From Gaming to What Else?

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What is GamerGate?

GamerGate is a topic that centers around harassment in the video game industry, with acknowledgement using the hashtag- #GamerGate. It started with a female game developer back in 2013. Since then the hashtag, and association of its use has expanded to other topics. The hashtag began in response to journalism ethics, but has since expanded to different roles in gaming- sexism and progressivism etc. in video games, as well as rights and ethics in the gaming world.

Social Justice Warrior

A social justice warrior, widely abbreviated as sjw on Twitter, is a word used for someone who is in support of socially progressive views. These include advocacy for women's rights, identity politics, multiculturalism, and civil rights. This term gained increased popularity during the GamerGate controversy, and has shifted from a compliment to an insult over the years of its origination.

"Its supporters say the whole thing was *really* about ethics in gaming journalism, but the movement gained widespread attention for a subset of GamerGate's supporters, who conducted several troubling harassment campaigns against women in gaming and journalists."(WashingtonPost)

Collection of Tweets

So where is the conversation going now?

People began using the hashtags and keywords during the GamerGate controversy. The initial GamerGate controversy was involved heavily with harassment, with a female journalist and developer. Since then it has branched off to different topics, and the hashtags are now applied to other issues, and the terms are applied to other topics outside of gaming.

So with the data collected what topics are people discussing now on twitter, and who is talking?

WordCloud of twitter searches

This wordcloud is set for a minimum frequency of 5 for the words displayed. It was created from the compiled list of tweets$text collected.

You can see throughout the wordcloud that the most common words are gamergate, sjw, video games, and so on. However, we search further into the data, and see who is creating the most tweets?
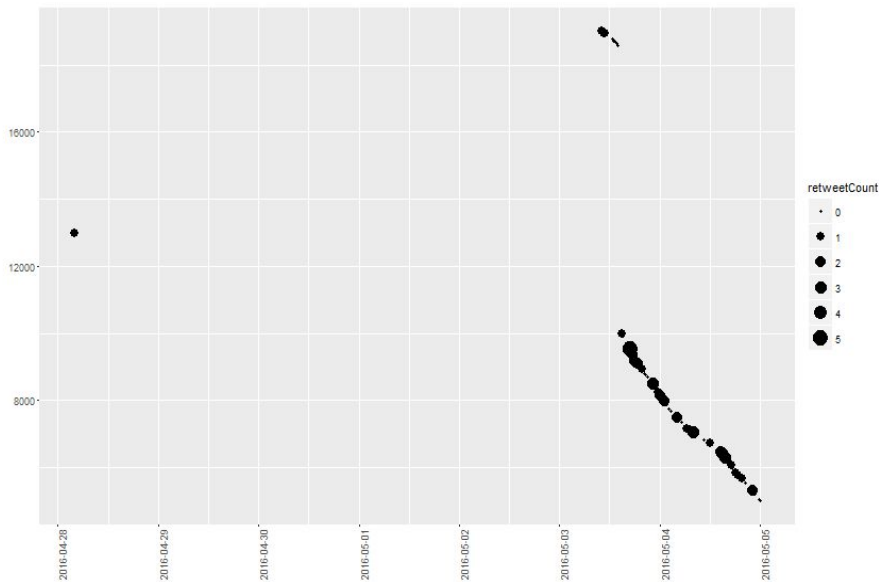
Based on the results from the created frequencies of screen names, a word cloud is easily generated. One of the top screen names tweeting about our search topics is "KotakuInAction". We can use this frequency to further search the internet. Based on the frequency I was able to find who they are.

KotakuInAction- is an account on twitter created in response to the GamerGate controversy. *"GamerGate is a consumer revolt triggered by overt politicization, ethical misconduct, and unprecedented amounts of censorship targeted at gamers."*

So what are some of the things that KotakuInAction is tweeting about? You can see the keywords include gaming, ethics, censorsing, freedom, harassment, and education to name a few. However, these are just single keywords.

