Unveiling the Shadows: Analysis of Illicit Drug Trade on Telegram

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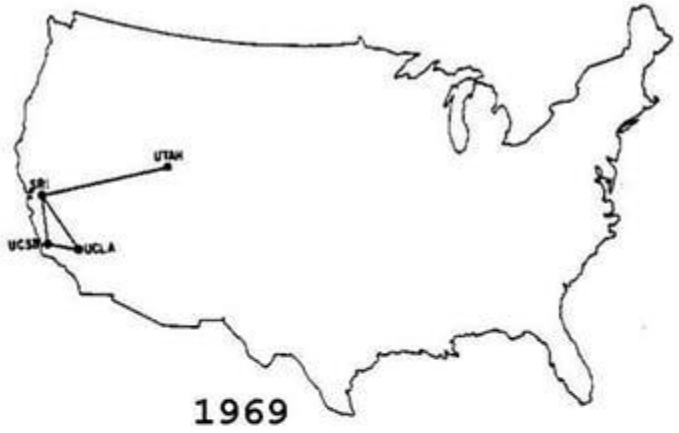
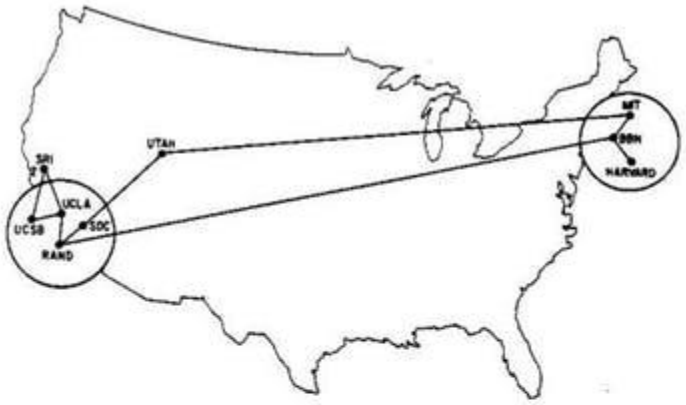
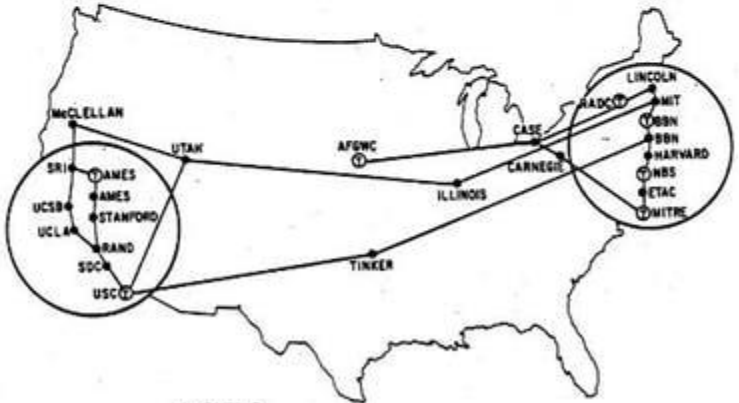


