An Analysis of the Relationship between Netflix's Movies and Popularity

June 30, 2022

1 Introduction

1.1 Description

This notebook contains an analysis of hidden trends between some basic information regarding a particular movie or show and the rating/popularity said movie or show receives on IMDb or TMDB (link to dataset). Moreover, this notebook uses various models to predict the popularity a movie or show receives on TMDB.

Note that this notebook was created primarily to analyze the trends in a dataset, whatever information it may regard; essentially, this was intended to be a practice exercise. However, I found some appealing and unexpected patterns in this movie/show dataset that prompted me to release my work on Kaggle.

1.2 Executive Summary

This summary briefly captures the gist of the information discussed. It is recommended that you look through the whole notebook, or even conduct some research of your own, to discover all the patterns/trends that lay hidden.

The analysis of this dataset verified some expected trends that one might expect. The thriller genre was the most popular, and shows from Korea, Japan, and China were highly successful in terms of popularity. While confirming many patent trends, the analysis also sheds light on some unexpected nuances. For example, there was no connection between the score a movie received on TMDB and the popularity it received on the TMDB. The rating on IMDb and the popularity on TMDB exhibited a similar relationship as well. Countries such as Colombia and Poland were chosen quite frequently as locations for production and had more popularity as well. Additionally, shows for younger audiences, rated either TV-G, TV-Y, or TV-Y7, received high popularity ratings on TMDB. These shows scored higher (on average) on IMDb and TMDB.

While subtle, these trends may have some implications for the average movie/show director, especially one interested in optimizing popularity. To achieve such an ambitious goal, a director may want to create a thriller show for younger audiences with a large number of seasons.

2 Exploration Objectives

This section is primarily concerned with identifying trends between two or three features from the data set. Notice that many of the relationships are between a feature and a scoring metric.

Primarily, the scoring metrics utilized will the rating on IMDB, the rating on TMDB, and the popularity on TMDB. One potential metric, namely the number of votes on IMDb, is not used.

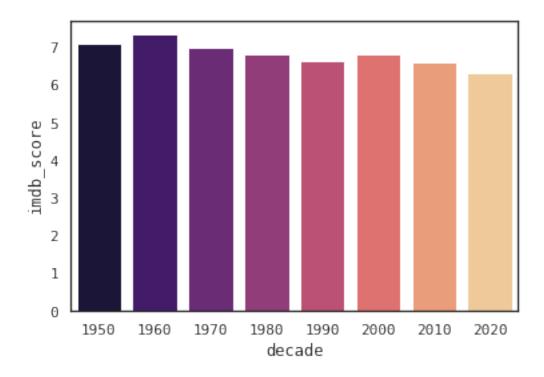
```
[2]: # Load modules, data + initialize configuration
     import pandas as pd
     import seaborn as sns
     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
     import numpy as np
     PALETTE = 'magma'
     sns.set theme(style="white")
    plt.rcParams["font.family"] = "monospace"
     df = pd.read_csv("titles.csv")
[5]:
     df.head()
[5]:
                                                   title
                                                           type
        ts300399
                  Five Came Back: The Reference Films
                                                           SHOW
                                            Taxi Driver MOVIE
     1
         tm84618
     2
       tm127384
                       Monty Python and the Holy Grail
                                                          MOVIE
     3
         tm70993
                                          Life of Brian
                                                          MOVIE
        tm190788
                                           The Exorcist
                                                         MOVIE
                                                 description release_year \
       This collection includes 12 World War II-era p...
                                                                     1945
       A mentally unstable Vietnam War veteran works ...
                                                                     1976
     1
     2 King Arthur, accompanied by his squire, recrui...
                                                                     1975
     3 Brian Cohen is an average young Jewish man, bu...
                                                                     1979
     4 12-year-old Regan MacNeil begins to adapt an e...
                                                                     1973
                                                     genres production_countries
       age_certification
                           runtime
     0
                    TV-MA
                                 48
                                         ['documentation']
                                                                           ['US']
     1
                        R
                                113
                                        ['crime', 'drama']
                                                                           ['US']
                                     ['comedy', 'fantasy']
     2
                       PG
                                 91
                                                                           ['GB']
     3
                        R
                                 94
                                                 ['comedy']
                                                                           ['GB']
                                                 ['horror']
     4
                        R
                                133
                                                                           ['US']
                             imdb_score
                                          imdb_votes
                                                       tmdb_popularity
                                                                         tmdb_score
        seasons
                    imdb_id
     0
            1.0
                        NaN
                                     NaN
                                                  {\tt NaN}
                                                                  0.600
                                                                                NaN
                 tt0075314
                                     8.3
                                            795222.0
                                                                 27.612
                                                                                8.2
     1
            {\tt NaN}
     2
            {\tt NaN}
                 tt0071853
                                     8.2
                                            530877.0
                                                                 18.216
                                                                                7.8
     3
                 tt0079470
                                     8.0
                                            392419.0
                                                                 17.505
                                                                                7.8
            NaN
     4
                 tt0070047
                                     8.1
                                            391942.0
                                                                 95.337
                                                                                7.7
            NaN
```

2.1 Release Year vs Score

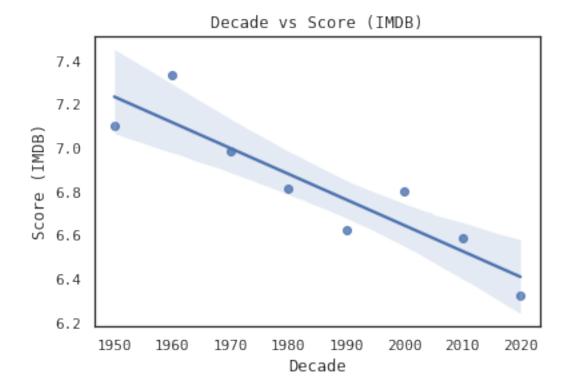
This section describes the relationship between the release year and each of the scoring metrics. Moreover, I have grouped the release years into decades as this might yield interesting results.

```
[8]: # Get data where `imdb_votes` and `tmdb_score` are not null
     df_cleaned = df[(~df['imdb_score'].isnull()) & (~df['tmdb_score'].isnull())]
     df 1 = df cleaned.copy()
     # Group the release year by decade
     def get_decade(val):
       return int(str(val)[0:-1] + "0")
     df_1['decade'] = df_1['release_year'].map(get_decade)
     df_1['decade'].value_counts()
[8]: 2010
             3046
     2020
             1442
     2000
              355
     1990
              126
     1980
               48
     1970
               21
     1960
               11
     1950
               6
     Name: decade, dtype: int64
[9]: # Make bar plot of `decade` vs `score`
     decade_score_relations = df_1.groupby('decade').aggregate({"imdb_score":__
      →"mean", "tmdb_score": "mean"})
[10]: sns.barplot(x=decade_score_relations.index,_
```

[10]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='decade', ylabel='imdb_score'>



Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Decade vs Score (IMDB)')]

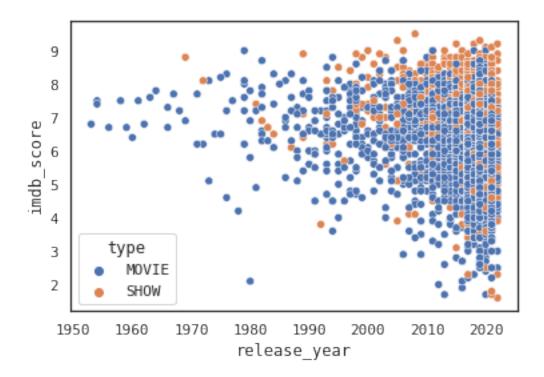


There seems to be an incredibly minute downward trend in the IMDB scores of each decade.

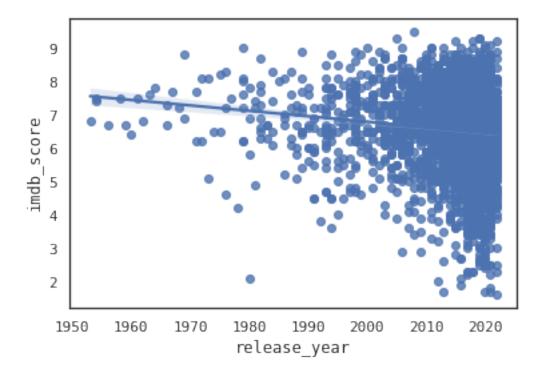
Note: the values plotted for each decade are the **means** of the imdb_score values for that decade.

Consider the following plots, which do not group by decade; rather, it uses the original year value.

```
[13]: sns.scatterplot(x=df_1['release_year'], y=df_1['imdb_score'], hue=df_1['type'])
plt.show()
sns.regplot(x=df_1['release_year'], y=df_1['imdb_score'])
```



[13]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='release_year', ylabel='imdb_score'>



Although this plot is incredibly messy, the regression line still has a visibly negative slope. The reason for the downward trend in IMDB scores is hard to formulate, but there is some plausible reasoning.

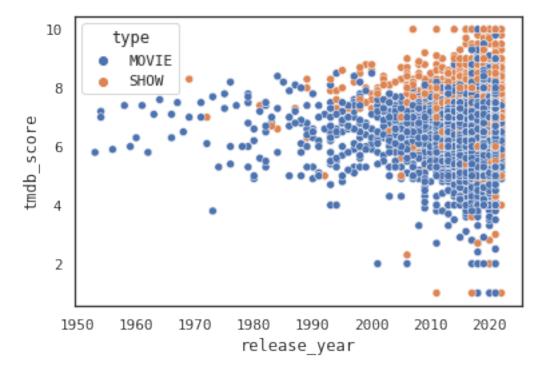
One possible explanation is based on the technology available at that time. Early films did not have the advanced video editors, CGI, or the postprocessing effects that films of today so eagerly indulge. Thus, early directors would need to create an extraordinarily intriguing plot. Yes, directors of today do place an emphasis on plot; however, they have technology that can adequately make up for a bad plot for the average viewer.