4Gram Analysis of Collected Tweets

Displayed is the generated word cloud for the most common sequence of strings above a frequency level of 100.
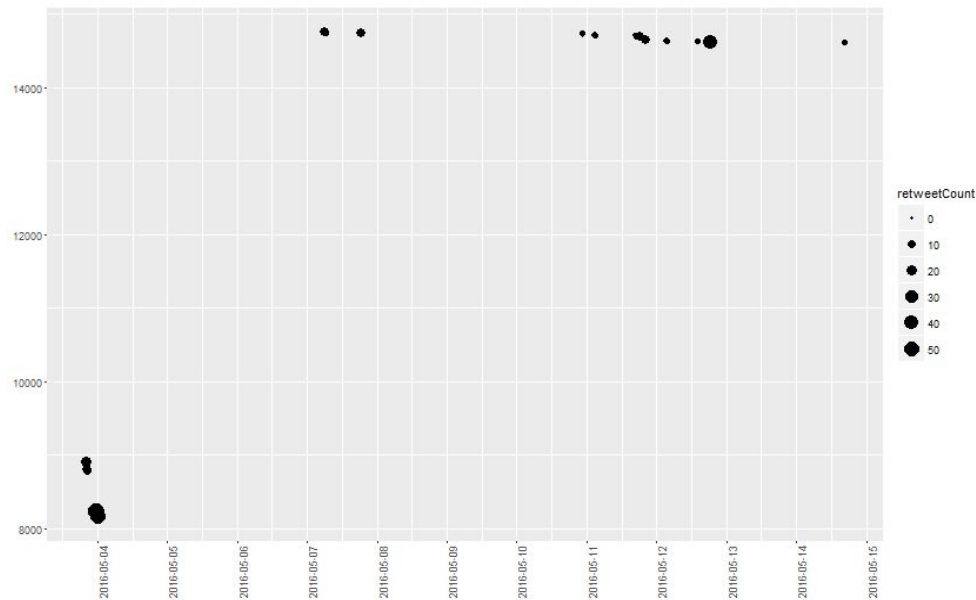
The cloud generated many sequences involving mainly