]:

views	messages	views	per	message

datetime			
2015-09-27 00:00:00+00:00	7.014400e+04	37	1895.783784
2015-10-11 00:00:00+00:00	8.275700e+04	180	459.761111
2015-10-25 00:00:00+00:00	8.572900e+04	245	349.914286
2015-11-08 00:00:00+00:00	9.816600e+04	477	205.798742
2015-11-22 00:00:00+00:00	9.661100e+04	1071	90.206349
2022-11-13 00:00:00+00:00	1.363582e+10	113523	120115.026902
2022-11-27 00:00:00+00:00	1.354876e+10	121248	111744.221397
2022-12-11 00:00:00+00:00	1.128060e+10	114573	98457.761314
2022-12-25 00:00:00+00:00	5.858767e+09	70855	82686.713895
2023-01-08 00:00:00+00:00	6.435811e+06	196	32835.770408

191 rows × 3 columns



We can see the tendency to view per-message growth over time and a dramatic jump after the beginning of the war. The plot is almost identical to the plot in Q19. It means that messages and views increase proportionally over time. So, there are overall channels' growth.

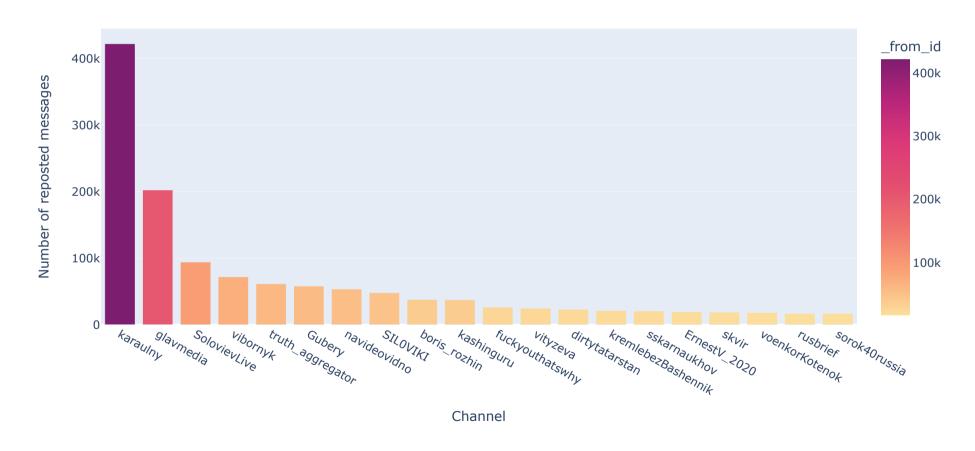
Q24: What is channel distribution by most reposted messages?

This distribution indicates the uniqueness of channel content. The more reposted messages, than poorer channel by quality.

Out[107]:

	_from_id
channel	
AG_DPR	5
AKID_channel	6
ARTolmachev	4
ASGasparyan	5310
ATC_ATC	6

Top 20 channels by the number of reposted messages



We can remark the several leaders karaulny, glavmedia, boris_rozhin and SolovievLive that are also the leaders in other tops.

Conclusions

There are general tendency to grow the number of messages, views, and toxicity growth by propagandistic channels that have an expected dramatic jump after the Russian-Ukrainian war begins.

The great number of positive toxic reactions in toxic messages reflects that the majority of people react positively to Russian propaganda. Besides, the majority of the channel messages are related to <code>politics</code> or <code>crimes</code> topics. There are no unusual patterns in message length among data except <code>readovkanews</code>.

*The overall number of messages from the top 20 channels by messages: 45.79%

The overall number of views from the top 20 channels by views: 51.47%*

The karaulny is the main content accelerator with the greatest number of messages, reposted messages, and toxic messages that has inconsistency in the number of posted messages. The glavmedia has a similar pattern in less scale and also presents in the same tops.

The readovkanews shows in the same tops as both above but has greater impact and seems to be paid. He is also present at the top by the number of views and has inconsistent the number of messages and average message length over time.

The rian_ru and tass_agency seem to have more neutral message toxicity despite the sizes of both channels which are in tops by the number of messages and the number of views. The rian_ru also has high message significance due to its presence at the top by the number of views per message.

The swodki and rt_russian show similar behavior as rian_ru and tass_agency but both have a great number of toxic messages. The rt russian is also one of the most toxic auditory by level of toxicity.

The SolovievLive is the most powerful channel by all tops and also one of the main content accelerators. He is one of the greatest by the number of messages, toxic messages, level of toxicity, number of views, and the number of reposted messages.

The boris_rozhin and epoddubny both have the most toxic auditories by the level of toxicity and message significance. At the same time, boris rozhin has a great number of toxic and reposted messages that also make him one of the main accelerators.

The izvestia, ntvnews, rt_russian, and tv360 are one of the greatest by the number of messages. They tend to become less popular in comparison with newer big channels.

Other interesting channels are <code>meduzalive</code>, <code>bbbreaking</code>, <code>SergiyKolyasnikov</code>. The first has a great number of toxic messages and a number of views at the same time despite having fewer messages than the previous. The second is an overall big channel with one of the greatest number of messages and views. The third has a smaller size but remains one of the leaders by the number of toxic messages and the level of toxicity.

Limitations

In the research, the main exploration focuses on the biggest channels that accelerate a significant part of all the channels. More deep insights and exploration of other channels are required.