Nevertheless, this is only the trend for IMDb; the complete picture may suggest something different.

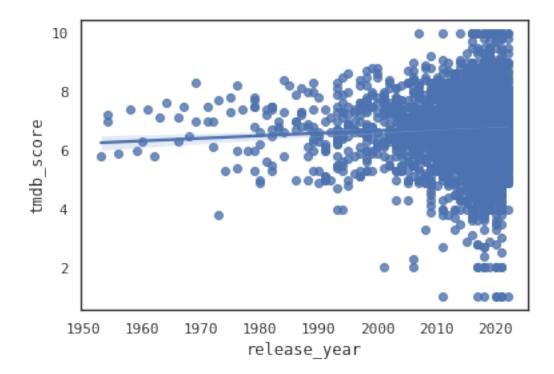
```
[]: # Plot relationship between `decade` and `tmdb_score`, once again using the average values per decade
sns.regplot(x=decade_score_relations.index, y=decade_score_relations['tmdb_score'], degree=2)

[14]: # Plot relationship between `release year` and `tmdb score`
```

```
[14]: # Plot relationship between `release year` and `tmdb_score`
sns.scatterplot(x=df_1['release_year'], y=df_1['tmdb_score'], hue=df_1['type'])
plt.show()
sns.regplot(x=df_1['release_year'], y=df_1['tmdb_score'])
```



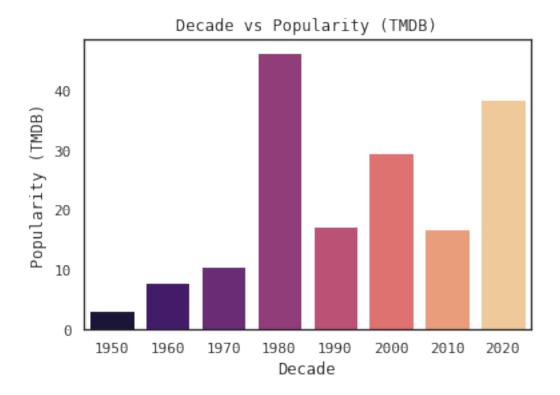
[14]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='release_year', ylabel='tmdb_score'>



Interestingly enough, the tmdb_score values increase as time progresses.

This stark difference can then be attributed to either the ages of the users at IMDb or TMDB. Younger people tend to prefer today's movies while older folks may prefer movies from the '90s, '80s', or even the '70s.

There is one final metric that we have not looked at, namely the popularity on TMDB.



There is a slight upward trend in the popularity of movies. This suggests that, as time progresses, the movies (on average) will receive higher popularity scores.

The '80s had the movies with the highest average TMDB popularity. The next cell prints some of the movies, see if you recognize these titles.

```
[16]: df_1[df_1['decade'] == 1980].sort_values(by='tmdb_popularity', □ 

⇔ascending=False)['title'].head(10)
```

```
[16]: 64
                      Wheel of Fortune
      47
                              Seinfeld
      46
                               Top Gun
      54
            A Nightmare on Elm Street
      57
                      Thomas & Friends
      55
                          Knight Rider
      8
                       The Blue Lagoon
      52
                     Full Metal Jacket
      59
                          Pet Sematary
      66
                           Fireman Sam
      Name: title, dtype: object
```

Moreover, here are the titles with the highest TMDB popularity

```
[17]: df.sort_values(by='tmdb_popularity', ascending=False)['title'].head(10)
```

```
[17]: 4869
                        365 Days: This Day
                          The Marked Heart
      4875
      64
                          Wheel of Fortune
      4988
              Yaksha: Ruthless Operations
                            Grey's Anatomy
      247
      916
                            Peaky Blinders
      4865
                                Black Crab
      4832
                              Heartstopper
      4836
                          The Adam Project
      5046
                      Fistful of Vengeance
      Name: title, dtype: object
```

2.1.1 Conclusion

As time progresses, the ratings of movies and shows on IMDb and TMDB, when averaged, will roughly remain the same. The popularity, on the other hand, has shown to be especially high for certain periods, yet it nonetheless continues a slight upward trend.

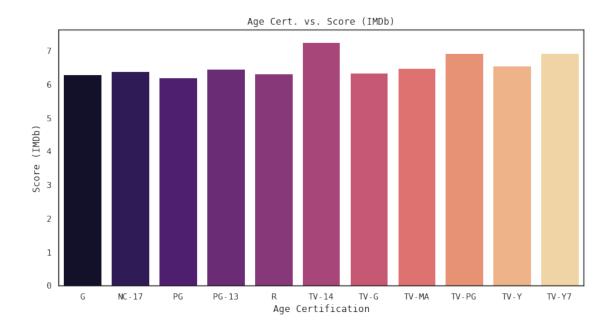
2.2 Age Certification vs Score

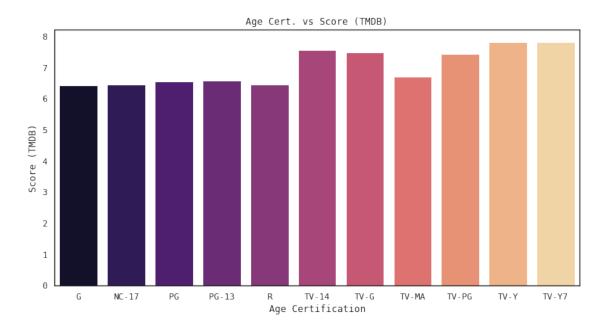
This next section is about the trend that various different age certifications (e.g., TV-G, TV-14, R, PG-13, etc.) exhibit with rating and popularity.

```
[5]: # Count the number of null values in the dataset
     df['age_certification'].isnull().sum()
 [5]: 2610
[19]: # Fill null values with mode
     df['age_certification'].fillna(df['age_certification'].mode()[0], inplace=True)
[20]: df_2 = df[(\df[\imdb_score'].isnull()) & (\df[\imdb_score'].isnull())]
[21]: age_score = df_2.groupby("age_certification").aggregate({"imdb_score": "mean", ____
      [22]: # Visualize IMDb/TMDB scores
     plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
     sns.barplot(x=age score.index, y=age score['imdb score'], palette=PALETTE).
      ⇒set(xlabel="Age Certification", ylabel="Score (IMDb)", title="Age Cert. vs. ⊔

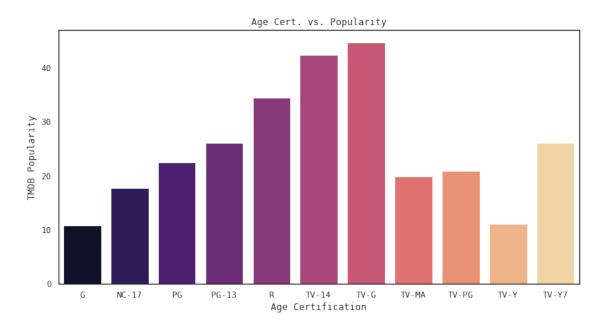
Score (IMDb)")
     plt.show()
     plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
     sns.barplot(x=age_score.index, y=age_score['tmdb_score'], palette=PALETTE).
      ⇒set(xlabel="Age Certification", ylabel="Score (TMDB)", title="Age Cert. vs. |

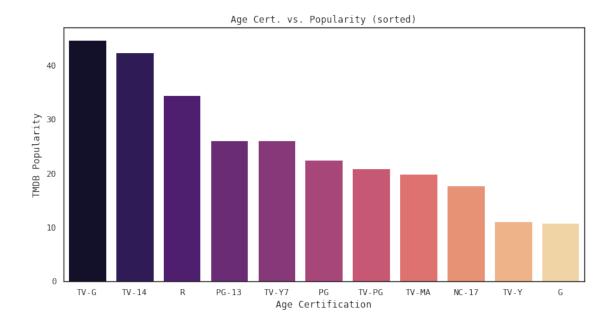
Score (TMDB)")
```





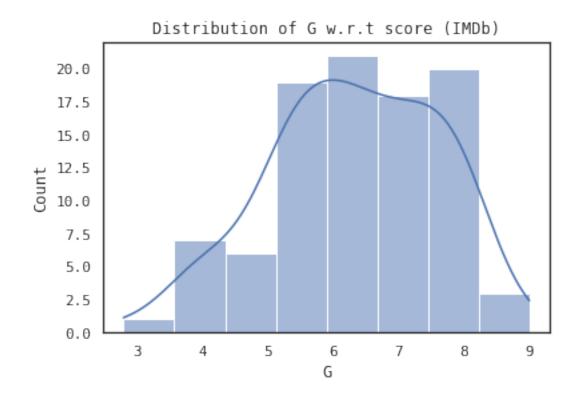
The distribution of average scores for each certification is fairly uniform, something that I was not expecting.

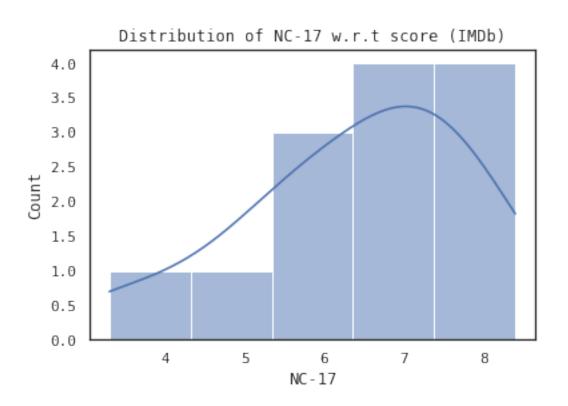


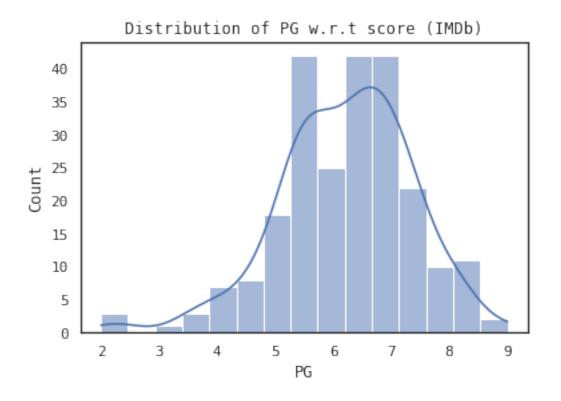


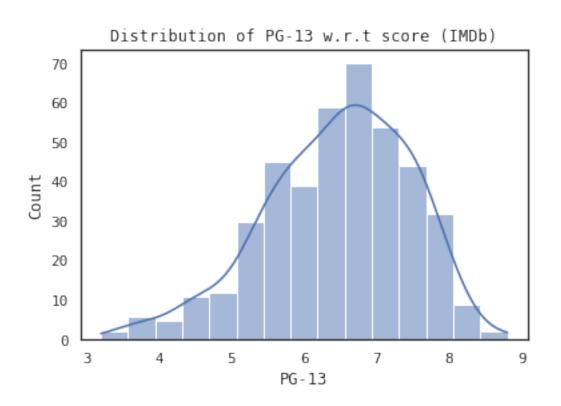
Interestingly enough, TV-G is the most popular age certification among the shows and R is the most popular age certification among the movies.