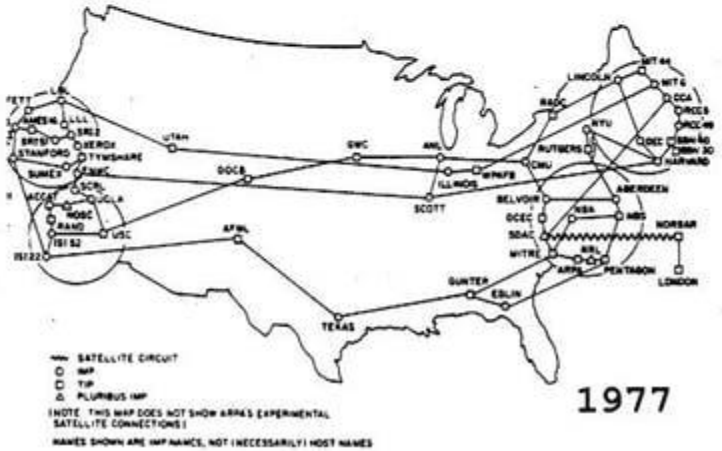
1969



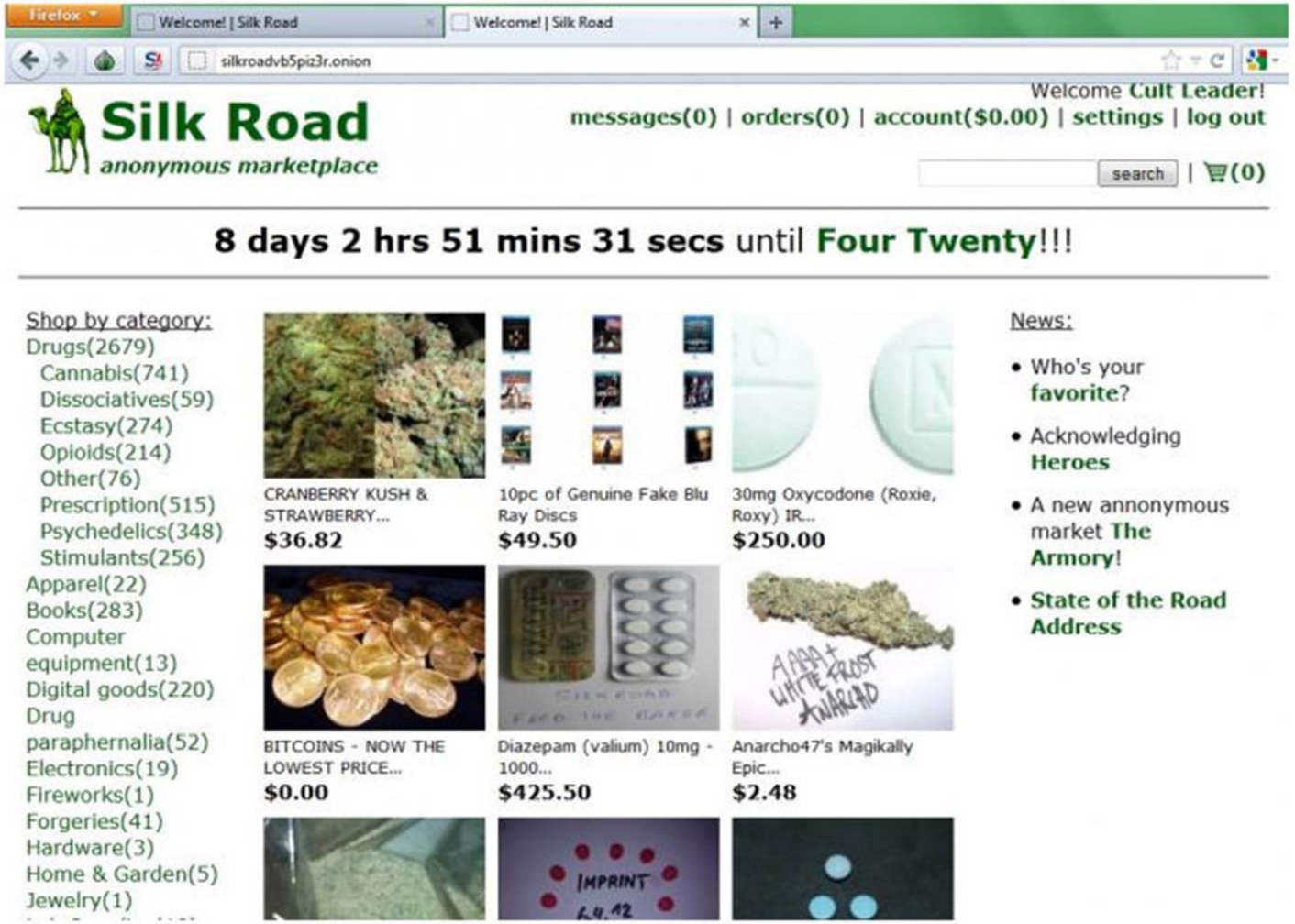
1970



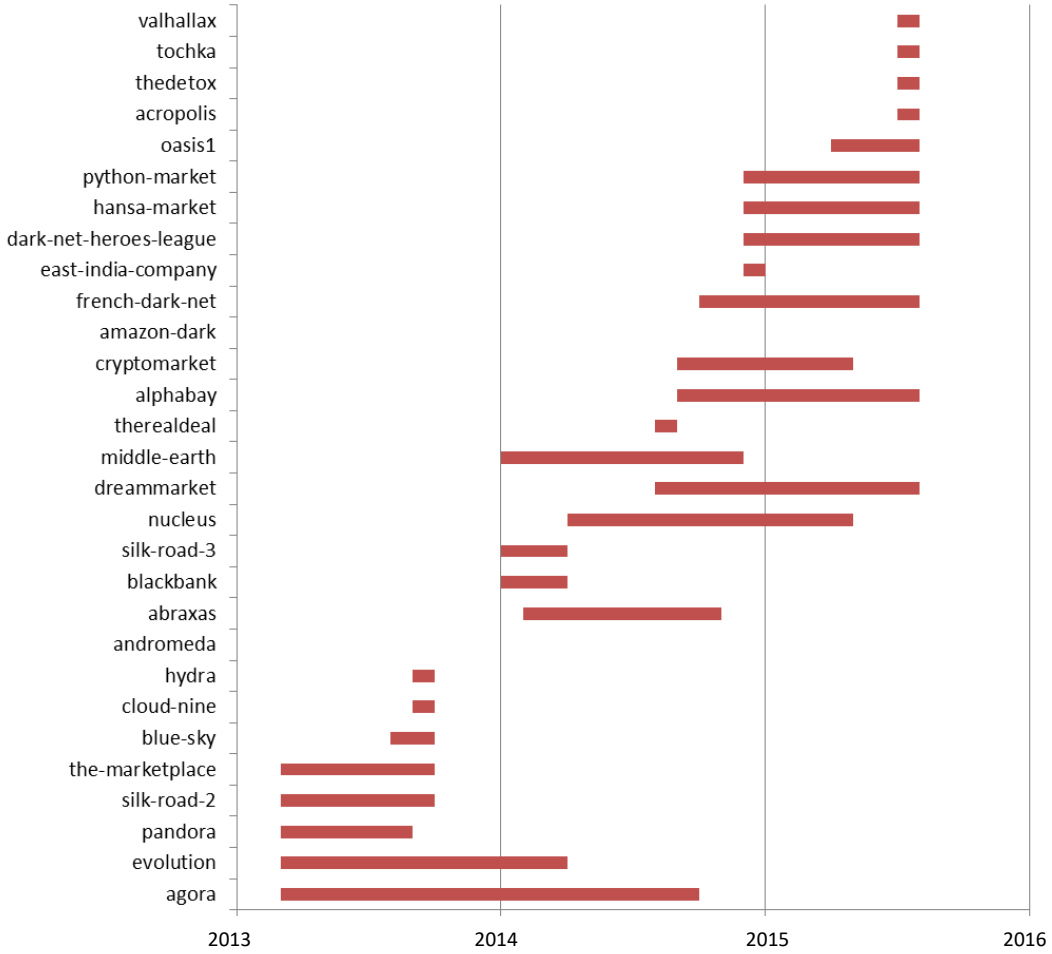
1972



1977


Firefox
Welcome! | Silk Road
Welcome! | Silk Road
silkroadvb5piz3r.onion
Silk Road
anonymous marketplace
Welcome Cult Leader!
messages(0) | orders(0) | account($0.00) | settings | log out
search | (0)
8 days 2 hrs 51 mins 31 secs until Four Twenty!!!
Shop by category:
Drugs(2679)
Cannabis(741)
Dissociatives(59)
Ecstasy(274)
Opioids(214)
Other(76)
Prescription(515)
Psychedelics(348)
Stimulants(256)
Apparel(22)
Books(283)
Computer equipment(13)
Digital goods(220)
Drug paraphernalia(52)
Electronics(19)
Fireworks(1)
Forgeries(41)
Hardware(3)
Home & Garden(5)
Jewelry(1)
CRANBERRY KUSH & STRAWBERRY...
$36.82
10pc of Genuine Fake Blu Ray Discs
$49.50
30mg Oxycodone (Roxie, Roxy) IR...
$250.00
BITCOINS - NOW THE LOWEST PRICE...
$0.00
Diazepam (valium) 10mg - 1000...
$425.50
Anarcho47's Magikally Epic...
$2.48
IMPRINT
News:
Who's your favorite?
Acknowledging Heroes
A new annonymous market The Armory!
State of the Road Address

DATACRYPTO



RESEARCH-ARTICLE

Traveling the silk road: a measurement analysis of a large anonymous online marketplace

Author: Nicolas Christin Authors Info & Affiliations

Publication: WWW '13: Proceedings of the 22nd international conference on World Wide Web • May 2013 • Pages 213–224 • https://doi.org/10.1145/2488388.2488408

138 2,817 Get Access

ABSTRACT

We perform a comprehensive measurement analysis of Silk Road, an anonymous, international online marketplace that operates as a Tor hidden service and uses Bitcoin as its exchange currency. We gather and analyze data over eight months between the end of 2011 and 2012, including daily crawls of the marketplace for nearly six months in 2012. We obtain a detailed picture of the type of goods sold on Silk Road, and of the revenues made both by sellers and Silk Road operators. Through examining over 24,400 separate items sold on the site, we show that Silk Road is overwhelmingly used as a market for controlled substances and narcotics, and that most items sold are available for less than three weeks. The majority of sellers disappears within roughly three months of their arrival, but a core of 112 sellers has

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Research

Effect of restricting the legal supply of prescription opioids on buying through online illicit marketplaces: interrupted time series analysis

BMJ 2018 ; 361 doi: https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.k2270 (Published 13 June 2018)
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2018;361:k2270

Linked Editorial
Tighter prescribing regulations drive illicit opioid sales

Article | Related content | Metrics | Responses | Peer review

James Martin, associate professor of criminology [1], Jack Cunliffe, lecturer in quantitative methods and criminology [2], David Décary-Hétu, assistant professor of criminology [3], Judith Aldridge, professor of criminology [4]