the mentioning of "social justice warrior" for its 4 length of the string.
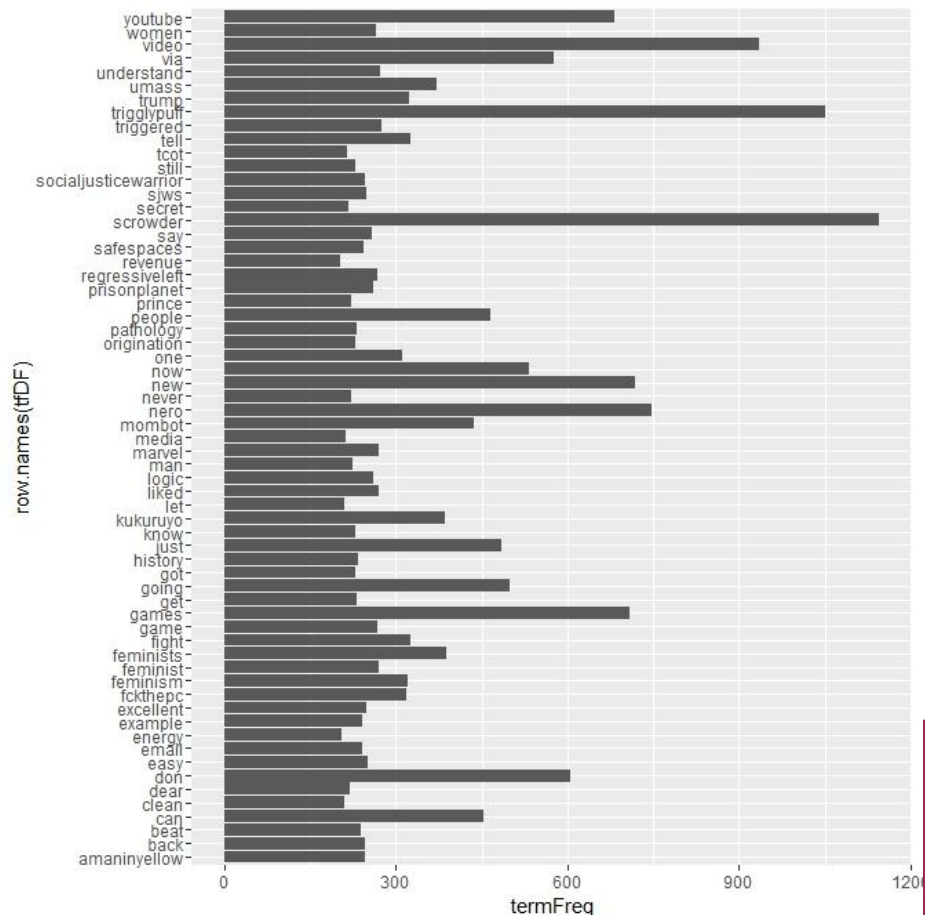
SQL Plot. ScreenName vs. RetweetCount
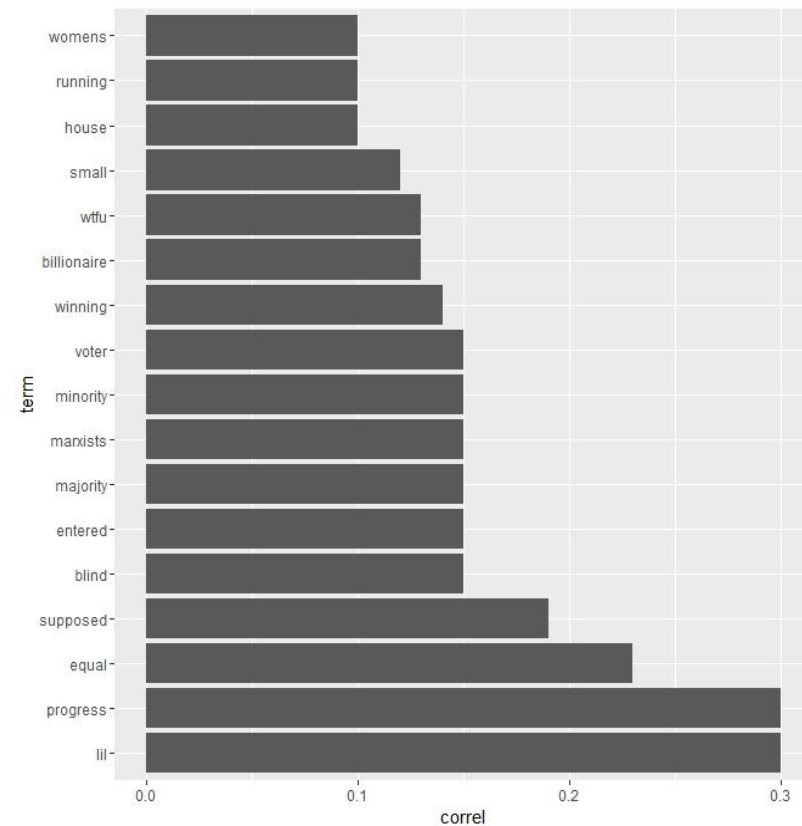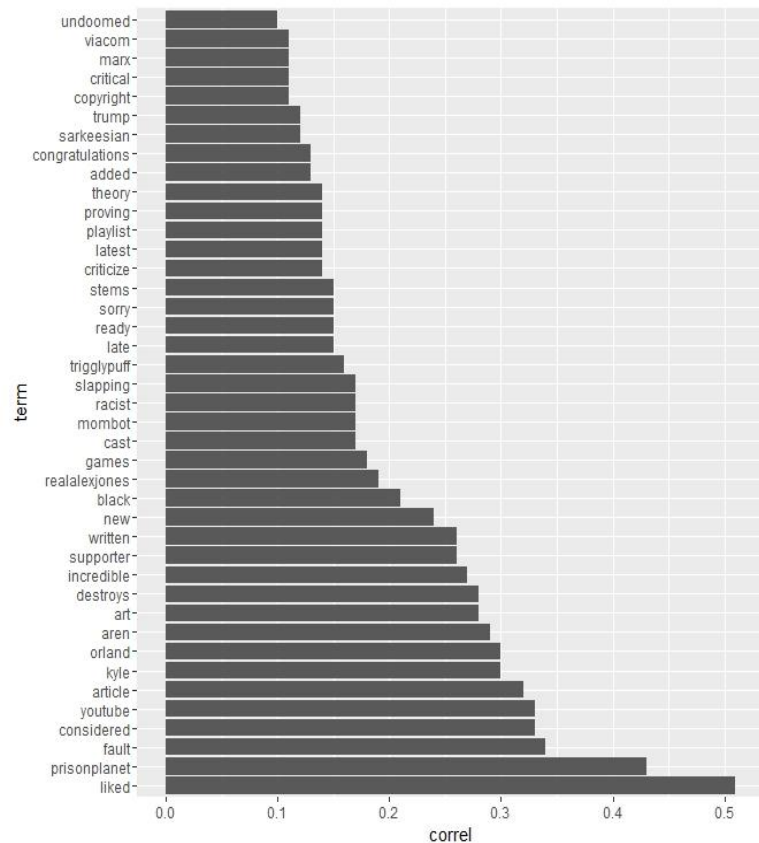