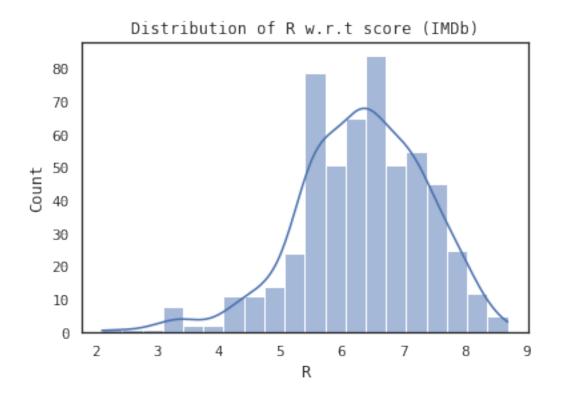
To see how much variation and nuance there is within a particular category, we can plot a histogram.

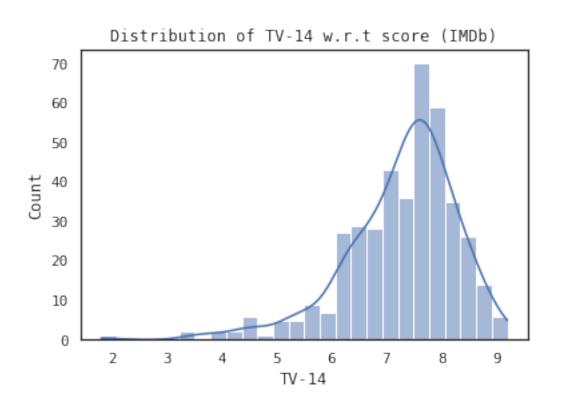


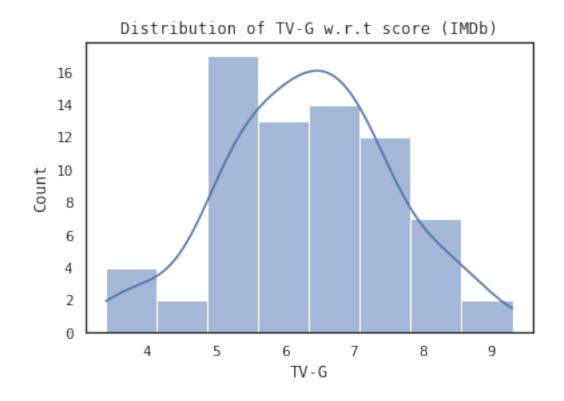


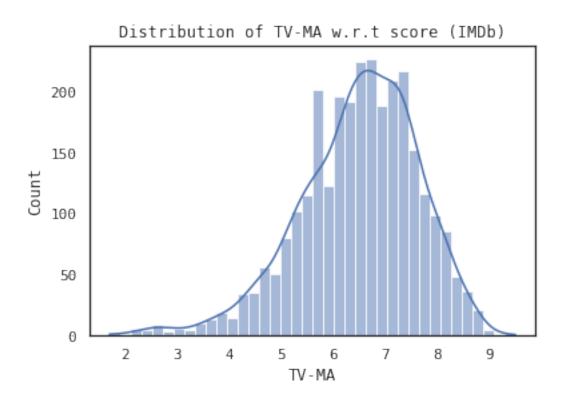


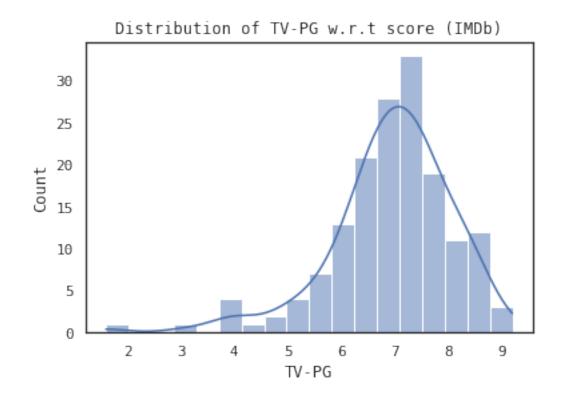


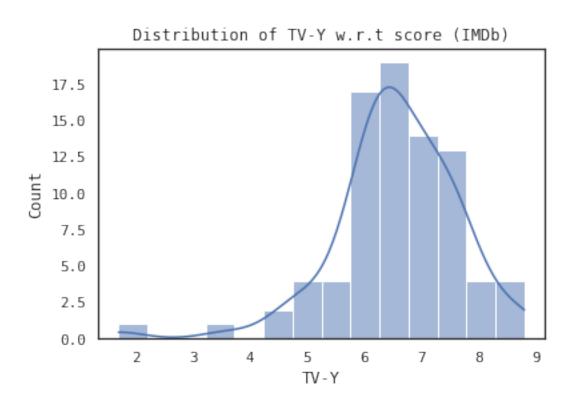


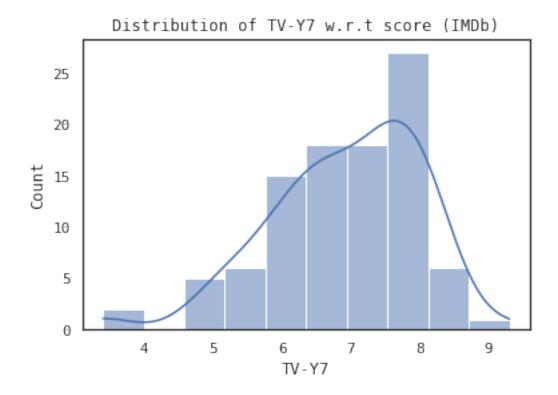












Although some are skewed slightly, the distributions within each certification are mostly normal.

2.2.1 Conclusion

The age certification did not seem to affect rating as one might expect it would have; the distribution was quite uniform. Moreover, within each certification, the distribution of scores was normal. The intriguing part of this mini-exploration was the surprising popularity of TV-G shows on TMDB. These are rated highly likely due to their ability to keep young children distracted while parents tend to important matters. Additionally, some shows catered towards kids include subtle adult jokes.

2.3 Genre vs. Score

Next, we will explore how the genre of a movie can impact the score it receives on IMDb or TMDB.

Unfortunately, the organization of the data makes the **genre** column somewhat difficult to work with. Instead of simply one value of genre, we are given a list of genres, which is then transformed into a string.

Before we attempt to clean/parse the column, however, let us take a peek at some of the values that constitute this column.

[16]: df['genres'].value_counts()

```
[16]: ['comedy']
                                                              510
      ['drama']
                                                              350
      ['documentation']
                                                              320
      ['comedy', 'drama']
                                                              141
      ['drama', 'comedy']
                                                              128
      ['drama', 'family', 'comedy', 'music']
                                                                1
      ['drama', 'thriller', 'western']
      ['comedy', 'thriller', 'drama', 'action', 'crime']
                                                                1
      ['romance', 'drama', 'history', 'european']
                                                                1
      ['family', 'comedy', 'animation']
                                                                1
      Name: genres, Length: 1626, dtype: int64
```

Uh-oh. The value_counts method usually returns a nice pd.Series that has each value and its respective count. Due to the structure of the data, the method cannot parse the values in the most fitting manner. So, we must do the parsing ourselves.

```
[6]: # Parse genre column
genres = {}

def get_genres(row):
    parsed = (str(row)[1:-1]).split(",")

for i in range(len(parsed)):
    parsed[i] = parsed[i].strip()
    parsed[i] = parsed[i][1:-1]

for i in parsed:
    if i not in genres.keys():
        genres[i] = 0
        continue
    genres[i] += 1

    return row

df['genres'] = df['genres'].map(get_genres)
genres
```

```
'romance': 957,
'family': 621,
'western': 43,
'war': 148,
'animation': 664,
'history': 232,
'scifi': 586,
'reality': 222,
'sport': 165,
'': 67}
```

Now we get a glimpse of the data.

Note: the '' corresponds to no genre.

We will now modify the get_genres function to transform the original columns. We will only use the first element of each value in the genres column.

```
[19]: def transform_genres(row):
    parsed = (str(row)[1:-1]).split(",")

    for i in range(len(parsed)):
        parsed[i] = parsed[i].strip()[1:-1]

    for i in parsed:
        if i not in genres.keys():
            genres[i] = 0
            continue
        genres[i] += 1

    return parsed[0] if parsed[0] != '' else 'none'
```

```
[20]: # Perform the transformation
    df['genres_transformed'] = df['genres'].map(transform_genres)
    df['genres_transformed'].value_counts()
```

```
[20]: drama
                        1432
      comedy
                        1310
      documentation
                         588
      thriller
                         442
      action
                         292
      scifi
                         289
      romance
                         265
      crime
                         254
      animation
                         232
      reality
                         176
      fantasy
                         143
      horror
                         121
      none
                          68
```

```
      family
      66

      music
      50

      war
      43

      western
      22

      history
      9

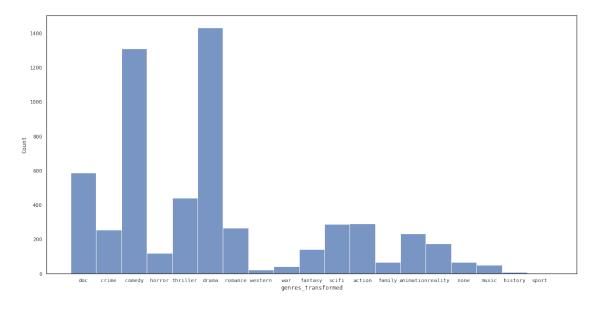
      sport
      4
```

Name: genres_transformed, dtype: int64

Now we get a clean list of all the genres.