Author affiliations

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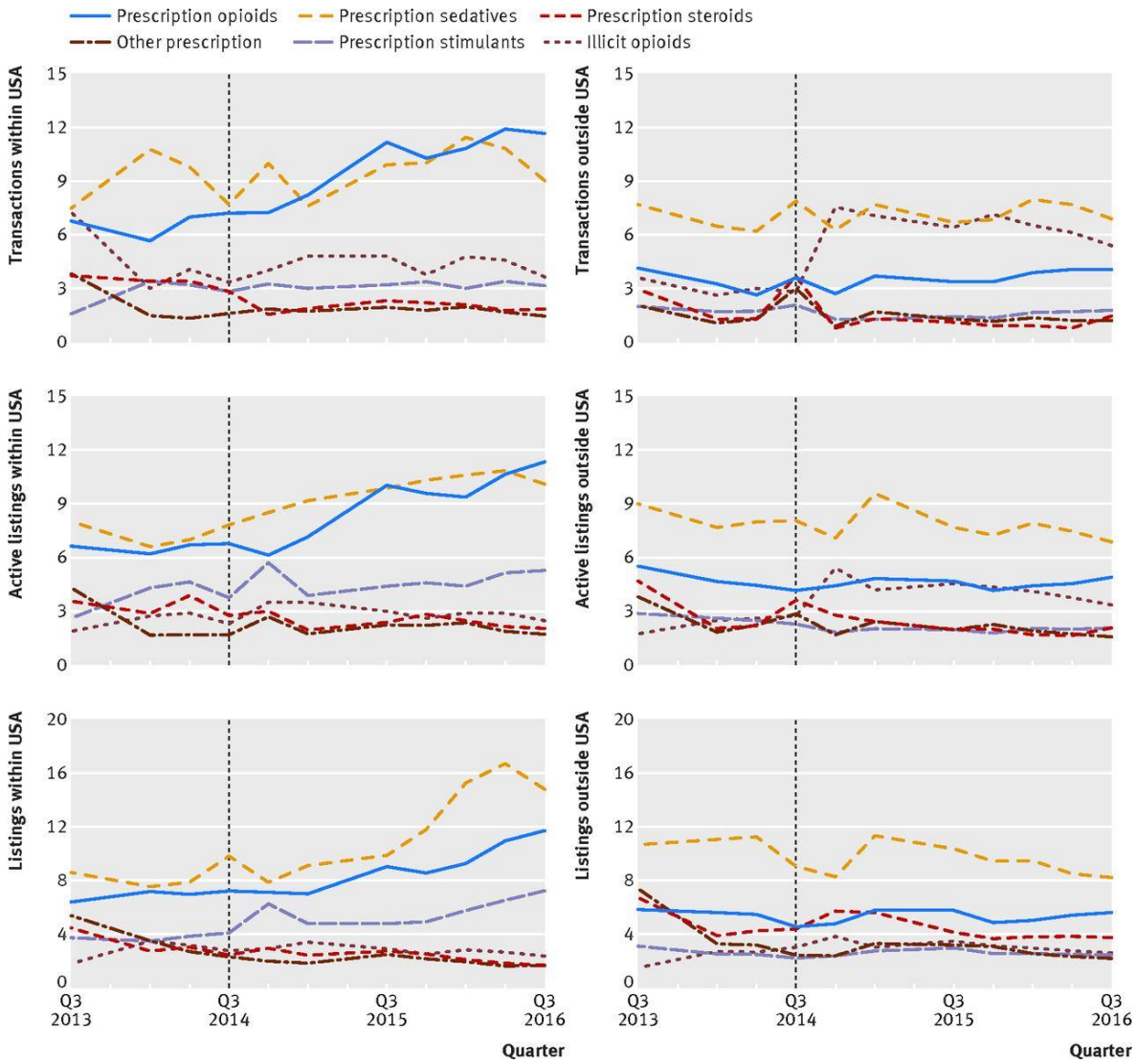
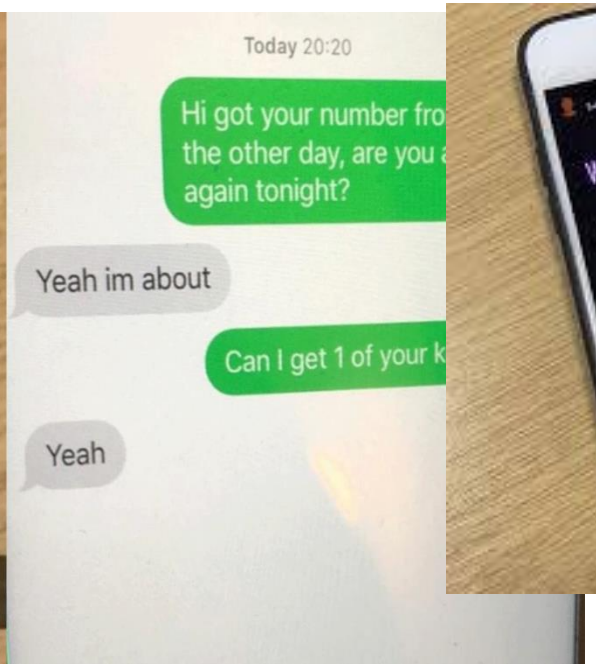
Accepted 22 April 2018

Percentage of online drug transactions, active listings, and listings by drug category for products sold within the US compared with elsewhere, quarter 3 2013 to quarter 3 2016.