KotakuInAction retweetCount by Day

GamerGateTweets retweetCount by Day

Around May 4, 2016 on both the KotakuInAction and GamerGateTweets accounts there was an influx of retweets. There was a new movement created to get people to join the #GamerGate movement.
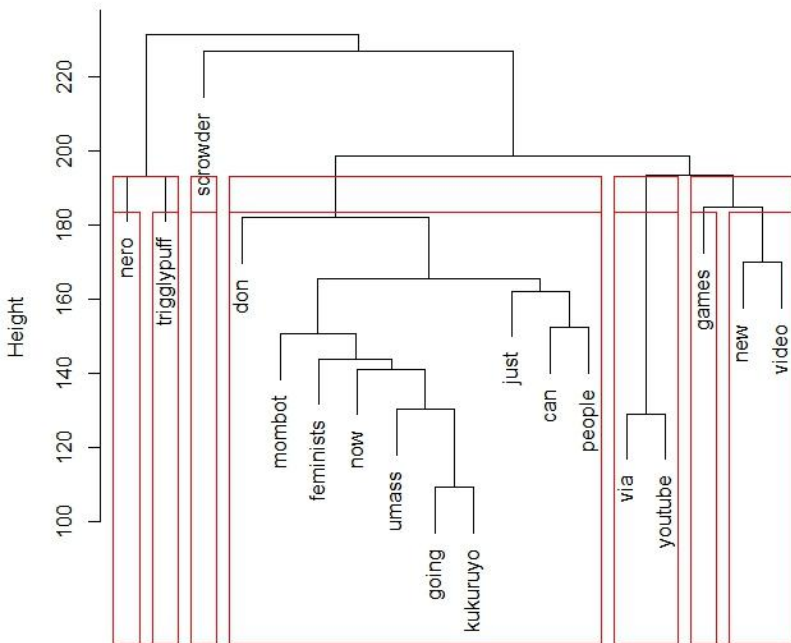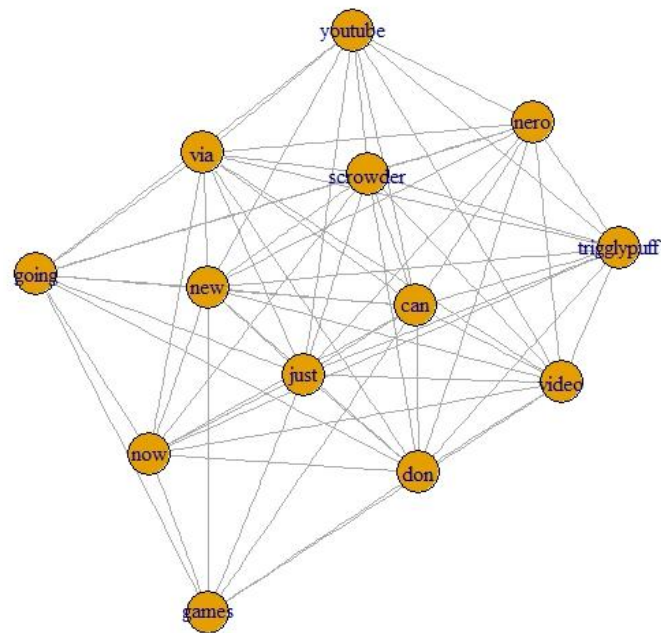
Vcorpus cleaned Wordcloud and termFrequency

The terms associated with "Video" within the corpus(left). The terms associated with "rights" within the corpus(right). Since it is mainly a gaming community you can see that the first few terms deal with videos and gaming.

Clusters

Cluster Dendrogram

References

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-intersect/wp/2015/10/07/why-social-justice-warrior-a-gamergate-insult-is-now-a-dictionary-entry/