Before we observe the relationship between the genre and the score, let us visualize the distribution of genres.

[21]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='genres_transformed', ylabel='Count'>



Next, we will visualize the relationship between a genre and the average score movies of that genre received.

```
[25]: df_3 = df[(~df['imdb_score'].isnull()) & (~df['tmdb_score'].isnull())] df_3.head()
```

```
[25]: id title type \
1 tm84618 Taxi Driver MOVIE
2 tm127384 Monty Python and the Holy Grail MOVIE
3 tm70993 Life of Brian MOVIE
```

```
Monty Python's Flying Circus
         ts22164
                                                        SHOW
                                                 description
                                                               release_year \
      1 A mentally unstable Vietnam War veteran works ...
                                                                      1976
      2 King Arthur, accompanied by his squire, recrui...
                                                                     1975
      3 Brian Cohen is an average young Jewish man, bu...
                                                                     1979
      4 12-year-old Regan MacNeil begins to adapt an e...
                                                                     1973
      5 A British sketch comedy series with the shows ...
                                                                      1969
        age certification
                            runtime
                                                       genres production countries
      1
                         R
                                113
                                          ['crime', 'drama']
                                                                             ['US']
      2
                        PG
                                 91
                                       ['comedy', 'fantasy']
                                                                             ['GB']
      3
                         R
                                 94
                                                   ['comedy']
                                                                             ['GB']
      4
                                133
                                                   ['horror']
                                                                             ['US']
                         R
      5
                     TV-14
                                 30
                                      ['comedy', 'european']
                                                                             ['GB']
                                           imdb_votes
                                                        tmdb_popularity
                                                                          tmdb_score
         seasons
                     imdb_id
                              imdb_score
      1
             NaN
                  tt0075314
                                      8.3
                                             795222.0
                                                                 27.612
                                                                                 8.2
      2
                  tt0071853
                                      8.2
                                             530877.0
                                                                 18,216
                                                                                 7.8
             NaN
      3
                  tt0079470
                                      8.0
                                                                 17.505
                                                                                 7.8
             {\tt NaN}
                                             392419.0
                                             391942.0
      4
                  tt0070047
                                      8.1
                                                                                 7.7
             NaN
                                                                 95.337
      5
             4.0 tt0063929
                                      8.8
                                              72895.0
                                                                 12.919
                                                                                 8.3
        genres_transformed
      1
                      crime
                     comedy
      2
      3
                     comedy
      4
                     horror
      5
                     comedy
[26]: genre_vs_score = df_3.groupby("genres_transformed").aggregate({"imdb_score":__
       →"mean", "tmdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_popularity": "mean"})
      genre_vs_score.head()
[26]:
                           imdb_score tmdb_score
                                                    tmdb_popularity
      genres transformed
      action
                             6.524906
                                          7.027170
                                                           45.798860
      animation
                             6.561350
                                          7.222086
                                                           17.362252
                                          6.604399
      comedy
                             6.357191
                                                           15.003196
      crime
                             6.729412
                                          6.887395
                                                           24.526845
      doc
                             7.088981
                                          7.126195
                                                            8.122212
```

The Exorcist MOVIE

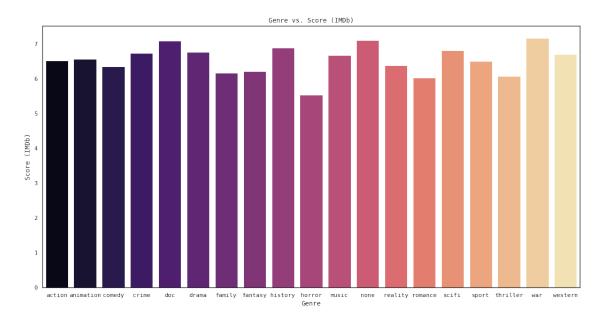
4 tm190788

Note: I included the tmdb_popularity column in this grouping as it prevents us from having to include it at a later point.

```
[27]: plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))
      sns.barplot(x=genre_vs_score.index, y=genre_vs_score['imdb_score'],__
       →palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Genre", ylabel="Score (IMDb)", title="Genre vs.

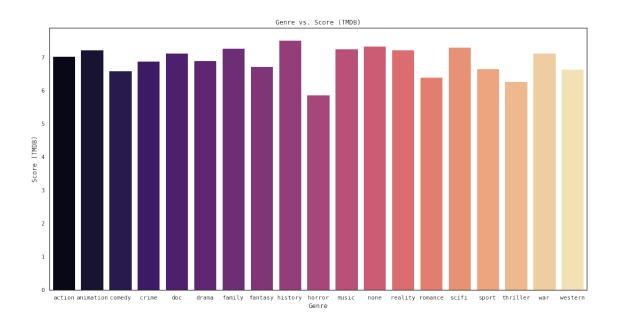
¬Score (IMDb)")
```

```
[27]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Genre'),
      Text(0, 0.5, 'Score (IMDb)'),
       Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Genre vs. Score (IMDb)')]
```



```
[29]: plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))
      sns.barplot(x=genre_vs_score.index, y=genre_vs_score['tmdb_score'],u
      →palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Genre", ylabel="Score (TMDB)", title="Genre vs.
       →Score (TMDB)")
```

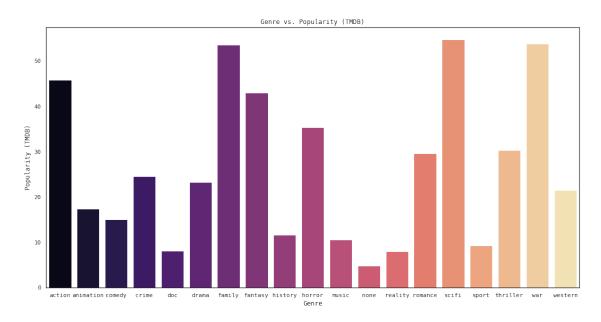
[29]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Genre'), Text(0, 0.5, 'Score (TMDB)'), Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Genre vs. Score (TMDB)')]



```
[30]: plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))
sns.barplot(x=genre_vs_score.index, y=genre_vs_score['tmdb_popularity'],

→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Genre", ylabel="Popularity (TMDB)",

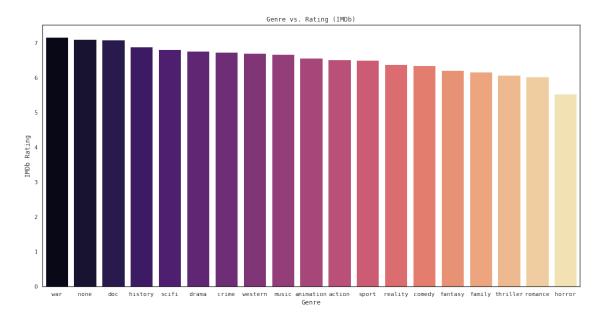
→title="Genre vs. Popularity (TMDB)")
```



To see which genre scored the highest on the performance metrics, we can sort the data and then redraw the bar graphs.

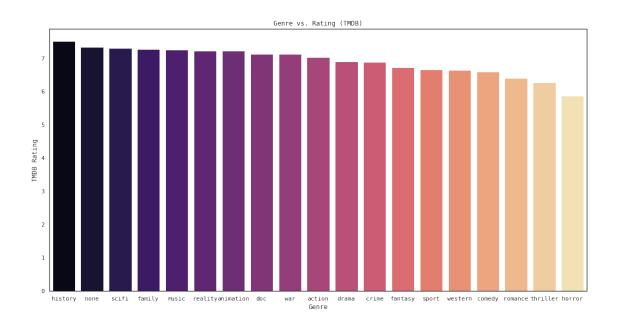
```
[31]: sorted_imdb = genre_vs_score.sort_values(by="imdb_score", ascending=False)
plt.figure(figsize=(18, 9))
sns.barplot(x=sorted_imdb.index, y=sorted_imdb['imdb_score'], palette=PALETTE).

→set(xlabel='Genre', ylabel='IMDb Rating', title='Genre vs. Rating (IMDb)')
```



```
[32]: sorted_tmdb = genre_vs_score.sort_values(by="tmdb_score", ascending=False)
plt.figure(figsize=(18, 9))
sns.barplot(x=sorted_tmdb.index, y=sorted_tmdb['tmdb_score'], palette=PALETTE).

→set(xlabel='Genre', ylabel='TMDB Rating', title='Genre vs. Rating (TMDB)')
```



```
[35]: sorted_popularity = genre_vs_score.sort_values(by='tmdb_popularity',

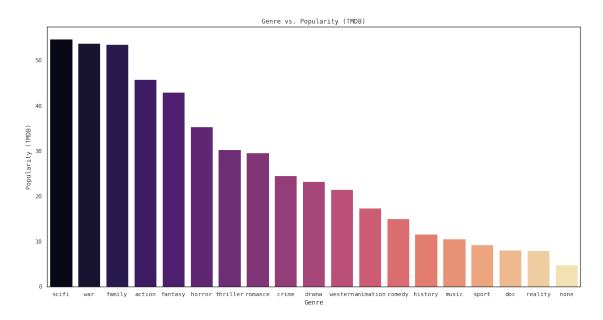
→ascending=False)

plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))

sns.barplot(x=sorted_popularity.index, y=sorted_popularity['tmdb_popularity'],

→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel='Genre', ylabel='Popularity (TMDB)',

→title='Genre vs. Popularity (TMDB)')
```



Within each scoring metric, the genres have relatively little variation. Yes, there are 1 or 2 point differences between the average genre and the highest-scoring one, but the data's variation is nontheless uniform.