Social media dealing

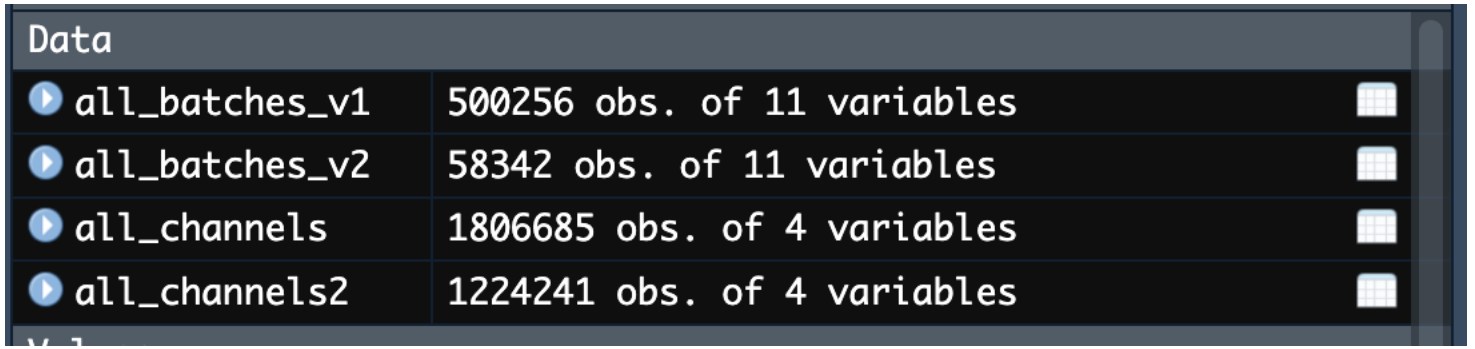


wickr

Can we collect and analyse Telegram information in the same way we've approached cryptomarkets?

Data collection

- Python script using the Telegram API
- Started with 25 initial channels
  - broadly based in Berlin and London
- scraped and parsed, collected telegram links, iterated the process 3 times
- Repeated twice, in March and May



	March scrape		May scrape	
	Unique channels	Containing links	Unique channels	Containing links
Level 1	25	15	25	10
Level 2	315	40	344	6
Level 3	1396		85	
Total unique channels	1525		428	
Public	539	35%	183	43%
Private	986	65%	245	57%

They are illicit drug channels

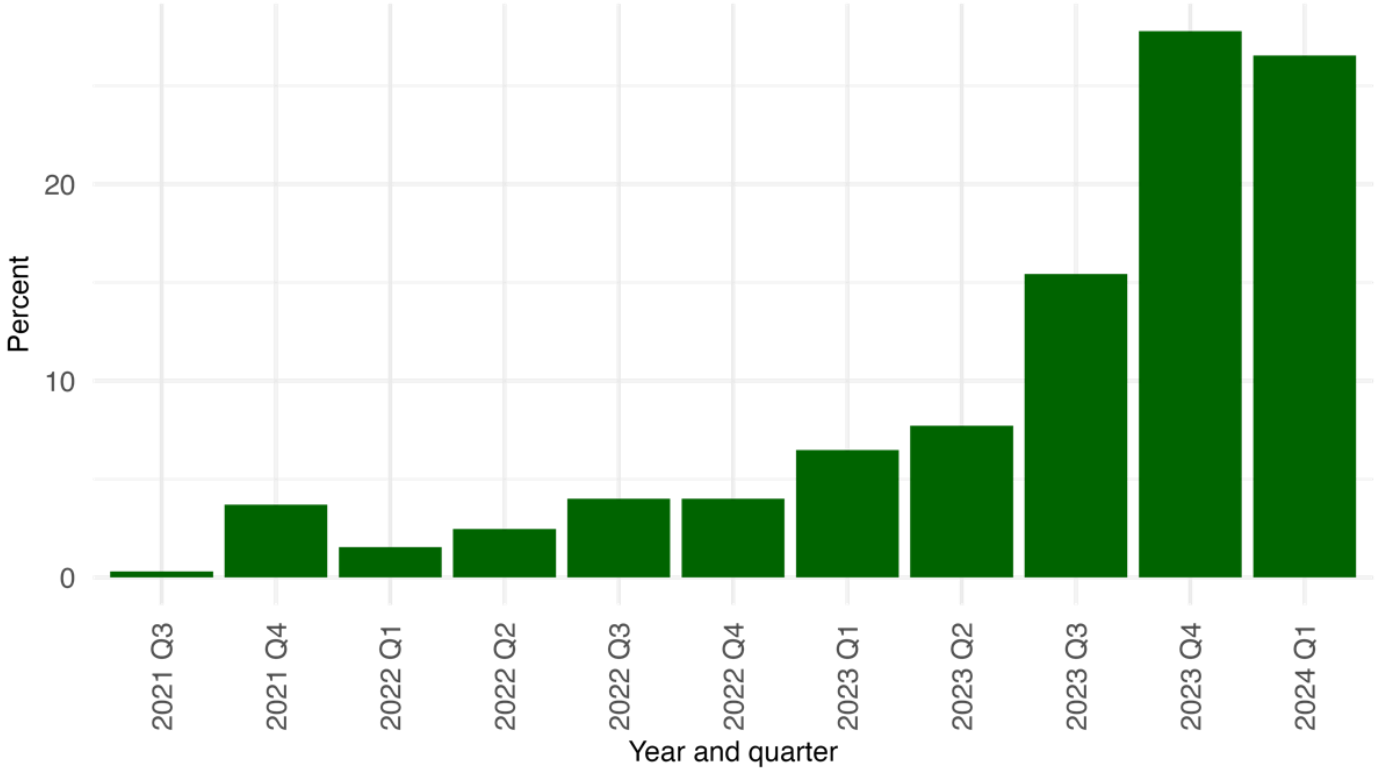
- Channel A:
  Free Delivery on All Purchases
  Some of the Best Prices
  Smartwhips and chargers on post!