However, there is an evident difference in the popularity of the genres and their scores. This is because a genre is rated based on other movies of that genre; rating a movie that is in scifi based on the quality of action movies is completely nonsensical. In other words, for people rating movies, popularity is not a significant metric; rather, the plot, characters, and acting are more decisive.

2.3.1 Conclusion

Genre **does not** necessarrily influence the rating a movie gets. The **popularity** of a particular movie or show, however, is affected by the genre.

2.3.2 Additional Notes

• The visualizations presented in this section take into account the trend between genre and rating for both movies and shows. In section 4.2, the shows will be analyzed in isolation.

2.4 Analysis of Shows

The previous explorations conducted have been focused on the combined set of movies and shows. However, in this exploration, the aim is to thoroughly analyze the various nuances of the shows that are present in this database.

```
[39]: # Get all shows
      df_shows = df[df['type'] == 'SHOW']
      df shows.head()
[39]:
                 id
                                                     title
                                                            type
      0
          ts300399
                     Five Came Back: The Reference Films
                                                            SHOW
      5
           ts22164
                            Monty Python's Flying Circus
                                                            SHOW
      29
           ts45948
                        Monty Python's Fliegender Zirkus
                                                            SHOW
      47
           ts20681
                                                  Seinfeld
                                                            SHOW
      55
           ts22082
                                             Knight Rider
                                                            SHOW
                                                   description release_year \
      0
          This collection includes 12 World War II-era p...
                                                                       1945
      5
          A British sketch comedy series with the shows ...
                                                                       1969
          Monty Python's Fliegender Zirkus consisted of ...
                                                                       1972
          A stand-up comedian and his three offbeat frie...
      47
                                                                       1989
      55
          Michael Long, an undercover police officer, is...
                                                                       1982
         age_certification
                             runtime
                                                                        genres
      0
                      TV-MA
                                   48
                                                             ['documentation']
                                                       ['comedy', 'european']
      5
                      TV-14
                                   30
                                                                    ['comedy']
      29
                      TV-MA
                                   43
```

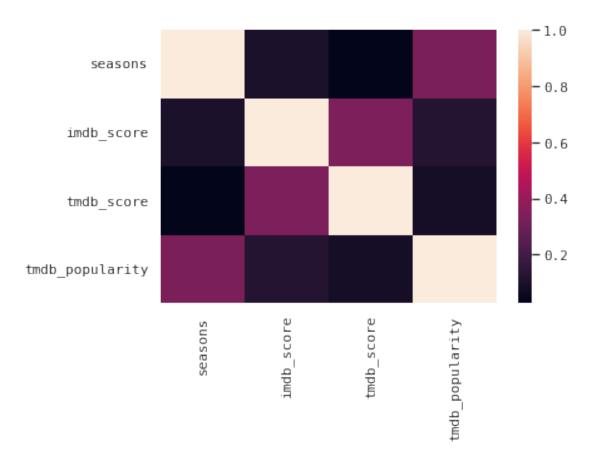
```
47
                TV-PG
                            24
                                                              ['comedy']
55
                TV-PG
                            51
                                 ['action', 'scifi', 'crime', 'drama']
   production_countries
                         seasons
                                      imdb_id imdb_score
                                                             imdb_votes
0
                  ['US']
                               1.0
                                          NaN
                                                       NaN
                                                                    NaN
5
                  ['GB']
                              4.0
                                   tt0063929
                                                       8.8
                                                                72895.0
                                                       8.1
                                                                 2144.0
29
                               1.0
                                    tt0202477
                      47
                  ['US']
                              9.0
                                    tt0098904
                                                       8.9
                                                               302700.0
                  ['US']
                              4.0 tt0083437
                                                       6.9
                                                                33760.0
55
    tmdb_popularity
                      tmdb_score
                                  is_movie genres_transformed
0
              0.600
                             NaN
                                          0
                                                             doc
5
             12.919
                             8.3
                                          0
                                                         comedy
29
               1.490
                             7.0
                                          0
                                                          comedy
47
             128.743
                             8.3
                                          0
                                                          comedy
             44.378
                             7.5
                                          0
55
                                                          action
```

2.4.1 Number of Seasons vs. Score

```
[40]: sns.heatmap(df_shows[['seasons', 'imdb_score', 'tmdb_score', \_ \

→'tmdb_popularity']].corr())
```

[40]: <AxesSubplot:>

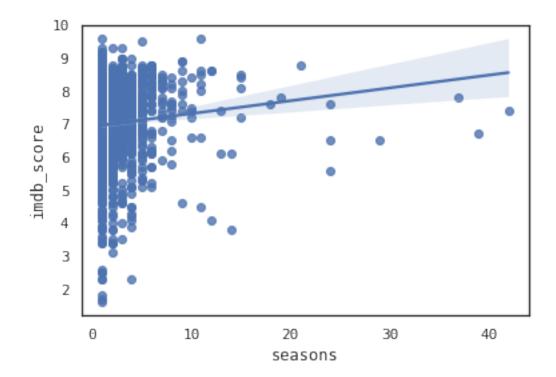


This heatmap of the correlation tells us that there is very little correlation between seasons and either of the scoring metrics (imdb_score, tmdb_score). The relatively high correlation between seasons and tmdb_popularity aligns with what one might expect. After all, most people prefer shows with more seasons to shows with a lower number of seasons.

Let us plot out the relationships between seasons and any of the scoring metrics.

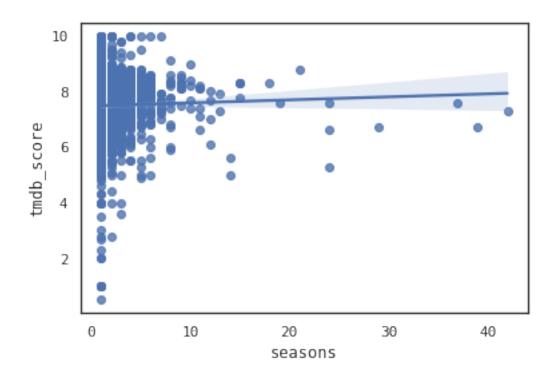
```
[41]: # Correlation between `seasons` and `imdb_score`
sns.regplot(x=df_shows['seasons'], y=df_shows['imdb_score'])
```

[41]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='seasons', ylabel='imdb_score'>



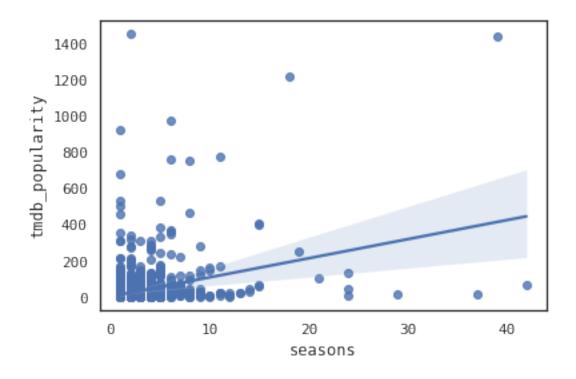
```
[42]: # Correlation between `seasons` and `tmdb_score`
sns.regplot(x=df_shows['seasons'], y=df_shows['tmdb_score'])
```

[42]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='seasons', ylabel='tmdb_score'>



```
[43]: # Correlation between `seasons` and `tmdb_popularity` sns.regplot(x=df_shows['seasons'], y=df_shows['tmdb_popularity'])
```

[43]: <AxesSubplot:xlabel='seasons', ylabel='tmdb_popularity'>



These regression plots confirm the conclusions drawn from the heatmap.

Conclusion The data suggest that an increased number of seasons corresponds to increased popularity. For the <code>imdb_score</code> values, an increased number of seasons corresponds to a slight increase in score. In contrast, the <code>tmdb_score</code> values show very little correlation between an increased number of seasons and the overall score. Extrapolating this, we can infer that the TMDB users take plot and other story-like features into consideration to a greater extent than do IMDb users.

TMDB Ratings for Shows vs. IMDb ratings for Shows Since the TMDB ratings and IMDb ratings are both recorded on a ten-point scale, we can compare them to see which site is more critical of movies.

```
[44]: tm_greater = len(df_shows[df_shows['tmdb_score'] > df_shows['imdb_score']])

print('# of TMDB ratings that greater than their respective IMDb ratings:',

→tm_greater)

print('# of IMDb ratings that greater than their respective TMDB ratings:',

→df_shows.shape[0] - tm_greater)
```

```
# of TMDB ratings that greater than their respective IMDb ratings: 1068
# of IMDb ratings that greater than their respective TMDB ratings: 979
```

This small difference indicates little to nothing about the metholody utilized by users of IMDb and TMDB to rate movies.

2.4.2 Genres vs. Score

In section 3, we observed some of the trends between genre and rating. Recall that, in section 3, we incorporated both movies and shows into our visualization of the data. However, the trends between genre and rating may differ for movies and shows.

```
[45]: genres_ratings_shows = df_shows.groupby("genres_transformed").

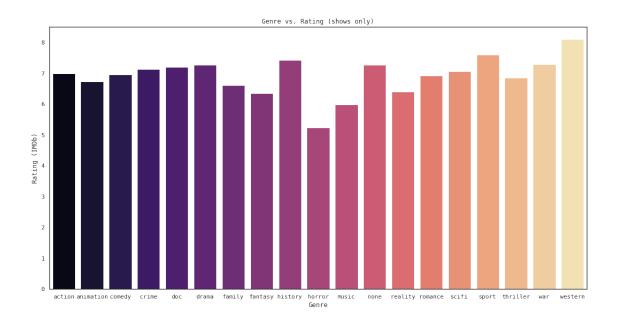
→aggregate({"imdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_popularity":

→"mean"})
```

```
[46]: plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))
sns.barplot(x=genres_ratings_shows.index, y=genres_ratings_shows["imdb_score"],

→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Genre", ylabel="Rating (IMDb)", title="Genre vs.

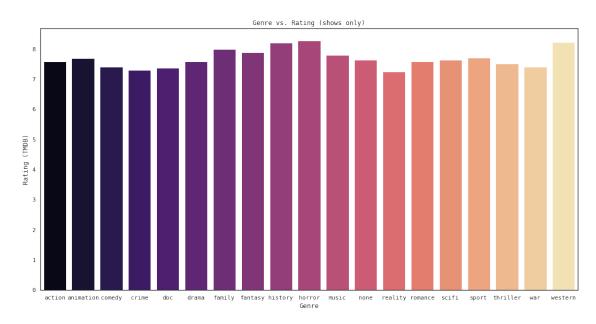
→ Rating (shows only)")
```



```
[47]: plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))
sns.barplot(x=genres_ratings_shows.index, y=genres_ratings_shows["tmdb_score"],

→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Genre", ylabel="Rating (TMDB)", title="Genre vs.

→ Rating (shows only)")
```



It might help if we arrange these in descending order to see the most highly rated genres for both IMDb and TMDB

```
[48]: sorted_shows_imdb = genres_ratings_shows.sort_values(by='imdb_score',

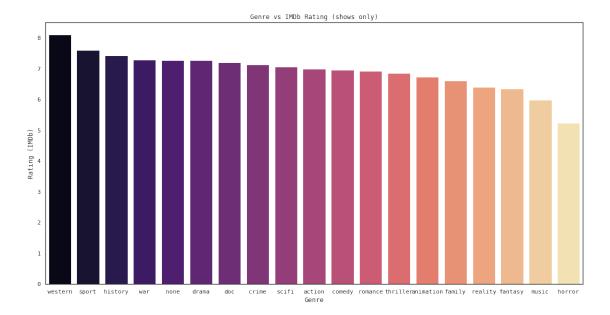
→ascending=False)

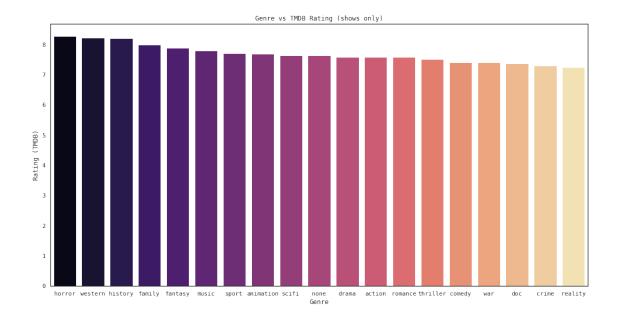
plt.figure(figsize=(18,9))

sns.barplot(x=sorted_shows_imdb.index, y=sorted_shows_imdb['imdb_score'],

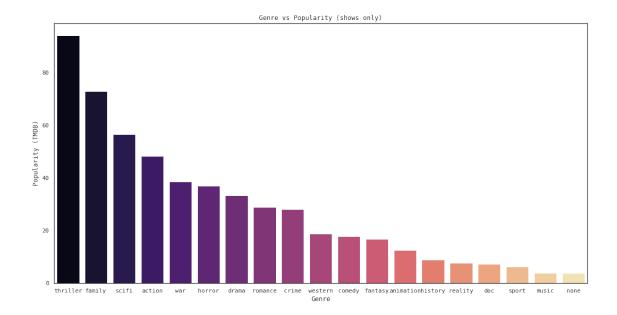
→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel='Genre', ylabel='Rating (IMDb)', title='Genre vs_

→IMDb Rating (shows only)')
```





Notice that the western genre and the history genre are both present in the top five highest scores for IMDb and TMDB.



Conclusion Generally, the genre does not affect the rating a particular show receives. Moreover, it is hard to deduce a proper metric for scoring shows solely based on genre as other factors, such as plot, length, and acting, prove to be crucial to an average viewer's method for rating a particular show. Nonetheless, the distribution of average scores for genres is uniform and indicates that genre is not necessarily a primary metric for deducing the rating a show receives. This finding is expected as the people who rate shows of a particular genre compare that show to other shows of that same genre. This regularizes the methodology used by IMDb or TMDB users to judge genres, thus resulting in an overall negligible difference in rating.

However, there was a considerable difference in the popularity. Most people, it seems, enjoyed watching shows that belonged to the thiller, family, or science fiction genres. It is also important to note that these genres were not necessarily the highest scoring among the various genres. This indicates that the mean rating of shows of a particular genre does not dictate the genre's overall popularity.

2.5 Production Country vs. Score

7

8

['US'] ['US']

```
9 ['US']
10 ['US']
Name: production_countries, dtype: object
```

It appears that the production_countries column takes on a structure similar to that of genres. This means that we will have to transform the column such that the production country can easily be identified. As with the transformation of the genres column, the transformation of the production_countries will entail the selection of the first country present in each value of the column.

```
[52]: # transform the countries, selecting only the first country from each entry
      def transform_countries(row):
          parsed = str(row)[1:-1].split(",")
          for i in range(len(parsed)):
              parsed[i] = parsed[i].strip()[1:-1]
          return parsed[0] if parsed[0] != '' else 'N/A'
      df_prod['production_countries_transformed'] = df_prod['production_countries'].
       →map(transform countries)
      df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].replace(to_replace='Lebanon',__
       →value='LB', inplace=True)
[53]: df_prod.head()
[53]:
               id
                                              title
                                                      type \
      1
          tm84618
                                        Taxi Driver
                                                     MOVIE
                   Monty Python and the Holy Grail
      2
        tm127384
      3
          tm70993
                                      Life of Brian MOVIE
        tm190788
                                       The Exorcist
      4
                                                     MOVIE
      5
          ts22164
                      Monty Python's Flying Circus
                                                       SHOW
                                                description release_year \
      1 A mentally unstable Vietnam War veteran works ...
                                                                    1976
      2 King Arthur, accompanied by his squire, recrui...
                                                                    1975
      3 Brian Cohen is an average young Jewish man, bu...
                                                                    1979
      4 12-year-old Regan MacNeil begins to adapt an e...
                                                                    1973
      5 A British sketch comedy series with the shows ...
                                                                    1969
        age_certification
                           runtime
                                                     genres production_countries \
      1
                                         ['crime', 'drama']
                                                                           ['US']
                        R
                                113
      2
                       PG
                                      ['comedy', 'fantasy']
                                                                           ['GB']
                                 91
      3
                                                 ['comedy']
                                                                           ['GB']
                        R
                                 94
      4
                        R.
                                133
                                                 ['horror']
                                                                           ['US']
      5
                    TV-14
                                     ['comedy', 'european']
                                                                           ['GB']
                                 30
```

seasons

imdb_id imdb_score imdb_votes tmdb_popularity tmdb_score \

```
NaN tt0075314
1
                                8.3
                                        795222.0
                                                             27.612
                                                                              8.2
2
                                8.2
                                        530877.0
                                                             18.216
                                                                              7.8
       NaN tt0071853
3
       NaN
            tt0079470
                                8.0
                                        392419.0
                                                             17.505
                                                                             7.8
                                                                              7.7
4
       {\tt NaN}
            tt0070047
                                8.1
                                        391942.0
                                                             95.337
5
       4.0
            tt0063929
                                8.8
                                         72895.0
                                                             12.919
                                                                              8.3
   is_movie production_countries_transformed
1
2
           1
                                              GB
3
           1
                                              GB
                                              US
4
           1
5
           0
                                              GB
```

```
[54]: df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts()
```

```
[54]: US
              1902
               561
       IN
       GB
               280
       JΡ
               246
       KR
               182
       PΥ
                 1
       ZW
                 1
      HR
                 1
       GT.
                 1
      ΚE
```

Name: production_countries_transformed, Length: 90, dtype: int64

Before we begin analyzing the relationship between the production countries and the performance of those countries on each of the scoring metrics, let us observe the distribution of production countries.

To do this, I will split up the data into two sections for the sake of visualization. Viewing all ninety-one distinct values in one bar plot/histogram ended up being quite messy.

```
# First Section

# The U.S. is the leading producer of shows by a mile, so it is excluded to put

the data on more of an equal footing

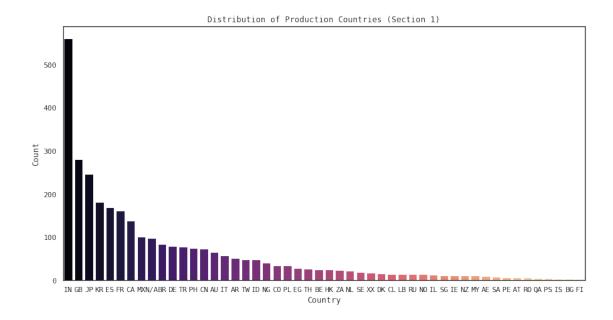
plt.figure(figsize=(14, 7))

sns.barplot(x=df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts()[1:51].

index, y=df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts()[1:51],

palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Country", ylabel="Count", title='Distribution

of Production Countries (Section 1)')
```



```
[56]: # Second Section

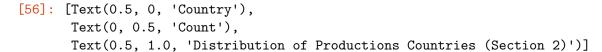
plt.figure(figsize=(14, 7))

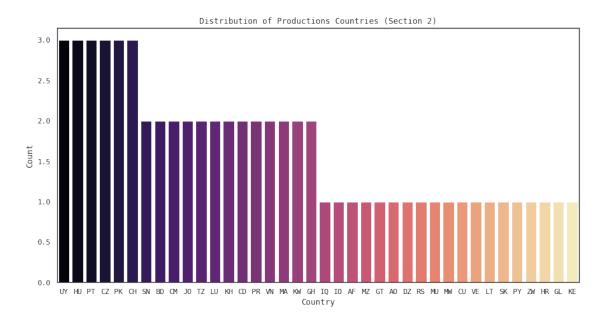
sns.barplot(x=df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts()[52:91].

index, y=df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts()[52:91],

palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel='Country', ylabel='Count', title='Distribution_

of Productions Countries (Section 2)')
```