- Channel B:
  THC Edibles
  Best U.K. flower
  THC lean
  Pre Rolls 🌶️🌿🥤💨
  Guarantee next day delivery 🤝💯🚚
  Vouched by many ✅✅

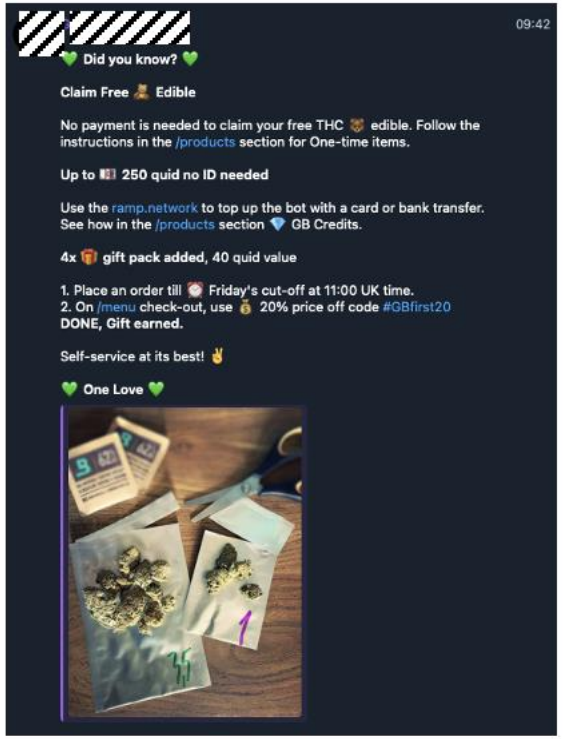
- Channel C:
  No1 suppliers for the best snow ❄️❄️ and all your other party needs 💯💯

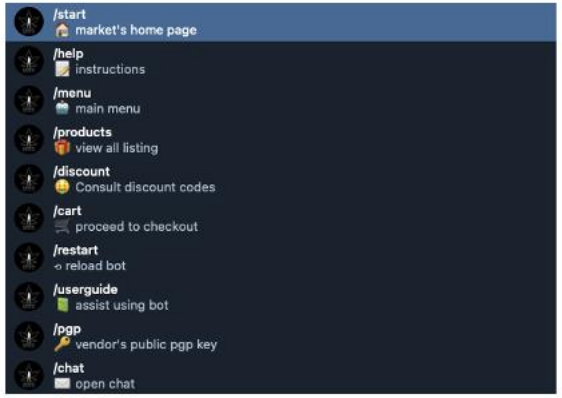
Dip sampling of private channels (N = 50) confirmed that all were indeed people selling illicit drugs