The top four countries are those that we might expect to be the leading producers of movies/shows; Namely, the countries are the U.S., India, Great Britain, and Japan. The distribution of the first section is extremely skewed, as the top five or six countries have an overwhelming lead in terms of the number of movies/shows produced. The second section, however, shows a somewhat uniform distribution; granted, the count values of the countries in the second section do differ by only one production.

```
[57]: # Group the data by production country

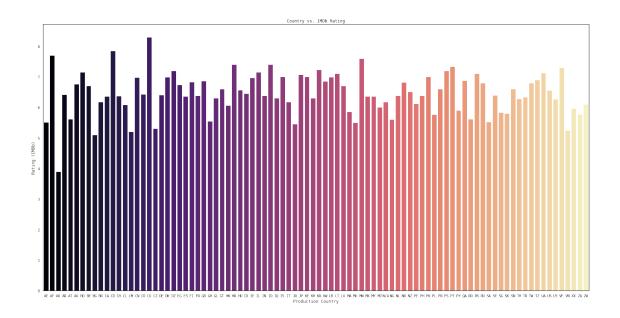
df_prod_grouped = df_prod.groupby('production_countries_transformed').

→aggregate({"imdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_popularity":

→"mean"})

df_prod_grouped.head()
```

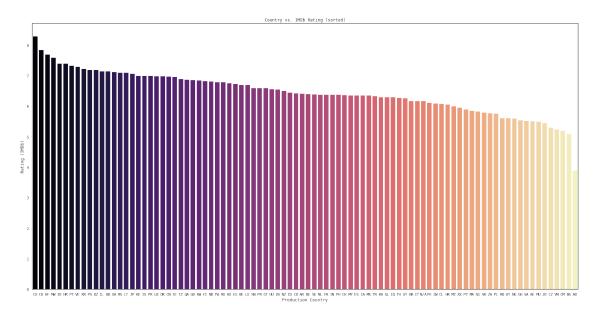
```
[57]:
                                         imdb_score tmdb_score tmdb_popularity
      production countries transformed
                                           5.510000
                                                        5.580000
                                                                         4.070200
      ΑF
                                           7.700000
                                                                         4.250000
                                                        6.500000
      ΑO
                                           3.900000
                                                        5.600000
                                                                         9.692000
      AR
                                           6.415385
                                                        6.905769
                                                                         17.022481
      ΑT
                                                        5.900000
                                           5.614286
                                                                          5.388714
```



[58]: [Text(0.5, 0, 'Production Country'),

Text(0, 0.5, 'Rating (IMDb)'),

Text(0.5, 1.0, 'Country vs. IMDb Rating (sorted)')]



Well those are certainly some strange results! Cuba, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Afghanistan were the top three scorers. The reason for this high score (and the reason for the relatively low scores of the U.S., Great Britain, and India) is due to the amount of movies/shows present for each country. More data inevitably results in more variation; high scorers such as Cuba had a small number of shows present in the database. To see a perhaps more accurate picture,

countries with a low amount of shows produced in them must be filtered out.

```
[59]: # filter out countries with less than 20 shows produced
accepted_countries = df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].

→value_counts()[df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].value_counts() >

→20].index.values

df_prod_accepted = df_prod[df_prod['production_countries_transformed'].

→isin(accepted_countries)].groupby("production_countries_transformed").

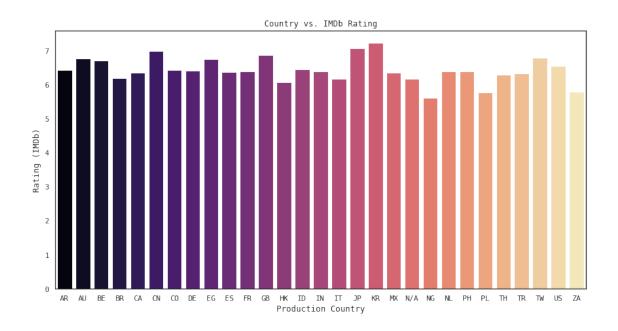
→aggregate({"imdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_score": "mean", "tmdb_popularity":

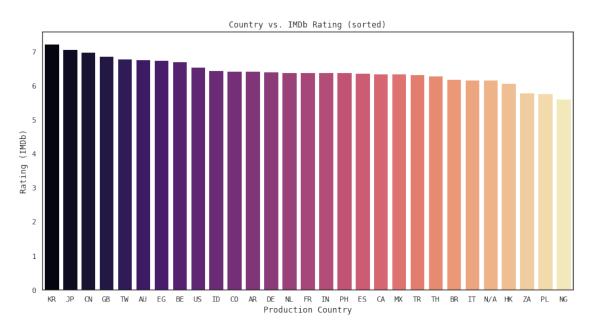
→"mean"})
```

```
[60]: df_prod_accepted.head(10)
```

| [60]: | | imdb_score | tmdb_score | tmdb_popularity |
|-------|---|------------|------------|-----------------|
| | <pre>production_countries_transformed</pre> | | | |
| | AR | 6.415385 | 6.905769 | 17.022481 |
| | AU | 6.762121 | 7.045455 | 13.855030 |
| | BE | 6.700000 | 6.953846 | 14.028500 |
| | BR | 6.176190 | 7.071429 | 12.074917 |
| | CA | 6.353957 | 6.721583 | 24.262144 |
| | CN | 6.973973 | 7.546575 | 20.756630 |
| | CO | 6.429412 | 7.120588 | 105.480147 |
| | DE | 6.406329 | 6.578481 | 25.535823 |
| | EG | 6.741379 | 6.513793 | 3.260172 |
| | ES | 6.360947 | 6.734320 | 32.185917 |
| | | | | |

2.5.1 IMDb Ratings



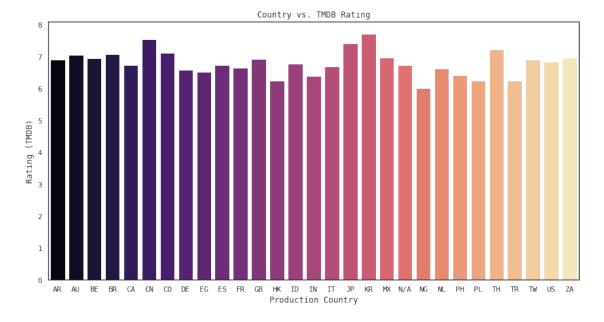


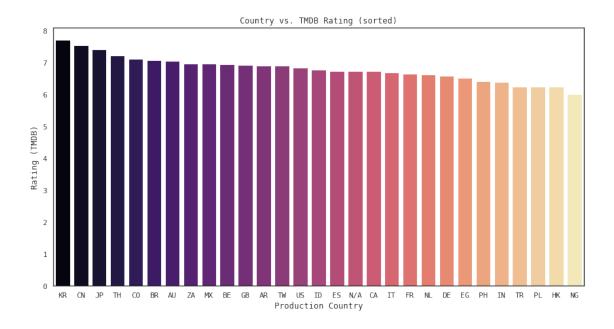
These new-and-improved plots showcase an increased score for movies/shows of prominent Asian countries.

Next, we will examine the TMDB ratings as well as the TMDB popularity

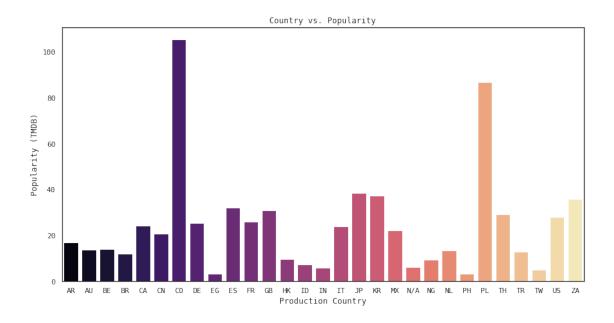
2.5.2 TMDB Ratings

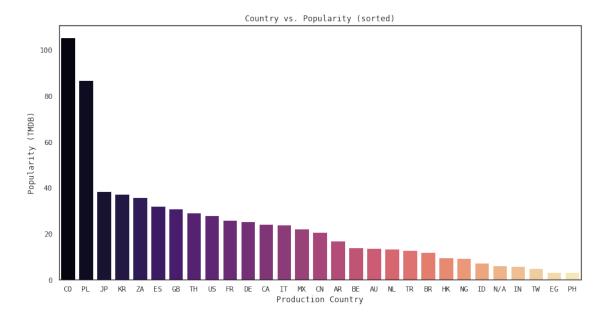
```
plt.figure(figsize=(14,7))
sns.barplot(x=df_prod_accepted.index, y=df_prod_accepted['tmdb_score'],
→palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Production Country", ylabel='Rating (TMDB)',
→title='Country vs. TMDB Rating')
plt.show()
plt.figure(figsize=(14,7))
sns.barplot(x=df_prod_accepted.sort_values(by="tmdb_score", ascending=False).
→index, y=df_prod_accepted.sort_values(by='tmdb_score',
→ascending=False)['tmdb_score'], palette=PALETTE).set(xlabel="Production_u")
→Country", ylabel='Rating (TMDB)', title='Country vs. TMDB Rating (sorted)')
```





2.5.3 TMDB Popularity





Another surprising batch of results: Colombia and Poland were the two most popular countries of production, and, as expected, Japan and Korea both showed up in the top five. The popularity of Colobmia and Poland is due to the cost of producing in those countries. Presumably, Colombia and Poland have relatively low costs for producing movies or shows.

The act of traveling to other countries to shoot a movie or a show is not new. For example, in India, some advertising agencies traveled to Malaysia or to South Africa to shoot their ads for sole reason of production cost.