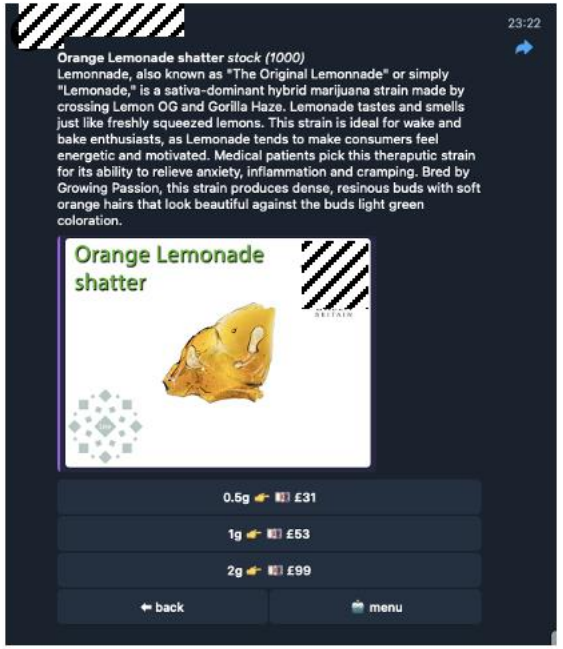
Survival and size

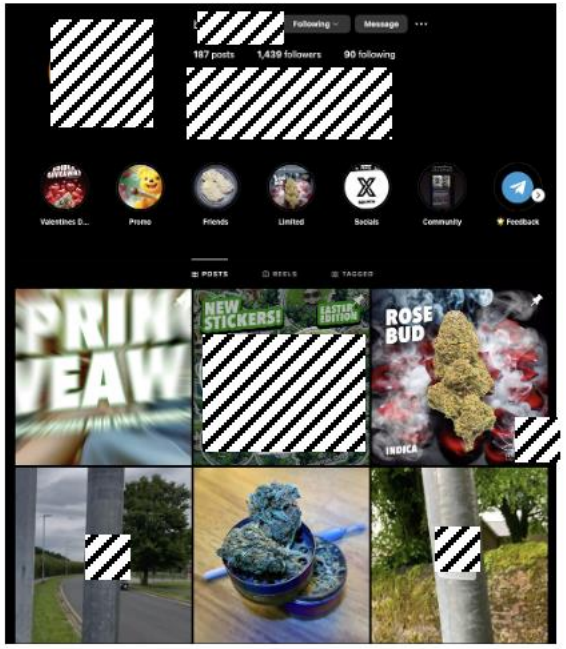


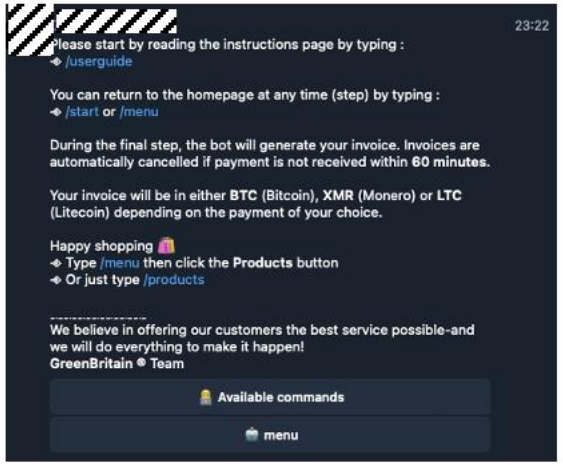
Percentile	Number of subscribers
10th	6
20th	16
30th	34
40th	68
50th	116
60th	195
70th	300
80th	525
90th	1401
95th	2082
99th	5854
Max	150757

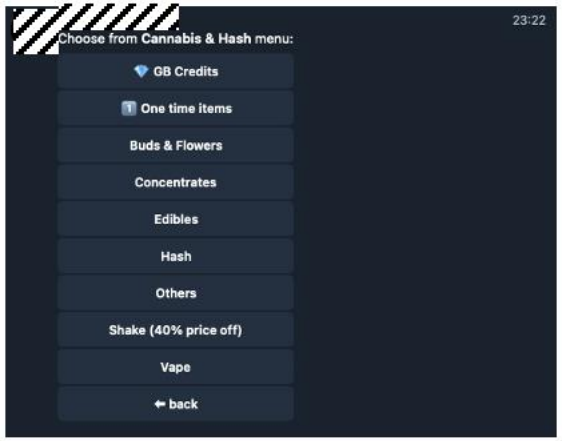

09:42
Did you know?
Claim Free Edible
No payment is needed to claim your free THC edible. Follow the instructions in the /products section for One-time items.
Up to 250 quid no ID needed
Use the ramp.network to top up the bot with a card or bank transfer. See how in the /products section GB Credits.
4x gift pack added, 40 quid value
1. Place an order till Friday's cut-off at 11:00 UK time.
2. On /menu check-out, use 20% price off code #GBfirst20
DONE, Gift earned.
Self-service at its best!
One Love


/start
market's home page
/help
instructions
/menu
main menu
/products
view all listing
/discount
Consult discount codes
/cart
proceed to checkout
/restart
reload bot
/userguide
assist using bot
/pgp
vendor's public pgp key
/chat
open chat

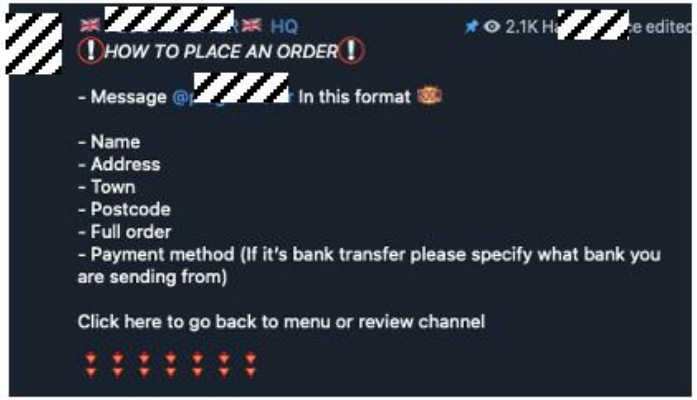

23:22
Orange Lemonade shatter stock (1000)
Lemonnade, also known as "The Original Lemonnade" or simply "Lemonade," is a sativa-dominant hybrid marijuana strain made by crossing Lemon OG and Gorilla Haze. Lemonade tastes and smells just like freshly squeezed lemons. This strain is ideal for wake and bake enthusiasts, as Lemonade tends to make consumers feel energetic and motivated. Medical patients pick this theraputic strain for its ability to relieve anxiety, inflammation and cramping. Bred by Growing Passion, this strain produces dense, resinous buds with soft orange hairs that look beautiful against the buds light green coloration.
Orange Lemonade shatter
0.5g £31
1g £53
2g £99
back
menu


187 posts
1,439 followers
90 following
Following
Message
NEW STICKERS!
ROSE BUD
INDICA


23:22
Please start by reading the instructions page by typing :
/userguide
You can return to the homepage at any time (step) by typing :
/start or /menu
During the final step, the bot will generate your invoice. Invoices are automatically cancelled if payment is not received within 60 minutes.
Your invoice will be in either BTC (Bitcoin), XMR (Monero) or LTC (Litecoin) depending on the payment of your choice.
Happy shopping
Type /menu then click the Products button
Or just type /products
We believe in offering our customers the best service possible-and we will do everything to make it happen!
GreenBritain Team
Available commands
menu

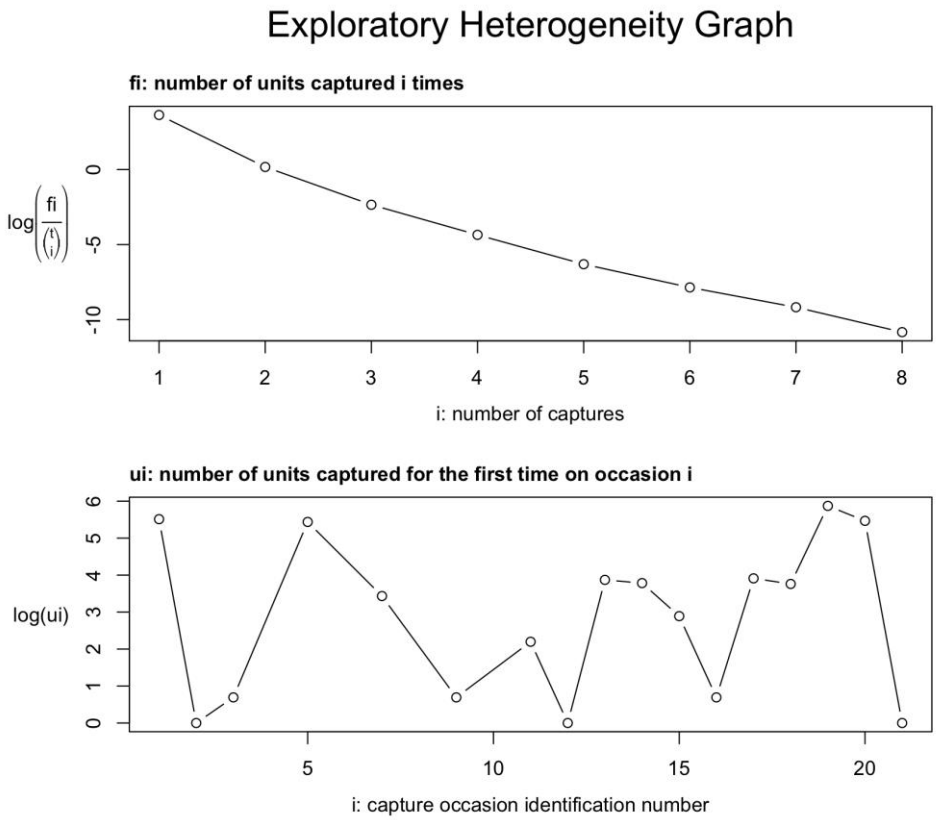

23:22
Choose from Cannabis & Hash menu:
GB Credits
One time items
Buds & Flowers
Concentrates
Edibles
Hash
Others
Shake (40% price off)
Vape
back

HQ
968 subscribers


HQ
HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER
- Message @ In this format
- Name
- Address
- Town
- Postcode
- Full order
- Payment method (If it's bank transfer please specify what bank you are sending from)
Click here to go back to menu or review channel

06 February
UPDATED MENU (CURRENT STOCK)
Edibles
1-15 2-25 5-50 10-80 25-190 50-300 100-400
Cocaine
0.35G-£35 0.5G-£50 1G-£80 2G-£140 14G-£650 28G-£1200
Ecstacy
1-£10 2-£20 4-£30 10-£75 50-£160 100-£300
Acid
1-£10 2-£20 3-£30 4-£40 5-£45 10-£80 25-£160 50-£275
Cali vapes
1-£60 2-£110 5-£200 10-£350 20-£500
Thc mixers
1-£20 2-£35 5-£60 10-£80 50-£300 100-£550
Power raw
10ml-£30 100ml-£100 500ml-£350 1Litre-£450
Hash
7G-£50 14G-£90 25G-£140 50G-£200 100G-£350
Top shelf Cali
1G-£25 3.5G-£70 7G-£130
PAYPAL
BANK TRANSFER
CRYPTO
CASH IN POST
If your ready to order message @ with your address in this format -
Name
Address
Postcode
Town

Multiple systems estimation




```
Number of captured units: 1322

Abundance estimations and model fits:
              abundance stderr deviance df     AIC     BIC    infoFit
M0               1733.8   31.7  327.484 19 378.170 388.544 warning #3
Mh Chao (LB)     2530.7  120.1    3.468 12  68.154 114.836         OK
Mh Poisson2      1733.9   31.7  327.336 18 380.022 395.582         OK
Mh Darroch       2217.9   63.1   87.933 18 140.619 156.180         OK
Mh Gamma3.5      3914.9  280.7   18.997 18  71.683  87.244         OK
```

Conclusions

- Does appear to be lively illicit drug trade on Telegram
  - channels appear and disappear, with a handful dominating
  - mainly seems to be cannabis, MDMA, cocaine, psychedelics
  - less evidence of opioids
- Bot appear to be relatively widespread and with a ‘certain way of doing things’
- Lot of limitations and avenues for more work!
  - Requires a much more systematic approach with significantly more resource

Le Monde

PIXELS · SOCIAL MEDIA

Telegram CEO Pavel Durov arrested in France in world-first case

The founder of the messaging service was arrested on Saturday evening at Le Bourget airport outside of Paris. He is the subject of an investigation for the lack of moderation on his platform.

By Damien Leloup and Benjamin Quénelle (Moscou, correspondant)
Published on August 25, 2024, at 4:35 pm (Paris) · 6 min read · Lire en français

Subscribers only

Pavel Durov, CEO and co-founder of Telegram, speaks on stage during the first day of TechCrunch Disrupt SF on September 21, 2015 in San Francisco, California. STEVE JENNINGS / AFP

Thanks for listening

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