2.5.4 Conclusion

From this mini-exploration, we found out some surprising findings regarding the favorite production countries for each of the movies in this database. Specifically, we discovered that Colombia and Poland have a surprisingly large popularity on TMDB. Additionally, our exploration into the patterns between production country and rating aligned with what we might expect: movies/shows from Japan, Korea, and China (primarily akin to anime) were rated highly and were quite popular.

3 Modeling!

Now that we have done all this data exploration, it is time to effectively put it to good use. In this section, we will utilize our knowledge of the trends in this dataset to predict the popularity that a particular movie or show might receive on TMDB.

3.1 Data Cleaning

```
[37]: df_model = df_cleaned.copy()
[38]: # Drop unnecessary column(s)
      df model.drop("id", inplace=True, axis=1)
      # Create a decade feature
      df_model['decade'] = df_model['release_year'].map(get_decade)
      df model.head()
[38]:
                                    title
                                            type \
      1
                              Taxi Driver
                                           MOVIE
        Monty Python and the Holy Grail
      2
                                           MOVIE
      3
                            Life of Brian
                                           MOVIE
      4
                             The Exorcist
                                           MOVIE
      5
            Monty Python's Flying Circus
                                             SHOW
                                                 description release_year \
        A mentally unstable Vietnam War veteran works ...
                                                                     1976
      2 King Arthur, accompanied by his squire, recrui...
                                                                     1975
      3 Brian Cohen is an average young Jewish man, bu...
                                                                     1979
      4 12-year-old Regan MacNeil begins to adapt an e...
                                                                     1973
        A British sketch comedy series with the shows ...
                                                                     1969
        age_certification
                            runtime
                                                      genres production_countries
                                          ['crime', 'drama']
                                                                            ['US']
      1
                        R
                                113
      2
                        PG
                                 91
                                      ['comedy', 'fantasy']
                                                                            ['GB']
      3
                        R
                                 94
                                                  ['comedy']
                                                                            ['GB']
                        R
                                                  ['horror']
                                                                            ['US']
                                133
```

```
5
                                    ['comedy', 'european']
                                                                           ['GB']
                    TV-14
                                30
         seasons
                    imdb_id imdb_score
                                         imdb_votes
                                                      tmdb_popularity tmdb_score \
             NaN tt0075314
                                     8.3
                                            795222.0
                                                               27.612
                                                                               8.2
      1
      2
             NaN tt0071853
                                     8.2
                                            530877.0
                                                               18.216
                                                                               7.8
      3
             NaN tt0079470
                                    8.0
                                            392419.0
                                                               17.505
                                                                               7.8
                                    8.1
      4
             NaN tt0070047
                                            391942.0
                                                               95.337
                                                                               7.7
      5
             4.0 tt0063929
                                    8.8
                                            72895.0
                                                               12.919
                                                                               8.3
         decade
           1970
      1
      2
           1970
      3
           1970
      4
           1970
      5
           1960
[39]: # Drop another unnecessary column
      df_model.drop("imdb_id", inplace=True, axis=1)
[40]: # Clean 'genres' and 'production_countries' columns, again taking the first
      →element of the list that each value holds
      def parse list(row):
          parsed = str(row)[1:-1].split(",")
          for i in range(len(parsed)):
              parsed[i] = parsed[i].strip()[1:-1]
          return parsed[0] if parsed[0] != '' else 'N/A'
      df_model['genres_parsed'] = df_model['genres'].map(parse_list)
      df_model['prod_countries_parsed'] = df_model['production_countries'].
       →map(parse_list)
      df_model[['genres_parsed', 'prod_countries_parsed']]
[40]:
           genres_parsed prod_countries_parsed
                   crime
                                             US
      1
      2
                                             GB
                  comedy
                                             GB
      3
                  comedy
      4
                  horror
                                             US
      5
                                             GB
                  comedy
      5792
                                             EG
                  comedy
      5795
                                             ID
                  comedy
      5796
                 reality
                                             US
      5798
                   drama
                                             IN
      5805
                  family
                                            N/A
      [5055 rows x 2 columns]
```

```
[41]: # Add an `is_movie` column
      df_model['is_movie'] = df_model.type.map(lambda x: 0 if x == 'SHOW' else 1)
     3.1.1 Null Values
[42]: # Get all null values
      df model.isnull().sum()
[42]: title
                                  0
                                  0
      type
      description
                                   2
      release_year
                                  0
      age_certification
                               2146
      runtime
                                  0
                                  0
      genres
      production_countries
                                  0
                               3269
      seasons
      imdb_score
                                  0
      imdb_votes
                                  14
      tmdb_popularity
                                  0
      tmdb_score
                                  0
      decade
                                  0
                                  0
      genres_parsed
      prod_countries_parsed
                                  0
                                  0
      is_movie
      dtype: int64
[43]: # Drop unnecessary columns
      df_model.drop("title", axis=1, inplace=True)
      df_model.drop("description", axis=1, inplace=True)
[44]: # Impute null values
      df_model['age_certification'].fillna("N/A", inplace=True)
      df_model['seasons'].fillna(0.0, inplace=True)
      df_model['imdb_votes'].fillna(df_model['imdb_votes'].mean(), inplace=True)
[45]: # Confirm that all null values have been successfully imputed
      df_model.isnull().sum()
[45]: type
                               0
      release_year
                               0
      age_certification
                               0
                               0
      runtime
                               0
      genres
                               0
      production_countries
      seasons
                               0
      imdb_score
                               0
```

3.1.2 Encoding Categoricals

3.2 Model Training

I will experiment with five different models.

Details regarding the model training process: - The primary metrics used will be mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), mean absolute error (MAE), and mean squared error (MSE). - For cross-validation, MAPE will be used - For the test set, all three will be displayed

The five models and their performances on the test set are shown below: - Random Forest (1.27% MAPE, 15.63 MAE, 1793.48 MSE) - Linear Regression (3.38% MAPE, 21.62 MAE, 1555.31 MSE)

- SVR (1.02% MAPE, 14.95 MAE, 1626.35 MSE)
- XGB (1.41% MAPE, 16.71 MAE, 2240.38 MSE)
- Neural Network (0.65% MAPE, 12.96 MAE, 1467.08 MSE)

```
[24]: from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression from sklearn.svm import SVR from xgboost import XGBRegressor
```

```
print(scores.mean())
     [1.66543812 1.22800226 1.4912566 1.36196836 1.50278903]
     1.4498908727552764
[27]: linreg = LinearRegression()
      scores = -1 * cross_val_score(linreg, X_train, y_train, cv=5,_
      ⇔scoring='neg_mean_absolute_percentage_error')
      print(scores)
      print(scores.mean())
     [3.73612932 2.97929456 3.40781148 3.23403511 3.72867204]
     3.4171885025089743
[28]: svr = SVR(kernel='poly', degree=1, C=1)
      scores = -1 * cross_val_score(svr, X_train, y_train, cv=5,_
      ⇔scoring='neg_mean_absolute_percentage_error')
      print(scores)
      print(scores.mean())
     [1.05947789 0.9678749 0.96714982 0.99174927 1.05291168]
     1.0078327108536569
[29]: xgb = XGBRegressor(n_estimators=50)
      scores = -1 * cross_val_score(xgb, X_train, y_train, cv=5,__

→scoring='neg_mean_absolute_percentage_error')
      print(scores)
      print(scores.mean())
     [2.01269798 1.48029811 1.7249213 1.52235951 1.74642182]
     1.6973397444617835
[83]: models = [rf, linreg, svr, xgb]
[39]: from tensorflow import keras
      from tensorflow.keras import layers
      from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error, mean_absolute_error, __
       →mean_absolute_percentage_error
      model = keras.Sequential([
          layers.Dense(512, activation='elu', input_shape=[len(X_train.columns)]),
          layers.Dense(512, activation='elu'),
          layers.Dense(256, activation='elu'),
          layers.Dense(128, activation='elu'),
          layers.Dense(1)
      ])
```

```
model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='mae')
      model.fit(X_train, y_train, batch_size=128, epochs=800, verbose=0)
      preds = model.predict(X_test)
      print({"mean_squared_error": mean_squared_error(y_test, preds),__
      →"mean_absolute_error": mean_absolute_error(y_test, preds),
       →"mean_absolute_percentage_error": mean_absolute_percentage_error(y_test,
       →preds)})
     48/48 [======== ] - 0s 3ms/step
     {'mean_squared_error': 1467.083824929312, 'mean_absolute_error':
     12.964457348922549, 'mean absolute percentage error': 0.6542073373480247}
[30]: def score_dataset(X_train, X_valid, y_train, y_valid,__
       →model=RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=1000, random_state=0)):
         model.fit(X_train, y_train)
         preds = model.predict(X_valid)
         return {"mean_squared_error": mean_squared_error(y_valid, preds),_

¬"mean_absolute_error": mean_absolute_error(y_valid, preds),

→ "mean_absolute_percentage_error": mean_absolute_percentage_error(y_test, 

       →preds)}
[31]: score_dataset(X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test, model=rf)
[31]: {'mean squared error': 1793.482355295732,
       'mean_absolute_error': 15.633104289076185,
       'mean_absolute_percentage_error': 1.2727060945174824}
[33]: | score_dataset(X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test, model=linreg)
[33]: {'mean_squared_error': 1555.3175091160745,
       'mean absolute error': 21.62287987518783,
       'mean_absolute_percentage_error': 3.3806918985017407}
[34]: score_dataset(X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test, model=svr)
[34]: {'mean_squared_error': 1626.3516890257904,
       'mean_absolute_error': 14.955967201171001,
       'mean_absolute_percentage_error': 1.017564962166441}
[35]: score_dataset(X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test, model=xgb)
[35]: {'mean_squared_error': 2240.382051720415,
       'mean_absolute_error': 16.707015393819226,
       'mean_absolute_percentage_error': 1.405120728593794}
```

4 Ending Remarks

If you made it this far, congratulations! This is one of my first notebooks so please leave any suggestions/insights if you have any. As mentioned before, it is encouraged that you look into this data as well. Lastly, thank you for reading!